

# The Sheridan Sentinel



The Official Newspaper of City of Hoxie, City of Selden, & Sheridan County

Volume 141 No. 29

Hoxie, Sheridan County, Kansas 67740

Thursday, April 9, 2026

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## Hirsch Places Wreath at Tomb of the Unknown Soldier



Steve Hirsch shared his honorable experience of placing a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. "On Thursday, (March 19), I had one of the highest honors that I could have. I had the great honor to place a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. In the 50<sup>th</sup> year of our National Volunteer Fire Council and the 250<sup>th</sup> year of our nation, we honored the service and sacrifice of our servicemen and women who have preserved our freedom - and, at the same time, remembered those volunteer firefighters who likewise have served our communities, some of whom also gave the supreme sacrifice for people they didn't even know. May God bless those that serve others and may God continue to wrap his protective hand over the United States of America!" (Sheridan County Fire Department photo)

## Sheridan County Benefit Walk Receives Grants



Steve Heim, Janelle Cooper, and Don Oelke share the grants received from Midwest Energy and Nex-Tech. (Sentinel Staff photo)

The Sheridan County Benefit Walk has received two grants recently.

The first grant was received from the Midwest Energy Community Fund in the amount of \$500. The Community Fund benefits charitable, educational and nonprofit organizations in the Midwest Energy service area. Five customer committees review charitable requests and submit recommendations to Midwest Energy management for approval. Each committee allocates funds based on the number of meters in the assigned counties. The committees may direct funds to activities that focus on youth, arts, education, libraries, community events or other priorities that fall within the guidelines.

The second grant was received from Nex-Tech in the amount of \$750. Being part of a community means more than bringing the best technology, it means understanding what's important, seeing our customers around town, and cheering on the home team. At Nex-Tech we are proud to invest our time and talents in area schools, parks, local clubs and organizations, sports teams, and other charitable causes. In fact, you'll likely see our name on many scoreboards, in local libraries, or on the back of little league shirts because supporting local is part of our DNA.

## Sheridan County Fire Department Gets New Fire Truck

Tuesday, March 31, the Sheridan County Rural Fire District #1 announced the addition of a beautifully crafted, powerful new truck, built by the outstanding team at Hays Fire and Rescue. This truck was purchased to expand and modernize the Sheridan County Fire Department's aging fleet, helping them to better meet the growing demands of fire protection in the Sheridan County area.

In the days of horse-drawn fire trucks, horses couldn't back the fire engines into the fire station. Firefighters would push the fire apparatus into the station after the call. Recognizing that history, it has become a tradition at Sheridan County Fire Department to push a new piece of apparatus into the station for the first time. Tradition matters!

"While this truck is an incredible tool, the true strength of our department lies in our firefighters. I would personally like to thank all past and present members of SCFD, Sheridan County EMS, our law enforcement officers, and our dispatchers for their unwavering commitment and dedication to answering the call—day or night—to serve our community." - Chief Wade Tremblay

The new truck made its first fire run Monday, April 6, to a car that was on fire just southwest of Hoxie.



Tuesday, March 31, Chaplain Carl Dumler held a special prayer dedication service for the new fire truck and the crews who will operate it. (Photos by Anita Hirsch)



## AmberMed Long Term Care Receive Easter Baskets



Solomon Valley 4-H Club delivered Easter baskets to AmberMed Long-Term Care, Ridgewood Manor, and Sheridan Estates on Monday, March 30! -Left photo (front) Kaitlyn, Bailey, Karsyn, Murphy, Krew, Asher; (back) Finley, Hayden, Bailynn, Demi, Molly, Brylie (Solomon Valley 4-H photo)

## Smoky Hills PBS Premieres Season 8 of Cottonwood Connections

**Bunker Hill** – Smoky Hills PBS is proud to announce the return of Cottonwood Connections for its eighth Season. This season of Cottonwood Connections takes a look at how Kansas and the Great Plains have been integral in shaping our country and our world.

Kicking off the season is a two-part series around Dwight D. Eisenhower. Focused on his connection to Kansas, his rise to general, and then what carried him to the highest office of the land. Throughout the season, viewers will also experience engaging stories on:

- Starting A Pioneer Town
- The Story Beneath Our Feet
- Prohibition and the Bootleggers
- Dirty 30s
- High Plains Wildlife
- Legendary Longhorns
- Fenton Pratt and other Photographers
- Kansas and the History of America
- Printable Schedule

"Cottonwood Connections continues to be a cornerstone of our educational mission," said Audrey Parsons, Programming Director at Smoky Hills

PBS. "Season 8 of Cottonwood Connections reflects our ongoing commitment to delivering high-quality, educational programming that serves viewers of all ages."

### Tune In:

New episodes will air Sundays at 6pm CST, beginning April 12.

A rebroadcast of each episode will air on Saturdays at 6pm, giving viewers an additional opportunity to tune in.

### Stream:

All episodes are available to stream on the PBS app. For more information on broadcast times and additional coverage details, please visit our website at SmokyHillsPBS.org.

Cottonwood Connections is made possible in part by these current sponsors:

Horlacher Jewelers, Colby Glass Co. Inc., Fry Eye Associates, Scott County Historical Society, United, The Prairie Museum of Art & History, and Sherman County Historical Society.

Words of Wisdom	Grain Report	Weather Report	Thought of the Week
<p><i>If you are not spiritually fed, you will be emotionally led.</i></p> <p>~unknown</p>	<p>Reported on: Tuesday, Apr 7</p> <p>Corn 3.91</p> <p>Milo 3.44</p> <p>Beans 10.38</p> <p>Wheat 5.53</p>	<p>Date High Low Moisture</p> <p>3/29 88 45 --</p> <p>3/30 82 51 --</p> <p>3/31 58 44 --</p> <p>4/1 50 37 .26"</p> <p>4/2 71 42 .47"</p> <p>4/3 62 40 --</p> <p>4/4 61 33 --</p>	<p><i>You don't always get what you wish for, but you get what you work for!</i></p>

## JENNINGS NEWS



Saturday, April 11, from 5-7 pm the annual Ham & Bean Feed will be served by the Jennings American Legion, SAL, and Auxiliary. A free will donation will be accepted.

National Library Week will be celebrated at the Jennings Library on Wednesday, April 22, from 9-11 with coffee and treats. All are welcome!

## Bipartisan Bill Modifies Foster Family Licensing Requirements

**Topeka** – Governor Laura Kelly has signed House Bill 2524, which allows the Secretary for Children and Families to license family foster homes when other individuals residing in the home meet certain exceptions that previously disqualified the family.

“While rules and regulations around foster family licensing have always intended to keep children safe first and foremost, we must be willing to listen to families and adjust laws when necessary. In this instance, current law was dividing families and causing parents to choose between their children and their role as foster parents, and that is unacceptable,” Governor Laura Kelly said. “I thank the individuals who shared their stories through testimony, and I am pleased to sign bipartisan legislation that ensures individuals who have been touched by the foster system have the support, care, and stability they need as they grow.”

Previously, when young people achieved permanency within their licensed family foster home or transitioned out of custody of the Secretary for Children and Families, they became subject to background check requirements. If the individual had been convicted or adjudicated of a prohibited offense, it resulted in the foster home becoming ineligible for licensure so long as that individual is living in the household. This has led to foster families making the impossible choice of removing family members from their household or giving up their foster care license and disrupting placement of the foster children currently placed in the household.

“Under House Bill 2524, foster families are empowered to make decisions regarding permanency without fear of losing their license and disrupting foster children currently placed in their home,” said Representative Cyndi Howerton, District 98. “This is smart legislation that puts the well-being of children and families first while also maintaining reasonable safety standards.”

Under House Bill 2524, exceptions are provided if the young adult with a history of a prohibited offense residing in the home is under the age of 26, was a child when they were convicted or adjudicated, and were in the custody of the Secretary when placed in the home.

This law also creates an appeal process for family foster homes when licenses are not granted if the young adult with a prohibited offense is over 26 or earns an additional prohibited offense after exiting DCF custody, allowing the Secretary of DCF to grant or maintain a license if she determines there are no safety concerns.

“House Bill 2524 is thoughtful legislation that addresses a gap that has previously destabilized foster families and children,” said Representative Jarrod Ousley, District 24. “By prioritizing the well-being and stability of foster youth, we’re setting them up for success while also supporting foster families, who are the backbone of the foster care system in Kansas.”

Under this legislation, foster families will be able to maintain stability for the foster children and permanently placed children who rely on them.

## Caleb’s Law Strengthens Protections Against Sexual Extortion

**Topeka** – Governor Laura Kelly today announced she has signed House Bill 2537, known as Caleb’s Law, which expands and strengthens Kansas law to better combat sexual extortion and protect victims. The legislation is named after Caleb Moore, a 14-year-old from El Dorado, Kansas, who died by suicide after being targeted by an online sextortion scheme.

“Protecting Kansas children means staying ahead of the evolving threats they face, especially in an increasingly digital world where exploitation can happen in an instant,” Governor Laura Kelly said. “By prioritizing education and awareness, Caleb’s Law ensures that young people, families, and educators have the tools to recognize sexual extortion and seek help before it’s too late. By signing this bill, we’re honoring Caleb’s life by shining a light on this growing danger and taking meaningful action to prevent future tragedies.”

House Bill 2537 enhances criminal penalties and establishes new offenses to expand the types of exploitation that are covered by Kansas law. It also broadens the definition of sexual extortion and requires statewide education efforts to help students, parents, and educators recognize and prevent exploitation. The bill requires the attorney general to work with the Kansas State Board of Education and law enforcement agencies to prepare and provide educational materials and information regarding

Continued on page 7

## Dakota Eller Among Students Awarded Scholarship Through Kansas Masons

**Topeka** - The Kansas Masonic Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to benefiting Kansas communities, has partnered with its 170 statewide Masonic lodges and Kansas Masons to award 202 scholarships to students across the state, totaling over \$200,000.

All scholarships, ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 per student, are awarded to graduating high school seniors and students already attending four-year or two-year universities, including junior, vocational, and technical colleges throughout the state. Over the more than 50 years of its existence, the Kansas Masonic Foundation, in collaboration with the Grand Lodge of Kansas and its 170 statewide lodges, has provided more than \$8.5 million in funding to deserving local students.

“Education remains at the heart of what we do,” said Jonathan W. McConnell, President of the Kansas Masonic Foundation. “For sixty years, we’ve awarded nearly \$10 million in scholarships to Kansas students pursuing their dreams and shaping the future of our state. And through programs like this one, we continue to celebrate excellence, leadership, and civic engagement in our Kansas communities.”

This year’s scholarships were awarded to Kansas residents based on financial needs and offered in three categories: General Scholarships, Legacy Scholarships, and Cynthia Ruth Russell Scholarships.

Dakota Eller, Hoxie HS, Hoxie, Emporia State University, Emporia

## WPPA Presents the “Young Original” Group

Western Plains Arts Association will have in concert Young Original at 3:00 PM on Sunday, April 19, at the Oakley High School Auditorium. Young Original is a vibrant and dynamic musical act that breathes fresh life into every venue they perform. Known for their innovative sound and energetic performances, they blend contemporary beats with timeless melodies, captivating audiences of all ages.

Their youthful enthusiasm and creative flair make each performance an unforgettable experience, leaving listeners eager for more. With roots in both Nashville and Branson, their unique fusion of jazz, classical, folk, and pop is a must-see for all!

Some of their program highlights are: “Fly Me to the Moon”—Frank Sinatra



“Cheek to Cheek”—Fred Astaire  
 “Chattanooga Choo Choo”—Andrew Sisters  
 “Moon River”—Andy Williams

Admission to this show is with a WPPA season ticket or an individual program ticket which may be purchased at the door. Thank you to the area sponsors, especially the Logan County Community Foundation, Dane G Hansen Foundation, and is sponsored in part by the state of Kansas through the Kansas Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts.



## The Tomb Ain’t Holding You Either

Listen up... This ain’t a story you hear once a year and forget.

This is the moment everything changed.  
 The stone rolled away...  
 ...and the tomb was EMPTY.  
 Not cracked. Not halfway.  
 EMPTY.  
 Death took its shot.  
 Hell swung hard.  
 The grave thought it won...  
 ...and Jesus walked out anyway.  
 Let that hit you—  
 If the grave couldn’t hold Him...  
 what makes you think your past can hold YOU?  
 We talk about the cross.  
 The blood. The sacrifice.  
 But this—  
 THIS is the receipt.  
 “It is finished” wasn’t the end...  
 Resurrection was the PROOF.  
 Sin? Defeated.  
 Death? Defeated.  
 Shame? Defeated.  
 That thing you did? DEFEATED.  
 But here’s the truth—  
 Some of you believe He rose...  
 you just don’t believe He’d come back for YOU.  
 You think you went too far.  
 Messed up too many times.  
 Listen—  
 If a sealed tomb, a stone, guards, and death itself couldn’t keep Him in—  
 WHAT makes you think your mess can?  
 That same power that pulled Him out of the grave...  
 is knocking on your life right now.  
 Not when you fix yourself.  
 NOW.  
 We got people breathing...  
 but still living buried.  
 Smiling outside—  
 dead inside.  
 Wrapped in guilt, addiction, regret...  
 like grave clothes you never took off.  
 But hear me—  
 He didn’t walk out of that tomb so you could stay in yours.  
 That stone wasn’t moved so He could get out—  
 He was already gone.  
 It was moved so YOU could see in...  
 and realize—  
 IT AIN’T THERE ANYMORE.  
 So why are you still living like it is?  
 Why are you chained to something God already broke?  
 The cross said, “I love you.”  
 The empty tomb said, “I’m still here.”  
 So come out.  
 Out of the shame.  
 Out of the doubt.  
 Out of the life that’s been killing you slow.  
 The tomb is empty...  
 ...and it ain’t holding you either.



**Ellis Small Animal Sale**  
 Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday  
 March through October  
 Open at 10am  
 (NO SALE IN JULY)  
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 Adam “Spanky” Weber 785-673-3284  
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**KS CONCEAL CARRY CLASS:**  
 LOCATION & DATE: Hoxie, Ks April 18<sup>th</sup>  
 INFORMATION: Class STARTS AT 0900  
 \* Fire Dept. Mtg. Room \*  
 \* Cost = \$75.00  
 \* Contact Rex Storer  
 \* 785-386-8595  
 \* This class is open to those 17 years of age.  
 \* If you have questions call me at 785-472-8639  
 Bring Pistol, 50 rounds of ammo, eye and ear protection.  
 To register a 20.00 deposit is requested.  
 This is a limited seating class  
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 785-472-8639 or cenkscc@gmail.com

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2025 ~ 2026

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**SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY AND YOUR SCHOOL'S ACTIVITIES**

## JH Scholars Bowl Competes at League

By Teagan Slaubaugh

On March 31, the Hoxie Junior High Scholars' Bowl Teams traveled to Oakley for the MCEL meet. The JH takes both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>-grade teams. "The teams did really well," said sponsor/coach Carmen Simon. "The 8<sup>th</sup> graders were really close to winning all of their matches; they got 7<sup>th</sup> place out of 11 teams, so not bad! 7<sup>th</sup> grade only lost two matches and got 2<sup>nd</sup> place and did very well."

(top photo) 8<sup>th</sup>-grade team members include (l-r) Khloe Hammond, Aubrey Carver, Camden Slaubaugh, Colton Shipley, and Issac Gaede.

(bottom photo) 7<sup>th</sup>-grade team members are Olivia Graham, Nathan Gaede, Cain Saint, and Trevyn Pratt. Congratulations to both teams on great seasons!

(Photos By Carmen Simon)



## Senior Spotlight: Daniel Mason

By Brielle Hanna, Staff Editor

Daniel Mason is the son of Carrie and Bryan Mason. Daniel grew up in Quinter and came to Wheatland in his 6th grade year. He has two brothers, Robert and Matthew, and one sister, Kyndal. Throughout high school Daniel participated in Football, Basketball, Track, FFA, Art club, FCCLA, and Electric Car. After high school Daniel plans to stay around Grainfield and work for Better Built Trailers as a Polaris Technician. His favorite high school memory is making it to the substate championship this year. And his favorite quote is "If you wait till the last minute it only takes a minute to do it."



## WHS Forensics Team at DCHS Tournament

By Alexandria Roberts, Staff Reporter

Senior Brielle Hanna along with sophomores Griffin Beckman and Axtyn Teeter participated in the Decatur Community High School Forensics Tournament on Monday, March 30, 2026.

Hanna presented her prose interpretation of the story, Twelve Crayons in a Box by Drew Daywalt, a delightful book which takes the perspective of the individual colors in a crayon box.

Beckman and Teeter performed IDA, impromptu duet acting. They ranked first in both preliminary rounds and placed fifth overall in the tournament.

Hanna stated, "I think it was a tough tournament. There was a lot of good competition, but it was good to go and get the experience."

Mrs. Nelson, forensics coach added, "It is always good for the forensics team to have a chance to perform and improve their talent. I am proud of their accomplishments and look forward to future tournaments."



Brielle Hanna performs her prose interpretation at the Oberlin Forensics tournament Monday, March 30. (WHS photo)

## GP March Student of the Month: Archer Stoll



Golden Plains Student of the Month for March is 5th grader, Archer Stoll. Archer enjoys playing video games and basketball. His favorite subject is science. His favorite color is black. Archer's favorite food is chicken alfredo. He has 2 sisters. Archer has 2 cats and 1 dog. He is the son of AJ Stoll of Selden and Emily Mayfield of Colby. (Photo by Judy Rogers)



## Applied Tech Works on Real Life Problems

By Alexandria Roberts

Throughout the past couple of weeks, Mrs. Wetter's Applied Tech classes have been working on an exciting and hands-on project. Students have been learning how to use solar panels to create energy, complete electrical circuits, and successfully light up LED lights. This project has allowed students to explore how renewable energy works in a real-world setting while also gaining a better understanding of how electricity flows through a circuit.

As they worked through the project, students were challenged to think critically and problem-solve when their circuits did not work correctly. They learned how to troubleshoot issues, make adjustments, and understand the importance of each component in the circuit. By experimenting with different setups and techniques, students were able to see firsthand how solar energy can be transformed into usable electrical power.

In addition to learning technical skills, students have also been developing important teamwork and communication skills. Many worked together in groups, sharing ideas, helping one another, and collaborating to reach a common goal. This teamwork made the project more engaging and helped students build stronger connections with their classmates.

Overall, the project has been both educational and enjoyable for the students. They have had the opportunity to learn new concepts, apply their knowledge in a practical way, and gain a deeper appreciation for renewable energy and technology. Mrs. Wetter's class continues to provide students with meaningful, hands-on experiences that prepare them for future learning and real-world applications.



Spencer Beckman, Jackson Bernback, and Broady Goetz all work together on their circuits during applied tech class. (WHS photo)

### CONTACT YOUR COMMISSIONER

Chairman: David Stithem ~ sixds@ruraltel.net  
 Vice-Chair: Buck Mader ~ mcauto2@outlook.com  
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### Submission Guidelines

Print-ready ads and content deadline: noon Tuesday  
 Non-print-ready ads MUST be in by 3 pm Monday.  
 Due to time constraints, all ad & content submissions must be emailed in .doc, .docx, or .pdf format; photos in .jpg or .png format.  
 All non-print-ready ad submissions are subject to a design fee (starting at \$10).  
 Please email articles, news, and photos to: editor@sherdansentinel.com or bring them by our office at 716 Main Street, Hoxie.  
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### Area Churches

Christ Community Church  
2008 Sheridan Ave, Hoxie

Hoxie Baptist Temple  
1000 Valley Ave, Hoxie

Hoxie Christian Church  
1025 Queen, Hoxie

Hoxie United Methodist Church  
900 12th St, Hoxie

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church  
Hwy 223, Leoville

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
1400 Locust St, Hoxie

Living Word Fellowship  
454 Hwy 24, Hoxie

Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church  
14988 E Rd 70 S, Hoxie

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
202 S Missouri, Selden

St. Frances Catholic Church  
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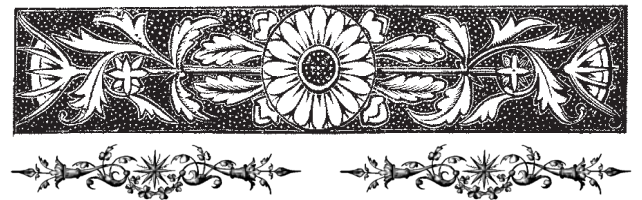
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The Sheridan Sentinel

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**The Hoxie Democrat**  
April 10, 1891

The pension board examined six applicants last Wednesday.

Mrs. Ed Schropp gave birth to a stillborn child last Tuesday night.

John Woods left Monday night for Colorado, where he will work this summer.

Langley and Zig went duck hunting Wednesday and killed half they saw - none.

Mrs. Dr. Freeman had a fainting spell Tuesday night, resulting from the la grippe.

Zig's perfume bottle gave out the other evening and he has purchased another bottle.

E. H. Treasure, of Macgrew, was in the city Wednesday to be examined by the pension board.

A new baby arrived April 1<sup>st</sup> at the home of Mr. Perkins, of Guy. Dr. Freeman was in attendance.

The genial phiz of John Thompson was shown in all of its past brightness on the streets last Saturday.

W. H. Dedrick of Macgrew, was in town Wednesday before the examining board for pension under the new law.

As it snowed and blowed during the month of March, the Kansas zephyrs have put in their appearance during the last week.

Isaac Mulholland went to Colby last Monday night. He informs us that it is his intention to move to that place in a short time.

The retiring council are busy settling up, to turn over the city affairs to the new council. The inauguration promises to be georgeous.

As the spring approaches, prosperity seems to favor us. Nearly all the vacant houses of Hoxie are occupied by permanent tenants, and applicants for more.

John Beery has moved out on his claim south of town and intends farming this season. John is not tired of Kansas, and says he is going to stick like a sand bur.

The high winds of Wednesday and Thursday filled the streets full of old tin cans. If the street commissioner has no time to clean up the same, we suggest that Huff turn out his Burros to eat them up.

Charley Beers returned home last week. He says that he purchased while away an extensive and desirable stock of spring good sand groceries, and he is selling these goods at popular prices. Now is your time to call and get first choice.

As T. J. McKinney was coming to town Tuesday on his riding pony, when near McPherson's, the pony stopped into a hole, fell on his neck and broke it and died instantly. Mac says he continued on his journey for short time in rather an unpleasant way.

**125 Years Ago**  
April 11, 1901

Go to Quisenberry for a home on the easy payment plan.

Davy Wiggins is again afflicted with rheumatism and Judge Hege is waiting on customers in the store.

Hoxie now has an ample supply of coal on hand, providing the present weather does not extend too far into summer.

Charley and Fred Turtle came up from Studley last Friday and transacted considerable business. Fred expects to return to his home in Colorado in a few weeks.

Last Saturday W. S. Quisenberry assumed charge of the McKinney stock of goods he having bought the same. We understand he is on a trade for a large stock in the east and expects to ship it here as soon as the deal is closed.

Mrs. S. A. Pratt and Miss Gertie are making arrangements to leave for an extended visit to their native home in England about the first of May. It is Mrs. Pratt's desire to spend her sixty-fifth birthday, which occurs May 25, in the land of her birth.

Last Monday a rain set in and up to today it kept it up.

Almost daily someone is in from the country inquiring after seed grain of various kinds.

Joe Conard and wife, of Valley, were up Monday buying seeds and otherwise preparing for spring work.

Thos. Richardson has just opened his spring and summer stock of shoes. Examine same before making your purchases.

Ora and Jack McVey were in town the other day and took out a complete water pumping rig consisting of windmill, pump, pipe and tower. M. F. Shafer fitted them out.

**Seguin Squibs**

Rubber boots have been in demand for the past two weeks.

Roy Long is fencing the NW ¼ of section 17 for a pasture.

A. D. Speilman has some of his goods in the store and expects the rest soon.

Dolph Rowilson's baby was sick last week but is reported better at this time.

Sam Weller

**Elliott Clippings**

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# Kent Oil Co.

DAVE GILCHRIST, Manager

From The Hoxie Sentinel, 1926. (Kenoxie Archives & Museum photo)

Mrs. John Lewis is quite ill. Macgrew literary closed Friday night. Mr. Dedrick is reported worse at present.

Gilbert Hall returned home last Tuesday.

Katie Dyd

**Logan Items**

Mr. Morris has put down two more wells on his place.

Mr. D. Cooper has built a house on his farm southeast of Seguin.

New store in Seguin in progress. Stay with us Mr. Spielman.

What is the matter with John Bryan's new buggy, it don't go south of late.

Captain

**100 Years Ago**  
April 8, 1926

**April Fool Party**

The Christian Endeavor of the Presbyterian church gave a clever April Fool party in the basement of the church Thursday evening. Miss Velma Freeman as chairman of the social committee assisted by Miss Mary Wade, Miss Clarice Tucker and Louis Davis planned the evening's program which proved enjoyable to all present. On account of the inclemency of the weather only twenty-two young folks were present.

**Local News**

Rev. and Mrs. H. W. Apel, of Colby, spent Monday with Rev. and Mrs. Almon, of Hoxie.

Irvin Getz, the Tasco general merchant and postmaster, was transacting business here Monday afternoon.

Jack Sinclair and Ferris Sloan, of Selden, while in the city Tuesday made the *Sentinel* an appreciated call. The boys were feeling fine over the snows they have had up that way.

W. R. Cunningham, of Morland, was a Hoxie business visitor Monday.

John A. Keeran, of Goodland, was transacting business in Hoxie Wednesday.

The county board of commissioners were in session the first of the week, it being their regular monthly session.

Miss May Tyler, of Colorado Springs, arrived here the last of the week to attend the funeral of her aunt, Mrs. Mary Pope.

Mrs. Grover Walker was appointed as clerk of the school board to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of F. M. Burr.

M. C. Zeigler is still confined to his home. With the coming of spring and its nice warm days, we hope to have, we expect to see Morg. On our streets again wearing his usual smile.

Miss Mildred Montgomery, teacher in the Americus high school, came home to attend the funeral of her grandmother, Mrs. Mary Pope, which was held in the Christian church, here Sunday.

**Midway**

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Adam entertained with a six o'clock dinner Sunday, the Misses Dennings, Jennie Smith, Messrs. Archie Horner, Carson Cressler and George Adams.

Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Payne spent Sunday visiting with their daughter, Mrs. Ray Russell, and family. They also attended the Easter program given at the school house in the afternoon.

Mrs. W. E. Horner returned from Waldo Saturday.

**Pleasant Ridge**

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Simon were callers at the home of Earl Phelps Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Sample were shopping in Quinter, Wednesday morning.

I. P. Borger and H. T. Corke were shopping in Studley Friday.

Junior Corrick has been sick for several days.

**75 Years Ago**

**April 2, 1951**

**Re-organize Fire Dept.**

At the regular meeting of the City Council on April 2, it was decided to re-organize the fire department. The following men have been contacted by A. J. Steinshouer, fire chief, and have agreed to serve as volunteer firefighters: A. J. Steinshouer, Bill Anderson, Robert Getz, Al Davidson, E. V. Newland, John Shafer, L. L. William, Fred Jones, Mirl Schrock, Verlin Miller, Allen Neal, Earl Leopold, Roy Organ, Harold Holmes, Howard Currier, and Oral Carter.

**Fairview**

W. I. Transue returned home from Kansas City, Tuesday.

Cottage Prayer meeting will be held at the Cass Breeden home Thursday evening.

W. M. U. was held in the Geo. Simon home last Wednesday. Some time was spent filling out yearly report blanks.

**Leoville News**

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Kogl, of Atwood, were visitors at the home of her mother, Louise Schroer, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Schumacher and daughter were callers at the Gilbert Dreiling home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Connie Zodrow and children have moved on a farm near Norton.

**Adell Oil Pool Vicinity**

Solomon Valley did not have school Thursday, as the teacher and pupils wished to attend the funeral of Mrs. Jake Koerperich, which was held at Selden. Mrs. Koerperich is the mother of Mrs. Ray Foster of our community. We extend our sympathy to the sorrowing relatives.

Mrs. Emma Cramer and Mrs. Barbara Bouts called on Mrs. Verne McGatlin Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Fisher, of Norton, were Sunday visitors in the Ray LaRue home.

**Northwest Sheridan**

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Corder were Sunday dinner guests at the John Gustin home.

Grandma Rogers returned from the St. Thomas hospital Sunday feeling much better. Mrs. E. E. Rogers spent Sunday night with her.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Shaw spent Sunday at the Joe Petracek home.

**Allison News**

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Getty called on Mr. and Mrs. Blaine Steele Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Randolph visited Sunday afternoon at the Herbert Vaughn home.

Virginia Diederich was a Sunday dinner guest of Della Mae Dwyer. In the evening the two girls called on Vaneta Burd.

**Mickey's Want Ads**

We have in some very nice studio divans in plastic.

The father took his son to the hospital where his mother was expecting a baby. As he took Bobbie down the hall he said they would look for a baby. They stopped before the large window and watched the nurses taking care of a dozen or more babies.

Bobbie looked on excitedly at the infants and then turned to his father. "Gee, dad," he chuckled, "you sure hit the jackpot!"

**50 Years Ago**  
April 8, 1976

**Leopold Elected Hoxie Mayor**

David E. Leopold is Hoxie new Mayor. Leopold received 309 of the 311 votes cast in Tuesday's election. There was one void ballot and incumbent mayor, John Hill received on write-in vote.

In special township elections - Bowcreek township residents voted unanimously 26 "yes" for the township to levy a tax for the upkeep of the

Bowcreek Cemetery. Valley township voters approved a similar question for the Studley Cemetery. The vote was 25 "yes"; 5 "no".

**Hoxie Speech Entries to State**

Hoxie speech contestants will be traveling to Fort Hays State College April 10 for their final competition in the State Speech tournament.

The students qualified by placing in the top three in the various Invitational Speech and Drama tournaments in our area.

**McGraw News**

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Walker were Wednesday supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Zimmerman.

Mrs. Florence Wilson was a Friday supper guest at the Lee Walker home. Other evening visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Stan Shaw.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Sines of McCook were guests at the George Launchbaugh home from Wednesday until Friday.

**Broadway News**

Mrs. Oscar Borger returned home Monday and is able to be out some. She went to Quinter today for a check with her doctor.

Stanley Smith took his sister Sharee and daughter to Great Bend on Monday to be with her parents. Stan and Steve Smith spent Saturday at Great Bend.

Edith Breeden and Nella Simon went with Edwin Simon to Bible Study at Ray Corkes on Wednesday evening.

**Leoville News**

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Bruggeman and Gary spent Saturday, April 3 in Plainville to help Mrs. Bruggeman's sister, Sister M. Clementia, celebrate her Golden Jubilee.

Mrs. Magdalen Gassman had her grandchildren, Mary Kay and Joey of Grainfield stay with her from Sunday until Friday evening. Their parents were in Kansas City. Mr. and Mrs. Gassman returned from Kansas City Friday and had supper with Magdalen Gassman. Mary Kay and Joey returned home with their parents.

The Mother Cabrina group of the Altar Society met with Mrs. John Bruggeman Tuesday afternoon.

**Studley Items**

Clair Legere of Penokee installed a new furnace and air conditioner for Mrs. Esther Brandt last week.

Mrs. Carla Chadwick held a Sarah Coventry open house in her home Sunday afternoon, March 28.

Mrs. Flavel Twell and Mrs. Alice Bump helped prepare and serve dinner Friday for the Elderberries at Hoxie.

**25 Years Ago**  
April 5, 2001

**Thespians to Present Production**  
April 26

Golden Plains High School students have been practicing for their upcoming play, "The Yearbook," which will be performed on April 26.

**Rexford**

The Houston House Antique and Household auction held last Saturday at the Hiram Hall (formerly the Legion Hall), brought a large crowd to town. The main streets were all parked full of cars and trucks and the hall was crowded inside. It was a big sale.

Peg Greenwood hosted a Vandel Peris party at the Red Barn last Sunday afternoon. Kerrie Petersen of Burlington, Colo., was the presenter and 11 attended.

The Red Barn band practiced on Tuesday morning at the barn.

**Broadway**

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Simon visited Mr. and Mrs. Doug Simon and family of Hooker, Okla., over the weekend. Stella Sumner stayed with Deloris Paintin while they were gone.

Mr. and Mrs. Brian Anderson left for their home in Minnesota Tuesday. They have been visiting the Dave Popp family.

Alma Maude Smith has been under the weather this past week with bronchitis and sinusitis.

**Selden**

Bill and Vicki Hunziker received word that his brother, Don, and his wife, Vera, of Gilbert, Ariz., have become first time grandparents to Kimberlee Alexandra. She and her parents, Sean and Yvonne Hunziker, live in Mesa, Ariz.

**McGraw**

The family of Gayle Bainter celebrated his birthday on Friday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Bainter.

Mr. and Mrs. George Launchbaugh, Steve Launchbaugh, and Karl, visited Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Sines on Sunday.

Jim Bainter, Bill Bainter, and Dale Bainter visited Russel Bainter this week.

**Jennings-Allison**

The Sunflower Senior Center will hold a potluck supper at 6 p.m. on Tuesday. Bingo will follow a short business meeting. Anyone wishing to play bingo please bring a \$3 prize. Everyone is welcome.

Imogene (Brock) Hilmer of Aurora, Colo. spent several days with the Bob Tachas. She is a cousin of Bob and Galen Tacha. They visited Vi Tacha, Norton; Elaine Mizell, McCook, Neb.; the Roger Tachas, Oakley; and the Royal Tachas, Hoxie.

**March Total Tax Collections  
10.7% Below Estimate**

**Topeka** – The State of Kansas ends March 2026 with total tax collections at \$577.1 million. That is \$68.9 million, or 10.7%, below the estimate. Total tax collections were down 9.4% from March 2025.

Individual income tax collections were \$271.3 million. That is \$3.7 million, or 1.3% below the estimate. Individual income tax collections were up 3.7% from March 2025. Corporate income tax collections were negative \$23.5 million. That is \$63.5 million, or 158.8% below the estimate, and down 147.0% from March 2025.

Combined retail sales and compensating use tax receipts were \$262.1 million, which is \$8.1 million or 3.2% above the estimate, and up 6.2% from March 2025.

**Parkinson's Families of NWKS  
Represented on Capitol Hill**

Elaine Ptacek and Coleen Bixenman joined 350 Parkinson's Advocates on Capitol Hill in Washington DC March 15-18, 2026. Eight members from Kansas meet with Senators and House of Representatives and staff to ask for support of Research funds and to support the Healthy Brains Act.

Parkinson's is the fastest growing neurological disease ahead of Alzheimer's. Kansas is the 2nd highest disease per capita behind Nebraska. Twelve to 14 % of Parkinson's is genetic, with the rest being environmental. PD is diagnosed every 6 minutes and it is costing the government \$85 billion yearly. In direct and indirect costs. Dr. James Parkinson wrote a book on "The Essay of the Palsy" in 1817, and were still have no cure.

April is Parkinson's Awareness month. Please join us for our annual Walk a Thon at CCC Lampe Center on April 25, from 10:00-12:00. We also want to remind individuals with PD or other neurological diseases to join us for exercise, art, music and educational speakers every Wednesday, 10:00-11:45 at the Movement Connection in Colby. Parkinson's classes are offered in 8 northwest counties from September to May. Please call 785-443-3439 to learn more about the weekly classes.

**January 2026 Labor Report**

Preliminary estimates reported by the Labor Market Information (LMI) division of the Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show a seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 3.9% in January. This is an increase from 3.8% in December and an increase from 3.8% in January 2025. The labor force participation rate for Kansas decreased to 67.9% in January.

Seasonally adjusted job estimates for Kansas indicate total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 1,900 from December. Total nonfarm includes private sector and government employers. Private sector jobs increased by 800 over the month, while government increased by 1,100. The largest job gains in the private sector were in professional and business services (+1,100 jobs). The largest decreases were in construction (-600 jobs) and financial activities (-600 jobs).

Since January 2025 Kansas' seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs have increased by 6,900. This change is due to an increase of 5,200 private sector jobs and an increase of 1,700 government jobs.

Technical Note: This release includes nonfarm jobs and labor force estimates for January 2026, which are produced using data from two monthly surveys. Data for nonfarm job estimates is collected through a survey of employers while the main input for labor force estimates is a survey of households. Data collected for this report references the week including January 12.

**Annual Revised Data**

LMI, in conjunction with BLS, produces monthly job and labor force estimates using a variety of surveys conducted by BLS and the Census Bureau. Each March the previous year's estimates are benchmarked and revised against actual counts from employers' tax reports and other data.

The benchmarked data is now available.

**Application Deadline for  
2026 Boys State of Kansas  
Session Set**

The American Legion Boys State of Kansas is accepting applications for its 2026 session through Thursday, April 30. Applications are accepted after that date, but on a space-available basis. The event is set to be held Sunday, May 31, through Saturday, June 6, at Kansas State University in Manhattan. This will be the program's 34<sup>th</sup> consecutive session at KSU and 88<sup>th</sup> overall.

Kansas Boys State is for individuals who will complete their sophomore or junior year of high school this spring. The cost to attend the Boys State of Kansas program is \$375; however, in many instances, sponsors pay the majority of the fees, with the delegate or his family paying \$50. Those wishing to attend the 2026 session should visit [ksbstate.org](http://ksbstate.org) to apply. Furthermore, delegates who are returning to KBS for a second year (high school sophomores during the 2024-25 academic year) have the opportunity to attend the 2026 session for just \$50 total, provided they get at least three eligible people from their school (or another school) to attend.

Kansas Boys State attendees are also eligible to receive a three-hour course credit (Introduction to Political Science [POLSC 110-C]) through K-State at a 72% discount, as well as earn merit badges to attain the Eagle Scout rank through Boy Scouts of America. Additionally, attendees can apply to win a Samsung American Legion Scholarship.

The American Legion Department of Kansas finalist is guaranteed a \$1,250 scholarship, with the opportunity to receive up to \$10,000 as a national scholar. The American Legion Boys State of Kansas program provides a relevant, interactive, problem-solving experience in leadership and teamwork that develops self-identity, promotes mutual respect and instills civic responsibility to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to community, state, and nation. Boys State is a "learning by doing" political exercise that simulates elections, political parties and government at the state, county, and local levels, providing opportunities to lead under pressure, showcasing character, and working effectively within a team. It's also an opportunity to gain pride and respect for government, and the price paid by members of the military to preserve democracy.

Potential sponsors, such as American Legion posts, civic organizations, businesses, clubs, and interested individuals should visit [ksbstate.org/sponsor](http://ksbstate.org/sponsor). Questions? Contact the ALBSK at [info@ksbstate.org](mailto:info@ksbstate.org) or (785) 550-6492. For complete information about the American Legion Boys State of Kansas program, visit [ksbstate.org](http://ksbstate.org).

For information about the 2026 American Legion Auxiliary Sunflower Girls State, which will be held Sunday, May 31, through Friday, June 5, at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, visit [ksgirlsstate.org](http://ksgirlsstate.org).

**Caleb's Law Strengthens  
Protections Against Sexual Extortion**

**Topeka** – Governor Laura Kelly today announced she has signed House Bill 2537, known as Caleb's Law, which expands and strengthens Kansas law to better combat sexual extortion and protect victims. The legislation is named after Caleb Moore, a 14-year-old from El Dorado, Kansas, who died by suicide after being targeted by an online sextortion scheme.

"Protecting Kansas children means staying ahead of the evolving threats they face, especially in an increasingly digital world where exploitation can happen in an instant," Governor Laura Kelly said. "By prioritizing education and awareness, Caleb's Law ensures that young people, families, and educators have the tools to recognize sexual extortion and seek help before it's too late. By signing this bill, we're honoring Caleb's life by shining a light on this growing danger and taking meaningful action to prevent future tragedies."

House Bill 2537 enhances criminal penalties and establishes new offenses to expand the types of exploitation that are covered by Kansas law. It also broadens the definition of sexual extortion and requires statewide education efforts to help students, parents, and educators recognize and prevent exploitation. The bill requires the attorney general to work with the Kansas State Board of Education and law enforcement agencies to prepare and provide educational materials and information regarding sexual extortion.

"Our kids are our future and protecting them from online predators, who are increasingly dangerous and sophisticated, must be a top legislative priority," said Representative Bob Lewis, District 123. "I'm therefore pleased that the governor is signing Caleb's Law, which I introduced and received unanimous, bipartisan support in both legislative chambers. What happened to Caleb is tragic and must be stopped. I look forward in the next legislative session to continuing to work across the aisle to protect our kids from online threats."

House Bill 2537 strengthens existing Kansas statute by expanding the definition of sexual extortion to include threats involving explicit images, increasing penalties when an offender is 18 years of age or older and the victim is less than 18 years of age or a dependent adult.

**Kansas Crop Progress and Condition**

**Manhattan** - For the week ending April 5, 2026, there were 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Topsoil moisture supplies rated 23% very short, 39% short, 34% adequate, and 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies rated 18% very short, 39% short, 41% adequate, and 2% surplus.

Field Crops Report: Winter wheat condition rated 9% very poor, 15% poor, 38% fair, 33% good, and 5% excellent. Winter wheat jointed was 41%, ahead of 24% last year, and well ahead of 18% for the five-year average.

Corn planted was 5%, near 4% last year and 3% average.



**Spring Surprises**

By **Kim Baldwin**, McPherson County farmer and rancher

It's that time of the year when the trees begin to blossom, the wheat fields become a magnificent green and our yard becomes an interesting site thanks to our farm dog, Rosie.

During the winter months Rosie spends a lot of time indoors. Whether it's taking day naps while my husband or I work in the office, patrolling the shop while equipment is worked on or willingly sleeping inside the house at night.

But when the days and nights warm up, Rosie spends much more of her time outside. She'll nap outside the office door soaking up the midday sun. She'll sniff around the shop before leaving to patrol the farmyard. She refuses to come inside the house at night, preferring to sleep on a wicker bench on my front porch.

When Rosie comes inside to sleep during the winter, she actually sleeps. When Rosie migrates to her bench on my front porch, she usually does not sleep.

Whether it's barking near my bedroom window at all hours of the night, launching herself off the porch bench in pursuit of night creatures that get too close to her house or patrolling the farmyard in the dark, Rosie's winter hibernation ceases and her spring behaviors kick into full gear.

It's quite common to open the front door to find treasures she has gathered throughout the night strewn about our front yard. Sometimes you'll spot a large bone she has found somewhere during her patrols. At other times you will find multiple rabbits – or portions

of rabbits or birds, or opossums, or rats or raccoons on display.

Sometimes Rosie will leave her treasures for us to see and then relocate them to an area near the barn where she buries them for later.

Other times, our farm dog leaves her treasures in the yard for us to appreciate and/or deal with.

Spring is the season that requires a pitchfork or shovel readily available in order for us to pick up after Rosie's night shift.

I often wonder what delivery drivers dropping off packages at our place think as they walk up to our porch during the spring months.

A neighbor recently shared on social media a photo montage of the items her dogs have started bringing home and leaving in her yard as well.

I had to chuckle and was thankful that I have someone I can commiserate with thanks to our dogs' spring antics on the farm.

"Insight" is a weekly column published by Kansas Farm Bureau, the state's largest farm organization whose mission is to strengthen agriculture and the lives of Kansans through advocacy, education and service.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

(First published in The Sheridan Sentinel April 9, 2026)

**NOTICE OF PRIMARY ELECTION  
STATE OF KANSAS  
SHERIDAN COUNTY  
K.S.A. 25-204**

In accordance with the provisions of KSA 25-204, notice is hereby given that a Primary Election will be held August 4, 2026. Candidates for the following offices will be nominated by each political party which has qualified to participate in the Primary Election:

- One candidate for State Senate - 40<sup>th</sup> District
  - One candidate for United States House of Representatives - 1<sup>st</sup> District
  - One candidate for Governor/Lt. Governor
  - One candidate for Secretary of State
  - One candidate for Attorney General
  - One candidate for State Treasurer
  - One candidate for Commissioner of Insurance
  - One candidate for State Representative - 118<sup>th</sup> District
  - One candidate for Member, State Board of Education - 5<sup>th</sup> District
  - One candidate for County Commissioner - 1<sup>st</sup> District
  - One candidate for Hospital Board of Trustees
  - One candidate for City of Hoxie Water Commissioner
  - One candidate for Township Clerk in each of the following townships: Bowcreek, Solomon, and Valley
- The following officers will be elected in each political party which has qualified to participate in the Primary Election:
- One Precinct Committeeman in each Precinct
  - One Precinct Committeewoman in each Precinct
- IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereto set my hand and cause to be affixed my official seal.  
Done this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, A.D. 2026.  
Heather Bracht  
Sheridan County Election Officer

(Last published in The Sheridan Sentinel April 23, 2026)

**Commission Minutes  
3/31/26**

Now on this 31<sup>st</sup> day of March 2026, the Board of Commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas, met in regular session with Chairman David Stithem presiding. Other members present were Kyle Emigh, Mike "Buck" Mader, Steve Hirsch, County Attorney, and County Clerk, Heather Bracht.

At 8:00 a.m. Stithem called the meeting to order.

Those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jordan Riley, EMS Director, came to the table. Riley discussed the billing software program. The current program is very old and there is no ability to omit certain items, etc. Riley found a software program through AIM Software Services at a cost of \$1,500 one-time fee and then \$119.17/monthly. Mader made a motion to purchase the software program from AIM for billing, seconded by Emigh. Carried 3-0

By consensus the Board will renew the cyber security agreement with IOT on Mainstreet at a cost of \$1,932. There was a brief discussion about emergency preparedness.

Sheriff Carver came to the table. Carver advised they would be purchasing some new chairs for the Sheriff's Office as they have had some break.

At 8:13 Stithem made a motion to enter into executive session for a period of 20 minutes for the discussion of non-elected personnel. Emigh seconded. Carried 3-0. Present were the Board, Bracht, Hirsch, and

Carver. The door opened at 8:33.

Carver is still working on getting Roko (K9) sold and states that Adam Babcock has been good about working with the dog to keep up with the training.

Mader made a motion to approve the Treasurer Abatements for oil. Emigh seconded the motion. Carried 3-0. These abatements happened due to a Board of Tax Appeals hearing at the State level.

Stithem made a motion, seconded by Emigh, to approve the Payroll of March 27, 2026, and the Warrants of March 31, 2026. Carried 3-0. Some warrants were clarified.

Mader made a motion to approve the March 24, 2026 Minutes as presented. Emigh seconded. Carried 3-0

The following Payroll and Warrants were reviewed and approved by the Board:

General	\$139,784.14
Road & Bridge	\$80,276.10
Nox Weed	\$2,745.30
Public Transp.	\$1,824.33
Landfill	\$3,384.68
E911	\$1,061.04
Spec Tech	\$269.16
Offender	\$169.00

At 9:29 a.m. with no further business, Stithem made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mader. Carried 3-0. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Room.

Attest: Heather Bracht, County Clerk, David Stithem, Chairman

Now on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2026, the Board of Commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas, met in special session with Chairman David

**"Into the Woods" Comes to FHSU Theatre Felten-Start Stage**

By FHSU University Communications

**Hays** - Braiding together the plots of several classic Brothers Grimm fairy tales, Into the Woods has captivated musical theatre audiences since its debut in the mid-1980s. Later this month, Fort Hays State University's Department of Music and Theatre will bring the musical to life on the Felten-Start Theatre stage.

Performances of Into the Woods will be held at 7:30 p.m. April 16, 17, and 18, and at 2:30 p.m. April 19, in the Felten-Start Theatre on the FHSU campus.

Directed by Catherine Trieschmann, FHSU theatre director, the production promises a creative and heartfelt experience for audiences of all ages.

Trieschmann said the show remains a favorite not only because of its well-known film adaptation, but also because of the depth and variety of its characters.

"It is a musical with so many featured roles and so many characters that we know and love," she said. "It tells the story of what happens after happily ever after. I think that's where the musical really starts to pull on your heartstrings in a powerful way."

Trieschmann said she is especially excited to introduce Hays audiences to several talented FHSU freshmen and non-major performers who will share the stage with experienced theatre students.

"It's a great mix of new people and accomplished majors who have been working on these types of productions their whole college career," she said.

In addition to the student cast, faculty and staff from across campus are helping bring the production to life. Thomas Giebler, professor of art, is serving as projection designer. Carl Sage, assistant professor of theatre, is creating the physical set. Cristi Green is handmaking most of the costumes, and Dr. Terry Crull, professor of music, is directing the music.

The cast includes Kiki Gonzales, McKynlee Stecklein, Cody Ingrenthron, Michael Jund, Alison Walker, Allie Straub, Holly Trullinger, Mary Newboles, Lauren June, Addyson Brown, Lilly Kimberlin, Jacob Schultz, Xavia Bren, Ellie McGuire, Quinton McGuire, Brett Dreher, Alan Torres, Adrian Normandin, Sam Schroeder, Reese Schmeidler, and Faith Woods.

"Into the Woods is such a creative show," Trieschmann said. "It includes puppetry and a lot of side gags, which is a lot of fun. It's a great show for the whole family."

For tickets or more information, visit <https://www.ticketreturn.com/prod2new/team.asp?sponsorid=19415> or call 785-628-5472.

Stithem presiding. Other members present were Mike "Buck" Mader, Kyle Emigh via phone, and County Clerk Heather Bracht.

At 3:00 p.m. Stithem called the meeting to order.

Stithem made a motion to approve and sign the Waiver of Notice for the meeting, seconded by Emigh. Carried 3-0

Dana Hess, Communications, came to the table. Stithem advised Hess that the position of Communications Director was being eliminated due to plans to restructure the Communications Office and she was being terminated effective immediately. The Board asked that she turn in keys and any equipment prior to leaving her office. Hess exited the meeting. Stithem made a motion to terminate Hess effective immediately seconded by Mader. Carried 3-0

At 3:04 p.m. with no further business, Stithem made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mader. Carried 3-0

Attest: Heather Bracht, County Clerk, David Stithem, Chairman

**Caleb's Law**

Continued from page 2

sexual extortion.

"Our kids are our future and protecting them from online predators, who are increasingly dangerous and sophisticated, must be a top legislative priority," said Representative Bob Lewis, District 123. "I'm therefore pleased that the governor is signing Caleb's Law, which I introduced and received unanimous, bipartisan support in both legislative chambers. What happened to Caleb is tragic and must be stopped. I look forward in the next legislative session to continuing to work across the aisle to protect our kids from online threats."

House Bill 2537 strengthens existing Kansas statute by expanding the definition of sexual extortion to include threats involving explicit images, increasing penalties when an offender is 18 years of age or older and the victim is less than 18 years of age or a dependent adult.

**Preachers Point  
Pastor Timothy Johnson**

**A Willing Heart**

We had a wonderful Easter yesterday. As always, Easter began early with a 7:30am

sunrise service, followed by breakfast and an egg hunt for the little guys. Afterward, we gathered for the main morning service.

Usually, for Easter and Christmas, instead of having Sunday School and church, we have one extra-long, two-plus-hour service. Listing everything we did would be boring for you all, so to sum it up: we had congregational songs, people sang specials, an object lesson was given, we had over a dozen mini-skits of Bible stories with everyone trying to guess what they were, and lastly a sermon.

I'd like to take a step back and encourage all the tiny churches out there. Our normal Sunday attendance is about 15. We are a small country church. To illustrate how far we are from the rest of the world, the church is 30 miles from the nearest Super Walmart, and until last fall, the same distance from a McDonald's (a McDonald's opened twelve miles away last October). Even if a church has only a handful of people, they can still hold holiday services with special singing, skits, and the like. All that it takes is willing hearts and physical ability. Things like revival services with an evangelist, VBS, supporting missionaries, and other outreaches are possible. Remember, what is impossible with man is possible with God, and we can do all things through Christ, who strengtheneth us.

To illustrate what a willing heart can do, let me tell you the story of Mr. Stivic.

This happened on Easter Sunday 50 years ago. The sun was shining through the church windows. Everyone was in an excellent mood. It was the first day, after a long, hard winter, that people would not have to wear a coat. Pastor announced, "We have something special for everyone."

Mr. Stivic, a man in his nineties, got up from his middle-row seat and began moving down the aisle. He walked with a cane. He was so feeble that he could not climb the two steps onto the stage. He turned around in front of the pulpit. Now facing us, he began to sing, "Nearer My God to Thee". His crackly voice was louder than expected, and he did not hit every note. I've been in thousands of church services, and I've heard hundreds, maybe thousands, of solos, duets, and quartets sing in church. As time passes, I remember a handful of them, but Mr. Stivic's song that day will never leave my memory.

He had never sung before (maybe in his younger years, but not since I had been attending there), and he never sang in front of everyone like that again. There I was, a sixteen-year-old boy with tears running down my cheeks while listening to a man eighty years my senior sing.

I don't remember ever having a one-on-one conversation with Mr. Stivic, but he taught me so much with that song. He taught me to never quit, no matter how tough the physical limitations may be; I can still do something for the Lord. He taught me that regardless of how difficult it may be, God can use me to bless others. Mr. Stivic, not by the words of the song, but by his willingness to sing it, and the heart that he put into bellowing out the words, taught me that I always needed a heart that was willing to serve God.

In one three-minute song, a ninety-something old man taught a young sixteen-year-old boy lessons that have stuck with him, not just for half a century, but that will stick with him for all of eternity.

If you are part of a small church, or maybe you have physical limitations because of age or other reasons, please remember that God wants to use you, and He can and will, if your heart will let Him.

Tiny churches, megachurches, and every church in between celebrated Easter in their own way yesterday.

At Countryside, all the 15 regulars had a part. Some brought food, some performed in the skits. A mother and her two teen daughters sang, and one of those teens sang a song an evangelist had sung years ago at the church, bringing back memories. Others were involved in other ways. Nearly everyone did multiple things.

The week before Easter, a lot of preparation was done. People moved the tables from the Sunday School trailer to the main sanctuary on Wednesday. People shopped for and cooked breakfast. A couple cleaned the church and decorated. Practice was done for the songs and the skits. It has been a busy couple of weeks. But the most important preparation for Easter was prayer.

Prayer is the most important preparation for every church service. If you teach a Sunday School class with only one, two, or three students, pray. You can pray for more kids, but don't do that unless you are praying for the ones you already have. Jesus tells the dying church of Sardis to "Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain..."

Pray that you grow in Christ, that your heart becomes more like His. Pray for your Pastor; he goes through things you will never know. He needs strength, wisdom, and the ability to push aside loneliness. Pray for everyone in the congregation by name. Ask for the same things that you are asking for yourself, that they grow and their hearts become more like His.

Easter is a wonderful day of celebration of our risen Saviour. Every day, not just Easter, not just every other Sunday, but every day, can be a day of celebration for the birth, death, resurrection, and return of our Lord, if our hearts are in it.

Pray about everything, even the box of cereal you bring to a church breakfast. You never know how the Lord will use you to bless others.

Preacher Johnson is Pastor of Countryside Baptist Church in Parke County Indiana. Website: [www.preachers-point.com](http://www.preachers-point.com); Email: [preacherspoint@gmail.com](mailto:preacherspoint@gmail.com); Mail: 25 W 1200 N; Kingman IN 47952. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Timothy-Preacher-Johnson-101171088326638>. All Scripture KJV.

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