

The Sheridan Sentinel

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Hoxie Indians Bring Home District Championship!

By Jaime Swords

The Hoxie Indians wrapped up their regular season on Senior Night this past Friday night with a big 52–6 win over the Rawlins County Buffaloes, bringing home the District Championship!

The Indians have had their share of challenges this season, but these boys have continued to work hard, improve and come together as a team. Friday night's win was a great way to finish the regular season and head into the playoffs.

Sophomore quarterback Gage Epp had a great night, completing 9 of 13 passes for 186 yards and four touchdowns. He also added two rushing touchdowns. Epp was busy on the defensive side of the ball as well, coming away with two interceptions.

The Indians put up 364 yards of total offense, with 178 yards rushing and 186 yards passing.

Senior Mat Bretz led the rushing game with 88 yards on just three carries, including a 51-yard run. He also had a 40-yard touchdown reception. Senior Chase Meyer added 74 rushing yards and 47 receiving yards, including a touchdown.

Junior Noah Nickleson had three receptions for 70 yards and a touchdown, while junior Griffin Zerr added an eight-yard touchdown catch. Freshman Hadley Juenemann also contributed with two receptions for 21 yards.

The defense did its part Friday night, holding the Buffaloes to just six points.

Bretz led the Indians with 17 tackles, followed by Meyer with 15, Nickleson with 14 and Zerr with 13. Senior Caleb Walker recorded a sack and a tackle for loss, while senior Alex Bufkin added three assisted tackles from the noseguard position.

It was a team effort all the way around, with contributions coming from every part of the field. And while the statistics tell part of the story, they don't always show the work being done on the offensive and defensive lines. Those boys in the trenches play a huge role in creating opportunities for their teammates.

The Indians finished the regular season with a 6–2 record, winning their last three games against Decatur Community, Hill City and Rawlins County.

These boys have worked hard to get to this point, and earning a district championship is something they should all be proud of. From the seniors playing their final season of high school football to the younger players stepping up and making their mark, each one has played a part in getting this team where it is today.

Now it's time for playoff football!

The Indians will host the Bennington Bulldogs on Thursday, October 29, at 7 p.m. right here in Hoxie for the first round of the Kansas Eight-Man Division I playoffs.

Let's pack the stands Thursday night and show these boys our support as they continue their playoff run!



Congratulations to the Hoxie Indians and their coaches on bringing home the District Championship! Go Indians! (Photo by Jaime Swords)

USD 412 Receives Grants from Sheridan County Community Foundation

SHERIDAN COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



(right) USD 412 Librarian Cyndie Aumiller and Sheridan County Community Foundation Director, Kelsey Epp. (HHS photo)



(below) 2026-2027 Yearbook class with Sheridan County Community Foundation Director Kelsey Epp; (back row): Sponsor Amanda Cheney, Sofia Garcia, Kendall Baalman, Emma Schamberger, Kalleigh Baier, Brylie Lindenman and Sponsor Cheryl Schwarz. (HHS photo)

By HHS Yearbook Staff

USD 412 received two grants from the Sheridan County Community Foundation in October. Under Cyndie Aumiller's leadership, the school libraries received a $1,917.00 grant to obtain a 2-year movie license from Swank. The license allows the school and community to show movies, documentaries, and TV shows in the classroom and auditorium in compliance with legal requirements.

The Yearbook/Journalism class also received a $2,122.00 grant. The Yearbook class will use the funds to purchase camera equipment to update outdated or broken cameras and lenses to use at Junior High and High School sports, in classrooms, and at organizational events.

USD 412 is very thankful to the Sheridan County Community Foundation for supporting students and teachers in both the elementary and JH/HS buildings.

HMS Student Advances in International Peace Poster Contest



Amelia Gaede shows her winning poster design, which was sponsored by Hoxie Hotrodders Lions Club Board. Patty Mullins helped select Amelia for the award. (HMS photo)

Hoxie Middle School art students had the opportunity this year to participate in the Lions International Peace Poster Contest, sponsored locally by the Hoxie Hot Rodders Lions Club.

As part of an art project, students followed the contest's rules and guidelines to create posters demonstrating "originality, artistic merit, and expression of the theme." This year's theme was "Harmony in Humanity," encouraging students to illustrate how they envision peace with others.

Members of the Hoxie Hot Rodders Lions Club Board selected 8th grader Amelia Gaede as the winner. Amelia's poster will advance to the next level of judging, where it will compete at the international level.

Congratulations to Amelia on this wonderful achievement!

A Fun-Filled Fall for AmberMed Long Term Care Residents





The Hoxie High School Football Team visited and ate breakfast with the LTC residents on Friday, October 23 before heading to their game against the Rawlins County Buffaloes. Also last week, the residents took a fieldtrip to Jack Creek Pumpkin Patch in Penokee. (AmberMed LTC Activities photos)

Words of Wisdom	Grain Report		Weather Report			*Thought of the Week*
Your freedom to do something is not the same as an entitlement meant to have somebody else provide it.	Reported on: Tuesday, Oct. 27		Date	High	Low / Moisture	**Q:** What does your RIGHT require from somebody else?
	Corn	4.39	10/19	67	41 --	
	Milo	3.84	10/20	68	45 --	**A:** The Founders' understanding is that a right is something everyone can possess at the same time without taking away from anybody else's rights.
	Beans	11.19	10/21	74	47 --	
	Wheat	5.86	10/22	79	51 .06"	
			10/23	80	61 --	
			10/24	65	44 .27"	
			10/25	52	42 .01"	



Birthdays & Anniversaries

October 30: Melissa Ritter Thornton

October 31: Paula McKenna, Brooklyn Vahling

November 1: Jason Geisinger

November 2: Gail Smith, Pat Koerperich, Gloria Goscha

November 3: Helen Carman, Mike Neff, Kyle Carman, Vince Wenger, Jim & Nova Meyer

November 4: Sunnie Minium, Mark Carson

November 5: Steve Seegmiller

November 6: Eva Wessel, Dennis & Shawn Spresser

The Selden Senior Citizens met on Thursday, October 22, at the Community Center for a good meal prepared by Gloria Goscha of Midway Cafe followed by an afternoon of pinochle. Those enjoying the day included Steve Skubal, Barb Jones, Helen Carman, Carlene Bruggeman, and Betty Hickert. Those playing cards were Kou Lovin with a score of 530, Steve Carman with a score of 531, JR Albers with a score of 571, Jacque Boultinghouse with a score of 705, Elaine Koerperich with a score of 401, Shirley Emigh with a score of 401, and Pat Wessel with a score of 410.

School Calendar

October 29: High School Football Cross Bracket game with Bucklin in Rexford

October 30: High School Volleyball State in Emporia, Junior High Halloween Contest. Grade School Spook Parade in downtown Selden at 2:00pm

October 31: High School Cross Country State in Wamego

November 2: NO SCHOOL. High School Scholars Bowl in Rexford

November 4: FFA Food Science in Quinter.

Don't Forget Red Cross Donations This Holiday Season

Many people are filling their calendar with seasonal activities, and the American Red Cross urges people to carve out just an hour of time over the next few weeks to give blood or platelets before the holiday rush ramps up.

In thanks, all who come to give Oct. 19-Nov. 22, 2026, will get up to $20 in Gift Cards - that's a $10 Amazon Gift Card by email and 500 bonus points, which can be redeemed for a $10 e-gift card through Blood Donor Rewards!

Additionally, successful November donations will get free A1C testing, commonly used to screen for prediabetes and diabetes (one result per calendar year; do not fast before you donate). Visit RedCrossBlood.org/Maze for details on all offers.



Annual Sheridan County 4-H Achievement Banquet

Sheridan County 4-H would like to thank everyone for their generous support throughout the year. You are invited to their Annual 4-H Achievement Banquet, which will be held in the Sheridan County 4-H Building on November 8, at 5pm.

63rd Annual Lord's Acre Dinner and Auction

Morland United Methodist Church will once again host the annual Lord's Acre Dinner and Auction on Saturday, November 7. The popular event will include a dinner served from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. with cost by donation, with the Lord's Acre auction beginning promptly at 7:00. Many unique items will be featured at the auction, along with baked goods and homemade crafts suitable for holiday giving. The church has conducted the Lord's Acre Dinner and Auction for the past 62 years, with this year marking the 63rd Anniversary of the event. All are welcome to join in the fun and fellowship as we celebrate together!

WPAA Presents Cowboy Poet Ron Wilson

Western Plains Arts Association's Sunday, November 1 program will be at Goodland High School at 3:00 pm central time, (2:00 pm Mountain Time) when Ron Wilson shares his talents. Ron's Cowboy Poetry

HE'S GOT A LOT TO SAY AND YOU'LL ENJOY LISTENING!

Ron Wilson is a cowboy poet from the historic Lazy T Ranch near Manhattan, Kansas. He says his poetry is all original, humorous, family-friendly, patriotic, and most of the time, it even rhymes! Ron performs his original cowboy poetry in full costume, and he always gets his audience involved. Sometimes, he brings along his loyal and talented sidekicks, Stanley the Steer and Pete the Possum.

The poetry is fun, family-oriented, patriotic and relates extremely well with ag and rural audiences. Hope to see you there. Tickets available at the door or attend with a WPAA season ticket.

WPAA would like to thank the local sponsors along with The Dane Hansen Foundation and sponsored in part by the state of Kansas through Kansas Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Hoxie Residents Among Those Awarded at DSNWK Luncheon

Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas hosted its annual awards luncheon in Hays on October 6. Awards were given throughout the afternoon to staff, people served, and community members. The first awards of the afternoon were given to employees of DSNWK for their years of service. Hoxie resident Linda Pope was one of those recognized.

Several awards were given to individuals served by DSNWK for achievement through employment. Hoxie resident, Kade Zimmerman receive one of these awards.

DSNWK recognized two long-time advocates of DSNWK for their support with its Vision of Hope Awards. Rick and Rita Billinger of Goodland and the Robert and Patricia Schmidt Foundation of Hays were honored. DSNWK paid tribute to them for their outstanding support over the years for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

DSNWK is a 501c3 nonprofit serving 18 counties in northwest Kansas with a mission to advocate for persons with disabilities and those who care about them by planning and supporting a life of dignity, interdependence, and personal satisfaction in the community.

For more information contact: Steve Keil, 785-625-5678



Believe Before You See It

WE KEEP ASKING GOD TO SHOW US THE WHOLE PLAN, WHEN SOMETIMES HE'S JUST ASKING US TO TRUST HIM WITH THE NEXT STEP. Man, Hebrews 11:6 says: "Without faith it is impossible to please God." That'll preach. Because faith ain't knowing everything. Faith ain't having every answer. Faith ain't God handing us a ten-year plan and saying: "Here you go, homie. Here's exactly how this is gonna work."

Nah. Sometimes we don't know what we're supposed to do next. Sometimes we pray and still don't have the answer we wanted. Sometimes we're standing there saying: "FATHER, I DON'T KNOW WHERE THIS IS GOING." And, maybe that's exactly where faith starts.

C'MON. If we already knew every outcome, if we could see every turn, if we knew exactly how everything would work out, WE WOULDN'T NEED FAITH. We'd just need directions.

Proverbs 3 says: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding." There it is. We don't have to understand everything to trust Him. We don't have to see the whole staircase to take the next faithful step. And let's be clear — faith isn't pretending we heard God say something He didn't.

Sometimes the answer is: Wait. Pray. Open Scripture. Seek wisdom. Don't force the door. But while we're waiting? BELIEVE.

Believe God is still God when we're confused. Believe He's still good when the road looks different than we expected. Believe Jesus is still enough when we don't know what tomorrow looks like. Because some of us keep saying: "GOD, SHOW ME... THEN I'LL TRUST YOU."



And faith says: "FATHER, I TRUST YOU... SO I'LL KEEP WALKING EVEN BEFORE I SEE IT." WHEW.

Maybe today we don't need the entire answer. Maybe we just need enough faith for today. Enough faith to pray again. Enough faith to obey what we already know. Enough faith to stop running back to what God brought us out of. Enough faith to say: "I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING, FATHER... BUT I KNOW WHO YOU ARE."

That's faith. Not knowing everything. BELIEVING THE ONE WHO DOES.









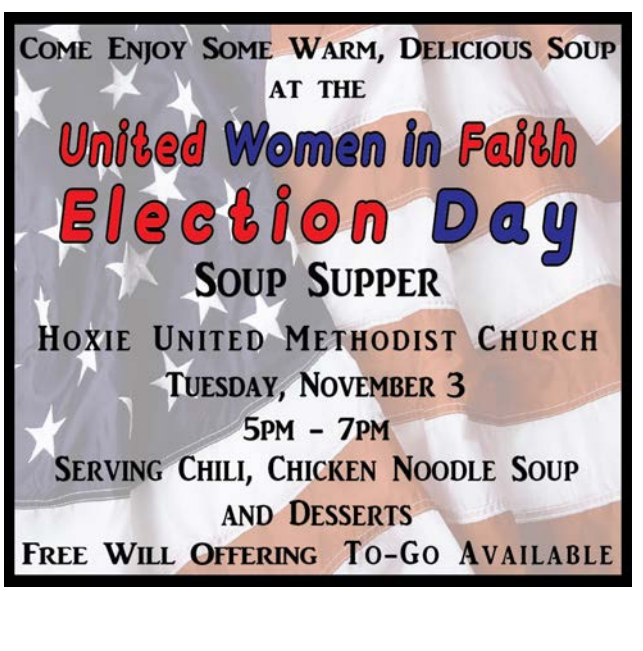












GOOD LUCK AT STATE WHS VOLLEYBALL
AND HHS & GPHS CROSS COUNTRY TEAMS!
Better Built Trailers ~ Equity Bank ~ Farm Bureau Financial Services ~ Foote Cattle Company ~Golden Plains Booster Club ~ Great Plains ~ Great Western Tire
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L&C Home Health Agency, Inc ~ Mauck Flying Service ~ Mickey Leopold Funeral Home ~ Midwest Energy ~ Nex-Tech ~ Novus Ag/Pathway Ag ~ Nutrien Ag
Shepard Performance Horses ~ Sheridan County Sheriff's Department ~ Six Toes Feed & Seed ~ The Bank, Selden & Grainfield
Watkins Realty & Insurance Agency LLC ~ Woofter Pump & Well

Bulldog Runners Qualify for State



The Golden Plains girls team qualified for the state cross country meet for the second year in a row with juniors Adilyn Meier and Elizabeth Weiner qualifying individually for the third straight season. Team members include (l-r) Madison Focke, Searee Bruggeman, Helen Giefer-guide, MaKenlea Focke, Adilyn Meier, Elizabeth Weiner, Wendy Garcia and Estrella Aguilar. The team is coached by Shanda Brown and Ellen Weiner. (Photo by Shanda Brown)

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains High School Cross Country Team qualified the girls' team and two individual Lady Bulldog runners for the state meet in Wamego on October 31. The girls team placed third overall to qualify while Elizabeth Weiner and Adilyn Meier each qualified individually for the third consecutive season.

Weiner ran a season PR of 20:48.31 to place second at the Sub-State meet in Tribune on October 24. This is just a few seconds shy of her career best run of 20:10.9 ran last year. "I'm happy with how the race turned out," said Weiner. "It was a good day."

Meier placed seventh at sub-state with a 21:50.39 finish to qualify individually. "It was amazing!" said Meier. "The weather was beautiful. This was our first time to ever run in Tribune and the course was unfamiliar. I am so excited to return to state!"

This was the second year in a row that the girls' team qualified to run at state. Team members running at state are Searee Bruggeman who set a PR of 25:08.24 at Sub-State, MaKenlea Focke who ran 25:41.35, Wendy Garcia who finished in 25:52.05, Estrella Aguilar running at 26:17.46, and Madison Focke who ran 27:26.48.

"We are super-excited to start the tradition of having our team run at state," added Weiner. "We are hoping for good weather and to have everyone run their best. "Our goal is to have the team place at state," added Meier. "We need to keep a positive mind set and end the season on a good note."

Three boys ran at sub-state, which isn't enough to enter a team. Juan Garcia finished his season at 20:40.22, Vincent Taylor ran a 23:26.68, and Brandon Karnes finished in 27:53.40. "The boys ran well," continued Weiner, "but there are some really fast runners out there."

Lady Bulldogs Advance to Sub-State



Golden Plains junior Lakin Wark jumps up to hit the ball earlier this season. Wark had 8 ACE serves, 18 kills, 31 assists, and 13 digs in the regional tournament in Dighton on October 20, helping the Lady Bulldogs advance to Sub-State. (Photo by Judy Rogers)

By Judy Rogers

The Golden Plains Lady Bulldogs placed as runner-up at the Regional Volleyball tournament in Dighton on October 20 to advance to the Sub-State tourney in Ransom. The Bulldogs went 2-1 at regionals to place second.

Their first game was against the Triplains Lady Vikings. The Bulldogs started strong with a 25-2 victory. They held on for the second set and match win 25-11.

The second game was against the Brewster Lady Bulldogs. Brewster gave them a little better first set, but the GP girls won easily 25-8. The second set was another 25-11 win for Golden Plains.

The third and final match of the day was against the Dighton Lady Hornets. The Hornets won the first set with a solid 25-18 victory. The Bulldogs were determined and kept the second set close for a 25-22 win. The third and final set was a bit more of a struggle for the Bulldogs as they hung on, but the Hornets rallied and came out on top 25-17.

"It was a good day," said junior Lakin Wark. "Dighton is a good team, and we played really well against them." Wark finished the tournament with 8 ACE serves, 18 kills, 31 assists, and 13 digs. Katie Carter had 14 ACE serves, 3 kills, 3 assists, 1 block, and 14 digs. Brenlynn Rath had 6 ACE serves, 28 kills, 1 assist, 1 block, and 22 digs. Kadalen Unrein had 13 kills, 25 assists, 3 blocks, and 10 digs. Estella Vargas finished with 2 kills, 3 assists, and 15 digs. Ellie Romero totaled 3 ACE serves and 15 digs, and Jade Dible tallied 4 kills and 3 digs.

The Lady Bulldogs will travel to Ransom on October 24 where they will face the Wallace County Lady Wildcats in the semi-finals. Western Plains and Greeley County are the other two teams in the sub-state. The championship team will advance to state the following week.

HONOR ROLL

GPMS Fall 2026 First Quarter Honor Roll

Superintendent Honor Roll:
8th Grade: Isabel Bieker
7th Grade: Allen Mendoza, Bailey Spresser
Principal Honor Roll:
8th Grade: Lynden Cook, Brookelynn Vahling
7th Grade: Benton Dible, Dylan Lugo-Martinez, Maisy Meier, Morgan Stevens, Paige Sweigart
6th Grade: Maggie Focke, Dally Hynek, Thatcher Meier, Ellsie Pfanenstiel, Archer Stoll, Elias Weiner

GPHS Fall 2026 First Quarter Honor Roll

Superintendent Honor Roll:
Seniors: Kathrynn Carter, Brielle Karnes, Kadalen Unrein, Estella Vargas, Kailee Wessel
Juniors: Kelby Buehler, Adilyn Meier, Brenlynn Rath, Elizabeth Weiner
Sophomores: Ruxin Arnberger, Kasch Buehler, Brandon Karnes
Freshmen: Liam Wright
Principal Honor Roll:
Seniors: Jesus Dominguez-Valenzuela, Amia Durham, Wendy Garcia Machado, Conner Kier, Janessa Leija, Jose Rios-Mendoza, Adaline Wessel
Juniors: Searee Bruggeman, Madison Focke, Cristian Garcia, Briella Knowles, Adam Ritter, Tannor Todd, Lakin Wark
Sophomores: Estrella Araux-Aguilar, Elizabeth Romero, Koen Schaben, Parker Vahling, Nash Ziegelmeier
Freshmen: MaKenlea Focke, Anyeli Peralta-Vizcaino, Vincent Taylor, Makynslee Vargas

Wheatland FFA Bringing the Community Together



FFA officers preparing the meals for the Harvest meal. (WHS photo)

By Addison Ostmeyer, Staff Reporter

The Wheatland FFA chapter brought the community together through their FFA Farmers Market and FFA Harvest Meal. These events gave students the opportunity to share their hard work, celebrate agriculture, and connect with people in the community. The harvest meal and the Farmers Market were organized by the FFA officers and members.

Our first Harvest meal was on Thursday, October 15; the Wheatland FFA students prepared approximately 70 to-go meals and hand delivered them to our local farmers and businesses as a way to say thank you for their support for our Wheatland FFA chapter.

On Saturday, October 17, the Wheatland FFA chapter also hosted the Fall Farmers Market with a couple student vendors, outside vendors, and also the FFA and FACS members. The market was open from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Vendors sold everything from hand woven blankets to key rings and homemade baked goods, plants and door decorations.



Flowers FFA students made in class that were sold at the Farmers Market. (WHS photo)

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Better Built Trailers ~ Equity Bank ~ Farm Bureau Financial Services ~ Foote Cattle Company
Golden Plains Booster Club ~ Great Plains ~ Great Western Tire ~ Harvest Market ~ Hinkle Termite & Pest Control, LLC
Hirsch & Abbott Law Office~ Hoxie State Insurance ~ Hoxie Sprayers ~ Hoxie Veterinary Service PA
L&C Home Health Agency, Inc ~ Mauck Flying Service ~ Mickey Leopold Funeral Home ~ Midwest Energy
Nex-Tech ~ Novus Ag/Pathway Ag ~ Nutrien Ag ~ Shepard Performance Horses ~ Sheridan County Sheriff's Department
Six Toes Feed & Seed ~ The Bank, Selden & Grainfield
Watkins Realty & Insurance Agency LLC ~ Woofter Pump & Well

The Sheridan County Democrat
October 29, 1892

T. J. McKinney's mother is making him a visit.

Montgomery has the Enterprise Meat Cutters in stock.

Mrs. Chas. A. Taylor and Miss Mabel Pratt of Museum were in the city Tuesday.

Frank Menefee's team took a little spin from the depot to up town one day last week.

Peter Wernett and wife of Sheridan township, were in Hoxie last Tuesday, trading.

Mrs. L. Launchbaugh and son Hallis, of Adell township, were in the city Wednesday.

The Odd Fellows lodge of our city ate adding large numbers every week to their order.

John Shields, editor of one of the calamity sheets of Decatur county, was in the city last Monday.

Walt Beattie, the Grinnell blacksmith, was in town last Tuesday, helping O. B. Jones out on his proof.

Schultheis was very busy this week selling land to new settlers who want to become residents of our county.

Married at Morland, Kansas, October 19th, by Squire Bills, Miss Missouri Milirons to Thomas Armstrong.

Luke Miley who lives in Adell township and not having enough of Sheridan county soil, purchased another quarter last Tuesday from J. M. Woodworth.

A portion of the Hoxie gang who went to Solomon township Thursday night are four or five bottles of beer out that they cannot account for. Some others can.

Married at the residence of the bride's parents in Logan township on Saturday evening, October 22, Joseph Cooper and Retta R. Suffecool; Rev. Cheney tied the matrimonial knot.

J. M. Bowman was in town one day last week and had his right arm in a sling, caused by being thrown out of his wagon. He was driving on the road and one of the front wheels went in a deep rut and he lost his balance and fell to the ground striking on his right elbow broke the arm and displaced the shoulder blade.

Last Wednesday morning there was quite a commotion at the residence of Wm. Brown's in the south part of the city, Dr. Freeman got around rather early and immediately wendered his way to Brown's house and in a few minutes after his arrival the population of our city was increased one, but it will not be a voter until the constitution of the state is changed. The newcomer pulled the scales down to the eight pound notch. All parties concerned are doing well.

125 Years Ago
October 24, 1901

R. W. Trimble made a business visit to Hill City yesterday morning.

A. J. Brooks left last week for a visit among relatives in Nebraska, Iowa and Missouri.

J. A. Lukens left Tuesday over land for Downs, where he will spend the winter taking care of his aged mother.

James Clayton and family, former residents of this county, but now of Virden, Illinois, are in the throes of a small pox epidemic.

Manager S. T. Wiggins accompanied the ball team to Selden last Friday and seemed to be well pleased with the way his team took the Seldenites down the line.

Cale Farber, of Logan township, is negotiating with parties east of Hoxie for enough rock to build a foundation for a large barn, the erection of which he is contemplating.

Clerk of the Court Evans is taking in the horse show at Kansas City this week al by his lone. He and Sam Wiggins had planned to go together, but something happened to keep Sam at home.

City property seems to be in demand. Last week the Camp building occupied by the *Palladium* was purchased by Uncle Andy Reed, consideration $550.00, and Uncle Andy in turn sold his building known as batchelor hall to Frank H. Fay, consideration $500.00.

Frank Grinnell and Jack Shaeffer came up from Plainville Saturday, the first, for a visit with his father and friends, and the latter, to look after his family's needs. Mr. Grinnell reports that he has the Colby residence at Plainville ready for the plasterers. As an architect and builder, Frank has built up quite a name for himself in this part of the state and his services are much sought after.

A Shadow Social will be held at the Guy school house, Friday evening, November 1, 1901. Ladies are requested to bring lunch for two. Everybody come and see the "Spoony Couple" and the Grumble Town.

Committee

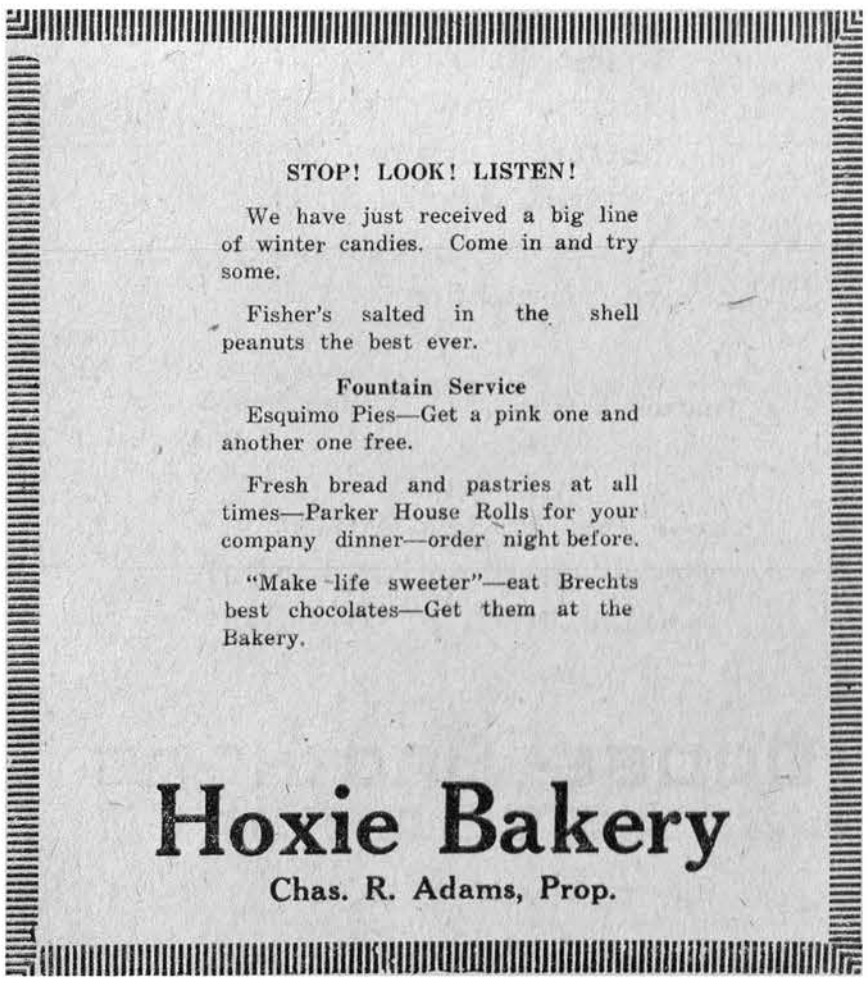
Bloomfield Items

Will Teel expects to keep a herd of cattle this winter.

Ed Teel is going over his broom corn, cutting the late brush.

Frank Lockwood is working for Wm. Teel at present.

A Farmer



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

Phelps Phacts

Rev. Clemons filled his regular appointment at Mt. Pleasant, Sunday.

C. G. Roweil cut keffir corn with his binder for A. L. Breeden this week.

Bee Hive school began the 7th Inst., G. T. McWilliams, wielder of the birch.

100 Years Ago
October 28, 1926

Harris Cash Store has Changed Hands

Last week a deal was consummated by and between N. W. Harris and H. V. Chistensen whereby the latter became the owner of the Harris stock of merchandise.

Mr. Harris since his appendix operation has been working contrary to the advice of his physician and therefore sold out to take a much needed rest and recuperation.

Thimble Circle

The Thimble Circle club met with Mrs. Mary Schruben and Ruth Follis at the former's home on October 21.

The afternoon was spent in sewing and embroidering after which refreshments were served.

Delphian Club Meets

The Delphians met Tuesday afternoon at the Courthouse. Mrs. B. R. Reed, the leader, presented the lesson in an interesting way. The subject studied was "Early German Composers." Text reports were given.

The preparatory reading and the president's summary were given by Mrs. C. E. Montgomery.

Local News

O. R. McKinney, of Menlo, was in Hoxie Wednesday scattering sale bills announing a public sale at his place on November 6.

E. M. Spper was over from hays last Friday shaking hands with his numerous friends.

Judge Sparks passed through Hoxie Friday on his way to Rooks county.

Grant Currier made a business trip to Nebraska this week.

Mrs. H. J. Morrison and daughter, Aileen, of Oberlin, recently visited at the home of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Beers.

The M. E. Aid Society will serve supper in the Walker building election evening. Everyone welcome. The Willing Workers Sunday School Class will have a line of Xmas gifts for sale.

E. S. Russell shipped two loads of hogs to Kansas City Saturday.

Northwest Prairie Dog

Mr. and Mrs. Shelton and Miss Bertha are visiting relatives in Nebraska.

B. B. Comstock and family visited his brother W. H. and family Wednesday. They are leaving for Wendal Idaho Thursday. They'll come back.

East Saline

Floyd Cunningham and family and Gladys Bedker spent Sunday with relatives near Stockton.

Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Jamison, Carl and Dorothy McWilliams attended services at Mt. Pleasant Sunday and visited at the Paul Corke home Sunday afternoon.

Miss Alma Halferty visited her sister, Mrs. N. F. McWilliams over the weekend.

Pleasant Ridge

Mrs. Sarah Brown and children visited at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Simon, Wednesday.

Paul Corke and family and Earl Breeden were entertainment at the Ray Corke home Sunday.

Loren Chapman and family visited at the Ed Pence home Sunday.

75 Years Ago
November 1, 1951

Hospital Contribution

The local American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary presented the hospital board a check Monday afternoon in the amount of $600 which will be used to furnish a room. Rex Griggs and Mrs. W. H. Clark are head of the above organizations.

Thimble Circle Club

Mr. and Mrs. K. C. Thomas were guests at the Paul Mills and Aubert Mowry home Wednesday night. Mrs. Thomas attended club at the Clarence Mowry home on Thursday.

Mrs. Lizzie Wente has returned home from a trip to Denver where she visited her daughter and family there.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Brewster had their class and the preacher for a pot luck dinner last Sunday. They all attended the meeting in the evening.

Studley Items

Mrs. Dallas Jones and Jerold L. Smith were in Topeka a few days last week on business.

Mrs. Bob White, Alice Kay and Elizabeth and Mrs. Claude Bell were shopping in WaKeeney Saturday.

Delmar Simon returned home Wednesday evening from a deer hunt in Colorado.

Fairview

Mrs. Cecil O'Dell and Mrs. Homer Breeden and children called at W. I. Transues Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Carder and daughter spent Sunday afternoon at the Lonnie Carder home in Hoxie.

Clifford Quakenbush sold cattle at the Quinter sale Friday.

Mickey's Want Ads

After the doctor had finished the examination he asked the patient:

"Have you been living a normal life?"

"Yes, Doctor, I certainly have."

"Then you'll have to give up women and whiskey for a while."

Morland News

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bell and Mr. and Mrs. Grover Engleman went to Norton Thursday. They called at the sanitarium to see Elmer Engleman and Alec Dinkle. Both are reported improving.

Frank Lord and sisters, Bessie and Stella, and Mr. and Mrs. Grover Engleman were dinner guests at the Jessie Clark home, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Critchfield were business callers in Hill City, Saturday.

Broadway News

Mr. and Mrs. N. F. McWilliams came Friday from Platt City, Mo., for a visit with relatives here.

Leslie Sample spent two nights last week at the H. M. Epler home helping care for Mr. Epler.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Morgan helped care for Mr. Epler a few days last week.

Garden Club Meeting

The Hoxie Garden Club will meet with Mrs. Sylvan Percival Tuesday afternoon at 2:30. November is chrysanthemum month. Members and friends are invited to attend and bring displays of chrysanthemums.

50 Years Ago
October 21, 1976

Debaters Win at Oberlin

Six Hoxie debaters competed at the Oberlin Open Invitational tournament last Saturday and came home with the sweepstakes and first place trophies.

Hoxie won the sweepstakes trophy with a squad record of 11 wins and only one loss after four rounds of debating.

Indians Hunt Buffalo

Hoxie seeks to tighten up the NWKL football race against the Atwood Buffaloes at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Atwood.

HHS trails the undefeated Oakley Plainsmen, Oberlin and St. Francis in the NWKL after last Friday's 27-12 victory at Colby's homecoming. Oakley, 3-0, has yet to meet the Indians, who have won over second-place Oberlin but lost to Sainty.

Spikers Close Season

Hoxie Junior High volleyball team closes out the season at 3:30 p.m. today (Thursday) at Goodland. The Tigers seventh and eighth grade teams each have a 4-2 record after downing Quinter last week in Hoxie.

Broadway News

Larry Brookshire and Sharon and Allen Shafer from this area went with the group to the Y. F. C. convention in Kansas City.

Frances Corke of Pratt and Verna Corke of Manhattan spent the weekend with their father. Ray Corke and Mrs. Corke.

Mrs. Bob Bainter and girls spent Friday night and Saturday at June Simons. Bob is with his building construction company in Colorado.

McGraw News

The Victory Club met at the home of Mrs. Ura Long on Thursday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Bainter and family were Sunday supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Russel Bainter.

Mrs. Bill Vahling and children were Saturday afternoon and supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Dwane Tice.

Mickey Want Ads

Mickey's ACE Hardware Best Buys for October: 8 pc. Screwdriver set $3.78.

At the annual tournament of a city golf club, a big trophy had been put up for competition, open only to members who had never won a prize. At the presentation ceremony the winner of the trophy made an acceptance speech. "I think this is a wonderful idea to award a trophy to a member who had never won a prize before. I want to buy a drink for everyone in the house who has never had a drink before."

In stock: sofas, recliners, swivel rockers, occasional tables, bookcases, bedroom suites, dining room suites, dinette sets, lamps, light fixtures in stock.

25 Years Ago
October 25, 2001

Students Gear Up for November Production

Look out Hoxie, Wildcat Katie Brown is on her way to town and she's on a mission to strike it rich and settle a score with her shifty nemesis, Thomas T. Tremaine.

Katie will be at the Hoxie High School Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 9 and Saturday, Nov. 10. Meanwhile, a group of approximately 20 high school students are busily preparing for Wildcat Katie's visit and are hopeful that community members will attend her performance in a melodrama written by Billy St. John and directed by Bill Gasper.

Highway 24 Through Hoxie to Become Three-Lane

Highway 24 from Hoxie to Hill City is currently under construction, and drivers will find some major changes when the project is completed.

The section of highway within the Hoxie city limits will go from four lanes down to three lanes in the next three weeks.

Rexford

Rexford PRIDE open meeting was held on Oct. 15 at the community building. The meeting was conducted by President Duane Cheney with 14 people present.

The Regional Teens for Christ had their rally on Oct. 13 at the Shepherd's Staff Conference Center in Rexford with around 180 teens attending the three hour rally.

The Social Hour Club met with Eileen Dible on Wednesday afternoon at the Fairview Estates Community in Colby with eight present. Deb Stepper won the hostess gift.

McGraw

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bates of Stockton visited Mr. and Mrs. George Launchbaugh on Wednesday.

Broadway

Vicki Babcock treated Velda Transue to lunch on Tuesday at Trish's, then they attended a ladies meeting.

Alma Maude Smith went to Hays last Friday and helped Wilma Teel with a garage sale. Alma Maude stayed all night at Wilma's and returned home on Saturday.

Jennings-Allison

Dorothy Taylor of Penokee spent the weekend with her sister, Rosa Brock, and they attended the sale of their cousins, Karen and Alvin Shaw at Selden.

Graham and Margaret Bellamy of Sidney, Australia, and John Bennett of Media, Penn., visited Rosa Brock on Saturday and Sunday.

The Jennings junior high volleyball team hosted a match with the McCook St Pat's team on Monday evening. The A team lost the match 1-2, and the B team won, 2-1.

Resolution to Recognize Red Ribbon Week

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Jerry Moran (R-KS), Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, and Science, and U.S. Representative Addison McDowell, introduced a joint resolution with Sens. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.) and John Cornyn (R-Texas) to recognize Red Ribbon Week from October 23 to October 31, 2026. Red Ribbon Week is the nation's largest and longest-running drug prevention program in the U.S. It raises awareness of the dangers of illicit drugs, promotes drug prevention efforts and recognizes the law enforcement officers who work to keep communities across the country safe.

"Drug overdoses remain a leading cause of death in our nation, underscoring the importance of investing in efforts to fight illicit drugs and raise awareness about the dangers of drug use," said Sen. Moran. "Red Ribbon Week provides the opportunity to educate others on the risks of illicit drugs, support prevention efforts and recognize the law enforcement officers who work every day to keep Kansans safe. I will continue working to combat illegal drugs and make certain that law enforcement is equipped with the resources needed to protect our communities and stem the flow of illegal drugs."

"I lost my little brother, Luke, to fentanyl, and I know firsthand the devastating toll these deadly drugs take on families," said Rep. McDowell. "Red Ribbon Week is an important reminder that prevention starts with education, strong families, and supporting the men and women in law enforcement who work every day to keep our communities safe. We owe it to the next generation to do everything we can to prevent another family from experiencing that same heartbreak mine did."

Senator Marshall on Debate with Challenger Adam Hamilton

Wichita – After the Nexstar U.S. Senate debate, Alex deGrasse, spokesman for Kansans for Marshall, issued the following statement:

"Kansans got to see the real Adam Hamilton tonight. Adam Hamilton is the weakest, most out-of-touch candidate Kansas has ever seen, and he proved it in this debate. He had no answers on agriculture, no answers on the role of government in AI, and no answers on the border. When he did answer, he made the case against himself."

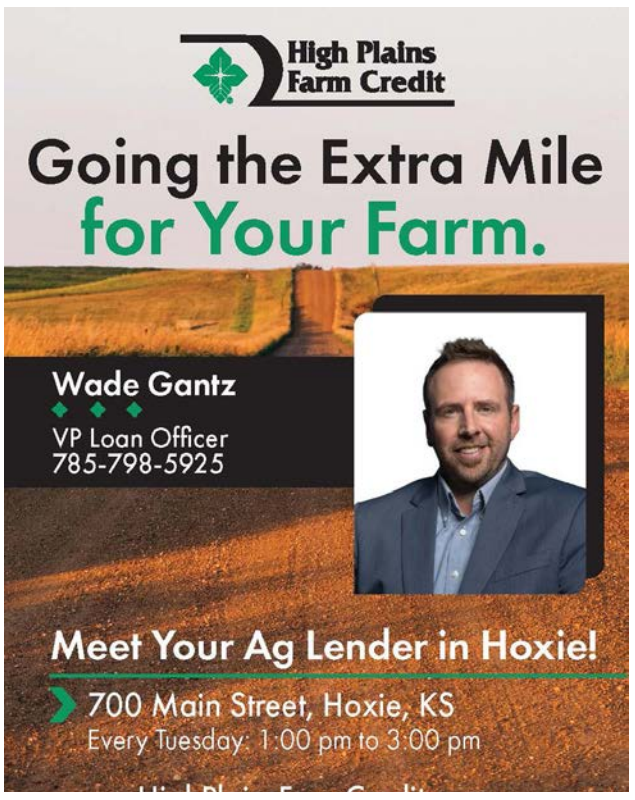
"When pressed on his church's handling of protecting a child sex predator, Hamilton had no defense for why the boys who reported abuse were dismissed, or why the sex predator was allowed back as a camp counselor the following year. Hamilton admitted again that his ads were false, and that he didn't call law enforcement, saying, 'We made sure the police found out later.'"

"Hamilton also stumbled when asked about the Green New Deal. After saying Kansans should repent for eating beef, he said he 'supports parts' of the radical, anti-agriculture plan."

"Meanwhile, Senator Marshall laid out his record of delivering for Kansas farmers and families and drew a clear contrast with an opponent whose years of public statements even the moderator called liberal."

"Tonight the choice was in front of voters: Adam Hamilton offered a false ad, a non-answer on a predator in his own church, amnesty, boys in girls' sports, and a nod to the Green New Deal. Roger Marshall offered a record of clear wins for the people of Kansas."

"On November 3, Kansans will make sure Adam Hamilton stays far away from the United States Senate."





USDA Invests Over $325 Million in 42 Projects

Cedar Rapids, IA - U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins announced an investment of over $325 million in 42 projects to help farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners boost their operations and conserve natural resources across the nation through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP).

Through RCPP, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) works with partners to fund solutions to natural resource challenges on agricultural land.

The Working Families Tax Cuts Act delivers the largest long-term investment in NRCS conservation programs in decades, including support for RCPP through fiscal year 2031.

In the past year, NRCS has improved RCPP, through streamlining partnership agreement processes and increasing flexibilities to ensure the program works more effectively for conservation partners and America's farmers and ranchers. Seventy-five percent of the RCPP's $325 million in funding this year will directly to the American farmer or is used to cover the cost of conservation practice implementation.

NRCS ranked proposals based on how they addressed the following priorities:

- Addressing soil health, water quality, or wildlife habitat with an aim to improve land health, enhance resource management, and promote sustainable agriculture and long-term protection of agricultural, grassland, and forestland viability.
- Soil health projects using practices that focus on minimizing soil disturbance, maximizing soil cover, increasing natural vitality, and maintaining living roots throughout the year.
- Leveraging precision agriculture technologies to target conservation efforts based on specific field conditions, potentially reducing costs and improving resource efficiency.
- Focusing on Farmers First projects, especially those that provide technical and financial assistance via contributions for planning and practice designs to support producer contracts.
- Supporting projects led by Indian Tribes. This funding opportunity included a $30 million set aside for projects with Indian Tribes.

For more information about RCPP, visit the RCPP webpage or watch Chief Buckley's video.

Sternberg Museum to Remain Open as FHSU Develops Long-Term Plan

By FHSU University Marketing and Strategic Communications

Thanks to generous donations from the Bob and Pat Schmidt Foundation, Fort Hays State University alumni, and community members, the Sternberg Museum of Natural History will remain open beyond its previously announced December 18, 2026, closure date.

"In September, I announced the difficult decision to close the Sternberg Museum. Since then, community groups, individuals, and small businesses have stepped forward to support Fort Hays State and our Hays community," said FHSU president Tisa Mason.

Most notably, the Schmidt Foundation established a 1:1 match for every gift made from an individual or business to the Save Sternberg fundraising campaign, up to $1 million. Each eligible donation, including those already made to the campaign, is being matched dollar for dollar.

"I am excited to share that in less than one month we have received gifts and verbal commitments from individuals and small businesses totaling more than $638,000," Mason added, "With the match, we will surpass our first $1 million fundraising goal. With additional fundraising, there's still potential to unlock a full $2 million in support. As a result, the previously announced December 18, 2026, closing date has been rescinded. Our focus has shifted to developing a right-sized, sustainable, long-term business plan for the museum."

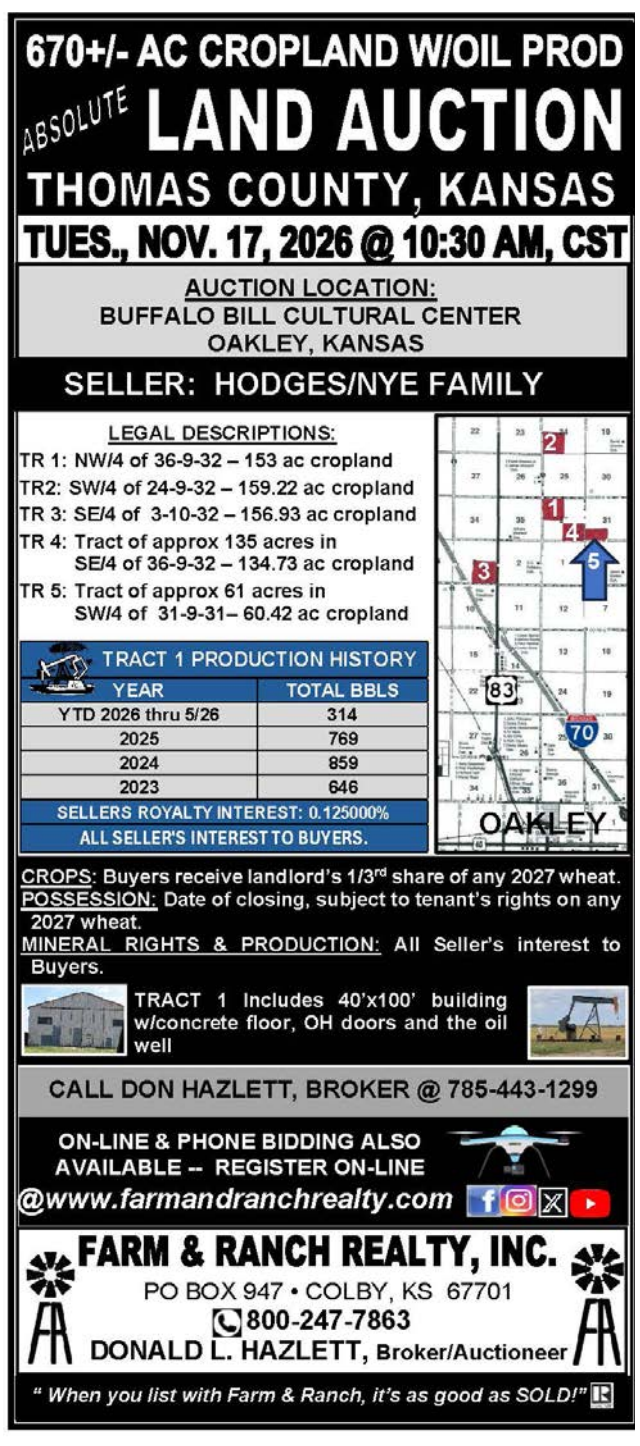
The Sternberg Museum houses more than three million specimens documenting the diverse life and environments of the Great Plains and is recognized for its extensive collections and contributions to scientific research and education. A resource for discovery and learning, the museum serves students, researchers, educators, and visitors from across Kansas and beyond.

Individuals and organizations interested in supporting the Save Sternberg campaign can visit foundation.fhsu.edu/save-sternberg. Donations are tax-deductible and will support the Sternberg Museum of Natural History.



Hoxie Veterinary Service, PA
1367 N Hwy 23, Hoxie
785-675-3378
Derek Pridey, DVM
Brandi Taul, DVM
Monday-Friday 8am-5pm
Saturday 8am-noon
24-hr emergency

SENTINEL Graphics & Design
VINYL!
STICKERS!
POSTERS!
BANNERS!







US Senate Candidates



Adam Hamilton (D)
https://hamiltonforkansas.com/issues/
Platform:
Energy:
- End self-destructive tariffs and unnecessary wars,
- Require data centers to pay their fair share of electricity costs.
- Stop the war on domestic energy projects and restore energy production tax credits that increase our energy independence and create good-paying jobs.
- Require competitive bidding processes for transmission projects instead of handing utility companies lucrative contracts at taxpayer expense.

Seniors:
- Prioritize home-based care reimbursement to give seniors the option of aging at home instead of in a nursing facility or hospital. At-home care costs a fraction of care in a facility and is often a better solution for seniors regardless of cost.
- Expand Medicare to cover vision and dental.
- Protect seniors from higher prices fueled by tariffs.
- Do more to fight elder fraud and scams.

Housing:
- End tariffs and require congressional approval for any future ones to bring building costs back down.
- Modernize and standardize regulations for modular homes in order to increase the housing supply and provide more affordable options for families.
- Ban Wall St. and other investors from buying up single family homes and driving up prices on Kansas families. Investors increasingly are purchasing a large share of single-family homes for sale nationwide, topping 30% of all sales in 2025.
- Create tax credits for first time home buyers, firefighters, police officers, and teachers.
- Stop anticompetitive price collusion from landlords, including the use of algorithmic pricing designed specifically to reduce competition and drive up rent for tenants.

Healthcare:
- Expand Medicare drug price negotiation and extend the savings to private insurance.
- Reverse the cuts to Medicaid and restore the ACA subsidies that hold premiums down.
- Cut waste, fraud, and abuse in Medicare without touching anyone's benefits. Medicare often pays about 2.5 times more for the same outpatient service in a hospital than in a doctor's office — so paying one fair rate regardless of where care is delivered ("site-neutral") could save more than $150 billion over a decade.
- Protect and invest in rural hospitals.
- Reform medical billing and medical debt. In 2024, more than a third of U.S. households carried medical debt, and 43% of Kansans report a financial burden from medical bills — made worse by high interest and aggressive collection. In 45 states, including Kansas, a collector can garnish a patient's wages and even jail them over unpaid medical bills. *(Editor's Note: This is inaccurate: You cannot go to jail simply for not paying medical bills, but ignoring court orders related to those bills can lead to legal trouble, including possible jail for contempt of court. Jail is only possible if you ignore court orders. Medical debt is a civil matter, not a criminal one. Civil consequences of unpaid medical bills can include collection calls, damage to your credit score, wage garnishment, or liens on property if a creditor sues and wins a judgment.)*
- Protect a woman's right to choose and prevent further government interference into personal decisions by codifying the access to contraception into law. Require insurers to cover non-prescription over the counter birth control just like they cover prescription contraception.

Agriculture:
- Protect Kansas farmers from tariffs and expand export markets for Kansas products. Immediately get rid of tariffs.
- Fund an overwhelming response to the animal disease outbreaks driving up the price of eggs and beef. Congress must fully fund the animal disease vaccine bank, laboratory network, and preparedness programs; accelerate the new domestic sterile-fly production facility; and pass the bipartisan Rural Veterinary Workforce Act so rural Kansas can recruit large-animal vets.
- Finally pass the full farm bill after three years of Congressional delay. Congress needs to finish the job and give agriculture five years of certainty.
- Give agriculture the stable, legal workforce it needs to keep food affordable. Congress must reform the broken H-2A guest-worker program.
- Make fertilizer in America.
- Cut prices at the pump with year-round E15. Homegrown ethanol blends save drivers 20 to 40 cents per gallon while building new markets for Kansas corn and sorghum. The House passed year-round E15 legislation in May with bipartisan support — the Senate should send it to the President's desk.
- Ban algorithmic price-fixing at grocery stores that takes advantage of consumers and reduces competition. Dynamic pricing, in which grocery chains change prices based on market conditions and even shoppers' personal information, is becoming more and more widespread. We need to prohibit the practice and penalize retailers that take advantage of consumers.
- End the policy chaos in Washington that drives economic uncertainty and volatile prices — beginning by lowering the partisan temperature, bringing Republicans and Democrats together, and showing a unified face to a global economy that looks to America for leadership.

End Washington Corruption:
- Prohibit members of Congress and their households from buying or selling individual stocks while in office.
- Extend the stock trading ban to cover cryptocurrency and digital assets.
- Prohibit members and their staff from gambling on prediction markets.
- Pass a constitutional amendment establishing 18-year term limits for members of Congress in the U.S. House of Representatives, U.S. Senate, and the Supreme Court.
- Establish age limits for members of Congress and for members of the Supreme Court.
- Strengthen residency requirements for members of Congress to ensure that our elected officials actually live alongside the people they represent, and don't just happen to own real estate in the area.
- Put an end to billionaires and special interests flooding our elections with dark money.
- Hold Congress accountable by withholding member pay during government shutdowns. When everyday Americans don't do their jobs, they aren't paid. Members of Congress must face the same real-world
- No budget, no pay.
- Extend the lobbying ban for members of Congress and their senior staff. Permanently prohibit members of Congress from becoming federal lobbyists; and extend the one-year "cooling off" period for senior staff.
- Restore protections for Inspectors General in order to prevent political interference in the work of independent watchdogs.
- Limit presidential pardon power. No president should be able to put themselves, their family, or their allies above the law.

Consumer Protections:
- Ban junk fees that companies hide from consumers across industries like lodging, ticketing, telecommunications, travel, and more.
- Restore overdraft fee protections to prevent banks from aggressively profiting off consumers. The CFPB's 2024 rule would save households billions a year, but Senator Marshall celebrated his vote to repeal it.
- Investigate private equity consolidation in essential sectors including health care, housing, and groceries. These anticompetitive roll-ups drive up costs for ordinary Kansans. In May 2024 the FTC and DOJ opened a joint inquiry into "serial acquisitions" and roll-up strategies that buy up many small competitors through deals each too small to trigger antitrust review.
- Hold big corporations accountable by requiring clawback provisions for economic-development incentives, so taxpayer dollars come with guarantees that companies deliver the jobs and investment they promised.

Workers:
- Restore equity between workers and employers by strengthening the right to organize and eliminating corporate loopholes, starting with the bipartisan Faster Labor Contracts Act to speed first-contract negotiations.
- Fully fund National Labor Relations Board, OSHA, and NIOSH so the agencies that protect workers' rights and safety can actually do their jobs.
- Crack down on wage theft — unpaid overtime, minimum-wage violations, illegal deductions, and stolen tips — through harsher penalties and stronger Department of Labor enforcement.
- Protect workers from AI-only employment decisions without human oversight. The No Robot Bosses Act would require real human review of hiring, firing, and promotions.



Senator Roger Marshall (R)
https://kansansformarshall.com/record/
Agriculture
Phosphate fertilizer relief for Kansas growers.
- Lowering Input Costs for American Farmers Act (S. 4418, lead, April 2026)
- Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act — signed into law Jan 2026
- DIRECT Act (S. 3099) — state-inspected beef interstate

$150/ton projected fertilizer relief

Rural Healthcare
82 of Kansas's 124 hospitals are Critical Access. We protect them.
- Improving Seniors' Timely Access to Care Act (S. 1816) — lead sponsor
- Patients Deserve Price Tags Act (S. 2355) — lead sponsor
- Medicare Advantage Improvement Act (April 2026) — lead sponsor
- Telehealth permanence — CONNECT for Health Act (S. 1261) cosponsor

72 hr. cap on Medicare prior-auth denials

Border & Security



MEET THE CANDIDATES

On the line with Fort Riley's 1st Infantry Division at the southern border.
- Laken Riley Act (S. 5) — cosponsor, signed Jan 2025
- Build the Wall Act (S. 42) — cosponsor
- Border site visit, May 2025 — with 7 Kansas law enforcement officials

3+ site visits with Kansas law enforcement

Energy

Oil, gas, wind, and Kansas-grown ethanol — no apologies for any of them.
- Nationwide Consumer & Fuel Retailer Choice Act (S. 593) — cosponsor, year-round E15
- Natural Gas Tax Repeal Act (S. 143) — cosponsor
- S.J.Res.12 / H.J.Res.35 CRA — voided EPA methane-fee rule (Marshall cosponsored)

#3 in U.S. wind share of electricity · EIA 2024

Aerospace & Defense

Kansas builds the planes. We make sure Kansas keeps building them.
- NDAA FY2026 (S. 1071) — Fort Riley ATC tower + training course
- Boeing $1B Wichita investment — championed May 2026
- WSU Tech workforce training center — partnership

12,000 jobs Spirit AeroSystems, Wichita

Cost of Living

A $4 gallon of milk is a kitchen-table problem, not an abstraction.
- Working Families Tax Cuts — TCJA permanence, voted yea
- Methane-fee CRA cosponsor — H.J.Res.35 signed March 2025
- Voted no on multiple stopgap continuing resolutions

+4.1% 12-mo CPI Midwest region prices · BLS, April 2026

Ogallala Aquifer

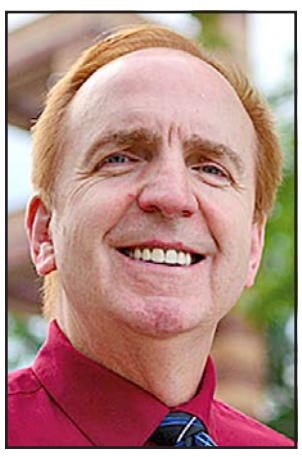
The aquifer under Kansas wheat country is dropping more than a foot a year.
- EQIP Water Conservation Act (S. 2696) — original cosponsor
- USDA Groundwater Recharge & Sustainability Project — Wichita + Greeley counties
- Senate Western Caucus member

1.2 ft/yr aquifer decline rate · KGS

Veterans

Supporting Veterans in STEM Careers Act — signed into law.
- Public Law 116-115 — cosponsor as a Congressman (signed Feb 2020)
- PACT Act — voted yea (Aug 2022)
- Major Richard Star Act (S. 1032) — cosponsor

55K KS Vets veterans living in Kansas



David C. Graham (L)

https://smarter.vote/races/ks-senate-2026/david-graham/

Healthcare

- Supports free-market healthcare; believes the government should get out of healthcare and that the free market is the best way to deliver quality care to the most people at the lowest cost.

Economy

- Supports reducing government spending to fight inflation and reduce the size and scope of government.

Climate/Energy

- Believes climate change has occurred naturally since the Earth formed and should not be used to justify more government. Supports giving tax incentives to private companies and individuals to develop renewable energy and other green technology.

Abortion & Reproductive Health

- Describes himself as pro-life; endorsed by the Pro-Life Libertarian Caucus. Opposes terminating the life of an unborn child unless the mother's life is in danger.

Immigration

- Supports enforcement of current immigration laws and opposes allowing massive illegal immigration.

Firearms & Second Amendment

- Opposes gun control laws.

Foreign Policy

- Supports creating a smarter national defense, including abolishing the use of the pseudo-scientific polygraph for security clearances.

Civil Rights & Equality

- Favors the same rights for all individuals; believes government should not be biased for or prejudiced against any group because of a group an individual may belong to.

Education

- Supports reducing the size and scope of government by eliminating the Department of Education.

Election Policy

- Believes election integrity is central to the premise of government and that voters should use paper ballots that are counted in the open.

Local Issues

- Supports instituting criminal justice reform, including modifying or abolishing federal criminal sentencing guidelines.

Interview with *Johnson County Post* Editor, Kyle Palmer

If he had he been in the debate with Senator Marshall and Adam Hamilton:

"..if I'd been on that stage, I would have repeated that we need to reduce government and lower taxes. Let's abolish the Department of Education. Let's abolish the Department of Energy, and that's just for starters. Let's go through and demolish the so-called administrative state with all these regulations and so-called independent agencies. Congress creates them, but they're executive branch agencies, and they pump out regulations and regulations on top of regulations. If we abolish certain laws and abolish the regulations that go with them, that lowers the regulatory burden on industry that delivers our goods and services. You do that, the price of goods and services in terms of production and distribution go down, and that's how I deliver affordability for people."

Healthcare:

"Government has created a health care crisis in this country, so I am not going to look to government to solve the health care crisis in this country. We have a free enterprise system. As long as I've been alive, we've never tried pure capitalism, a free market economy in health care. I think we should try it. I mean, what's wrong with it? Freedom's good for everybody. So, if I'm elected, I'm going to be one of 100 [in the Senate]. I'm a pragmatist, and I realize we're not going to abolish Medicare tomorrow, and we shouldn't. We need to provide something for the people who've relied on it, but as quickly as possible, we need to move away from this."

"doctors could operate however they want. They could charge money however they want. You could work out a contract with your health care provider, and we'd have a lot less regulation. Just from my own personal experience as a person who's been in relatively good health all their life, I have, on occasion, run into a doctor who says, "What we should do is this, but I can't because of regulation. So I'm going to give you this drug instead of this other drug. But if this drug fails, come back and then I'll give you the drug you ought to have in the first place." That's craziness. But the doctors have to do it if they want the compensation. I really believe that a free market economy where you can go to the doctor when you want, you pay him a fee that he agrees to take, that's going to work better than all these regulations that are confusing and complex."

Abortion:

"the question in the abortion debate is: Is the unborn child a separate human being? If it isn't, or if it isn't yet, then some Libertarians would believe that abortion's OK. I happen to take the view, which I believe is the most scientifically correct, that is that at the point of fertilization you have a separate human being."

Tariffs:

"A tariff is a tax. I'm not opposed to all tariffs everywhere at all times, but there are two problems with the current tariff policy... I don't think there should be any tariffs on food. I really am more opposed to tariffs than the occasional limited use of tariffs."

Regulations and Economic Growth:

"The free market can take care of this problem."

Wars:

"I favor a strong national defense, but it should be a smart national defense. The United States should only be involved in military excursions that pose a threat to the United States. So, as to the Iran War, just a couple of things. Yes, I would vote to get out of that war, but let's have a resolution to declare war. Let's see if that passes. The Constitution says it's Congress that declares war, so let's vote on this war. And if most Congress people vote for it, then our nation arguably is for it. Otherwise, we vote no. I vote "no," and I vote no on the war in Ukraine too. We have no interest in that war, no direct, immediate interest in that war, and so I would end our involvement in that, as well."

US House of Representatives Candidates



Lauren Reinhold (D)

https://www.laurenforkansas.com/priorities

Reinhold resigned from SSA after what she described as cuts from the "DOGE" initiative that eliminated programs and jobs, prompting her to seek a greater impact outside government. She frames her run as defending "true Kansas values — community, hard work, economic security, freedom, and prosperity for all"

Rebuilding Rural Healthcare

- Rural hospitals are the life blood of our communities, and losing them means losing the safety and stability every family depends on.

Supporting Agriculture and Rural Economies

- Agriculture is the cornerstone of Western Kansas, and our farm families deserve a system that prioritizes producers, family operations and support the small businesses that line our main streets over corporate monopolies

Strengthening Worker's Rights

- An economy truly prospers when it stops favoring corporate monopolies and starts honoring the dignity of a hard day's work.

Government Integrity and Reform

- Kansans deserve a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. Just as the founders intended.

Worker-First Immigration Reform

- It's time for common-sense immigration reform that secures our borders while providing a fair path to citizenship for those already contributing to our communities. By fixing backlogged courts and stabilizing our agricultural workforce, we can replace a broken system with one that prioritizes humane enforcement and the dignity of every family.

Strengthening Social Security

- Social Security is a hard-earned promise, not a handout, and it's time to stop letting underfunding and political interference delay the benefits you paid for.

Ballotpedia Responses

https://ballotpedia.org/Lauren_Reinhold

- Everyone in our nation should be able to secure a job that pays ALL the bills (including affordable housing, healthcare, childcare, transportation, higher education, etc.), with money left over to save for the future. Until all employment pays a living wage, a segment of our society will be indentured servants, dependent on low-paying jobs with little rights.
- Congress must act to make life affordable and prosperous for all of us. The solution to our economic embarrassment as a nation requires tax reform (the rich must pay their share), healthcare reform (affordable, quality, accessible care for all), humane immigration reform (to allow hardworking residents a path to citizenship), support for small businesses, sensible agricultural policy, and a steep increase to the minimum wage, as a start.
- Our federal government needs to be reformed to serve the people in all aspects. It should not serve corporations, a party, and the ultra-rich. DOGE has taken over all agencies with the goal to cripple them, reduce services, and further enrich the wealthy and implement the Project 2025 plan. We must fight to reverse Project 2025.



Representative Tracey Mann (R)

Economy:

- Kansans want a strong economy where people who work hard can make an honest living and succeed. We understand all too well the pain that reckless federal spending can have on everyday Americans, and how overregulation can exacerbate costs for American families.
- Congress needs to support policies that restore our economic strength by rolling back unnecessary red tape, lowering taxes, and reining in wasteful and fraudulent spending once and for all. We have an opportunity to usher in a new era of economic prosperity and growth for the country, and we must embrace policies that promote that growth, not stifle it.

Energy:

- Energy producers across Kansas and the nation workday in and day out to ensure that we never have to rely on foreign markets for our energy. They understand that we need an all-of-the-above energy strategy that prioritizes American oil, gas, biofuels, and renewables, not a Green New Deal agenda that picks winners and losers.
- Congress needs more leaders who are committed to unleashing American energy independence and rolling back senseless, burdensome regulations that drive up costs, damage the livelihoods of American energy producers, and weaken our energy self-reliance. I am working hand in hand with President Trump and his administration to usher in an all-of-the-above energy strategy that uses the energy supply in our own backyard and puts America's best interests first.

Health Care:

- All Kansans should have access to affordable, quality, and accessible health care. I believe that health care should not be a one-size-fits-all policy, and I am committed to ensuring flexibility in the health care system so that Kansans can receive the care that they deserve.
- The Big First is unique; we have more critical access hospitals than any other Congressional district in the country. Critical access hospitals and 340-B programs are essential safety nets that provide health care options for rural communities while keeping costs down. I recognize that the high cost of prescription drugs is putting a strain on many Kansans' wallets, which is why I favor supporting programs such as 340-B. Additionally, I will continue to advocate for increased use of telehealth services, so that our rural communities have access to high-quality health care.

Veterans:

- I have always strongly supported those who have served, and I want to ensure they receive the benefits they deserve. It was an honor for me to serve on the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, which I like to call the Heroes Committee, and where I served as the Ranking Member on the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee and served on the Economic Opportunity Subcommittee during my first two years in office.
- Our gratitude and support for our U.S. military service members does not end once they remove their uniform. My top priority is ensuring that the more than 41,000 veterans in the Big First District receive the benefits and care they deserve. I am committed to fighting for policies that give our Kansas veterans the highest quality of resources and support.
- I look forward to continuing my work to serve and honor our nation's heroes.

Agriculture:

- Agriculture is the heartbeat of the Big First District and America. The Big First ranks number one in congressional districts in wheat, beef, and sorghum production. As a proud fifth-generation Kansan who grew up working thousands of hours on my family's farm south of Quinter, I am honored to represent farmers, ranchers, and agricultural producers on the House Agriculture Committee and in Congress.
- The distance from farm to fork has never been wider, and there are fewer



and fewer legislators that have experience on the farm. I proudly serve on the House Agriculture Committee as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry, and on the Subcommittee on Commodity Markets, Digital Assets, and Rural Development, and the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture. As the Congressman for the Big First, I am hyper-focused on crop insurance, oversight, trade, and trade promotion when reauthorizing the next Farm Bill. We need strong agricultural policy that addresses the challenges and changes agricultural producers are currently facing. American farmers, ranchers, and agricultural producers deserve it, America's food and national security depend on it, and Congress must deliver it. I am committed to working with my colleagues on legislation that both puts the needs of the First District at the forefront of policy and honors those who feed, fuel, and clothe the world.

- **Agriculture Caucuses:**

FFA Caucus**
4-H Caucus
Agritourism Caucus
Biofuels Caucus
Beef Caucus
Crop Insurance Caucus
Dairy Caucus
Farmer Cooperative Caucus
Fertilizer Caucus
Hunger Caucus
Propane Caucus
Rural Caucus
Western Caucus
***Representative Mann is the Co-Founder and Co-Chair*

Life:

- Every human life is precious, and every child is worthy of life and protection from harm. I firmly believe that life begins at conception, and unborn children should be afforded the same natural and God-given rights as all other living persons. I support community-based facilities like pro-life pregnancy centers that work tirelessly to provide quality care to both women and children. Through education, mentoring, and uplifting support centers like this help save lives by informing expecting mothers about alternatives to abortion, like adoption and foster care.
- Devaluing the life of unborn children has desensitized America, and I believe it is time to stop using taxpayer dollars to fund abortion services and focus on life-saving resources that value the life of both the mother and the child. As a proud father and member of the Values Action Team, I will continue to stand up and fight for the life of every child.

Second Amendment:

- The Second Amendment is a load-bearing wall of our Constitution. If you weaken a load-bearing wall, you damage the structure, and the entire building can come crashing down.That is why I am proud to support legislation that upholds the Second Amendment rights of the American people. We can no longer sit idle and watch Washington Democrats attempt to strip away our right to keep and bear arms in pursuit of their progressive agenda. I will stand up against any effort to diminish or weaken the rights of law-abiding citizens to own, carry, and use firearms.

Defense:

- Because of the service and sacrifices of our country's strong military, we have the privilege to live in a free nation. Freedom, however, is not guaranteed from one generation to the next – which is why Congress must use its authority as outlined in the U.S. Constitution to support our armed forces.
- The brave individuals who put their lives on the line to keep our country safe need and deserve the support of Congress. We must ensure that our troops have the resources they need to fulfill their mission and defend the homeland. As your representative in Congress and a proud American, I am committed to supporting our U.S. military and strengthening our national security – including securing our country's borders.

Transportation & Infrastructure:

- I am honored to serve on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. It is vitally important that the Big First has representation on the House Agriculture and House Transportation and Infrastructure committees. The Big First has 83,000 miles of road, seven commercial airports, and more than 4,000 miles of railroad track. We rely on this system to get to work, take our kids to school, and deliver food, fuel, and fiber to the rest of the world. America needs a tailored, well-maintained, fiscally responsible infrastructure network to support economic activity, strengthen our supply chain, and remain a global power.

Small Business:

- Small businesses help drive the American economy and define the American dream. They add brick and mortar to the values that make our country unique—freedom, self-determination, and the pursuit of happiness. As a child, I learned firsthand the responsibility, drive, and decision-making it takes to operate a small business by watching my parents run our preconditioning feedlot and family farm.
- The Big First is home to more than 20,000 small businesses and more than 80% of employees in our district work for one. These businesses are the backbone of our economy, creating jobs, strengthening communities, and keeping the American dream alive. I will always stand with Kansas small business owners, their employees, and the values they represent—cutting burdensome regulations, lowering taxes, and ensuring they have the tools to succeed. When small businesses thrive, America thrives.



Steven Jacob (L)
https://www.ksn.com/

- What is the top thing that deserves your immediate attention in Washington, and what action would you take on it, including how you'd compromise with members of the other party?

Our national debt is the biggest national security threat we have. a balanced budget solves the inflation issues, and both parties have to compromise, or nothing will happen.

- What are your thoughts on a new Farm Bill?

Not really seen it, but everyone must sacrifice, less welfare to everyone.

- What are your thoughts on current immigration enforcement in Kansas?

ICE is a terrorist organization. Catch a few bad people out of hundreds does not justify their actions.

- How would you ensure the future of Social Security?

Not sure. Its never going away, it's too big to fail. DC will burn down after one missed check.

- What are your thoughts on the following:
- a. Second Amendment rights/gun control

Gun control is racist. Bad people will always have guns, everyone, especially minorities and the LGBTQ community should have guns.

- b. LGBTQ issues and rights

I fully support living your best life, love is love. Bathroom bills are stupid; the mug shots of child molesters are not coming from that community.

- c. Climate change

It's real, but we are nowhere ready for the sacrifices and spending we need to do much about it.

- What role do you think the U.S. should take regarding:
- a. Iran

Mistake. You have WMD to not actually use them, but to not actually get invaded. Ask Ukraine about that.

- b. Israel/Gaza

Genocide. Defending yourself becomes genocide pretty quickly.

- c. Russia/Ukraine

No US troops. Its a never ending war we need to stay out off. Its Europes problem, they are the ones who cut military spending for years because we would pay for it. Not any more/

Attorney General



Chris Mann (D)
https://chrismannforkansas.com/priorities/

The Attorney General's office shouldn't be about Team Red or Team Blue; it should be about Team Kansas and making sure every Kansan feels safe. The Attorney General of Kansas should have one priority – protecting Kansans.

As a former police officer and prosecutor, Chris has stood toe-to-toe with violent criminals and fought to ensure victims and survivors receive the justice they deserve. He will bring this same dedication to public safety to the Attorney General's office.

- Ensure our local communities have the resources they need to investigate and prosecute crimes.
- Recruit and retain quality law enforcement.
- Protect consumers from the constant barrage of scams and fraud.
- Expand efforts to end the drug crisis.
- Address rising domestic violence lethality.
- Protect the elderly from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.
- Ensure no politician, corporation, or special interest is above the law.
- Prioritize and expand the AG's Division of Youth Suicide Prevention.
- Protect Kansas kids from unregulated online chatbots and threats.
- Create a Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources within the AG's office.



Kris Kobach (R)
https://kriskobach.com/
Core Policy Priorities

- **Law & Order & Public Safety –** reducing crime, targeting fentanyl traffickers, and maintaining Kansas' lowest crime rate in 56 years. Convictions of violent offenders and partnerships with ICE to detain individuals with serious criminal histories.
- **Election Integrity –** As former Kansas Secretary of State and current AG, Kobach supports measures like signature verification on mail ballots, voter ID laws, and the Kansas Secure and Fair Elections (SAFE) Act
- **Consumer Protection & Big Tech Accountability –** Recently secured a $17.1 billion multistate settlement with Meta Platforms over alleged addictive design practices on Instagram and Facebook, requiring hard daily time limits, age verification, and parental controls. Kansas will receive over $134 million from this deal.
- **Cybersecurity & Fraud Prevention –** Advocates for stronger FCC rules to block scammers from using legitimate phone numbers, and has pursued settlements with companies like Roblox to improve online child
- Immigration Enforcement – Known for strict immigration enforcement, including targeted operations with ICE and public statements on "illegal aliens" and child exploitation cases.

State Treasurer



Juan C. Luengo (D)
https://jcfortreasurer.com/five-pillars

- **Education -** Expand Kansas's 529 plan to cover four-year colleges, the trades and apprenticeships. It's an opportunity for families to put their kids on a path of coming out of college with as little debt as possible.
- **Main Street Capital -** Use the Treasurer's linked-deposit programs to move state deposits through Kansas banks and credit unions, lowering borrowing costs for small businesses, farmers, and construction.
- **A Kansas Economic Council -** Convene nonpartisan economists to advise on how public dollars are invested, with plain-language reports so Kansans can see what their money is doing.
- **Property Tax Relief -** Step up the return of unclaimed property to its rightful owners, and advocate for property-tax relief for seniors and working families.
- **A Treasury That Works for Hardworking Families -** World-class customer service from a Treasury equipped with technology that makes every interaction fast, simple, and accessible to every Kansan.



Steven Johnson (R)
https://stevenjohnsonks.com/

- **Improved Cash Flow Efficiencies -** Generated millions in additional earnings by improving the state's cash flow operations; reducing the burden on taxpayers.
- **Reduced Investment Fees -** Overhauled the state's investment savings plans, reducing the fees charged to account owners by over $25 million annually.
- **Strengthened Oversight -** Improved accountability across state programs, earning Kansas an upgrade for increased financial oversight.
- **Expanded Financial Education -** Developed new educational resources and expanded access to financial literacy opportunities across Kansas.

Eric Lund (L) - no photo available
https://www.lpks.org/blog/getting-to-know-our-statewide-candidates

- Treasurer's Office - Mr. Lund intends to "work with the state legislature and the governor and be a spokesperson for efforts to drastically cut government spending and taxation". He insists that "where government does exist", that it should "spend those tax dollars in a fiscally responsible way".
- Taxation and government spending - Mr. Lund ideas on tax relief as a board trustee of the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (KPERS), he "would work towards reforming KPERS so that it is less of a tax burden on the taxpayers of Kansas". Also, while Kansas law exempts government pensions from state income tax, he believes that "this exemption on retirement income should be available to all, whether public or private sector employees."
- Sales Tax - Mr. Lund believes that sales taxes should be eliminated, "at all levels (state, county, and city)" and "on all items, not just on food and medicines". He also said that "the property; intangibles; and state personal and corporate income tax should be reduced immediately as an interim step towards their elimination." He is categorically opposed to "any increase in existing tax rates" and to "the imposition of any new taxes", and he supports "the dissolution of the Kansas Department of Revenue".
- Data Centers - Mr. Lund opposes Kansas "offering state and local sales tax exemptions for 20 years to qualifying large-scale data center projects." Noting that "this is just another corporate subsidy", Mr. Lund explained why this kind of tax break misses the mark; "While I support lowering or eliminating taxes, and every company's or individual's effort to pay as little tax as possible, this sales tax exemption should then be implemented not just for the few, but for all, including every individual, and not just for 20 years, but forever."
- Marijuana - Mr. Lund said that it should be legal "for all purposes; medical and recreational".





MEET THE CANDIDATES

Commissioner of Insurance



Dinah Sikes (D)
https://www.dinahsykes.com/index.html#meet
Dinah's Priorities
Affordability: Working to make insurance more accessible and affordable for all Kansans.
Consumer Protection: Standing up for policyholders and holding the insurance industry accountable.
Transparency: Ensuring clear, honest communication about insurance policies and rates.
Fairness: Fighting against unfair practices and discrimination in insurance.



Daniel Hawkins (R)
https://danhawkinskansas.com/sample-page/
- **Improving Education -** We have no greater asset than our children and no greater responsibility than to educate them well. We must guarantee parents are in charge of their children's education, and the maximum amount of dollars get to the classroom.
- **Strengthening Families -** I am pro-life and pro-family. I firmly believe we must defend the unborn and protect traditional marriage. I have worked tirelessly to do both and am proud of my 100% pro-life voting record.
- **Defending the 2nd Amendment -** I am a strong supporter of the right to keep and bear arms. This right must be protected to ensure our society remains free.
- **Lowering Taxes -** Kansas must become competitive. We can only do so by continuing to reform our tax law to a fairer, flatter tax system. I've fought to lower food sales taxes, ensure transparency in property taxation, and voted to return the federal tax cut windfall back to Kansas taxpayers.
- **Strengthening Businesses and the Economy -** The State of Kansas is at a crossroads. We can choose to set business-friendly policies that encourage business owners to bring their companies to our state, or we can implement draconian restrictions and multi-level bureaucratic nightmares that drive existing businesses to neighboring states. Government is not the solution for growing businesses or creating jobs. Limiting government's negative effect on business is the best way to achieve these goals.
- **Protecting Healthcare -** Obamacare continues to be a problem, and Kansas liberals have teamed up with radical DC leftists in an attempt to pass a radical, expensive expansion of the Medicaid system. I've led the charge to stop this outrageous government expansion.
- **Building our Infrastructure -** The Bank of KDOT is a running joke in Topeka. A strong economy relies on strong infrastructure, and the state absolutely must stop robbing transportation funds to pay for political pet projects.
- **Limiting Government -** Unchecked government expansion limits our freedom as individuals and hinders the growth of the businesses our state's economy relies on to thrive. Kansans from all walks of life are impacted in very real ways and I am dedicated to standing up for people just like you. During my time in office, I have worked to limit bureaucratic intervention in our day-to-day lives and make government more efficient.

Ric Koehn (L) - no photo available
https://www.lpks.org/blog/getting-to-know-our-statewide-candidates
- Mr. Koehn's priority will be to "return[...] the insurance industry to the free market". He opposes all taxes, opposes subsidies like that for the Chiefs' stadium, opposes foreign wars and opposes public education. He supports marijuana legalization. When it comes to data centers, he believes that "each community should decide whether they want a data center".
- On this year's ballot initiatives: Regarding the Elections for Supreme Court Justices Amendment, Mr. Koehn said that he "support[s] the status quo". As to the Citizenship Voting Requirement Amendment, he said that "I support the amendment".

State Board of Education



Lorie Wood (D)
https://hayspost.com/posts/6c91b06d-34da-456f-8852-70e55e53803f
- What should be the top priorities of the board in 2027?

My top priority is making sure state policy works for rural Kansas. That starts with setting clear, measurable goals with our new commissioner, and making sure the commissioner understands the unique challenges rural schools face..

Policy has to work for a school of 80 students as well as one of 2,000.

Second, we need learning opportunities for every kind of learner. There's a lot of concern about screens in classrooms, but student technology use at school is much lower than many people think. The bigger need is more hands-on learning, like career and technical programs, ag and industry partnerships, and real-world projects that keep students engaged and connect them to jobs here at home.

Third, we need an honest picture of student achievement. The 2025 cut score change brought Kansas into line with other states. It didn't lower our standards. A state test is a snapshot of one day, and we can't judge our schools by that snapshot alone. Graduation rates, ACT scores, and how students do after high school give a fuller picture.

- What do you think Kansas can do to raise reading, math and science scores?

Kansas is already on the right track with reading, and the key now is giving schools the support to follow through. Every elementary teacher is being trained in the science of reading, and the board's job is to support teachers through that training, not just mandate it.

The state also now expects a licensed reading specialist in every elementary school, but many rural districts simply can't afford one. If we want results, the requirements have to come with resources.

We also need to catch struggling readers early, through screening and quick intervention in kindergarten through third grade.

In math and science, the same principles apply: strong foundational skills, quality curriculum, and well-trained teachers. Hands-on learning matters here too. Ag science, career and technical programs, and real-world projects make math and science concrete, especially for students who don't thrive with worksheets.

In rural Kansas, we also have to solve the staffing problem. Many small districts struggle to hire certified math and science teachers, so we need options like shared teachers, grow-your-own programs, licensure flexibility.

Finally, students can't learn if they aren't in school, so improving attendance has to be part of the plan.

And we should use test data to help teachers help students, not just to rank schools. A test is one snapshot, and good decisions come from the whole picture.

- What do you think the state can do to address teacher and staff shortages in Kansas, especially in rural areas?

Teachers and support staff are the heart of every school, and right now Kansas is losing too many of them, especially in rural areas.

Pay is a big part of the problem. Some districts are still starting teachers around $30,000, and many support staff aren't earning a living wage. Western Kansas districts often hire and train new teachers, only to lose them after two or three years to higher-paying districts in eastern Kansas or across the state line.

Our rural schools have become a training ground for everyone else. I support a statewide minimum teacher salary so a teacher's pay doesn't depend on their zip code, and living wages for the paraprofessionals, bus drivers, and other staff our schools can't run without.

Setting pay is up to the Legislature and local boards, but the state board should be a strong voice for it.

We also need to grow our own. Kansas's teacher apprenticeship program lets paraprofessionals earn their teaching license without quitting their jobs, and a new federal grant is expanding it for special education. That's exactly the kind of solution rural Kansas needs, and we should make sure it reaches every corner of the state.

We should also encourage local high school students to come back and teach in their hometowns, give new teachers strong mentoring and allow more licensure flexibility so small schools can staff every classroom.

- Do you think the state's cell phone policy is helping students? Please explain.

Most District 5 schools already had working cell phone policies before the state law passed, and many of our communities would have preferred to keep that decision local.

Our school boards know their students and families best. That said, the law is in place, and some good things are already happening.

Many schools are seeing more students talking with each other at lunch instead of looking at screens, and that kind of connection matters for kids.

It's still too early to judge the law's full impact. Schools are only a few months in, and national research shows mixed results so far.

Some studies show better student well-being and improved test scores after a year or two, while others show little change in academics. We need to give it time and look at several years of results before drawing conclusions.

As we do, the state should give districts flexibility in how they carry out the law, and make sure new requirements don't add costs that small schools can't afford.

- Do you think the Kansas Board of Education should have a policy on AI? If so, what should that be?

Yes, but the board's role should be guidance, not a one-size-fits-all mandate. The state should give districts a clear framework, and local boards should write the policies that fit their schools and communities.

That framework should start with one principle: AI is a tool for older students, not younger ones. In the early grades, children need to learn to read, write, think and solve problems on their own, with a teacher and with each other. AI has no place in that foundation.

For older students, AI can be a useful tool when it's used responsibly. They'll use it in college and in the workplace, so they need to learn how it works, what its limits are and how to use it honestly.

Good guidance should also cover academic honesty, protecting student data and training for teachers, who are being asked to manage this technology with little support.

AI should always support teaching, never replace the teacher.

Most important, every school in District 5 must have equal access to AI training, tools and resources. Students in our small rural schools deserve the same opportunities as students in the largest districts in the state, and I'll make sure District 5 isn't left behind.



Jean Clifford (R)
https://www.facebook.com/p/Jean-Clifford-for-Kansas-State-Board-of-Education-61590125955708/
- Lifelong passion for education
- Defends parents' right & voice
- Protects students' privacy
- Supports local control
- Promotes academic excellence
- Supports:
- Excellence in education & training
- Focus on student success
- Parent rights & involvement in education
- Fiscal responsibility & lower taxes
- Transparency & accountability

- Effective leadership is built on listening, working with others and making sound, thoughtful decisions.
- With over 30 years as an Air Force attorney, along with my experience serving on local and state boards of education and as a college trustee, I've spent my career working alongside diverse groups of people to navigate complex challenges and achieve practical results.
- As a State Board of Education member, my approach will continue be to work collaboratively, respect every perspective, and always put students and their learning first.
- Every student should graduate with a plan and the skills to succeed—whether that means college, technical education, military service, or entering the workforce. Our schools should help students discover their opportunities and prepare them for the path that's right for them.
- The best education decisions begin by listening to the people who know their schools best—parents, teachers, local school boards, and community members.
- That's exactly what I've done throughout my years of service on the USD 457 Garden City Board of Education, the Kansas State Board of Education, and now as a Garden City Community College Trustee.
- I've worked with communities across Western and North Central Kansas and understand the unique challenges and opportunities facing both our rural and growing school districts. I'll continue to be a strong voice for students, families, educators, and local communities while keeping the focus where it belongs—on student success.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Kansas voters: There's a constitutional amendment on your November 3 ballot concerning citizenship and voter qualifications. It would change the Kansas Constitution's wording from guaranteeing that every citizen meeting the age and residency requirements is a qualified voter to stating that no person qualifies unless they meet those requirements.

* A **YES** vote **approves the new wording** explicitly limiting eligibility to U.S. citizens who are at least 18 and meet the applicable residency requirements.

* A **NO** vote **keeps the current language**.

An important point: Noncitizens are already ineligible to vote in Kansas. Voting no would not give noncitizens the right to vote.

The amendment itself does not require voters to present a passport or birth certificate. Its text changes the constitutional language about who qualifies to vote.

Take a few minutes to read the proposal before casting your ballot. An informed vote matters!

Read the official wording from the Kansas Secretary of State:
https://www.sos.ks.gov/.../proposed-constitutional..

Proposed Constitutional Amendments

The following constitutional amendment will be voted on during the November 3, 2026 General Election.

Vote Yes or No

"Explanatory statement. This amendment would clarify that only a person who is a citizen of the United States is eligible to vote in this state.

"A vote for this proposition would clarify that only a person who is a citizen of the United States is eligible to vote in this state.

"A vote against this proposition would make no change to the constitution of the state of Kansas, and the language concerning voter qualifications would remain the same."

Shall the following be adopted?

"§ 1. Qualifications of electors. Every(a) No person shall be deemed a qualified elector unless such person:

(1) Is a citizen of the United States who;

Continued on page 11

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

2			3	1		4		
		8		6			5	
	7				9			6
		9	6				8	
3					4	6		
	1			8		2		7
7				4				3
4	6				2		1	
		1	5			7		

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

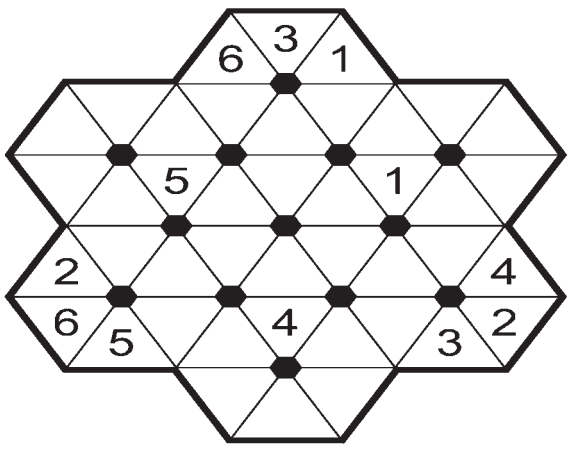
◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



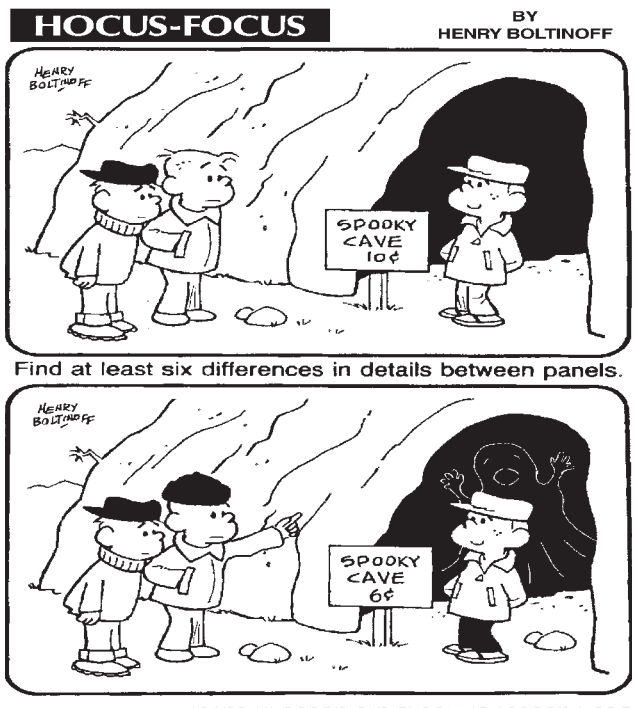
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Easy ◆◆ Medium ◆◆◆ Difficult

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Sign is different. 2. Boy's slacks are black. 3. Ghost is added. 4. Boy is pointing. 5. Stocking hat has been added. 6. Rocks are added in cave.

Super Crossword

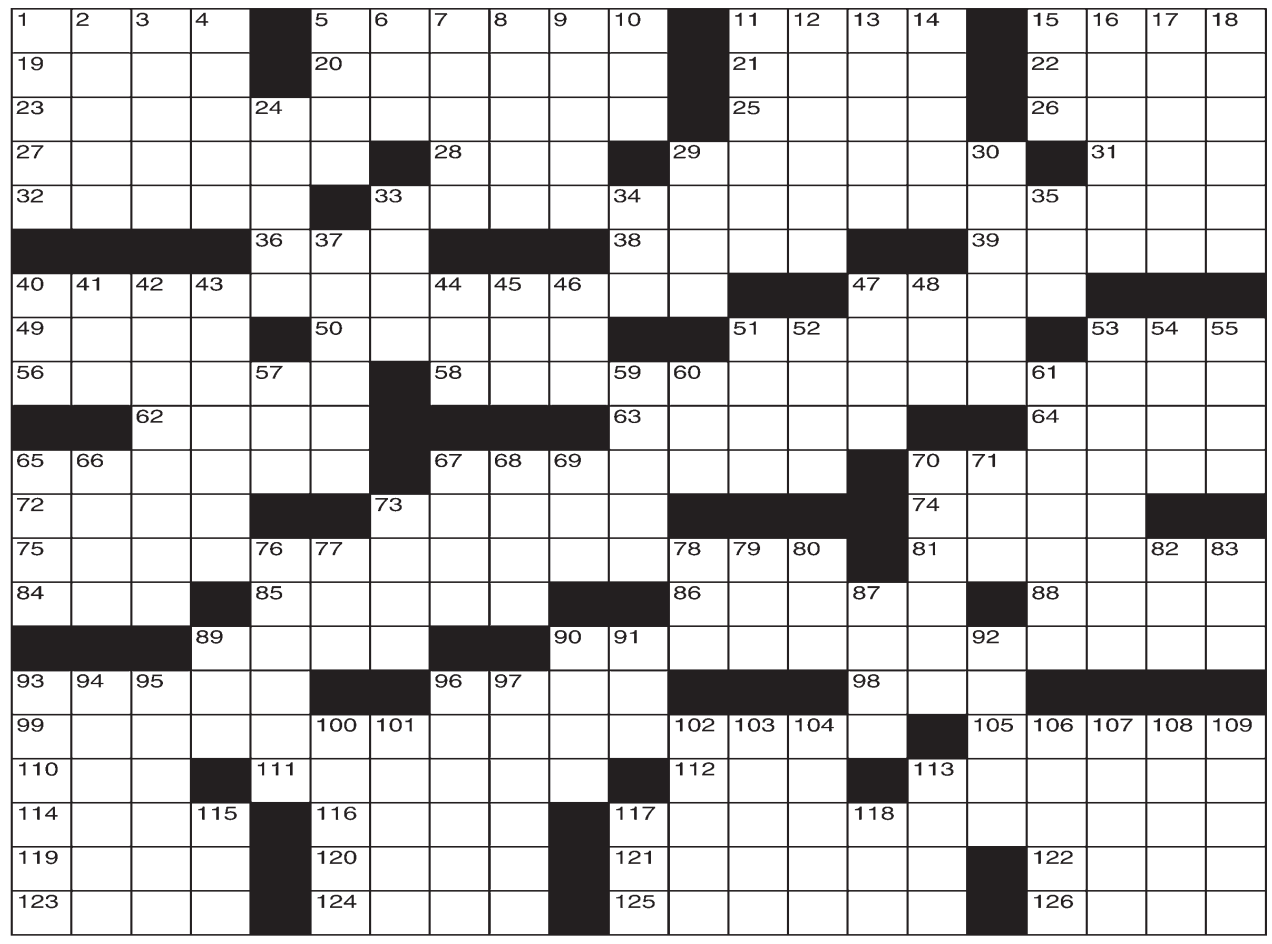
YOU AND ME BOTH

ACROSS

1 Tropical tree
5 Des — (capital of Iowa)
11 Cartoonist Addams, familiarly
15 Floor mop
19 Berry of a Brazilian 1-Across
20 Practically no time
21 — Hashana
22 "Relax!"
23 Poker hand of four clubs and one heart, say
25 Itty bit
26 Judicious
27 Old TV's "Remington —"
28 Test for univ. seniors
29 One of the Gandhis
31 Weep noisily
32 Country singer Clark
33 Field of a homebuilder
36 Farm tool
38 No-charge
39 Moisten, as poultry
40 What a patent or copyright might grant
47 "E pluribus —"
49 Wear out
50 Plotting aids
51 Many a critic
53 Org. for Roger Federer
56 Oatmeal bath brand
58 Outback locale
62 Cube creator Rubik
63 Post-Kantian philosopher Georg
64 Somewhat
65 Duplicated
67 Beatles song that's an apt alternate title for this puzzle
70 Lower baseball leagues
72 Taylor tyke of old TV
73 Clip, as wool
74 "High Voltage" band
75 Facial feature of Mark Twain
81 Island of Venice
84 Foxlike
85 Haunting one
86 Capital of Jordan
88 Sage guide
89 Smelter junk
90 Luxury airport transport
93 Moses' peak
96 Chachi player Scott
98 "— So Fine" (1963 hit)
99 A shoulder shrug exercises it
105 Flunkies' responses
110 Get decayed
111 Amend
112 So-so mark
113 Put in a box
114 Army division
116 Yarn
117 For no particular reason
119 Little bay
120 Added stipulations
121 "The Jeffersons" actress Sanford
122 Tread
123 Body part with the ACL
124 Get lippy with
125 Soft caps
126 Female fowl

DOWN

1 Blue Ribbon beer brewer
2 Piercing
3 Cutting beam
4 Priestly hat
5 Formed
6 See 115-Down
7 "Send me!"
8 Island nation in the Pacific
9 Double curves
10 "Zip it up!"
11 Wince
12 Thick, head-hiding top
13 Sean of "50 First Dates"
14 Pottery piece
15 Hem, e.g.
16 Pants parts
17 Put in groups
18 "Ta-ta!"
24 1910s senator Root
29 Memo start
30 Red-brown
33 King-to-be
34 Uncertain things
35 Neill of film
37 CBS journalist Charles
40 LAX posting
41 VII doubled
42 In a spine-chilling way
43 More guarded
44 By way of
45 Univ. email ender
46 Inits. on a navy vessel
47 Electric or water co.
48 Tchr.'s gp.
51 Spaghetti sauce brand
52 British brews
53 Group that services car owners
54 Alexis I, e.g.
55 High degs.
57 LA-to-MI dir.
59 Actress Birch of "American Beauty"
60 TKO caller
61 Cut coverer
65 Dairy beasts
66 Milky gem
67 Ergo
68 Part of SW
69 Grain bit
70 Hitchcock film of 1964
71 Here, to Luc
73 Bad city air
76 More unsightly
77 "— Na Na"
78 GoPro, e.g.
79 Med. group
80 Bird of the 58-Across
82 —TV (cable channel)
83 Suffix with resin or peril
87 Court great Arthur
89 Trunk gunk
90 Green fruit
91 Chit letters
92 "Gone" boy band
93 Slapped, e.g.
94 Patch variety
95 Endemic
96 Intensifies
97 Evaluate
100 Sorority letters
101 First ex of Donald
102 "— me?" ("What'd ya say?")
103 "Dog whisperer" Millan
104 Don't disturb
106 Digital dough
107 Fry a bit
108 Ruhr's chief city
109 Leaks slowly
113 Slippery swimmers
115 With 6-Down, start a round of golf
117 Sloop sail
118 Lay odds



CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: **L** equals **O**

QXBAO Z KQMV "QZM'B BRQB

Q KRQDA," LBRAOK KBQOBAF

KZMVZMV ZB BLL. ZB'K BRA

XQBK FLDZML AXXAWB.

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

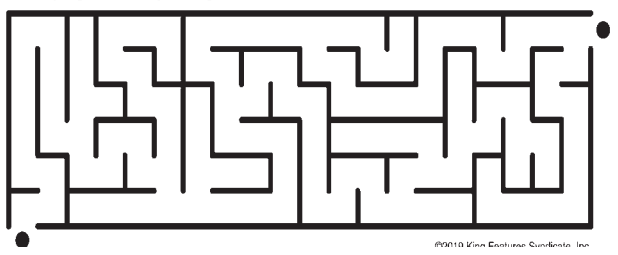
DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult ★★★ GO FIGURE!

	÷		+		13
−		×		÷	
	×		−		11
×		+		+	
	÷		+		9
10		12		11	

1 2 3 4 5 5 7 8 9

Kids' Maze



Fun Page Solutions

CryptoQuip answer

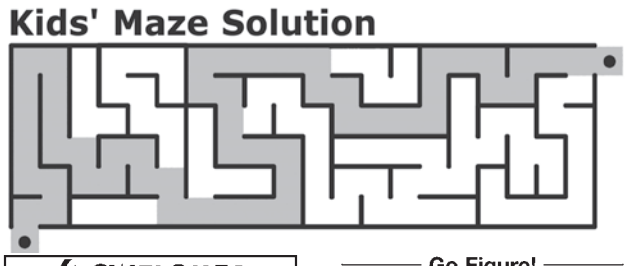
After I sang "Ain't That a Shame," others started singing it too. It's the Fats Domino effect.

Weekly SUDOKU

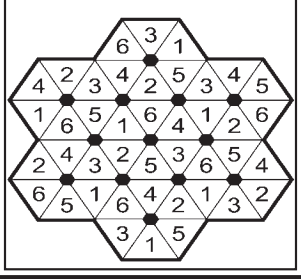
Answer

2	5	6	3	1	8	4	7	9
9	4	8	2	6	7	3	5	1
1	7	3	4	5	9	8	2	6
5	2	9	6	7	3	1	8	4
3	8	7	1	2	4	6	9	5
6	1	4	9	8	5	2	3	7
7	9	2	8	4	1	5	6	3
4	6	5	7	3	2	9	1	8
8	3	1	5	9	6	7	4	2

Kids' Maze Solution



SNOWFLAKES solution



Go Figure! answers

4	÷	1	+	9	13
−		×		÷	
2	×	7	−	3	11
×		+		+	
5	÷	5	+	8	9
10		12		11	

Super Crossword Answers

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

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Commission Minutes
10/20/26

Now on this 20th day of October 2026, the Board of Commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas, met in regular session with Chairman David Stithem presiding. Other members present were Mike "Buck" Mader, Kyle Emigh, 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.

Jennifer Coffman, EMS Interim Director, came to the table. Coffman advised the Board that unit #219 is having electrical issues, there is a short in the ambulance. She is working on the problem. Coffman spoke briefly about hiring full-time people and what that would look like monetarily. The Board will have Coffman return to the meeting later to continue the discussion.

Brian Diercks, Undersheriff, came to the table. Diercks distributed a revised drawing for the Public Safety Building. The Board advised him to move forward with Drawing A.

After reviewing Axon information pertaining to the contract for dash and body cams and tasers, Stithem made a motion to move ahead with Axon. Emigh seconded the motion. Carried 3-0

Diercks presented numbers for a new 2026 Tahoe. Cost is $56,000 but does not include equipment or installation of the same. Stithem made a motion, seconded by Mader, to purchase the new Tahoe. Carried 3-0

Joe Herskowitz, Road & Bridge Supervisor, came to the table. Herskowitz discussed some road work that has been done since the last meeting. Following the final state approval, the plan is made for 10W so it will be started shortly.

A bid was received from Foley for cutting edges. Herskowitz will get another bid.

Herskowitz presented information for a new 140-15J CAT grader. Herskowitz will go back to Foley and discuss if there is any give in the number since we will be losing more than a year of warranty on the grader being traded in.

Herskowitz advised the Board the cardboard truck is coming.

Kelsey Epp, Director SCCF, Courtney Schippers, and Clint Milliman came to the table. The Foundation and the Fair Board are asking for donations to help with fairground and livestock pavilion improvements. The building estimate for Phase 1 is coming in at $160,000. Epp stated the Foundation would hold the funds until the bill is received, then the bill and money would be given to the County to pay. The group is also looking for money from the County to help start it. The County is willing to commit to helping but no dollar amount was discussed.

The Board discussed EMS and the immediate need and long-term goals. Due to time constraints, Coffman was notified she will be put on the agenda for next week.

Mader made a motion to approve the October 13, 2026 Minutes as amended. Emigh seconded. Carried 3-0

At 11:02 with no further business, Stithem made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Emigh. Carried 3-0. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Room.

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



OBITUARY

Lloyd Smith
January 31, 1939 ~ October 20, 2025



Lloyd Eugene Smith, 87, He was born January 31, 1939, and passed away on October 20, 2026. Lloyd was born in Alta Vista, KS, to Carl & Helen Smith on January 31, he was welcomed by older brother Harold Whiting Smith. Lloyd spent his early years in Wichita. Then the family settled in Mount Hope, KS.

Lloyd leaves behind Harold & Carol Smith, Ladeane Reese, Rhonda Rueger, Buddy Reese (Mandy), Tiffany Isley (Bryan), Wayne Reese (Haylie). Grandchildren: Lacey Rueger, Ashton Bornholdt (Drew), Kara Chaffin (Kel), Regina Reichenberger (Luke), Layla Higgins (Aiden), Trystan Isley (Abigial), Tryniti Isley (Skylar), Brogan Isley, Reanna Penner (Jerad), Emilyn, and Kynlie. Many great-grandchildren: Jeremy, Easton, Emmett, Creed, Noelle, Sadie, Alan, Jack, Bowie, Tucker, and Saylor.

Lloyd was preceded in death by his parents, Rick Reese, grandchildren: Devon and Rachel Rueger.

Family visitation was held Sunday, October 25, 2026, with funeral service on Monday, October 26, 2026. Both at Wulf-Ast Mortuary 120 N. King Street in Mount Hope. In lieu of flowers memorials may be sent to Mount Hope E.M.S., P.O. Box 382, Mount Hope, Kansas 67108.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Continued from page 9

(2) has attained the age of eighteen years; and who

(3) except as provided in subsection (b) or (c), resides in the voting area in which he or she such person seeks to vote shall be deemed a qualified elector.

(b) Laws of this state relating to voting for presidential electors and candidates for the office of president and vice-president of the United States shall comply with the laws of the United States relating thereto. A citizen of the United States, who is otherwise qualified to vote in Kansas for presidential electors and candidates for the offices of president and vice-president of the United States may vote for such officers either in person or by absentee ballot notwithstanding the fact that such person may have become a nonresident of this state if his or her such person's removal from this state occurs during a period in accordance with federal law next preceding such election.

(c) A person who is otherwise a qualified elector may vote in the voting area of his or her such person's former residence either in person or by absentee ballot notwithstanding the fact that such person may have become a nonresident of such voting area during a period prescribed by law next preceding the election at which he or she such person seeks to vote, if his such person's new residence is in another voting area in the state of Kansas.

Yes
No

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IT Systems Specialist – Full Time (1.0 FTE) Position responsible for implementing, maintaining, and troubleshooting Decatur Health's computer systems, networks, and user technology. Open to entry level or advanced candidates with strong technical capability. Duties include supporting LAN/WAN systems, servers, wireless networks, VPNs, hardware/software installation, VoIP, printers, and user support. IT certification or equivalent experience preferred; Associate degree preferred. Experience preferred; strong communication and multitasking skills required. 8/10/2026

RHC/Pro Fee Coder. Full Time (1.0 FTE) In house position. Responsible for coding Family Practice, ER, and Inpatient diagnoses and procedures using ICD 10 and CPT, reviewing documentation for accuracy, submitting prior authorization requests and assisting with HIM clerical tasks. Experience preferred; coding certification required within 12 months of hire, with initial progress toward certification expected within the first 6 months. 8/10/2026

Registered Nurse - Night Shift (Med/Surg & Emergency Department). Full Time (0.9 FTE) Must be licensed in the state of Kansas. 12-hour shifts (6pm-6am) with every third weekend and holiday rotation. Positions Open: 3 - 3/4/2026, 6/15/2026

Radiologic Technologist. Full Time or Part Time. Graduation from an accredited radiologic technology program and a Kansas State LRT license is required. Must be ARRT certified. This position is part of a rotating on-call schedule. Positions Open: 2 - 9/2/2025

PART TIME:

Environmental Services Tech (EVS). Part Time (0.6 FTE) Monday-Friday 2PM-7:30PM. Duties include cleaning assignment areas according to procedures and standards, including but not limited to patient care areas, office areas, and public areas within the Hospital and Clinics.

Day Shift Patient Care Technician (PCT) Part Time. (0.6 FTE) High school diploma or equivalent preferred. A certified nursing assistant (CNA) registry is preferred but not required. Shifts are 6am-6pm. This position participates in a weekend and holiday rotation.

How to Apply
Apply at www.decaturhealth.org/careers
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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

In an effort to streamline the call process with calls for service the Hoxie Police Department phone number has changed to 785-675-3481. This will ring you into Sheridan County Communications as they already dispatch for the police department. This will allow trained dispatchers to take your information/complaint and dispatch the police department to you. This will also provide 24/7 phone coverage when the City Office is closed. As always, the Hoxie Police Department is here to serve you and assist with any issues you may have.

Paul Wisinger, Chief
Hoxie Police Department

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HELP WANTED: The **Sheridan County Noxious Weed Department** is accepting applications for a **Noxious Weed Control Technician**. Previous experience i.e. valid Private\Commercial Applicator License preferred. Must be willing to obtain qualification in either category 1C or 6. CDL is a plus. This is a full-time position. Applications may be picked up at the Road & Bridge Office, Monday through Friday from 7:30am–4:30pm. Sheridan County offers competitive wages, retirement, and health insurance. For questions and to request an application by mail, contact O'Neill Smith at 785-470-2038. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

---50/TFN---

HELP WANTED: Hoxie Feedyard & PSI are always interested in visiting with good people about a good job. We offer competitive pay and great benefits. Please call Scott Foote 785-386-4519.

---40/TFN---

HELP WANTED: The **Sheridan County Road & Bridge Department** is accepting applications for an **Equipment Operator**. Experience and CDL preferred. This is a full-time position. Applications may be picked up at the Road & Bridge Office, Monday through Friday from 8:00 am – 4:30 pm. Sheridan County offers competitive wages, retirement, and health insurance. For questions and to request an application by mail, contact Joe Herskowitz at 785-675-3621. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. EOE

---40/TFN---

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FOR SALE: Crooked Creek Angus Registered 2-year-old bulls located in St. Francis, 785-332-6206, www.crooketcreekangus.com.

---7/TFN---

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