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**SERVING THE SOLOMON VALLEY SINCE 1901** 

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2024** 



# Nelson family still waits for the right cards to be dealt

Murdered loved one 15 years ago as of Dec. 18, 2009

BY SHARON SAHLFELD Call Editor

As holidays continue to arrive, the Gary Nelson family remains with a void in their hearts and around the dining room table as they remember their son, brother, friend and relative.

Gary was pronounced dead at the Wichita hospital after being life-watched from the Mitchell County Hospital on Friday, Dec. 18 – just seven days before Christmas of 2009 – and now 15 years later.

He was found wounded from a gunshot wound at his home located at 1630 280th Road, west of Beloit.

Just like any other holiday, the Nelson family is in hope for new information and closures on their loved one's death.

That hope has become even clearer, as Gary's name and face had been placed in a new Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC), the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) in partnership with



The complete Nelson family of six siblings still mourn the loss of their father figure brother, Gary Nelson, 15 years after his murder. Shown are, from left to right, front row: Steve Nelson, Linda Hiserote. Back row: Chris Nelson, Jean Nelson, Gary Nelson, Cindy Pilcher, Cheryl Duran.

Kansas Cold Case Playing Cards, in 2022.

Kansas is the 31st state to implement cold case playing cards in jails and prisons across the state, of Corrections says over 20 cases have been solved through this program.

A deck of 52 cards which includes information and highlights 59 unand other cases. Each card in the deck includes brief information about an unsolved crime along with a phone number for anyone with information to call (1-800-KS-CRIME). Each card highlights case details in the hope that someone familiar with a case will come forward with information leading to solving the crime. See **NELSON** on 2



Santa received a very thorough description of what this little one wanted for Christmas. Santa arrived at S&S Drug on Saturday morning, offering photo ops, crafts and candy, along with other businesses throughout the Jingle All The Way event. See more inside.

SHARON SAHLFELD PHOTO

# Beloit Community Christmas Concert on Sunday, Dec. 15

BELOIT – The Beloit Community Orchestra and the Beloit Ministerial Alliance will present a Community Christmas Concert in the performance area of the Beloit Municipal Building, 119 N. Hersey, at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 15.

The 63 member Beloit Community Orchestra, under the direction of Michael Harbaugh, will perform first on the program. The Orchestra is all volunteer and consists of members from age 12 to retirement age. The Orchestra will perform "Tidings of Comfort and Joy!" based on "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," arranged by Michael Story; "The Little Drummer Boy," arranged by Bob Cerulli; "Christmas Vacation," arranged by Patrick Rozell; "Christmas Rocks at the Pops," arranged by Ralph Ford; "Christmas Sing-A-Long" and "Stille Nacht," as performed by Manheim Steamroller and arranged by Calvin Custer. The Beloit Community Christmas Choir, directed by Gary De Kler, will perform "Gaudete," arranged by Robert J. Batastini; "While Shepard's Watched Their Flocks by Night," arranged by Craig Courtney; "December in My Hometown" and "The First Noel," arranged by Pinkzebra Music. A freewill offering will be taken to cover expenses of the program, with the remainder divided between the Orchestra and the Ministerial Association. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

the Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police (KACP), the Kansas Sheriff's Association (KSA) and the Kansas Peace Officers Association (KPOA) homicide victims stack of playing cards, named the after being implemented first in the state of Florida, and have gained support and use throughout the United States. The idea is to stir new leads from the inmate population. Connecticut State Department

solved crime cases relating to homicide – has been distributed in state prisons and county jails across the states, with hopes of garnering new leads from inmates. It includes homicide, missing persons,

Milo cutting at the end of November in Mitchell County stirs up dust from still remaining drought conditions.

SHARON SAHLFELD PHOTO

# Farm Bill delays leave farmers facing uncertainty for upcoming year

### Can affect everyone in way of food preparation

KANSAS – As a delay on passing the 2024 Farm Bill continues, this may affect all of us, in the way food preparation is being detected, and leaving financial help to apply as questionable.

This primary obstacle makes farming questionable, as legislators continue to delay the current Nov. 2023 Farm Bill – replacing the previous farm bill from 2018 which expired a year ago. That was extended for one year, until Sept. 30, 2024, and is yet at a standstill.

Farmers are awaiting legislation which covers crop insurance, etc., as producers struggle to survive.

Until Sept. 30, 2024, and for the 2024 crop year, the farm bill covers numerous policies and programs, including commodity support, conservation, trade and food aid, domestic food assistance, credit, rural development, research, forestry, energy, horticulture, and crop insurance, among others.

The outdated Farm Bill is said to not even come close to helping farmers in production these days, and the delay leaves further uncertainty for farmers, who are facing declining prices for many crops and rising costs for fertilizer and other inputs.

see FARMERS on 14

### VFW Post 6242 in need of Christmas Dinner donations



BELOIT – The VFW Post 6242 will host a Christmas Dinner from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Christmas Day, Dec. 25, at the Post home, 102 E. South Street, in Beloit. Donation dropoff days will be from 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 12 and again on Wednesday, Dec. 18.

Donations will go towards the purchase of food and supports local scholarships. The meal will consist of Turkey, Ham, Dinner Rolls, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Green Beans, Pie, Cake, Iced Tea, and Coffee.

Organizations or individuals wanting to donate food can contact Gordon McMillan at 785-738-2676.

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### Walnut Street project receives one million, two million more needed to complete

#### BY TERRY BAILEY

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City Manager Halley Roberson reported there will be a meeting between city officials and the Schwab-Eaton engineers to map out a plan of how to proceed with the Walnut Street improvement plan. Receiving the grant of one million dollars gave the project a big push, but the city will need to find the other two million dollars to complete the project.

An airport update was provided by Roberson. At this point FAA funding for new hangars is very generous. With the end of the year fast approaching, the FAA needs an answer on to build or not to build a hangar at Moritz airport.

The sound system at the municipal building is past being outdated and simply worn out. As she looked at replacement systems, Roberson approached her research thinking she wanted to find a system that was very simple to operate. Many groups utilize the gym at the Municipal building and having a system that was easy to operate would eliminate a lot of frustration.

- Chief of Police Chad Lackey reported that his officers have implemented the STEP program. It will run from now until after the first of the year. An additional officer will be on duty with all the shifts. The officers will attempt to be more visible and ready to help motorists any way they can.

Lackey attended a workshop that focused on disaster planning. He believes we all need to gain as much knowledge as possible. One of the best ways to deal with a mass disaster is to have an educated base.

– Janelle Kircher, CEO of the Mitchell County Health Systems (MCHHS), was present to discuss her plans to vacate the Solomon Valley Hospice's current offices at 311 West Main and absorb the operation within the walls of the hospital building.

Kircher requested that the 10-year lease between the Solomon Valley Hospice and the City of Beloit be terminated. A discussion of what to do with the building was held. It appeared that none of the city staff was stoutly against breaking the lease, but asked that they consider what to do and how to do it at the next council meeting.

– The council approved the continuation of one

## Nelson

continued from 1

The Cold Case Playing Cards will replace current decks of standard playing cards available in prisons and county jails. Gary Nelson was dealt with a 3 of spades card that will be seen by others.

According to Lt. Jeff Gilmore with the Wichita Police Department, "When a case goes cold and they have exhausted all leads, it is tough and frustrating, but I know someone is out there that knows something and knows exactly who did it."

Gilmore and other law enforcement partners served on the steering committee for this project, along with KWCH Eyewitness News Anchor, Natalie Davis – representatives from victim services, facility-based programs, and private industry; and families whose lives have been impacted by homicide. In April, the Gary Nelson case, along with the new card program, was aired on the news through Davis, who serves on the Kansas Department of Correction (KDOC) committee to help with the media aspect. Through a family interview with some of the Nelson family, she provided their thoughts about their family's loss. "I have spoken with several families, just like the Nelson's, whose loved ones are on these cards," said Davis. "They are very optimistic and grateful their loved ones have not been forgotten and are hopeful as well, that this program can help detectives solve their case." A submission process began in December of 2021, as local law enforcement from across the state of Kansas provided 81 cases to be highlighted. A selection committee with representatives from the KDOC, KBI and the Kansas Attorney General Office and local law enforcements chose 59 cases to highlight on the first deck of cards, with the oldest case from 1976 and the most recent case from 2020. Gary's sister, Cindy Pilcher of Beloit, expresses today how much she misses her brother, who was like a father figure to her. She could not be in the television interview at the time of airing.

In Loving Memory of **Gary Nelson** 

### Mitchell County Murder Remains Unsolved

12-18-2009

Gary Nelson was shot at his rural Beloit home early Dec. 18, 2009, and died later that day at a Wichita hospital.

December is a sad month for our family and this year marks a grim milestone of 15 years since Gary was murdered. His murderer is still on the loose and has celebrated another birthday, but robbed Gary of his.

As we languish anoth-

personal day of leave at the employee's discretion for all city employees. This is the city's Christmas gift to the employees.

The business meeting was adjourned, and the Work Session was called to order.

– As reported earlier, Roberson must give FAA an answer of if the city will commit to building a hangar and if so, what hangar style they will choose. She provided the council with three options:

• Option One is an 80' x 80' hangar with one door. The new hangar will be built on the area that was previously a grass runway.

This option has a price tag of \$1,410,000 and is FAA eligible. Of this total cost, FAA would pay \$1,269,000 and the city would pay \$141,000.

• Option Two has a price tag of \$1,860,000. The FAA would contribute \$1,264,000 leaving the city of Beloit contributing \$591,000.

• Option Three was a double hangar at a cost of \$265,000,000.

After significant discussion measuring the pros and cons of the three options, the council voted to accept Option #1.

- The remainder of the meeting was an open discussion regarding electricity – how much does Beloit need now? In 10 years? Where will we get it from? How much will it cost? Can we afford it? Should we make our own? We have one solar farm, will we build a second one? Should we provide batteries so we can store some of the solar energy for cloudy days?

"This discussion is being driven by major concerns in the electric with projected issues of being able to produce enough electric to meet overall demand, and with increased generation can the infrastructure in place handle the additional load and deliver the electricity – this could be a major impact to Beloit – is now the time to act, and how do we want to respond if we choose to act?" Roberson said.

All councilors were in attendance. Also present were Halley Roberson, City Manager; Katie Schroder, City Attorney; and Amanda Lomax, City Clerk; Manny Milburs, Power Plant operator; and Chad Lackey, Beloit Chief of Police.

> Early Learning Center in Beloit. She also worked as a para at the Beloit Elementary School.

"The thoughtful and caring staff and working with kids gave me strength I needed for healing. I tried to keep busy and to put the event in the back of my mind to be able to move forward,' said Cindy. "My mom is the strongest woman I have ever met. After my dad died, she raised six children on her own. She is very strong in her faith and I feel God gave her to us, knowing what was coming our way in life. We needed her and she has always been there for us. Her faith has made us

Post Rock Extension Answers By Jamie Rathbun Family and Community Wellness Extension Agent Post Rock Extension District #1 K-State Research and Extension



BY JAMIE RATHBUN, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY WELLNESS AGENT K-State Research and Extension-Post Rock District

#### **Protect Your Money and Stay Safe**

With the holiday season approaching, gift cards are popular and convenient... and not just for gifts. Criminals have latched onto gift cards as a convenient form of payment in their scams. In a 2022 AARP survey, 1 in 3 adults said they or someone they know had been asked at some point to purchase a gift card to pay a bill, fee or some other debt or obligation or to claim a prize. About one in four adults who were contacted reported they bought the cards, or approximately 13 million U.S. adults ages 18 and older.

Understanding how this scam works and staying alert can help you avoid becoming a victim.

How the gift card scam works. Gift card scams start with a call, text, email, or social media message.

Typically, the message appears to come from someone you know (a boss or family member – scammers can find out a lot about us by searching our social networks). The message reads something like this, Hi, Good to hear from you. I need to get three iTunes gift cards for my niece. It's her birthday but I can't do this now because I'm currently traveling. Can you get them for me from any store around you? Send me the numbers on the back of the cards so I can send them to my niece. I'll pay back next week when I get back home.

Scammers will try every trick to get you to buy gift cards and hand over the card number and PIN codes. :

Recognize the red flags. Watch for these warning signs:

• Request for payment via gift cards: Legitimate organizations will never ask you to pay with gift cards.

• Urgency and pressure: Scammers often create a sense of urgency, pushing you to buy and send gift card information immediately.

• Pretending to be someone you know or trust: Scammers might impersonate a family member, friend, coworker, financial institution and more. When in doubt, call the person or business directly.

Types of gift card scams

• Scammers say they're from the government: They say they're from the IRS, the Social Security Administration, etc. Government agencies won't contact you to demand immediate payment. They never demand payment by gift card.

• Scammers claim to be from tech support: They say they're from Microsoft or Apple and there's something wrong with your computer. They ask for remote access, and say to pay them to get it fixed. Don't give them access to your computer.

• Scammers claim to be a friend or family member with an emergency: If the scammer uses voice cloning, they may even sound just like your loved one. They ask you to send money right away, but not tell anyone. If you're worried, contact the friend or relative to check that everything is all right.

• Scammers claim you've won a prize: But first, they tell you to pay fees or other charges with a gift card. No honest business or agency will ever make you buy a gift card to pay them for a prize. And did you even enter to win that prize?

• Scammers claim they're from your utility company: They threaten to cut off your service if you don't pay immediately. But utility companies don't work that way.

• Scammers ask for money after they chat you up on a dating website: Romance scammers will make up any story to trick you into buying a gift card to send them money. Slow down. Never send money or gifts to anyone you haven't met in person, even if they send you money first.

er year with no justice, our family goal is to keep Gary's unsolved murder case alive with hope justice will soon be delivered and put a face to the shooter who took Gary from us.

Gary meant the world to us and his untimely death is a huge loss to his family, friends, and our community. The lack of closure is especially hard on his 103 year old mother, whose broken heart prays resolve to finally put Gary to rest.

Someone knows something about this case and even the smallest detail could help bring reso-

"My dad died when I was one year old, so Gary was like a father to me and took care of me," said Cindy. "So I feel like I not only lost a brother but a dad as well."

According to a press release from the Mitchell County Sheriff's Office, they were dispatched at approximately 2 a.m. to Gary's home on that Dec. 18 day. The sheriff's office, KBI, Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP) and the Beloit Police Department (BPD) were all involved in the investigation.

Fifteen years later, since the senseless act of violence, Cindy says the not knowing is the hardest part.

"You get up every morning and it is there, and at night before you go to bed, it is there," said Cindy. "Every single night, you pray for there to be justice for Gary. With that justice will come closure. It has been 15 years, and it still seems just like yesterday."

Jean Nelson, Gary's



Gary Nelson

lution to Gary's family, friends, and community. We urge anyone with information to step for-

ward by contacting the Mitchell County Sheriff at 785-738-3523, or www. mccrimestoppers.org, or Kansas Cold Case Playing Cards 1-800-KS-Crime (1-800-572-7463) or our family at 785-738-6594.

Thank you, The Family of Jean Nelson

mom, is now 103 years old and still remembers the night clearly when her son died.

"I was holding my mom's hand," said Cindy. "It was if we were living in a fog. But when that fog lifts, you start remembering things. There were things that happened in that Beloit emergency room that I needed to remember. A couple of individuals entered and I seriously felt like I was being told to pay attention to them and that the answer was provided, right there."

Cindy's life will never be the same until her brother's murder is solved.

"My life has gone to a 360. My life is not normal anymore. His death is in my head all day and all night long. It never goes away. I would say, I am just going through the motions each day," she cried.

After her brother's death, Cindy threw herself into her job, at that time, to stay busy, directing the school-age program at the strong and taught us to follow our hearts and to know when to be strong."

"I was with Gary's family four hours the day we shot the story," said Davis. "You can't rush someone as they share their grief. Somehow I managed to condense the story into five minutes for television, but there's so much more. Even I don't know how it ends. I want to know what happened."

When asking her mom what she would say to that person that stole (murdered) her son's life, she replied, "I would look at them and say, 'You took away my son and now you need to pay for what you have done."

Gary was a lifelong resident of Beloit and was a go-getter and had to fill big boots when his dad passed away, being the oldest. He helped take care of his siblings, started a business of his own and was a hard worker. He also had a big heart and always helped those in need.

"It is his strength that has also helped me to carry on," said Cindy.

"Grief is so hard to begin with," Davis said. "Now add a violent death, not knowing who did it, and no justice. It's impossible to articulate what this family has been through. I hope they get the answers they deserve. Fifteen years is too long."

So, for those out there keeping their silence – knowing what happened to Gary Nelson – "I guess they are also playing their cards in a gamble against time – that will eventually reveal when the deck is stacked against them." • Scammers send a check for way more than you expected: They tell you to deposit the check and give them the difference on a gift card. Don't do it. That check will be fake, and you'll be out all that money.

How to protect yourself

• Be skeptical: Always question requests for payment via gift card, even from someone claiming to represent a legitimate organization.

• Verify contact details: If someone you know asks for a gift card, confirm their identity by contacting them through a known number or email.

• Report scams immediately: If you receive a suspicious request, report it to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at ReportFraud.ftc.gov or contact the gift card company directly to see if funds can be recovered.

What to do If you're targeted. If you think you've fallen for a gift card scam, act fast:

1. Contact the gift card company: Report the fraud, and see if any funds are still on the card. The company may be able to help.

2. Report to the FTC: Even if you're unable to recover the funds, reporting the scam can help authorities track and prevent future scams.

Stay alert and protect yourself from falling for this costly trick.

The Post Rock District of K-State Research and Extension serves Jewell, Lincoln, Mitchell, Osborne, and Smith Counties. Contact Jamie Rathbun at jrathbun@ ksu.edu or by calling 785-524-4432. Stay connected with "Post Rock Extension" on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube. Our website is www.postrock. ksu.edu



# SVCF now accepting grant and scholarship applications

BELOIT – The Solomon Valley Community Foundation (SVCF) is now accepting grant applications for its spring grant cycle. Online applications are now available and are due by Feb. 1, 2025.

Grants are limited to communities in Mitchell County and will be awarded through a competitive application process. Nonprofit organizations, government and public entities, educational institutions and churches are encouraged to apply.

Complete funding criteria and grant applications are available at www.solomonvalleycf.org/garants

In addition, the Foundation is now accepting scholarship applications for the 2025-2026 school year. Three scholarships are available to students in the Mitchell County area.

**Fine Arts Future Development Higher Education Scholarship**, for graduating high school seniors in the Solomon Valley area, including Mitchell, Cloud and Jewell Counties, who are pursuing a major in instrumental music or art.

Fine Arts Future Development Summer Camp Scholarship, for junior and senior high students in the Solomon Valley area, including Mitchell, Cloud and Jewell Counties, who are interested in pursuing a summer music or art camp.

**George Hoy Scholarship**, for seniors graduating from Beloit High School and St. John the Baptist High School in Beloit.

**Tom Lynch Educational Scholarship**, for graduates or graduating high school seniors from the following KS counties: Mitchell, Cloud, Jewell, Republic, Clay, Lincoln, Washington, Ottawa. Applicants must plan to enroll full time at a college, university, community college, or vocational/technical school in Kansas or Nebraska in the year the scholarship is to be applied.

All scholarship applications must be submitted through the foundation's online scholarship portal by February 15, 2025. Scholarships will be awarded by mid-April. The application portal and scholarship guidelines can be found at www.solomonvalleycf.org/scholarships

For more information on either grants or scholarships, please contact SVCF Director Julia Rabe at julia@ solomonvalleycf.org

# CVA achieves \$1.67 billion in total 2024 fiscal year sales

#### Cooperative returns \$24 million in cash to its members

YORK, NEB. – Central Valley Ag (CVA) cooperative hosted its Annual Meeting at the Holthus Convention Center in York, Neb. CVA achieved \$45.0 million in net savings, including \$27.7 million in local operating savings, from \$1.67 billion in total sales for the 2024 fiscal year, ending on August 31, 2024. The cooperative also returned over \$24.0 million in cash to its members through equity redemptions and patronage dividends.

"I'm proud that CVA continues to deliver on its promise to members. We've provided excellent products, services and technology, and CVA's strong performance means another historic return of cash to you through equity redemptions and patronage dividends," said Carl Dickinson, president and CEO of CVA.

In addition to its financial success, CVA continued its focus on enhancing services to its patrons. The cooperative invested \$92.8 million in capital expenditures during fiscal year 2024, funding significant improvements and expansion projects to better serve member-owners.

"To effectively provide our member-owners, we need to ensure we have top-tier facilities, equipment and people. Reinvesting capital is an important part of running a prosperous business and delivering value to our members," said Dickinson. ers elected the following producers to serve on the board:

Region 1: Alex Brookhouser (Brunswick, NE) and Ben Meis (Elgin, NE)
Region 2: Duane Schumacher

(Bloomfield, NE)

• Region 4: Jay Uehling (Oakland, NE)

Region 6: Emily Luebbe (Utica, NE)
Region 7: Michael Welch (Haddam, KS)

• Region 8: Derek Appley (Akron, IA) The Board also elected the following officers:

• Chairman: Luke Carlson (York, NE, Region 5)

• Vice Chairman: Mark Philips (Akron, IA, Region 8)

• Secretary: Jacob Porter (Mankato, KS, Region 9)

"The CVA Board of Directors is made up of local agricultural producers who bring expertise in agriculture, economic development, and community leadership," said chairman Luke Carlson. "Serving on the board is about representing your neighbors. We make sure their needs are met, and continually work to improve how CVA serves its members.' CVA remains committed to delivering value to its member-owners while reinvesting in assets and initiatives that ensure long-term success. The cooperative's strong financial performance and continued focus on innovation demonstrate the strength of the cooperative model and its ability to support producers in an evolving agricultural landscape.

# DAR members reviewed recent chapter activities

Veterans honored and assisted during November

FORMOSO – Regent Haley Popelka, Belleville, welcomed 8 members, plus incoming member Olivia Strnad, at the DAR Chapter's November meeting Nov. 18 at the Formoso Fire Hall in Formoso, Kansas.

Popelka led the members in the Flag Salute and The American's Creed, and devotions were given by Chaplain Sierra Koster, Formoso.

Retha Blecha, Munden, presented the Treasurer's Report. Brenda Dooley, Jewell, presented the Registrar's Report. Sherry Koster, Jewell, reviewed the President General's Message.

### Committee Reports included:

American History. Conservation and Women's Issues: Kerma Crouse displayed a painting (dated 2-10-1926), of Jewell County pioneer Tabitha Morrison Kleveland, painted by Mrs. Kleveland's daughter Serena. Kleveland is shown in the family's dugout, on the family's homestead in Harrison Township, Jewell County, Kansas. Handmade furniture and Kleveland's spinning wheel are also in the painting. The original 1926 frame is incorporated into the new frame.

Constitution Sidelight, Ruth Fleming-Chapter Chair, quizzed members on their knowledge of the Constitution. National Defense information included Bill of Rights Day, Dec. 17.

American Indian Minute, Becky Craig noted the Pawnee used a hunting trail that ran thru Jewell County.

Local activities honoring Veterans included: Melinda Rose, Manhattan; Brenda Dooley and Sherry Koster, Jewell, participated in the Beloit, Kansas, Veterans Day Parade. Chapter members Retha Blecha and Sherry Koster, were joined by KSDAR State Historian Sherrie Smith from the Courtney Spalding Chapter and local Santa Fe



Sierra Bonjour, Formoso; Olivia Strnad, Munden; Haley Popelka, Belleville

Trail CAR members at the Belleville, Kansas, parade. Six veterans were presented Quilts of Valor during the morning activities in Belleville. The members of the Desire Tobey Sears Chapter would like to thank the following **Republic County residents** for their assistance in the 2024 Quilt of Valor Project: Karla Bohling and Gretchen Barclay of Scandia: Joyce Hansen and Melba Hansen of Belleville, and Peggy Stephens and Becky Craig of Munden. Chapter members assisted the Theta Xi Fraternity, Manhattan, Kansas, with a sock drive for the Topeka Veterans Administration facilities. Donations sent to the Fraternity, then delivered to the Topeka VA by members of Theta Xi, totaled 170 pairs of socks and five stocking hats.

Chaplain Sierra Koster and Regent Haley Popelka welcomed new member Olivia Strnad, Munden.

Crouse presented the evening's program, The Homestead Act of 1862. The timeline for the Homestead Act was January 1,1863, beginning near Beatrice, Nebraska and ending in 1979 in Alaska. This law allowed citizens to claim 160 acres of public land, in exchange for living on it, improving it and paying a small fee. The fee of \$1.25/acre followed six months of proven residency. The other four requirements of the Homestead Act were: Continuous residence on the land for five years, building a home on it, farming the land and making improvements

The next chapter meeting will be Monday, Jan. 20 at the Belleville Library.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is a women's service organization whose members can trace their lineage to an individual who contributed to securing American independence during the Revolutionary War. Today's DAR is dynamic and diverse, with over 185,000 members in 3,000 chapters in the United States and abroad. DAR members annually provide millions of hours of volunteer service to their local communities across the country and world. DAR chapters participate in projects to promote historic preservation, education, and patriotism. Over one million members have joined the organization since its founding in 1890.

As part of the Annual Meeting, CVA announced the results of its Board of Directors election, conducted through a mail-in ballot process. Voting stockhold-

### Forgivable loans available for new construction homes in Northwest Kansas

NORTON – The Innovation Center is excited to announce the launch of the Kansas Housing Cooperative Program, a new initiative designed to address the critical housing needs in Northwest Kansas. This program offers a unique opportunity to receive forgivable loans to build new homes in communities with 10,000 or fewer residents.

Housing has long been a pressing issue in Northwest Kansas, where the lack of new homes limits the region's potential to attract new families, expand the tax base, and foster vibrant communities. The Kansas Housing Cooperative Program aims to change that by encouraging new home construction.

"There are wins from almost every angle you look at it," said Randy Speaker, Regional Housing Specialist for the Innovation Center. "We're improving our housing stock, we're helping build wealth through home ownership, and we're taking an asset that wasn't producing much property tax – like an empty lot – and giving it more value."

Speaker noted there is no income requirement for this program, giving it much more flexibility. Basic eligibility requirements are:

• The property is in a Northwest Kansas community of 10,000 or fewer residents

• The home is a new build and is homeowner occupied

• The home is between 1,200 and 1,900 square feet

• The duplex is between 1,000 and

1,600 square feet per unit

The total loan amount including the local match will not exceed 17 percent of the total development cost and be capped at \$55,000 per single-family home and \$50,000 per unit for rental housing. This covers all communities in the Innovation Center's 26-county service area to homeowners who choose to build a new house in a community of 10,000 or fewer. This program's funding was made possible through a partnership between the Dane G. Hansen Foundation, the State of Kansas, and the city or county where the new home will be located.

Prime applicants for the program are residents who can make a minimum down payment of a 2.5 percent plus pre-paids and closing costs and would not spend more than 30 percent of their income on the mortgage payment. The program has no income limits.

Current or potential residents who would like more information on the program can contact Randy Speaker by email at randy@nwkeici.org or by phone at 785-409-0555.

Visit www.nwkeici.org/programs/ housing to view a digital brochure.

The Innovation Center exists to help turn Northwest Kansas' economic dreams into a reality. They are committed to transforming the economic aspirations of people and communities across our 26-county region into real, tangible successes. They do this through hard work, collaboration, and practical solutions.

### Age-related changes for drivers can impact safety for all travelers

Family members, caregivers and older adults are encouraged to be proactive and discuss ways to continue driving safely as part of Older Driver Safety Awareness Week, which is Dec. 2-6.

In 2023, 87 Kansas drivers aged 65 and older were involved in a fatal crash, while 3,927 in that age group were involved in an injury or serious injury crash, according to KDOT stats.

Older drivers face unique safety concerns including vision, reflexes and physical fitness. Declining health can affect an older driver's capacity to quickly react and increase crash recovery time. It's important to understand the impact age-related changes may have on the potential to drive safely.

"You should begin talking about safe driving with your loved ones and those you care for before difficulties are noticed," said KDOT Assistant Bureau Chief of Transportation Safety Chris Bortz. "Driving performance, not age, should determine one's ability to drive safely. By accurately assessing age-related changes, you can talk to older drivers about adjusting habits to remain safe on the road."

Planning trips during daylight hours and using less congested routes can help older drivers. It's also important to know how medical conditions and medications affect the ability to drive. Researching adapted vehicles and driver assisted technologies could be beneficial.

For more information about older drivers, visit https://www.nhtsa.gov/ road-safety/older-drivers

# With online tool, Depart. of Labor to distribute wages owed to workers

WICHITA – With the year coming to an end, the U.S. Department of Labor is eager to return \$782,167 in wages recovered by its Wage and Hour Division to 1,163 Kansas workers and encourages people to use the Workers Owed Wages online tool to find wages they may be owed.

Anyone who believes they may be owed back wages or knows someone who may be owed wages are encouraged to use the Workers Owed Wages online tool.

The laws enforced by the Wage and Hour Division provide the foundation for U.S. workers' rights, including the rights to be paid legally required wages and other important protections. Among the division's top priorities is putting wages recovered by its investigations swiftly into the hands of people who earned them. The "WOW" online tool provides workers a quick and easy way to verify if they are eligible to claim wages an employer or former employer may owe them. The tool is available in English and Spanish.

The Chicago Regional Office is responsible for back wage distribution in Kansas.

Anyone who believes they may be owed wages is encouraged to use the WOW search tool by inputting their current or former employer's name to learn if the division is holding wages on their behalf.

### LETTER TO EDITOR **The Midwest-Plains NIETC** violates the Federal Power Act

#### **Dear Editor**,

Midwest-Plains was one of 10 energy transmission corridors (also referred to as NIETCs) designated by the Department of Energy on May 8, 2024. Subsequently, the Farm Bureaus of Kansas, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and South Dakota sent a joint letter to DOE's Grid Deployment Office, which issues NIETC designations. Their conclusion was that an applicant-driven, route-specific method of designating National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors violates Section 216(a) of the Federal Power Act (FPA). The letter stated that the FPA allows the DOE to receive input regarding which geographic regions should receive NIETC designations "but not specific projects" needed to alleviate grid congestion. The letter also addresses the existing Grain Belt Express Route.

The FPA allows the DOE to identify regions that might experience grid congestion, but it doesn't allow the department to propose solutions. As Section 216(a) specifies, the DOE must allow state and regional planning to identify solutions to congestion. Often, longrange transmission lines are not needed. A national, applicant-driven process for designating corridors overrides regional planning and inappropriately favors private companies, such as Invenergy.

A perfect example of this is the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, or MISO, which already has a long-range transmission portfolio (LRTP) that alleviates grid congestion and precludes the need for Invenergy projects. This is why GBE has been excluded from MISO's grid. Grain Belt Express was conceived outside of MISO's normal planning process. In fact, MISO has already planned for connections to the PJM and SSP grids, which Invenergy seeks to unnecessarily duplicate.

Furthermore, the DOE designated a five-mile width for Midwest-Plains, expanding the 150-foot right-ofway for GBE. Drawing a corridor around Invenergy's existing project shows a clear and unethical preference for a private developer. The FPA directly prohibits the DOE from soliciting or showing preference for projects under private development by designating additional corridors around them.

While Invenergy has petitioned the DOE to narrow Midwest-Plains to one-half mile, the Farm Bureaus point out that the new corridor allows the company to build numerous parallel lines. While Invenergy denies any intention to do so, one must question the company's eagerness to petition for rights to the line, including requests for fast-track siting and permitting, long before the corridor was announced on May 8, 2024. Section 216(a) of the FPA has been violated by the DOE seizing siting authority from state agencies.

Designation of a NIETC by the DOE enables the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to use its backstop authority, meaning FERC can override any regional protections that prevent eminent domain abuse. In violating Section 216(a), the DOE has engaged in federal overreach that eliminates a state's ability to evaluate and solve its energy needs. With state controls in place, existing laws granting citizens additional protection against the unfair invoking of eminent domain would remain intact. With the DOE using FERC backstop authority, the federal government makes virtually all decisions regarding power transmission and the use of eminent domain, and it's a violation of the law that the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) and Legislators have ignored.

What is especially disingenuous is that most studies used by the DOE to identify grid congestion were conducted by private companies and contracted by companies like Invenergy that stand to reap hefty corporate profits from the DOE's preference for merchant transmission lines. Numerous studies have demonstrated that utility rates are higher for end-line merchant customers, not cheaper. Midwest-Plains should have no right to exist, especially as it overlays existing private development; but who is to provide federal oversight when the federal government is breaking its own laws? Sincerely, Tammy Hammond, Landowner & Rosewood Services CEO Pawnee Rock, KS

Print

123 W 6th St

Concordia, KS

785-243-1520

#### Post Rock Extension Answers

By Cassie Thiessen Post Rock Extension District Horticulture Extension Agent K-State Research and Extension

> BY CASSIE THIESSEN, HORTICULTURE AGENT Post Rock Extension District

### Have a Merry Christmas

with a fresh cut tree The Holiday Season is not complete without a Christmas tree. Nothing beats the look, feel, and smell of bringing a real Christmas tree into your home. Decorating the tree is a family tradition at my house and it never fails to get everyone in the holiday spirit. A fun way to bring some of the outdoors inside over the holidays is to buy a fresh cut Christmas tree. Toss aside the common misconception of fresh trees being messy and follow these tricks for choosing and caring for a live Christmas tree.

Before you head out to the tree farm, first decide where you will be placing the tree in your home. It is helpful to measure the height and width of the area you will place the tree prior to shopping. Don't forget to take a tape measure with you so when you find that perfect tree, you can make sure it's the right fit.

If you would like to visit a tree farm, visit the Kansas Christmas Tree Growers Association website to find a list of Christmas tree growers around the state. Christmas tree farm operators enjoy setting the stage for a cheerful and fun experience. Many also provide hot chocolate, cider, bonfires and candy canes. You will likely be able to purchase a wreath or garland for your front door as well.

There are two choices when picking out a tree: farms will let you cut your own tree or they will have a selection of pre-cut trees for you to choose from. If you decide to cut your own tree, make sure the trunk or base of the tree is straight and 6-8 inches long so it will fit easily in the stand. You will likely need to bring your own straps or cables to tie the tree to your vehicle.

Pre-cut Christmas trees are available at various stores and farms and are great, convenient choices as well. Remember that trees sold on retail lots may have come from out of state and may have been exposed to drying winds in transit. They may have been cut weeks earlier. Buy trees early before the best trees have been sold and select from locations where trees are stored in the shade. You can find a fresh tree by looking for a healthy green appearance with few browning needles. Needles should be flexible and not fall off if you run a branch through your hand. Raise the tree a few inches off the ground and drop it on the trunk. Very few green needles should drop off the tree. It is normal for a few inner brown needles to drop.

After you've gotten your tree home, you will want to prepare the spot in your house with a tree stand and plenty of space to move the tree indoors. Before you bring it indoors, cut the bottom inch of the trunk off so that the tree can easily take up water. When the tree is originally cut at the farm, it begins to send sap down to close off the cells so that the canopy of the tree can be protected from water loss. It needs to be cut again to open up the cells that transfer water into the tree so that it won't dry up during the few weeks it is in your home. Make sure to replenish the water in the tree stand regularly since the tree can transpire up to a gallon of water per day. This reduces the risk of fire hazards by keeping the tree hydrated as well as allowing the tree to act as an indoor air purifier during the holidays.

Whether you choose a locally grown tree, purchase a live pre-cut tree, or enjoy your artificial tree in your home this year, I hope it brightens your home and holiday season!

### HAPPENINGS

#### SVH will wrap your presents

**BELOIT –** Solomon Valley Hospice Holiday Gift Wrapping available from Dec. 2 to Dec. 23. Drop off your presents and they will do the rest. Small \$2; Medium \$4; Large \$8; XL or odd shape \$12.

#### **Community Christmas Concert**

**BELOIT –** The Beloit Community Orchestra and the Beloit Ministerial Alliance will present a Community Christmas Concert in the performance area of the Beloit Municipal Building at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 15, at the Beloit Municipal Building, 119 N. Hersey in Beloit. A freewill offering will be taken to cover expenses of the program with the remainder divided between the Orchestra and the Ministerial Association and everyone is encouraged to attend.

#### **Christmas Concert**

BELOIT - The Beloit High School Junior High Concert Band, High School Concert Band, Jazz Band and Music Theory Ensemble will perform in concert on Monday, Dec. 16, 2024, in the Beloit High School Commons at 7 p.m. The students will perform a combination of jazz classics and Contemporary and Traditional Christmas Music. Both concert bands will combine for the finale of the concert. The concert is free and open to the public.

#### **Christmas Eve Program**

**SCOTTSVILLE –** The Scottsville Community Church Christmas Eve program will take place at 6 p.m.

#### **VFW Christmas Dinner**

BELOIT - The VFW Post 6242 will host a Christmas Dinner from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Christmas Day, Dec. 25, at the Post home, 102 E. South Street, in Beloit. Donation drop-off days will be from 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 12 and again on Wednesday, Dec. 18. Donations will go towards the purchase of food and supports local scholarships. The meal will consist of Turkey, Ham, Dinner Rolls, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Green Beans, Pie, Cake, Iced Tea, and Coffee. Organizations or individuals wanting to donate food can contact Gordon McMillan at 785-738-2676.

#### MCHHS to host NYE Masquerade Ball

BELOIT - Mitchell County Health Systems to host New Year's Eve Masquerade Ball to ring in the new year with elegance and purpose. Doors open at 7 p.m. on Dec. 31, at the Mitchell County Fair Building. Tickets can be purchased online at MCHHS, with limited tickets by advance purchase. The night will include semi-formal attire and mask; Colorado Keys Dueling Pianos, Hors d'oeuvres and cash bar, and premier VIP tables available.

#### BHS Student Council charity event begins

BELOIT – Beloit High School Student Council has kicked off their 2024-2025 charity event. They are celebrating their 16th annual charity event this year and are excited to announce that they will be hosting the "Giving Away to Kids Cafe" on Tuesday, Feb. 18 at a home basketball game against Sacred Heart. All proceeds earned this year will be donated to the local Summer Kids Cafe program.

If you would like to support this cause, you can purchase T-shirts to wear at the home basketball game on Feb. 18. Online orders for T-shirts can be placed at this link: https://messengerclothing.chipply. com/25319/ through midnight on Jan. 26, 2025. If you would prefer to donate and not purchase a T-shirt, that is welcomed as well. Checks can be made payable to BJSHS, as one large check will be written to Summer Kids Cafe with total proceeds.

Post Rock Extension District of K-State Research and Extension serves Jewell, Lincoln, Mitchell, Osborne, and Smith counties. Cassie may be contacted at cthiessen@ksu.edu or by calling Beloit (785-738-3597).

Thank You for Reading The Beloit Call! • Monday - Fríday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. • 111 E. South Street • 785-738-3537 • beloitcall@nckcn.com

WE APPRECIATE YOU!!!

The Beloit Senior Center offers meals (served at 11:30 a.m., Monday-Friday) for the cost of \$3.50 to \$4 through the North Central-Flint Hills Area Agency on Aging Beloit 785-738-5802 / Glen Elder 785-545-3444

## SR CENTER MENUS

**Beloit/Glen Elder Senior Center** 

Week of Dec. 16 to Dec. 20

Monday - Spaghetti/ Meat Sauce, Green Beens, Mixed Fruit, Garlic Bread, Milk

Tuesday- Chicken Parmesan, Spaghetti Noodles, Italian Blend, Pears, Bread, Milk

Wednesday- CHRIST-MAS MEAL, Baked Ham, Scalloped Potato, Glazed Carrots, Cranberry Sauce, Apple Crisp, Milk

Thursday-Sausage Gravy/Bisquit, Hashbrown Potato, Stewed Tomatoes, Mandarin Oranges, Milk

Friday-Beef & Noodles, Green Beans, Dinner Roll, Peach Cobbler, Milk

None of this is possible without the help and contribution of the school and community, and BHS StuCo truly appreciates the support you have shown them over the years.

#### **Mitchell County Food Pantry**

BELOIT - The Mitchell County Food Pantry are striving for healthier options for their clients, so low fat, low/ no salt, low sugar content options, etc. are good selections. No expired food items or dented/damaged items can be accepted. Needed items for the month of December include: detergent, pancake syrup, saltine crackers, fruit juice and jelly.

#### **Trojan Cards**

BELOIT - Trojan Cards are now available to purchase at the Beloit Call for \$10 each. Great stocking stuffers for the holiday season.

#### **Grant Applications**

BELOIT - The Solomon Valley Community Foundation (SVCF) is now accepting grant applications for their spring grant cycle. Online applications are now available and are due by Feb. 1, 2025. Complete funding criteria and grant applications are available at www.solomonvalleycf.org/garants In addition, the Foundation is now accepting scholarship applications for the 2025-2026 school year. Three scholarships are available to students in the Mitchell County area. For more information on either grants or scholarships, please contact SVCF Director Julia Rabe at julia@solomonvalleycf.org

SUPPORT LOCAL! SHOP LOCAL! EAT LOCAL! STAY LOCAL!

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**BELOIT CALL** 

# Merry Holiday celebrations in Beloit



Plenty of cookies were eaten at S&S Drug Christmas celebration.



Santa's little elf was cheerful to sit on his lap on Saturday, Dec. 7, 2024, in Beloit.



Heather Johnson (S&S Drug) was Santa's lttle helper in providing the placement of children on his lap.



Laughs of joy while visiting Santa.



Above and below: It was a packed house at Sweet Mama Lea's bakery shop as children were provided goodies to decorate their own gingerbread man. Some were almost to beautiful to eat, as



Many children provided Santa with items from their wish list.



Hot chocolate was provided to children at Given Grace in Beloit, while they checked out the toys.



All dressed up to greet Santa Claus.



they all did such a good job.





This sweetheart was happy to warm her head with a new hat from Given Grace.

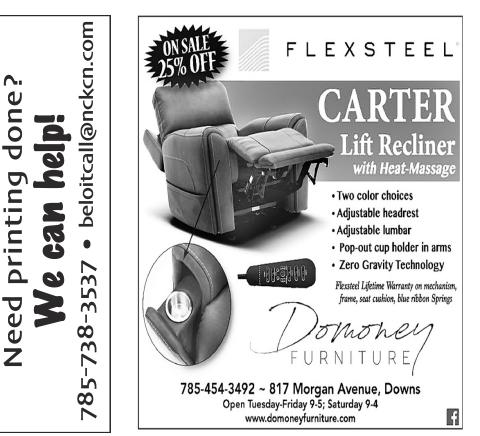
Above: All I want for Christmas is...... Below: Santa receives the questionable look!





# Got a news tip community event or story idea? **See news happening?**

Call 785-738-3537 or send it to beloitcall@nckcn.com



**BELOIT CALL** 



## Beloit boys wrestling team split the wins in host double dual

**BELOIT - The Beloit** Trojans boys wrestling team opened their season at home, as they were host to Plainville for a 54-17 win and to Phillipsburg with a close 40-38 loss during their first double dual and a 1-1 start. They will now be on the road for the Minneapolis tournament on Dec. 14 with a 9:30 a.m. start, and to the Republic Co. Dual tournament on Dec. 17. They will be on the road until the Beloit Invitational at home on Jan. 24-25.

Results in the home double dual includes: #7 Beloit over Plainville 54-17

106: Trace Conn (BEHS) over (PLHS) (For.)

113: Wyatt Mcmillan (BEHS) over (PLHS) (For.)

120: Carson Thomas (BEHS) over Yago Castro (PLHS) (Fall 1:53) 126: Henry Tice (BEHS) over Traxton Smyth (PLHS) (Dec 11-10) 132: Brogan Monty (BEHS) over Colby Nuss (PLHS) (Fall 1:08) 138: Kellen Elam (BEHS) over Ayden Cadoret (PLHS) (Fall 1:11) 144: Braylon Becker (PLHS) over John Lomax (BEHS) (TF 15-0 4:24) 150: Zayne Stahl (PLHS) over Carter Jermark (BEHS) (Fall 5:00) 157: Marshall Green

(BEHS) over Corbin Keas (PLHS) (Dec 5-0) 165: Double Forfeit 175:

Owen Brewster (PLHS) over Kashtyn Ryser (BEHS) (Fall 3:04) 190: Kaden Lomax (BEHS) over (PLHS) (For.)

215: Brodie Boudreaux (BEHS) over Rylan Hamel (PLHS) (Fall 1:14)

285: Kross Kemmerer (BEHS) over Ryddik Bethel (PLHS) (Fall 1:16) #3 Phillipsburg over #7 Beloit 40-38

106: Trace Conn (BEHS) over Open Open (PHHS) (For.) 113: Wyatt Mcmillan

(BEHS) over Open Open (PHHS) (For.) 120: Carson Thom-

as (BEHS) over Bryron French (PHHS) (TF 15-0 4:36)

126: Brady Russom (PHHS) over Henry Tice (BEHS) (MD 13-2)

132: Brogan Monty(PHHS) over Kross Kem(BEHS) over Kaden Sissonmerer (BEHS) (Fall 1:59(PHHS) (Dec 2-0)

138: Hunter Sisson (PHHS) over Kellen Elam (BEHS) (Fall 2:36) 144: Seth Keeten (PHHS) over John Lomax (BEHS) (Fall 1:04) 150: Carter Jermark (BEHS) over Cole Keeten (PHHS) (Inj. [time]) 157: Blake Buresh (PHHS) over Marshall Green (BEHS) (Fall 1:19) 165: Braxtyn Shields (PHHS) over Open Open (BEHS) (For.) 175: Kayden Hudson

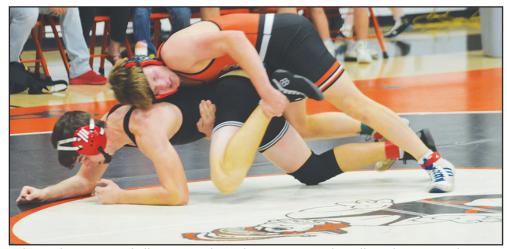
(PHHS) over Kashtyn Ryser (BEHS) (Fall 0:43) 190: Kaden Lomax (BEHS) over Aidrian Has-

sel (PHHS) (Fall 2:47) 215: Brodie Boudreaux

(BEHS) over Open Open (PHHS) (For.) 285: Jaden Boyle (PHHS) over Kross Kem-



Beloit sophomore, Kellen Elam, pins Plainville freshman, Ayden Cadoret, in the 138 division.



Beloit sophomore, Marshall Green, works on the 5-0 win over Plainville sophomore, Corbin Keas, in the 157 weight division. SHARON SAHLFELD PHOTOS





Above: Beloit sophomore, Carson Thomas, works on the pin win over Plainville sophomore, Yago Castro in the 120 division.

Right: Beloit freshman, Kross Kemmerer, pins Plainville junior, Ryddick Bethel, in the 285 division.

## Beloit girls wrestling team compete in double dual

BELOIT - The Beloit girls wrestling team opened their season at home, as they were host to Plainville with a 36-39 loss and to Phillipsburg with a 42-34 loss during their first double dual and an 0-1 start. They will now be on the road for the Minneapolis tournament on Dec. 14 with a 9:30 a.m. start, and to the Republic Co. Dual tournament on Dec. 17. They will be on the road until the Beloit Invitational at home on Jan. 24-25. This is the second year for girls wrestling in Beloit.

Results in the home double dual includes:

#2 Plainville over Beloit 36-29

100: Kaeleigh Klein (PLHS) over (BEHS) (For.)

105: Estefani Contreras-Munoz (BEHS) over (PLHS) (For.)

110: AaLeyah Becker (PLHS) over Daytona Mcmillan (BEHS) (Fall 1:31)

115: Hannah Koenig (BEHS) over (PLHS) (For.)

120: Jerusalen Forrest-Ortiz (BEHS) over Brynlee McDowell (PLHS) (Fall 2:35)

125: Zayda Purvis (BEHS) over Brooke Haehn (PLHS) (Fall 0:57) 130: Amelia Hager (BEHS) over Sterling Dohe (PLHS) (TF 15-0 5:04)

135: Shayla Hageman (PLHS) over Lyli Noah (BEHS) (Fall 2:35)

140: Ella Normandin (PLHS) over Brecken Boudreaux (BEHS) (Fall 3:26) 145: Double Forfeit 155: Zoe Brown (PLHS) over Bentley Pruitt (BEHS) (Fall 1:50)

170: Double Forfeit 190: Caydance Carter (PLHS) over (BEHS) (For.) 235: Double Forfeit

Phillipsburg over Beloit 42-34

100: Caydence Ewing (PHHS) over Open Open (BEHS) (For.) 105: Arianna Ebner

(PHHS) over Estefani Contreras-Munoz (BEHS) (Fall 3:16)

110: Daytona Mcmillan (BEHS) over Jocelyn Leanna (PHHS) (MD 13-4)

115: Hannah Koenig (BEHS) over Aerianna Gruber (PHHS) (Fall 1:54) 120: Jerusalen Forrest-Ortiz (BEHS) over Jazlynn Jerby (PHHS) (Fall 1:17)

125: Zayda Purvis (BEHS) over Open Open (PHHS) (For.)

130: Nahomi Contreras-Munoz (BEHS) over Ana Schemper (PHHS) (Fall 2:47)

135: Kamrie Chestnut (PHHS) over Amelia Hager (BEHS) (Fall 0:47) 140: Hayleigh Watt (PHHS) over Lyli Noah (BEHS) (Fall 2:59)

145: Brecken Boudreaux (BEHS) over Kinsey Archer (PHHS) (Fall 1:45)

155: Johnna Ebner (PHHS) over Bentley Pruitt (BEHS) (Fall 4:02) 170: Isabelle Epley (PHHS) over Open Open



Beloit sophomore, Zayda Purvis, wins with a pin in the 125 division against Plainville wrestler, freshman Brooke Haehn.

(BEHS) (For.) 190: Kaitlyn McCreery (PHHS) over Open Open (BEHS) (For.) 235: Double Forfeit

Right: Beloit freshman, Amelia Hager, over Plainville junior, Sterling Dohe, in the 130 division.

SHARON SAHLFELD PHOTOS



Beloit junior, Brecken Boudreaux, works on trying to escape from Plainsville senior, Ella Normandin in the 145 division.





Beloit freshman, Estefani Contreras-Munoz, competes with Phillipsburg sophomore Arianna Ebner, in the 105 division.

#### PAGE 7A

# SPURTS



# **Beloit Lady Trojans defeat Concordia Panthers** Cassandra Thompson's 27 points fuel comeback win

BY BRIAN DEBEY The Beloit Lady Trojans Cassandra Thompson, defeated the Concordia Lady Trojans, 60-46, Friday night, to open the season.

After falling behind by 13 points early in the second half, Beloit dominated during a 30-5 spurt that gave the team a 12-point lead late in the contest, which was Keith Kresin's debut as the team's head coach.

"It was a good first win for the Lady Trojans," he said.

Following this contest, Beloit prepared to host Clay Center on Tuesday, December 10. The Lady Tigers opened the season on Friday with a 16-point win over Riley County.

A basket by Jaylin Roush and three-pointer by Rylie Jessup gave Concordia an early 5-0 lead. Junior Autumn Lorenz made a basket to cut it to 5-2 in the middle of the first quarter.

Sophomore Samantha Thompson followed with two free throws to get the visitors within a point. Charlize Cash's bucket extended the lead to 7-4.

After a layup by senior Kinsleigh Bethune hit a trey. The hosts led, 10-6.

Four more Concordia baskets completed an 11-0 run that pushed the edge to 18-6. Senior Addison Budke made two free throws to close the quarter. Concordia led, 18-8.

Cassandra Thompson opened the second quarter with a bucket to cut the deficit to 18-10. A putback by junior McKenna Channell got the visitors within six.

Beloit added four of the next six points to reduce the gap to 20-16. Three treys by the hosts in a 9-3 spurt pushed the advantage to 29-19.

Budke closed the half with a basket and free throw. The Lady Panthers led, 29-22, at intermission.

"We hung tough," said Coach Kresin. "We worked ourselves to a good situation going into half.

However, the Lady Panthers got two treys in the opening minute of the second half to push the lead to 35-22. This awakened the Lady Trojans, who

switched to one-on-one defense and allowed only 11 points in the contest's last 11 minutes.

Thompson made two of four free throw attempts to ignite the comeback before Budke's bucket cut the deficit to nine. A Concordia free throw was followed by a basket by Channell.

Budke's three-point play narrowed the gap to 36-31. Following a basket by Cash, Cassandra Thompson made four free throws.

A basket by Budke and another pair of free throws by Cassandra Thompson closed the third quarter. Beloit led, 41-39, headed to the fourth.

Budke and senior Olivia Wright each made a basket as Beloit scored four of five points to open the final frame.

Channell's three and two buckets by Cassandra Thompson pushed the lead to 52-40 in the middle of the fourth.

The hosts scored six of the next eight points before Cassandra Thompson's three-point play. Beloit led, 57-46. She

added another basket before Channell added a free throw to complete the 60-46 win.

Coach Kresin praised Cassandra Thompson, whose 27 points led Beloit while Budke's contributions were another key to the victory.

"She's a gamer," said the coach. "She and Addison complement each other. They're only going to get better."

Kresin said that replacing Peyton Remus, who graduated last May after being the team's starting point guard throughout high school, was the team's biggest concern.

Among the players filling the void in Concordia was Channell, who had little varsity experience and did not start but was nevertheless instrumental to the win.

"She brought a nice spark," said Kresin. In addition to the team's starters, the coach expects that two or three of his other players will step up and contribute at a similar level.

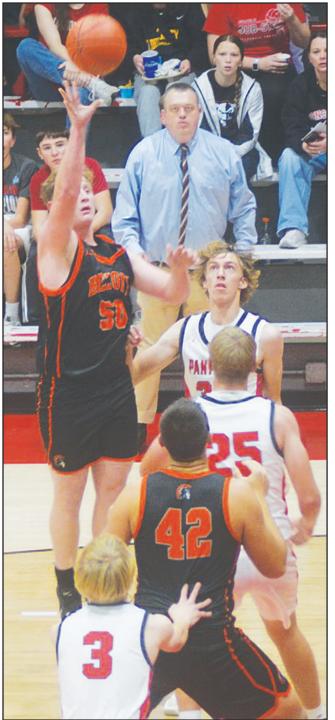
"We got seven, eight girls I think will be con-



Sophomore, Samantha Thompson #24, takes care of the ball for the Beloit ladies during their win over the Lady Panthers, 60-47, in their 2024-25 season opener game on Friday, Dec. 6, 2024, in Concordia. TUCKER ASHBURN PHOTO

tributors," he said. Following this season-opening win, the team eagerly returned to practice Monday as it prepared for its home opener against Clay Center. "We got another challenge there," said Kresin.

# **Trojans boys fall to Concordia Panthers in 20T**



BY BRIAN DEBEY The Beloit Trojans lost to the Concordia Panthers, 67-65, in double overtime, to start the season.

a free throw and bucket by to narrow the gap to 48-Clark.

The Panthers led, 22-21, in the middle of the second. Peyton Retter

47 in the middle of the fourth. After three free throws, the Panthers led, 50-48.

Panther basket was followed by two free throws by Jackson Cheney.

In the final minute, Jackson Cheney's fifth foul

Senior, Ryker Clark #50, goes up with the shot for the Beloit Trojans, as junior, Brody Litton #42, is ready on the play, against the Concordia Panthers. TUCKER ASHBURN PHOTO

The 40-minute thriller ended with a Concordia three-pointer in the waning seconds followed by the Trojans' subsequent shot missing.

'Everybody played hard," said Beloit Head Coach Ryan Eilert. "Each team had opportunities. They got one more shot to go than we did."

Afterwards, Beloit prepared to host Clay Center on Tuesday, December 10. The Tigers opened the season on Friday with a rout of Riley County.

On Friday, senior Eli Johnson made two baskets to give Beloit an early 4-0 lead. The Panthers responded with two buckets to even the score.

Johnson added two more baskets before junior Brody Litton made a free throw to give the visitors a 9-4 edge.

A three by Isaias Irigoyen that cut the lead to two started an 11-2 run that put the hosts ahead, 16-11.

A basket by senior Ryker Clark was followed by another Panther bucket and free throw. The teams alternated free throws before senior Jackson Cheney made a pair.

Concordia led, 19-16, after a quarter.

Litton's three-point play early in the second produced the game's third tie. Consecutive Concordia baskets were followed by

made a trey before two Beloit free throws cut the deficit to 25-23.

Concordia scored five of the next eight points and led, 30-26, at the half. After the teams alternated baskets to start the third quarter, Concordia's backto-back buckets pushed the lead to 36-28.

A free throw by Jackson Cheney was followed by a three by Boone Richard that increased the edge to 10.

The Panthers scored four of the next six points to widened the gap to 43-31. Two quick baskets by Johnson ignited a Beloit run.

A trey by junior Charlie Burke was followed by junior Luke Cheney's layup. He later made three free throws to complete the 12-0 run, which tied the score at 43.

Ayden Krier's three put Concordia ahead, 46-43, headed to the fourth quarter.

The final quarter was a defensive struggle with the Trojans holding the Panthers to four points while scoring only seven.

Concordia's only bucket of the quarter two minutes in was followed the following minute by Johnson's basket. Moments later, Litton's hustle led to a tie up that saved a possession for Beloit.

Johnson's bucket tied it at 50 with half a minute left. Chane Parker missed both free throw attempts before Jackson Cheney's shot missed as time expired, sending it to overtime.

After the teams alternated baskets to open the intial extra period, Richard made the first of three consecutive Concordia buckets.

The Trojans responded with junior Charlie Burke's three to halve the deficit. The hosts led, 58-55.

Krier missed his first free throw before missing the second attempt, which was rebounded by Luke Cheney.

The Panthers missed two more free throw attempts before a Trojan trey cut the gap to a point.

Richard missed a pair of free throw attempts before the Panthers missed two more at the line following a technical foul in the final second.

Jackson missed the first free throw before making the second, tieing the score at 59 to force a second extra session.

'Give Jackson credit for popping the second one to send it to double OT," said Coach Eilert.

Parker opened the second overtime with a bucket before Clark made Johnson added a basket two free throws. Another

sent him to the bench to watch the game's conclusion. His replacement was his brother. Luke.

After a Concordia free throw, Luke Cheney made a basket to give Beloit a 65-64 lead, its first lead since the first quarter.

The Panthers allowed the clock to run down to the final seconds before RIchard made a trey to put the hosts ahead, 67-65. Clark's shot as time expired missed, ending the contest.

After they trailed most of the game, the Trojans were looking to limit turnovers and improve their defense.

"We played from behind all night," said Coach Eilert. "When you turn the ball over a ton and your defense is average, you play from behind a lot."

Playing in Concordia against the rival Panthers is tough, the coach said.

"This is an environment it's hard to win in," Eilert said. "It's loud, it's hot."

Eilert looked for his players to be focused on bouncing back from this setback as they prepared for Clay Center, which has good scorers and good defenders.

"We can't hang our heads because they're really good," he said.



#### **BELOIT CALL**

# SPORTS

### St. John's/Tipton Blujay boys win over Natoma in season opener

TIPTON- St. John's/ Tipton boys won big over Natoma in their opening game of the season, 74-24, in Tipton.

The Blujays scored 19-3 in the first quarter for the early lead. They scored 25-7 in the second quarter for the 44-10 first half lead.

St. John's/Tipton continued to outscore at 18-7 in the third quarter for the 62-17 extended lead. They finished the game scoring 12-7 for the final 74-24 win.

Edward Horinek led the Blujays scoring off two field goals and two free shots for 6 points in the first quarter followed by Gabriel Roderick with 5 points off a trey and a field goal shot. John Mick scored 4 points with two field goals and Ryder Allen and Kaden Rabe both added a field goal for 2 points. Horinek continued to

be hot on his shot adding

Lady Jays open with Natoma win

13 points in the second quarter off five field goals and three trips to the free throw line. Greg Walter scored two points off two field goals. Mick, Allen and Roderick all contributed a field goal shot for 2 points each.

Roderick led the Blujays on the board in the third quarter with five field goals for 10 points. Allen, Walter, Horinek and Mick all contributed 2 points each on field goal shots.

Joel Hicks landed a 3 point shot and. Grant Germann added a field goal and a free shot for 3 points in the fourth quarter. Henry Woods, Carson Thomas and Brooks Dunstan both landed field goals for 2 points each, as the Blujays ended the game 74-24.

Edward Horinek led the Blujays in double digits scoring 21 points, followed by Gabriel Roderick with 17. John Mick scored 8 points; Greg Walter 6; Ryder Allen 6; Grant Germann 5; John Hicks 3; Carson Thomas, Kaden Rabe, Henry Woods and Brooks Dunstan 2 points each.

TIPTON – The St. John's/Tipton Lady Jays opened their season with a big win over Natoma, 43-11, on Friday, Dec. 6, 2024, in Tipton.

The Lady Jays shut out Natoma in the first quarter, 12-0, and outscored 12-6 in the second quarter for the 24-6 first half lead.

St. John's/Tipton ladies outscored 10-1 in the third quarter and 9-4 in the final quarter for the 42-11 win.

Carlie Brummer led the Lady Jays in the first quarter, scoring 5 points off two field goals and a free shot. Christiana Niewald added 4 points off two field goals. Addison Bergmann contributed 2 points off a field goal and Ava Brummer a free throw shot for 1 point.

Lynelle Gengler led the Lady Jays in the second quarter scoring 5 points off two field goals and a free shot. Carlie Brummer added 3 points off a field goal and a free shot for 3 points. Kelsey Ohnsat and Olivia Tighe both contributed 2 points each as St. John's/Tipton led after the first half, 24-6.

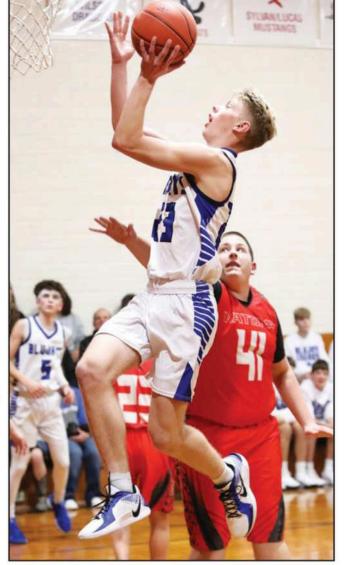
Carlie Brummer continued to lead in the third quarter, scoring 6 points off three field goals and Niewald added a field goal



St. John's/Tipton Lady Jay junior, Lynelle Gengler, fights for possession against the Natoma Lady Tigers defense. Senior Carlie Brummer #4 and freshman Addison Bergmann #10 are ready on the play for the Lady Jays.

Right: St. John's/Tipton Junior, Gabriel Roderick #23, goes up with the shot against Natoma defense, Alexander #41, during the opening season game win over Natoma, 74-24, on Friday, Dec. 6, 2024.

ANDREA WILES COURTESY PHOTO



### Blujay boys fall just short against Ellsworth Bearcats

RUSSELL – The St. John's/Tipton boys opened the pre-season Russell tournament on Monday, Dec. 9, with a close loss to Ellsworth 52-54. They will now face Smith Center on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 5 p.m. in Russell.

Ellsworth took the early first quarter lead scoring 20-17 over the Jays. St. John's/Tipton came back in the second quarter outscoring 15-8 for the first half 32-28 lead.

Ellsworth came back in

vo pointa 54 50

two points, 54-52. Edward Horinek led the Blujays in the opening first quarter, scoring 10 points off two field goals and two three point shots. Tyson Gates added a trey of his own for 3 points. Gabriel Roberick and Greg Walter both contributed 2 points off field goal shots.

Horinek continued to led in the second quarter, adding 5 points off two field goals and a free shot. Tyson added another trey and Roderick landed a field goal and a free shot for three points. Walter and John Mick both contributed 2 points each off field goals, as the Jays led 32-28 after the first half. Roderick scored 4 points off two field goals in the third quarter and Horinek landed a three point shot. Ryder Allen contributed a field goal for 2 points.

Roderick led the fourth quarter with 4 points off a field goal and two bonus points, followed by Horinek with his fourth 3 point shot of the game. Nicholas Niewald and Mick both added 2 points each off field goals, as the game ended with the Blujays falling just short, 52-54.

Edward Horinek led

for two points.

Ohnsat led the fourth quarter scoring off a trey and a field goal for 5 points. Carlie Brummer and Lynelle Gengler both add field goals for 2 points

each as St. John's/Tipton won over Natoma, 43-11.

Carlie Brummer led the boards in double digits scoring 16 points. Lynelle

ANDREA WILES COURTESY PHOTO

Gengler scored 9 points; Kelsey Ohnsat 7; Christiana Niewald 6; Addison Bergmann 2; Olivia Tighe 2; Ava Brummer 1. the third quarter outscoring the Jays 16-9 to take back the lead at 44-41. The Blujays outscored 11-10 in the fourth quarter, but it wasn't enough, as the Bearcats won the game by the boards in double digits with 21 points followed by Gabriel Roderick with 13 points. Tyson Gates scored 6 points; Greg Walter 4; John Mick 4; Ryder Allen 2; Nicholas Niewald 2.

### St. John's/Tipton ladies lose to Ellsworth in Russell opening

RUSSELL – The St. John's/Tipton Lady Jays fell to Ellsworth Lady Bearcats in the opening game of the pre-season Russell tournament on Monday, Dec. 9, 2024. The Lady Jays will now face Smith Center at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 12, in Russell.

Ellsworth outscored the Lady Jays 13-7 in the first quarter for the early lead. And again at 15-8, in the second quarter for the first half 28-15 lead.

The Lady Bearcats continued to outscore in the third quarter, 10-4, before the Lady Jays outscored in the forth quarter 11-8, but Ellsworth won the game, 46- 30.

Christiana Niewald scored 3 points in the first quarter off a field goal and a free shot. Addison Bergmann and Kendra Gengler both added field goal shots for 2 points each.

Lynelle Gengler led the boards in the second quarter from the free throw line with 3 points. Ava Brummer and Niewald both added field goals for 2 points each and Carlie Brummer was sent to the line for an added free shot as Ellsworth led 28-15 after the first half.

Carlie Brummer led in the third quarter with a field goal for 2 points. Lynelle Gengler and Niewald both added free shots for 1 point each.

Kendra Gengler led in the fourth quarter with 4 points off 2 field goals. Carlie Brummer and Olivia Tighe both added a two point shots and Lynelle Gengler two bonus shots for 2 points. Addison Bergmann contributed one free shot for 1 point, as Ellsworth won the game, 46-30.

Kendra Gengler, Lynelle Gengler, and Christiana Niewald all led with 6 points each. Carlie Brummer scored 5 points; Addison Bergmann 3 points; Ava Brummer and Olivia Tighe both 2 points each.

## Got a newstip community event or story idea? See news happening?

Call 785-738-3537 or send it to beloitcall@nckcn.com

#### 12/5-7 Basketball Hills 33 Scores Stockton 34 @ Thunder Home & auto. NORTHERN PLAINS Ridge 37 Bundle & save. LEAGUE NCAA Boys Boys Bennington 51 @ Syl- Beloit 65 @ Concordia 67 Call me for a quote today van-Lucas 37 (20T) Lakeside 67 @ Tescott 45 Hesston 38 @ Southeast of Lincoln (didn't play) Saline 54 🙈 State Farm Natoma 14 @ Otis-Bison Inman 43 @ Minneapolis 37 Lyons 55 @ Ellsworth 32 80 **Kevin L Hewitt** Agent Osborne 22 @ Russell 71 Republic County (didn't 100 W 8th St Pike Valley 55 @ Rock play) Beloit, KS 67420-1601 Sacred Heart 60 @ Clif-Hills 67 Bus: 785-738-2043 Stockton 36 @ Thunder ton-Clyde 49 www.khewitt.com kevin@khewitt.com Ridge 60 Girls Girls Beloit 60 @ Concordia 46 Bennington 46 @ Syl- Hesston 67 @ Southeast of van-Lucas 41 Saline 39 Lakeside 24 @ Tescott 22 Lyons 19 @ Ellsworth 49 Lincoln (didn't play) Minneapolis (didn't play) Natoma 11 @ St. John's/ Republic County (didn't This local basketball scoreboard is brought to you by Tipton 43 play) Sacred Heart 38 @ Clif-Osborne @ Russell State Farm Insurance Pike Valley 27 @ Rock ton-Clyde 51



Beloit Elementary School students who are Kindness Character trait winners for November shown are, from left to right, front row: Adalynn Eilert, Ali Ludwig, Elle Adams, Kaylee Fouts, Sloane Fugate, Conley Cleveland, Culver Hulett, Easton Wineinger, Rylie Gormly, Journee Purvis, Aubrey Claycamp. Back row: Brixon Housh, Gage Todd, Colt Eilert, Cierra Clark, Lucy Wilburn, Bentlee Hauck, Waylynn Schoen, Jaxson Norman, Liberty Winder, Briley Dean, Paige Bell. Not pictured is Adam Persson.

BELOIT – The Beloit Elementary held its monthly character assembly, Tuesday, Nov. 26.

Students and staff fo-

cused on the character trait

Kindness for the month of November. Teachers nominated students in their class that are kind and caring. They show concern for others. They strive to make BES and

the community a better place. The assembly began with students, staff and parents listening to morning announcements. Mrs. Pierson, music teacher, then led students

the community a better place. in the song "Great Expecta-The assembly began with tions."

First grade classes composed a video showing various ways to show how to be kind. Next, students that received a positive office referral for the month of November were recognized by standing up. Mrs. Porter, BES principal, recognized each nominated student for the kindness character trait and presented them with a certificate. The selected students will be treated to a pizza party to celebrate being kind students.

The character trait for December is Fairness.

"All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one."

This prayer asks for joy, hope, love, and peace, as well as salvation for family and friends. It also asks for bread for the hungry, healing for the sick, and protection for children.

### What is the reason for the season?

New city church, Online *The reason for the* 

season? What does it mean?

Around the holidays, you may come across the phrase "Jesus is the reason for the season" on the radio, stamped on the back of a pick-up truck, or while standing in line for that last-minute turkey. It's natural to question why we celebrate the Christmas season. What does this common religious phrase mean? What does it mean? While Christmas is a cultural holiday, it is also a religious holiday when Christians celebrate the birth of God's Son, Jesus Christ. In the hustle and bustle of Christmas, it's easy for Jesus-followers to ignore the "why" behind the holiday. So, people often recite the catchy quote "Jesus is the reason for the season" to remind each other of the true meaning of Christmas – the salvation of Jesus.

"Jesus is the reason

for the season" is also a reminder of what Christmas is not about. While Christmas gives us many things to enjoy, like parties, carols, and decorations, it's important to remember that the true and lasting joy of the season comes from the hope of Jesus. Our treasured Christmas traditions, such as exchanging presents, counting down with an advent calendar, and sharing a meal with loved ones, all beautifully remind us of the gift of Jesus Christ.

#### CHURCH DIRECTORY

St. John the Baptist Catholic Fr. Jarett Konrade, Pastor Father Andrew Rockers, Associate Pastor 701 E. Court, Beloit • 738-2851 Daily Mass Monday - 7 a.m. Tuesday Mass - 8 a.m. Wednesday Mass - 8 a.m. (First Wednesday- CCD Mass 7 p.m.) Thursday Mass - 7 a.m. Friday Mass - 8 a.m. Friday Mass - 7 a.m. Saturday Mass - 6 p.m. (First Saturday - 9 a.m.) Sunday Mass 10:00 a.m.

Trinity Lutheran Pastor Matthew Schneider • 346-4248 Box 128, Hunter • 529-2715 Adult and Children's Sunday School 9 a.m. Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

Glen Elder First Methodist Church Pastor Ian Beever 116 N. Nash • 545-3252 Sunday School during church Worship 10:45 a.m.

> Glasco Christian Church office 201 S. Haynes • 568-2344 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.

Church of Christ 12th & Walnut, Beloit • 738-2420 Sunday Worship , 10 a.m. Wednesday 7 p.m

First Christian Cliff Heagy, Senior Pastor Josh Persson, Associate Pastor of Youth & Adult Discipleship 4th & Mill, Beloit • 738-3071 Worship Services : 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Youth Groups - Wednesday 6 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Dispatch Christian Reformed 298 N 10 RD, Cawker City • 454-6608 Pastor Will Brouwers Worship at 9:30 a.m. First Presbyterian Lay Pastor Deb Hadachek 321 E. Main, Beloit • 738-7346

Cawker City Methodist Church Pastor Ian Beevers 608 Lake Drive • 781-4924 Worship 9:30 a.m. Children's Church 9:50 a.m.

Scottsville Community Pastor Al Paredes • 785-614-2030 Commercial Street, Scottsville Adult Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10 a.m.

Grace Chapel United Methodist Church 102 E. 4th Street - Hunter, KS Pastor Jeff and Kaye Metzler 785-524-4119 Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.

Delphos Living Corner Stone Fellowship Pastor Barry Nelson Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study 8 p.m.

#### **Beloit Methodist Church**

801 N. Bell, Beloit • 738-2539 Worship Service, 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Service on KVSV (1190 AM) Radio

> Zion Lutheran Pastor Richard Raymer 621 N. Mill, Beloit • 738-2701 Worship 10:00 a.m. Saturday Worship, 7:00 p.m.



Glen Elder Friends Pastor Graham Taylor 104 W. 2nd Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. gefriendschurch@ncken.com

Calvary Bible Evangelical Free Pastor Chad Morton 99 W. Pearl, Jewell Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Sunday 7 p.m. & Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

Glen Elder Christian Pastor Cody Fears 201 N. Hobart, Glen Elder • 545-3625 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.

> Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Fr. Jarett Konrade, Pastor 12th and Holly, Cawker City 781-4319 or 781-4823 Sunday Mass – 8 a.m. Monday Mass – 5:15 p.m.

Boost Ministrics Foundation Sunday services 10-11 a.m. Boost Ministries Blessing House Kristi Arasmith, Ministerial Servant 785-738-7450 120 N. Cambell Ave Beloit, Kansas, 67420 785-251-3135 boost@boostministries.com Website: www.boostministries.com

St. Boniface Catholic Rev. Daryl Olmstead 308 Gambrinus • Tipton • 373-4455 Sunday Mass 8 a.m.

"Finally, be strengthened by the Lord and his powerful strength."

St. Aloysius Church, Osborne Rev. Daryl Olmstead 3203 N. Elm• 785-346-5582 Saturday Mass, 5 p.m.

St. Mary's Church, Downs Rev. Daryl Olmstead 1312 Prentise • 785-454-3551 Sunday Mass, 10:30 a.m.

Calvary Baptist (Independent) Pastor Mark McReynolds 615 E. Highway 24 Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Afternoon Service 12:30 Wednesday Bible Study

Bethany Church of Lincoln County 2202 N. 130th • Hunter • 529-3811 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Grace Chapel United Methodist Phone: 785-545-6929 Worship 9 a.m., Church School 10 a.m.

Beloit Ministerial Association P.O. Box 22 Beloit, KS 67420 President, Cliff Heagy Secretary, Deb Hadachek Treasurer, Laura Heagy

Solomon Valley Celebration Center Pastor Curt Horton 200 W. Main, Beloit • 738-2683 Sunday morning services 10:30 a.m. Thursday Prayer Group 6 p.m.

Ephesians 6:10





Mary Lenaburg, Catholic speaker and author, presents an Advent message to nearly 250 women at the St. John the Baptist Catholic Church "Advent by Candlelight" event on Dec. 1, at the St. John's High School. Nearly 250 women started their Advent journey on Sunday.

# St. John's Advent by Candlelight **Event a Beautiful Success**

BELOIT - St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Beloit, hosted nearly 250 women to kick off the Advent season with an "Advent by Candlelight" event on Sunday, Dec. 1.

The evening featured a presentation by Mary Lenaburg, a Catholic speaker and author of the bestselling book "Be Brave in the Scared," which earned a 2020 Excellence in Publishing Award from the Association of Catholic Publishers. She

has given keynotes at conferences internationally and has appeared on Catholic radio, television and podcasts.

Lenaburg's talk was a reflection of her family's experience of caring for their severely disabled daughter, Courtney, for 22 years before her passing in 2014. "Through Courtney's life and journey, I witnessed how love transforms everything," she said. "As we embrace the call to love as God loves us, we discover

the power to bring hope and light into even the darkest moments."

The evening included wonderful fellowship, delicious food, and a candlelight praise and Eucharistic Adoration time at the church with music performed by Terri Dunstan and Heather Isbell.

"I appreciate all the people who had a hand in this beautiful evening," said Carla Winkel, St. John's parishioner and attendee. "I didn't want it to end!'



Attendees of the "Advent by Candlelight", event hosted by St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Beloit, enjoy the opportunity for praise and Eucharistic Adoration with music performed by Terri Dunstan and Heather Isbell.



### POLICE DEPT.

#### **Beloit Police Department (BPD)**

-On November 25 at approximately 12:58 pm, BPD took a report of a non-injury accident involving a 2020 Chevrolet Silverado driven by Trevor Gardner, Beloit, and a 2016 Toyota Corolla driven by Cory Paul, Beloit.

-On November 25 at approximately 3:58 pm, BPD arrested Lexi Somers, Beloit, for Driving while Suspended, DUI, and Child Endangerment.

-On November 26 at approximately 4:50 pm, BPD arrested Daniel Lane, Beloit, following a traffic stop and charged him with No Valid Driver's License.

-On November 27 at approximately 10:30 pm, BPD arrested Erubiel Luna Perez, Wichita, for Operating a Motor Vehicle without a Valid License and Defective Taillights.

-On November 29 at approximately 10:17 pm, BPD responded to an EMS call for an unresponsive individual. Unfortunately, the individual had passed away. Our deepest sincere condolences go out to the Family and Friends.

-On December 2 at approximately 3:02 pm, BPD stopped a vehicle for failing to stop at a stop sign. Upon further investigation Joeline Smiley, Beloit, was arrested for Possession of Controlled Substance, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and Failure to Stop at a Stop Sign.

### SHERIFF'S DEPT.

Mitchell County Sheriff's Office (MCSO)

-On October 29 MCSO took a report of a vehicle vs deer accident involving a 2019 Ford Edge driven by Taylor Solt, Beloit.

-On November 11 MCSO arrested Trenton Roy, Bryant, AR, on warrants out of Arizona, Texas, and Missouri.

-On November 13 at approximately 7:55 pm, MCSO conducted a traffic stop in the 1900 Blk of US 24 Hwy. Upon further investigation and with the assistance of K-9 Zed, Joel Wagoner, Osborne, was transported to the Mitchell County Jail with charges of Use/Possess Drug Paraphernalia and Failure to Dim Headlights being forwarded to the County Attorney.

-On November 25 MCSO investigated a single vehicle, non injury collision with a deer involving a 2018 Chevy Equinox driven by Ashley Gasper, Glen Elder.

-On November 26 MCSO investigated a single vehicle, non injury collision with a deer involving a 2007 Honda CRV driven by Kira Peek, Cawker City.

### **COURT NEWS**

#### Criminal Filed

-State of Kansas vs Joel Wesley Wagoner; Defendant is charged with 1 count Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substances- Marijuana and 1 count Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

-State of Kansas vs Chris Edward Spencer; Defendant is charged with 1 count Battery Against a Law Enforcement Officer and 3 counts Interference with Law Enforcement.

-State of Kansas vs Joeline Wezlie Smilev; Defendant is charged with 1 count Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substances- Methamphetamine, 2 counts Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and 1 count Failure to Obey Stop Sign.

#### Criminal

New Beloit 4-H Club members include, from left to right: Eli Peters, Wyan Patton, Boone Pruitt, Mallory Patton, Lucas Martin, Walker Mellies, Allie Ludwig, Tinley Deverman.



# 4-H NEWS

The monthly meeting of the West the 4-H building. They did radio Beloit 4-H Club was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by president Bentley Pruitt at the Beloit Methodist Church. Hosts for the meeting were the Peters Family and Jeff Pruitt Family.

The Flag Salute and 4-H pledge were led by Boone Pruitt and Eli Peters. The roll call question was "What 4-H project are you excited for this year?" and was answered by 36 members and two leaders. Secretary, Scarlett Ludwig, read the minutes of last month's meeting. Ella Manning gave the treasurer's report. Our club received a thank you note from the city for cleaning the West Side Park and a 3rd-place trophy for our float at the Veterans Day parade.

Bently Pruitt stated that the 4-H council will update the speakers in

spots, set goals for next year, and elected new officers. Reagan Cheney taught the club how to make a motion properly during the parliamentarian's report.

Katie Schroeder and Tara Pruitt gave the leaders' report. Our model meeting will be in January, and members will wear 4-H shirts. Our club is working the Isle of Lights on Dec. 13 and Dec. 23 and members should sign up to work a night. Members can sign up for: 4-H Days, Quiz Bowl, 4-H Day with Lady Wildcats, and Citizenship in Action.

For committee reports, Bently Pruitt stated that the Angle Tree committee is going to pick out angels and buy gifts. During the ceremony, new officers were installed. We have eight new members in our club.

There was no old business. In new business, it was decided to make cookie plates at the December meeting and each family will bring one dozen treats. The club decided to donate to the food pantry and each member will bring two to three items. For our club project this year we will be doing horticulture.

There was no program. Bella Garcia led the club in singing "The ABC's." Judd Pruitt led the club in playing "Charades." November birthdays were celebrated by Bella Ludwig and Emmery Manning. Next month is parent night and we work Isle of light on Dec. 13 and Dec. 23.

The next meeting is at 5:45 p.m. on Dec. 8.

The meeting was adjourned.



#### Settled

-State of Kansas vs Holly Brooke Vinson; On 1 count Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substances- Methamphetamine, Defendant is sentenced to Kansas Department of Corrections for 11 months with 12 months Probation granted and is ordered to pay \$606.50 in costs and fees. One count Possession of Marijuana, 4 Counts Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and 1 count Criminal Use of a Weapon- all Dismissed by Prosecutor.

-State of Kansas vs Levi Wayne Robison; Defendant is sentenced to 6 months in the Mitchell County Jail with 12 months Probation granted for 1 count Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor and is ordered to pay \$653 in costs, fees, and fines. Three counts Contributing to a Child Misconduct, 1 count Interference with Law Enforcement, and 2 counts Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor- all Dismissed by Prosecutor.

### LAND TRANSFERS

#### General Warranty Deed- Joint Tenancy

-Charlotte Square Partners, LLC, a Colorado Limited Liability Company, conveys and warrants to Francis J Pierson and Jeanne M Pierson, husband and wife, as Joint Tenants and not as tenants in common, with full rights of survivorship, the whole estate to vest in the survivor in the event of the death of either, all of its interest in the following described real estate in the County of Mitchell and the State of Kansas, to-wit:

The N 1/2 of the NW 1/4 of Section 29, Township 8 S, Range 6 W of the 6th P.M., Mitchell County, Kansas, except easements and restrictions of record, for the sum of \$1.00 and other good and valuable consideration. Dated November 22, 2024.

-Thomas A Ford aka Tom Ford and Beth Ford, husband and wife, convey and warrant to Thomas A Ford and Beth Ford, husband and wife, as Joint Tenants and not as tenants in common, with full rights of survivorship, the whole estate to vest in the survivor in the event of the death of either, all of our interest in the following described real estate in the County of Mitchell and the State of Kansas, to-wit:

The N 63 ft of Lots 4 and 5, Block 10, Original City of Glen Elder, Mitchell County, Kansas, and

The E 1/2 of Lot 1, Block 10, Original Townsite of Glen Elder, Mitchell County, Kansas, except easements and restrictions of record, for the sum of \$1.00 and other good and valuable consideration. Dated November 25, 2024.

#### **General Warranty Deed**

-Grantors Rye C Roberts and Martina J Roberts, husband and wife, in consideration of \$1.00 and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency

BELOIT CALL

### **OBITUARIES**

#### Willa Kay Gasper June 21, 1948 – November 16, 2024

BELOIT – Whilemena Katherine (Willa Kay) Gasper was born on June 21, 1948, to Leo and Crescentia Ste-

ichen Gasper in Beloit, Kansas. She died November 16, 2024, at Mitchell County Hospital in Beloit, Kansas, at the age of 76 years.

Willa Kay, as she was known, began her education at the Special Education Center in Salina, Kansas, for 6 years and then was tutored at home. She entered OCCK, Occupational Center of Central Kansas in 1991and lived and worked there until her passing.



She enjoyed growing up on the family farm south of Tipton surrounded by nature. Willa Kay loved to create artwork and gift it to her family members. She was a very social person, visiting with everyone. She enjoyed participating in Special Olympics and could always be found at the Bingo tent at the annual Tipton Church Picnic.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one brother, John.

She is survived by her siblings, Thomas (Teresa) of Olathe; Steven (Leticia) of Tipton; Janelle of Beloit; Roland (Terri) of Salina; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

A rosary service will take place at 9:30 AM followed by a funeral service at 10:00 AM Saturday, December 14th at St. Boniface Church in Tipton. Cremation has taken place. Burial will follow at St. Boniface Cemetery. Memorials may be given to the Tipton Community Foundation or Special Olympics.

Special thanks to Dr. Christine Marozas and the dedicated and compassionate staff at Mitchell County Hospital who cared for Willa Kay in her final days.

Roberts Family Funeral Service is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be left at www.robertsfamilyfs.com

#### Marlene Heyer

#### July 30, 1933 – December 7, 2024

DOWNS – Marlene Heyer, age 91, a beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and cherished friend, passed into her next life peacefully on December 7, 2024, at Downs Care and Rehab. She was born on July 30, 1933, in a home birth on a farm in Smith County, where she cultivated the seeds of her passions and compassion that flourished throughout her life.

Marlene dedicated many years to her own sewing business, lovingly creating garments and items that warmed the hearts of those around her. She found immense joy working at Stiggie Fabric Store, where her creativity blossomed, and she engaged with her community. Her spirit of service extended beyond her craft as she devoted **20** years to preparing and serving meals at the Senior Center, where she took on the role of site manager. Additionally, Marlene was a compassionate caregiver for elderly women in their homes, reflecting her commitment to nurturing those in need. An avid reader and poet, Marlene found solace in the written word, often taking notes even in her final days. Her love for life was further expressed through her hymns, and in her earlier years, she delighted in singing solos at church, sharing her joy in faith with others. With a great sense of humor, Marlene had a knack for bringing laughter to those around her, making even the most ordinary moments unforgettable. Marlene was immensely proud to know Jesus as her Savior, and her family brought her an equal measure of pride. She leaves behind her loving son Steve Heyer and daughter-in-law Lori, along with her grandson Jeremy Heyer. Her heart will forever be intertwined with her daughter Gloria Ames, grandchildren Natalie, Randy, and Daniel Ames, and great-grandchildren Cohen Ames, Emily, and Chloe Bader. Her legacy as a sister and sister-in-law will be cherished by Lee Wiersma and Linda Wiersma, Donna Stadler, Janice and David Bowman, and Janice Heyer. Marlene will also be lovingly remembered by her late brother Miles Cooley Jr., brothers Calvin Cooley, Ned and, Ray, stepbrother Lloyd Wiersma, and stepsister Helen Seamen, along with her beloved mother Mabel Wiersma and father Miles Cooley, and stepfather Martin Wiersma. As we gather in remembrance of Marlene, we celebrate not just the years she lived but also the profound impact she had on all who knew her. Her unwavering faith, tireless dedication, and boundless love will continue to inspire us. Though she is no longer with us, her spirit will forever remain in our hearts, guiding us with the humor, love, and grace she so effortlessly shared. Funeral Services will be at 10 a.m., Thursday, December 12, at the First Christian Church. Inurnment will follow at Downs Cemetery. Memorials may be given to Downs First Christian Church in care of Schoen Funeral Home and Monuments, 1001 Morgan Ave., Downs, KS 67437.

#### Everett Schoen December 19, 1936 – December 6, 2024

DOWNS – Everett Schoen, age 87, a beloved husband, father, and friend, passed away on December 6, 2024, at the Mitchell County Hospital in Beloit, Kansas. He was born on December 19, 1936, in Smith County, Kansas, to John and Anna Schoen. Everett was an exemplary individual who touched the lives of many with his kindness and good humor.

In his early years, Everett excelled in multiple sports during his time at Downs High School, from which he graduated in 1954. He furthered his education at Fort Hays College, earning a business degree that paved the way for a successful career. For several years, he worked as an auditor for Phillips 66, before returning to his true passion—farming—in the mid-1970s. Farming the land and raising animals was always dear to his heart.

Everett's commitment to service extended beyond his professional life; he honorably served in the National Guard. His involvement with the Zion Lutheran Church in Downs, KS, was particularly important to him, where he held several offices and actively contributed to the church's mission.

His personality was characterized by kindness and consideration towards all he met. He had a wonderful sense of humor and loved hearing a good joke. Everett loved collecting model cars, trucks, farm equipment, and Christmas villages. Additionally, he was a passionate supporter of K-State sports and enjoyed watching the Kansas City Chiefs play. Those who knew him will fondly remember his legendary love for fried chicken (EFC) and ice cream.

Everett is survived by his loving wife, Shirley Schoen; his son, Mark Schoen; stepson, William Valliant; stepdaughter, Patricia Gabel; brother, Ken Schoen; grandchildren, John W Gabel, Brandon L Gabel, Lisa Godfrey, Ashley R Brummert, Sarah L Gill, and Billy Valliant; along with ten great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents, John and Anna Schoen; his brothers, Richard and Marvin Schoen; and his sister, Vera Niermeier.

Family and friends are invited to celebrate Everett's life during a visitation with his family on December 10, 2024, from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM, followed by a funeral service at 11:00 AM at the Zion Lutheran Church located at 1019 Blunt Street, Downs, KS. Interment will follow at South Oak Creek Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Zion Lutheran Church in care of Schoen Funeral Home and Monuments, 1001 Morgan Ave., Downs, KS 67437.

#### **Roy Arasmith**

#### May 19, 1950 - December 7, 2024

JEWELL – Roy William Arasmith, 74, of Jewell, Kansas, passed away on December 7, 2024, after an extended battle with cancer.

He was born on May 19, 1950, in Beloit, Kansas, to Kenneth Lyle and Noma (Knowlton) Arasmith.

Roy grew up on the family farm southwest of Jewell. He attended the Prairie Plain country school (District 24) for 5 years until it closed, then attended Jewell Grade School and Jewell High School, graduating with the class of 1968. Roy furthered his education at the North Central Kansas Area Vocational Technical School at Beloit, graduating from the Farm Mechanics and Diesel Mechanics departments. After graduation, he helped his dad on the farm and in the mechanic shop. Roy worked for Mitchell County Rural Water District #3 for nearly 25 years, and came to know many people throughout the area. He later worked part-time for the City of Jewell, where all the dogs in town looked forward to receiving a dog treat from him. During these years, Roy volunteered numerous hours teaching Hunter Safety Education to many of the youth in the area. Roy married Amy (Amalie) Wilson on August 1, 1970, at the Ionia United Methodist Church. To this union, two boys were born, Jason Williams and Brian Steven. He was proud of his sons and enjoyed watching them play sports, trap shooting, hunting, and of course, doing mechanic work. Roy's daughters-in-law, Billi and Kristi meant the world to him, he referred to them as his daughters. Another joy was his grandchildren: Jarrett, Grant, Alexis, and Logan. Through the years, he took them to toy shows and engine shows, challenged his granddaughter to learn the alphabet backwards, and taught each of them to drive while out on country roads.

### LAND TRANSFERS

#### continued from 10

of which is hereby acknowledged, do hereby grant, sell, convey, and demise a <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> interest to Grantees Rye C Roberts, as Trustee, or any successor Trustee or Co-Trustee, of the Rye C Roberts Trust, under agreement dated November 13, 2024, together with any amendments made thereto and a <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> interest to Martina J Roberts, as Trustee, or any successor Trustee or Co-Trustee, of the Martina J Roberts Revocable Trust, as amended and restated November 13, 2024, together with any further amendments made thereto, to be held as tenants in common, all of Grantors' right, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate, together with all improvements thereupon, if any, in Mitchell County, Kansas:

Lot 3, Block 7, Young's Addition, City of Glen Elder, Mitchell County, Kansas

Subject, however, to all matters of record.

Grantors hereby covenant with Grantees that Grantors:

1 are lawfully seized of the interest in the Property and that the Property is free and clear of all liens and encumbrances, except all matters of record;

2 have legal power and lawful authority to sell and convey Grantors' interest in the Property

3 warrant and will defend the title to the Property conveyed hereunder against the lawful claims of all persons claiming the same or any part thereof. Executed on November 13, 2024.

### Kansas Business Organization Warranty Deed

-On this 20th day of December, 2020, Grantor Asher Creek Farms, LLC, a Limited Liability Company, duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Kansas and having its principal place of business at Beloit, County of Mitchell, State of Kansas, conveys and warrants to Grantees Francis L Gronewoller and Nancy D Gronewoller, husband and wife, as Joint Tenants and not as tenants in common, with full rights of survivorship, the whole estate to vest in the survivor in the event of the death of either all of the following described real estate in Mitchell County, Kansas:

Lots 7 and 8, Block 4, Schmitt's First Addition, City of Beloit, Mitchell County, Kansas, for the purpose of correcting and modifying a deed previously recorded in the office of the Mitchell County Register of Deeds. Subject to: easements, rights-of-way, restrictions of record, highways, streets, and roadways and all visible easements.

#### **Kansas Warranty Deed**

-On this 12th day of November, 2024, Catherine L Heier and Melvin B Heier, wife and husband, convey and warrant to Catherine L Heier and Melvin B Heier, as Joint Tenants with right of survivorship and not as tenants in common, all of the following-described real estate in Mitchell County, Kansas:

An undivided <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> interest to the SW <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of Section 30 and the NW 1/4 of Section 31, all in Township 8 S, Range 10 W of the 6th P.M., Mitchell County, Kansas except and subject to: easements and restrictions of record.

#### **Transfer on Death Deed**

-Daniel A Pruitt and Tamarah S Pruitt, husband and



Those who knew Roy could always plan on him telling a joke, he didn't know a stranger, and would talk at length to anyone who would listen.

One of Roy's favorite hobbies was exploring cemeteries with his wife in search of white bronze (zinc) tombstones. Many miles were covered and hours spent looking for them. He was also an avid toy collector.

Roy is survived by his wife Amy of the home; sons, Jason (Billi) Arasmith, Jewell, KS, and Brian (Kristi) Arasmith, Beloit; grandchildren, Jarrett (Britt) Arasmith, Jewell, Grant (Jess) Arasmith, Jewell, Alexis Arasmith, Chicago, IL, and Logan Arasmith, Hays, KS; brothers-in-law, Kevin Wilson and Kirk Wilson, Ionia, KS, Roger (Jamie) Rooker, Beloit; nephew, Eric (Elaine) Rooker, Topeka; and a special new addition to the family, great-granddaughter, Blake Marie Arasmith, Jewell; and many other relatives and friends.

Memorial services will be at 11 AM Friday, December 13 at the Trinity Methodist Church in Jewell. Friends may sign the register book from 9 AM to 5 PM Thursday at the Roberts Family Funeral Home in Beloit. Cremation has taken place. Memorials may be given to Lake Emerson or the Rebecca Morrison House. Roberts Family Funeral Service is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be left at www.robertsfamilyfs.com

Thank You for Reading The Beloit Call! • Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. • 111 E. South Street • 785-738-3537 • beloitcall@nckcn.com wife, as Owners, transfer on the death of both Owners an undivided <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> interest to Tamarah S Pruitt and Daniel A Pruitt, Trustees, and their successors in trust of the Tamarah S Pruitt Revocable Trust dated January 9, 2013; and

An undivided <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> interest to Daniel A Pruitt and Tamarah S Pruitt, Trustees, and their successors in trust of the Daniel A Pruitt Revocable Trust dated January 9, 2013, the following described real estate in Mitchell County, Kansas:

Lot 3, Block 1, Conroy Place, City of Beloit, Mitchell County, Kansas except the E 15 ft thereof conveyed to the City of Beloit, Kansas, a Municipal Corporation, except and subject to any easements and restrictions of record.

Except and subject to: This Transfer on Death Deed is revocable. It does not transfer any ownership until the death of the owners. It revokes all prior beneficiary designations by the owners for this interest. Dated November 22, 2024.

#### **Trustee's Warranty Deed**

-This indenture, made this 26th day of November, 2024, between Grantors David A Wilcox and Janet R Wilcox, Trustees of the David A Wilcox and Janet R Wilcox Revocable Trust dated January 30, 2009, and Grantees Steve Martin and Vanessa Martin, husband and wife, as Joint Tenants and not as tenants in common, with full rights of survivorship, the whole estate to vest in the survivor in the event of the death of either, witnesseth, that said Grantors, in consideration of the sum of \$1.00 and other valuable considerations, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, do by these presents, grant, bargain, sell, warrant, and convey unto said Grantees, all of the following described real estate, situated in Mitchell County KS, to-wit:

Lots 1 and 2 and the W 15 ft of Lot 3, Block 7 of the Baldwin Tract, City of Beloit, and the N 7 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> ft of a strip of land 15 ft wide south of and adjacent to Lots 1, 2, and the W 15 ft of Lot 3, Beloit, all in Mitchell County, Kansas, excepting therefrom 25 ft off the W side of said tract for a street.

To have and to hold the same, together with all and singular the tenements, hereditaments, and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining, forever. And said Grantors, for themselves, their successors, and assigns, do hereby covenants, promise, and agree to and with said Grantees, that the undersigned are the duly appointed and acting Trustees under the terms of the David A Wilcox and Janet R Wilcox Revocable Trust dated January 30, 2009, which Trust Agreement remains in full force and effect and has not been otherwise amended or revoked, and that the terms of such Trust Agreement authorized and empower said Trustees to sell and convey any real estate in the said Trust. In witness whereof, Grantors have hereunto caused this deed to be signed the day and year first above written.

PAGE 12A



Bowling Bums	30	14
PB Falcons	18	26
Split Happens	9	35

Creighton Johnson	176
Dennis Mihm	175
Creighton Johnson	171

212
208
207
207

Creighton Johnson	517
Dennis Mihm	457
Jon Abercrombie	450

Creighton Johnson	625
Jadon Adams	569
Tate Ahlvers	559

#### PAGE 13A

### **Antique blueprints** to be restored

BY TERRY BAILEY Brian Streit, Courthouse Maintenance Supervisor, presented the commissioners with an artifact that has rarely seen the light of day in the past one 125 years, give or take a decade, during Monday, Dec. 9, 2024, Mitchell **County Commissioners** meeting.

Streit has located the original blueprints for the construction of the courthouse in 1898-99. He had been trying to determine where a courthouse drain was located so it could be excavated and repaired so that it would work as originally designed.

When asked where he found them, Streit replied, "At the top of Kitty Waggoner's vault."

Streit admitted he was reluctant to unfold the documents, so he did not do so, stating, "They are very brittle and could fall apart into dust very easily." He estimated there are 40 to 45 blueprints in the collection. Each page is three feet by three or four feet.

Streit investigated the possibility of having the old documents scanned and reprinted. Kansas Blue in Salina does such work for governments all over Kansas and has considerable experience with jobs such as this. He was given estimates of \$40 per page to scan and \$40 to \$45 per sheet to print.

The commissioners were positively impressed with the possibility of recreating the blueprints for posterity. They authorized an expenditure of \$4,000 to pay for the job.

 Referring to last week's action to authorize one-time cash bonuses to employees, the commissioners voted to authorize bonuses for part-time employees. Depending upon the number of hours worked per week, the commissioners approved \$500 bonuses for three employees, \$250 bonuses for six employees, and \$100 bonuses for four employees.

In related action, the commissioners voted to extend full-time bonuses for the three commissioners because they were also full-time employees of the countty.

- Terrence Silvia, Mitchell County Communications Director, requested a 15-minute executive session to discuss non-elected personnel. No actions were taken as a result of that closed session.

 Missy McGinnis, **Emergency Medical Ser**vices Director, reported that ambulances #1 and #4 were out of service and in the shop awaiting technical repair assistance.

 Jessy Bliss, IT Coordinator requested a 15-minute executive session to discuss confidential software concerns. No action was taken as a result of that closed session.

Having addressed all the items on the printed agenda, the meeting was adjourned.

**Commissioners Jim** Marshall and Tom Claussen were present as well as the County Clerk. Heather Weston, during Monday's. Commissioner Mike Cooper was absent.

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(First Published in Beloit Call on December 12, 2024)

#### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF MITCHELL COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DANIEL J. FILE, DECEASED. No. MC-24-PR-000043000043

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on December 2, 2024, a Petition for Probate of Will and Appointing Executrix Under Kansas Simplified Estates Act was filed in this court by Marcia A. File, as heirs at law, legatees and devisees of Daniel J. File, deceased. All creditors of the above-named decedent are notified to exhibit their demands against the estate within four months from the date of first publication of this notice, as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited. they shall be forever barred.

Marcia A. File, Petitioner

Curtis A. Frasier Frasier, Johnson & Martin, LLC 116 N. Hersey Ave. P.O. Box 369

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#### Help Wanted

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(First Published in the Beloit Call, on December 12, 2024)

#### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF MITCHELL COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ES-TATE OF CLYDE WILSON, JR., DECEASED NO. MC-23-PR-000027

#### NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE AT PRIVATE AUCTION

#### THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that William Clyde Wilson, Administrator of the above-entitled estate, will offer for sale at public auction the following described real estate, to-wit:

CENTRAL PARK ADD, LOTS 5 & 6, S9' ALLEY, BLK 1, 806 N HERSEY, BELOIT, MITCHELL COUNTY, KANSAS

The online auction will take place from December 11, 2024, to January 9, 2025. The lot will close, Thursday, January 9, 2025, at 7:00 o'clock p.m. CST. The online auction will be held by Hansen Auction and Realty (www/hansenonlineauction. com), to the highest bidder for cash. All interested people should take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

William Clyde Wilson, Petitioner

Frasier, Johnson & Martin, LLC P.O. Box 369 116 North Hersey Street Beloit, Kansas 67420-0369 (785) 738-5723

Attorneys for Petitioner

12-12/12-19/12-26

(First published in the Beloit Call

tfc

on Thursday, December 5, 2024)

#### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF MITCHELL COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of EUGENE D. BROWN, JR., Deceased Case No. MC-2024-PR-000042

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

#### THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on November 26, 2024, a Petition was filed in this Court by JOSEPH P. BROWN praying for Informal Administration.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before December 30, 2024, at 10:00 A.M. of said day, in this Court in the City of Beloit, Mitchell County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

JOSEPH P. BROWN, Petitioner

RYAN & MULLIN, P.A. 610 5th Street, P.O. Box 205 Clay Center, Kansas 67432 (785) 632-5666

Attorneys for Petitioner

12-5/12-12/12-19



Beloit, Kansas 67420-0369 (785)-738-5723

Attorneys for Petitioner

12-12/12-19/12-26



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#### FAMILY PRACTICE

Christine M. Marozas, D.O. Jason A. Cheney, M.D. Olivia C. You, D.O.

> Craig A. Concannon, M.D., FACP

#### NURSE PRACTITIONER

Kerri Adams, APRN-C Jessica Hawkins, APRN-BC Kendra True, APRN-C Brady True, APRN-C

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#### in Sylvan Grove. Call Clint!

CONTACT INFORMATION

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After your first appointment, you will be invited to set up your **PATIENT PORTAL**, as this is the best way to contact us after you have established your primary physician. If you need assistance setting up your patient portal, please contact Jean at extension 805

> ice (Hours: Monday through Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

> > BELOIT

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CENTER, P.A.

Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

INTERNAL MEDICINE

Carl L. Fugate, M.D.

# 2024 Corn Picking Day

#### BY KERMA CROUSE

This year, Corn Picking Day dawned "chilly" as Dan Emmot said. "Cold" was more like it for many. "There's water frozen in the elevator." "Start it as slow as you can," were a couple of comments heard at the beginning of the day.

No matter the temperature, the camaraderie was warm. Since the event started some eight years ago, there have been cold days, warm days, wet days and dry days, but friendship was always a part of the day.

What also remains the same is picking corn "the way it used to be done." That means, 1940's and 1950's, one-row corn pickers pulled by tractors of around the same vintage. It also means a stationary corn sheller.

What is a bit different is who is there and who isn't and where it is held. Two of the founders of the event, Calvin Bohnert (Jewell) and Jr. VanderGiesen (Smith Center) have both passed away. Both were honored at a meeting of participants which was the official start of the 2024 event.

The change in leadership brought about by the passing of the two men, has also meant a change in location. For the first six years of the event, corn was picked on the Bohnert farm, just west of Jewell. Now, Corn Picking Day is held just south of Asherville on the Jerry and Galene Sorrell farm.

When participants arrived, there was a row of pickers, just waiting to get in the field. Before the day was over at least eight different corn pickers were

harvesting loads of ear corn. Drivers took turns and fifteen or more drivers had a chance to see how their fathers harvested corn.

ipants, it was more like how their grandfathers and great-grandfathers brought in a crop. Fifteenyear-old Kale Sorensen (Denmark) has been coming to Corn Picking Day for at least seven years. This year he was driving an Allis WD tractor and pulling a Woods Brothers picker.

Gerald Wright (Newton) was actually using his grandfather's 1953 Farmall Super C tractor. "I grew up running it," he said. The Super C was pulling an Oliver picker. Wright is active in the Goessel Threshing Club so he is very familiar with "the good old days" types of harvest.

Matt and Jackie Deneke, plus their sons, Mason and Dalton, were there from Houston, Texas. The reason was fairly simple, Jackie is the daughter of hosts, Jerry and Galene Sorrell. Matt and fourteen-year-old Mason both took turns driving a 135 Massey Fergusen tractor and pulling a Ford corn picker.

Not everyone was picking corn. Dusty Covault was there from Tucumcari, New Mexico, to get ear corn to take back to Tucumcari. Today, corn is picked and shelled with one machine. Getting ear corn by the truckload, is not always possible. But at Corn Picking Day it is.

Covault and the Deneke's were not the only out-of-state participants. Tom Elledge came from Jefferson, South

For some of the partic-

Dakota. Why? "I was here last year and I came back.' Kenton Kocher from Coon Rapids, Minnesota, was also in attendance as was Lilly Dallman from Orleans, Nebraska. Corn Picking Day 2024 had attendees from five states in addition to Kansas.

As most would guess, using old machinery, there were some breakdowns. "Better get a wrench" and "tighten that nut" plus "this tractor has a tool box!" were comments made during the day.

Wayne Robeson (Glasco) was picking corn with a 4010 John Deere tractor and a 300 John Deere picker when he heard a clank he didn't like. He 'stopped right then." A chain was off. He, Garry Clark (Glen Elder) and Justin Emmot (Beloit) worked with the tools at hand and soon the machine was back picking corn.

Vaughn Powell (Riley),



Jacob Smith (Scottsville) was one of the operators at the Corn Picking Day held near Asherville on Friday at the Jerry

and Galene Sorrell farm. He was driving a John Deere B tractor. During the day, about 10 operators picked corn.

Mason Deneke (Houston, TX) was part of the action on Friday, November 29th, at Corn Picking Day. The event was held on Deneke's grandparent's (Jerry and Galene Sorrell) farm south of Asherville. Deneke was driving a Massey Ferguson 135 and pulling a Ford picker.

With wagon loads of corn being picked, there this year's event, and Dale was need for a corn sheller. There was one. Kurt picking corn. Powell had Kocher (Glasco) had his 70-something-year-old Minneapolis Moline corn sheller there and it was John Deere B and pulling shelling corn. The machine shells corn, blows

out the husks and also spits out the cobs.

When Corn Picking Day 2024 was winding down, plans were already being made for next year's event. It is planned for early November on the Sorrell farm. The old machines will run again.



KARMA CROUSE COURTESY PHOTOS

### Farmers

continued from

The Crop Insurance title from a Farm Bill provides premium subsidies to farmers and subsidies to the private crop insurance companies who provide federal crop insurance to farmers to protect against losses in yield, crop revenue, or whole farm revenue.

If there was no new farm bill or extension through next year, USDA would pay excessive prices under these old programs for certain crops harvested in 2025, through purchases and non-recourse loans.

In total, USDA has issued more than \$6 billion in crop insurance indemnities for the 2024 crop year. Of the \$6 billion, nearly \$1 billion was paid to agricultural producers impacted by hurricanes and tropical storms in 2024.

The Farm Bill provides \$6 billion annually for conservation. From incentivizing climate-smart agricultural practices to opening doors for permanent conservation through agricultural conservation easements, this critical bipartisan legislation benefits every single state in the country. Over 70% of the land in the lower 48 states is privately owned, making it eligible for Farm Bill programs that help spur healthier soils, cleaner water, carbon sequestration and wildlife habitat conservation. The Farm Bill remains one of the country's most successful and important conservation programs.

 The Farm Bill impacts all Americans -

140 million: Through the Farm Bill,

farmers and ranchers have voluntarily enrolled 140 million acres in conservation programs

46 million: The agriculture industry supports millions of jobs in the U.S.

70 percent: In the lower 48 states, 70 percent of land is privately owned and eligible for Farm Bill programs

2 million: There are more than 2 million farms covering 475 million acres of land in the U.S.

According to the Nature Conservancy, last updated on Aug. 22, 2024, policies wanted to see on the next Farm Bill include:

#### **Bolster Regenerative Agricul**ture:

Farmers and ranchers experience frequent and severe weather events that threaten their livelihoods and our food supply. Incentivizing regenerative agriculture practices and increasing technical support can help farmers and ranchers better meet the challenges of the climate crisis. The Farm Bill should continue to fund programs such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), which provide financial assistance to producers who implement sustainable agriculture practices on their land.

#### **Conserve Significant and Sensi**tive Habitats:

Grasslands are critical for livestock agriculture and are one of the most effective carbon sinks. Wetlands provide habitat for fish and wildlife, improve water quality and mitigate flooding. The Farm Bill supports farmers, ranchers and landowners who choose to conserve their working lands and wetlands through the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program, which pays producers to protect their lands from the threat of development to help address species loss, climate and water challenges.

#### **Improve Water Quality and** Supply:

one of the organizers of

Lewis (Beloit) were also

a Case tractor, an Allis

picker and a Case wag-

on. Lewis was driving a

a New Idea picker from

the early 1940's.

Farming, ranching and forestry are key drivers of water use in the U.S. TNC supports programs that create solutions to our shared, yet diverse, water challenges. The next Farm Bill can ease the risk of flooding and increase drought resilience by creating new floodplain easement options, modernizing the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program and increasing technical assistance through the Natural Resources Conservation Service to help producers adopt water conservation practices.

#### Accelerate a Clean Energy Transition:

We need to rapidly scale climate solutions, including clean energy. A robust Farm Bill guarantees rural America a say in renewable energy deployment by funding and facilitating farmer, rancher and landowner participation in the clean energy economy. The next Farm Bill should maintain robust funding for Energy Title programs that support renewable energy investments in rural America-most importantly, the Rural Energy for America Program.

Promote Equity and Inclusion: Institutional and structural barriers have historically prevented socially disadvantaged farmers, ranchers, forest-owners and underserved communi-

ties from accessing Farm Bill programs. The next bill has the opportunity to center equity in conservation to support the needs of local communities. This can be done by increasing funding for programs that assist socially disadvantaged groups, as defined by the USDA, in acquiring land and expanding access to the Farm Service Agency Micro-loan Program.

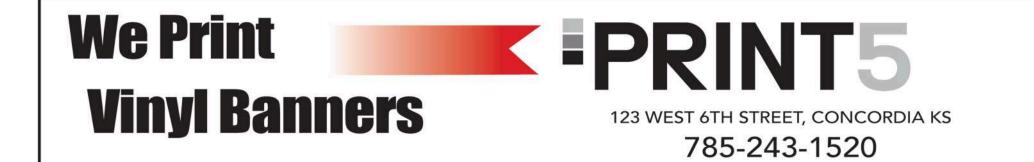
#### **Maintain Healthy and Resilient** Forests:

America's forests are disappearing at an alarming rate. A robust Farm Bill could restore degraded forests and keep existing forests healthy. We're advocating for boosting programs such as the Forest Legacy Program and the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program that promote sustainable forest management policies, support strong markets for forest products and promote long-term forest health through reforestation and wildfire resilience practices.

As Congress continues to debate these vital measures, they are urged to invest in a Farm Bill that will support healthy food and soils, clean water, strong communities and a robust economy.

Critical Farm Bill Programs and Policies include: Regional Conservation Partnership Program; Conservation Easement Programs; and Improve Soil Health programs.

It's critical that Congress uses this extra time to craft a bill that builds on the remarkable progress of its predecessor and that will help forge a sustainable, productive future for our lands and way of life.







# **Beloit High School**



SHARON SAHLFELD PHOTO

Time

Members of the 2024-25 Beloit High School Trojan boys' basketball team are, front row, from left to right: Jackson Cheney, Ryker Clark, Eli Johnson, Gatley Wichyoah, Grant Larsen. Middle row, from left to right: Eastyn Offutt, Hudson Remus, Boede Porter, Parker Lund, Charlie Burke, Joel Rexroat, Joel Fuller, Lane Jones, Gage Follis, Jayden Longoria. Back row, from left to right: Gunner Gray, Paxton Fouts, Gavin Wright, Colton Adolph, Kale Leners, Brody Litton, Luke Cheney, Hayden Nicholson, Will Newlin, Jacob Hand, Braxton Logan.

# **Beloit Boys Basketball**

Head Coach: Ryan Eilert

Assistant Coach**es**: Eric Eilert, Trace Leners

Seniors: Eli Johnson, Jackson Cheney, Gatley Wichyoah, Ryker Clark, Grant Larsen

2023-24 Record:

24-2 **Returning Start-**

ers: Eli Johnson, Jackson Cheney **Returning All-**League/State: Eli Johnson: First team all NCAA, 3A All-State honorable mention Season Outlook/

**Goals**: We lost some very talented players off of last year's 24-2 and 3rd place at state team. We return several key players along with a deep group of kids that have been waiting for their turn. We will have good inside presence along with a deep

back court that will give us a nice inside/outside combination. I believe our strength could be our depth and competitive practices throughout the year. One key to us having a successful season is defending the perimeter and taking care of the ball.

Date

1/23-



12/6	@ Concordia	4:30 pm
12/10	Clay Center	4:30 pm
12/13	② Southeast of Saline	4:30 pm
12/17	Republic County	4:30 pm
12/20	Ellsworth	4:30 pm
1/3	Lyons	4:30 pm
1/10	Hoisington	4:30 pm
1/14	@ Ellsworth	4:30 pm
1/17	Minneapolis	4:30 pm
1/23-25	@ Colby Orange and Black	TBD
1/28	@ Sacred Heart	4:30 pm
2/4	@ Republic County	4:30 pm
2/6	@ Phillipsburg	4:30 pm
2/11	Southeast of Saline	4:30 pm
2/14	Lyons	4:30 pm
2/18	Sacred Heart	4:30 pm
2/21	@ Minneapolis	4:30 pm
2/25	Smith Center	4:30 pm
/27-3/15	Playoffs	TBD

Opponent



We are rooting



#### PAGE 3B

# **Beloit High School**



SHARON SAHLFELD PHOTO

Members of the Beloit High School ladies'2024 basketball team are, front row, from left to right: Emma RIce, Reece Richards, Kolbee Bergmann, Scarlet Ludwig, Kendra Rowh, Bristol Boden. Middle row, from left to right: Samantha Thompson, McKenna Channel, Keira Rabe, Autumn Lorenz, Brandy Porter. Back row, from left to right: Lundyn Knight, Landry Litton, Azlin Pfanz, Addison Budke, Reagan Cheney, Cassandra Thompson, Olivia Wright, Brittyn Hilt.

# **Beloit Girls Basketball**

Head Coach: Keith Kresin Assistant Coaches: Kirsten Jones, Greg Rowh, Avery Gates

**Seniors**: Addison Budke, Azlin Pfantz, Cassandra Thompson, Olivia Wright

**2023-24** Record: 15-6 **Returning Starters**: Addison Budke, Cassandra Thompson

Returning Letterwinners: Olivia Wright, Autumn Lorenz, McKenna Channel

**Returning All-League/State**:

Addison Budke (first team All League, All State HM), Cassandra Thompson (All League HM)

**Season Outlook/Goals**: We should be strong at the post positions and if someone can step up at the point guard position after losing all-league/state Peyton Remus to graduation and we can consistantly hit some perimeter shots we will be tough. Learning new stuff we may not start out as strong as we'd like but if things gel together we will be a team that will be tough at the right time.

Date	Opponent	Time	Date	Opponent	Time
12/6	@ Concordia	4:30 pm	1/23-25	@ Colby O&B	TBD
12/10	Clay Center	4:30 pm	1/28	@ Sacred Heart	4:30 pm
12/13	@ SES	4:30 pm	2/4	@ Republic Co.	4:30 pm
12/17	Republic Co.	4:30 pm	2/6	@ Phillipsburg	4:30 pm
12/20	Ellsworth	4:30 pm	2/11	SES	4:30 pm
1/3	Lyons	4:30 pm	2/14	Lyons	4:30 pm
1/10	Hoisington	4:30 pm	2/18	Sacred Heart	4:30 pm
1/14	@ Ellsworth	4:30 pm	2/21	@ Minneapolis	4:30 pm
1/17	Minneapolis	4:30 pm	2/25	Smith Center	4:30 pm

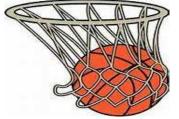


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# **Beloit High School**



SHARON SAHLFELD PHOTO

Members of the 2024-25 Beloit Trojans Wrestling team are, ftont row, front left to right: Girls: Hannah Koenig, Lyli Noah, Daytona McMillan, Bently Pruitt, Zayda Purvis, Amelia Hager, Brecken Boudreaux, J-Lee Forrest, Estefani Contreras-Munoz, Nahomi Contreras-Munoz. Middle row, from left to right: Boys: Kellen Elam, Kashtyn Ryser, Wyatt McMillan, Trace Conn, Brogan Monty, Jesus Cabrera, Marshall Green, Henry Tice, Cooper Herrman, Jay Eeles. Back row, from left to right: Carter Jermark, Kaden Lomax, Kross Kemmerer, Brodie Boudreaux, John Lomax, Colby Albert, Kale Wessling, Jaxon Kearn, Marley Lewis, Rilee Lundine.

# **Beloit Wrestling**

**Head Coach**: Cade Hewitt **Assistant Coaches**: Zane Colson, Cody Richards

**Seniors**: Wyatt McMillan, Kaden Lomax, Brodie Boudreaux, Demetrius Dunigan

**Projected Varsity**:

**Boys** 106- Trace Conn/Jay Eeles 113- Wyatt McMillan 120- Carson Thomas 126-Henry Tice 132-Brogan Monty 138-Kellen Elam 144- John Lomax 150- Carter Jermark 157- Marshall Green 165- Kashtyn Ryser

175- Kaden Lomax 190-Demetrius Dunigan 215-Brodie Boudreaux 285- Kross Kemmerer Girls 105- Daytona McMillan 110- Estefani Contreras-Munoz 115-Hannah Koenig 120-Jerusalen Forrest-Ortiz 125-Zayda Purvis 130-Amelia Hager 135-Lyli Noah 145-Brecken Boudreaux 155-Bentley Pruitt Returning All League/State: N/A Returning state qualifiers:Brogan Monty, Brodie Boudreaux

Date	Opponent	Time	Date	Opponent	Time
12/6	Plainville, Phil- lipsburg (G/B)	5 pm	1/24-25	Beloit Invite (B)	2 pm, 10 am
12/13	@ Ellis (B)	3 pm	1/25	@ Osborne (G)	9 am
12/14	@ Minneapolis (G/B JV)	9:30 am	1/31	@ Rocky Welton (B)	3 pm
12/17	@ Republic Co. (G/B)	TBD	2/6	NCAA @ Minne- apolis (G/B)	3 pm
12/21	@ Russell (G/B)	10 am	2/7	@ Phillipsburg (G)	3 pm
1/10	@ Norton (G)	3 pm	2/8	@ Phillipsburg (B)	10 am
1/11	@ Norton (B/B JV)	3 pm	2/15	Regionals (G)	TBD
1/18	@ Hays (G)	9 am	2/22	Regionals (B)	TBD
1/18	@ Marysville (B)	9:30 am	TBD	State	TBD



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# St. John's/Tipton High School



COURTESY PHOTO BY ANDREA WILES

Members of the 2024 St. John's/Tipton Lady Jays basketball team are, front row, from left to right: Maryann Walter, Zelie Horinek, Lila Lowery, Kelsey Ohnsat, Jaedyn Arnoldy, Maura Knappert, Addison Bergman, Scarlet Ellenz. Middle row, from left to right: Felicity Walter, Elizabeth Knappert, Chrisitana Niewald, Ava Brummer, Olivia Tighe, Kendra Gengler. Back row, from left to right: Coach Leah Bergman, Ava Wiles, Carlie Brummer, Lynelle Gengler, Asst. Coach Kara Eilert.

# St. John's/Tipton Girls Basketball

Head Coach: Leah Bergmann Assistant Coach: Kara Eilert Seniors: Carlie Brummer 2023-24 Record: 15-6 Returning Starters: Carlie Brummer-SR, Lynelle Gengler-JR, Ava Brummer-SO

Returning Letterwinners: same as above plus Kendra Gengler-SO, Christiana Niewald-SO Returning All-League/ State: Carlie Brummer Season Outlook/Goals: Although we're returning three starters from last year's team, we will still be a young team, with only three upperclassmen. Despite being young, our goals of winning our league and making it back to state won't change. Our teams have always prided themselves in hard work and that will be no different this year. I look forward to a lot of growth as we go through the season from these younger players. I anticipate a little bit of a "learning curve" but ultimately, I know how capable and athletic they are

as a group. Playing bigger teams throughout our season gives us the opportunity to really test ourselves and to identify areas where we can get better. I expect to see consistent improvement as the season goes on. Overall, I'm excited to watch this team learn how to play together and to find their groove. They've always been fun to watch regardless of what sport they are competing in due to their competitive drive and hard work, and it will be no different this season.

Date	Opponent
12/6	Natoma (Tipton)
12/9-14	Preseason Tournament (Russell)
12/17	@ Clifton/Clyde (Clyde)
12/20	@ Lincoln
1/9	Sacred Heart (Beloit)
1/10	Rock Hills (Beloit)
1/14	@ Osborne
1/17-24	NPL Tournament
1/27	Lincoln (Tipton)
1/28	@ Bennington
1/31	@ Tescott
2/4	Thunder Ridge (Beloit)
2/11	Lakeside (Beloit)
2/14	@ Stockton
2/18	@ Pike Valley (Courtland)
2/21	@ Sylvan-Lucas (Sylvan Grove)
2/27-3/8	Sub State
3/12-15	State







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Good luck to all area athletes and coaches as they compete this winter!

# St. John's/Tipton High School



COURTESY PHOTO BY ANDREA WILES

Members of the 2024 St. John's/Tipton Blujay boys' basketball team are, front row, from left to right: Grady Stewart, Samuel Towner, Kaden Phillips, Brooks Dunstan, Joel Hicks, Grant Letourneau. Middle row, from left to right: Carson Thomas, Henry Woods, Dominic Eilert, Henry Holdren, Ryder Allen, Tyson Gates, Nicholas Niewald, Edward Horinek, Kaden Rabe, Grant Goodaker. Back row, from left to right: Grant Germann, Greg Walter, John Mick, Gabriel Roderick, Coach Lance Bergmann.

# St. John's/Tipton **Boys Basketball**

Head Coach: Lance Bergmann Assistant Coach: Lance Hulse Seniors: Ryder Allen, Tyson Gates, Henry Holdren, Nicholas Niewald 2023-24 Record: 13-8 Returning Starters: Ryder Allen, Tyson Gates, Edward Horinek

Returning Letterwinners: Ryder Allen, Tyson Gates, Edward Horinek, John Mick,



**Returning All-League/State**: Tyson Gates, Edward Horinek

Season Outlook/Goals: Goals: Winning preseason Russell tournament, win league regular season and win the league tournament, make a return trip to state and advance past the first round.





Date	Opponent
12/9-14	Preseason Tournament (@ Russell)
12/17	@ Clifton-Clyde (Clyde)
12/20	@ Lincoln
1/9	Sacred Heart (Beloit)
1/10	Rock Hills (Beloit)
1/14	@ Osborne
1/17-24	Northern Plains League Tournament
1/27	Lincoln (Tipton)
1/28	@ Bennington
1/31	@ Tescott
2/4	Thunder Ridge (Beloit)
2/11	Lakeside (Beloit)
2/14	@ Stockton
2/18	@ Pike Valley (Courtland)
2/21	@ Sylvan-Lucas (Sylvan Grove)
2/27-3/8	Sub State
3/12-15	State



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#### PAGE 7B

### Lakeside High School

#### Lakeside Boys Basketball Head Coach: Drew Duskie Assistant Coach:

Cody Fears Seniors: Jace Cunningham, Reece Remus, Kaden McCoy, Gabe Smith, Korbin Naasz

2023-24 Record: 9-9 **Returning Starters:** Jace Cunningham, Reece Remus, Kaden McCoy **Returning All** 

League: Jace Cunningham (2nd), Reece Remus (2nd)

Season Outlook/ goals: Ian Kresin and Jorden Schoen will need to be replaced as starters from last year's team. We bring back multiple starters and upperclassmen with varsity experience. Seniors Jace Cunningham and Reece Remus will be leaned upon heavily on the offensive side of the ball. Senior Kaden McCoy returns from a late season injury, he was one of our best on ball defenders. Seniors Gabe Smith and Korbin Naasz will be vying for a starting position and both will see increased varsity minutes this year.





Members of the Lakeside Knights boys' basketball team are, back row, from left to right: Liam Christians, Reece Remus, Lakota Snyder, Korbin Naasz, Jace Cunningham, Kaden McCoy, Gabe Smith. Middle row, from left to right: Luke Hutson, Conner Sizemore, Caleb Frasier, Coby Cline, Eli Schmitt, Kaden Frasier, Treyton Geisler. Front row, from left to right: Luke Hartsock, Isaac Koops, Ryker Remus, Camden Hamilton, Graham Clausen, Toby Johnson. Not Pictured: Carter Beougher, Landon Baetz, Head Coach Drew Duskie and Assistant Coach Cody Fears.

Sophomore Eli Schmitt will move into the point guard position where he will be tasked with running the offense. Junior Landon Baetz should also see in-

creased minutes this year. We will have good size and quickness and rely on that for transition offense and hard ball man defense. Our league will be as open

as it ever has and we will need to be efficient on offense and play tenacious defensive if we want to be on the top side of the NPL at the end of the year.

Date	Opponent
12/6	@ Tescott
12/10	TBA (@ Stockton)
12/13	TBA (@ Stockton)
12/14	TBA (@ Stockton)
12/17	Bennington
12/20	@ Stockton
1/7	@ Logan/Palco
1/10	Pike Valley
1/14	@ Thunder Ridge (Kensington)
1/17-24	NPL Tournament
1/28	Lincoln
1/31	Osborne
2/3	Linn
2/7	Rock Hills
2/11	@ St. John's/Tipton (Beloit)
2/14	Sylvan/Lucas
2/21	Natoma
2/27-3/8	Sub-State
3/12-15	State





succeed.

Members of the Lakeside girls' basketball team are, front row, from left to right: Addison Schmitt, Cambridge Schoen, Krina Doane, Sarah Reinert. Back row, from left to right: Tatum Miller, Kaylee Otte, Marley McCoy, Kaitlyn Herskowitz.



# Sylvan/Lucas High School



Members of the Sylvan/Lucas boys' basketball team are, back row from left to right: William Cline, Vance Dohl, Madden Esposito, Kale Sorensen, Liam Goss, Lane Brokes, Cai Labertew, Tristan Keith, Isaac Schultz, Layne Buttenhoff. Middle row, from left to right: Casey Janssen, Zayne Maupin, Asher Hernandez, Chase Palmer, Caleb Dlabel, Tevis Dohl, Gabe Esposito, Peyton Wacker, Carter Johnson, Cody Chavet. Cooper Johnson. Seated, from left to right: C.D. Weber, Tage Woodmansee, Cade Brokes, Harlan Pancost, Connor Charvat.

### Sylvan/Lucas Boys Basketball

Head Coach: Jeff Starkey 2023-24 Record: 14-7 Seniors: Connor Charvat, Harlan Pancost, Cade Brokes, CD Weber, Tiger Woodmansee Returning Starters: Connor Charvat, Harlan Pancost, Cade Brokes, Carter Johnson, Branden Nelson

**Returning Let**terwinners: N/A **Season Out**look/Goals: We have a lot of upperclassmen with varsity experience. If we can experience some success early in the year, with a tough early schedule, we could set ourselves up for a successful season.



Date	Opponent	Time	Date	Opponent	Time
12/6	Bennington	4 pm	1/31	Otis-Bison	4 pm
12/10-14	Russell Tournament	TBD	2/4	Rock Hills	4 pm
12/17	Lincoln	4 pm	2/7	@ Thunder Ridge	4 pm
12/20	@ Pike Valley	4 pm	2/11	@ Stockton	4 pm
1/3	@ Solomon	4 pm	2/14	@ Lakeside	4 pm
1/10	Tescott	4 pm	2/18	Osborne	4 pm
1/14	@ Natoma	4 pm	2/21	St. John's/Tipton	4 pm
1/17-24	NPL Tournament	TBD	2/27-3/8	Sub-State	TBD
1/28	@ Osborne	4 pm	3/12-15	State	TBD



Members of the Sylvan/Lucas girls' basketball team from, left to right. Back row: Saydee Goss, Brooklyn Thielen, Mina Pahls, Kenzley Frederking, Dominique Davidson, Morgan Finkenbinder, Lily Pancost, Breckyn Gosvener. Middle Row: Belle Wehrman, Jayden Meitler, Molly Heller, Harlee Nelson, LeeAllie Wacker, Codie Huehl, Josie Svaty. Front Row: Anna Feldkamp, Alivia Koch, Serenity Steinike, Maggie Labertew, Hallie Thielen, Abby Dlabal.

\*In the middle row there are two girls that are present in the picture but are no longer on the team and not listed above.\*

### Sylvan/Lucas Girls Basketball

Head Coach: Brady Ryan Assistant Coach(s): Eric Nitsch Seniors: Abby Dlabal, Anna Feldkamp, Aliviab Koch, Hallie Thielen, Maggie Labertew, Serenity Steinike 2023-24 Record: 17-5 **Returning Starters**: Maggie Labertew, Serenity Steinike

Returning Letterwinners: Abby Dlabal, Alivia Koch, Anna Feldkamp, Codie Huehl, Hallie Theilen, Harlee Nelson, LeeAllie Wacker, Maggie Labertew, Molly Heller, Morgan Finkenbinder, and Serenity Steinike.

Returning All-League/State: Mag-

gie Labertew-Northern Plains League 1st Team All-League, KSHSAA 1A D1 All-State Honorable Mention; Serenity Steinike- Northern Plains League 3rd Team All-League

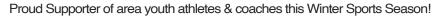
Season Outlook/Goals: We are excited to get the season started, being bumped up to 2A this year will be an adjustment that we are excited about. We return two starters and a handful of players with varsity experience. Our biggest goals and reminders for this season are communication leads to success, playing together, and knowing that it takes more than five players to win this game.

Date	Opponent	Time	Date	Opponent	Time
12/6	Bennington	4 pm	1/31	Otis-Bison	4 pm
12/10-14	Russell Tournament	TBD	2/4	Rock Hills	4 pm
12/17	Lincoln	4 pm	2/7	@ Thunder Ridge	4 pm
12/20	@ Pike Valley	4 pm	2/11	@ Stockton	4 pm
1/3	@ Solomon	4 pm	2/14	@ Lakeside	4 pm
1/10	Tescott	4 pm	2/18	Osborne	4 pm
1/14	@ Natoma	4 pm	2/21	St. John's/Tipton	4 pm
1/17-24	NPL Tournament	TBD	2/27-3/8	Sub-State	TBD
1/28	@ Osborne	4 pm	3/12-15	State	TBD



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### **Rock Hills**



Members of the Rock Hills girls' basketball team are, front row, from left to right: Jayce Cady, Amber Wilden, Emma Strnad, Bethany Simmelink, Halle Mizner, Alex Fogo, Alivia Lindberg. Back row, from left to right: Chloe Rothchild, Meili Ost, Laney Moser, Brynlee Manning, Merissa Coleman, Sadie Greene.

## Rock Hills Girls Basketball

Head Coach: Nick Mizner Assistant Coach: Jaid Runft Seniors: None 2023-24 Record: 9-10 Returning Starters: Bethany Simmelink, Halle Mizner, Alex Fogo, Aliva Lindberg

**Returning Letterwinners**:Bethany Simmelink, Halle Mizner, Alex Fogo, Aliva Lindberg

**Returning All-League/State**: Bethany Simmelink, Halle Mizner

**Season Outlook/Goals**: After only having seven players out last year, the Rock Hills Lady Grizzlies are looking to rebuild and improve upon their 9-10 season with a full roster. Hopefully, with more depth, this year's team can look to be a top three league team and can advance further into the postseason than ever before. We bring back a lot of experience from last year, so we plan to build off that and to be a threat, night in and night out.

Date	Opponent	Time	Date	Opponent	Time
12/6	Pike Valley	4 pm	1/17-24	NPL Tournament	TBD
12/10-14	Preseason Tourney	TBD	1/27	@ Osborne	4 pm
12/17	Logan/Palco	4 pm	1/28	Tescott	4 pm
12/30	Superior, NE	4 pm	2/4	@ Sylvan-Lucas	4 pm
1/3	Red Cloud, NE	4 pm	2/7	@ Lakeside	4 pm
1/7	Stockton	4 pm	2/11	Natoma	4 pm
1/10	@ St. John's/Tipton	4 pm	2/21	@ Thunder Ridge	4 pm
1/14	Lawrence-Nelson, NE	4 pm	2/27-3/8	Playoffs	TBD

# **Rock Hills Boys Basketball**

Head Coach: Stuart Vance Assistant Coach: Zach Duffy 2023-24 Record: 7-13

**Seniors**: Cooper McDill, Christan Wurm, Eli Vance, Camden Ward, Tristyn Reynolds

**Returning Starters:** Cooper McDill, Tristyn Reynoods, Eli Vance, Camden Ward, Ethan Wirth, Eli Whelchel, Justin Luong, Noah Eakins

Returning Letterwinners: N/A Season Outlook/

Goals: I have been blessed to have all but one player returning from last year's team. They were coached by an amazing coach so I know that they are hardworking, disciplined young student-athletes. We will have 6 seniors and over 20 kids on the team this year, which will be the most we have had in a long time. There are 8 players on this year's team that will have some kind of starting experience. This year I am going to focus on defense, taking care of the basketball, making smart choices with the basketball, and doing the little things that take you from a good team to a really good team to a great team.



Members of the Rock Hills boys' basketball team are, first row, from left to right: Tristyn Reynolds, Camden Ward, Cooper McDill, Eli Vance, Cristian Wurm. Second row, from left to right: Draiden Ault, Kaden Wurm, Kiplee Kussmen, Ethan Wirth. Third row, from left to right: (left to right) Blake Fultz, Noah Eakins, Cruz Navarro, Ty Vance, Eli Whelchel, Justin Luong. Fourth row, from left to right: Aiden Brown, Owen Mizner, Layn Badger, Nolan Grout, Colin Wirth, Griffen Dunstan.





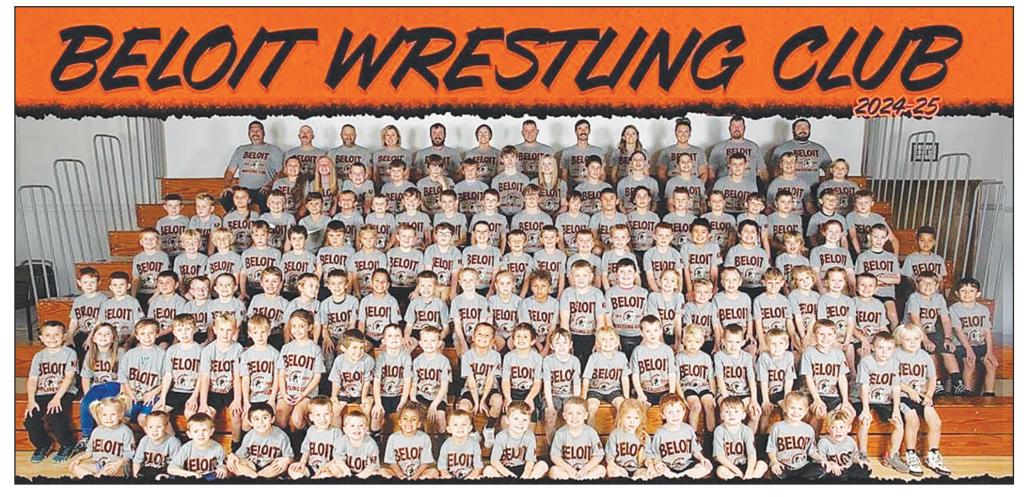


#### GOOD LUCK TO ALL AREA YOUTH ATHLETES AND COACHES DURING THIS WINTER SPORTS SEASON

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# Beloit Wrestling Club at 137 plus members Largest single team in Beloit history



The Beloit Wrestling Club (BWC) sets membership records for the third year in a row. Officially the largest single team in the history of Beloit, this year's team currently sits at 137 registered members which could get up to over 150 once the junior high and high school seasons conclude and they also join the team for districts and state competition. Last year the club had just over 80 members and the year before was approximately 70.

The BWC hopes too return Beloit as the most dominant wrestling town in the state as it was in the 70s when club founder Mike Piazza lead Beloit to sixth Street high school championships. A noticeable difference this year is the fact that there is close to 30 girls signed up. Girls wrestling is the fastest growing sport in the United States. Kansas has the second most overall registered wrestlers next to the state of California. The BWC has close to 15

coaches this year, 6 are women coaches learning wrestling along with the kids. There is a solid core of experienced coaches from various Kansas high schools including several from the Beloit high school program. Jason Gilley, the head coach spent, his youth and high school wrestling days in Northern Illinois and competed at the college level in Iowa.

The Beloit Wrestling Club officially started the wrestling season by hosting the Beloit Junior invite on Saturday, Nov. 30. Last season they qualified 16 wrestlers for the state championships where they captured a third place team finish for the 8 & Under division. This year's team has over 60 Beginner level kids from ages 4-6, over 40 Advanced kids ages 5-12, and Elite level kids ages 5-15.

For more information, follow the Beloit wrestling club, on their Facebook page.

### League Sportsmanship Champion Award

TOPEKA – Promoting good sportsmanship at all Kansas State High School Activities Association events continues to be a priority for the KSHSAA and its member schools. Maintaining focus on the student-athlete remains an important focus as participation in the interscholastic activity program teaches important life lessons and holds the students accountable to academic, attendance, and behavior standards.

Starting this basketball season, the KSHSAA will recognize a League Sportsmanship Champion which is inclusive of the girls' and boy' teams (players and coaches), spirit squads, pep bands and spectators based upon regular season basketball contests as evaluated by the adopted sportsmanship rubric. Each high school League/Conference Champion will be awarded a championship trophy.

"Sportsmanship expectations remain a priority as school leaders understand appropriate behavior and sportsmanship demonstrated by participants will extend well beyond the playing court", said Bill Faflick, KSH-SAA Executive Director. "While student-athletes earn the right to represent their school based upon their on their performance in the classroom and skill on the court, they preserve that opportunity through positive sportsmanship while playing the game they love." Since 1970, the KSH-SAA has awarded State Basketball Sportsmanship Awards for those schools that met a qualified mark after participating in the state tournament. The KSHSAA is taking a necessary step to put more emphasis on sportsmanship year-round for every school, not just those that qualify for the state tournament. The traditional sportsmanship award held its rightful place for over 50 years and the KSHSAA is grateful for the many judges that took their task seriously each year making a positive impact on the state tournaments. The new KSHSAA League Sportsmanship award will be able to influence more students and school communities. This award allows each league/conference to identify a KSHSAA Basketball Sportsmanship League/ Conference Champion. As the basketball regular season concludes, member schools will select their League Sportsmanship Champion. There are currently 38 leagues within the KSH-SAA membership. Following the implementation during the upcoming basketball season, the Board will evaluate the impact of the award and consider possible changes and/or expansion prior to the 2025-26 school year.









#### BELOIT

Basketball Girls

The Beloit Lady Trojans defeated the Concordia Lady Trojans, 60-46, Friday, Dec. 6, 2024, to open the season. They will now host Clay Center on Tuesday, December 10. The Lady Tigers opened the season on Friday with a 16-point win over Riley County.

#### Boys

The Beloit Trojans lost to the Concordia Panthers, 67-65, in double overtime, to start the season, on Dec. 6, 2024. They will now prepare to host Clay Center on Tuesday, December 10, in Beloit. The Tigers opened the season on Friday with a rout of Riley County.

#### Wrestling

Boys

The Beloit Trojans boys wrestling team opened their season at home, as they were host to Plainville for a 54-17 win and to Phillipsburg with a close 40-38 loss during their first double dual and a 1-1 start. They will now be on the road for the Minneapolis tournament on Dec. 14 with a 9:30 a.m. start. Girls

The Beloit girls wrestling team opened their season at home, as they were host to Plainville with a 36-39 loss and to Phillipsburg with a 42-34 loss during their first double dual and an 0-1 start. They will now be on the road for the Minneapolis tournament on Dec. 14.

#### ST. JOHN'S

#### Basketball

#### Girls

The St. John's/Tipton Lady Jays opened their season with a big win over Natoma, 43-11, on Friday, Dec. 6, 2024, in Tipton. The Lady Jays fell to Ellsworth Lady Bearcats in the opening game of the pre-season Russell tournament on Monday, Dec. 9, 2024, and will now face Smith Center at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 12, in Russell.

#### Boys

St. John's/Tipton boys won big over Natoma in their opening game of the season, 74-24, in Tipton. The Blujays opened the pre-season Russell tournament on Monday, Dec. 9, with a close loss to Ellsworth 52-54. They will now face Smith Center on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 5 p.m. in Russell.

