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# Concordia BLADE-EMPIRE

VOL. CXV111, NO. 39 (USPS 127-880)

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THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2025

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## Two Concordia Junior/Senior High School Students Charged With Assault *No Charges Filed Against USD 333*

Two Concordia Junior/Senior High School students have been charged with assault in relation to an incident that occurred "on or about the 18th day of November, 2024, in the County of Cloud, State of Kansas", according to the official complaint.

The incident did not occur on school property.

A Special Prosecutor appointed to the case found that USD 333 did not violate a "mandatory to report" clause in dealing with this incident.

In the official complaint, both students are charged with violation of Kansas Statutes Annotated (K.S.A.) 21.5412.a.e.1: Assault, a Class C Person Misdemeanor.

In Kansas, Assault, a Class C Person Misdemeanor is punishable by up to 30 days in jail and/or a \$500 fine. A judge could also place the defendant on probation.

The Cloud County Sheriff's Department completed an investigation of the incident and forwarded its findings to the office of Rob Walsh, the Cloud County Attorney. Walsh subsequently transferred a portion of the case concerning USD 333 to Starla Nelson, an attorney and former judge who was appointed Special Prosecutor.

"I did not want there to be any conflict of interest at all in this," Walsh said.

Nelson stated that she was appointed to consider charges against the USD 333 school district for violation of the mandatory to report clause of (K.S.A.) 38-2223. "This was in regard to this matter only with the school district," said Nelson. "I did not handle any juvenile offender considerations of this case."

Specifically, K.S.A. 38-2223 states: Reporting of certain abuse or neglect of children; persons required to report; reports, made to whom; penalties; immu-

nity from liability. (a) Persons making reports. (1) When any of the following persons has reason to suspect that a child has been harmed as a result of physical, mental or emotional abuse or neglect or sexual abuse, the person shall report the matter promptly as provided in subsections (b) and (c); of certain abuse or neglect of children; persons required to report;

Subsection (c) states: teachers, school administrators and other employees of an educational institution that the child is attending and any member of the board of directors of the Kansas state high school activities association referenced in K.S.A. 72-7114, and amendments thereto, and any person who is employed by or is an officer of such association.

Nelson chose not to file charges against USD 333 based on the information she had received. "With what I re-

ceived," Nelson said, "I did not conclude that the school district had triggered their mandatory to report clause, and charges were not filed."

Quentin Breese, the Superintendent of USD 333 Concordia Public Schools: issued a statement on February 26: 'U.S.D. 333 administration made the decision based on court documents on January 28, 2025 under district policy and K.S.H.S.A.A. regulations to suspend some students from participation in sports competitions. The district cannot comment about details underlying this decision, due to the students' privacy rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. We support our students and student-athletes as they pursue educational and athletic excellence, both individually and as representatives of Concordia Public Schools, and we strive to provide a positive educational environment for our students.'

## Cloud County Resources for people in need

BY CYNTHIA WILSON | BLADE-EMPIRE

Cloud County has a lot of resources for people in need. From prenatal, childcare, senior citizens, counseling, family support, drug and alcohol support, medical services, food, financial, housing, transportation, clothing, and education to employment, there is something for just about every need.

The Cloud County Health Department, Cloud County Resource Center, Manna House of Prayer, Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas (DVACK), Neighbor to Neighbor, Frank Carlson Library, North Central Kansas CASA and Hope's Place (NCK CASA) all offer help and support.

Manna House of Prayer, through private donations, has a Helping Hands

ministry, which can provide emergency financial assistance and food for people in crisis.

DVACK, Concordia's Satellite office, provides services for all domestic violence survivors. All their services are free, voluntary, and confidential. DVACK has crisis services, support groups, court advocacy assistance, and aids for clothing, hygiene, and household goods.

The Cloud County Resource Center has a food bank, some financial services, and limited household goods.

NCK CASA is a program to assist children who are abused and neglected. They provide crisis intervention, and support and referrals for mental health and medical treatment.

See **RESOURCES** on 2



Max Johnson, M & M Dirt Work, won first place and the People's Choice Award in this year's annual Youth Entrepreneur Challenge, hosted by CloudCorp.

See **STORY** & picture on page 2

## The Addams family comes to life on stage

BY RUSSELL GAGNON

The wacky characters and comedy hijinks of the iconic Addams family is coming to the Concordia Junior/Senior High School (JSHS) Auditorium March 13-15.

"The Addams Family Musical" is based on the 1960's TV show "The Addams Family," and embraces the wackiness in every family.

Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family - a man her parents, Gomez and Morticia, have never met. Everything will change for the family on the fateful night they host a dinner party for Wednesday's "normal" boyfriend and his parents.

"I directed this play five years ago in Dodge City, so I knew it was a fun show," said Kelly Knedler, the director of Choral Music, Drama & Music Theatre at Concordia JSHS. "It's a play that doesn't require a large cast, and we are building up our numbers here in the music and play arenas. We've got a lot of talented kids here now, and I knew this play would be a great fit for them."

Knedler likes the fact that the "The Addams Family Musical" is a relatively new show. "It hasn't been around for a long time versus other musicals, like "Oklahoma." And



(R-L) Vanessa Brown, Cricky Warren, Lila Wallace, and Leathan Stevenson rehearse for the comedy/musical The Addams Family at the Concordia JSHS Auditorium.

I wanted the kids to do a comedy/musical. People love to come see them sing and have a good time on stage, and I think it also helps the kids learn a little bit more about themselves, and about music."

Vanessa Brown will play the lead role of Wednesday Addams, and she has actually seen reruns of the TV show, which was on air from

1964-66. "I did see the old TV show," she said. "I was only about seven, so I was confused a little, I guess. But it was funny."

Brown likes the challenge of playing the precocious Wednesday. "I like how she portrays her emotions. She's not supposed to have emotions, so it's kind of crazy how she expresses them."

See **ADDAMS** on 2

# Resources

continued from 1

Neighbor to Neighbor is a drop-in center for women and children in Concordia. It is funded by the Sisters of St. Joseph. They provide free lunches at 11:30 a.m. most days of the week, RSVP by 10 a.m. to get a spot reserved. They have laundry facilities, shower services, exercise classes, child playgroups, free Wi-Fi, a knitting and crochet group, baking classes, vouchers, educational resources, and referrals for services in the community. It is a safe place to drop by during their business hours.

Some of the thrift stores help with clothing assistance. Vouchers for the Catholic Thrift Store can be acquired from Neighbor to Neighbor. The Fellowship Christian Thrift Store also has vouchers that can be acquired from within the store.

Frank Carlson Library is a safe place for individuals and families to drop in during business hours. They have heating and air conditioning, and resources for other services in the community if you need a free place to go.

## Emergency Housing:

- DVACK has an emergency pet-friendly safe shelter in Salina, KS. The Concordia's satellite office provides emergency transportation for the shelter. This service is free of charge.

- Manna House of Prayer has housing, even for one night, starting at about \$52 per night.

- Some of the churches in Concordia may help with vouchers for hotels. Contact individual churches for more information.

- There are a few low-income or income-based apartments in Cloud County, including Concordia Apartments, Cloud Village, Savannah Park Apartments, and Sunflower Apartments. These apartments require applications and are a longer-term solution.

## Clothing Assistance:

- Catholic Thrift Store has vouchers that can be acquired from Neighbor to Neighbor.

- Fellowship Christian Thrift Store has vouchers that can be acquired from within the store.

- DVACK has clothing assistance for domestic survivors that can be acquired from the Concordia office.

## Food Assistance:

- Cloud County Resource Center's food bank; ID is required, but they have a homeless program that doesn't require an ID.

- Manna House of Prayer's Helping Hands ministry has a small food pantry for people in crisis.

- 'Commodities' is a program at the First United Methodist Church which occurs every other month. No proof of

ID or income is needed.

- Meals on Wheels program is provided through the Concordia Senior Center, for all ages. The cost for a meal is \$5 for 65 or older and \$6 for younger than 65.

- Cloud County Health Department provides an emergency pantry basket for people, pending supplies.

## Financial Assistance:

- Cloud County Resource Center, call for specific services.

- The Department of Children and Family (DCF) can help people with children or women who are pregnant. Applications are available from the local office.

- Manna House of Prayer and Catholic Charities.

## Laundry Services:

- Neighbor to Neighbor has laundry services for Women and Children, call to reserve a time.

- OCCK Inc. partnered with Laundry Love to provide laundry services for the Community free of charge, on the first Wednesday of the month from 8:30-10:30 a.m., and the third Wednesday of the month from 4-6 p.m., at 1548 Lincoln St., Concordia. This included free access to washers, dryers, and detergent.

## Transportation:

- Go Concordia is providing free rides starting November 4, 2024, until May 30, 2025. They are now serving all of Cloud County.

- DVACK provides emergency transportation to the local hospital or to their safe shelter in Salina.

- North Central Kansas Medical Center has resources for families who need gas money if they have a patient transferred out of town.

- There are other transportation services in town. KS 81 Connection drives from Salina to Belleville, going through Concordia. They require a small fee.

- OCCK Inc. has transportation services for individuals with short-term or long-term disabilities.

## Medical Services:

- Cloud County Health Department helps with low-cost services, including immunizations, physical assessments, family planning, and home health services.

- North Central Kansas Medical Center has an emergency room and a walk-in or by-appointment Family Care Center.

- KanCare is Kansas' Medicaid program. Applications are available online.

Please visit the Cloud County Health Department for a 2025 Cloud County Resource Guide, including phone numbers for each service, which can be picked up from their office at 910 West 11th Street, Concordia.



Congratulations to all the winners and participants of this year's Youth Entrepreneur Challenge, hosted by CloudCorp on Thursday, February 27.

PHOTOS BY CYNTHIA WILSON | BLADE-EMPIRE

# CloudCorp hosts Youth Entrepreneur Challenge

BY CYNTHIA WILSON | BLADE-EMPIRE

On Thursday, February 27, CloudCorp hosted the annual Youth Entrepreneur Challenge (YEC). The competition challenges students in grades 7-12 to develop and pitch business ideas while competing for prizes. The monetary prizes can be used to help fund a start-up company, or even help pay their college tuition.

The winners of the YEC this year include:

- First Place, \$700: M & M Dirt Work, Max Johnson

- Second Place, \$500: J & R Dream Designs, Jaci Winter and Rylie Wunderle

- Third Place, \$300: Watch-In Movie Theatre, Jack Skocny

- People's Choice Winner, \$300: M & M Dirt Work, Max Johnson

- Best Marketing, \$200: Moo-thies,

Olyvia Sanders and Piper Larsen

First-place winner Max Johnson will go on to compete at the state level.

Guest speakers were drawn from all parts of Cloud County. They included Sarah McDuffee of 3M Taxidermy in Glasco; Lesli Jaimes of Learning Tree Children's Center in Jamestown; Jolene Girard of the Clyde Hotel in Clyde; Ron Foster of Ride on Bike Shop in Miltonvale; Troy LeDuc of LeDuc Memorial Design in Concordia; and Lucas and Sarah Chavey of Moody Hue Studio in Concordia.

The last question asked to the guest speakers was, "What would be your advice to your younger self or to the youth today?" The overall answer, from almost all the guest speakers, was to have a great business plan, take business classes, and get experience and knowledge of funding available.

\*\*\*

*If you greatly desire something, have the guts to stake everything on obtaining it.*

*-Brendan Francis*

\*\*\*

# Addams

continued from 1

"Fester is as he describes himself in the play: 'a fat, bald, weirdo with no gender.' He's goofy and does things most people wouldn't expect to see. But what I find interesting is that, though he is an Addams, he talks a lot about love."

The other cast of characters for the stage play are Nolan Christensen as Malcolm Beineke; Olivia Christensen as Pugsley Addams; Bethany Demars as Alice Beineke; Eli Denham as Solider Ancestor-1940s; Piper Doering-Poore as Lucas Beineke; Maizy Ferrell is Baseball Player Ancestor-2000s; Jazlyn Hendershott is Cavewoman Ancestor-10,000BC; Kat Howell is Flapper Ancestor-1920s; Logan Lilja portrays Lurch; Emma Ramirez is Nurse Ancestor-1900s; Leathan Stevenson plays Gomez Addams; Brady Strait is Thing-A Hand, the Grim Reaper, and Farmer An-

cestor-1950s; Alexandria Wagner is the Puritan Ancestor-1600s; Lila Wallace portrays Morticia Addams; and Cricky Warren is Grandmama Addams.

The stage crew consists of Lyllian McNutt and Keltyn Newton.

Knedler is the director; Stuart Roegge is the music director, and Bobbie McWhorter is the choreographer. Autumn Zimmerman is the assistant director. Amber Clark is the accompanist/lights & sound, and Shad Clark is also on lights & sound.

The show will be performed Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, March 13-15, 2025, at 7 p.m. in the Concordia JSHS Auditorium.

Tickets for the show are \$8. Tickets will be available for purchase in advance after Wednesday, March 5, 2025, through the Concordia JSHS Athletic Office.

## Print 5

# WE ARE AT OUR

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## Lady Shirley's

SOCIETY PAPERS  
 CONCORDIA, KANSAS  
 Second Edition, March 2025

EXTRAORDINARY PEOPLE,  
 EXTRAORDINARY STORIES

*Dear Gentle Reader,*

What society paper would there be without a bit of scandal? This author has the "tea," to-day's slang for gossip or interesting information, and is prepared to "spill it," meaning share it. Dearest reader, I find myself compelled to bear the most curious news.

and this author's namesake. The scandal does not end there, dear reader. It has reached my ears that there were some peculiar happenings that led to Concordia, our fair city, to be named the County Seat.

Be it shame or slander, seduction or smear, there is but one thing that humbles even the most highly regarded in our Ton - a scandal. Well dear reader, it should seem that all of Concordia has been left to ponder a rather scandalous question, indeed. Might Clyde have been the rightful County Seat?

You may recall from my last letter, Cloud County's name almost came from a notorious type of woman,

*Yours truly,  
 Lady Shirley*

---

FABRICATED STORIES, PAPER TOWNS, WHISKEY

Did you pick up the First Edition of Lady Shirley's Society Papers in February? Kindly remember, a paper copy is available at each of the attractions. If you missed February, you can still obtain a copy with the right amount of pleading...a simple please should do. But this month's edition is even better. Who knew what lengths a man might go through to create a town! Who could guess that election tampering, which seems to be on the tongues of to-day's media reports, would have

been the object of similar speculation even in 1866? Pick up your copy of Lady Shirley today to find out more!

J.M. HAGAMAN

# The First of Several

BY LORI HALFHIDE  
NOTC Head of Research

Last week I spoke briefly of Eugene Smith, an Orphan Train Rider that Edward Maxwell rescued from a bad situation. This week, we'll hear Eugene's story.

Eugene Napoleon Smith was born on the tenth of February, 1873, in New York City. His younger brother Albert Noah Smith was born August 2, 1876. Their parentage is unknown at this time. By 1880, Eugene and "Bertie" were in an Orphan Asylum.

On June 8, 1886, Eugene arrived in Leonardville, Kansas, with a company of children sent West by the Children's Aid Society. It is unclear at this time whether Albert was on this train or not. Agent William McCully of Clay Center, Kansas, accompanied the children.

Eugene went home with Ellis H. Davies. Harry Colwell's memoir gave the following account: "In Gene's case, he was taken by a farmer who soon afterward tired of his bargain and began to neglect the youngster. Mr. Maxwell learned of the situation and offered to take the boy off the farmer's hands, an arrangement to which the other readily agreed. From then on Gene made his home with the Maxwell family, growing to manhood there...."

The 1896 Children's Aid Society Annual Report contained a report about Eugene. Reported were the placement with Mr. Davis and then that Eugene was relocated with Mr. Maxwell in January of 1887, who was "the superintendent of the Sunday School." The following January, Agent McCully reported that Eugene was still living with Mr. Maxwell, was a member of the church, and seemed strongly attached to Mr. Maxwell.

In September of 1893, Ed and Florence Maxwell gave a party in honor of Eugene Smith's twenty-first birthday. The newspaper reported that he had been a member of the family for eight years. There were forty people in attendance, indoor music, and outdoor games. At 10 o'clock, Florence and the girls served a "fine supper consisting of oyster's pie, cake, etc." Some of the gifts he received: Ed Maxwell gave him a cow; Florence Maxwell, trunk; Edna Maxwell, silk handkerchief and pocketbook. He also received gold pens, a tie, scarf pin, clothes brush, gold cuff buttons, and 35 cents.

In January of 1894 it was reported that Eugene was attending college.

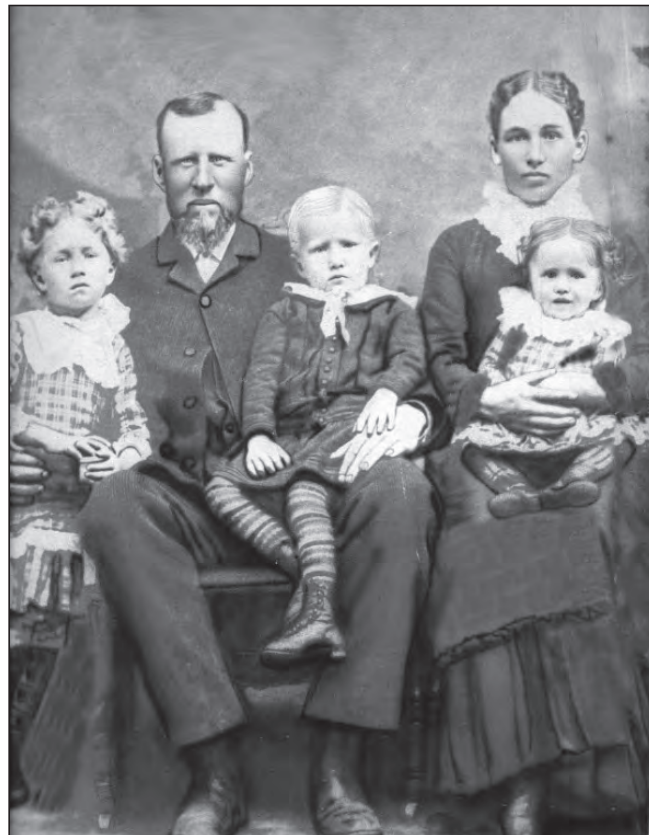
On July 9, 1896, Eugene wrote to the CAS, "Yours of July first is received. I am doing very well, and have 80 acres of land and a good start in stock. I expect to stick to farming. I consider the future holds much of brightness for me, as I expect soon to have a home of my own on my little farm. I think the west is the best place for boys; the broad open prairies seem to me so much brighter and sweeter than the stifling dust of the streets of the city. May God prosper you in your noble work."

Gene Smith and Harry Colwell established a bond over their shared experi-



This image of the Maxwell farm was taken just a few years before Eugene Smith joined the family.

**BIRTH DAY PARTY.**  
Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Maxwell gave a party last Tuesday night in honor of the 21st birthday anniversary of Eugene Smith, who has been a member of the family for the past eight years. There were about forty persons present. During the early part of the evening the company were entertained with music indoors, while out-door games of various kinds were made part of the evening's enjoyment.  
At about 10 o'clock a fine supper was served consisting of oyster's pie, cake, etc.  
The evening proved a most enjoyable one to all, and especially to Mr. Smith, who will remember it as one of the most pleasant occasions of his life. In fact he promises to give a party every time his 21st birthday comes round.  
The following is a partial list of the presents he received on the occasion, with the names of the donors:  
E. A. Maxwell, a cow; Mrs. Maxwell, a trunk; James Coltharp, gold cuff-buttons; Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Summers, pocket-book; Frank Montgomery and Miss Mattie Day, gold pen; Miss Mamie Barwell, book; Miss Edna Maxwell, silk handkerchief and pocket-book; Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Coltharp, neck tie; Miss May Tempero, scarf pin; Flossie Maxwell, clothes brush; Geo. Cox, 50¢; Alice Maxwell, box writing paper; Dora Jenkins, 30¢.  
The following persons were present from other neighborhoods:  
Messrs. Geo. and James Rogers and Joseph Rich, and Misses Morris, Mamie Barwell, and Gracie Rich, of Green, and Miss Nellie Kilbourne and John Fox, of Leonardville.



Ed & Florence Maxwell in 1883 with their three oldest children (L to R): Edna, Alexander "Allie" and Jane. Jane passed away as a child. Edna would one day marry Eugene Smith.

Eugene's 21st birthday celebration made the news in the Leonardville Monitor, Thursday, October 5, 1893.



After Eugene's death, the youngest members of the Smith and Maxwell households were photographed together. L to R: Eugene Maxwell Smith (Eugene & Edna's son), Helen Maxwell, Alice Smith (Eugene & Edna's daughter), Ed Maxwell and Ruth Maxwell. The three Maxwells were Edna's youngest siblings.

ences. By this time, Gene's brother Albert was a Methodist minister serving a community not far from Leonardville.

On March 30, 1898, Eugene Smith married Miss Edna Maxwell, the oldest of the Maxwell daughters, at the Maxwell home. Eugene's best man was his brother Albert of Milford. Ed Maxwell gave Eugene and Edna a section of farm ground next to his farm for them to build a home on and settle down. Eugene and Edna welcomed two children: Alice and Maxwell Smith.

In 1902 the Smith family moved to Denver, Colorado. In August of 1904, Leonardville newspapers reported that Eugene was suffering from typhoid fever. He passed away on the 17th of August

at the age of 31. His body was returned to Leonardville and he rests at the city cemetery.

Eugene Smith's obituary was filled with glowing words about him. He had joined the Methodist Church shortly after Ed Maxwell took him in. He was prominent in Sunday School and church work. He was always cheerful and ever anxious to please his employers and others. He made scores of friends wherever he went. It was also stated that he would be missed as keenly in the Maxwell family as if one of their own had passed, for that is what he was to them, even before he became their son-in-law.

Eugene's younger brother, Rev. Albert Smith, preached the gospel in Methodist Episcopal

Churches all over central Kansas. He married Miss Daisy Orndorff (he was living with her family in 1900) on the seventh of March 1901. In the 1905 census, Henry Smith, Albert's birth father, was living with the family.

Rev. Smith served in Milford, Lindsborg, Miltonvale, Marquette, Hays, and Mankato to name a few communities. During World War I he went to France to serve with the YMCA.

Reverend Albert Noah Smith died on the 23rd of November, 1950, in Salina, Kansas, at the age of 74. He rests at Gypsum Hill Cemetery.

Eugene Smith was an example of those many Orphan Train Riders who made the most of what advantages were provided. He was a beloved member of the Maxwell family and received a college education. He married and had a family. His life was much too short, but the time he was given was used to every advantage.

## SUDOKU

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

Level: Intermediate

## Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15						16			
17			18								19		
20						21						22	
23				24				25		26			
			27			28	29	30					
31	32	33		34				35			36	37	
38				39				40			41		
42			43							45			
			46						48				
49	50								51		52	53	54
55				56		57	58	59		60			
61				62					63				
64				65							66		
67				68								69	

### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Cut a little bit off
- 5. State with confidence
- 11. River in NE Scotland
- 14. Not narrow
- 15. Lacking social polish
- 16. Amount of time
- 17. Frame
- 19. Automobile
- 20. Toadstools
- 21. High school dances
- 22. Utilize
- 23. Challenged
- 25. One-sided
- 27. Showing extreme greed
- 31. Potted plants
- 34. Everyone has one
- 35. Lake in Botswana
- 38. E.T. rode in one
- 39. Juniors' parents
- 41. Small amount
- 42. Mother of Perseus
- 44. Ornamental box
- 45. Gov't investigators
- 46. Uncertain
- 49. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
- 51. The vast grassy plains in S. America
- 55. Your consciousness of your own identity
- 56. Noted consumer advocate
- 60. Spanish sports club
- 61. Body part
- 62. Tractability
- 64. Woman (French)
- 65. Ready and willing to be taught
- 66. Muslim ruler title
- 67. Depressed
- 68. Gradually gave way
- 69. Clear-thinking

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Brushed aside
- 2. Water sprite
- 3. Ones to look up to
- 4. Monetary units
- 5. A number everyone has
- 6. Marine invertebrate
- 7. One who takes you to court
- 8. Indicates outer
- 9. Parallelograms
- 10. Strains
- 11. Cross
- 12. A way to remove
- 13. Some pages are dog\_
- 18. Ukraine city
- 24. A citizen of Denmark
- 26. Summer month (abbr.)
- 28. Hindu queens
- 29. Jewelry brand
- 30. Fictional rider of Rohan
- 31. Wet dirt
- 32. Russian city
- 33. Observed
- 36. Furious
- 37. Drivers' licenses
- 39. Musical composition
- 40. Auction
- 43. They \_
- 45. Women
- 47. Inspire with love
- 48. Japanese ankle sock
- 49. Appears
- 50. Old World lizard
- 52. The leading performer
- 53. Type of protein
- 54. Pennsylvania town
- 57. Art \_ : around 1920
- 58. \_ Blyton, children's author
- 59. Abnormal breathing
- 63. A place to sleep

Puzzle Answers on Page 14

**WANTED**

**ITEMS FOR THE OPTIMIST CLUB 39th ANNUAL CONSIGNMENT SALE**

**SAT., MARCH 22, 2025**  
Cloud County Fairgrounds

Do you have any:  
**Farm & Construction Equipment**  
**Trucks or Cars**  
**Shop Tools**  
**Household Goods**  
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**Mike Cleveland - 785-826-7897**  
**Gary Fraser - 785-243-1134**  
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## Survey: Rural leadership program has 'overwhelming' impact on Kansas communities

*KARL program celebrates 35 years of service to agriculture, rural life*

**K-STATE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION NEWS SERVICE**  
MANHATTAN, Kan. — A survey that touches on 35 years of experiences by graduates and supporters of a rural leadership program in Kansas indicates evidence of its progress in strengthening the state's communities.

Officials with the nonprofit Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership program said the results portray an "overwhelming response that the KARL program has built capacity to lead change, expand personal and professional networks, increase community engagement and increase knowledge of Kansas agriculture and issues impacting rural Kansas communities."

"My experience changed my path in life," said Sara Dawson, KARL Class XII rancher and business owner from Florence, Kansas. "Through KARL, I began learning about business structures and now had the business exposure to ask myself some tough questions and to think outside the box. Rather than rely on just our generational family business, my husband and I started our own business. It was a time in my life full of new thinking, approaches, and growth. You can't be afraid of change."

Established in 1990, the first KARL Class was launched in 1991. Since then, more than 450 leaders have graduated from the program. The 17th class was named in June 2024.

"For decades, we've known — intuitively and through countless stories — just how transformative the KARL experience is," said Jill Zimmerman, KARL president. "To mark the 35th anniversary, we felt it was time to take a deeper, more detailed look at how those leading, supporting, and going through the KARL program have made a lasting impact on our communities, industries and state."

The study conducted surveys of 154 KARL graduates and supporters. It held 29 in-depth interviews to capture the stories of how a leadership program can encourage positive growth in Kansas communities and industries. All 16 KARL classes were represented in the surveys, with 77% identifying as living in a rural area, and 81% as program graduates.

The impact study noted dozens of KARL graduates who have risen to state and national service, including multiple state legislators, business owners, agriculture association CEOs, and board directors. Responses highlighted how the program's seminars, experiences in communities, and interactions with industry leaders provided a foundation for expanding perspectives and new ways of thinking.

"KARL teaches humility and the importance of a team," said Ken Rahjes, KARL Class III, District 110 State Representative, and president of Authentic Ag, Inc. "The program helps us learn to diffuse situations and be better listeners. Before we make our opinion known, we listen. In Topeka, this skill has helped me communicate with those different than myself."

KARL officials note that the results indicated that it is not only the immersive and relevant program curriculum, but also the quality of the people they experience it with that makes the KARL experience valuable.

"KARL friends, fellows, staff and the volunteer board of directors, work to create an environment where leaders can grow alongside peers who challenge and inspire them," said Bill Brown of Wamego, board chair. "The impact of the KARL program over the past 35 years is a testament to the power of leadership, collaboration and grassroots support."

To learn more about the KARL program, read the impact report and follow along with Class XVII seminars, visit [karlprogram.com](http://karlprogram.com) or call 785-532-6300. Applications for KARL Class XVIII will be posted in January, 2026.

## Looking Back

### 75 Years Ago—1950

The old steam fire whistle which the city of Concordia had purchased some thirty years ago and the Western Light and Telephone installed at their power plant on West Fifth Street, had been removed and a new electric siren was being installed atop city hall... at an impressive ceremony at Our Lady of Perpetual Help church, 18 students of St. Joseph hospital nurses' training received their caps. Students from Cloud County included Edith Bechand, Clyde; Patricia Bessette, Phyllis Laman, Ila Mae Mallam, Marilyn Snyder, all of Concordia; Jo Ann Colton, Glasco; Rita Dandurand, Aurora. Sister Ann Catherine was also a member of the class... Albert T. Reid's famous mural of the Concordia-Waterville stagecoach was to be purchased for Cloud County by members of the local chapter of University Women... Mrs. Raymond Drury gave a birthday dinner for her son, Fred, who was 17 years old... Mrs. Earl Wright was featured with one of her popular book reviews at a silver tea given in the Methodist church parlor under the auspices of Circle 2 of the WSCS. Mrs. Wright gave dramatic readings from highlights of "The Egyptian" by Mike Waltari. Mrs. Chester McWilson and Mrs. George Wright poured at a tea table which was lighted by candles and centered with an arrangement of jonquils, orchid iris and sweet peas... Mrs. John Wilcox gave a birthday party for her little daughter, Elizabeth Ann, who was seven years old... the Concordia Panthers rolled over the visiting Lincoln Leopards to win the A squad tilt 55-40, which put them in a tie position with Marysville for third-place honors in the North Central Kansas League... the first training period for Concordia's boxers was held at the new training quarters over Ballard's garage...

### 60 Years Ago—1965

The new Concordia Dairy Queen in the "barn" at 1005 Lincoln opened for business under the management of Phyllis and Keith Chambers... Aze Larry Huffman, graduate of Concordia schools, was named January Airman of the Month for the 2140th Communication Squadron stationed at Athens, Greece... Dean McDonald, music teacher in Pueblo, Colo., and a 1948 graduate of Concordia schools who was stricken with polio after graduation, was named "Handicapped Coloradan of 1964," having been nominated by his students...

Jim Tyler won first place in the watercolor division of the District Art Show sponsored by Kansas Federated Women's clubs at Salina. Bob Edwards placed second in mixed media competition and Phil Huscher placed third in the black-and-white division. All were students in Concordia Public high school art class taught by Ronald Hosie... a crowd of more than 200 people gathered at the high school, only to be told that Ted Bumiller and his show, "Four Seasons of Scandinavia," hosted by the Concordia Kiwanis Club, would be rescheduled, due to the fact that Ted Bumiller was stranded somewhere between Concordia and Colorado... Carleton Johnson was elected to the board of directors of the Fidelity State Bank of Concordia... Miss Ardith Jo Lathrup, Concordia, a freshman in elementary education, had been selected as one of the finalists for the 1965 Royal Purple Queen at Kansas State university... at Hillcrest Lanes, Don Budden bowled a 276 game and Glenn Gillan bowled a 272 game, making them eligible for a "Century" award... Mr. and Mrs. Mike Tracy were parents of a son born March 4 at St. Joseph hospital...

### 50 Years Ago—1975

An open house at Park Villa, the new home for the aged at Clyde, was held on March 2... Larry Forsythe, the first basketball coach at Cloud County Community College, had resigned after nine years of coaching to accept the head basketball coaching position at Salina South High School... Concordia High School juniors selected to attend Girls' State were Ann Jackson and Cynthia Berner, delegates, and Tammy Bemis and Sylvia Workman, alternates... Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Shamburg of Randall announced the engagement of their daughter, Gloria Evans, to Noel Hanson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Hanson of Jamestown... Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Trost were the parents of a daughter, Janell LaNey, born February 26... because of a measles outbreak in Topeka, Dr. T. A. Coulter, Cloud County health officer, was urging parents to make sure their children were vaccinated against measles... damage from a fire at the Trilateral plant in Concordia was heavy, with a rough estimate of \$60,000 in total damages... Kent Smith was named the outstanding CHS wrestler for the 1975 season. Jeff Hamilton was named team captain and Terry Smith received the outstanding

young wrestler award...

### 25 Years Ago—2000

Sarah Seward, Concordia Middle School student, had been selected to sing in the third state children's Honor Choir at the Kansas Music Educators Association Convention in Wichita... Sister Angelina McCaghy, a Sister of St. Joseph of Concordia, celebrated her 100th birthday... Brice Bowers was a page in Topeka for Rep. Freeborn of District 107... Harold and Eileen Saathoff, Marysville, announced the engagement of their daughter, Nancy Eileen, to Ivon Harold Owen Jr., Concordia, son of Ivan and Pat Owen, Concordia... Jordan Aggson, Jahn Hake, Derrik Smith, Grant Wisdom, Eric Deneault and Greg Smith, wrestlers on the Concordia High School team, qualified to compete at the state tournament...

### 10 Years Ago—2015

The new exhibit at the National Orphan Train Complex displayed Mothers Books, which contained surrender information, entrance records and history volumes that recorded updates after children were taken in... Izaiah M. Grogan, 2014 Concordia High School graduate, graduated from Marine Boot Camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego and Infantry School at Camp Pendleton, Calif. ... Drake Hake had been selected as Concordia High School Student of the Month for February... Paul and Delores Blochlinger of Concordia celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary... finishing with 21 points in a 52-51 Concordia High School girls' basketball team loss to Clay Center, senior Tristen Leiszler moved into fourth place on Concordia's all-time scoring list...

### 5 Years Ago—2020

Concordia Firefighters Kelsey Larson, Thea McMillan, Levi Whitley, Erin Williams and Ethan LaBarge Valcoure participated in the "Fight For Air Climb" in Kansas City... Smoky Hill LLC was widening the right-hand turn lane off U.S. 81 Highway onto First Street to accommodate agricultural truck traffic... resurfacing of tennis and basketball courts in City Park had begun... the Concordia Kids Wrestling Club had two wrestlers place second in the Kansas USA Wrestling Elementary State and 6-and-under State championships: Kaleb Keiswetter placed second in the 60-pound division and Drake Blochlinger placed second in the 100-pound class...

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*Study Looks at Potential Ag Impacts of Global Depopulation; Soybeans and Sorghum At Risk*

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# OCCK Transportation's 81 Connection to launch fare-free program

Salina, Kansas — OCCK Transportation is excited to announce a significant development for 81 Connection, the regional fixed route bus service for North Central Kansas, as part of an ongoing pilot program.

Starting March 3, 2025, 81 Connection will become fare-free, offering all rides at no cost to passengers for the next three months, ending May 30, 2025. This initiative is a partnership between OCCK Transportation and the North Central Regional Planning Commission. The program aims to increase accessibility to transportation for all North Central Kansas residents and improve community health and mobility.

The fare-free pilot program is designed to remove financial barriers to transportation, helping residents throughout North Central Kansas easily access essential services. This initiative supports the region's overall health and economic development by making it easier for individuals and families to get where they need to go, whether that's medical or mental health appointments, nutrition sites, job interviews, seniors' or veterans' services, or school.

"The decision to make 81 Connection fare-free during this pilot project is a game-changer for residents," said Trell Grinter, director of transportation for OCCK, Inc. "This is a significant step toward creating a more equitable and connected North Central Kansas."

The North Central Regional Planning Commission has been instrumental in bringing this project to life, recognizing the vital role that transportation plays in improving overall health outcomes and fostering regional development.

81 Connection operates three fixed routes each day, Monday – Friday. Routes can be found online at [salinacitygo.com](http://salinacitygo.com), or through Google maps, Apple maps, and the Transit app on either Android or Apple devices. OCCK Transportation will collect data during this pilot to evaluate its success and consider extending programs beyond the initial period.

This work is made possible by the U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT's) Thriving Communities Program. The North Central Regional Planning Commission was selected to participate in this two-year program to receive technical assistance to identify, develop, and deliver transportation projects that strengthen communities. Through the Thriving Communities Program, the North Central Regional Planning Commission was matched with the national nonprofit Main Street America, which is providing technical assistance to build capacity and implement transformative transportation projects in 20 rural and Tribal communities.

OCCK, Inc. provides services in north central Kansas to anyone with any type of long or short-term disability, starting as early as birth and following people through their whole lives. OCCK provides an array of supports for success at home and in the community, including independent living skills and supports, employment and career training, Alzheimer's supports, autism services, assistive technology, children's services, transportation, specialized therapies, and home health care.

OCCK is committed to providing transportation services to the general public, seniors, and persons with disabilities, through a variety of programs, including a fixed route service in Salina, CityGo, a regional paratransit service that serves fourteen counties, non emergency medical transportation for people with Medicaid, as well as non emergency medical transportation for clients of Salina Regional Health Center, a regional fixed route service, 81 Connection, KANcycle – the regional bike sharing program, GoAbilene public transportation, GoConcordia public transportation, KanConnect, and the newest program, OCCK OnDemand.

For more information about OCCK, Inc., visit [www.occk.com](http://www.occk.com). For more information about CityGo and OCCK Transportation, visit [www.salinacitygo.com](http://www.salinacitygo.com). Or, contact the OCCK Transportation Center at 785-826-1583.

About the North Central Regional Planning Commission

The North Central Regional Planning Commission serves 12 counties in North Central Kansas, focusing on community development, economic planning, and regional collaboration to enhance the quality of life for all residents.

# POLICE DEPT.

**Arrest**—On February 28, at 3:51 p.m., officers responded to the intersection of Sixth and Broadway streets for a report of a non-injury accident. Upon investigation, Eric Stedman, Concordia, was arrested for driving on a suspended license. Stedman was transported and booked into Cloud County Corrections.

**Battery**—On February 26, at 1:37 p.m., officers responded to the police department for a report of a battery. Charges have been forwarded to the Cloud County Attorney.

**Welfare check**—On February 24, at 7:19 a.m., officers responded to the 1000 block of Matthew Street for a welfare check.

On February 26, at 5:40 a.m., officers responded to the 400 block of West 10th Street for a welfare check.

**Non-injury accidents**—On February 25, at 10:06 a.m., officers responded to the 900 block of West 11th Street for a report of a non-injury accident.

On February 26, at 5:57, officers responded to the intersection of Broadway and First streets for a report of a non-injury accident.

On February 27, at 3:03 p.m., officers responded to the 1000 block of Lincoln Street for a non-injury accident.

On March 1, at 11:10 p.m., officers responded to the 300 block of East First Street for a report of a non-injury accident.

**Criminal threat**—On February 24, at 4:24 p.m., officers responded to the 1100 block of East 11th Street for a report of criminal threat. This incident is still under investigation.

**Criminal trespass**—On February 24, at 9:56 a.m., officers responded to the 200 block of East Fifth Street for a report of criminal trespass. When officers arrived, they advised the individuals not to pass the police tape.

**Civil standby**—On February 26, at 12:08 p.m., officers responded to the 900 block of East Seventh Street for a civil standby.

On February 26, at 3:06 p.m., officers responded to the 500 block of East Eighth Street for a civil standby.

**Theft**—On February 28, at 1:14 p.m., officers responded to the 800 block of East Fifth Street for a report of a theft. No investigation is needed.

**Property damage**—On March 1, at 10:55 a.m., officers responded to the 400 block of East Seventh Street for a report of criminal damage to property. No charges will be forwarded.

On March 1, at 4:28 p.m., officers responded to the 500 block of East 14th Street for a report of criminal damage to property. No charges will be filed at this time.

# EMT/FIRE DEPT.

## Thursday, February 27

At 10:51 a.m., M-4 was dispatched for a medical emergency. No transport was needed.

At 12:50 p.m., M-4 was dispatched for a medical emergency. One patient was transported to North Central Kansas Medical Center (NCKMC).

At 4:21 p.m., M-5 was dispatched for a basic life support, long distance transfer from NCKMC to Salina Regional Health Center (SRHC).

## Friday, February 28

At 12:46 a.m., M-5 was dispatched for an advanced life support, long distance transfer from NCKMC to Hutchinson.

At 7:57 a.m., M-4 was dispatched for a medical emergency. There was no patient transport.

At 3:47 p.m., M-4 and R-1 were dispatched for a motor vehicle accident (4 individuals). There was no patient transport.

At 10:30 p.m., M-4 was dispatched for a blood draw.

## Saturday, March 1

At 2:32 p.m., M-5 was dispatched for a long distance transfer to Wesley.

At 3:25 p.m., M-4 was dispatched for a medical emergency. One patient was transported to NCKMC.

At 7:58 p.m., M-5 was dispatched for a long distance transfer to Wesley.

At 9:55 p.m., M-4 was dispatched for a medical emergency. There was no patient transport.

At 11:30 p.m., M-5 was dispatched for a long distance transfer to SRHS.

## Sunday, March 2

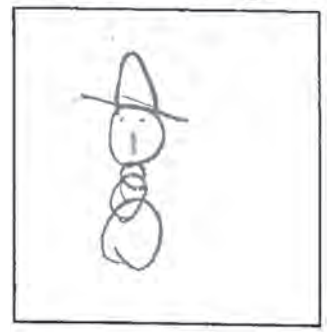
At 2:12 p.m., M-4 was dispatched for a medical emergency. One patient was transported to NCKMC.

# Weather pictures provided by the Concordia Elementary Students

## Snowy Snowy



Today's weather artwork by Brevin Farha a 3rd grader in Mr. Kuhlman's class



Today's weather artwork by Malix Bolton a Kindergartner in Mrs. Dannenberg's class

## Snowy Snowy



Today's weather artwork by Fiona Finlayson a Kindergartner in Mrs. Davis' class



Today's weather artwork by Rory Sipe a 3rd grader in Mr. Kuhlman's class

## Snowy Snowy



Today's weather artwork by Timothy Fleming a 3rd grader in Mr. Kuhlman's class



Today's weather artwork by Isabella Strait a 3rd grader in Miss Balthazor's class

## Snowy Snowy



Today's weather artwork by Isley Henderson a 3rd grader in Miss Balthazor's class



Today's weather artwork by Waylon Ramsey a 3rd grader in Mrs. Reedy's class

## Snowy Snowy



Today's weather artwork by Joseph Melhus a 3rd grader in Mr. Kuhlman's class

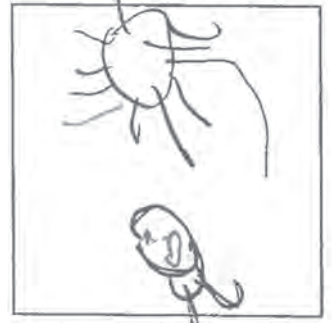


Today's weather artwork by Kendall Larsen a Kindergartner in Mrs. Dannenberg's class

## Cloudy Sunny



Today's weather artwork by Avery Strait a 1st grader in Mrs. Erkenbrack's class



Today's weather artwork by Finnick Howarth a 1st grader in Miss Anderson's class

## Cloudy Windy



Today's weather artwork by John Freeman a 4th grader in Mrs. Stensaas' class



Today's weather artwork by Tracer Nelson a 2nd grader in Mrs. Will's class

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## K-State

### Kansas Health Foundation, K-State team up to reduce hunger in Kansas

State's extension offices to play leading role in community-based projects

BY PAT MELGARES

K-State Research and Extension news

MANHATTAN, Kan. – The Kansas Health Foundation has awarded \$300,000 to Kansas State University to distribute grants to several Kansas communities, officially putting into action an initiative they announced last fall to combat hunger in the state.

The Hunger Free Kansas mini-grants – ranging in value from \$2,500 to \$30,000 – are going to 20 extension units, where local agents will lead programs that “drive meaningful change in food security and anti-hunger initiatives across the state,” according to Rebecca McMahon, administrator of the Kansas Local Food System program.

The awards will impact 33 of the state's 105 counties initially.

“K-State Research and Extension has extension agents who are already embedded in every county in our state,” said Clara Misenhelter, a program manager with K-State's Rural Grocery Initiative. “These agents know their communities and are well-connected to incredible partners who are already doing essential work. This funding is an amazing opportunity to catalyze our network of agents and change makers in pursuit of a common goal to eradicate hunger in Kansas.”

According to Feeding America, 1 in 8 Kansans and 1 in 5 Kansas children are food insecure. Ed O'Malley, the chief executive officer with the Kansas Health Foundation, announced the mini-grant program during K-State's Research and Extension's annual conference last October.

Approximately \$250,000 is funding programs through local extension offices, according to Misenhelter. Those programs are expected to begin in March, and be completed by the end of the year.

The awarded local extension offices and their project titles include:

- Barber County - Barber County Beef & Veggies.
- Central Kansas District - Charting the Path to Food Equity: A Strategic Community Food Assessment for Saline County.
- Central Kansas District - Nourishing Our Seniors: Ensuring County-Wide Meal Support.
- Cowley County - Growing Food is Medicine in Cowley County.
- Cowley County - Improving Food Access through SNAP and Area Food Pantries.
- Extension Nutrition Program - K-State Food Assistance Outreach Program.
- Flint Hills District - Full Plates, Bright Futures.
- Frontier District - Enhancing the Richmond Food Pantry in the Frontier Extension District.
- Hamilton County - Take a Bite Out of Hunger in Hamilton County.
- Harvey County - Increasing SNAP enrollment in Harvey County.
- Lyon County - Nourish Our Neighbors.
- Marais des Cygnes District - My Father's House Kitchen and Cooking Project.
- Marshall County - Supporting Social Service Access in Marshall County.
- Post Rock District - Post Rock District Food Pantry Enrichment.
- Pratt County - Pratt County Farm to Freezer.
- Reno County - Reno County Local Food Advocate.
- Riley County - Stock the Box - Filling a Gap with Community.
- River Valley District - Expanding Local Food Access to Low-Resource Households in Cloud County.
- Sedgwick County - Community Health Worker: The Next Step.
- Shawnee County - Community Garden for SENT's Southside Filling Station food pantry and Farm-to-Food Truck: Inclusive Workforce Development Program.
- Southwind District - Rural Pantry Network Initiative.
- Wildcat District - Increasing Healthy Snacking and Food Literacy in Vulnerable Populations.

“Some impacts will be more immediate than others,” Misenhelter said. “It's important to note that one of the funding priorities was to advance policy, systems and environmental change, known as PSE. It can take time for PSE to occur, but we do hope to see an improvement in health and food access in the communities served by our mini-grant recipients.”

According to Misenhelter, some of the programs that were proposed include using a Community Health Worker at a food pantry; supporting food pantry upgrades; training volunteers to assist residents enrolling in the SNAP program; partnerships with K-12 schools; leveraging existing programs like community and school gardens and Kitchen ReStore projects in new ways; and more.

“It has been exciting to see the innovative ideas come through in the application process, and we hope that other communities across the state will benefit from the lessons learned in this first round of projects,” Misenhelter said. “For the projects that have been awarded funds, this is a unique opportunity to experiment and innovate.”

“We hope this effort will serve as a pilot to bring in additional funding in future years to continue this effort to reduce hunger in Kansas,” said Gregg Hadley, K-State's director of extension and assistant vice president.

More information on Hunger Free Kansas is available online at <https://hungerfreekans.org>. Kansas residents also are encouraged to visit their local extension office to learn more about programs available in their area.

*Thank You for Reading the Blade-Empire & The Miltonvale Area News!!*

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## CVA honors 2024 Customer Service Specialists of the Year

(York, Neb.) Central Valley Ag (CVA) has announced the recipients of the 2024 Customer Service Specialist (CSS) of the Year awards, recognizing employees who exemplify the cooperative's mission and core values.

Each year, CVA accounting team collaborates with its Regional Operations Managers to select individuals who demonstrate exceptional customer service and dedication. The selection criteria focus on providing outstanding customer service both internally and externally, maintaining a positive attitude in an ever-changing environment, and supporting the sales team.

“Our customer service specialists are the backbone of our cooperative, ensuring smooth operations and fostering strong relationships with our customers,” said Brenda Meis, Regional Accounting Supervisor at CVA. “We are proud to celebrate these outstanding individuals and their unwavering commitment to excellence.”

The winners were honored at the annual CSS Summit, where they were recognized for their contributions to the cooperative's success.

2024 Customer Service Specialist of the Year Recipients:

- Cassie Schindler, Elgin, Neb.
- Katie Winkelbauer, Hartington, Neb.
- Tisha Frisch, Humphrey, Neb.
- Traci Schwede, Oakland, Neb.
- Jennifer Wojtalewicz, Benedict, Neb.
- Tessa Bridges, Utica, Neb.
- Shelley Peters, Greenleaf, Kan.
- Ashlei Hanks, Hinton, Iowa
- Janelle Remus, Beloit, Kan.

In addition to the CSS of the Year awards, CVA also presented Outstanding Service Awards to individuals in specific departments for their dedication and contributions:

- Venessa Fernandez: Feed Department
- Stacy Shoemaker: Energy Department

To show appreciation for their dedication, recipients received a two-night weekend getaway, a Visa gift card, custom apparel, and a crystal desk paperweight.

“I strive to support our member-owners and our CVA team in any way I can, whether that is offering suggestions towards solutions, lending a helping hand, or making sure we are working safely,” said Katie Winkelbauer, CSS in Hartington, Neb. “It's all about integrity of doing the right thing and looking out for each other, which is what makes CVA a great place.”

### Weather pictures provided by the Concordia Elementary Students

#### Rainy



Today's weather artwork by Faith Sargable a 1st grader in Mrs. Peltier's class

#### Windy



Today's weather artwork by Lincoln Kindel a 4th grader in Mrs. Richard's class

#### Windy



Today's weather artwork by Kinsley Young a 1st grader in Mrs. Peltier's class

#### Snowy



Today's weather artwork by Kynsley Miller a 4th grader in Mrs. Stensaas' class

#### Windy



Today's weather artwork by Charlette Miller a 2nd grader in Mrs. Snavelly's class

#### Snowy



Today's weather artwork by Brynn Biery a 1st grader in Mrs. Popelka's class

## Chamber Corner

Please join us on March 11, 2025, as we travel to Prairie Land Partners, John Deere, 1441 Union Road, Concordia, KS 66901, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. for our weekly Chamber Coffee.

If you are interested in becoming a Chamber Member or being a Chamber Coffee Sponsor, please contact Annie Bergmann at 785-243-4290 or email [info@concordiakansaschamber.com](mailto:info@concordiakansaschamber.com)

Join us for coffee and donuts. Donuts provided by Me and Ma's Bakery. Keep up to date on all the events and activities happening in Concordia and the surrounding area.

• March 15, 2025 - National Quilting Day - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Concordia Lutheran Church

## UPCOMING EVENTS

• **Saturday, March 15, 2025 - Celebrate National Quilting Day** from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Concordia Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall. Quilt tying for Lutheran World Relief. Come for an hour or the whole session. Soup luncheon will be provided.

• **Sunday, March 16, 2025 - The Nazareth Motherhouse Annual Spaghetti Dinner.** The event begins with dinner at 11:00 am. Meal tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. There will also be a Bake Sale, In-Person Silent Auction and Raffle Drawing. Tickets can be purchased in advance from the Nazareth Motherhouse or by contacting Ambria in the Development Office at [agilliland@csjkansas.org](mailto:agilliland@csjkansas.org) or 785-243-2113 ext. 1225.

## LAUNDRY LOVE

Free Laundry for the Community offered by OCK Inc. and LaundryLove.org at 1548 Lincoln St., Concordia, Kansas. Laundry Love provides free access to washers, dryers, and detergent, helping participants wash work uniforms, school clothes, and other essentials. Events held twice a month: **The first Wednesday of each month : 8:30-10:30 a.m. and the third Wednesday: 4:00-6:00 p.m.**

## COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTION

Cloud County Commodities distribution is scheduled for **Every 2 Months from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on the Third Wednesday of the Month**, at the First United Methodist Church, 740 W. 11th Street, Concordia, Kansas. Scheduled date: May 21, 2025.



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## NOTICE TO BID

The City of Concordia is accepting bids for the demolition of condemned structures and related cleanup of the lot at four separate properties:

- 202 Broadway Street
- 325 East 12th Street
- 421 West 14th Street
- 712 East 10th Street

The scope of the work for each property can be found on the City's website, [www.concordiakans.org](http://www.concordiakans.org) under Legal Publications/Advertising. Each property must be bid separately, and according to the scope of work for that property. Nuisance vegetation, including dead branches and/or tree removal will be a significant part of these projects. All bidders must meet the City's demolition requirements and have a demolition permit before work starts. Materials required to be disposed of at the Cloud County Transfer Station construction debris site, shall be separated as per their requirements and receipts provided to the City. Bids shall be submitted to the office of the City Clerk, 701 Washington St., Concordia, Kansas 66901. All bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Demolition Bid." Bids deadline 3:00 P.M. Tuesday, March 25, 2025. Proof of general liability insurance must be provided with bids. Late bids will not be accepted. Bids will be considered by the City Commission at the April 2 meeting. EOE.



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## Sterrett, Blochlinger, Murdock place at 4A State meet

BY TUCKER ASHBURN  
SALINA — Sending eight wrestlers to the 4A State meet at Tony's Pizza Event Center, the Concordia High School wrestling team saw three state placers, and picked up 12 victories.

Airiana Wogomon, 130 pounds, went 0-2, falling to number one-ranked Addilyn Wacker of Iola, and Morgan Meitchen of Wellsville in the consolation bracket. Wogomon finishes her junior season with a 21-15 record.

Gabi Lange, 135 pounds, went 1-2. Lange defeated Ansley Bear of Holton by technical fall in the first round, before falling to number one-ranked Haylei Potter of Burlingame, who finished in second place, in the second round. Lange then fell to Tommi Shuey of Wellsville in the consolation bracket to end her sophomore season with a record of 29-11.

Drew Sterrett, 144 pounds, went 3-2 and earned a fifth-place finish. Sterrett defeated Aaron Wyrick of Labette County by fall in 1:02, and Blake Riedel of Tongonoxie by decision, 14-7, before falling to Johnny Leck of Rose Hill in the semifinals. Leck finished in first place. In the consolation bracket, Sterrett lost by decision



TUCKER ASHBURN/BLADE-EMPIRE

Tracer Murdock (left) placed fourth, Drake Blochlinger (middle) placed sixth, Drew Sterrett (right) placed fifth in the 4A State meet in Salina.

to Tristen Cox of Andale by decision, 1-0, before defeating Cash Wilderman of Frontenac by fall in 22 seconds to earn fifth place. Sterrett finishes his senior season with a 39-6 record.

Drake Blochlinger, 157 pounds, went 3-3 and earned a sixth-place finish. Blochlinger won his first match by technical fall, 18-3, over Scott Sloan of Frontenac, before falling to number one-ranked Brady Martin of Tongonoxie, who finished in second place. In the consolation bracket,

Blochlinger defeated Trent Harris of Silver Lake by fall, before dropping a match to Joseph Walsh of Abilene, and Cason Wyrick of Labette County in the fifth-place match. Blochlinger ends his sophomore season with a 39-8 record.

Tre Hamiel, 175 pounds, went 1-2, falling to Leven Jones of Rose Hill by decision in the championship bracket. In the consolation bracket, Hamiel won by fall in 55 seconds over Brenner Lowe of Hiawatha, before falling to Dominic Ricciardi

of Frontenac, who finished in fifth place. Hamiel finishes his sophomore season with a 27-11 record.

Max Johnson, 215 pounds, went 1-2, falling in his first match over Cole Rogers of Rose Hill, who finished in fifth place. In the consolation bracket, Johnson pinned Karter Naff of Chanute in 1:21, before falling to Devin Carroll of Augusta by decision, 4-1. Johnson finishes his junior season with a 27-17 record.

Harley Weathersbee, 235 pounds, went 0-2, falling to number one-ranked Meaa Allen of Perry-LeCompton and Madison Duro of Chanute. Weathersbee finishes her freshman season with a 12-17 record.

Tracer Murdock, 285 pounds, went 3-2 and earned a fourth-place finish. Murdock defeated Tristan Busby of El Dorado and Carson Martin of Paola, before falling to number one-ranked Willy Jon Morales in the semifinals. In the consolation bracket, Murdock defeated Connor Herman of Halstead before falling to Martin in a rematch for third place. Murdock finishes his senior season with a record of 40-6, and has committed to wrestling for York University in Nebraska next year.

## One final time



TUCKER ASHBURN/BLADE-EMPIRE

CHS senior Taylor McDaniel awaiting the tip-off in her first on-court appearance of the season.

Stepping on to the court one final time - and for first time since September 3, 2024 - Taylor McDaniel scored points for the Concordia High School basketball team.

A standout athlete for Concordia since her days in junior high school, McDaniel's promising high school career was cut short in 2024 with a devastating knee injury that tore her MCL, ACL, and PCL.

To honor her dedication to the sports she loved - and in a show of true sportsmanship - the Concordia and Clay Center coaches came to an agreement before the game on Tuesday,

February 26: McDaniel would step on the court in uniform and take one final shot.

McDaniel has been a part of the basketball team all year despite her injury, acting as an honorary assistant coach for the team while still being a member of the official girls basketball roster.

In front of the cheering home crowd, and wearing a heavy brace to support her knee, McDaniel stood under the basket uncontested and made a shot.

With tears in her eyes, McDaniel then walked off the court to a standing ovation.

## Panthers upset number #3 Mustangs 59-49, #10 Tigers

BY TUCKER ASHBURN  
Hosting the number three-ranked Rock Creek Mustangs in the season finale, the Concordia High School boys basketball team pulled off a 59-49 upset to hand the Mustangs their first NCKL loss.

A tight, physical fight opened up the game with both teams trying to vie for the lead. A Mustang and-one would give them a four-point lead, 11-7, before the Panthers tied the game up, 14-14, after one quarter of play.

A Peyton Retter three would give the Panthers the lead to start the second quarter and would spur a short 12-5 run. The Panthers would score four points in the final 30 seconds of the half and would take a 30-21 half-time lead.

Both offenses would start the second half on fire, rapidly scoring on both ends with Rock Creek slowly chipping away at the lead. The Panthers would start to slow down the Mustangs and regain some of their lead back and would keep at least a two possession lead throughout the third quarter. Entering the fourth quarter, the Panthers held a 47-36 lead.

For every Rock Creek attempt to knock the lead down, the Panthers would counter to keep the Mustangs at bay. The lowest the Mustangs would get the lead down would be seven points, which would be short lived. The Panthers would hold on to secure the 59-49 upset.

In what was supposed



TUCKER ASHBURN/BLADE-EMPIRE

CHS senior Karson Lister sizing up a Clay Center defender.

to be the final home game of the regular season, the Panthers' boys basketball team hosted NCKL rival Clay Center, with the Panthers picking up the series sweep with a 74-55 win.

The Tigers held control in the first quarter, holding a five-point lead with 34 seconds left in the quarter, and the Panthers were unable to capitalize on free throw opportunities. The Panthers' offense got good looks in the quarter but couldn't convert as the Tigers held a 13-9 lead after one quarter.

An 8-0 run by the Panthers and a layup with 6:31 remaining gave them a lead, but back-to-back threes gave the Tigers life, and the lead. Both offenses clashed, fighting to build momentum and unable to pull away from each other, and at half-

time the game was tied 27-27.

The battle continued in the third quarter, with physical play keeping the game close. The Panthers retook the lead, 39-37, with 3:53 remaining and would not relinquish the lead. A 12-6 Panther run to close the quarter would give the Panthers all the momentum in the dual, entering the fourth quarter with a 49-43 lead.

A 14-2 Panther run to open the fourth quarter would blow the game open for the home team, and gave the Panthers a very comfortable lead. The Tigers did their best to claw back into the game, but the Panthers offense refused to let the Tigers gain ground and they would go on to upset the number 10-ranked Tigers, 74-55.

## Lady Panthers lose heartbreaker to #7 Tigers, #8 Mustangs

BY TUCKER ASHBURN  
Hosting number eight-ranked Rock Creek in the final regular season game, the Concordia High School girls basketball team battled the Mustangs before a fourth quarter pull-away resulted in a 41-32 loss.

Both teams would fight in a back and forth dual to start the first quarter. The Mustangs would take a six-point lead late in the quarter, before the Panthers would knock the lead down to two, and the Panthers closed the quarter down 18-14.

After a slow start to open the second quarter, the Panthers would knock the lead down to one, 20-19, before tying the game at 20-20. A pair of Jaylin Roush free throws would give the Panthers the 22-20 lead. A free throw on the opposite end sent the teams to the locker room with the Panthers leading 22-21. The Panthers held the Mustangs to only three points for the quarter.

Rock Creek would get back on track in the second half, scoring on three of its first five possessions and taking a 29-24 lead early in the quarter. The game would tighten up for the second half of the quarter, remaining a two-possession game in favor of Rock Creek. The Mustangs would enter the fourth quarter with a 35-30 lead.

The fourth quarter would be a defensive battle with only eight points being scored, with the

Panthers only scoring two points. Concordia's offense tried its best, but failure to convert open looks doomed the Panthers as they suffered the 41-32 loss.

Roush had 16 points, 13 rebounds, four steals, and a block.

Charlize Cash had nine points, five rebounds, four assists, three steals, and a block.

In a senior night matchup against the number seven-ranked Clay Center Tigers, the Concordia High School girls basketball team fell in a heartbreaking 54-52 loss. The Panthers led by as much as 15 points.

Concordia senior Taylor McDaniel had the honor of scoring the first points of the game in her first court appearance of the 2024-25 season. McDaniel suffered an injury early in the 2024 volleyball season that kept her sidelined all season. Senior Asia Garcia got her first start of her career and won the opening tip.

Playing their best ball to open the game, the Panther defense wouldn't let the Tigers settle in, while the offense was able to get good-looking shots. After finding themselves down 9-4, the Panthers went on a 14-1 run over the next four minutes to close the quarter with an 18-10 lead.

After almost two minutes of scoreless basketball, the Panthers finally continued their offensive momentum with an 11-4 run and were able to build their

lead up to 15 points with 1:32 remaining in the half. The Tigers would go on a small run of their own to knock the lead down to 11. The Panthers entered halftime with a 31-20 lead.

Stella Trost had a season-high 10 points, all in the first half, giving the Panthers a huge offensive boost.

Clay Center would start to look like its regular self, limiting the Panthers to only six points in the third quarter, and outscoring the Panthers 12-6. With one quarter to go, the Panthers held a tight 37-32 lead.

A dual commenced to start the fourth quarter, but things would not be kind to the Panthers going forward. Holding a nine-point lead halfway through the fourth quarter, the Panthers gave up a 13-2 run as the Tigers took the lead with 1:24 remaining, 51-50.

The Tigers would get a steal with 30 seconds remaining and the Panthers would be forced to foul. Clay Center would make both free throws, and the Panthers couldn't convert on the opposite end. The Tigers made a free throw on the following possession to take a four-point lead, and the Panthers made a layup, then ran out of time, falling 54-52.

Charlize Cash had 17 points, 11 rebounds, six assists, and seven steals.

Rylie Jessup had 10 points, two rebounds, and five assists.

Trost had 10 points, three rebounds, and two assists.

## Lady Eagles top Frankfort 56-31, advance to sub-state finals

Four players scored in double figures to lead the Clifton-Clyde High School girls basketball team to a 56-31 victory over Frankfort in the Class 1A-Division I sub-state game it hosted on March 1.

Sevy Wurtz led the balanced Clifton-Clyde attack with 13 points. She also had five rebounds, three assists and four steals.

Mylee Hammond and Jadelynn Bowen tossed in 12 points each for the Eagles.

Lillian Steinbrock finished with 11 points, six assists and five steals.

Rylie Wunderle had a team-high six rebounds to go with six points.

Fourth-ranked Clifton-Clyde (17-5) advances to the sub-state championship game and will play second-ranked and unbeaten Centralia (20-0) on its home floor in the title game at 7:30 Friday night.

Centralia thumped Onaga 64-29 in the other semifinal game.

In a previous meeting this season between the Twin Valley League foes, Centralia knocked off Clifton-Clyde 64-35 back on January 3.

Clifton-Clyde led Frankfort 10-6 after one quarter of play in the semifinal matchup.



Clifton-Clyde's Calyn Baker shooting the ball against Frankfort. SCOUT SKOCNY

The Eagles limited the Wildcats to five points in the second period, and scored 13 to go up 23-11 at halftime.

Clifton-Clyde outscored Frankfort 17-12 in the third quarter, and led 40-23.

The Eagles doubled up

the Wildcats 16-8 in the final stanza.

Clifton-Clyde shot 43 percent (20 of 43) from the field and 80 percent (12 of 15) from the free throw line.

The Eagles came up with 16 steals in the game.

## Eagles defeat Rural Vista 64-33, advances to sub-state finals

The Clifton-Clyde High School boys basketball team advanced to the championship game of the Class 1A-Division I sub-state tournament by racing past Rural Vista 64-33 in a semifinal game it hosted last Tuesday night.

Clifton-Clyde (15-6) will play Burlingame (15-5) in the title game on Saturday night at Centralia High School.

Burlingame, ranked sixth in Class 1A-Division I, defeated Troy 79-60 in the sub-state semifinal game it hosted.

The winner of the championship game

qualifies for the state tournament to be played March 12-15 at the United Wireless Arena in Dodge City.

Clifton-Clyde, which had won nine of its last 10 games, jumped out to an 18-8 lead on Rural Vista in the opening quarter.

The Eagles gave up just five points to the Heat in the second stanza, and scored 14 points to make it a 32-13 game at halftime.

Oliver Nobert scored all seven of his points in the third quarter as Clifton-Clyde outscored Rural Vista 20-13 to

open up a 52-26 lead.

Nobert also had four assists and three steals in the game.

The Eagles tacked on 12 points in the final period to seven points for the Heat.

Jack Skocny led Clifton-Clyde with 21 points and 16 rebounds. He also had four assists.

Luke Nobert scored nine points and grabbed seven rebounds for the Eagles.

Ethan Sacco connected on three three-point shots in scoring nine points.



This week in sports...

### CONCORDIA

#### Boys Basketball

Closing out the regular season with a major upset, the Concordia High School boys basketball team defeated number three-ranked Rock Creek 59-49. After a close battle in the first quarter, the Panthers were able to pull away in the second quarter and take a nine-point lead at halftime, and would hold a lead for the rest of the game. Hosting number 10-ranked Clay Center for senior night, the Panthers picked up a 74-55 victory. After finding themselves down 13-9 in the first quarter, the two teams were tied 27-all at halftime. A late run in the third quarter gave the Panthers a 49-43 lead, before taking over the fourth quarter and outscoring the Tigers 25-12 for the quarter.

#### Girls Basketball

The Concordia High School girls basketball team fell in a tough battle 41-32 to number 10-ranked Rock Creek Mustangs in the regular season finale. After being down four points to start the second quarter, the Panthers limited the Mustangs to three second quarter points and took a one-point halftime lead. Rock Creek would recover and pull away in the second half. Hosting number seven-ranked Clay Center for senior night, the Panthers lost in a heartbreaker after having a 15-point lead. A late run in the fourth quarter gave the Tigers the lead and the Panthers couldn't regain it.

#### Wrestling

Eight wrestlers competed in the Kansas 4A State wrestling meet in Salina. Airiana Wogomon went 0-2, Harley Weathersbee went 0-2, Gabi Lange went 1-2, Tre Hamiel went 1-2, Max Johnson went 1-2, Drake Blochlinger went 3-3 and earned a sixth-place finish, Drew Sterrett went 3-2 and earned a fifth-place finish, and Tracer Murdock went 3-2 and earned a fourth-place finish.

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### CLIFTON-CLYDE

#### Boys Basketball

Clifton-Clyde defeated Rural Vista 64-33 in the second round of sub-state competition. Led by Jack Skocny's 21 points and 16 rebounds, the Eagles advance to the sub-state championship where the Eagles will match up with Burlingame Saturday, March 8.

#### Girls Basketball

Continuing their postseason momentum, the Clifton-Clyde Lady Eagles defeated Frankfort 56-31. With four double-digit scorers, the Eagles glided to the victory. The Lady Eagles will faceoff with unbeaten Centralia Saturday, March 8 in the sub-state championship match.

### CLOUD COUNTY

#### Men's Basketball

Hosting Butler Community College in the final home game of the regular season, the T-Birds upset the Grizzlies in an 86-63 slugfest thanks to five T-Birds scoring in double figures. A rough first half doomed the T-Birds in a road trip to number five-ranked Cowley 83-58. The T-Birds got outscored 47-19 in the first half.

#### Women's Basketball

After three close quarters of play, a fourth quarter boom doomed the Lady T-Birds in the home finale against number 25-ranked Butler Grizzlies 76-57, where the Grizzlies outscored the T-Birds 25-10 in the fourth quarter. Heading south to face off with Cowley, the T-Birds fell 80-62.

#### Baseball

The CCCC baseball team hosted Marshalltown for the second leg of a four-game series, where the T-Birds lost game one 7-3, and won game two 13-0. In a trip to Texas for a three-game series with Weatherford College, the T-Birds lost the series 1-2. In game one the T-Birds lost 5-4, in game two the T-Birds lost 8-7, in game three the T-Birds won 7-6.

#### Softball

The CCCC softball team hosted Southeast Community College (Neb.) for the technical home opener last Wednesday at Bill Burke Park in Salina. Cloud lost both games, 6-5 and 18-8. The softball team went up to Nebraska for a doubleheader with Southeast Community College (Neb.) where the T-Birds split the series, losing the first game 11-3, and winning game two 13-1. In the first homesite game, the T-Birds hosted Iowa Lakes CC, with the T-Birds sweeping the Lakers with 11-3 and 4-3 wins.

## ATHLETE of the week

# GABI LANGE



Concordia High School sophomore Gabi Lange competed at the 4A state wrestling meet in Salina, where she defeated Ansley Bear of Holton by technical fall, 19-3, before falling to #1 Haylei Potter of Burlington, who finished in second place in the second round. Lange then fell to #7 Tommi Shuey of Wellsville in the consolation bracket.



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# T-Birds beat Grizzlies 86-83 Lady T-Birds fall short against #25 Butler, fall at Cowley

BY TUCKER ASHBURN

In the final home game of the regular season, the Cloud County Community College T-Birds ended on a high note, upsetting the Butler Grizzlies 86-83.

Dueling the Grizzlies early in the first half, the T-Birds got their first lead of the day, 9-7, thanks to a Fallou Koite dunk, before the Grizzlies countered and retook the lead, 17-14. The fight continued for the rest of the first half, with no team being able to pull away. The T-Birds would go into halftime with a 39-34 lead.

The T-Birds were able to build their lead up to 10, 56-46, with 11:54 to go in the half, before Butler clawed back and tied the game at 60-all, thanks to a 14-4 run. Cloud would respond with a 10-2 run to give some cushion before the Grizzlies knocked the lead down to one point, 78-77, with 1:13 left to play. Butler would not be able to snatch the lead as the T-Birds picked up the 86-83 upset.

Five Thunderbirds scored in double figures.

Matthew Garber had 17 points, two rebounds, and a steal.

Keyon Garrett-Miller had 16 points, five assists, and three rebounds.

Elidjah Savane and Amare Johnson each had 14 points.

Koite had 10 points.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JESSICA LEDUC

**Cloud's Keyon Garrett-Miller scored 16 points with five assists in 86-83 upset win over Butler.**

Going on the road to face off with the number five team in the country, the Thunderbird men's basketball team fell to Cowley 83-58.

The Tigers opened the game with a 19-0 run, holding the T-Birds scoreless for the first seven minutes in the game until Roy Aviv got the T-Birds on the board with 12:46 remaining. Cowley would build its lead up and hold a 24- to 28-point lead for the rest of the half before ending the first half with a 28-point lead, 47-19.

The second half would be much better for Cloud, opening up with a 6-0 run. The T-Birds wouldn't be

able to put much of a dent into the Tiger lead, with the Tigers holding at least a 20-point lead, but the T-Birds would outscore the Tigers for the half, 39-36, as the T-Birds were handed the 83-58 loss.

The T-Birds went 1-24 from behind the arc and made 24 shots while Cowley made 29. Cloud shot 24 more times than Cowley.

Elidjah Savane had 21 points, four rebounds, four steals, and a block.

Syncere Burnette had nine points, three rebounds, and three assists.

Amare Johnson had nine points, two rebounds, and two steals.

BY TUCKER ASHBURN  
Hosting number 25-ranked Butler in the final home game of the season, the Cloud County Community College Lady Thunderbirds fell 76-57 to the Grizzlies, thanks to a strong Butler second half.

The first quarter would open up tight with multiple lead changes, but nine points by Butler's Keegan Yarick would give the Grizzlies the lead, 16-14, at the end of the first quarter.

Neither team would be able to pull away in the second quarter, but a late 10-3 run by the T-Birds would give them a one-point lead, 30-29. After two exchanged baskets, Cloud held its slim lead entering halftime, 32-31. Cloud would hold off the Grizzlies for the first half of the third quarter, before a late Butler run would give the Grizzlies a four-point lead to enter the fourth quarter, 51-47.

A rough fourth quarter would blow the game open, with the Grizzlies outscoring the T-Birds 25-10 in the fourth quarter. The Grizzlies would hold the T-Birds scoreless for four and a half minutes early in the fourth quarter as the Grizzlies built a 20-point lead on their way to their 14th straight win over the T-Birds with the

76-57 victory.

Talasia Thomas had 16 points, nine rebounds, three steals and a block.

DaNae Crosby had 16 points, six assists, and two steals.

TiAna Davis had seven points.

Traveling to the Kansas/Oklahoma border to take on Cowley College, the Lady T-Birds fell to the Tigers 80-62.

Cowley came out of the gates hot, scoring six straight points, and built a double-digit lead in less than five minutes. Cowley ended the first quarter with a 24-12 lead.

After some back and forth to start the second quarter, Cowley was able to expand its lead up to 22 before taking a 43-23 lead at halftime.

The T-Bird defense struggled to contain the Tigers to open the second

half, but the T-birds found their groove. In the final five minutes of the quarter the T-birds went on a 17-3 run to knock the 32-point lead down to 19 to close the quarter with a 64-46 deficit.

Cloud would get the lead down to 13 with 7:53 remaining, but that would be the smallest deficit for the quarter as Cowley got the lead up to 20 once again before closing the game and handing Cloud the 80-62 loss.

The T-Birds only made two threes all game, shooting 2-16.

Lauren Marron had 13 points and one steal off the bench.

DaNae Crosby had 11 points, three rebounds, two assists, and a block.

Shea Wurtz and Talasia Thomas each had nine points.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FINLEY KNOETTGEN

## CCCC Baseball splits with Marshalltown 1-1 in doubleheader

BY TUCKER ASHBURN

Hosting Marshalltown in another doubleheader, the Cloud County Community College split the matchup 1-1 last Tuesday.

In the first game, Marshalltown defeated Cloud, 7-3.

After a scoreless first inning of play, Marshalltown struck first in the top of the second inning with a two-run home run. Cloud would answer in the bottom of the inning, scoring two runs of its own to tie the game 2-2. After three more scoreless innings of play, the Tigers would get on the board again in the top of the sixth, scoring three runs to put the score 5-2. In the seventh inning, the Tigers would add two insurance runs and make it 7-2, but in the bottom of the seventh, the Tigers would walk four T-Birds, allowing a score from a walk to get the final score of 7-3.

Cohen Nelson (2-1) was given the loss, allowing three runs on two hits in 0.1 innings.

Joey Marino had one run scored on two hits and a walk.

David Simmons and Noah Konings each scored one run.

Austin Coyle, Matthew

Evans, and Nolan Freund each had a hit.

In the series finale, the T-Birds shut out the Tigers, 13-0.

Striking first in the bottom of the first, the T-Birds took a quick 4-0 lead. The lead exploded in the second inning when the T-Birds scored eight runs to take a 12-0 lead after two innings of play. The T-Birds picked up a run in the fourth to pick up the 13-0 win.

Cole Linton earned the win with one hit allowed with one walk in two innings pitched.

Coyle, Easton Mould, Marino, and Konings each had two runs scored with a combined four hits and five RBIs.

Eric Bradicich had one run scored on one hit and a solo home run.

Simmons had one run scored on two hits, including a home run, with three RBIs.

Luke Clayton, Lucas Laukkanen, and Freund each had one hit.

Hosting Marshalltown Community College for the second doubleheader in two days, the Cloud County Community College baseball team split the doubleheader.

In game one, the T-Birds fell 7-3 to the Tigers.

After a scoreless first inning for both teams, the Tigers scored first with a two run home run in the top of the second, with the T-Birds tying the game in the bottom of the inning. With three more shutout innings, the Tigers got back on the board with three runs scored in the top of the sixth, and with two more insurance runs to take a 7-1 lead before the T-Birds scored one run in the bottom of the seventh.

Cohen Nelson (2-1) was given the loss, giving up three runs on two hits with a walk in 0.1 innings.

Joey Marino had one run scored on two hits and a walk.

David Simmons and Noah Konings each had one run scored.

Easton Mould, Austin Coyle, Matthew Evans, and Nolan Freund each had one hit.

In game two, the T-Birds picked up a 13-0 shutout.

Having the same amount of home runs as hits allowed, two, the T-Birds opened up with a 4-0 lead after one inning and a 12-0 lead after two innings. The T-Birds picked up an insurance run in the bottom of the fourth before run-ruling Marshalltown to end the series.

The Tigers hit the T-birds with pitches eight separate times.

Cole Linton was awarded the win with one hit allowed with one walk and one strikeout in two innings pitched.

Coyle scored two runs after twice being hit with a pitch.

Mould had two runs scored on one hit, with an RBI, and a walk.

Marino had two runs scored on two hits with four RBIs.

Noah Konings had two runs scored on one hit and a walk.

Eric Bradicich and Simmons each had one hit, both home runs.

Luke Clayton and Lucas Laukkanen each had one hit.

Traveling to Texas to take on Weatherford College for a three-game series, including a doubleheader on Friday, the T-Birds lost the series 2-1 with each game being a one-run game.

In game one, the T-Birds fell 5-4 to the Coyotes.

After a 1-1 tie to enter the third inning, Cloud picked up three runs in the third inning to take a 4-1 lead. The Coyotes would score four runs in the bottom of the fifth inning and would hold out for the

5-4 win to take game one.

Caden Marcum (1-1) was given the loss, giving up five runs on three hits and five walks with five strikeouts in 4.1 innings.

Evans had two runs scored on one hit and a walk.

Freund had one run scored on two hits with an RBI.

Cam MacCleod had one run scored on one hit.

Marino and Konings each had a hit.

In game two, the T-Birds fell 8-7.

The Coyotes struck first in the bottom of the first to take a 2-0 lead before the T-Birds countered with two runs of their own in the top of the second. It would be until the bottom of the sixth when the Coyotes picked up two more runs, before Cloud countered once again with two runs of their own in the top of the seventh, but Weatherford picked up a crucial run in the bottom of the inning. Weatherford scored three runs in the bottom of the eighth and Cloud scored three in the top of the ninth but fell short 8-7.

Zach Sharshel (1-1) was given the loss with three runs allowed on two hits and a walk in one inning pitched.

Simmons had two runs

scored on three hits and a walk with an RBI.

MacCleod, Coyle, Marino, Konings, and Laukkanen each had one run on a combined six hits and four walks.

In game three on Saturday, the T-Birds closed the series with a 7-6 win.

Cloud scored first in the top of the third inning, before Weatherford scored two runs in the bottom of the inning. Cloud would score once in the fourth, two in the fifth, and three in the top of the sixth to take a 7-2 lead before the Coyotes scored again, this time in the bottom of the sixth. The Coyotes would score again in the seventh and two times in the eighth, but couldn't tie the game in the ninth as Cloud picked up the 7-6 win.

Kai Rempel earned the win with two runs allowed on three hits and two walks in five innings pitched.

Coyle had two runs scored on one hit and a walk.

Kaden Budke, Evans, Freund, Simmons, and MacCleod, each scored one run on a combined five hits with five RBIs and five walks.

Konings also had three hits.

## CCCC Softball goes 3-3 in loaded week of competition

BY TUCKER ASHBURN

In the official home opener of the 2025 spring season last Wednesday, the Cloud County Community College softball team dropped a doubleheader to Southeast Community College (Neb.).

In game one, the T-Birds dropped the first game, 6-5.

Southeast would get on the board first in the top of the first inning, thanks to a T-Bird error. Cloud would be able to get one run in the bottom of the first. Both teams would get one run in the third inning, and Cloud would pick up three runs in the bottom of the fourth to take a 5-3 lead. Southeast would counter with three runs of its own in the top of the fifth and would hold Cloud scoreless for the final three innings to take the first game, 6-5.

Paige Mahler was given the loss.

Kia Stokes had two runs

with one base on balls.

Maliyah Koster had one run scored on two hits with four RBIs.

Shaylee Keslar and Bella Santin each had one run scored on one hit.

Camille Stauffer and Harley Smith each had two hits.

In game two, the T-Birds fell in five innings, 18-8.

Southeast came out of the gates swinging, scoring nine runs in the top of the first inning. Cloud was able to put a dent in the lead by scoring three runs in the bottom of the second inning. Southeast put up three runs in the third, followed by six runs in the fourth. Cloud would pick up three runs in the fourth before closing out with two runs in the fifth.

Olivia Becker was given the loss, giving up nine runs on five hits and two walks in 0.2 innings.

Koster had two runs scored on two hits, one

being a home run, with three RBIs.

Stokes had two runs scored on one hit with an RBI.

Stauffer had one run scored on three hits. Keslar, Santin, and Hailey Garcia each scored a run on one hit.

In a trip up north for a doubleheader with Central Community College (Neb.), the T-Birds split the short two-game series.

In game one, the T-Birds suffered an 11-3 loss.

The Raiders jumped out to a 2-0 lead after two innings and an 8-0 lead after three innings before the T-Birds got on the board in the top of the fourth. The Raiders scored three more runs in the bottom of the fourth before the T-Birds picked up two runs in the top of the fifth to end the first game 11-3.

Mahler (0-4) was given the loss, giving up 11 runs on 12 hits with four walks.

Stauffer had one run scored on two hits with two RBIs.

Berkleigh Curtis and Keslar each scored one run.

Santin had two hits and Stokes and Garcia each had hits.

In game two of the doubleheader, the T-birds picked up a 13-1 win.

The T-Birds jumped to a quick 5-0 lead after one inning of play, and after the Raiders scored a run in the bottom of the third, the T-Birds iced the game with two runs in the fourth and six runs in the fifth to pick up the win.

Brecken Whitney (1-2) was given the win with one run allowed with five hits in five innings pitched.

Mahler, Koster, Keslar, Stauffer, and Santin each had two runs scored on a combined seven hits with seven RBIs.

Curtis, Stokes, and Emalee Johnson each had one run scored on a combined five hits.

Hosting Iowa Lakes Community College for a double header last Sunday, the T-Birds swept the Lakers with a combined score of 15-6.

In game one, the T-Birds picked up the 11-3 win.

The game was essentially over after two innings. Cloud took a quick 4-0 lead after one inning, before the Lakers scored three runs in the top of the second. The T-Birds scored seven runs in the bottom of the second. After two and a half scoreless innings the T-Birds picked up the 11-3 win.

Mahler (1-4) earned the win with three runs scored on five hits and one walk with nine strikeouts.

Curtis, Stokes, and Stauffer each had two hits on a combined five hits, eight RBIs, and two walks.

Santin, Garcia, Koster, Keslar, and Johnson each had one run scored on a combined six hits and two walks.

In game two, the T-Birds picked up a 4-3 win, thanks to a walk-off single by Emalee Johnson in the seventh inning.

After scoring one run in the second and third innings, the Lakers held a 2-0 lead entering the fourth quarter before the T-Birds popped off for three runs in the fourth to take a 3-2 lead. After the Lakers scored in the top of the seventh, a miscommunication allowed Berkleigh Curtis to get to first base, before a single, a walk and another single allowed Curtis to score the winning run.

Whitney (2-2) earned the win with seven runs allowed on seven hits, a walk, with four strikeouts in seven innings.

Johnson and Smith each had one run scored on two hits, with Stauffer and Curtis scoring the other two runs.

Koster, Keslar, Stauffer, Stokes and Garcia each had a hit.

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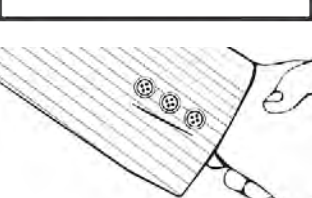
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## COMMUNITY SUPPER

• **Wednesday, March 12, 2025** - Cloud County Community Supper from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Free Hot Meal, All Are Welcome! Concordia National Guard Armory, 2115 Blosser Drive. Curbside Pick Up Only! For information, call (785) 614-0148.

## 3RD SATURDAY CHICKEN DINNER

• **Saturday, March 15** - Every 3rd Saturday of the Month from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. **American Legion Riders, Chapter 76 Concordia** - All You Can Eat Buffet Style Chicken Dinner (2nd meat option available). Dine In or To Go Orders. American Legion, 506 Washington, Concordia. (785) 243-9834.

## LOCAL MARKETS

### TUESDAY'S CLOSING

**Local Markets - East**  
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## GENERAL NOTICE TO CONTROL NOXIOUS WEEDS

The Kansas Noxious Weed Law K.S.A. 2-1314 et seq requires all persons who own or supervise land in Kansas to control and eradicate all weeds declared noxious by legislative action. The weeds declared noxious are: field bindweed, musk thistle, sericea lespedeza, Johnson grass, bur ragweed, Canada thistle, leafy spurge, hoary cress, quack grass, Russian knapweed, kudzu and pignut. Notice is hereby given pursuant to the Kansas Noxious Weed Law to every person who owns or supervises land in Cloud County that noxious weeds growing or found on such land shall be controlled and eradicated. Control is defined as preventing the production of viable seed and the vegetative spread of the plant.

Failure to observe this notice may result in the County:

1. Serving a legal notice requiring control of the noxious weeds within a minimum of five days. Failure to control the noxious weeds within the time period allowed may result in the county treating the noxious weeds at the landowner's expense and placing a lien on the property if the bill is not paid within 30 days or,
2. Filing Criminal charges for non compliance. Conviction for non compliance may result in a fine of \$100 per day of non compliance with a maximum fine of \$1500.

The public is also hereby notified that it is a violation of the Kansas Noxious Weed Law to barter, sell or give away infested nursery stock of livestock feed unless the feed is fed on the farm where grown or sold to a commercial processor that will destroy the viability of the noxious weed seed. Custom harvesting machines must be labeled with a label provided by the Kansas Dept. of Agriculture and must be free of all weed seed and litter when entering the state and when leaving a field infested with noxious weeds. Additional information may be obtained from the Cloud County Noxious Weed Department or by contacting the Kansas Dept. of Agriculture, 1320 Research Park Drive, Manhattan, KS 66502

## Sales Calendar

• **Monday, March 10, 2025 - Wednesday, March 12, 2025** - Online Auction. Bidding starts at 8:00 a.m. on Monday and ends at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday. 35.50 Acres, 100% Tillable ground located at Highway 81 and Fir Road in Republic County, Kansas. **Matt Dowell, 785-564-1256. MDowell@Farmer-sNational.com www.FNCRealEstate.com**

• **Saturday, March 15, 2025** - Large Estate Auction at 10:00 a.m. located at the National Guard Armory on South 81 Highway on the South side of Concordia, Kansas. Crock Bowls, Vintage Meat Grinder, Old Christmas Decorations, Dryden Pottery, Wood Boxes, Mannequins, Assortment of Glass, Roy Rogers Items, Large Trunk, Frank Martin Signed Baseball, Swedish Items, Art Supplies, Games, Howdy Doodly Items, Seed Advertiser, WWII Ration Coins and much more. **Kearn Auction, 785-243-3773 or 785-614-2082. Go to kearnauction.com for a full listing and pictures. Web site www.kearnauction.com E-mail @ kearnauction@yahoo.com**

• **Saturday, March 22, 2025** - 39th Annual Optimist Club Auction located at the Cloud County Fairgrounds on Industrial Road- East Side of Concordia, Kansas. Farm & Construction Equipment, Trucks, Cars, Shop Tools, Household Goods and Estate Items. **For Questions Call: Gale Longenecker @ 785-243-5598, Mike Cleveland @ 785-826-7897, Gary Fraser @ 785-243-1134 or Charles Johnson @ 785-243-9863**

• **Saturday, March 29, 2025** - Estate Auction at 10:00 a.m. located at the National Guard Armory on South 81 Highway on the South side of Concordia, Kansas. Black Ford Taurus, Household and Antique Furniture. **Kearn Auction, 785-243-3773 or 785-614-2082. Go to kearnauction.com for a full listing and pictures. Web site www.kearnauction.com E-mail @ kearnauction@yahoo.com**

• **Sportsman Auction** - Kearn Auction House, in coordination with Derek Champlin of DC Firearms LLC, will be holding a consignment auction for firearms, ammunition, and archery. DC Firearms will be conducting background checks. To list an item, Contact Dannie Kearn Jr at (785) 614-4656 or Derek Champlin at (785) 243-0723. **Date of auction to be announced when auction is full.**

## Kansas Classifieds

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(First published in the Concordia Blade-Empire on March 6, 2025)

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(913) 339-9045 (fax)

## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF Cloud County, KANSAS CIVIL DEPARTMENT

PennyMac Loan Services, LLC Plaintiff,  
vs.  
Debra S. Whitesell, Loran Whitesell, Jane Doe, John Doe, and Secretary of Veterans Affairs, an officer of the United States, et al., Defendants

Case No. CD-2025-CV-000006 Court No.  
Title to Real Estate Involved Pursuant to K.S.A. §60

### NOTICE OF SUIT

STATE OF KANSAS to the above named Defendants and The Unknown Heirs, executors, devisees, trustees, creditors, and assigns of any deceased defendants; the unknown spouses of any defendants; the unknown officers, successors, trustees, creditors and assigns of any defendants that are existing, dissolved or dormant corporations; the unknown executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, successors and assigns of any defendants that are or were partners or in partnership; and the unknown guardians, conservators and trustees of any defendants that are minors or are under any legal disability and all other person who are or may be concerned:

You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in the District Court of Cloud County, Kansas by PennyMac Loan Services, LLC, praying to foreclose a mortgage on the following described real estate:

THE SOUTH SIXTY-SIX FEET (S66") OF LOTS ONE (1) AND TWO (2), IN BLOCK SIXTY (60), IN THE CITY OF CONCORDIA, CLOUD COUNTY, KANSAS, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF. Parcel ID No. 015-082-04-0-10-14-002. Commonly known as 1304 Olive St, Concordia, KS 66901 ("the Property") MS 226098

and all those defendants who have not otherwise been served are required to plead to the Petition on or before April 16, 2025 in the District Court of Cloud County, Kansas. If you fail to plead, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the request of plaintiff.

MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dwayne A. Duncan, #27533 dduncan@msfirm.com  
612 Spirit Dr.  
St. Louis, MO 63005  
(636) 537-0110  
(636) 537-0067 (fax)

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

MS 226098.454109 KJFC

MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

3th

(First published in the Concordia Blade-Empire on Feb. 20, 2025)

## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CLOUD COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of Richard R. Boling, Deceased

CASE NO. CD-2025-PR-000002

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that on January 17, 2025, a Petition to Admit Will was filed in this Court by Dawn Snyder, an heir, devisee and legatee, and Executor named in the Last Will and Testament of Richard R. Boling, deceased.

All creditors of the decedent are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within the latter of four months from the date of first publication of notice under K.S.A. 59-2236 and amendments thereto, or if the identity of the creditor is known or reasonably ascertainable, 30 days after actual notice was given as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Dawn Snyder  
Petitioner

Prepared by:  
CAD Law, LC  
207 W. Ash  
Salina, Kansas 67401  
T: (785) 407-9128  
F: (785) 248-5000  
kathryn@cadlawlc.com  
By: Kathryn Carter  
Kathryn Carter, #12969

3th

(Published in the Concordia Blade-Empire on March 6, 13 & 20, 2025.)

KLENDAAUSTERMAN LLC  
Michelle L. Brenwald #19287  
Christopher A. McElgunn #13359  
301 N Main, Suite 1600  
Wichita, KS 67202  
Phone: (316)267-0331  
Fax: (316) 267-0333

## IN THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT, CLOUD COUNTY, KANSAS CIVIL DEPARTMENT

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CLOUD, KANSAS  
Plaintiff,

vs. Case No. CD-2024-CV-000016  
CAROL A. BISNETTE, et al.,  
Defendants.

### SECOND AMENDED NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that by an Order for Sale issued by the Clerk of the District Court of Cloud County, Kansas, I shall, on Monday, April 7, 2025, at 1 p.m., offer for sale at public auction and sell to the highest bidder the property described below. The sale will be held in the main foyer of the Cloud County Courthouse, 811 Washington Street, Concordia, KS 66901. Payment at auction must be in the form of cash or check only. All individuals wishing to bid at the sale must first register with the Cloud County Treasurer's Office at 811 Washington Street, Suite K, Concordia, KS 66901, no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday April 4, 2025. Bidder registration is currently open.

This sale proceeding was originally scheduled for February 19, 2025, but cancelled due to inclement weather. Additional details on each parcel were already published in the Concordia Blade-Empire on January 16, 23 and 30, 2025, a copy of which is available online at [www.klendlaw.com/taxsales](http://www.klendlaw.com/taxsales).

Ken Davis, Sheriff  
Cloud County, KS

Amounts listed are calculated as of date of the filing of this action. Current amounts available at the Treasurer's Office.

- No. 1:** Lots 4 & 5 in Block 191, City of Concordia, Cloud County, KS. \$3,321.25  
**No. 2:** Lot 6 Block 191, City of Concordia, Cloud County, KS. \$6,143.92  
**No. 3:** Lot 14 Block 3, in M.L. Briery's Add., an Addition to the City of Glasco, formerly Town of Dell Ray, Cloud County, KS. \$5,281.80  
**No. 4:** Lot 1 and the North 1/2 of Lot 2, Block 2, Spaulding's First Add. to the City of Glasco, formerly Town of Del Ray, Cloud County, KS. \$4,524.47  
**No. 5:** The W 1/2 of the NW 1/4 of Block 7 in East Concordia, an Addition to the City of Concordia, Cloud County, KS. EXCEPT the South 87 feet of the West 1/2 of the NW 1/4 of Block 7 of East Concordia, an Addition to the City of Concordia, Cloud County, KS. \$8,741.29  
**No. 6:** 1st add Glasco, AKA Del Ray, S14, T08, R05, Block 6, E. 36' of Lot 9, All of Lot 10 & W 3' of Lot 11, Cloud County, KS. \$5,252.31  
**No. 8:** All of the East 1/2 of Lot 19, all of Lot 20, and all of Lot 21, in Block 64, in the City of Concordia, Cloud County, KS. \$13,222.53  
**No. 9:** Lot 3, Block 7, in Spaulding's Second Addition to the town of Dell Ray, now City of Glasco, Cloud County, KS. \$2,529.56  
**No. 14:** Lot 7 and the South 1/2 of Lot 8, in Block 10, City of Jamestown, Cloud County, KS. \$1,577.02  
**No. 15:** The North 1/2 of Lot 10 and all of Lots 11 and 12, Block 30 of North Addition to the City of Miltonvale, Cloud County, KS. \$5,414.55  
**No. 16:** A tract beginning at a point on the East line of Matthew Street in East Concordia, an addition to the City of Concordia, Cloud County, KS, 448.5 feet North of the South line of the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 34, Township 5 South, Range 3 West, running thence East on a line parallel with the South line of 6th Street 132 feet; thence running North on a line parallel with the East line of Matthew Street 46.5 feet to the South line of 6th Street thence West on the South line of 6th Street 132 feet to the East line of Matthew Street, thence South 46.5 feet to the place of beginning, subject to any and all easements of record. \$33,256.19  
**No. 17:** A Tract of land starting at a point 166 feet south of the NE corner of Block 6 in the Spaulding's 2nd Addition to the City of Glasco; thence South 130 feet; thence west 155 feet; thence North 130 feet; thence east 155 feet, to the place of beginning, in the Spaulding's 2nd Addition of the Town of Del Ray, now the city of Glasco, Cloud County, KS. Subject to an easement of access over the West 15' of the above described property. \$4,891.11  
**No. 18:** Jamestown, Original Town, Block 4, Lot 1 & N 1/2 of Lot 2, Block 4 and vac alley adj section 22 township 05 Range 05 Cloud County, KS. \$2,448.77  
**No. 19:** A tract of land in Cloud County, KS beginning at a point 290 feet South of the NW corner of Block 55; thence East 150 feet; thence South 110 feet; thence West 150 feet; thence North 110 feet to place of beginning, all in Block 55 in West Addition to City of Miltonvale, subject however, and this deed is accepted with the understanding and agreed that a strip of land, to wit; The east 10 feet and extending across the East end of the above described tract, be and is hereby reserved for perpetual public and common use as an alley or passage way. \$2,685.08  
**No. 20:** A tract in Block 56, in west addition to Miltonvale, in Cloud County, KS, described as follows: Beginning 100 feet west of the SE Corner of Said Block, running thence West 110 feet; Thence North 140 Feet thence East 110 feet; Thence South 140 feet to the place of beginning. \$861.76  
**No. 22:** Lot 11, Block 35, North Addition to the City of Miltonvale, Cloud County, KS. \$4,160.94  
**No. 23:** The East 100' of the SE 1/4 of Block 56 of the West Addition to the City of Miltonvale, according to the recorded plat thereof in Cloud County, KS. \$860.05  
**No. 24:** The West 1/2 of Lot 2, and all of Lot 3, in Block 184, in the City of Concordia, Cloud County, KS. \$3,691.22  
**No. 25:** Lot 11 in Block 42, North Addition to City of Miltonvale, Cloud County, KS. \$4,409.95  
**No. 28:** A Tract in Block 11 in West's addition to Dell Ray, now City of Glasco, Cloud County, KS: Beginning at the NW Corner of Said Block; Thence East 75 feet; Thence South 135 Feet; Thence West 75 feet; Thence North 135 Feet to the Place of Beginning. \$983.43  
**No. 29:** The North 1/2 of Lots 1 and 2 in Block 179, City of Concordia, Cloud County, KS. \$5,743.81  
**No. 31:** A tract of land in the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 16, Township 8 South, Range 1 West of the 6th P.M., described as follows: Beginning at a point 570 East and 33 feet North of the Southwest corner of Said SW1/4, Thence North 132 feet, Thence West 9 feet, Thence North 132 feet, Thence East 131 feet, Thence South 132 feet, Thence East 3 inches, Thence South 132 feet to the point 33 feet North and 692 feet 3 inches East of said Southwest Corner of said SW1/4, Thence West 122 feet 3 inches to the Point of Beginning. The same being Lots 1 and 2, except the East 1 foot of said Lot 1, Lot 19, except the West 9 feet thereof, and Lot 20 except the East 9 inches thereof, all in Block C in the Northeast Addition to the City of Miltonvale, Cloud County, KS (Now Vacated). \$1,322.15  
**No. 32:** Lot 6 in Block 3 of the Original Town of Dell Ray now the City of Glasco, Cloud County, KS and a Tract of Land Beginning at the NW Corner of Lot 6, Block 3, of the original Town of Dell Ray now the City of Glasco, Cloud County, KS, Thence South along the West Line of Said Lot 6, 115 1/2', Thence West 19', Thence North 115 1/2', Thence East 19' to the Point of Beginning. \$2,791.91  
**No. 33:** All of Lot 9, in Block 7, in the town of Aurora, Cloud County, KS. \$833.74  
**No. 34:** West 46 feet of Lot 9 in Block 8, in the City of Aurora, Cloud County, KS. \$1,404.20  
**No. 35:** Lot 17, in Block 7, in the City of Jamestown, Cloud County, KS, according to the recorded plat thereof (surface rights only). \$790.04  
**No. 37:** All of Lots 1 and 2, Block 35, North Addition to the City of Miltonvale, Cloud County, KS. \$7,103.14  
**No. 39:** The West 47 feet of Lot 1, and the East 22 feet of Lot 2, of Block 41 in the City of Concordia, Cloud County, KS. \$25,676.55  
**No. 40:** The East 28 Feet of Lot 11 in Block 192 in the City of Concordia, Cloud County, KS. \$11,022.56  
**No. 41:** Lot 10 and the West 16 Feet of Lot 11, in Block 192, in the City of Concordia, Cloud County, KS. \$4,032.38  
**No. 42:** All of Lot 14 in Block 177, in the City of Concordia, Cloud County, KS. \$2,789.43  
**No. 44:** Lot 16 and the West 1/2 of Lot 17, in Block 78, in the City of Concordia, Cloud County, KS. \$10,234.83

## JUST A LITTLE LIGHT

BY DAWN PHELPS  
jdawn@tootlevillepublishing.com

### “Afraid of Never Flying....”

A close friend and her husband, both grandparents, made an impromptu visit to see my husband and me. While at our house, the lady told us about a trip that she and her husband had taken out-of-state with their grown daughter and her husband, and their grandchildren.

Prior to their trip, she said that she, her husband, and the children’s parents discussed whether to drive or fly. She said that her husband, the grandpa, does not like to fly, and it was several hundred miles to drive to the destination.

After listening intently to the discussion, their seven-year-old granddaughter spoke up and promised her grandfather, “Grandpa, if you will fly with us, I will hold your hand!” So, the grandpa reluctantly agreed to fly.

On the day of the flight, the little granddaughter seated herself beside her grandpa on the plane. As the pilot revved the engines for takeoff, the little girl reached for her grandpa’s hand. She held his hand until the plane was safely in the air, then she let go.

When it was time for the plane to land, the little girl again reached for her grandpa’s hand. She held his hand tightly until the plane landed and came to its final stop. Despite Grandpa’s fear of flying, he and the family had safely flown!

That grandpa is not the only one who is afraid of flying. In fact, he is one of 25 million in the U.S. with aerophobia, the fear of flying. And after several recent air collisions and crashes, some of us may be a little reluctant to fly even if we do not have a fear of flying.

Some frightened fliers take medications for their anxieties and fly anyway. Others attend therapy to learn how to cope with their fears.

Some fears of flying are founded, some are not, and some are based on *what ifs*—“What if there is a storm?” or “What if the plane malfunctions and crashes?” Even if bad things do happen to us, we must try to go on.

Below is a thought-provoking quote from the book *To Kill a Mockingbird*, written by Harper Lee and published in 1960. Atticus Finch, a fictitious character in the book, made the words famous.

**“She was afraid of heights but she was much more afraid of never flying.”**

Life in general is filled with experiences that are happy and exciting and others that are challenging and scary. Out of necessity, many of us may have to deal with multiple challenges.

For example, after my husband died many years ago, I had to deal with being stranded due to a dead car battery, a flooded basement, and a hail-damaged roof—situations I would have never dreamed of having to deal with alone!

Similarly, I met a lady from a nearby small town not long after her husband had died. She told me that her husband seldom allowed her to drive during their married years. Rarely did she drive to the local store for groceries. Consequently, she lacked confidence in her driving skills.

One day she asked me if I thought she could drive in a larger town about fifty miles away. I told her I believed she could do it, and she found out she *could* drive there! A few months later, she proudly told me she had successfully driven out of state alone to see a friend!

Like the quote about being afraid of heights, her fear was about driving rather than flying. But necessity urged her to face her challenge and push through her fears so she could live more independently.

If you are facing a challenge, why not test your “wings?” You might find your “wings” are strong enough to carry you to places you would have never dreamed! So even if you are “afraid of heights,” dream a little, then *spread your wings and fly!*

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## LOOKING BACK

### 100 Years MARCH 12, 1925

Ahrends Bros. have built a new ice house in the rear of their meat market, and will furnish the people of this community with ice this summer. The new ice house will hold about one car load of ice... I hereby give notice that it is getting the time of year to shut up your chickens. Owners are requested to comply with city ordinances and save trouble. ---H.L. Davis, city Marshal... Moss Mercantile Co. has specials, can goods by the case. 5 cans peas, 5 cans of tomatoes, 4 cans corn, 3 cans hominy, 3 cans string beans, 1 can kraut, 1 can pumpkin and 2 cans kidney beans, all for \$3.25.

### 75 YEAR MARCH 9, 1950

MARRIAGES: Miss Mary Ellen Fisher of Bennington to Clarence R. Dressler Jr., of Scott City, KS... Ralph L. Ernst opened the Cities Service Station, which has been closed since last fall. Mr. Ernest and family located at the beginning of the fall semester of school so that his children might attend M.W.C... BIRTHS: Mr. and Mrs. Bernice Bartley Jr. have a son. Rev. and Mrs. Lester Morgan have a daughter... BIRTHDAYS: Sharon Pacey and Agnes Comfort... Phelps’s Furniture has the Frigidaire 30 inch range with full width oven door, for \$169.75 with easy terms... Wheat \$2.05...

### 50 YEARS MARCH 6, 1975

The FFA placed third place and received a trophy in the advanced Farm Mechanics Contest, at Abilene. Six students participating in the contest were Greg Pfeifer, Scott Breault, David Dixon, Kenny Richard, Ronnie Walker and Terry Tate. Freshman Farm Mechanics placed third in the contest at Abilene. Vernon Palmer placed 4th high individual and Scott Duloherly was 6th. The students were Vernon Palmer, Scott Duloherly, Gerald Richard and Tom Taylor. The advisor for both teams was Mr. Tony Harris... Wayne Phelps has been named Industrial Engineering Manager at Cessna in Hutchinson following the retirement of Loftin Schmucker... Becki Birdsall was named the Vice President for FHA District C. Karalin McKain completed against girls from FHA district C giving a speech. Karalin took first place... Local rainfall for the week .01... The old cement at M.R.H.S. was dozed out along with trees, the walk and steps that led to the front door of the school building...

### 25 YEAR MARCH 9, 2000

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Garrison named Master Farmer, Farm Homemaker by the Kansas State Univ. and the Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry... Kansas Bankers Assoc. awards for soil conservation. The families named are Richard and Dona Schultz and Beldon and Marilyn Blosser... BIRTHS: Clint and Jenelle Crismas have a son. Mark and Rhonda Bell have a son... Moisture for the week 1.17... Home destroyed by fire at 202 Cottonwood. The fire alarm sounded at 4:00 a.m. The house received major damage... WEDDINGS: Michael Fancellia to Shana Watson...

## MOUNT LIBERTY

BY VIRGIL VESTERBERG

What a difference a week can make in the weather! There aren’t many that liked the first 2 months of the year more than now. Everyone is ready for Spring. It is good to see the ponds clear of ice again. Even better to see some water in them.

\*\*\*\*\*

You may have heard by now that Farmer’s and Rancher’s Livestock auction barn has sold. The buyer is Winter Livestock of Dodge City. For years Winter was the largest sale barn in Kansas but was overtaken by the Salina barn. I guess the old adage of “If you can’t beat ‘em, join ‘em” worked in this case. Winter owns several barns in the Midwest now. Another is the Pratt barn which also handles a lot of cattle.

\*\*\*\*\*

Along the same subject-----I am so old I can remember when there were auction barns in most towns. In fact there were two in many including Concordia, Abilene, Beloit, Salina and Clay Center. Others in the area were Minneapolis and Glasco. My dad even showed me where one was between Ada and Minneapolis.

\*\*\*\*\*

I had seen them advertised before but had never seen any used until last week---ear muffs for calves. People don’t like to buy a high dollar bull with frozen off ears so they put specially made ear muffs on their calves when it is extremely cold. We will no doubt have a few calves show up with short ears and tails but it actually makes them easier to tell apart. If you are spending a few thousand on a bull you want them to look pretty.

\*\*\*\*\*

Lots of people start looking for “sheds” about this time of year. It is still a bit early but we ran on to one last week. We don’t actively look for them but pick them up whenever we see them. It sure beats finding them in a tractor tire. Most bucks are still carrying both antlers but some have started losing them.

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The Farmers Alliance Companies in McPherson, Kansas, have announced that Ayres Insurance Agency LLC in Miltonvale has been named a FARMERS ALLIANCE ADVANTAGE AGENT for 2025. To qualify as an ADVANTAGE AGENT, an agency must exhibit superior professionalism and profitability over five consecutive years. ADVANTAGE AGENTS are recognized by Farmers Alliance as the “best of the best”. Reaching this level of distinction reflects this agency’s commitment to its customers and community. Congratulations to Ayres Insurance Agency LLC for this achievement.

The Farmers Alliance Companies are represented by independent agents, and serve eight states. Farmers Alliance was established in 1888 and writes a full range of property and liability insurance for homes, farms, and commercial businesses. For more information visit [www.fami.com](http://www.fami.com).

## BITS AND PIECES

BY MEGAN MYER

### Am I Playing Defense Against Myself?

I’m not exactly on top of life all the time- you can ask anyone. I’m a procrastinator and I tend to lean towards being overly relaxed rather than ensuring all my squirrels are in their designated trees. I’m a bit of an adorable mess, I think. Correction: I’m a functioning, adorable mess. However, these last two weeks have been absolutely ridiculous and makes me think there is more at play than my own shenanigans.

For those of you who are, or were, in the service, I am going to assume you know what I am referring to when I say “Murphy’s Law.” For those of you who have never been in, allow me to explain: Murphy’s Law is an adorable adage (I say with fond sarcasm) that states, if it can go wrong, it will go wrong (please use your imagination to emphasize “will” for me). We use it to try and explain why nothing can run smoothly, even with added care and planning. In this case, I am using it to try and figure out why I can’t complete what should be extremely basic tasks such as renewing my military ID, completing online training, or just getting one job done without running into multiple, frustrating, obstacles. I feel as if there is something pushing me back when I’m trying to move forward.

But you know, while I believe I can recognize where my hands have been in my own random moments of demise and degradation, maybe this isn’t about something being against me, but really me being against myself. Maybe I’m not recognizing where I am messing up because I am becoming too complacent in areas that I’ve been able to take time on before. Here’s the realization I’m allowing myself to come to terms with: the Megan I was a couple years ago is not the Megan I am now; in fact I now have more responsibilities and goals to achieve now.

And while I’m still carrying scars from those years, I’ve not been left to rot in those situations and my life is full of good things. You see, I don’t think I’m taking care of things the way I should be, because I’m not realizing the differences between the past and the present. God sees what I don’t see and I don’t like that, so I stay still, hoping to not get hurt. Isn’t that what survival mode does to all of us? We live by coping, not actually living.

So, why am I working this hard to challenge Murphy’s Law with my own, personal Megan’s Law, you may ask? Megan’s Law being “You can do this later; it will be fine. Just relax right now. You’ve done it before so things will be fine.” I think it’s because I’m still processing life with an old mentality that helped me stay sane a couple years ago and I haven’t allowed myself to move along with the blessings due to things not being exactly what I want. If it’s not the way I think it should be, something is clearly wrong. Or, I’ll face more of life’s wicked storms if I try and move past “defense mode.”

Earth to Megan: God gave me the answers already. Yes, it’s not what I want but, I truly think He is preparing me for what is to come. Now is the time to thrive instead of just “living.” I need to replace coping mechanisms with an actual mentality that allows me to be the best “Megan” for where I’m at now: for my husband, my children, and my many jobs and blessings. Old Megan wasn’t able to do that before and that’s absolutely okay. That is okay. Old Megan managed. Megan today can move forward, appreciate and take advantage of what’s been given. She can help prepare Future Megan for what’s to come spiritually, mentally, and physically.

So, is it Murphy’s Law or is it Megan’s Law? It’s the latter and that is a personal law, now outdated; it was a law focused on survival. Now, my “law” needs to be rewritten to focus on active growth.

If you’re fighting Murphy’s Law vs. your own, maybe take a couple minutes and really dissect what’s going on in your life. Be open to the reality one way or the other, and the right course of action. Whatever that is for you, I hope and pray for wisdom and strength so you can take on those hard moments when you need to.

## MILTONVALE HAPPENINGS

### Church Listings:

Catholic Mass @ 8:30 a.m.  
Christian Church Sunday School @ 9:30, Worship @ 10:30  
Bible Methodist Sunday School @ 9:45, Worship @ 10:45 and 6:00  
Hope Church fellowship @ 9:00, Worship @ 9:30  
Wesleyan Sunday School @ 9:30, Worship @ 10:45, Bible studies @ 6:00, Thursday @ 9:00, Awanas 4:15-5:30 when school is in session  
Idana Presbyterian Sunday School @ 9:00, worship @ 10:15  
Mt. Liberty United Methodist @ 11:00  
Oak Hill Presbyterian @ 9:00

Thought for the day: Jesus is constantly interceding for us before the throne of our Father. We can follow suit and pray for others. Luke 22:31-32 says, “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has demanded permission to sift you like wheat; but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.”

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# OBITUARIES

## Calvin William Schultz

February 3, 1951 – March 2, 2025

Calvin William Schultz, 74, of Miltonvale, KS, passed away on March 2, 2025, in Leonardville, KS. He was born in Ellsworth County, KS, on February 3, 1951, to William (Bill) and Myrtle (Hoffman) Schultz.



Calvin attended school in Ellsworth until 7th grade, then in Miltonvale after the family moved, and graduated in 1969. Following high school, he attended Cloud County Community College and received an associate's degree in 1971.

After college, he returned to the farm where he worked alongside his father and brother, Richard, and later his nieces, Hali and Shelby. He has been involved in many facets: milking cows, raising hogs and cattle, putting up hay, and growing wheat, corn, milo, soybeans, and sunflowers. His favorite being corn.

Tractor pulls were a pastime he enjoyed watching, attending, and occasionally competing. He was active in the community; driving in parades, serving at the Tootlefest BBQ, volunteer fireman, and tasks that required some manpower.

He dedicated 26 years to being a volunteer EMT, 5 years in which he was the director. Whenever asked to cover someone's shift, he never hesitated. You could find him most Friday nights, during football season, manning the ambulance on the sidelines. Even in most difficult situations, Calvin was usually there and helping in any way.

Calvin was preceded in death by his parents, Bill and Myrtle (Hoffman) Schultz.

Calvin is survived by a brother, Richard Schultz and wife Dona of Miltonvale, KS; nieces, Hali Schultz of Miltonvale, KS, Shelby (Schultz) Schmidt and husband Cy of Glasco, KS; and one great-nephew, Sturgill (Harry) Schmidt.

Visitation will be held from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Friday, March 7, 2025, at the Phelps Funeral Home, Miltonvale, KS.

Services will be 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 8, 2025, at the F.C. Hill Memorial Wesleyan Church in Miltonvale, burial will follow at the Miltonvale Cemetery. A luncheon will be held at 12:00 p.m. at the Miltonvale EMS building.

Memorials, in lieu of flowers, to the Miltonvale Fire EMS or St. Croix Hospice, 225 Southward Pl #2a, Manhattan, KS 66503.

Online condolences may be made at [www.nsrhf.com](http://www.nsrhf.com)

# FOLLOWING ON

## PASTOR SAM FLICK

In January of 2023 Guy Paris was the mayor of Thiberville, France. The town of about 1800 had just built a new primary school and still owed more than \$400,000 on the construction. That's a significant amount of money for a little town. The mayor had stayed awake more than one night wondering where the money was going to come from.

Imagine his surprise when a check for \$10.2 million arrived in the mail. The check was an inheritance from the estate of the late Roger Thiberville whose only connection to the town was that he shared its name. He passed away at the age of 91 and named the town of Thiberville in his will. It was a stunning act of generosity given by a man who had never even seen the town for himself. How could they ever say thank you for such a generous gift?

We living here in the 21st century face an equally daunting question, "How will we ever say thank you for what Jesus has done for us?" The Prophet Isaiah writes in Isaiah 53:5, "He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all."

We are all staggering forward, carrying along with us this great weight of sin (A terrible debt that can never be paid.) But Jesus paid the debt for us. Isaiah writes that the Lord has laid on Jesus the iniquity of us all. He was blamed for our wrongdoing, and he was punished for our transgressions. He became sin for us so that we might become his righteousness.

We have a benefactor. We have someone who paid our debt. We open the pages of the Bible and find that there's a \$10.2 million check inside. The songwriter said it like this, "Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe; Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow." So, have you said thank you for this extraordinary gift? Let's do that together, "Thank you Lord Jesus for what you did for me."

# Cloud County Commission Minutes

Minutes from the February 10, 2025 meeting

## UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Regular session of the February meetings of the Cloud County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on February 10, 2025, in the Commissioners' room at 811 Washington, Concordia, Kansas, with Chairman Michael Cleveland, Members Dannie Kearn and Ron Copple, and County Clerk Shella Thoman present.

County staff attending was: Rod Michaud, Highway / Weed Administrator; Mike Hake, Solid Waste Director; and Matt Nevins, Jail Administrator.

Others attending: Melissa Swenson, Executive Director - Brown Grand Theatre; Derek Drake and Jennifer Koch, Clyde EMS; John Christensen, Concordia Fire Chief; Amy Lange, Concordia City Manager; and Blake Graham, Miltonvale EMS (by phone).

Mike Hake, Solid Waste Director, reported that Republic County started transporting trash and they were working out the bugs. Discussed needing to purchase a replacement trailer and the position he has open at the Recycling Center.

John Christensen, Concordia Fire Chief, discussed ambulance service in the County. Miltonvale EMS is having a hard time finding residents to cover services and are in conversations with Concordia, Clyde and Clay Center about coverage. The City of Concordia currently contracts with all the Townships on the west side of Highway 81.

Melissa Swenson, Executive Director - Brown Grand Theatre, presented WindFarm Grant request in the amount of \$20,000 (total project cost \$395,250). The project is to replace antiquated lighting and sound systems and the theatre's vintage cyclorama. WindFarm grants are accepted through March 30, 2025.

Matt Nevins, Jail Administrator, discussed wage/position changes for the Sheriff's office.

The Board reviewed the Budget Status report and Fund Status Report as of January 31, 2025, with an ending cash balance of \$15,755,021.21.

Recognized the resignation of Kiera Mercer, Office Clerk, effective February 10, 2025.

The Board recessed from 11:28 a.m. – 12:23 p.m. for the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) meeting.

Following LEPC the Board had a road tour with Rod Michaud, Highway / Weed Administrator, visiting several current and upcoming projects.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Kearn, unanimous vote the Board approved re-publishing the Notice of Road Vacation to correct an error in the legal description.

Beginning 1/4 +/- miles (or 1320 +/- feet) West of the East Quarter corner of Section 23, Township 5 South, Range 4 West in Cloud County, Kansas; said Point of Beginning also being known as the Northwest corner of the East Half of the Southeast Quarter of said Section 23;

thence running East on the common line between the Northeast Quarter and Southeast Quarter of said Section 23 a distance of 1/4 +/- miles (or 1320 +/- feet) to the east Quarter corner of said Section 23; said point being the Point of Termination of this description.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Kearn, unanimous vote the Board approved the Chairman to sign a letter to the 1st Joint Special Operations Air Component authorizing the use of County properties for military training purposes April 2 – 9, 2025.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Kearn, unanimous vote the Board approved the Chairman to sign a letter of support for the approval of the Community Wildfire Defense grant from the Kansas Forest Service and appointing Ron Copple, John Christensen and Jacob Thoman

The Board approved the following expenses totaling \$311,484.27

- General Fund – \$196,100.32
- Road & Bridge – \$38,434.36
- Grants - \$332.62
- Juvenile Justice - \$507.42
- Appraisal - \$131.37
- Juvenile Reinvestment - \$8.63
- Community Correc - \$59.10
- County Health - \$13,085.03
- Noxious Weed - \$3,161.00
- Election - \$25.16
- Special Building - \$2,653.50
- Solid Waste - \$55,810.76
- Employee Benefits - \$1,175.00

The above expense detail is available at the County Clerk's office and the Clerk's Public Records webpage.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, second by Commissioner Kearn, unanimous vote the Board approved abatements 2025-38 and 2025-39 with a net change of (\$345.26) and refund of \$345.26.

Commissioner Copple attended the Glasco City meeting on Tuesday February 4th. Commissioner Cleveland attended County Days at the Capital and the Annual Soil Conservation banquet on Thursday, February 6th.

On a motion by Commissioner Kearn, second by Commissioner Copple, unanimous vote the Board approved the February 3, 2025, minutes as presented.

On a motion by Commissioner Kearn, second by Commissioner Copple, unanimous vote the Board adjourned at 2:26 p.m., until Tuesday, February 18, 2025.

### Knot Hole News

SINCE 1880  
MILTONVALE, KANSAS  
ESTABLISHED 1880

- A fellow who just returned from a vacation out west says it's easy to pick out the poor folks in the Oklahoma oil country. They wash their own Cadillacs...
- Rudy: "Do you have brown sugar?" Nick: "Naw! When it gets that dirty, we throw it away!"
- "Would you marry a man for his money?" "Tell me first Mister, is this a Gallup poll or a proposal!"

FIRST PRINTED IN THE MILTONVALE RECORD, March 9, 1950

# TOOTLE'S TALES

BY JUDY LOBAUGH

TT

The temperatures were in the 50's and 60's last Saturday and Sunday, but there are cooler temperatures and rain or snow possible for this Tuesday or Wednesday. With the temperatures riding the "winter roller coaster," it makes it easier for the cold and flu season to linger a while longer.

TT

Happy Birthday to: Gatlin Adams, Brandon Slone, Lester Gray, Pamela Pruitt, Tony Breault, Heather Kohl, Torey Hamel, Vicki Joe, Steve West, Casey Richard, Marlene Chartier, Bill Koster, Trahan Cyr, Martha Mottin, Janice Chaput.

TT

Happy Anniversary to: Matt and Lorna O'Loughlin, Dick and Deanna Phelps, Terry and Marlene Walker.

TT

We send our prayers and get-well wishes to: Linda Shepard, Calvin Schultz, Gary Turner, Nancy Crowl, Kyle Stolzenburg, Eric Stevenson and their caregivers.

TT

If you like basketball, this is your time of the year. The Big 12 Women's Tournament is this week and the Big 12 Men's Tournament starts on March 11. If you still haven't had enough basketball, you'll be ready for all the NCAA games.

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## MARCH 2025 - NICOL HOME MEALS ON WHEELS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2	3 Goulash, Salad, Breadstick, Blueberry Crisp	4 Pork Fritter, Potato Salad, Brussel Sprouts, Roll, Cake	5 Mushroom Chicken, Noodles, Zucchini, Lemon Pie	6 Beef Stew, Peas, Biscuit, Sweet Potato Cake	7 Fish & Cheese Sandwich, Chips, Stewed Tomatoes, Ice Cream	8
9	10 Ham, Baked Sweet Potato, Broccoli, Roll, Cinnamon Scalloped Pear	11 Chicken Thigh, Cheesy Mashed Potatoes, Carrots, Chocolate Cream Pie	12 RESIDENT BIRTHDAY LUNCH	13 Lemon Pepper Chicken, Scalloped Potatoes, Peas, Roll, Ice Cream	14 Fish of the Day, Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Mandarin Orange Fluff	15

SOUTHERN CLOUD

Glasco | Miltonvale Schools

# MARCH Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9	10 No School - Teacher Work day  7:00pm: Board of Education Meeting @ Miltonvale	11	12	13	14	15
16 St. Patrick's Day	17 No School	18 Spring Break	19 Spring Break	20 Spring Break	21 Spring Break	22

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## Kansas FFA Foundation breaks day of giving record

MANHATTAN, Kan. – The Kansas FFA Foundation is thrilled to announce the incredible success of Give FFA Day 2025, held on Thursday, February 20. Thanks to the generosity of nearly 400 donors, the Foundation raised over \$59,000 in just 24 hours, making this the most successful Give FFA Day in Kansas history. Kansas also ranked third nationally in state giving, highlighting the widespread support for agricultural education and FFA programs. Previously, the record was \$23,000.

The Foundation's \$40,000 goal was met by 2:00 p.m., reflecting its deep commitment to agricultural education. Donations came from all 105 Kansas counties, 22 states, Washington, D.C., and Canada, demonstrating its broad dedication to Kansas FFA.

"Give FFA Day's success was incredible," said Jory Ratzlaff, State FFA president. "Kansas ranking in the top three nationwide shows the strong support for our members. This achievement means more opportunities for nearly 14,000 Kansas FFA members. Thank you to everyone who made this possible."

Funds raised will directly support FFA members, support agricultural educators, and provide leadership development, career readiness, and hands-on learning experiences for students across the state.

"We are incredibly grateful for our

donors," said Kevin Davis, Kansas FFA Foundation Board of Trustees. "Their generosity strengthens FFA programs, equips educators, and creates life-changing opportunities for students. Give FFA Day 2025 proves the collective commitment to Kansas agriculture's future."

The Kansas FFA Foundation Board of Trustees appreciates all the donors and matching partners who helped amplify contributions: Mustang Seed, Ag Partners Cooperative, Keith and Sheri Westervelt, Grass and Grain Newspaper, Jerry and Anita DeWeese, Mark Mayfield, S&S Rock Crushing, Kansas State University Ag Education Club, and the Kansas FFA Foundation Board of Trustees.

Building on this success, the Kansas FFA Foundation looks forward to welcoming chapters and guests to the 97th Kansas FFA Convention, which will be held at Kansas State University from May 27 to May 30, 2025.

For more information on the Kansas FFA Foundation, visit [www.ksffa.org/foundation](http://www.ksffa.org/foundation)

###

The Kansas FFA Association is a school-based youth leadership development organization of nearly 14,000 student members as part of 232 local FFA chapters in 103 of the 105 Kansas counties.



## 4-H NEWS

### 2025 4-H District Club Day Results for Cloud County 4-Hers

Members from the River Valley Extension District 4-H Clubs attended District 4-H Club Day held Saturday, February 15, 2025, at Clay Center Community High School in Clay Center, KS. The following results are for Cloud County 4-H Clubs (Clyde Roadrunners – CRR; Hill and Dale – H&D; Hollis Hustlers – HH; Hopewell Corners – HC; Miltonvale Hustlers – MH):

#### Show and Share:

Participation: Elyssa Zima - HC  
Participation: Annalise Zima - HC  
Participation: Michael Walker - H&D

#### Junior and Senior Instrumental:

Top Purple: Elizabeth Paillet - MH  
Talent, Skits, Plays, Other Talent, and Dance  
Blue: Hollis Hustlers  
Blue: Hopewell Corners

#### Vocal Music:

Top Purple: Grace Demars - MH  
Top Purple: Esther and Elizabeth Paillet - MH  
Top Purple: Bethany Demars - MH  
Top Purple: Esther Paillet - MH  
Top Purple: Elizabeth Paillet - MH

#### Senior Readings and Solo Acting:

Red: Elijah Shepard - H&D  
Red: Bethany Demars - MH  
Red: Grace Demars - MH

#### Model Meeting:

Blue: Hill and Dale

#### Public Speaking:

Red: Jeremiah Johnson - MH  
Red: Bethany Demars - MH

#### Jr. Reading:

Top Purple: Elizabeth Paillet - MH  
Blue: Leah Demars - MH  
Red: Timothy Shepard - H&D  
White: Audrey Shepard - H&D

#### Spontaneous Speaking:

Top Purple: Elijah Shepard - H&D

#### Project Talk:

Top Purple: James Simmons - CRR  
Alt. Top Purple: Cayce Hacker - H&D  
Blue: Sarah Morgan - H&D  
Blue: Eizlea Simmons - CRR  
Blue: Frankie R. - CRR  
Blue: Lee Lacy - MH  
Blue: Cayden Honts - HC  
Red: Waide Simmons - CRR  
Red: Wil Lehmann - H&D

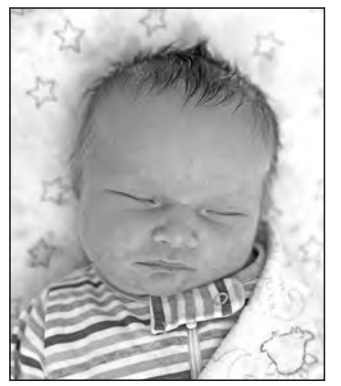
#### Sr. Demonstrations – Illustrated Talks:

Top Purple: Raelynn Moore - CRR  
Alt. Top Purple: Jessa Ringer - HC  
Blue: Seth Lacy - MH  
Blue: Emily Kelsey - MH  
Blue: Kaydre Kolman - CRR  
Blue: Keaton and Brooklyn Robeson - HH  
Blue: Grace Demars - MH  
Blue: Noah Demars - MH  
Red: Elijah Shepard - H&D  
Red: Mark Paillet - MH  
Red: Broden Kolman - CRR  
Red: Catelin Benyshek - HC

#### Jr. Demonstrations – Illustrated Talks:

Blue: Esther Paillet - MH  
Blue: Katherine Wurtz - CRR  
Blue: Remi Wurtz - CRR  
Blue: Macee McDuffee - MH  
Blue: Benjamin Elstrom - HC  
Blue: Leah Demars - MH  
Red: Elizabeth Paillet - MH  
Red: Audrey Shepard - H&D  
Red: Timothy Shepard - H&D  
Red: Sawyer Kolman - CRR

Eligible Top Purple placings may participate in the Regional 4-H Club Day to be held March 22, 2025, at the Clay Center Community High School, 1630 Ninth Street, Clay Center.



## Birth

Parents Ryan and Melissa Swenson welcome their new baby boy, Issac James Swenson. He was born on February 18, 2025, and weighed 8 pounds 1 ounce.

## Pitch party

One table of cards was played during the pitch party at the Concordia Senior Center on Wednesday, February 26.

Eunice Eakins and Debra Hubert shared first-place honors.

Rose Hansen and Richard Hubert took second place.

Participants played one table of cards at the pitch party on Friday, February 28, 2025, at the Concordia Senior Center.

Kathy Budke was the first-player winner.

Richard Hubert and Debra Hubert shared second place.

Eunice Eakins received third-place honors.

Upcoming pitch parties at the senior center will be on Wednesday, March 12 and Friday, March 14.

## Senior Center

### Menu

**Thurs., March 6** - SPAGHETTI, garlic bread, salad, fruit, cookie.

**Fri., March 7** - BAKED FISH or CHICKEN NUGGETS, scalloped potatoes, mixed veggies, fruit, cheesecake.

**Mon., March 10** - HAMBURGER on a BUN, onion rings, fruit, cookie.

**Tues., March 11** - MEATLOAF, mashed potatoes, green beans, fruit, pudding.

**Wed., March 12** - SWEET & SOUR CHICKEN over rice, cauliflower, fruit, cheesecake.

Includes choice of milk, iced tea, coffee, or water.

Available for Meals on Wheels, to-go/pick-up, as well as in-house.

Meals start around 11:45 a.m., to-go/pick-up meals by 11:30 a.m.

All ages welcome to dine-in or pick-up a meal. Ages 60 and above—\$5. Ages 59 and below—\$6.

### Activities

**Thurs., March 6** - Pool (Billiards) 7:45 a.m., Puzzles anytime.

**Fri., March 7** - Pool (Billiards) 7:45 a.m., Exercise 10 a.m., Puzzles anytime.

**Mon., March 10** - Pool (Billiards) 7:45 a.m., Exercise 10 a.m., Puzzles anytime.

**Tues., March 11** - Pool (Billiards) 7:45 a.m., Bingo 1 p.m., Puzzles anytime.

**Wed., March 12** - Coffee Club 9 a.m., Exercise 10 a.m., Cards 1 p.m., Puzzles anytime.

Come down to the Concordia Senior Center at 109 West Seventh Street, Concordia. Call 785-243-1872 for more information or to reserve.

**ENJOY THE DAY!**

**Concordia Elementary School Students of the Month**  
February 2025

Wesson Sibley, Kindergarten  
Teej Carter, 1st Grade  
Teghyn Thoman, 2nd Grade  
Isabella Strait, 3rd Grade  
Brody Cyphers, 4th Grade

### Students of the month

Concordia Elementary School (CES) announced its February Students of the Month. (Pictured left to right; top to bottom) Kindergarten: Wesson Sibley, 1st: Teej Carter, 2nd: Teghyn Thoman, 3rd: Isabella Strait and 4th: Brody Cyphers.

These students were selected by their teachers for this honor for being great students, hard-workers, displaying respect and showing friendship, kindness and empathy. Students will be recognized at Morning Assembly, receive a coupon for a treat from local businesses and enjoy pizza at Gambino's. From the Staff at CES, "Keep up the great work!"

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**Have a Great Day & Weekend! Enjoy the Sun!**

**Concordia's Meals on Wheels delivers to the Jamestown Senior Center**

On Mondays, the Concordia Senior Center delivers Meals on Wheels to the Jamestown Senior Center.

## Long to be speaker at CWO

Ashley Long of Long Stem Gardens, 206 West Sixth Street, Concordia, will be the featured speaker for Christian Women's Outreach, held on the second Tuesday of the month—March 11, 9:30 a.m., at the Fellowship Christian Church Fellowship Hall, 412 West Sixth Street, Concordia. All women are invited and no membership is required.

Ashley Long, owner of Long Stem Gardens, enjoys working daily with flowers with her children by her side at her small business in downtown Concordia. She recently moved to the area with her husband Tristen and three children: Aubrey, Jaylen and Skyler. She offers a wide range of floral services along with a beautiful assortment of plants and unique gifts for all occasions. Ashley is passionate about building relationships within the community and encouraging support of small businesses. She strives to lead her business and family with eyes focused on Christ.

To make or cancel a reservation, please call Deb at 785-243-6874 by March 7.

Our monthly contributions go toward North Central Kansas Teens for Christ.

## Puzzle Solutions

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

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

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# VFW AUXILIARY NEWS

The VFW Auxiliary to Post 7515 met on February 19, 2025, with 3 members present and 2 via phone, due to the weather.

Pres. Kathleen opened the meeting with a prayer and the flag salute.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The treasurer's report followed and will be filed subject to audit. There were no bills presented.

Membership was discussed. Our membership is short by 3 members to reach 100% paid.

It was noted that the auxiliary has been asked to serve a funeral lunch in April.

Three members will attend the VFW meeting following our meeting to discuss an event on March 15th. The auxiliary will help with this St. Patrick meal.

With nothing further to discuss, the meeting was closed with prayer.

The next meeting will be March 19th at 6:30 p.m.

Secretary  
Connie Tate, pro tem

# Club Notes

Chapter AO of PEO met on February 25, 2025, at the home of Margo Hosie with Linda Culley serving as co-hostess. Discussion was held regarding meeting times. The treasurer reported that all dues have been collected. Linda Culley presented a very informative program on Simone Biles, covering her challenges as a young child being placed in foster care and then being adopted by her

grandparents who provided a loving, stable home, and her spectacular rise in the gymnastics world to winning 7 gold medals in the Olympics. Simone currently supports organizations that help children in foster care. The next meeting, March 11, 2025, at 1:00 p.m., will include election and installation of officers at the home of Sue Regan, with Jane Richard serving as co-hostess.

# SUPPORT GROUPS

**MONDAY** - Bereavement Support Group, 6:00 p.m. Zion Lutheran Church parish hall (second Monday of the Month) 785-614-9351.

**WEDNESDAY**-TOPS (take off pounds sensibly) Weigh In from 7:45-8:30 a.m., Meeting 8:30 a.m. at North Central Medical Center, 155 College Drive, Concordia. Call 785-243-3730 for more info. Come join us!

**THURSDAY**-Celebrate Recovery Christ-centered Recovery Program at the Wesleyan Church Sanctuary, 16th and Cedar St. (18 years and older) 7:00-8:45 p.m.

**AA MEETINGS (NS):**  
Sunday—Came to Believe 10 a.m. (O); Tuesday—Concordia Gateway Group 8 p.m. (C); Wednesday—Brown Baggers' Meeting -Noon (O), New Beginnings for Women 5:30 p.m. (C); Thursday—Primary Purpose Group 7 p.m. (C); Friday—Brown Baggers' Meeting-Noon, Concordia Gateway Group 8 p.m. (O) - Speaker last Friday of each month and Sobriety Birthday Night; Saturday—Primary Purpose Group 7 p.m. (C)

**NA MEETINGS (NS):**  
Sunday—New Freedom 6 p.m. (O); Monday—New Freedom-Noon (O) and 6:30 p.m. (O); Tuesday—New Freedom-Noon (O); Wednesday—New Freedom 8 p.m. (O, BS); Thursday—New Freedom-Noon (O); Saturday—New Freedom 5 p.m. (O)

# Nazareth Motherhouse to host Annual Spaghetti Dinner, Mar. 16

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia are excited to invite you to their historic home again to share a delicious meal, laughter, and memories. The annual Spaghetti Dinner is scheduled for March 16, and it will have a fun "circus" theme.

The event begins with dinner at 11:00 a.m. Meal tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Children three and under are free. Early bird meal tickets are available at the Motherhouse front desk until Friday, March 14. Can't make it to pick up the tickets? Contact the Development Office to reserve them; they will be available at the west ticket table by the elevator when you arrive.

Along with the delicious meal, which includes spaghetti, green beans, salad, a breadstick, and ice cream, attendees will be able to take a tour of the historic Motherhouse. Stop in the Heritage Room, where visitors can learn about the history of the Sisters of St. Joseph or take home a one-of-a-kind item from our gift shop. Also on the agenda is a bake sale with goodies from cookies to breads and pies.

In addition to the day's main events, we will bring back our in-person silent auction. You will be able to bid on several amazing items ranging from handmade

gifts to artwork to themed baskets.

The concluding event of the day is the raffle drawing, which includes the following items:

- Several cash prizes
- Quilt- handmade by S. Loretta Clare Flax
- KU Basketball signed by the entire 2023-2024 team
- KSU Mini Helmet signed by former coach Bill Snyder
- Countertop Ice Maker
- Hand-Crocheted Animal by S. Susan Stoeber
- \$200 Gas card from Cindy & Trace Walker

The raffle tickets are available for \$1 each or six for \$5, and the drawing will be held at 1:30 on the day of the event. Tickets can be purchased in advance from the Nazareth Motherhouse or by contacting Ambria in the Development Office at agilliland@csjkansas.org or 785-243-2113 ext. 1225. The winner does not need to be present to win, and the drawing will be live-streamed on our Facebook page. Winners will need to make arrangements to pick up their prizes.

Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy a meal and fantastic company, and take home something unique to remember your time at the Motherhouse.



Pre-event tickets \$10!

Come one, come all  
to the Motherhouse

# Spaghetti Dinner!

March 16, 2025

For tickets, contact Ambria @ 785-243-2113

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# USD #333 SCHOOL NEWS

## CONCORDIA JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

- March 8—Forensics NCKL @Clay Center 8 a.m.
- March 10—NHS Induction - CJSHS Media Center 6 p.m.
- March 12—JAG - State CDC
- March 12—Reality U
- March 13-15—CHS Spring Musical 7 p.m.

Concordia High School production of *The Addams Family* musical will be performed Thursday-Saturday, March 13-15, 2025, at 7 p.m. in the CHS Auditorium. *The Addams Family* musical is a new musical based on the wacky 1960s characters of the TV show *The Addams Family*.

Outstanding day of competition for these CJSHS JAG-K students on February 25! Ilyssa Maya placed fourth in Prepared Speaking. Carter Eakins will continue to compete in Financial Literacy and Grace Rowland in Career Preparation at State CDC next month.

## CONCORDIA MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

- March 10-11—Cosmosphere Outreach
- March 13—5th Grade AR Party

Congratulations Kahlan Metcalfe, Madilyn Cyphers, Nash Brooks, and Mason Olsen - fifth grade, for being selected to the KMEA All-State Elementary Honor Choir, grades 3rd-5th! Congratulations also goes to Cora Garlow - sixth grade, for being selected to the All-State Middle-Level Choir, Grades 6th-8th.

CMS fifth graders assisted in creating and organizing a community service fundraiser to help out their local Concordia Animal Shelter! Their fundraiser was selling candy grams for Valentine's Day! Students helped put together the flyers, organize and pack the Candy Grams, and then deliver them on Valentine's Day! They were able to raise \$230 to donate to the Concordia Animal Shelter and a group of students presented the check to Jodi Baker! CES is very proud of its students for helping give back to the community.

## CONCORDIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

- March 7—Panther Pride Day
- March 7—Unplugged Day
- March 13—2nd Grade Concert 7 p.m.

Concordia FFA members did a fantastic job educating our students at CES on Friday, February 22. Thanks for sharing with CES!

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## DUIS MEAT PROCESSING

### Weekly Specials

March 6<sup>th</sup> to March 12<sup>th</sup>

- Extra Lean Ground Beef: \$4.99/lb.
- Extra Lean Ground Beef Patties: \$5.69/lb.
- Center Cut Bone-In Pork Chops: \$3.69/lb.
- Juicy Pork Steaks: \$3.49/lb.
- Tender Pork Cutlets: \$6.19/lb.
- 25 Pound Beef Bundle: \$219.99/each  
Includes: 2 Boneless Chuck Roasts, 1 Arm Roast, 4 Ribeye Steaks, Approximately 11# of Ground Beef

Sides of Beef (Includes Processing): \$4.60/lb.  
Prices for sides are subject to change.

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## OBITUARIES

### Amaryllis Gerber

February 12, 1927 – February 21, 2025

Amaryllis Aileen Barber Holloway Gerber (Amy) was born on February 12, 1927, in Lincoln, NE, to Carl H. Barber and Elsie Babcock Barber. In 1931, the family moved to Fairbury where her father helped establish the Barber Furniture Company. Amaryllis attended East School and Fairbury Jr. High and graduated from Fairbury High School in 1944.



Amaryllis became an accomplished pianist and developed a love for singing. She attended Nebraska Wesleyan University where she studied voice, piano and organ, and was a member of the Delta Zeta Sorority. After graduation, Amaryllis returned to Fairbury where she taught English and Music and soon was hired as choir director at First Christian Church.

In 1950, she married fellow teacher Roy Holloway. That union produced her pride and joy, her three children, Jane, Peggy and Steve. The Holloway house was full of music, books, and the love of traveling and theatre. Amaryllis earned her Master's degree at UNL in 1970, specializing in vocal music education. She performed in and directed many theatre productions over the years with the Fairbury Area Community Theatre, the Thayer County Tumbleweed Players, and the Brown Grand Opera House.

In 1990, Amaryllis married Dr. Daniel Gerber, and they moved to Concordia, KS, where Dan had taken a position at Cloud County Community College. Amaryllis returned to teaching elementary music part-time as well as teaching piano lessons at home and voice lessons at the college. Amaryllis soon took on the choir director position at First Methodist Church where she served until she retired at age 90! She was on the Board of the Community Concert Association and was active with the Crusader's Sunday School Class and the Cloud County Senior Center. She loved travel, especially trips to Dan's family reunions in Ohio and Virginia, international adventures with Dan's sister Nancy and brother-in-law Wes, and the annual Sunday School class "Mystery Tours" of Kansas. Amy loved traveling to attend the musical and theatrical performances of her children and granddaughters and the football games and wrestling matches played and coached by her grandsons. She remained a life-long fan of Nebraska Husker and Fairbury High School football.

Amy's many organizations included Eastern Star, Improvement Club, Music Club, and PEO. Amy's creative school and church music programs were legendary, and she enjoyed writing and presenting educational programs for her organizations.

Amy was devoted to her friends and family. Once you were Amy's friend, you were her friend for life. Lifetime friends included childhood friends, Audrey Reynolds Haynes and the Phil Gibson family, sorority sisters, Maria Ross and Mary Watts, fellow teachers, Betty Munoz, Mary Lou Foster and Mary Johnson, and Concordia friends, Peggy and Paul Nelson and Connie and Phil Bentz. Amy adored her grandchildren and great-grandchildren who idolized their Grandma Amy.

In her later years, Amy experienced health problems and was blessed to be cared for by her husband Dan until his death from a stroke in 2021. In August of 2024, she moved to Lincoln to be closer to her family. On February 9th, 16 family members filled a party room to celebrate the 98th birthday of their beloved Amy. She passed away in Lincoln on February 21, 2025.

Amaryllis was preceded in death by her husband Daniel, her parents, her sister Carlene (Bill) Sinn, and great-granddaughter Elsie Marie. Her memory is now preserved and treasured by her children, Jane Garfield (Jim) of Central City, Peggy Holloway (Ken Peters) of Omaha and Steve Holloway of Brooklyn, NY; her step-sons, Daniel Timothy Gerber (Luann) of Onalaska, WI, and Jared Gerber (Kristine) of Omaha; 5 grandchildren, Derek Garfield (Stephanie) of Fairbury, Darin Garfield (Chevonne) of Central City and Danae Garfield (Doug Evans) of Lincoln and Meganne Horrocks (Craig Bond) and David Horrocks of Omaha; 4 great-grandchildren, 4 step-grandsons and 1 step-great-grandson. In addition, she will be remembered by her stepbrother and sisters, her nephews, and countless relatives and friends.

A graveside service at the Steele City Cemetery and a memorial gathering will be held at a later date. Memorials may be directed to the Nebraska Wesleyan Department of Music and First United Methodist Church of Concordia, Kansas.

Condolences online at Roperandsons.com

## SHERIFF'S DEPT.

**Arrest**—On February 28, at mile post 205 on U.S. Highway 81, a deputy pulled over a vehicle and after on-scene investigation, Kyle Wayne Hoppe, Glasco, was arrested for drug driving under the influence, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine, interference with LEO, traffic contraband into a corrections facility, disorderly conduct, criminal possession of a weapon by a felon not used in a crime, possession of a firearm under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and distribution of methamphetamine.

**Animal bite**—On February 24, at 2:10 p.m., a deputy took a report of an animal bite in Glasco. The case is still under investigation.

**Non-injury accident**—On February 26, at 7:36 p.m., a deputy took a report of a non-injury accident located at Kansas Highway 9 and 20th Road.

**Theft**—On February 24, at 3:59 p.m., a deputy took a report of a theft in Glasco. The case is still under investigation.

## Chaput-Buoy Funeral Home & Cremation Services

Helping Families Connect, Honor & Remember a Life



325 W. 6th St., PO Box 606  
Concordia, Kansas 66901  
785-243-2121  
Toll Free - 800-796-2122



Josh Meyer



Kenton LeBlanc

Website: chaputbuoy.com  
Facebook: @ChaputBuoyFuneralHome

### Richard Dale "Rick" Peterson

October 20, 1955 – February 6, 2025

Richard Dale "Rick" Peterson, 69, passed away Thursday, February 6, 2025, in Anchorage, AK. He was born October 20, 1955, in Lubbock, TX, to Richard and Joyce (Shoemaker) Peterson. Rick graduated from Concordia High School, Concordia, KS, in 1974. He was united in marriage to Colleen Cunningham on September 3, 1979. Together they had one daughter, Hannah.

Rick always dreamed of living in Alaska so in 1981, along with his wife, he moved to Anchorage where he remained until his death. He loved the wilderness and adventures that Alaska had to offer, spending many weekends hiking and camping in various weather conditions. Alongside his brother, in 1986 he reached the summit of Mt. McKinley. Another lifelong passion of his was motorcycles, having participated in numerous motocross races as a teenager and later teaching multiple motorcycle safety classes. He was a proud dad, who helped coach his daughter and her Nunaka Valley softball team to victory as the Junior Softball League World Series Champions of 2012.

Rick leaves behind his daughter, Hannah Peterson of Chicago, IL; her mother, Colleen; parents, Richard and Joyce Peterson of Concordia, KS; brother, David (Barbara) Peterson of Sapulpa, OK; and sister, Judi (JB) Covington of Phillipsburg, KS, along with many cousins, nieces and nephews.

He will be deeply missed by his family and friends, who will always remember his wonderful smile, contagious laugh and adventurous spirit.

A private celebration of life gathering for Rick will be held at a later date.



### Jason N. Butler

December 20, 1976 – February 28, 2025

Jason N. Butler, age 48, of Perry, KS, unexpectedly left this earthly life on Friday, February 28, 2025, while on a hike on Piestewa Peak in Phoenix, AZ. He was born in Concordia, KS, on December 20, 1976, to John & Nancy (Kelly) Butler.

Arrangements are pending with Chaput-Buoy Funeral Home, Concordia, Kansas.

## MANNA HOUSE OF PRAYER

323 E. 5TH ST. CONCORDIA

### • Journey Through Grief

March 12, 26, April 9, 23, May 7, 21, 2025

Presenter: Janet LeDuc, CSJ

The death of a loved one and other losses change our lives forever. Grief is a journey that deserves attention, respect, and the support of others to heal. Journey Through Grief is a grief support group with eight sessions to help you understand and embrace the journey. Caring for your needs will help you discover the fullness of living and loving again. Every other Wednesday, 3:30-5:00 p.m. Cost: \$100 or \$15 per session. To register, call 785-243-4428, email retreatcenter@mannahouse.org, or visit our website at manna house.org.

### Wanda Mae Kling

May 6, 1929 – February 26, 2025

Wanda Mae Kling, the daughter of John and Nellie (Hyland) Taylor, was born May 6, 1929, in rural Haddam, KS, and passed away on February 26, 2025, at the Belleville Health Care Center, Belleville, at the age of 95.



Wanda graduated from Haddam Rural High School in 1947 and then taught country school for two years.

She married Harold Kling in 1949, and to this union three sons were born. Harold and Wanda owned and operated Haddam Truck Line, where she was the secretary and bookkeeper. When the opportunity arose in 1946, they acquired Ford, Mercury and Ford Heavy truck franchise in Belleville. They moved to Belleville in 1970 and worked side by side at Kling Motor Company until Harold's health declined and he passed away in 1982.

In 1991, Wanda married Elden Ahrens. They resided in Mission, TX, and Hebron, NE, and enjoyed traveling extensively until his death in 2010. At that time, Wanda moved back to Belleville to be closer to family.

Wanda was preceded in death by her parents; her first husband, Harold; her second husband, Elden; her brothers, Virgil Taylor and Dean Taylor; and sister, Maxine Zenger.

Wanda is survived by her sons, Gary (Kris) Kling, Don (Sharon) Kling, and Roger (Sandy) Kling; grandchildren: Justin (Erin) Kling, Jason Kling, Shawn (Sandy) Kling, Ashley (Daniel) Mather, Jenny (Cindy Matthes) Kling, Ginger (Brian) Schwartz, Julie (Nick) Hansen; great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren; sister, Delilah (Harold) Metz, and sister-in-law, Ramona; other relatives, and friends.

Viewing and visitation will be held from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Saturday, March 8, 2025, at the Bachelor-Surber Funeral Home, 1322 19th St., Belleville, Kansas, where the family will greet friends from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. on Saturday.

Following the viewing and greeting friends at 4 p.m., a Graveside Service for friends and family will be held at the Belleville Cemetery, Belleville, KS, at approximately 4:15 p.m., with PMA Al Urich officiating.

Interment will follow the services at Belleville Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to Belleville Health Care Center or Meadowlark Hospice.

Online condolences at [www.bachelor-surber.com](http://www.bachelor-surber.com)  
Bachelor-Surber Funeral Home, Belleville, KS, is assisting the family with the arrangements.

### Wendy Genereux

November 5, 1964 – February 28, 2025

Wendy Genereux passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family on Friday, February 28, 2025, at her home in Clyde. She was born November 5, 1964, in Russell, Kansas, along with a twin brother Wade, to Everett A. and Fay A. (Thomas) Sechtem.

Wendy was a 1984 graduate of Kearney High School, Kearney, NE. She married Bill Genereux on January 16, 1993, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia, KS.

She worked for many years in the food industry as a bakery deli manager and supervisor for Boogaarts Food Stores, and later became a homemaker and operated a home-based business, Wendy's Party Treats. She was active in the St. John the Baptist church at Clyde as a funeral meal group leader and helped to operate the church food pantry. She cared deeply about her community, proudly serving on the city council and as Mayor of Clyde.

She was a member of the VFW Women's Auxiliary of Clyde. Wendy enjoyed coffee on the porch, going to her children's school and sports activities, cooking, camping, and spending time with her family.

Survivors include her husband Bill Genereux (Clyde, KS); her children, Emily Genereux (Manhattan, KS), Thomas Genereux (Clyde, KS); her brother, Weston Sechtem (Independence, MO) and sister-in-law CheriLea Sechtem (Battlefield, MO), and many beloved nieces, nephews, cousins, and other family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Everett and Fay Sechtem, and her brothers, Wade and Steve Sechtem.

The visitation will be held from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 6, 2025, at the Chaput Mortuary in Clyde.

A Vigil/Rosary Service will be held 6:00 p.m., on Thursday, March 6, 2025, at the St. John The Baptist Catholic Church, led by Fr. Steven Heina. Family will greet friends after the Rosary Service in the fellowship hall.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held 10:00 a.m., March 7, 2025, at the St. John The Baptist Catholic Church in Clyde, Kansas, with Fr. Steven Heina officiating. The burial will follow in the Mount Calvary Catholic Cemetery, Clyde, Kansas.

Memorial contributions may be left to Wendy Genereux memorial fund to be decided later for local charities in Wendy's memory. In care of Chaput Mortuary, PO Box 291, Clyde, Kansas 66938. Condolences may be left online at [www.chaputbuoy.com](http://www.chaputbuoy.com).

*Thank You for Reading the Blade-Empire & The Miltonvale Area News!*