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HOLTON, KANSAS • Monday, December 28, 2015

14 Pages

\$1.00



Donovan Young of Holton spent part of this morning shoveling snow off the south side of Holton's Town Square after about an inch of snow fell on the city overnight Sunday. With northeastern Kansas under a National Weather Service-issued winter storm warning until 9 p.m. today, Young said he recognized that shoveling snow may have been a losing battle with more snow on the way, but, he added, "hopefully, it'll miss us." NWS predicted this morning that the Holton area could receive two to four inches of snow and sleet, it was reported.

Photo by Brian Sanders

Two commission seats up for grabs

■ County clerk: Registration deadline for city's final spring election is Jan. 26

By Ali Holcomb

Holton residents have until noon on Tuesday, Jan. 26, to file as candidates for two positions on the Holton City Commission.

As of Wednesday, no one had filed for either position two or four on the commission. Dan Brenner currently serves as the position four commissioner after he was elected in April 2013.

Erich Campbell is the commissioner representing the position two seat. He also was elected in April 2013.

Campbell was recently selected to serve as a magistrate judge for the Second Kansas Judicial District in Pottawatomie County and will resign from his position on the city commission at the end of January, it was reported.

The commissioners are expected to appoint a resident to fill the unexpired term until the spring election is held on April 5, it was reported.

To file for a commission seat,

Jackson County Clerk Kathy Mick said that candidates must register at Holton City Hall, 430 Pennsylvania Ave., by paying a \$5 filing fee. They may also file by petition by obtaining 25 signatures from local registered voters.

Holton City Commissioners serve three-year terms and meet the first and third Mondays of the month at 7 p.m. at Holton City Hall. The commission includes five members, and the city's mayor is chosen from among those members, by those members, after the April election.

Current members include Robert Dieckmann (mayor), Tim Morris, Twila White, Erich Campbell and Dan Brenner.

Mick said that, with new state laws, this will be the last spring election in the state. In the future, city and other local elections, will be moved to the fall.

Contact the Jackson County Clerk's Office at 364-2891 for more information.

Conservation District sets annual meeting

The annual meeting of the Jackson County Conservation District will be held Wednesday, Feb. 17, at the First United Methodist Church in Holton, 307 Montana Ave. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. with the business meeting, entertainment and award presentations will follow at 7 p.m.

This year's conservation winners are:

- Lester and Josephine Harris - Filter Strip Award.
- Rob and Heidi Wareham - Grassland Award.
- David and LouAnn Porter - Kansas Bankers Award.
- Bill and Alice Brees - Outstanding Conservationist Award.

To make meal reservations for the dinner, contact the district office at 364-4638, ext. 136.

Year in Review: First four months of 2015 noted

As 2015 draws to a close, *The Holton Recorder* invites you to take a look back at the events that shaped the past year in Jackson County.

Following is a review of the first four months of the year as it was reported on the pages of *The Recorder*. Two more segments covering the remainder will follow in upcoming editions.

January

The Holton City Commission kicked off 2015 by authorizing the city's issuance of about \$3.6 million in health care facilities revenue bonds on behalf of Rural Health Resources of Jackson County. RHR, which oversees Holton Community Hospital's operations, plans to use the bonds to refinance existing bonds used in construction of the hospital, finance the construction of an addition to the hospital and finance the construction of a new clinic in Hoyt.

Royal Valley High School students received a late Christmas present as each student was issued a Chromebook laptop as part of a new one-to-one technology initiative at the school. High school students who had returned a policy form signed by themselves and their parents received a new Chromebook with the school logo, a power cord and a carrying case.

Debbie and Roy Calhoun of Larkinburg expressed disappointment that someone would "shoot up" their popular Christmas light display

that has provided area residents with holiday joy for more than a decade. But they're also expressing resilience in repairing the damage and vowing to come back next Christmas with a "bigger and better" display — and their gratitude to the public for support received in light of the damage.

Motorists driving north into Holton along U.S. Highway 75 were asked to slow down sooner on their approach to the city as the Kansas Department of Transportation placed a speed limit reduction of 55 miles per hour about half a mile farther south of the city. The speed limit reduction was placed in anticipation of the upcoming Banner Road extension to the new Walmart parking lot.

Jackson County Sheriff Tim Morse brought some good news to the Jackson County Commission this month, noting by means of the office's annual report that statistically, Jackson County is one of the safest counties surrounding Topeka. The report also highlighted improvements to both the sheriff's office and the county jail in 2014 and also outlined the variety of services provided by the office in the past year.

On Jan. 15, Harley Raelynn Gates, daughter of new Holton residents Brandi Lopez and Shaun Gates, arrived a week ahead of schedule but was still the first baby to be born at Holton Community Hospital in 2015. Harley was delivered via a scheduled cesarean section by Dr. Vance Lassey and weighed six pounds, eight ounces

and was 21 inches long at birth.

Mid-January was marked by two hunting-related injuries that occurred over the same weekend, Sheriff Morse said. First, a 15-year-old male was accidentally shot in the lower leg with a shotgun at approximately half a mile north of 118th and B Roads near Delia. That same weekend, a man fell from a hunting tree stand at 246th and G Roads near Soldier.

A groundbreaking and reception for Homestead Affordable Housing's new Prairie View Senior Residences was held in Holton near the town's soccer fields. Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins, along with representatives from the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation, Central National Bank, LK Architecture, Accel Construction LLC, the city of Holton and Rep. Becky Hutchins, broke ground for the new apartments.

Funds previously used by the City of Holton to underwrite activities overseen by the now-defunct Holton Main Street organization will be split by the Holton/Jackson County Chamber of Commerce and the Jackson County Historical Society, the city commission agreed. Main Street had received \$10,000 annually from the city to fulfill the city's commitment to the downtown development program, which closed at the end of 2014.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation mourned the loss of Gary Mitchell, who died Jan. 23 after serving as a driving force for the tribe in the 1990s and 2000s. Mitchell was

also remembered as someone who worked to preserve the history and traditions of the Potawatomi, serving as the tribe's historian and founder of the Potawatomi News.

In district court, Koylen McKinney, 18, of Topeka received a sentence of nearly nine years in prison after being convicted of violent abuse of a 7-month-old Holton boy in April 2014. And 17-year-old Weston Hasty of Mayetta was sentenced to 16 months in juvenile detention after being convicted for reportedly sexually abusing a 3-year-old girl at his mother's day care center.

And in school news, Royal Valley sixth-grader Alyssa Carlisle won the Jackson County Spelling Bee, first-grade students at Colorado School in Holton used "augmented reality" to create a history board and Kansas Honors Program students were selected for 2015.

February

Legislative action at the state level loomed large over school board meetings this month, as the county's school districts discussed how to deal with possible budget cuts and state action to move all school board elections to the fall. Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback heard comments from area educators on the effects of the Kansas Legislature's actions on their schools during a visit to Holton this month.

Continued to Page 5

Thompson receives 20-month sentence

By Brian Sanders

A Sabetha resident convicted of sexual exploitation of a child will serve a 20-month prison sentence, less about a third of that time already spent in jail, it was reported in Jackson County District Court.

During a sentencing hearing on Wednesday for 25-year-old Daniel J. Thompson (pictured), Kansas Second District Chief Judge Gary Nafziger accepted a plea deal between Jackson County Attorney Shawna Miller and defense attorney Christopher Etzel



of Onaga that gave Thompson a full 20-month sentence with the Kansas Department of Corrections.

Nafziger noted that Thompson's sentence would be reduced by the amount of time already spent at the Jackson County Detention Center, which, as of Wednesday, was 222 days, or nearly seven and a half months. And with a possible 15-percent "good time" reduction in the sentence, Miller said that Thompson could be free in less than a year.

Following his release from prison, Thompson will have to register with the Kansas Bureau of Investigation's sex offender list for 25 years and will also be subject to a five-year post-release supervision period, it was noted.

Continued to Page 14

County's 2015 budget requires amendments

By Ali Holcomb

Additional unforeseen revenues, which are not collected tax dollars, have required the Jackson County Commissioners to amend the 2015 budget for several county departments.

During a recent Jackson County Commission meeting, the commissioners reviewed the 2015 budget with Jackson County Clerk Kathy Mick.

Mick said that additional revenues were generated by several county departments, and the budgets for those departments will have to be amended so administrators can use those funds.

The additional revenues come from a variety of resources depending on the department, Mick said. They are not generated tax dollars

"The funds could be from selling scrap metal or fuel reimbursements,"

Mick said.

By amending the 2015 proposed budget authority for the departments, the administrators will be able to use or transfer those funds.

- The amendments include:
- * General fund from \$4,157,510 to \$4,336,999.
 - * Sheriff's office from \$1,890,567 to \$1,904,391.
 - * Detention center from \$979,526 to \$1,301,483.
 - * Road and bridge from \$3,364,546 to \$3,370,786.
 - * Noxious weed from \$239,949 to \$293,077.

A public notice for the amendments has been published in *The Holton Recorder* and the commissioners will hold a hearing for the approval of the amendments at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Dec. 31.

Continued to Page 14



Holton's new Walmart is beginning to take shape, as exterior structural work on the store building and parking lot near completion. It was reported that the new store, which is slated to open sometime in 2016, will have nearly double the available space of Holton's existing Walmart store, located along U.S. Highway 75.

Photo by Brian Sanders



TUESDAY'S WEATHER FORECAST:
CLOUDY/SUNNY MIX, HIGH OF 26
Look for the complete forecast on page 2.

Land Transfers

The following land transfers have been filed at the Jackson County Register of Deeds office:

Kansas Warranty Deed: First Financial Trust LLC conveys and warrants to William H. McCauley, a tract of land located in the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 14, Township 8 South, Range 15 East of the 6th P.M., Jackson County, Kansas.

Quit Claim Deed: Dorothy M. Porter, a single person, conveys and quit claims to Dorothy M. Porter, sole trustee of the John M. Porter and Dorothy M. Porter Trust, Lot 2 and the south half of Lot 4, New York Avenue, City of Holton, Jackson County, Kansas.

Quit Claim Deed: Wendell William Mercer, a married person acting in his own right, conveys and quit claims to John C. Mercer and Tracy L. Mercer, Lots 7, 22 and 23, North Cedar Ridge Subdivision in Section 21, Township 6 South, Range 15 East of the 6th P.M., Jackson County, Kansas, less the road right-of-way.

Quit Claim Deed: Wendell William Mercer, a married person acting in his own right, conveys and quit claims to John C. Mercer and Tracy L. Mercer, a 4.51-acre tract of land in the east half of the northwest quarter of Section 9, Township 7 South, Range 15 East of the 6th P.M., Jackson County, Kansas.

Kansas Warranty Deed: Katherine E. Price and Jesse R. Price, wife and husband, convey and warrant to Dustin M. Price and Melissa B.

Price, a tract of land in the northeast corner of the north half of the southwest quarter of Section 30, Township 9 South, Range 16 East of the 6th P.M., Jackson County, Kansas.

General Warranty Deed: Amy M. Sorden, a single person, conveys and warrants to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, the west half of the northeast quarter, less a tract of land in the northwest corner, of Section 4, Township 9 South, Range 14 East of the 6th P.M., Jackson County, Kansas.

Quit Claim Deed: Joyce A. Carvelho conveys and quit claims to Charles William and Debra Sue Brown, a 1.9-acre tract of land in the southwest corner of Section 10, Township 6 South, Range 13 East of the 6th P.M., Jackson County, Kansas.

Joint Tenancy General Warranty Deed: Rodney S. Miller and Lisa D. Miller, husband and wife, convey and warrant to Gary F. Sorensen and Patricia L. Sorensen, a tract of land located in the southeast quarter of Section 9, Township 7 South, Range 15 East of the 6th P.M., Jackson County, Kansas.

Kansas Quit Claim Deed: Jaelyn Long and Baron C. Long convey and quit claim to Elaine Hageman, a tract of land in the southeast quarter of Section 11, Township 9 South, Range 15 East of the 6th P.M., Jackson County, Kansas.

General Warranty Deed: Peter Stavropoulos and Gloria Stavropoulos, husband and wife, convey and

warrant to Terry L. Harter, a tract of land in Section 9, Township 7 South, Range 15 East of the 6th P.M., Jackson County, Kansas.

Transfer on Death Deed: Ora Patricia Hennis, a single person, transfers on death to Ronald Lee Hennis, William J. Hennis and Janice M. Moulden, the east 82 feet of Lot 16, New York Avenue, Jackson County, Kansas.

Quit Claim Deed: Shelby E. Patch and Troy Patch, wife and husband, convey and quit claim to Shelby E. Patch and Troy Patch, wife and husband, Lots 34 and 36 on Kansas Avenue, Linscott's 1st Platt, City of Holton, Jackson County, Kansas.

General Warranty Deed: Keith Hug, a single person, conveys and warrants to Terry Collins, a tract of land located in the north half of the southwest quarter of Section 36, Township 7 South, Range 15 East of the 6th P.M., Jackson County, Kansas.

Joint Tenancy General Warranty Deed: Thomas K. Kelly and Annette E. Kelly, husband and wife, convey and warrant to Virgil Collins and Tonya Lynn Collins, a tract of land in the southwest quarter of Section 27, Township 7 South, Range 15 East of the 6th P.M., Jackson County, Kansas.

General Warranty Deed: Ronald D. Watkins and Carolyn Watkins, husband and wife, convey and warrant to Austin R. Marriott, Lot 24 on Wisconsin Avenue, City of Holton, Jackson County, Kansas.

COURT

Traffic

Brian K. Harding, no seat belt, \$10.

Joseph N. Kirkpatrick, driving while license cancelled/suspended/revoked, \$804.

Gabriel R. Lira, driving while declared a habitual violator, \$658.

Russell Whiteside, driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, fleeing or attempting to elude a law enforcement officer, reckless driving, \$903.

Civil

Dispositions
Jackson County Sheriff's Department vs. 2011 Chevrolet Malibu, VIN 1G1ZC5EU9BF344622, \$204.49 U.S. currency and Smith and Wesson .380, serial number KBS0144, forfeiture case settled.

Filed
Brian K. Huntzinger vs. James E. Frost, seeking judgment in excess of \$75,000 plus court costs.

Small Claims

Dispositions
Annetta Browning vs. Wendy Cook, sought judgment of \$3,709.33 plus interest and court costs; dismissed.

Criminal

Dispositions
State of Kansas vs. Michael J. Shobney III, Delia, criminal damage to property; diversion.

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Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Tue 12/29	Wed 12/30	Thu 12/31	Fri 1/1	Sat 1/2
 26/12 Intervals of clouds and sunshine. High 26F. Winds NW at 5 to 10 mph.Sunrise: 7:42 AM Sunset: 5:07 PM	 27/9 Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 20s and lows in the upper single digits. Sunrise: 7:43 AM Sunset: 5:08 PM	 26/11 Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 20s and lows in the low teens. Sunrise: 7:43 AM Sunset: 5:09 PM	 29/15 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the upper 20s and lows in the mid teens. Sunrise: 7:43 AM Sunset: 5:09 PM	 35/15 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the mid 30s and lows in the mid teens. Sunrise: 7:43 AM Sunset: 5:10 PM

Kansas at a Glance



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Family Life

Some New Year's resolutions to consider for '16

By Cindy Williams
Meadowlark Extension
District Agent
Food & Nutrition, FNP

In a world of instant coffee, microwaves, drive-throughs and ATMs, you would think we would have time to relax and enjoy the day in an unhurried way. But that is not the case; in reality, we are often addicted to rushing. Phrases like "I'll call you later," "Hurry, I have



to go," "Answer me ASAP..." are daily jargon for many of us.

I once read a sign that said, "If tomorrow were your last day, what would your family say about you today?" Would they miss making breakfast with you, the person who was always there to listen...or would they say, "We are going to notice her absence, but in truth she did not connect with us as a family. She was always in a rush and other things seemed to be first...?"

Every day we are gifted with so many beautiful, comforting and joyous moments to enjoy, but they are lost on us because we are going too fast to notice them. So in this New Year of 2016, let's make a resolution

to slow down and to immerse ourselves in those gifts life and nature bring to us. Let's try not to think, just sense; that's the key to savoring life. Then and only then we can live a calmer and satisfying life. Consider doing some of the following:

- Quiet morning stillness – get out of the house for a couple of minutes and breathe deeply the distinctive aromas that a new day gives. Fill your lungs with that awakening.
- Hot morning drink – slowly experience the first sips of your hot drink. Notice the warmth as it goes down the center of your body and spreads to heat you from the inside out. The slower you go, the more you notice, and the greater the experience.
- Listen to music – next time you listen to music, try to melt into the sound. Go with your feelings when you listen to the music. Let the music invade you completely, and relax. This can include the sounds of simply being out in nature.
- Take time to notice your inner skills – reconnect with the real you. Make a self-analysis and recognize your unique abilities. They were given to you with a purpose. Take pride in them, and keep them sharp.
- Think about your family and

loved ones – meditate on their uniqueness and celebrate that you are a part of them. Savor that connection that is growing more and more over time. Create memories through photos and look at them after years have passed. Highlight the positive moments together and learn from the past.

• Keep an attitude of gratitude – being thankful is not a trait that comes from within, it is a skill that we need to exercise, but that brings many benefits. Give priority to making minutes during the day to express gratitude internally and also to those around us.

This next year make an intentional effort to see more clearly the ordinary and the extraordinary, listen more carefully to sounds and silences, and think more deeply, especially about those ideas and thoughts that stimulate new positive growth.

May 2016 be the year of many positive changes to enjoy all the goodness that is around us, especially if we take time to look and enjoy them by slowing down to notice and savor them!

Fenceline

Are you an ag catalyst?

By Jody G. Holthaus
Meadowlark Extension
District Agent
Livestock-Natural Resources

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and yours. I hope you get to spend abundant time with your families and make many memories to sustain you throughout the year.



I was fortunate to care for the three grandgirls one day this week. As I was preparing supper, I asked them where the hamburger came from. Ellie, who is two and a half, told me it came from downstairs. Yes, the freezer is downstairs. I told her it was in our freezer, because Papa raised it. They are never too young to learn where their food comes from.

I've been involved in quite a few discussions about ag advocacy of late. Telling the ag story is so important, as we are only 2 percent of the population. If we don't tell our own story, then others will tell it for us. And we may not like their version!

There are many ways to become an ag advocate. You can become a part of the different groups the commodity groups are sponsoring, whether it be the Masters of Beef Advocacy, the Soybean commission, the Pork Advocacy group, Dairy Council's group or ENOUGH sponsored by Elanco. You can start your own blog, or simply inform your friends and family. Most Americans are now two generations removed from the farm, so we all have in our own families, people who is to hear our story.

This is from the Kansas Wheat Commission, "Are You an Ag Catalyst?":

"In agriculture, we perhaps stayed neutral in the reactionary conversation around food for too long. But, the 2015 Ag Catalyst conference on Oct. 19 and 20, sponsored by Ad-Farm, brought together several examples of catalysts that encouraged all of agriculture to join in sharing their stories and creating a few reactions of their own."

But one must understand how stories work before effectively sharing their own. Vance Crowe, director of millennial engagement for Monsanto, introduced the audience to memes. Not necessarily just the ones found online, but a way for humans to compress complex information – like how production agriculture works – into simple constructs they can understand. For example, he showed

a simple video from "The Farmer's Life" that used an unmanned aerial vehicle to show the small amount of glyphosate compared to the amount of ground to which it is applied.

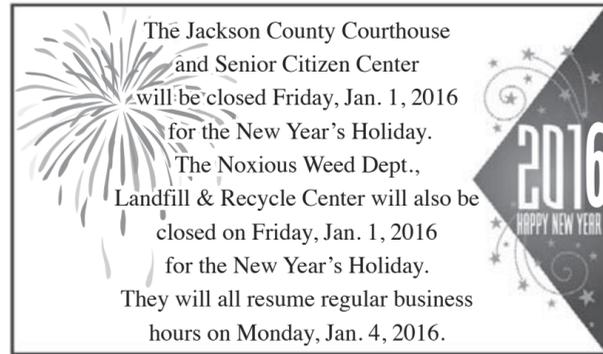
Ron Green, founding director of the KC digiSTORY Center, explained that putting data like this into story form makes it more relatable. He would know about putting lots of meaning into not a lot of words. After all, he worked for Hallmark Cards for 32 years. "Story is data with heart," Green said.

Each person in agriculture has their story to share. Jodi Oleen, director of consumer outreach for the Kansas Pork Association, said each person simply has to "find their bacon." Lindsay Sankey, creator of Jean's Boots Blog, reiterated that inspiration is all around, just to listen when it speaks.

Andrew Campbell, dairy farmer from Canada, learned that lesson well

Continued to Page 5

JANUARY SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW PAYABLE



The Jackson County Courthouse and Senior Citizen Center will be closed Friday, Jan. 1, 2016 for the New Year's Holiday.

The Noxious Weed Dept., Landfill & Recycle Center will also be closed on Friday, Jan. 1, 2016 for the New Year's Holiday.

They will all resume regular business hours on Monday, Jan. 4, 2016.

Year End/New Year Sales Blitz
Dec. 30-31, Jan 4-5
Blitz Sale for Merchandise is IN-STOCK Only

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Premium Horse Feed —\$2.00 off per bag (excludes Crestwood and County Acres)
All 225# tubs—\$5.00 off Cash and Carry or Prepay—Must be picked up by March 31, 2016

All Bagged Mineral—\$80 off per ton—Prepay only (pick up starting January 15, 2016. Must be picked up by June 30, 2016)

Tire Special—10% OFF tires in stock or ordered during the blitz.
Tires must be installed or picked up by the 15th of January 2016
Offered only at Holton & Effingham Tire Shops

DISCOUNTS ON CENEX OIL & GREASE CENEX \$.40 per gallon on oil \$1.00 off per carton of grease	B&W Feed Bunks Regular \$225.00—Sale \$205.00 Prairie Product Feed Bunk Brown Regular \$335.00—Sale \$310.00
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1/2 GAL—Regularly at \$15.75—On Sale \$12.75

FREEZEGARD ICEMELT 50 lb bag - was \$19.00 - NOW \$13.50

Tobbs Bulk Feed Bins—3 TN & 5 TN on Skids or 3TN Tandem - \$50 off while supplies last
Gates—\$10 off any gates in stock

Interstate Batteries—10% off (excluding lawnmower, motorcycle or ATV Batteries)
Batteries offered only at Holton and Effingham

Prepaid Contract Pricing will be offered for refined fuels.
Pre-Paid Contracts are always welcome for Chemicals and Fertilizer.
Certain terms and conditions apply. Ask the location managers for details.

Thank You!

The 2015 Christmas Season has been very successful here at Holton WalMart.

We appreciate everyone who shopped with us at Christmas and throughout the year.

I want to say a great big **THANK YOU** to each and every one of my associates for going above and beyond this season. Your hard work and dedication are much appreciated.

Merry Christmas!
Cale Worthington, manager
Holton WalMart

MEMORIES

Compiled from the Holton Recorder archives by Kendra Moppin

5 Years Ago

Week of Dec. 27, 2010-Jan. 2, 2011

Bob Carlson is the new director of Holton Main Street, it has been announced. Although he's only been Holton Main Street's director for two weeks, Carlson says he is impressed with the community and is excited about 2011 and the future of the program.

On Tuesday, Dec. 28, longtime Holton city employees Ray Beatty and Gene Williams celebrated their retirement together at a special reception at Holton City Hall. Williams, power plant superintendent and former city manager, is stepping down after nearly 40 years of service. Meter reader Beatty is retiring after 32 years of service.

Holton House has announced an all-you-can-eat lunch buffet, available for both dine-in and carry-out.

Rodeo is a family affair for the Beechers of Soldier, and son Kyle has continued in the line that his mother, Rhonda, and father, Greg, started. Beecher earned the Kansas High School Rodeo Association championship in calf roping at the state event in Hutchinson last summer, earning him a second straight trip to the national championships. This past July, he kept up his winning ways and brought back a third place win in calf roping.

10 Years Ago

Week of Dec. 27, 2005-Jan. 2, 2006

The Jolly Troll, a nightclub next door to the Holton Bowling Center, closed in the 1980s. But now that Alan and Tina Higgins of Whiting have taken over the bowling center, they plan to open the club and make it a home for live music again. The Higginses also plan to expand bowling programs, business hours and services in an effort to make the bowling center a total family fun center.

Bryan Cranston of Wetmore has established a curbside recycling pick-up business, it has been announced. Cranston used to live in the state of

New York, where he said everyone had curbside pickup of recyclable materials. This prompted him to start the service for northeast Kansas.

Children in the Denison Bible Church AWANA program made special "Grand Prix" model racers for their Grand Prix racing event earlier this month. The fastest cars belonged to Danny Rios, Ethan Stephens and Rebekkah Navaro, respectively. The design winners were Jayde Oswald, Hannah George and Evan Sims. Each winner received a trophy.

The 1949 Holton High School football team had been the last Wildcats squad to record an undefeated season before the 2005 edition of the team followed suit with a 14-0 run to the state title, it was reported.

25 Years Ago

Week of Dec. 27, 1990-Jan. 2, 1991

Sirens originally intended to alert Washington, D.C., residents to an air raid will soon be put to a new use in rural Kansas communities. More than 150 of the sirens will be distributed to 34 Kansas counties statewide for use as tornado sirens. Four sirens will be delivered to Jackson County for use in Denison, Holton, Circleville and Hoyt.

A new ATM machine was installed at the new branch of the Denison State Bank along U.S. Highway 75 in Holton last week, it was reported.

This week's outstanding local 4-H'er is Jason Kennedy, the son of Paul and Janet Kennedy of Mayetta. Jason is a sixth grade student at Holton Middle School and a five-year member of the Pleasant Valley Rustlers 4-H Club.

Royal Valley High School took on an eerie look on Thursday, Dec. 27, as students dressed like the walking dead by wearing all black and painting their faces white to stress the importance of not drinking and driving. Every 22 minutes, a student was called out of class throughout the school day and then given the outfit to wear. The exercise was coordinated by Students Against Driving Drunk (SADD).

50 Years Ago

Week of Dec. 27, 1965-Jan. 2, 1966

The outdoor decorations at the Harold Knouft home on the 400 block of Idaho Avenue in Holton won first place in the general classification in the Chamber of Commerce Christmas Lighting Contest, it was announced on Dec. 24. First place in the class for decorations with the religious theme went to the display at the Duane Schirmer home in the 400 block of Colorado Avenue.

Exterior construction on the new store and office building of the Frasers Union Co-op is virtually finished and interior finishing is under way. The new building is directly across the street from the Co-op elevator on Lowell Street in Holton.

The city-county planning board on Monday night, Dec. 27, voted to recommend to the board of county commissioners that zoning for a private airstrip north of Holton be granted.



Youth from Immanuel Lutheran Church in Netawaka recently spent a day baking cookies and candy for area deliveries to local nursing homes, sheriff's officers and emergency room staff. The youth also delivered to some deserving people in Netawaka. A Thrivent Action Team Grant helped to cover the cost of the baking supplies. Shown from left to right at The Pines in Holton are Alyssa Keehn, Abby Brey and Grace Roles. Not pictured are Kylie Dohl, Brantley Dohl, Adam Amon and Stacy Amon, youth sponsor. Submitted photo

Kansas average gas price fifth lowest in the country

National fuel average drops below \$2: AAA

Even with the national average price of unleaded fuel falling the morning of Dec. 21 below \$2 per gallon for the first time since March 25, 2009, the Kansas average price for regular unleaded is good for fifth lowest in the country, AAA Kansas reported.

Kansas' average that morning of \$1.79 per gallon was bested only by Missouri and Oklahoma in the region. Last Monday's Kansas average was the lowest for Dec. 21 since 2008, it was reported.

Interestingly, the Kansas annual average stands at \$2.26 per gallon, compared to \$3.19 for 2014, which means Kansas motorists, on average, have paid 93 cents per gallon less in 2015 than in 2014 — a 29 percent discount.

The Kansas average is down a penny from a week ago, 16 cents from a month ago and 40 cents lower than a year ago today, or 18 percent lower. Of the metro areas in Kansas, Wichita has the lowest prices, at \$1.69 per gallon average, nine cents higher than a week ago, 17 cents less than a month ago and 49 cents less than a year ago, or 22 percent lower. Topeka is second lowest.

The highest price in Kansas last Monday was at Burden, at \$2.09 per gallon and the lowest was at Columbus, at \$1.609 per gallon. Also, the gap between the Kansas average and the national average (\$2.01) was 22 cents lower in Kansas.

"Consumers are expected to benefit from savings at the pump leading into 2016, as supply continues to outpace demand," said Jim Hanni of AAA Kansas. "Domestic crude oil inventories are poised to reach all-time highs, and despite the lower price environment, production has yet to decline significantly. Barring any unexpected disruptions in supply, and if the price of crude oil remains low, retail averages could

continue to hover around levels unseen since March 2009."

Annual discounts persist, but are becoming less pronounced because gas prices also dropped at a substantial rate during the fourth quarter of 2014. On the heels of the U.S. Federal Reserve increasing the federal interest rate for the first time in nearly a decade, both Brent and WTI crude closed out last week at multi-year lows.

"The global oil market remains oversupplied and a strengthening U.S. dollar is expected to further contribute to the market's current glut and keep downward pressure on prices," Hanni added.

Oversupply is also expected to characterize the domestic oil market in the near term. The U.S. rig count rebounded in the most recent report, ending a four-week decline, and recent data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration shows builds in domestic crude and refined products.

ACEP accepting applications

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is now accepting applications for the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), it has been reported.

This program, created under the 2014 Farm Bill, provides funding for the purchase of conservation easements to help productive farm and ranch land remain in agriculture and protect critical wetlands and grasslands.

"Conservation easements provide many public benefits to Kansans, including protection of open spaces, wildlife habitat and wetland preservation. We encourage private landowners, Indian tribes and non-governmental organizations to contact their local NRCS office to apply," said Kansas State Conservationist Eric B. Banks.

There are two programs under ACEP, each with a different application process. Visiting the NRCS office will ensure the applicant gets directions on the correct application process.

The goal of ACEP is to protect land devoted to food production and wildlife habitat from being converted to non-agricultural uses. ACEP is a voluntary program for landowners or tribal governments that allows them to leave a conservation heritage for their family and community. Landowners can choose between the ACEP-Agricultural Land Easements (ALE) or ACEP-Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE) enrollments options.

ALEs protect the long-term viability of the nation's food supply by preventing conversion of productive working lands to non-agricultural uses. The WRE component provides habitat for fish and wildlife, including threatened and endangered species; improve water quality by filtering sediments and chemicals; reduce flooding; recharge groundwater; and protect biological diversity.

In 2014, approximately \$4.4 million in combined financial and technical assistance was obligated, with 4,869 acres enrolled (latest compiled figures) in Kansas.

In fiscal year 2016, an addition for Kansas under ACEP-WRE is the "Wetland Reserve Easement Reservation of Grazing Rights Option" for the playa wetland region in select counties in western Kansas. Landowners in these counties can select an enrollment option for length of time as well as for Reservation of Grazing Rights. The selection for a Reservation of Grazing Rights will result in a 25 percent reduction in the easement payment, in addition to any other reductions to the easement payment per enrollment option as applicable.

NRCS provides technical and financial assistance directly to private and tribal landowners to restore, protect and enhance wetlands through

the purchase of conservation easements. Eligible landowners can choose to enroll in a permanent or 30-year easement. Tribal landowners also have the option of enrolling in 30-year contracts.

NRCS staff will work with applicants to help them through the application process and provide one-on-one assistance to create the conservation easement that works best for their farming or ranching operation.

All WRE applications will be rated according to the easement's potential for protecting and enhancing habitat for migratory birds, fish and other wildlife. Eligible applicants will be compensated with a payment rate comparable to the local land use value. Those rates are posted on the Kansas NRCS Web site.

It is important that applicants provide accurate records of ownership and ensure they have established a record of ownership with USDA's Farm Service Agency. Application information is available at your local USDA Service Center and at www.nrcs.usda.gov/GetStarted

Applications can be submitted at any time, but to be considered for 2016 funding opportunities, applications in Kansas must be received by Jan. 15, 2016. Applications are currently being accepted for both agricultural land and wetlands reserve easements.

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Crops and Soils

Soil microbiologist to speak at workshop

By David G. Hallauer
Meadowlark Extension
District Agent

Crops & Soils/Horticulture

Pick up just about any farm publication and you can likely find a mention somewhere in it about soil health. What exactly does soil health mean? It can be a tough term to define!



What we all can agree on is that there is a lot going on in the soil. Some of it we understand, some of it we don't! To help explain some of what we might not understand as well as we'd like, the Nemaha County Conservation District, Natural Resources Conservation Service, local Pheasant and Quail Forever chapters and the Meadowlark Extension District are hosting a soil health workshop on Friday, Jan. 8, 2016.

This year's featured speaker will be Dr. Chuck Rice, Kansas State University distinguished professor of soil microbiology in the KSU Department of Agronomy. He'll share his research findings in the areas of soil health, soil microbiology and climate change to help explain some of what goes into soil health.

The meeting will be held at the Nemaha County Community Building, 1500 Community Drive in Seneca, starting with registration at 8:30 a.m. and Dr. Rice's first talk beginning at 9 a.m. RSVPs are requested to get a meal count! Please do so by Monday, Jan. 4 to the Nemaha County Conservation District Office at 785-336-2186, Extension 110. For a full flyer, check out the Crops & Soils link at www.meadowlark.k-state.edu

Hope you can attend!
Ice Melt Products

This information will be all for naught if it doesn't get any more "winter" than it's been lately! Better safe than sorry, though – especially

when there's the potential for a slick sidewalk! So let's review the four main chemical deicers we tend to work with on a regular basis.

Our "traditional" product is calcium chloride – and with good reason since it will melt ice to about -25 degrees F and doesn't typically harm plants unless excessive amounts are used. Just be cautious of the potential for the slippery, slimy residues it can leave on hard surfaces.

Sodium chloride (rock salt) is another option, though it's typically less desired. It's inexpensive and can melt ice down to approximately 12 degrees F, but it can also damage soils, plant roots and metals as well as cause serious plant injury when washed or splashed on foliage.

Urea (carbonyl diamide) is actually a fertilizer that can be used to melt ice. It is effective down to about 21 degrees F with much less corrosion potential than rock salt. You will want to work to avoid contamination of ground and surface water with the nitrates that result.

A newer product is CMA or calcium magnesium acetate. It's a combination of dolomitic limestone and acetic acid. It works differently than the traditional melt products. Instead it helps prevent snow particles from sticking to each other or the road surface. It has little effect on plant growth or concrete surfaces – that's a positive! Performance does decrease below 20 degrees F.

Apply any product in moderation to avoid plant or surface injury since plants, concrete, etc., can all be damaged by the products. When snow and ice can be physically removed, it is recommended that you do so rather than use a chemical deicer.

Thanks for reading
The Holton
Recorder!

Family Life

A relationship tip

By Nancy C. Nelson
Meadowlark Extension
District Agent
Family Life



Now it is time to "ring" in the New Year. Here's a relationship tip from the National Resource Center for Healthy Marriage and Families.

Coping with holiday stress often begins with healthy communication and conflict resolution.

Here are some tips to maintain positive relationships during this busy time of year:

- Avoid accusatory statements so that the listener is more willing to respond positively.
- When stress levels rise, practice calming techniques such as

time-outs, soft voices, humor or smiling.

• Avoid hot-button topics and focus on keeping the conversation light and cordial.

• Accept your differences and work towards a compromise. While conflict can be stressful, forgiveness can strengthen your family and your relationship.

Beat the Cold with a Hot Bowl of Oatmeal

January is a month to appreciate oats and their many uses. More oats are purchased in January than any other time of year.

Oats are typically sold as rolled oats, quick oats or instant oats. But steelcut oats are also showing up on breakfast tables. These are chewier and sometimes referred to as Irish or Scottish oats.

Besides many human food uses, oats are also used for animal food and in cosmetics such as lotion because of its anti-itch properties.

Holton Farm & Home Inventory Clearance Sale

Holton Farm and Home has been locally owned and operated for over 42 years.

Due to your support we have been able to make over 60 charitable contributions to local organizations along with over 25 memorials this year.

Thank you for your business.

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White block reg. \$5.50.....\$5.20	Feed Bunks 5' reg. \$105.....\$90	Behlen red 20 gau. pasture gate 4' reg. \$65.....\$57
Pallet of 40 reg. \$216.....\$206	Feed Bunks 10' reg. \$150.....\$125	Behlen red 20 gau. pasture gate 6' reg. \$80.....\$70
Sulphur block reg. \$6.99.....\$6.69	Feed Bunks 11' reg. \$185.....\$160	Behlen red 20 gau. pasture gate 8' reg. \$85.....\$75
Pallet of 40 reg. \$275.....\$265	Mineral Feeder Wind Vane reg. \$175.....\$150	Behlen red 20 gau. pasture gate 10' reg. \$95.....\$85
Iodized block reg. \$7.25.....\$6.95	Bull Proof Mineral Feeder reg. \$145.....\$125	Behlen red 20 gau. pasture gate 12' reg. \$105.....\$95
Pallet of 80 reg. \$286.....\$275	Bull Proof Killer Kover reg. \$299.....\$275	Behlen red 20 gau. pasture gate 14' reg. \$117.....\$105
Trace mineral Big 6 block reg. \$7.25.....\$6.95	Tarter 8' JD Bale Feeder reg. \$350.....\$315	Behlen red 20 gau. pasture gate 16' reg. \$130.....\$120
Pallet of 40 reg. \$286.....\$275	Bextra Bale Feeder 8' reg. \$595.....\$550	Behlen heavy green gates 16 gau. 4' reg. \$100.....\$90
Softener pellets 50 lb bag reg. \$6.99.....\$6.69	B&W Horse Bale Feeder 8' (14 ga. 3 pc.) reg. \$350.....\$325	Behlen heavy green gates 16 gau. 6' reg. \$115.....\$105
Pallet of 49 reg. \$338.....\$325	B&W Cattle Bale Feeder 8' (3 pc 14 ga.) reg. \$295.....\$265	Behlen heavy green gates 16 gau. 8' reg. \$130.....\$120
Loose salt 50 lb. bag reg. \$4.55.....\$4.45	Corral Panel 10' Green Behlen reg. \$135.....\$110	Behlen heavy green gates 16 gau. 10' reg. \$150.....\$140
Pallet of 49 reg. \$218.....\$208	Corral Panel 10' Walk Gate reg. \$215.....\$195	Behlen heavy green gates 16 gau. 12' reg. \$175.....\$160
4% All purpose mineral 50 lb. bag reg. \$13.99.....\$13	Tarter JD 12' Corral Panel reg. \$129.....\$115	Behlen heavy green gates 16 gau. 14' reg. \$198.....\$183
Pallet of 40 bags reg. \$539.....\$520	Behlen Ecn0 12' Red Panel (20 ga.) reg. \$110.....\$95	Behlen heavy green gates 16 gau. 16' reg. \$215.....\$195
Kandy Mag mineral 50 lb. bag reg. \$19.75.....\$19	6' Box Blade 3 pt. reg. \$725.....\$625	Behlen heavy green gates 16 gau. 18' reg. \$258.....\$243
Protein block 37% 33 1/3 lb. reg. \$9.75.....\$8.75	6' Landscape Rake 3 pt. reg. \$550.....\$495	Behlen heavy green gates 16 gau. 20' reg. \$285.....\$270
Pallet of 60 reg. \$555.....\$530	Yellow Bale Spear 3 pt. Tarter reg. \$250.....\$225	Cattle panel 1/4" rod 52" x 16' wire reg. \$40.....\$35
Range pellets 50 lb. bag reg. \$11.50.....\$10.50	Behlen Single Spike Skid Loader reg. \$599.....\$500	Comb. panel rod 52" x 16' wire reg. \$45.....\$40
Pallet of 40 reg. \$440.....\$415	Speeco Spike Skid Loader reg. \$599.....\$450	Ecn0 Cattle Panel 52" x 16' reg. \$29.95.....\$25
Sweet Mix all purpose reg. \$11.50.....\$10.50		Hog panel rod 34" x 16' wire reg. \$38.....\$34
Pallet of 40 bags reg. \$440.....\$415		Red Brand 2 pt. barb wire reg. \$69.95.....\$65
Suckle milk replacer 25 lb. sack reg. \$45.....\$40		Red Brand 4 pt. barb wire reg. \$78.95.....\$72
Suckle milk replacer 40 lb. sack reg. \$62.....\$57		Rebar Electric Fence Post 25 per bundle reg. \$38.....\$35
Poultry feed 50 lb. sack reg. \$15.99.....\$14.99		5' 1.25 green steel posts reg. \$4.85.....\$4.75
Rabbit feed 50 lb. sack reg. \$16.99.....\$16		5 1/2' 1.25 green steel posts reg. \$5.10.....\$4.90
Calf manna 50 lb. sack reg. \$29.....\$25		6' heavy orange steel posts reg. \$5.25.....\$4.99
Apple horse wafers 25 lb. sack reg. \$17.50.....\$17		6 1/2' heavy orange steel posts reg. \$5.75.....\$5.50
Deer block 25 lb. block reg. \$6.50.....\$6		Red Brand 39" hog wire reg. \$189 (12 1/2 ga.) Field Fence.....\$170
Cat food 20 lb. bag reg. \$12.90.....\$11.75		Red Brand 48" 2x4 welded x 100' reg. \$169 (12 1/2 ga.)\$155
Cat food 40 lb. bag reg. \$24.99.....\$23.50		Jackson Wire 2x4 48" woven x 100' reg. \$99 (12 1/2 ga.)\$90
Farm & Ranch 50 lb. dog food reg. \$19.97.....\$18		Dog Kennel 6x8x4 chain link reg. \$249.....\$225
Hi Pro dog food 50 lb. bag reg. \$23.95.....\$21		Dog Kennel 10x10x6 chain link reg. \$295.....\$270
Catfish Food 50 lb. reg. \$22.50.....\$20.50		Deacero 2 pt. barb wire reg. \$59.....\$50
Whole or Cracked Corn reg. \$8.99.....\$7.50		Deacero 4 pt. barb wire reg. \$69.95.....\$60
Poultry Layer 50 lb. reg. \$11.99.....\$10.50		Deacero barless wire reg. \$62.....\$55
Chicken Scratch 50 lb. reg. \$9.99.....\$9		4" x 8' wood posts reg. \$12.....\$6
Chicken Starter 50 lb. reg. \$18.....\$16		Treated 6" x 8' wood posts reg. \$20.....\$10
Protein Tubs 250 lb. reg. \$99.....\$95		
Potassium Chloride 40 lb. reg. \$22.50.....\$20.50		
Ice Melt 50 lb. reg. \$15.99.....\$13.99		

FILSON CATTLE EQUIPMENT	
Standard Auto Head Gate reg. \$693.....	\$618
XL Auto Head Gate reg. \$872.....	\$797
Standard Squeeze Chute reg. \$2,324.....	\$2,100
XL Auto Squeeze Chute reg. \$3,330.....	\$3,100
Filson Calf Table reg. \$1,568.....	\$1,450
Palpation Cage Filson reg. \$545.....	\$499

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Pick-up 450 gal. reg. \$350.....	\$315
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Round Hauling Tanks 1,500 gal. reg. \$750.....	\$675
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OBITUARIES Year in Review...



Drews

Beulah M. Drews, 81, of Holton, passed away on Monday, Dec. 7, 2015.

She was born in Dunbar, Neb., to Frank and May Jones Hunt.

Having lived most of her life in Kansas, she and Fred Spain married and lived in Leavenworth, where they raised two sons and a daughter.

She was an excellent homemaker, seamstress and cook, made beautiful cakes and crocheted afghans given as gifts to so many family members. Working as a sales clerk for many years, she enjoyed meeting new people and was always ready for a fun game of Farkle or Uno.

She later married Everett Drews, and when he died, she moved to Netawaka. She attended the Wetmore Bible Church and then First Baptist Church when she moved to Holton. She especially enjoyed her Sunday school class and teachers.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a son, James M. Spain, on Dec. 8, 2010; two sisters, Florence and Daisy; and her brother, James "Jiggs" Hunt. She also lost three grandsons, Eugene Martin "Bobaloo" Mock, V. Keith Mock and Corey A. Davis.

Memorial services will be held at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 2, 2016, at New Hope Family Church, Fifth and Iowa, Holton.

Holton Recorder 12/28/15

Hale

Alan "PamSot" Hale, 68, Rossville, died Saturday, Dec. 26, 2015, at Rossville Valley Manor.

He was born Dec. 19, 1947, in Horton, the son of Louis E. and Pearl Herrick Hale. He graduated from Topeka High School in 1965 and also attended Haskell Indian School in Lawrence.

Mr. Hale served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. He had lived most of his life in Topeka, working in construction. He had also lived in California for 10 years in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

He was a member of the Drum Religion and Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation.

Survivors include two sisters, Linda D. Hale, Mayetta, and Joraine Tuckwin, Hiawatha. He was preceded in death by his parents; three sisters, Cecelia Hale, Julia Deener and Anita Hale; and a brother, Louis "Sonny" Hale Jr.

Drum services will be held Tuesday evening at the Danceground Building west of Mayetta. Burial will be held Wednesday afternoon in the Danceground Cemetery. Mr. Hale will lie in state at Mercer Funeral Home in Holton.

Holton Recorder 12/28/15

Rice

Bradley Orville Rice, Patko Shuk, 56, Mayetta, died Sunday, Dec. 27, 2015, at his home.

Funeral arrangements are pending with Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Hoyt.

Holton Recorder 12/28/15

Fenceline...

Continued from Page 2

when he embarked on the #farm365 project. His goal was simple – share a picture from the farm every day for one year. However, the response became complicated quickly when protestors and dissidents co-opted the conversation for their own anti-agriculture purposes.

Happily, he reported that the protestors eventually faded, except for semi-regular comments, in comparison to the number of other farmers who joined the movement and a growing audience that is learning about all kinds of farming operations around the world.

The conference also included techie insights into techniques to better share stories through local marketing, search engine optimization, new apps and even unmanned aerial systems. But speaker after speaker encouraged all of agriculture to become an ag catalyst and share their own stories to a consumer audience that is increasingly removed from the farm.

After all, as Ron Green said, "The saddest story is the untold story."

Continued from Page 1

Casey's General Store opened its second Holton location this month on the former Jackson County Fair site, it was reported. Meanwhile, Jackson County Fair Association president Aaron Allen said more construction was set to begin this spring on new structures at the new home of the fair, the Northeast Kansas Heritage Complex.

The Holton/Jackson County Chamber of Commerce welcomed Bill and Debra Brown, Mike Ford, Brad Stauffer and the late Jim Potter into its Hall of Fame this month. Also, winter courtwarming royalty was announced at the county's schools — Karl Wilhelm and Madi Reith at Holton, Logan Wells and Jordan Wells at Jackson Heights and Tristan Tesselendorf and Kaylie Parker at Royal Valley.

Jackson County's first traffic fatality of 2015 was recorded on Feb. 11. That evening, 56-year-old Jacqueline Wilson of Topeka was killed when the car she was driving on U.S. Highway 75 collided with a semitrailer crossing U.S. 75 near Hoyt. The Kansas Highway Patrol said the driver of the semitrailer failed to yield at the intersection.

Jackson County's policy on dangerous dogs has been updated, requiring that certain breeds owned by county residents be registered yearly with the sheriff's department. A county-approved resolution requires anyone in the unincorporated areas of the county owning a Staffordshire Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, American Pit Bull Terrier, American Bulldog, Bull Terrier or a hybrid of any of those breeds to register with the sheriff by each April 1.

There's plenty of street brick available for the City of Holton's brick street restoration program. Holton Street Superintendent Rex Cameron informed the Holton City Commission, and this year, brick street restoration work will continue on Wisconsin Avenue. This year's brick street restoration project, Cameron said, involves the 600 block of Wisconsin, between Sixth and Seventh streets, extending the street work done on Wisconsin in recent years.

U.S. Senator and Holton High School graduate Pat Roberts returned to his alma mater this month to dine with current HHS students and discuss the federal school lunch program with a handful of students. Roberts' aim was to visit 10 Kansas schools this year and get input from those schools' students before the federal school lunch program is reauthorized.

About 31 percent of the county's annual budget to buy gravel for county roads has already been spent in six weeks, the Jackson County Commission learned this month. The budget for rocking county roads is depleting quickly this year, and commissioners and road and bridge officials are hoping to find a better solution for this issue. About \$174,414 of the department's annual rock budget of \$560,000 has been spent on rock for county roads since January.

Holton's planning commission OK'd a recommendation to add "microbreweries" to the city's list of allowed uses under C-2 (commercial) zoning, applying to businesses located adjacent to the Square. The request to add limited-production breweries known for making and selling specialty beers on a smaller scale than major breweries as an allowed use under C-2 zoning came from Holton resident Sean Willcott, who plans to open such a business here.

March

A groundbreaking ceremony for the new Holton Elementary School has been scheduled for 1 p.m. on April 8, it has been announced by the Holton school board. The groundbreaking ceremony, complete with public comments by local dignitaries and music provided by the school band, will be

held that day even if inclement weather requires that it be moved inside to the old fair building, said Dennis Stones, superintendent.

The Holton City Commission decided to "keep it local" in choosing an engineering firm to oversee street rehabilitation work at the city's industrial park. King and Associates Engineering of Holton was awarded the contract for work on industrial park roads that have deteriorated in recent years due to heavy truck traffic. King, partnering with CES Group P.A. Engineers and Surveyors of Marysville, bid \$19,396 for the project.

Even though the United Way of Jackson County has disbanded, nonprofit organizations in Jackson County continue to receive United Way funds through the United Way of Greater Topeka. Jackson County officially became a part of United Way of Greater Topeka in 2012, and local funds through UWGT continue to help support basic needs programs here. Tonya Barta and Carrie Saia represent Jackson County on the UWGT board.

The Jackson Heights Cobra boys basketball team qualified for the Kansas Class 2A State Basketball Tournament by defeating Troy in the Valley Falls Sub-State Championship game. As valiant as the Cobras' efforts were, however, they were taken out in the quarterfinals by Central Plains High School.

Plans for a new Holton sign on the southwest corner of the Jackson County Courtyard are moving forward as more details on the proposed project were presented to the Jackson County Commission. Members of the Holton Main Street organization that disbanded at the end of 2014 presented specifics on the sign project, as well as a photo rendering.

The Jackson County Commission is asking Meadowlark Extension District to move its local office out of the Jackson County Courthouse due to space limitations, it has been reported. The commissioners sent a letter to David Key, Meadowlark Extension District director, on March 9 notifying him that the extension office space in the Courthouse will need to be relocated by May 1. The district also has offices in Nemaha and Jefferson counties.

Thanks to a donation from Holton resident Jan Hodge in memory of her late husband, Harold, a fountain will be installed at Elkhorn Lake in Holton's Rafters Park, it was reported. Holton Parks and Recreation Director Mike Reichle said the fountain would aerate the lake's water and eliminate the problem of algae on the lake surface, making conditions better for fish and for fishing.

A new Web site for the Jackson County Sheriff's Office has been completed to bridge the gap between the sheriff's office and members of the public, according to Jackson County Sheriff Tim Morse. The site (www.jasoks.org) features, among other things, a list of outstanding warrants in the county and a roster of inmates currently at the Jackson County Jail.

Jackson County's population is on the rise, according to data recently released by the United States Census Bureau. Census officials estimated that Jackson County grew by 166 people from 13,373 on July 1, 2013 to 13,539 on July 1, 2014. This is the highest population estimate the county has ever received, according to census data. The census Web site includes a list of population estimates for all counties starting in 1970.

April

The April 1 edition of *The Holton Recorder* was the last issue of the newspaper to be printed on *The Recorder's* press, closing out a long, 148-year history of the business publishing newspapers in Holton. Since August 2007, *The Recorder* has been printed on an Atlas Web Leader web press that allowed the newspaper to

be printed in full color routinely for the first time.

A Topeka resident charged with the rape and attempted murder of a Holton woman was found guilty on six of eight counts by a Jackson County District Court jury. Chase Rosario, who was charged with attempted capital murder, two counts of aggravated criminal sodomy, two counts of rape, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated battery and criminal threat, was pronounced guilty on all but the attempted murder charge and one rape charge. Sentencing is set for May.

The recently-passed education funding bill that switched funding for Kansas school districts to a "block grant" system is still a sore spot for educators in the Holton area, as local representatives in the Kansas Legislature heard during the annual Holton/Jackson County Chamber of Commerce legislative breakfast. About 40 people were in attendance at the legislative breakfast, featuring Becky Hutchins, Randy Garber and Dennis Pyle.

Tim Morris was handily re-elected to his Holton City Commission position in this year's spring elections, which also saw several incumbents on the county's school boards re-elected to their respective positions.

The Jackson County Commission approved a resolution to increase some of the rates at the Jackson County Landfill by one or two dollars effective July 1. Cars will be charged \$10 per load, instead of the previous \$9. Small pickups will be charged \$14 per load, instead of \$12, and regular pickups will be charged \$20 and up per load, instead of \$18 and up. Larger pickups will be charged \$10 per cubic yard, instead of the previous \$9 per cubic yard.

The old Chandler house across the street from Colorado was torn down following a groundbreaking ceremony for construction of the new Holton Elementary School. The house was the last house standing on the block immediately west of the school. Representatives from the Holton school board, the Hollis and Miller architectural firm and Nabholz Construction were on hand to help elementary teachers and students celebrate the coming construction of the school.

The new "block grant" way that the state of Kansas will fund its K-12 public schools, for the next two years at least, "possibly will make us (schools) do things we've never had to do be-

fore," according to Dennis Stones, Holton district superintendent. In a report to the school board, Stones said that while the State Legislature has determined that block grants will be used to fund K-12 public education, it has not yet passed a funding bill to fund the new plan.

According to Erin Ludvick Carlson, president of the Holton High School Alumni Association, changes are being made to get more of "the younger generation" of Wildcat alumni — and more of Jackson County — to participate in Glory Days activities. Changes are being made to draw more recent HHS graduates to this year's Alumni Banquet, as well as inviting alumni from Jackson Heights, Royal Valley and past county schools to participate in the parade.

Nearly a year after pleading guilty

to defrauding a western Kansas bank to the tune of \$460,000, former Holton legislator Trent LeDoux was sentenced to 18 months in federal prison on the bank fraud charge, it was reported. LeDoux, who represented Jackson County in the 50th District in the Kansas House of Representatives from May of 2011 through the end of 2012, was also ordered to pay \$461,000 in restitution to Farmers and Merchants Bank of Colby.

The Jackson County Commissioners have extended the deadline for residents in the rural, unincorporated areas of the county to register certain breeds of dogs, such as pit bulls, that are considered dangerous by law enforcement officials. Residents now have until May 1 to register their dog (or dogs) at the Jackson County Sheriff's Office.

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Please report any changes in service or personnel to the Recorder at 364-3141. Thank You.

<p>Bethany Baptist Church 821 New York • 364-4533 • Pastor Ron Sellens Youth Minister David Noland Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school 10:15 a.m. Worship service 1 p.m. Sunday afternoon service Wednesday: 7:15 p.m. Prayer meeting Bucks Grove UM Church Pastor: Charlotte Milroy • 234-4243 Sunday: 9 a.m. Church service Christ's Church Southern Heights Clubhouse • Pastor Jon Hanna Information: 364-4029 Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Fellowship 9 a.m. Worship Church of the Nazarene 209 New York Ave. 364-3642 • Rev. Kevin Kneisley Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school 10:45 a.m. Worship service Circleville Christian Church 7701 254th Rd., Circleville Alicia Spalding, Youth Leader Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. Sunday Worship: 8 a.m. Traditional Service 9:15 a.m. Cowboy Church 10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship Website - circlevillechristian.com Email - circlevillechristian@yahoo.com Circleville United Methodist Pastor: Charlotte Milroy 234-4243 Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship Service Community of Christ Church 512 Wisconsin • Pastor Dean Sharp Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service Delia Presbyterian Church 514 Jackson St. • Rev. Doug Phenix Sunday: 10 a.m. Morning worship Check sign board for other events. Denison Bible Church Pastor Tom Fraumfeller Sunday: 10 a.m. Sunday School • 11 a.m. Worship 7:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting www.denisonbible.org Denison Reformed Presbyterian Rev. J. Edward Hindman • 935-2348 Sunday: 10 a.m. Bible class 11 a.m. Worship service Lunch following the service 1:15 p.m. Afternoon service Evangel United Methodist Church 227 Pennsylvania Ave. • 364-3834 Sun.: 8:50 a.m. Life Journey (contemporary service) 10 a.m. Sunday school 11 a.m. Traditional worship service Church - office@evangelumc.org Pastor - pastor@evangelumc.org First Baptist Church of Holton 404 Juniper, 364-3423 • Sr. Pastor: Tim O'Byrne Director of Discipleship - Rhett Totten Sunday: 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Services 5:15 & 6 p.m. Youth Groups Wed.: 10 a.m. Bible Study • 6:30 p.m. Choir Friday: 7 a.m. Women's Breakfast 6:45 a.m. Men's Breakfast First Baptist Church of Hoyt Pastor David Bumworth • 986-6446 Wednesday night prayer: 7 p.m. Sunday: 9 a.m. Sunday school 10 a.m. Worship service 7 p.m. Sunday evening worship</p>	<p>First Christian Church 5th and Wisconsin • 364-2545 Dr. Jim McCollough, Pastor Sunday: 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship First United Methodist Church Pastor Nancy Crowl • 1401 W. 4th • 364-3275 Sunday Schedule: 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship firstumc@giantcomm.net Holton Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses 12350 214th Rd., Holton • 364-4279 Sunday Public Talk: 10 a.m. • jw.org Hoyt United Methodist Church Rev. Bev McCurdy • (c) 785-220-0711 Sunday School: 9 a.m. • 10 a.m. Worship www.hoytunitedmethodistchurch.com Immanuel Lutheran Church, Netawaka Pastor Jeffrey Geske • 785-340-5635 9 a.m. Sunday Worship 10 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Adult Bible Class Lakeview Faith Chapel Pentecostal Church 3.5 miles south of Holton on U.S. 75 Pastor Steve Cappelman • 364-2416 Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school 10:15 a.m. Worship service Larkburg Christian Church Rev. Mark Armstrong Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school 10:30 a.m. Church service Mayetta Christian Church Ernest Coleman - Pastor Sunday: Fellowship & Waffles: 8:15 a.m.-8:45 a.m. Sunday school: 8:45 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Prayer Circle: 9:30 a.m.-9:50 a.m. Worship service - 10 a.m.-11:15 a.m. Wednesday: Bible Study - 6 p.m.-7 p.m. Mayetta United Methodist Rev. Howard Sudduth Sunday: 9 a.m. Morning worship service and Sunday school Netawaka United Methodist Rev. Caren Loper Sunday: 8:15 a.m. Worship Onaga New Hope Lutheran Church, ELCA Rev. Charlene Banes, Pastor Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. SS, Adult Bible Class Bible Study: Tuesday @ 7 p.m. Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sunday Our Lady of the Snows Church Fr. Marianand Mendem 166 and "I" Road, Mayetta, Kan. • 597-5656 1st, 3rd, & 4th Sunday Mass 8:30 a.m. 2nd Sunday Mass 1 p.m. Potawatomi Pentecostal Church 4.5 miles west on 134th Rd., Mayetta Rev. Marcia Potts Sunday: 10 a.m. Sunday school 10:45 a.m. Worship service Pottawatomie United Methodist Rev. Howard Sudduth Sunday: 9:50 a.m. Sunday school 10:30 a.m. Worship St. Dominic Catholic Church Pastor: Fr. Marianand Mendem 416 Ohio, Holton, 364-3262 Saturday: 5:30 p.m. Mass • Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Mass Confessions 30 minutes before mass. www.jaacatholics.org</p>	<p>St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church Pastor: Fr. Marianand Mendem 3rd & James, Mayetta, 966-2690/364-3262 Sunday Mass: 8 a.m. Confessions 30 minutes before mass. www.jaacatholics.org St. Thomas Episcopal Church 512 Wisconsin, Holton • Rev. Ray Hartjen Services on 2nd & 4th Sunday Sunday Services: 9 a.m. Post Service Fellowship Breakfast 785-224-8798 stthomasholton@holtonmail.com Soldier Christian Church 834-5750 Ron Ahlgren, Minister Luke Schreiber, Youth Minister Sunday: Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Church Services: 10:30 a.m. Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group: 5 p.m. St. James Catholic Church 306 5th St., Wetmore • Pastor Father Hammes Saturday Mass: 6:30 p.m. Confessions: 30 min. prior to mass Trinity Lutheran Church 401 Cheyenne Pastor Brian Stark 364-2206/364-2029 Sunday School: 9 a.m. Worship: 10 a.m. Wetmore Bible Church 217 Iowa St., Wetmore Pastor Gary Heitz • 866-2444 Sunday: 10 a.m. Sunday school (for all ages) 11 a.m. Worship Hour 11:30 a.m. Children's Church • 7 p.m. Adult Bible Study Tuesday: 1:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study Wednesday: 7 p.m. Youth Group (Jr. High & HS Ages) 8 p.m. Bible Study Wetmore United Methodist Pastor Seong Lee (785) 866-2512/Parsonage • 866-5556 Church Sunday: 9 a.m. Sunday school 9:40 a.m. Worship service Whiting Baptist Church Seth Montgomery, Pastor Sunday: 9 a.m. Sun. school • 10 a.m. Worship service Whiting United Methodist Rev. Caren Loper Sunday: 10 a.m. Education • 11 a.m. Worship New Hope Family Church 515 Iowa, Holton Interim Pastor: Sterling Hudgins Wednesday Meal: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Service: 7:15 p.m. Sunday Worship: 6:30 p.m.</p>
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Simone McDonald,
LMSW

It is important to understand "neuroticism" (the long-term tendency to be in a negative emotional state) because it often leads to depressed moods and a high likelihood of suffering from feelings of guilt, envy, anger and anxiety. Neurotic individuals tend to be sensitive to outside stresses and react poorly to them. As a result, everyday situations may appear to be threatening and trivial frustrations may be perceived as problematic, prompting despair. There is also a tendency to hold fears and other disorders (such as anxiety disorder) inside and out of view of others. New thinking about neuroticism suggests that it arises from overthinking. While this can be an unpleasant state to be in, it also is linked with greater creativity.

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SPORTS *Monday*

Year in Review

Wildcat wrestlers put together another stellar season in 14-15



Jackson Heights' Zane Richter (shown above, at left) drives to the basket during the championship game of the Nemaha Central Invitational last season. That tournament was a turning point for the young Cobras, boosting the team on to a state tournament appearance in 2015, and the season as a whole seems to have fueled the JHHS basketball program as the boys are off to a 4-0 start this winter.

Photo by Kelly Breckunitch

County basketball teams fueled by prior success

Considering we are just a quarter of the way into the 2015-2016 high school basketball season, it feels like an odd time to reflect on some notable achievements of the previous season for the county basketball teams, but watching the teams currently it's clear the 2014-2015 campaign had an influence on the direction the Cobras, Panthers and Wildcats are heading.

For instance, after a breakthrough year with many first-time starters, the Cobra boys are clearly driven to keep that success going.

In 2014-2015, Jackson Heights' reliance on some talented young players paid off and paved the way for a 21-3 campaign that saw JHHS claim a share of the NEKL title (with Maur Hill) and make its first appearance at the 2A state tournament since 2007.

Zane Richter was one of the young players at the forefront of that state tournament push, as he averaged 27 points a game last season, scoring 20 or more in all but one contest. Richter picked up right where he left off this winter, as he is currently averaging 30.5 points per contest and just recently set a new single game scoring record at JHHS with 47 points against Pleasant Ridge.

Along with fellow returning starter Wyatt Oiberding (10.5 ppg in 2014-2015), Richter gives the Cobras a strong nucleus to build around this winter. While last season may have come to a disappointing end in the state quarterfinals against a veteran Central Plains team, Heights head coach Chris Brown knew the loss would mean something more in the long run and relayed that to his players immediately after the game.

"I told them, I think Jackson Heights is back on the map. For a stretch there, we were one of the most dominant teams in 2A basketball and I really feel like

between this season and last season, we're right back to where we need to be," Brown said. "We're hoping we can get some momentum going and get some young people interested and get the community interested and get something that can last a few years so we're not coming here (Manhattan) once every eight years, we're coming here a lot and from there hopefully come and win some games eventually."

Currently, Jackson Heights is undefeated (4-0) this season and ranked seventh in Class 2A by the Kansas Basketball Coaches Association, with its sights set on a return trip to the 2A state tournament in 2016.

While not reaching quite as lofty heights, the JHHS girls basketball team had a similar return to form last season as the Lady Cobras (12-10) put together their first winning season in five years and placed in the top four of the league standings for just the second time in the last 15 years. The team, currently 2-2, is looking to keep that going this winter.

For Holton, even some near-misses to end the season couldn't detract from the overall success of both the boys and girls teams.

The Wildcats were led by the dynamic duo of Trey Tanking and Garrett Beecher, who accounted for nearly 60 percent of the team's offense in 2014-2015. Beecher also managed to crack the 1,000-point career milestone last season.

With the potent guard combo taking charge, the HHS boys came up one game short of a return trip to the 4A-DII state tournament. Holton didn't quite have enough to take down Atchison in the sub-state finals, finishing the season 15-7 overall.

Holton's girls also had an unceremonious loss in the sub-state

finals as the Wildcat defense was as strong as always, but the team didn't have enough offensive firepower to take down Jeff West.

A young HHS squad continued to do some growing through the course of the season and, if the start of 2015-2016 is any indication, that sub-state loss may have been the necessary spark to push the Lady Wildcats to the next level.

Outside of a tough loss at Sabetha to start the season, Holton has now racked up three lopsided victories and a hard-fought loss to third-ranked Topeka Hayden to move to 3-2 overall currently and earn the number 10 ranking in the KBCA polls.

Holton's boys are starting more from scratch, but clearly still have that drive as the team has been competitive despite beginning the season 2-3.

Royal Valley's boys also had a somewhat surprising season as the young group found itself in the KBCA rankings late in the 2014-2015 season and finished in the top four of the Big Seven League before falling to that same Atchison squad that tripped up HHS in sub-state play.

The Panthers still finished 13-8 overall last season and, with only two seniors graduating in the spring, the team has picked up right where it left off as the RVHS boys are currently undefeated (5-0) this winter.

On the girls side, Royal Valley had a few more seniors to replace and are trying to come together following a 3-2 start in the first half of the 2015-2016 season.

While the county basketball teams have some work yet to do, it is clear the squads laid the foundation with some successful 2014-2015 campaigns and are looking to keep pushing forward this winter.

Over the past two seasons, now has been a time to reflect back on the state championship performances of a surging Holton wrestling program.

The Wildcats were coming off back-to-back 4A state titles heading into the 2014-2015 campaign and while the team couldn't quite make it three in a row, what it did at the 2015 state tournament was equally impressive.

While Holton had a number of state medalists returning from the previous state champion team, the squad also had a lot of holes to fill with younger wrestlers.

Many of those wrestlers showed progress over the course of the season, but the trade off was enough to knock HHS from its perch atop the Big Seven League throne and the team also finished runner-up at its regional tournament.

Still, the Wildcats had seven wrestlers qualify for the state tournament. A team title looked less likely, especially with two individuals bowing out of competition early, but Holton still put together quite an impressive finish to end the 2014-2015 season.

Five wrestlers competed on the final day of the state tournament and all five (Lucas Lovvorn, Justin Pool, Justin Rieschick, Tyler Price and Mason Baum) walked away with medals, which was enough to solidify a third-place team finish (and third straight state trophy) for Holton.

"For this group, it's amazing. You look back two weeks ago and

we finished second in our league tournament. That was a gut check moment for this group. Obviously it's different settings and different types of competition, but this is a tough group of boys and they showed their toughness Saturday in several matches," HHS coach Cullen Jackson said after the tournament.

"They're gritty, they're tough and they're stubborn. They knew what they had to do to get it done and they didn't want to accept anything less on Saturday and it showed."

With little margin for error, the Wildcats found a way to keep winning and put themselves in position to claim a state trophy, cementing their place in the upper echelon of 4A teams.

One individual also cemented his place in school history as Lucas Lovvorn (now wrestling at Division I Wyoming University) won his second consecutive individual state title. Lovvorn etched his name into the record books along with Jesse Strawn as the only two Wildcat wrestlers to win back-to-back individual state titles.

Wrestling up at 160 lbs. after taking first at 152 lbs. the previous season, Lovvorn left no doubt after facing an early deficit in his championship match-up against Chanute's Brady Vogel. Lovvorn eventually won by a convincing 12-5 margin.

That individual championship performance was key and also brought a fitting end to an impressive career, but some other medalists also helped push Holton back to familiar

heights. Mason Baum, who dealt with his fair share of adversity in the state consolation bracket in previous seasons, stormed through competition that final Saturday on his way to a fifth-place finish.

One of the tightest medal matches that also played in Holton's favor was Justin Pool's consolation final at 132 lbs. Pool wrestled Hugoton's Pedro Ordenez to a stalemate through regulation. Both wrestlers then scored a reversal in overtime, but Pool added an escape in the final 13 seconds to help him capture a third-place medal with a 5-4 win by decision.

It was a wild finish that no one could have predicted and while it may not have ended in a third straight state championship, it was another performance by Holton wrestling that won't soon be forgotten.

Three of those state medalists are back in 2015-2016 and trying to help push a young Wildcat team to lofty heights once again.

Royal Valley was a young team as well last season, but still qualified two individuals (Noah Hart and Jacob Box) for state competition. Neither Hart nor Box claimed a state medal, but both are back this winter and leading almost the exact same team, only with a year's more experience under its collective belt. The Panthers have gotten off to a solid start, too, and both they and the Wildcats will be looking for more state success in 2016.



Holton's Hayley Thompson (shown above, at left) pulls up for a jumper a short distance away from the basket during a Big Seven League contest against Riverside last season. Thompson is one of several HHS players returning this season who are looking to help the team keep pushing forward to even more success this winter.

Photo by Kelly Breckunitch

Mattox making moves

If there is a certain theme in part one of *The Holton Recorder's* "sports year in review" for 2015, it is keeping one eye on the past while looking to the future with the other. In no case is that summarized better than in the path Holton native Matt Mattox has taken to keep advancing his coaching career.

Last year at this time, Mattox was settling into his new position as co-



offensive coordinator for the Tulsa University football team and now the HHS graduate is on the move once again as he recently agreed to become the offensive line coach and

run game coordinator at the University of Texas.

It is the fourth different stop in the past four years for Mattox, who continues his rapid rise in the Division I coaching ranks. He started coaching while still at the University of Houston after wrapping up his playing career before jumping into the junior college ranks.

Mattox joined up with the coaching staff at Butler Community College first, the place where he started his collegiate playing career, and worked as the offensive line/tight ends coach for the Grizzlies for five years. In that span, Mattox coached 31 All-Conference offensive linemen and helped Butler County claim two NCAA national championships.

After that, the coaching carousel began as Mattox served as offensive coordinator for Coffeyville Community College for one season before breaking into the Division II ranks with Dino Babers at Eastern Illinois, taking a position as the offensive line coach.

Babers left the following year and took many staff members, including Mattox, with him to Bowling Green. Mattox served as the co-offensive coordinator there in his first Division I job before making the move to Tulsa and now Texas.

The Longhorns reportedly agreed on a deal with Mattox for three years, worth \$550,000 annually, and the former Wildcat will remain in an area that he has become accustomed to recruiting.

Speaking with Mattox in early 2015, he noted eventually he would like to take a head coaching position, but he has never really set out a timeline. As he continues to ascend programs by pedigree, it's safe to assume those opportunities won't be too far down the line.

For now, Mattox is content to continue passing along knowledge to his players and competing vicariously through them as an assistant coach, noting he also tries to stay grounded at each stop and remember the coaches who helped get him here.

"I think it's something I'm definitely very fortunate for along my path, especially being able to make the jump from junior college up to Division I. I definitely appreciate all the people who have given me opportunities along the way. The big thing is making sure I do my job and keep learning as I'm going," Mattox said.

Mattox is the son of Bill and Barbara Mattox of Holton.



Wildcat wrestler Justin Pool (shown above, background) keeps a tight grip on his opponent while on the mat, working to get position for a pin in a dual last season. Pool was one of the five wrestlers at the center of the Wildcats' push for a third-place state trophy last season and he is back to try and help the HHS team keep up its successful ways this winter.

Photo by Kelly Breckunitch

The Holton Recorder has coverage of all your local sports teams!

HHS grads shake things up at next level

Given the success of the Holton High School girls basketball program over the past decade, it's no surprise to see former Wildcats moving on to bigger and better things at the next level.

Even by the Wildcats' high standards, though, 2015 was a banner year for HHS alumni on the basketball court as a few college players made strong debuts, while one former Holton player got the chance of a lifetime halfway across the world.

Recent HHS graduate Kyrstie Miller began her collegiate career with the Emporia State Hornets (Division II) last season and was nearly a part of a national championship team before ESU fell just short in the semifinals of the 2015 NCAA DII women's basketball tournament.

Miller saw plenty of court time off the bench in her freshman season at Emporia State and just like her time at Holton, the versatile athlete filled up the stat sheet for the Hornets.

Averaging 18.5 minutes per game (and being one of seven players to play in all 34 games), Miller managed to finish in the top five of many statistical categories for ESU,

including assists (1.2 apg, 4th), steals (1.1 spg, 3rd) and blocks (.7 bpg, 3rd). She also averaged 3.9 points and 3.4 rebounds per game.

At the Division I level, former Wildcat Ryan Bowser had some moments in her first season with the Texas Tech women's basketball team.

While she averaged ones in most statistical categories (1.4 ppg, 1.1 rpg, etc.), flashes of her competitive nature came through in her limited court time. Most noticeably, Bowser made her presence felt in front of a "home" crowd when the Red Raider visited the Kansas Jayhawks in Lawrence for Big 12 competition.

Bowser turned in one of her best performances of the season in the game against Kansas, finishing with six points, two rebounds, one assist and three steals while playing a season-high 29 minutes in the narrow 71-67 loss to KU.

Of course, to the large group of fans from Holton who were in attendance to watch Bowser play that outburst was no surprise. She may have been used in a more reserve role in her debut season, but she brought the same tenacity and skills to the court

for Texas Tech that shone through when she was at HHS.

"I know how to win. You have to work hard and be disciplined to win games," Bowser said. "Everybody's athletic. Everyone's good, so being average isn't going to cut it. You have to work to be good. You have to do everything that you can to be the best, to be better than everybody else."

"I seriously go hard every single day. There's no time off. There are no seconds off," Bowser said.

In her senior season currently, Bowser has seemingly ratcheted that up to another level as she is averaging 6.7 points, 2.3 rebounds, 1.8 steals and 3.6 assists in 11 games for the Red Raiders this winter.

Other former Wildcats to make some strong debuts last season included Bowser's sister, Rylie, who transferred to Peru State College for her senior year. It was a good final campaign for the HHS grad, too, as Rylie averaged 5.1 rebounds per game (5th on the team), 6.9 points per game (4th on the team) and 2.7 assists per game (2nd on the team) for the Bobcats.

Holton alum Jayna Smith also played her first season at Washburn University after two years at Cloud County Community College. In Topeka, Smith helped the Lady Blues to a solid 16-12 overall record while leading the team with 6.4 rebounds per game and chipping in 5.3 points per game.

While former Wildcat Melissa Nelson wrapped up her collegiate playing days a couple of years ago, her past experiences at Holton (and then Johnson County Community College and Fort Hays State University) gave her the opportunity to test the international waters while working on an internship in Australia this past year.

During the winter (Australia's

summer), Nelson was contacted by Eurofins Agrisearch Company and offered a position as Research Scientist, arriving in Shepparton, Victoria, Australia in mid-November of 2014.

The position required 50-70 hours of trials per week (10 hour days), but in her down time Nelson still managed to find her way to the court and it wasn't long before she was approached by a team manager for the Lady Shepparton Gators, a semi-professional Australian basketball team, and given a chance to try out.

Nelson made the cut and quickly adapted to the international game, as she helped lead the team with 13 points in a 60-51 victory over the Wodonga Lady Wolves in the Northeast Conference Grand Final. Nelson was named the Grand Final MVP for her performance and noted she was grateful for the experience and her past experiences that helped make that possible.

"I love the game and, to me, the draw back to the game is always in my blood. Last year it was a coaching role, but I was lucky this time and was allowed to play in a competitive league," Nelson said. "I played under amazing coaching staffs that have always fed my desire to improve and stay involved in the game. I would love to inspire young girls from back home that with hard work and dedication basketball can open so many doors for you. The opportunities are endless."

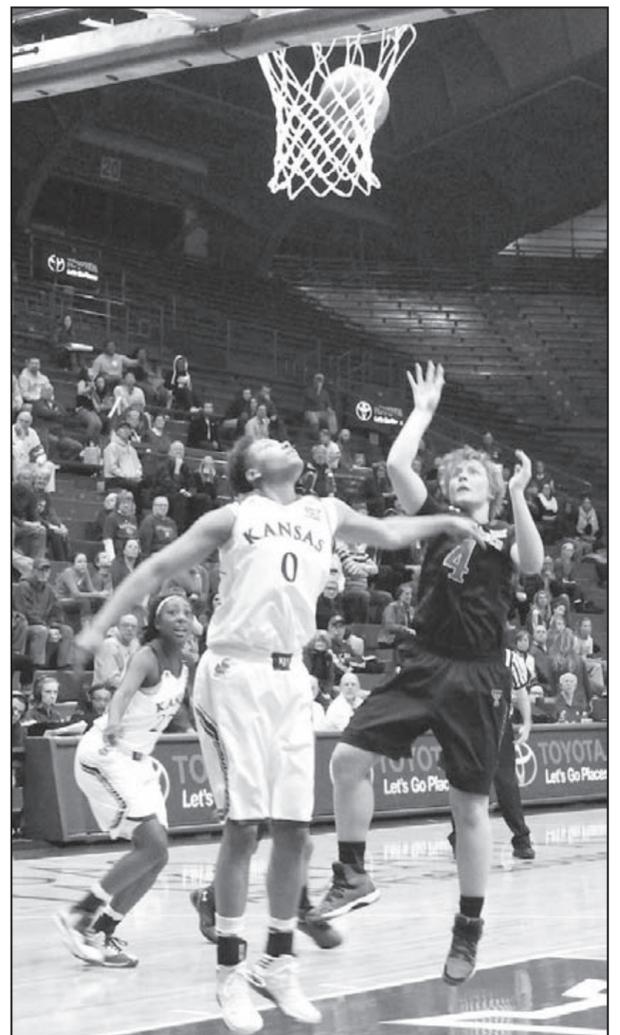
Doors continue to open for Holton graduates due to the Wildcats' success on the basketball court and, if the experiences of this handful of alumni are any indicator, then their future will continue to be bright in 2016 and beyond.

THANKS FOR READING THE HOLTON RECORDER!



Cobra Westin Jacobsen (shown above) tries to make an entry pass to the post in competition last season. Jacobsen is one of several young players back for the Cobras this winter looking to keep the team pushing forward. Heights will look to build off a 4-0 start when the team returns to action in a home game against Valley Falls on Tuesday, Jan. 5.

Photo by Kelly Breckunitch



Holton alum and current Texas Tech Red Raider Ryann Bowser (shown above, at right) floats a shot over a Kansas defender during Big 12 competition last February. Bowser had a breakout game against the Jayhawks, one of the highlights of a season marked by breakouts from many former Wildcats.

Photo by Kelly Breckunitch

With Best Wishes at the New Year

Whew... how time flies when you're having fun, and we've had a great time serving all of you this past year! Happy New Year and many thanks from our entire staff.

Paul Heinen & Associates

Paul, Dianne, Leslee, and Jessica



We wish everyone a Safe and Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!

Please Note Our Holiday Schedules Below:

Christmas Eve

Thursday, Dec. 24
All locations close at Noon
Business cut-off at Noon.

Christmas Day

~ CLOSED ~

Saturday, Dec. 26

~ CLOSED ~

New Year's Eve

Thursday, Dec. 31
All locations close at 4 p.m.
Business cut-off is 4 p.m.

New Year's Day

~ CLOSED ~

Saturday, Jan. 2

Re-open • Regular Hours

Christmas Eve

Thursday, Dec. 24
Main Bank closes at Noon
7-11 location closes at Noon
Business cut-off at Noon

Christmas Day

~ CLOSED ~

Saturday, Dec. 26

CLOSED ~ Both Locations

New Year's Eve

Thursday, Dec. 31
Main Bank closes at 3 p.m.
7-11 location closes at 6 p.m.
Business cut-off at 3 p.m.

New Year's Day

~ CLOSED ~

Saturday, Jan. 2

Main Bank CLOSED
7-11 location open 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 4

Re-open • Regular Hours

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With Greetings & Gratitude at the New Year

May the coming year bring many good times and much good fortune to you and yours. We're thankful for the many good times we've shared with you and hope to see you again next year!

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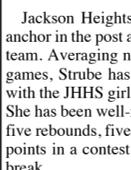
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THE CENTER FOR MANUAL MEDICINE

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Holton junior Tyler Price has put together a strong start to the wrestling season, recording 13 wins and just three losses so far in the 2015-2016 campaign. The returning state medalist also finished third at the Wildcats' first invitational tournament of the season in Clay Center recently. Price is currently ranked third in Class 4A at 152 lbs.



Jackson Heights senior Katelin Strube has been an anchor in the post already for the Lady Cobra basketball team. Averaging nearly 11 points through the first few games, Strube has clearly taken to her leadership role with the JHHS girls and is thriving early on this season. She has been well-rounded to boot, recently chipping in five rebounds, five blocks and four assists to go with 15 points in a contest against Maur Hill before Christmas break.



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McNamara - Kramer

Kayla McNamara and Miles Kramer, both of Topeka, exchanged wedding vows on Oct. 30 at the Topeka Heritage Hall.

Parents of the bride are Debra and Mike McNamara of Topeka. Parents of the groom are Susie and Bob Kramer of Holton.

The bride wore a black Maggie Sottero Couture dress with red accents from Kari's Bridal in Emporia. Her bouquet was red freedom roses with silver brooches. All of the wedding party carried black magic roses.

Maid of honor was Calie Craft of Meriden, sister of the bride. Best man was Drew Barber of Topeka, cousin of the groom.

Bridesmaids were Sarah Cowen, Alicia Swinford and Nathan Schroeder, all of Topeka, and Tommi Stotts of Holton, sister of the groom. Groomsmen were John Baker of Holton and Charles Cowell, Toby Sanders and Sean Walker, all of Topeka.

Ushers were Ethan and Noah Stotts of Holton, nephews of the groom, and Cameron Craft of Meriden, nephew of the bride.

Flower girls were Bailee Stotts and Charley Craft. Ring bearer was Cale Craft.

Special music was provided by MoKan Light and Sound, Blake Martin, Jake Hodge and Queen Anne's Revenge.

Netawaka U.M.C.

By Mary E. Edwards

Dec. 20 was windy, but not too cold. Everett Mullins rang the bell at Netawaka United Methodist Church. Doris Oxandale was greeter, candle lighter and offertory usher. Verona Grannell was in charge of recorded music.

In joys and concerns, Neva Douglas had a birthday on Dec. 12, and Jack Grannell's was Dec. 22, so the congregation sang "Happy Birthday" to them.

Congratulations to Patsy and Jim Jones on their 48th wedding anniversary on Dec. 22. Another joy for the Jones' is their granddaughter, Eve, who was a premie baby, is 10 years old this Christmas.

A joy and concern for Caren's family is that her son and daughter-in-law are soon to have a new baby.

Sympathy and prayers are for the family of Don Askren, who died Friday, and for those who are grieving in the midst of holiday celebrations. We pray for those who are hoping for better futures. We pray for healing for Jack Grannell, who will be getting treatment for a very painful back problem.

The call to worship was taken from Psalm 98. The psalter was Psalm 24. Congregational hymns were "Angels We Have Heard On High," "Away In A Manger," "What

Child Is This" and "Hark, The Herald Angels Sing." Fredrika Mullins lighted the Advent candles.

Pastor Caren read the scripture lesson, Luke 1:46-56, known as Mary's song. She announced she would preach from the piano. She played the beautiful "Mary, Did You Know?"

Mary was a humble girl from a poor family. God chose Mary to give birth to His Son, Jesus, our Savior. One could ask, "Why Mary?" and hear the answer, "Why not?"

We conclude that Mary did know the things asked in the song. The angel, Gabriel, gave her that information as told in Luke 1:26-38. Mary, mother of Jesus, is important and powerful. She was receptive and obedient to God. She set the example in humility, trust, listening for divine guidance and obedience.

Let us know!

Let us help you get the word out about club activities— bring your news item to *The Holton Recorder* office at 109 West Fourth Street in Holton; mail to *The Holton Recorder*, P.O. Box 311, Holton, Kansas, 66436; fax the news to 364-3422; call 364-3141; or e-mail (please include your name and telephone number) holtonrecorder@embarq-mail.com

Hope the coming year is a resounding success for all our customers, both old and new. With thanks and warm wishes from all of us.

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Potawatomi Methodist

By Ilene Dick

It was a chilly and windy drive to church Sunday morning, Dec. 20, but what a blessing it has been to have the month of December with good weather for travel and various Christmas activities.

Pastor Howard opened the service at Potawatomi United Methodist Church with scripture and prayer, followed by sharing of announcements, joys and concerns.

Martha Roush reported the church family had donated 50 Christmas cards to be sent to veterans. The cards were shared with patients of Topeka Veterans Hospital and were greatly appreciated.

It was a joy that Kolby Roush took first place at the wrestling match in Junction City, and Christopher Roush took third place. Congratulations to both for a job well done.

Congratulations to Nicholas and Jessica Bowser for the birth of a baby boy, Henry Lee. Betty and Cecil Bowser are the great-grandparents.

Betty Bowser also had the joy of seeing Shayne and Brian Dorris at a Christmas program at Medicalodge. It was a joy for the Potawatomi U.M. Church family to have Betty back for church.

Added to the prayer list are Martha Roush's cousin having cancer tests; McKenzie Shenk quite sick with stomach flu; and Angie Rawlings having cancer reoccur in both lungs.

Acolyte for the service was Lily Hall. Martha Roush and Laura Schreiber gave the Advent readings and lit the angel's candle.

Hymns were "Silent Night," "The First Noel" and "Away in a Manger." Tina Pugh, Ann W. and Ilene Dick provided the music.

Martha Roush was liturgist, reading from Isaiah 12:2. The Advent prayer was read in unison.

Laura Schreiber shared a poem titled "A Parting Wish," and a short Christmas story for the special. She then presented Pastor Howard with a Christmas gift from the church family.

Offertory ushers were Leon Daugherty and Jim Shenk.

The sermon text was from Luke 1:46b-56, with the title "The Shout of a Mother-to-Be."

Mary has been sometimes greatly ignored. The story of Mary, the mother of Jesus, is about life, living life and growing. Faith possesses us with con-

fidence and assurance. The first part is believing what God says.

Mary could have said no, but she didn't. She was humble and quiet, but important, revealing strength of the heart.

Mary was told by the angel her child was begotten by God. She believed.

In an unstable situation, Mary went to Elizabeth – "faith to faith." Elizabeth told her that her faith would see her through. Nothing is ever too big for God to handle.

When Jesus comes, life is received and changed forever.

Next Sunday's sermon will be "The Prince of Peace in a Hostile World." Everyone is welcome to glean knowledge and inspiration at this difficult time in our world.

Jim and Marjean Shenk attended Rossville school's Christmas program on Tuesday night, Dec. 15, where their granddaughter, McKenzie, was a participant.

Nicholas and Jessica Bowser announced the birth of their baby son, Henry Lee, on Dec. 19. He is welcomed home by big sister, Hazel, who is 2½ years old.

Lily Hall enjoyed the Royal Valley school concert. She is proud that her grandson, Hepi, played in the band. She is also proud of her granddaughter, Lenora, as vice president of the grade school student council.

Lenora also worked as a bell ringer at Dillon's store for the Salvation Army. It's good to hear of the youth helping in such a worthy cause.

Pam and Leon Daugherty attended the Christmas program in which their grandson, Christopher Roush, participated on Dec. 15. The Holton Middle School and High School choir participated in the program, and all did a good job.

On Tuesday, Dec. 15, Martha Roush attended the middle school and high school stocking stuffer concert. Chris Roush is a member of the middle school choir at Holton. Each attendee brought socks to be given to the Topeka Rescue Mission.

Lori Gillis of Shawnee and Al Roberson of Kansas City, Mo., spent Saturday, Dec. 19, with Ronald and me for an early Christmas get-together. We enjoyed the day and had a good visit.

Judy Thoman's shoulder continues to improve. Prayers continue for complete healing and less discomfort.

With a Blizzard of Best Wishes

Good times. Good friends. Good health. Good fortune. Here's hoping your New Year delivers it all! Thank you for dropping in this year.

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Wandering in the golden woods in winter

By Sandra M. Siebert

The woods turned golden as the sun settled toward the western horizon and I wandered, in awe of the beauty within a leafless woods, until the sun's bronze face fell beneath the horizon and the gold faded.



At this time of year the sun rides low to the south and its rays travel farther through the earth's atmosphere, shifting the light toward the red side of the spectrum. The longer rays light the woods with an orange-gold hue and create spectacular sunsets flaming with the richest, most varied colors. These are the sort of sunsets that cause you to interrupt your journey and watch from the side of the road as the colors change and fade.

And all is fleeting. Before I reached the bottom of the hill, the gold-washed light had disappeared. So I contented myself with marveling at the mottled orange color of a few wild rose leaves still clinging to the canes, while listening to the musical sound of water trickling into the pond below.

That, too, is impermanent. The water from the springs makes a lot of noise because it runs a long

way. The pond had already gone through its annual drain and was nearly empty when heavy rains caused the springs to begin running again. I don't know how long the springs will continue to run. They usually stop in late summer and return in February.

Impermanence. These moments are fleeting, so I listen to the trickling water and let it soothe me. This moment, too, passes.

When my husband steps out the back door to get another load of wood and calls "Come look at the sunset," I go look at the sunset. When the setting sun washes the woods in gold, I take a walk in the golden woods. When I hear the springs running, I pause to listen. When the clouds form the most perfect picture, I don't run inside for the camera, because I will miss the perfect moment.

Every bucket of kitchen scraps I carry to the compost heap takes me through the length of the garden. On each trip I try to pay attention. What does the garden look like today? I pause and breathe in the serenity of the deepening dusk, or the rising energy of brightening dawn.

I've tried to simply see the garden and not use each trip to assess what tasks I will tackle tomorrow. Instead of thinking how I need to take out the freeze-killed bean vines still clinging to the trellises, I marvel at their beauty.

The muted colors of the winter garden possess a peace and serenity not

present in spring and summer when everything grows rapidly, dazzles me with color, buzzes, chatters, zips and races through. All of that is beautiful, too, but the rush leaves me gasping for breath.

The winter garden leaves me breathless with its quiet.

In the winter, I pause in the garden to breathe deeply of the peace around me, hoping to hold on to some of it for the summer rush. I vow to take more such moments, to pause even when life darts and races past.

Perfect moments in winter are fleeting, but move with a gentleness not present in the months of growth and production. The perfect moments of summer race by and require greater presence to pause and notice them.

In the summer, "I'm late, I'm late, I'm late," seems to be my summer mantra. I race through my tasks, anxiety rising with each tiny delay.

That makes the pauses to breathe and notice the world much more important. If I keep racing, I wind up feeling frantic and stressed. Each small delay becomes an obstacle instead of an opportunity to understand the flow of life. When everything slows down during winter, I find it easier to embrace the moments of pause. I feel the tension and stress drain away.

I want to do the same in summer.

On some spring and summer evenings I took my cup of tea into the garden, to watch the sun set as I sipped. It was difficult not to make

mental lists of tomorrow's tasks. With practice I will eventually get it right. But I must practice. Every day. It takes only moments, but the impact is significant, turning rushed and stressful days into serene blessings.

Serenity does not mean I do not move quickly through my daily tasks. Serenity gives me flow. I relax into the flow of days and accomplish more. Instead of my gut tightening as I contemplate the long list of tasks, I simply flow through them, at ease.

We have just passed the winter solstice and the sun now climbs a bit higher into the sky and remains a few moments longer each day. We move, gently, toward the productive months of the year. A new solar year has begun. I get my seeds in order. Make the garden plan. I anticipate the rush of growth and life. Yet the world around me remains in stillness, in rest. As this new solar year begins I vow to pay attention to this stillness, to hold it in my heart and each day take the time to pay attention.

When I reach my own Winter, when my life drains into my roots, leaving the physical world, I will not regret the weeds left unpulled, but I will regret missing out on perfect moments in the garden, with my grandkids, with my friends; any perfect moments that went unseen.

So pull the car over and watch that spectacular sunset full of unbelievable colors. Breathe them in. This is why we live.

Lucky Stars 4-H Club donates funds to the fair

By Blade Montgomery

The Lucky Stars 4-H Club met for its December meeting at the Northeast Heritage Complex on Dec. 14, 2015. A fun Christmas party with an ornament exchange, hot chocolate and donuts was enjoyed. The December committee was both the Mellenbruch and the Montgomery families.

The business meeting was led by President Bridget Kucan. The flag salute and 4-H pledge were recited. Roll call was to name your favorite Christmas movie, and 33 members, four Cloverbuds and two leaders answered.

Grace Utz, secretary, read the minutes from November, and they were approved. Grace also read a thank you from Krista Halbleib for the club sponsoring the talent show trophy.

Happy Birthday was sung to the December members, and "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" was also sung. The song leaders this month were Ahnna, Cammee, Maverick and Phoenix Mellenbruch and Madeline and Blade Montgomery.

The officer reports were given by treasurer Cole Kucan and reporter Blade Montgomery. Cole reminded members to give the club family donation, and Blade told that the news was turned into *The Holton Recorder*.

Community leader Megan Montgomery reminded the club about the project fair on Dec. 29, 4-H Day will

be held Feb. 13 and beef weigh in is Feb. 28.

Fair board member Toni Kucan informed the members of the fundraiser matching program with Denison State Bank. Families, individuals or groups are welcome to donate to this worthy cause.

In new business, Ahnna Mellenbruch made a motion for the club to donate \$100 to the fair board fundraiser so DSB will match the donation. Club members approved the motion.

Vice President Madeline Montgomery led the program this month. Ahnna Mellenbruch played "Jolly Old Saint Nicholas" on her clarinet. She did good for only playing it since August.

Cammee Mellenbruch gave her first talk ever and she told about her projects she will take. She did really good for her first time.

Maverick Mellenbruch shared his cool photos. He took pictures of cars and he took those pictures to the fair. Phoenix Mellenbruch also shared her photos that she took to the fair. She took pictures of two really pretty flowers.

Madeline Montgomery shared her story of how she rescued her cat, Patches. She also let everyone meet Patches the cat and the cat played with a toy.

Blade Montgomery gave a talk on his beagles and how he will use them in the wildlife project. He also brought his two beagles to show all the members.

The meeting was adjourned. Three Christmas drawings were held this month. The gifts were a 4-H cookbook that Phoenix Mellenbruch won, cinnamon popcorn that Sadey Gross won and a cookie jar that Grace Utz won.

Happy New Year!
With friends and neighbors like you, we have every reason to smile at the holidays and all year!
We hope you have a merry and bright Christmas and a dazzling New Year!
Best wishes to you and yours!

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Fitness Center hosts Christmas party

The line of children and parents waiting to have their pictures taken with Santa stretched all the way to the front door during the Christmas Noel Party at the Netawaka Fitness Center held Dec. 5, it was reported.

The festive affair featured carolers, games, prizes, crafts and vendors eager to help attendees get a jump on gift shopping. But there was little doubt that giving kids a chance to have their picture taken on Santa's lap held the greatest appeal.

"By our count, nearly 100 families got in line for these photo opportunities," said Della Wrightsman, director at the center.

The event was open to non-members to give them a first-hand look at the facility.

Members and volunteers made the visitors feel welcome by serving chili, hot dogs, hot cocoa and more in the facility's "Snappy Inn Cafe," named after the diner that was a staple along Netawaka's Main Street years ago.

"It was nice for the kids to have a chance to see Santa so close to home and get their pictures taken with him," said Krista Dierking of Whiting. "It was an all-around cozy, enjoyable experience."

"Having special functions like this - plus hosting volleyball and basketball tournaments in our full-size auditorium court and swim meets in the pool - lets them see what this non-profit health and wellness facility offers at affordable rates," Wrightsman said. "When they take a tour, they're impressed by our cardio and fitness equipment, indoor batting cages, the soccer practice area in our Turf Room, the size of the pool and more."

The center currently has 360 members. Carolers at the Christmas party included Netawaka residents Karen Olhson, Marcia Robertson, Fredericka Mullins and Ellen Durst on the piano.

Among the vendors were Cindy Alderfer of Sabetha, Minta Ohlsen of Whiting, Amy Rethman, Jenny Bowhay and Rebecca Moulden, all of Netawaka.

Other events held recently at the Center include a Dodgeball Tournament and a Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament. More than 150 early risers showed up for a Sunday morning pancake feed that benefited the Netawaka Fire Department.

A Native American Heritage Day was set for Nov. 27 had to be cancelled due to an ice storm. However, about 50 students from the Kickapoo School made a field trip to the center earlier that week and enjoyed an afternoon of swimming, basketball, indoor batting practice and snacks.



Kali and Kaleb Dierking of Whiting get their turn with Santa at the Christmas party attended by more than 100 families at Netawaka Fitness Center. Submitted photo



Busy as elves, children got involved in making their own gifts at a craft table during the Christmas party at the fitness center. Submitted photo

Immanuel Lutheran Church By Esther L. Ideker

The third midweek Advent service was held at Immanuel Lutheran Church at 7 p.m. on Dec. 16. A fellowship meal was served before the service by Barb Klahr and Kathy Jones.

A hymn sing began the service with hymns "Comfort, Comfort, You My People," "It Came Upon A Midnight Clear," "O Come All Ye Faithful" and "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus."

The congregation joined in the opening sentences, responsory Psalm 86 and Psalm 122, followed with psalm prayers. Elder Mike Keehn read 1 John 4:7-21. The sermon hymn was "Where Charity and Love Prevail."

Pastor Jeff Geske's sermon was based on the collect (prayer for the third Sunday of Advent), speaking of the light which illuminates the darkness. The sun seems to make everything more bearable. Recently, observed the shortest day of the year, and it will be dark very early.

There is darkness in this broken world and longing for the light of Christ. The darkness happened in the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve fell into sin. In the midst of that darkness, God raised up prophets who shared the promise of a Savior.

"Unto us a Son is born..." from Isaiah and "For I know the plans I have for you...to give you a future and a hope" from Jeremiah. Our Savior's life was cradle, cross and crown; bringing life and bringing peace. His light shines through to bring hope to our life as you serve with Christ shining in you and through you.

The canticle was spoken responsively: The Magnificat. During the offering, Tricia Geske sang "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus." Following the collects for Advent and peace, the congregation joined in The Lord's Prayer. The service closed with the hymn "God Loves Me Dearly."

The third Sunday in Advent worship service at Immanuel Lutheran Church on Sunday, Dec. 20 began with the lighting of all four Advent candles, anticipating the lighting of the Christ candle on Christmas Eve. McKenzie McMahon served as acolyte. After the

greeting, the congregation sang the opening hymn, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."

Following the opening sentences, confession and absolution, salutation and prayer of the day, Elder Topher Dohl read the Old Testament lesson from Micah chapter 5 (Little Bethlehem shall be the birthplace of the promised ruler of Israel). The Epistle lesson was from Hebrews chapter 10 (Jesus came to earth to do His Father's will.)

Two verses of "O Little Town of Bethlehem" were sung. Pastor Jeff Geske read the Holy Gospel from Luke 1 (Elizabeth greets Mary and the unborn Jesus, and Mary rejoices in God, her Savior.)

In the children's message, Pastor shared that the long promised Savior was Jesus come to earth to save His people. Elizabeth and Mary shared the joy of the coming births of John the Baptist and Jesus. We need to share the joy with others of our Savior's birth and His plan of salvation for us. "Go Tell It On The Mountain," is a good theme song and we carry the message, "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know." The sermon hymn was "Savior Of The Nations Come."

"The Promised Savior" was the theme of Pastor Geske's Advent sermon. Luke records Mary's visit to Elizabeth with the beautiful interweaving of their lives before their children, John and Jesus, were born in a touching picture of God's grace upon His servants.

Mary stayed with Elizabeth three months. How they must have talked, wondering at what God was doing in their lives and what He was planning for their very special children. The Savior was promised for her generation, for our generation and for every generation to come.

Mary's song of praise, "The Magnificat," is recorded in Luke. It is as if she were saying, "Don't praise

me, but magnify the Lord who is my Savior."

In response to the promised Savior, we can praise Him. Peter writes, "But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light." This Christmas time and throughout your life, declare the praise of the Savior.

The Nicene Creed was professed by the congregation. The offering ushers were Topher Dohl and Braden Dohl.

The prayers of the church included for all people according to their need: For the church on earth, built upon our Savior; for all public servants so that God move them to promote justice and a common good; for the developing nations everywhere that they receive the ministry of the church; for the hungry, the homeless and the unemployed that God would provide food and clothing, shelter and companionship to them; and for those who call out to God in sickness and distress, infirmity and sorrow, that God would grant them healing, safety, care and comfort. The congregation joined in The Lord's Prayer.

Elder Topher Dohl assisted Pastor Jeff Geske with the distribution of Holy Communion. The communion hymns were "Draw Near And Take The Body Of The Lord" and "Come Thou Precious Ransom Come." Following the post communion thanksgiving and the benediction, the service closed with "Go Tell It On The Mountain."

Serving Sunday were Topher Dohl, elder; McKenzie McMahon, acolyte; Joyce Peterson, organist; and on the altar committee, Nancy Schumann and Pam Schumann.

Sunday school, adult Bible class and confirmation class took place following the service with a time of fellowship.

A blessed Christmas to all from the Immanuel Lutheran Church family.

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410 Pennsylvania, Holton, Kan. • 364-3136 (East Side of Square)

2016 Ring It In!

Another year is dropping in, and we can't think of a better place to spend it than right here with wonderful friends and neighbors like you. Thank you for your support in 2015. We wish you all the best: **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

785-933-2616 **Netawaka FITNESS CENTER**
233 White Way, Netawaka Junction of Hwy. 75 & K9

Out With the Old, In With the New!

We're looking forward to a fabulous new year, and we hope it brings much health, wealth and happiness to you as well. Thanks for your support and friendship.

Happy New Year!

Chris Gross Construction
12423 Memory Lane, Holton
364-5600

As We Ring In a New Year...

The sounds of laughter and expressions of goodwill we hear are music to our ears. We're so grateful to be a part of this neighborhood, and we wish all of our friends and clients here in the community good health and good fortune in the coming year.

Happy New Year!
Ann's Home Health

A NEW YEAR IS CALLING!

Before we hang up on the previous year, We send you this message of thanks and good cheer To let you know just how much We really appreciate your calling on us!

Brahma Excavating Inc.
Office 785-364-2086
Don, Nancy, Lance & Employees



Members from both the seventh and eighth-grade choirs at Holton Middle School performed "Little Saint Nick" and "Carol of the Bells" at the recent high school and middle school choir concert. Under the direction of Randall Bond, the choirs sang a variety of holiday songs.

Photo by Kelly Brecknitch

Kientz Corner

By Beverly Ramey Newell
On Dec. 20, the Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church congregation opened its worship service by singing "Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming."

The Serrano family lighted the Advent candles. The congregation sang the fourth verse of the Advent song.

The birthdays for Dec. 20 through Dec. 26 were Aiden Bach, Dec. 20; Ray Dupree, Michelle Gower, Roxann Williams and Chloe Wilson, Dec. 21; Zachary Patton, Dec. 23; Gladys Law and Gayle Smith, Dec. 24; Mary Hudson, Dec. 25; and Karla Savoie, Dec. 26. The anniversary for the week was Wayne and Bonnie DeBusk, Dec. 20.

The concerns were prayers for Jon Michael Cloud, who is in ICU at Stormont-Vail Hospital; and Henley's granddaughter, Madison, who had surgery on Dec. 21.

The children's bell choir played the following songs: "Jolly Old St. Nick," "Up On The Housetop," "O Come, All Ye Faithful" and "I Saw Three Ships."

The pre-school and kindergarten children sang "Angel Band" and "Away In A Manger."

The first through sixth grade children sang "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" and "Silent Night."

All the children sang "Oh, What A Special Night" and "Joy To The World." The children all did wonderful. "Praise the Lord!"

The adult bell choir played the song "Away In A Manger." Those playing bells were Kristy Beatty, Betty Domer, Kyle Marakas, Annie McDowell, Kelly Neiman, Danette Martin, Anna Risinger, Kylee Risinger, Barbara Slimmer and Val

Warkentine. Greg Baldwin directed them.

Pastor Jin gave a memorial dedication of the new communion table and the lectern. It was given in memory of Duane Hudson. The table and lectern were made by Norm and Tina Davis. Mary Hudson and her family were present for this dedication.

The communion elements were served by Pastor Jin, Bob and Susie Forman, Judy Glasgow, Mary Neely and Linda Reed.

The closing hymn was "Angels We Have Heard On High." Mary Smith presented Pastor Jin and his family a Christmas gift from the congregation.

Those assisting with the service were: Yvonne Etzel and the education committee; Mary Smith, organist; Matt Mannell, sound system; Madison Fealey, acolyte; Betty Domer, song leader; Greg Baldwin, pianist; and Kevin, Lauren and Sam Fealey, usher team.

On Dec. 17, John and Dorothy Holt, Clifford and Alice Hurst, Dick and Beverly Newell and Phil and Marguerite Pond ate lunch at the Cracker Barrel restaurant in Topeka.

On Dec. 19, Jill, Brian, Logan and Dylan Dierking (from Forth Worth, Texas) arrived at Dick and Beverly Newell's home to spend the Christmas holiday with family and friends.

On Dec. 15, Beverly and Dick Newell hosted a Christmas dinner for the 48er's group in their home. Those attending were Elaine and Ted Huback, Diana Clark-Keith, Rosalie and Richard Lassiter and June and Floyd Schlotter. Everyone enjoyed the good food and great fellowship.

Knouft celebrates her 95th birthday

Family and friends met at Jhett's Pizza in Holton on Dec. 11 to celebrate the 95th birthday of Floye Knouft. They were served pizza and birthday cake.

Out of town guests were Andy and Maureen Hemphill of Kansas City, Mo., Kent and Bonnie Manuel of Manhattan and Kirk Natalie of Topeka.

The Holton Recorder

is available for sale at the following locations:

- Holton Recorder Office (inside and out)
- C & D's Food Mart - Whiting (inside store)
- Carla's Indian Country (inside store)
- Casey's (inside store)
- Country Mart (outside machine)
- Dollar General (inside store)
- Downtown Casey's (inside store)
- 7-Eleven (inside store)
- Holton 66 (inside store)
- Hoyt (newsstand outside at Calderwood's Grocery)
- Mayetta (newsstand outside at Whistle Stop Cafe)
- Nation Station Convenience Store (newsstand outside)
- Petro Deli - Topeka (inside store)
- Prairie Band One Stop (inside store)
- Ron's (inside store)
- Soldier Grill (inside store)
- Walmart (inside store)

Public Notice

(Published in The Holton Recorder, Holton, Kan., on Monday, Dec. 28, 2015).

Advertisement for Bids

City of Mayetta, Kansas
2016 CDBG Street Improvements
CDBG Project No. 15-PR-022
BG Project No. 15-1137L

Sealed Bids for the construction of the **2016 CDBG Street Improvements** will be received by the City of **Mayetta, Kansas** at the City Clerk's Office until **11:00 a.m. on January 29, 2016**, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after this time will be returned unopened. The City Clerk's address is **119 E. Main Street, Mayetta, KS 66509**.

The Project consists of **pavement reconstruction on First Street between Main Street and Central Avenue** as well as **Central Avenue beginning at First Street and extending approximately 700 feet east**. The Project includes the following approximate major quantities of work:

Bid Item Description, Quantity, Units

- Unclassified Excavation: 1,004 Cu. Yds.
- Compaction of Earthwork (Type B)(MR-90): 101 Cu. Yds.
- Aggregate Base (AB-3)(6"): 4,565 Sq. Yds.
- HMA - Commercial Grade (Class A)(Base Course): 716 Tons
- HMA - Commercial Grade (Class A)(Surface Course): 385 Tons
- Gravel Driveway Wedge: 313 Sq. Yds.

Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a lump sum and unit price basis, with additive alternate bid items

Dear Customers

expressions will be closed Thursday, Dec. 31. We will re-open on Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2016.

Please note, expressions will no longer be offering fresh flowers except for previously committed weddings and requests for family funeral flowers. We will continue to have memorial items and live house plants. All other inventory will remain the same; we will expand on our silk designs and some other ideas to help fill the void.

Sharon and I have decided it is time to slow down, it was a very difficult decision. Fresh flowers are a great love of ours, but the labor and time involved is getting too much for us.

Thank you, to those that have supported us over the past years. Guitarpost lessons will continue as scheduled.

Merry Christmas and the Happiest New Year,

*Jay & Rogette, Sharon,
Pat, Ali and Brett*

Card Of Thanks

I want to thank everyone who sent cards and greetings to me to celebrate my 95th birthday. It was very much appreciated.

Floye Knouft

as indicated in the Bid Form.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: Drexel Technologies, 10840 West 86th Street, Lenexa, KS 66214, 913-371-4430. Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the following:

1. BG Consultants, Inc, 1405 Wakarusa Drive, Lawrence, KS (785) 749-4474
2. BG Consultants Inc. www.bgcons.com
3. Drexel Technologies www.drexeltech.com

Bidding Documents may be viewed and ordered online by registering with the Issuing Office at www.drexeltech.com. Following registration, complete sets of Bidding Documents may be downloaded from the Issuing Office's website as "zipped" portable document format (PDF) files. The cost of printed Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office will depend on the number and size of the Drawings and Project Manual, applicable taxes, and shipping method selected by the prospective Bidder. Cost of Bidding Documents and shipping is non-refundable. Contract Documents will be shipped only if the requesting party assumes responsibility for all related shipping charges. Non-refundable corporate, certified, or cashier's checks shall be made payable to Drexel Technologies. The date that the Bidding Documents are transmitted by the Issuing Office will be considered the Bidder's date of receipt of the Bidding Documents. Partial sets of the Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Additional assistance is available at distribution@drexeltech.com.

Bid security shall be furnished in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

The contractor and their

subcontractors on this project will be required to comply with the federal Davis-Bacon Act; Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act; and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act. Wage rates paid for construction work shall be at least equal to the prevailing wage rates as determined by the Secretary of the U. S. Department of Labor. The Labor Standards and Wage Rates Determination are included in the Contract Documents.

All persons awarded and / or entering into contracts with the Owner shall be subject to and required to comply with applicable county, state and federal provisions pertaining to nondiscrimination, labor standards, equal employment opportunity and affirmative action on public contracts. The project is being partially funded by Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program managed by the Kansas Department of Commerce. Attention of bidders is particularly called to the requirements as to conditions of employment to be observed and Federal prevailing wage rates to be paid under the contract, Section 3 of the 1968 Housing Act, Segregated Facility, Section 109 of the 1984 Housing and Community Development Act, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Executive Order 11246. Minority Business Enterprises (MBE), Women Business Enterprises (WBE), and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) are encouraged to submit bids for this work.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any irregularities therein.

Jonathon Wimer
Mayor
City of Mayetta, Kansas

PBP Elder Center Menu

Meals at the Prairie Band Potawatomi Elder Center are served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The menu is subject to change.

The center is open 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Enrolled tribal members age 50 and older may eat for free. Non-member seniors or non-seniors will be charged a fee for meals.

Reservations are required if you are in a large group. The center is located on K Road, about one-half mile south of 158th Road. For

more information about the program, call (785) 966-0040.

Menus listed for the week of Monday, Dec. 28 through Friday, Jan. 1 are as follows:

Monday, Dec. 28: Chili and hot dog, green beans, fruit salad and yogurt cup.

Tuesday, Dec. 29: Pizza, corn, salad and granola bars.

Wednesday, Dec. 30: Sack lunch day.

Thursday, Dec. 31: Closed - New Year's Eve.

Friday, Jan. 1: Goulash, green beans, tossed salad and garlic bread.

WE CAN SHOW YOU WHAT TO DO TO HAVE FRIENDS SAYING, "LOOK AT YOU!"

Netawaka Fitness Center

MMS CONCRETE
For all of your concrete needs.

Driveways, Patios,
Porches, Walls, etc.
Tear-out and Replacement
Licensed and Insured

**For a Free Estimate call: Barry (785) 562-7959
Jeff (785) 580-5455 • Darren (785) 294-1838**

Heart
Gifts & Décor *to Home*

South Side of Square - Holton
Hours: Tues.-Fri. 9-5 • Sat. 10-2 • Sun. & Mon. Closed
www.Facebook.com/HeartToHomeKS • 785-362-7111

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15			16				
17				18								
19				20		21						
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		45				46						
	47	48				49			50	51	52	
53						54			55	56		
57									58			
59						60			61			

CLUES ACROSS

1. Elephant's name
6. Support
10. Mures River city
14. Bastard wing
15. One was named Desire
17. PGA Tournament prize
19. A way to leave unchanged
20. Unchangeable computer memory
21. Harangues
22. 6th Hebrew letter
23. Well informed
24. Turfs
26. In a way, obeyed
29. Lawyers group
31. Increases motor speed
32. Political action committee
34. Light pokes
35. Struck down
37. Central Philippine Island
38. Japanese sash
39. Afresh
40. Bluish green
41. Inspire with love
43. Without (French)
45. Counterbalance container to obtain net weight
46. Express pleasure
47. Cheap wine (Br.)
49. Signing
50. ___ compilation, compiling computer language
53. Have surgery
57. Being trompe-l'oeil
58. Extremely mad
59. Day
60. Small coin (French)
61. Snatched

CLUES DOWN

1. Cry
2. Wings
3. Baseball play
4. Flower petals
5. Drive against
6. Velikaya River city
7. A single unit in a collection
8. Stray
9. Bring back
10. Repented
11. Receipt (abbr.)
12. Expresses pleasure
13. Not wet
16. In a way, takes off
18. Macaws genus
22. "Fast Five" star's initials
23. Sharpen a knife
24. Oral polio vaccine developer
25. Former CIA
27. Fencing swords
28. ABA ___ Honeymoon
29. Bustle
30. Minor
31. Propel a boat
33. Passage with access only at one end
35. Underwater airways
36. Small, slight
37. Box (abbr.)
39. ___ Blake, actress
42. Repents
43. Merchandising
44. Exclamation of surprise
46. With fireplace residue
47. A small lake
48. Bait
49. Tip of Aleutian Islands
50. K ___; watercraft (alt. sp.)
51. Norse variant of "often"
52. Adolescent
53. Visual metaphor (Computers)
54. River in Spanish
55. Cowboy Carson
56. Powerful gun lobby

MARKETPLACE

Reaching 22,800 Readers Each Week!

Classification:

- "Blind" ads, (those giving only the Recorder's post office box as the address for replies).
- Classified Display ads (those with borders or special typefaces).
- Antiques
- Auctions
- At Your Service
- Automobiles
- Trucks
- Motorcycles
- Recreational Vehicles
- Boats
- Business Opportunities
- Employment
- Feed & Seed
- Garage Sales
- Household Articles
- Livestock
- Miscellaneous
- Musical Instruments
- Poultry
- Rental Property
- Mobile Homes
- Farm Land/Homes
- Residential Property
- Commercial Property
- Lost & Found
- Pets
- Travel
- Wanted To Buy
- No Trespassing
- Public Notices
- Cards of Thanks
- Sporting Goods
- Heavy Equipment
- Farm Equipment
- Happiness Is...
- Personal

How to place an ad:
 Call 364-3141, toll free 888-364-3141, or come by the Recorder office, 109 W. 4th, Holton, Kan., from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Our deadlines are 5 p.m. on Friday for the Monday edition and 5 p.m. Tuesday for the Wednesday edition.
 E-mail: holtonrecorder@embarqmail.com

Rates:
Holton Recorder "COMBO" Word Classified Advertising Rates are as follows:

10 words or less - 1 insertion \$3.55
 10 words or less - 2 insertions \$5.55, save \$1.50
 10 words or less - 3 insertions \$7.55, save \$3.00
 10 words or less - 4 insertions \$9.55, save \$4.50

All word classifieds are printed in the Recorder, Shopper and online.
 Blind ads add \$2 charge.
 Regular classified display ads \$7.60 per column inch.
 Combo classified display ads \$10.20 per column inch.

Check your Ad!
 Please check your ad the first day it appears and report any errors immediately. We are responsible for only one incorrect publication. The Recorder will not be held responsible for damages resulting from any errors.

Billing Charge:
 A \$1.50 billing charge will be added to Recorder Classified Word Ads not paid in advance of publication. The billing charge is to cover the expense of preparing and mailing the bills.

The Recorder reserves the right to edit, reject and classify all advertising at anytime. All advertising is subject to approval by the publisher.

MasterCard Discover VISA

364-3141 or fax 364-3422
 toll free 888-364-3141

We Cover The County And Beyond Each Week!
 When you advertise in the Holton Recorder and the Jackson County Shopper you reach every household in the county and beyond.

Next time you advertise with a display ad, tell us to "combo" your ad!

At Your Service

Jim Childs Roofing
 Free Estimates
 25 Years Experience
 Insured
 Competitive Prices
 Home 364-2451
 Cell 364-6101

AAA MICK TREE SERVICE. Kansas Certified Arborist. Tree care and removal. Aerial equipped. Stump Removal. Insured. Free estimates. Holton, Kan., 785-364-5088 or 785-383-6670.

ELLIS & PEREZ Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning, Deluth, KS. 1-785-458-9695 or 1-785-948-2398.

Hydraulic repair, will overhaul cylinders/replace any hose assembly. Call Tony at 785-806-1935.

TONZ OF SUDZ grooming/boarding. All animals welcome. Text or call Tracie at 785-383-0862.

TREE TRIMMING & REMOVAL, aerial equipment, stump removal, free estimates, insured. Harrison Tree Service, 364-3743, Call anytime.

Special Notice
 *ALCOHOL PROBLEM with family member or friend? Holton AI-ANON family group, Wednesdays, 7p.m., Evangel United Methodist Church, East door, go to Library, Rm.104.

*Hours at the JCMA New Hope Center Food Pantry, located at Fifth Street and Wisconsin Avenue in the Holton First Christian Church basement, are from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursdays. For more information, call 364-7021.

A consistent advertising plan with your local newspaper, informing your customers about how you can serve them, builds consumer confidence and trust in your business. Visit with The Holton Recorder advertising experts about how to grow your successful business. Simply call us at 785-364-3141. We are here to help your business reach your goals!

If you live in Jackson County and are not a current subscriber of The Holton Recorder, you are eligible to receive the FREE Jackson County Shopper mailed each week! Call our office at 364-3141 for details!

NOTICE: Don't forget to order your Holton Recorder! Subscriptions start at 41 cents per issue!

NOTICE: Fall is a good time to sell unwanted items here in The Holton Recorder classified section!

NOTICE: The Holton Recorder is a local dealer for Superior Rubber Stamp and Seal Company of Wichita. Contact The Recorder for the following supplies: Pre-inked stamps, self-inking stamps, daters, markers, name tags, awards, wall signs, plaques. 364-3141, 109 W.4th St., holtonrecorder@embarqmail.com

NOTICE: The Holton Recorder is responsible for errors in ads/legals for one time ONLY! If you see a mistake in your ad/legal, please contact us before the next scheduled run so that we may correct the error. Thank you.

NOTICE: You will be amazed at the response you get when you place an ad on this page! Prices start at just \$3.55!

*The Heart of Jackson Humane Society shelter is located at 414 E. Eighth St. in Holton and is open from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday and at other times by appointment. For more information, call 364-5156.

Hay
 JHHS FFA HAY AUCTION: Tuesday, Jan. 12. For more information, call 785-364-2195 or 785-364-2604.

Wanted
 The Heart of Jackson Humane Society is seeking donations of several items for continued operations, as well as more volunteers to walk dogs at the shelter. For more information, call the shelter at 364-5156 or stop by the shelter at 414 E. Eighth St. in Holton.

Business Opportunities
 AVOID BEING TAKEN! Before investing in classified ads on work-at-home opportunities, "Too Good To Be True" business opportunities, or advance fee loans. The Holton Recorder urges readers to visit the consumer protection website at www.InYourCorner-Kansas.org or call 1-800-432-2310.

Employment
 MIXED VETERINARY PRACTICE seeks veterinary assistant. Ideal candidate would have customer care and large/small animal experience. Job responsibilities include making appointments, animal restraint, cleaning, etc. Must be hard-working, friendly, and able to work independently. Hours include Monday-Friday, one Saturday/month. Apply in person at Banner Creek Animal Hospital.

Soldier Cemetery taking bids for 2016 mowing season. Send bid to: Debra Brown, 4340 270th Rd., Soldier, KS 66540.

Employment

Vintage Park at Holton
 An Assisted Living Community

is now hiring for a:
CMA or CNA
 6 a.m.-2 p.m. & 2 p.m.-10 p.m.
Activity - CNA
 Full-time
APPLY IN PERSON
 410 Juniper Dr.,
 Holton, KS 66436
 785-364-5051 EOE

Lawn & Garden
 BULK 100% Decorative river rock, railroad ties, 785-851-0053.

Farm Equipment
 FOR SALE: 18-foot adjustable goose-neck livestock trailer. Totally rebuilt/painted 5-years ago. Floor in great condition. All lights work. Electric brakes, new tires. 785-851-0770

Miscellaneous
 *Free Bible Correspondence Course-Certificate awarded at completion. Contact: Northside Church of Christ, 555 NW 46th St., Topeka, KS 66617, phone 785-286-2124.

Rental Property
 1-BEDROOM DOWNSTAIRS APARTMENT: Appliances furnished, available now! 785-364-6325

2-BEDROOM HOME in Holton: Stove/refrigerator, detached garage. \$565/rent, \$650/deposit. 785-969-2747

AVAILABLE JAN.1: 2-to-3-bedroom house with stove/fridge in Holton. \$650/rent, \$650/deposit. 785-305-0148

HOUSE-FOR-RENT: 2-bedrooms, 1.5-bathrooms, hardwoods, appliances, jet tub. 2-story with large lot in Soldier. No pets/smokers. \$500/month plus \$350/deposit. 785-834-5522, call evenings.

NEWLY REMODELED 1-bedroom apartment for rent. Water/trash paid, no smoking/pets. Available now. 785-565-4189. References required, \$425/month.

SMALL 2-BEDROOM HOUSE for 1-or-2-people only. \$550/month w/1-month deposit. References required. No pets/smokers. 785-286-1058

SUPER CLEAN/NICE 1-and-2-bedroom apartments. Heat and water included in rent. Outside covered porch, laundry/carport available. No smoking/pets, \$450-rent. 785-341-8198.

Automobiles
 2007 BUICK (red) LUCERNE, power-windows, heated power-seats, AM/FM CD player, leather interior, \$6,000. (785)273-5080.

No Trespassing
 TRESPASSING WITHOUT permission. Notice is hereby given by the undersigned residents of Jackson County that hunting, fishing, trapping, or shooting, or trespassing day or night is positively forbidden on all land owned, or rented or occupied by us, or on roads adjacent to lands at any time of the year, licenses or no licenses. April 1, 2015-2016. Caroline Kern, Phil and Colene Gutierrez, Roger Ackeret, Jay Gilliland, BFD Inc., Joseph B. Nick, Kim Tyler, Harold Knouft and Gary, Tonya and Michelle Everhart.

Employment

Employment

FAIRVIEW MILLS, LLC
 is currently seeking a qualified
MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN
 for Fairview Mills in Hiawatha, KS.
 Principal duties and responsibilities include: routine maintenance of production machinery and equipment; building maintenance as needed; cleaning and lubricating machinery; inspecting plant equipment; repairing and replacing defective parts; following company safety guidelines and Good Manufacturing Practices.
 Job specifications include: 3 years maintenance experience; high school diploma or equivalent; knowledge of welding, hydraulics, and OSHA regs.
Benefits include competitive wage, paid vacation and holidays, health insurance, IRA with employer contribution and uniform service.

For information or to obtain an application, visit our website at www.jsixenterprises.com call (785)336-2148 or email hr@fairviewmills.com
 You may apply in person at 604 Nemaha, Seneca, KS.

Employment

POSITION AVAILABLE:
LOCAL LIVESTOCK TRUCK DRIVER

- ♦ SALARIED POSITION
- ♦ MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
- ♦ REGULAR HOME TIME

Class A CDL and 2 years of verifiable experience required. Drug testing is required.
 Fairview Express, LLC, is part of a diversified agribusiness specifically known or respecting its employees. This is a unique opportunity to be part of a solid company with steady growth.

For information or to obtain an application, call (785)336-2148, email hr@fairviewmills.com, website: www.jsixenterprises.com or apply in person at
**J-SIX ENTERPRISES, LLC
 FAIRVIEW EXPRESS, LLC
 604 Nemaha, Seneca, KS**

Fairview Express, LLC

HELP WANTED:
 Tire Technician to work in tire shop doing repairs, mounts, new tire sales, general maintenance and customer service. Some computer experience necessary. Additional work in warehouse and store as needed. Health, life disability and retirement plans.
 Apply in person with Kevin:
JACKSON FARMERS INC.
 509 Lowell Ave., Holton KS 66436

Employment

J-SIX ENTERPRISES

BENEFITS INCLUDE:
 Competitive Wage
 Paid Vacation And Holidays
 Health Insurance
 IRA with Employer Contribution
 Uniform Service

JOIN OUR TEAM

Employment

BENEFITS INCLUDE:
 SIGN ON BONUS
 SAFETY BONUS
 Competitive Pay
 Paid Vacation
 Health Insurance
 IRA with Employer Contribution

Employment

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
GAMING COMMISSIONER
 Gaming Commissioner, Full Time
 (Non-Exempt) position, Benefits Included.

The Gaming Commissioner regulates gaming operations in accordance with the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, Tribal/State Gaming Compact, as well as the Tribal Gaming Ordinance and other applicable laws. Other duties include processing paperwork, licensing gaming/casino employees and non-gaming vendors, enforcement of procedures and assurance of confidentiality of records with the Gaming Commission as required by law. This position is a two (2) year appointed position and requires a High School diploma or GED certificate and three (3) or more years of experience working for Indian gaming preferred.

Application Procedure:
 Submit a standard Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri application for employment and/or resume to the Tribal Council Secretary, 305 North Main Street, Reserve, Kansas 66434, Phone: 785-742-0053 ext. 24, Fax: 785-742-7146 and/or e-mail gbahr@sacandfoxcasino.com

WE'RE HIRING

ATTENTION REGISTERED NURSES!

Openings:
 • FT Wound Care RN
 • FT Senior Living RN
 • FT Hospital RN

Want to work close to home with competitive wages?
 Want to work with a great team?

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS! CALL TODAY!

Applications can be found in the admissions office or call 913-774-4340. Email mkeirns@fwhouston.com

F.W. HUSTON MEDICAL CENTER
 (913) 774-4340
 FWHouston.com

POSITIONS AVAILABLE!

CAGE • Cashier • Supervisor	FOOD & BEVERAGE • Manager SECURITY • Guard (Part time & Full time)	MAINTENANCE • Housekeeper (Part time & Full time) • Worker (Part time & Full time)
SLOT • Floor Attendant (Part time & Full time) • Technician (Part time & Full time)	MARKETING • Players Club Attendant (Part time) • Players Club Supervisor	TABLE GAMES • Dealers (Part time & Full time) • Dealers (Dual Rate)

Open Until Filled - Unless Otherwise Stated
Golden Eagle Casino
 1121 Goldfinch Rd. | Holton, KS 66439 | 1.888.G04.LUCK
 GoldenEagleCasino.com

peps Pepsi-Cola of Topeka has an opening for a

FOOD SERVICE KEY ACCOUNT MANAGER
 Sells new and existing cold drink and Township 9 Coffee products, presents promotions, procures new accounts and places equipment. We offer great benefits, paid time off, insurance, 401K and more!
 Apply at
 www.linpecco.com/careers **NOW!!**
 EEO/Post-offer drug screen/good driving record.

Crossword Answers

SABAR PIER ARAD
 ALULA STREETCAR
 WANAMAKER TROPHY
 LET HOM RANTS
 VAV WISE
 SOOS HEEDED
 ADAS NEVE PAC
 DABS SMOTE CERU
 OBI ANEW TEAL
 ENAMOR SANS
 TARE AAN
 PLONK ASL AOT
 GOUNDER THE KNIFE
 UNREALITY IRATE
 IDES SOU TAKEN

OPINION

Thoughts along the road...

Some observations while traveling the highways and byways to visit family at Christmas:

On Christmas Day 2015, just a few necessary businesses, such as refueling stations and hotels/motels for travelers, were open in the Holton community and elsewhere across the state.

If you think about that, as I did on my travels over the holiday, wasn't that just an amazing thing in today's world? I thought so.

The search for a refueling station took a little more effort on my part for Christmas Day but the realization that people still put great importance on observing Christmas with family and friends overshadowed that.

Look no further for overwhelming evidence that we continue to be a community,

state and nation of predominantly faith-based people.

I think that should give all of us a smile and great hope of a good future for our children and grandchildren.

If we follow our faith, and if our political representatives do the same, then shouldn't we as a state and nation be putting the greatest importance on lasting peace, racial and ethnic equality and good will for all others?

The burning question after Christmas always is: "How can we keep the Christmas spirit alive and relevant in our lives for more than just a few days?"

In the important work of seeking world peace that lasts, maybe our best bet is to teach our children well. Just a thought.

David Powls



INSIGHT: Stories of Christmas times past

By John Schlageck
Kansas Farm Bureau

Seems a long time ago my mother told me about one of her first Christmas celebrations. The Christmas was 1930 and she would have been six years old.

As my mom recalled the events of this Christmas, she told of buttoning her winter coat and tying a scarf snugly over her ears. It was a cold evening and the wind was howling out of the north on their Phillips County farm. The rest of the family was already waiting in the Model T Ford ready to head to Logan and midnight mass.



Mom would go to mass in the parish church in Logan that night. Several years later, after she and Dad married, she spent the next six decades attending mass at St. Martin's parish in Sheridan County.

As she grew older, her step slowed from those youthful days, but her conviction about the true meaning of Christmas never wavered. Summing up my mother's thoughts about Christmas is an easy task. Mom believed the Christmas season and the rest of the year was simply about caring for one another.

Mom always told us, "That is the ultimate Christmas story — God's love for man and our own love for each other." Words she lived by.

Ninety years ago, church was the social center for life among rural Kansas people. Christmas was very much a religious festival and the highlight of Christmas Eve was going to midnight mass.

All the Becker children would dress in their Sunday best and unless you were sick in bed, you wouldn't have dreamed of missing church service.

Like every other child at the time, Mom could not wait for Christmas and believed the day would never arrive. While she was in church, Santa would visit her farm home.

Although Mom never actually saw Santa, she absolutely, firmly believed in the jolly old man. And while she always understood the Christ child was the most important part of Christmas, the Becker family did a good job of balancing the two.

After they returned from Christmas Eve services, her mother would light the kerosene lamp and the children would gather around to open Santa's gifts.

Growing up during the difficult times of the Dust Bowl days, money was scarce. Gifts consisted of something useful like clothing and one toy for each child.

Mom always remembered the first and only horse she ever received for

Christmas. She named the mare Dolly and as she told us, "I thought I'd died and gone to heaven. I rode her nearly all day long."

While some of her neighbors cut a red cedar and placed it in their houses at Christmas, the Beckers didn't have such trees in their pastures.

Her father, my Grandpa Bert, erected a stand with a pole in the center. Here mom, my Grandma Rose, and the children went outside to cut branches from the evergreen trees. Next, they gathered them up, hauled them inside and poked them in the stand to make their Christmas tree.

On most Christmas days, relatives would come to visit or the Beckers would jump in the family automobile and drive to see their cousins.

One of the special meals on Christmas day was always pan-fried chicken. Mom always said that her mom's was the best.

My grandmother and Mom always made peanut brittle and fudge with walnuts before the holidays. These had to be hidden until Christmas so the children wouldn't snatch these yummy, tasty delights.

Yes, the toasty feeling of a wood burning stove, the smell of frying chicken and the anticipation of Christmas are memories my mother always cherished. She always said you never grow too old to enjoy this magical time of the year.

As she grew older and these stories were told and retold Mom made sure we understood the true spirit of Christmas — caring for and helping our fellow man.

Note: John Schlageck is a commentator on agriculture and rural Kansas.

National politics is more difficult to navigate today

By Lee H. Hamilton
You know who I feel sorry for? Today's politicians.

You'll laugh at this, but hear me out. This is a very tough time to be a politician — whether running for office or trying to lead while holding office.



The women and men who've undertaken to represent us face circumstances that make campaigning and governing unusually challenging right now.

Not that they've ever been easy, at least in my lifetime. Our size, diversity, and multi-layered government structure; the number and complexity of the problems our political leaders face daily; and the divided politics of our time, which make settling on coherent policies especially challenging — all these combine to make being a politician in a representative democracy one of the most demanding jobs around.

Several features of the current political landscape, however, give politics a sharper edge and make it far more difficult to navigate.

For starters, our political discourse, from city councils to state legislatures to Congress, is less forgiving than it was a generation ago.

Political opponents are no longer just people with whom we happen to disagree — they're people who need to be shamed into silence. They can't be trusted, they can't be negotiated with, they're self-serving and unpatriotic, and when they're not incompetent, they're scheming, ill-informed and ill-intentioned.

This rhetoric is not just calculated demonization. The extent to which politicians today genuinely distrust the other side is something new in our politics. It makes progress on the issues of the day extremely complicated.

This is exacerbated by politicians' awareness that voters have lost confidence in our traditional political leadership and are searching hard for alternatives. You see this in the rise of candidates like Donald Trump on the right and Bernie Sanders on the left, who speak to voters who are looking for someone to express their anger and frustration.

Why are Americans upset, and more willing than usual to rally to outlying candidates? I don't think there's any great mystery. For starters, we have a society that is deeply

concerned about economic insecurity; as the Pew Research Center reported recently, the American middle class — for decades the stable anchor of economy and society — is in trouble and no longer in the majority. People are moving up, but most are not, and some are moving down. Small wonder that immigration causes so much concern.

You can add to this the fear of terrorism and a deeply unsettled view of the major changes taking place in American society: the rise of big data and its attendant loss of privacy; the migration flows that whittle away at some communities while causing others to change unrecognizably from month to month; the tensions that diversity, arguments over gender, and racial conflict all produce; the fluid and ever-changing patterns of religious belief and identity that have shaken many communities loose from the institutions that once moored them; the decline of the traditional, objective, national media. America today is an uneasy place, and we see this reflected in voters' frustration and pessimism.

With next year's elections still almost a year away, voters are mostly just looking around. They like candidates who express their anger and resentment, but that's in part because they're not measuring candidates by whether they seem fit for the presidency or Congress or the governor's mansion.

Voters are just now starting to hold candidates up to the standards of the offices they seek; as they do, the unsettled political environment in which we find ourselves will grow a bit less uncertain.

But the long-term issues — the fears and uncertainty and the forces driving them — won't have gone away. Which is why I feel great sympathy for politicians at the moment.

The skills we need in our political leaders, like the ability to approach those with whom they disagree with a measure of good will and an openness to negotiation and compromise, are not held in high esteem by the voters or by the loudest voices in their own parties.

It's easy for a politician to pander to anger and frustration. It's much harder to face a roomful of disparate opinions and forge a consensus behind a solution. Yet that is precisely what many politicians recognize our country needs.

Note: Lee Hamilton is a distinguished scholar at Indiana University School of Global and International Studies and a professor of practice at the IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

Scrap Cadillac tax plan

By Janet Trautwein

Cadillacs have never been less popular.

President Obama just signed legislation that will delay implementation of the Affordable Care Act's "Cadillac" tax, which will sock generous employer-sponsored health plans with a new 40 percent levy in 2020, rather than 2018 as originally planned.

But policymakers shouldn't be satisfied with a delay. They should nix the tax altogether, as it's poised to increase the health care bills of not just Cadillac-driving executives but the Chevy-driving middle class, too.

The Cadillac tax was intended to discourage companies from offering overly expensive coverage. The idea was that rich plans disproportionately benefit higher-wage earners and don't encourage covered individuals to use cost-effective healthcare services.

The ACA assesses a 40 percent tax on the value of any employer-sponsored plan in excess of \$10,200 for individual coverage and \$27,500 for a family plan.

But the tax's poor design makes it a klunker.

First, the tax targets all high-cost plans equally and doesn't account for geography or employee demographics.

So expensive health plans with modest benefits could be subject to the tax if a company has an older workforce or is located in a high-cost state.

Second, the formula for calculating the tax includes contributions from employers, employees, and even tax-advantaged Health Savings Accounts. So plans could hit the Cadillac tax thresholds quickly.

Further, since the tax is indexed to general inflation — not healthcare costs — more people will be subject to it as health costs rise.

Healthcare spending is increasing at an annual rate of almost 6 percent — three times the general inflation rate.

Had the Cadillac tax taken effect in 2018 as originally planned, it would have hit about half of all health plans right off the bat.

The tax will fall on not only bankers and CEOs but teachers, firefighters, and union laborers, too.

It will also affect mom-and-pop businesses, which already pay 18 percent more for employee health insurance.

In response, firms have already started redesigning their health plans to avoid triggering the tax — in ways workers are sure to dislike.

To start, more workers are finding themselves paying for doctors and hospitals long before their policy even kicks in, thanks to larger deductibles, bigger co-pays, and higher out-of-pocket maximums.

One recent survey of more than 3,000 employers found that 42 percent were planning to increase deductibles for workers from their current average of \$3,000 for family plans and \$1,200 for individuals.

Employers are already making drastic changes to avoid the Cadillac tax, even though it's still years away.

So employees are getting less for their share of health plan costs — in the form of narrower provider networks and pared-back benefits.

Xerox and UPS have already reduced eligibility for spouses.

The University of Virginia has separated dental benefits from its health plans. Still other employers may limit contributions to Health Savings Accounts.

Delaying the Cadillac tax is not enough. It shouldn't be allowed to even cross the start line. The tax will only drive healthcare costs higher and hurt middle-class workers.

Republicans and Democrats alike need to take this Caddy to the junkyard.

Note: Janet Trautwein is CEO of the National Association of Health Underwriters based at Washington, D.C.

Public Notice

(First published in The Holton Recorder, Holton, Kan., on Monday, Dec. 28, 2015.)

CITY OF DENISON CHARTER ORDINANCE NO. 5

A CHARTER ORDINANCE EXEMPTING THE CITY OF DENISON, KANSAS, FROM THE PROVISIONS OF K.S.A. 14-103 AND K.S.A. 14-201 RELATING TO THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS, THEIR TERMS OF OFFICE, TRANSITIONS TO NOVEMBER ELECTIONS, THE APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS, AND NOMINATION PETITIONS; AND, PROVIDING SUBSTITUTE AND ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS ON THE SAME SUBJECT; AND REPEALING CHARTER ORDINANCE NO. 1.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF DENISON, KANSAS:

Section 1: The City of Denison, Kansas by the power vested in it by Article 12, Section 5 of the Kansas Constitution hereby elects to and does exempt itself and make inapplicable to it the provisions of K.S.A. 14-13 and K.S.A. 14-201 that apply to this city, but are parts of enactments which do not apply uniformly to all cities.

Section 2: (a) The governing body shall consist of a mayor and five council members to be elected to terms as set forth herein. The mayor and council members shall be residents and qualified electors of the City of Denison, Kansas.

(b) The governing body of the city may (but is not required) by ordinance, divide the city into wards and precincts, establish the boundaries thereof, and number the same. No ordinance redefining wards and precincts shall become effective less than 30 days prior to the next regular city election.

Section 3: Those governing body positions with terms expiring in April 2017, shall expire on the second Monday in January of 2018, when the city officials elected in November 2017 general election take office. Those

governing body positions with terms expiring in April 2019, shall expire on the second Monday of January 2020, when the city officials elected in the November 2019 general election take office.

Section 4: A general election of city officers take place on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November 2017. Succeeding elections will be held every two years for all such governing body positions whose terms have expired. The council members shall have four year terms. The Mayor and city treasurer shall have a two year term.

Section 5: The mayor shall appoint, by and with the consent of the council, a municipal judge of the municipal court, city clerk, city attorney, and any other officers deemed necessary. Any officers appointed and confirmed shall hold an initial term of office of not to exceed one year and until their successors are appointed and qualified. Any officers who are re-appointed shall hold their offices for a term of one year and until their successors are appointed and qualified. The council shall by ordinance specify the duties and compensation of the office holders, and by ordinance may abolish any office created by the council whenever deemed expedient.

Section 6: In accordance with K.S.A. 25-205, and amendments thereto, any person may become a candidate for city office elected at large by having had filed on their behalf, a nomination petition or a declaration of candidacy, accompanied by any fee required by law. The nomination petition must be signed by 10% of the qualified electors of the City of Denison.

Section 7: This Charter Ordinance shall be published once each week for two consecutive weeks in the official city newspaper.

Section 8: This Charter Ordinance shall take effect 61 days after the final production unless a sufficient petition for a referendum is filed, requiring a referen-

dum to be held on the ordinance as provided by Article 12, Section 5, Subsection (c) (3) of the Constitution of the State of Kansas, in which case this charter Ordinance shall become effective upon approval by the majority of the electors voting thereon.

Passed by the Governing Body, not less than two-thirds of the members elect voting in favor thereof, this 21st day of December, 2015.

/s/ Bruce Sweany
Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Yvonne Hamer
City Clerk

[SEAL]

ML103t2

Employment

Employment

MONOFILL

The Tire Cutters, Inc. at Centralia, KS is looking for CDL drivers to run routes daily picking up waste tires from various locations. Must be 25 years of age and have a clean, valid CDL. Requires some lifting of waste tires. Call Donnie at 785-364-0210 or Brenda at 785-336-3469.

The Tire Cutters, Inc.
Centralia, KS

POLICE OFFICER

The City of Holton is now accepting applications for the position of Police Officer. Applicants must be 21 years of age or older, possess a valid Kansas drivers license, and be able to pass a background check. High school diploma or GED required. Benefits include insurance, paid vacation, sick leave and retirement. State Law Enforcement certification preferred, but not required. Applications are available online at www.holtonkansas.org or can be picked up and returned to Holton City Hall, 430 Pennsylvania, Holton, Kansas 66436. Applications accepted until position is filled. EOE.

Employment

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

Arnold's Refrigeration Inc. is now accepting resumes for a Customer Service Representative.

Requirements:
* Excellent Communication skills both written and verbal
* Strong attention to detail and organizational skills
* The ability to use computer applications, calculator, telephone, PC, copier, fax machine, and other business machines.

For consideration:
Apply on-line at www.arnoldsrefrigeration.com or in person at



24690 N. 75 Hwy., Holton, KS 66436
An Equal Opportunity Employer.

Employment

Employment

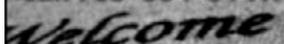
JOB OPENING!

ROYAL VALLEY, USD #337
has openings for the following position:

FOOD SERVICE
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Applications will be accepted until position is filled and are available at www.rv337.com or may be picked up at 101 W. Main St., Mayetta or call 785-966-2246.

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The Holton High School's combined choirs, along with some HHS alumni, performed "Sing a Song of Merry Christmas" near the end of the recent Stocking Stuffer concert that featured performances from the high school and middle school choirs.

Photo by Kelly Brecknitch

County Commission...

Continued from Page 1

In other business, according to the approved minutes from Dec. 7, the commission:

* Heard a weekly report from Eric Fritz and Earl Bahret, road and bridge department co-supervisors.

They discussed the request from a resident to place a stop sign at 150th and C Roads. Commissioner Janet Zwonitzer said she was in favor of placing the stop sign at that location. Commissioners Bill Elmer and Rob Ladner did not think one was needed there at this time.

* Learned from Bahret that there is already 7,500 tons of rock hauled for the 214th Road project. A total of 12,000 tons is needed for the project.

* Learned that a light pole had been set up at the Hoyt strip, an area off of U.S. Highway 75 where the county stores road and bridge materials.

* Met in executive session with Fritz and Bahret for an hour to discuss a personnel matter. No action was taken back in open session.

* Made and approved a motion to reappoint Earl D. Ohlsen as a member of the board of trustees to the Hoyt Fire #3 District.

* Heard a weekly report from John Kennedy, Banner Creek Reservoir director.

* Made and approved a motion to approve the hayland rental agreement with Larry Holliday.

* Learned from Kennedy that the current plan for expanding paddleboat/kayak activities at the lake includes purchasing four kayaks and using two existing paddleboats.

Kennedy said he would also like to purchase a garage to store the boats. This would also include a concrete pad and covered patio area that would be attached to the garage.

Zwonitzer said she would like to see some firm numbers on the cost

of paddleboat/kayak project before agreeing to all of the plans.

* Met in executive session with Kennedy for 10 minutes to discuss a personnel matter. No action was taken back in open session.

* Met with County Counselor Alex Morrissey to discuss the final draft of the cost share bridge contract for the bridge located on the county line between Jackson and Nemaha counties. The bridge is located at N and 304th Roads.

A motion was made and approved to enter into an agreement with Nemaha County for replacing the bridge.

* Discussed with Morrissey a resolution repealing and rescinding resolution 2012-05 that established registration for regulated scrap metal purchasers.

A motion was made and approved to repeal and rescind that resolution since scrap metal dealers must now register with the state and not the county in which they reside.

* Met with a representative from KBS Construction to discuss the company's interest in submitting a bid if the commissioners ever decide to remodel the recently purchased road and bridge shop north of town.

* Met with Janelle Welliver, county appraiser department employee, to discuss contracting with Rodney Sanders to set parameters for the 911 addressing project. The commission agreed to let Sanders service the data system as long as he stays under 16 hours of labor.

* Signed the payroll change notices for Coltura Segenhagen as a rehire for the county attorney's office and Mary Burns, who transferred from the county attorney's office to dispatch. The commissioners also signed an administrative contract with Jim Cyphers as a juvenile services employee.

* Adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Send us your school news!

Scholarships, graduations, contests, awards — any academic achievement and recognition is news worth publishing. Bring news to the office at 109 W. Fourth St. in Holton; mail to *The Holton Recorder*, P.O. Box 311, Holton, KS 66436; fax news to 364-3422; call 364-3141; or e-mail holtonrecorder@embarqmail.com

Thompson...

Continued from Page 1

Thompson was convicted in early November on one count of sexual exploitation of a child stemming from alleged incidents in April of this year involving a 16-year-old Jackson County girl. According to court documents, the charge was based on his reportedly possessing a sexually explicit depiction of the girl on a cellular telephone.

Thompson had originally been charged with two counts of sexual exploitation, but as the result of a plea deal, the other charge, which alleged that he enticed or coerced the girl to "engage in sexually explicit conduct," was dropped.

Etzel challenged the legitimacy of the charge of Thompson's possession of the girl's picture on his cell phone, saying that in Kansas, sending and

receiving sexually explicit photos of a 16-year-old is a crime but sexual intercourse is not, "thanks to the Kansas Legislature." Kansas state law has established 16 as the age of consent in the state, it was reported.

Furthermore, Etzel contended that Thompson's conduct while in county custody has been exemplary, a statement that Nafziger accepted upon receipt of a letter from a jail employee confirming it. Nafziger said that Thompson was "well on your way to putting this behind you."

In November, Miller said the exploitation charge was a Level 5 felony with a standard sentencing range between 31 months and 136 months with the Department of Corrections, adding that part of Thompson's sentence could be commuted to presumed probation.



A Last-Minute Warning: Don't Drink and Drive!

As the clock winds down toward the final hours of 2015, we want to remind you once again about the dangers of drinking and driving, and urge you to celebrate wisely this year.

Wishing You A Happy & Safe New Year!

Circleville

By Jeannie Arnold

Leroy and Marla Shupe hosted an early Christmas dinner and get together with 28 family members and friends in attendance. It was held at the Circleville Lodge Hall on Sunday, Dec. 13.

Kenny Wykert was in Topeka on Wednesday, Dec. 16, to visit his brother, Gerald Wykert. Their brother, Bob, joined them for several card games. Kenny spent the night at Gerald's and returned home on Thursday, Dec. 17.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Hutchinson hosted the Morris family Christmas dinner on Saturday, Dec. 19, at noon with serving different kinds of soups, sandwiches, desserts and relishes. Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Morris from Holton, Marsha Morris from Topeka, Pastor and Mrs. Luke C. Brown from Aliceville, Mr. and Mrs. Doug S. Brown from Olathe, Lauren Brown from Kansas City, Spencer Brown from Kansas City, Zack Korte from Kansas City, Georgia Flood from Hesston, Mr. and Mrs. Robby Flood from Wichita, Mrs. Ryan Flood from Wichita, Katie Walker, Cole and Sadie from Eudora and Kimmie Snapp from Topeka.

A good time was had by all visiting and everyone enjoyed hearing about various family activities. Gifts were exchanged later on in the afternoon. They enjoy continuing this tradition, which has been going on for many years.

Ed and Elizabeth Rostetter, Maggie and Ben, along with Betsy and Lonnie Price, and Alisha Friess attended their Johnson family Christmas on Saturday, Dec. 19, in Nortonville. Ed and Liz were happy to have daughters Alisha and Betsy home for a visit.

I attended the reception for Betsy (Rostetter) and her husband, Lonnie Price, on Sunday, Dec. 20, at the Circleville Lodge Hall. They held a meet and greet for people to meet Lonnie while Betsy and Lonnie were back to Circleville for the Christmas holidays. Lonnie and Betsy live in Great Falls, S.C.

Dennis and Barbara Hutchinson attended the 50th wedding celebration of Nick and Shirley Pool on Sunday, Dec. 20. Then, Barbara went to Holton High School and attended the event of the Jackson County Community Band that was playing Christmas music. It was very enjoyable. There were refreshments afterwards.

It was really nice and fun to have

the candy store in Circleville again this year where everyone could get their chocolate fix and also enjoy biscuits and gravy on Saturday mornings. Santa made two appearances for the young children to come and receive a treat and share their Christmas wishes.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Donald Lee Askren Sr., who died on Dec. 18. Don is survived by his wife, Renae, and children, Mary Pat Wilson, Donald L. Askren Jr. and wife, Tammy, David Askren and wife, Carla, Sally Jo Alley and husband, Lyle, Gregory and wife, Jackie, Pamela Holaday and husband, Darrell, and Clifton and wife, Susan.

He is also survived by a brother, Dale Askren, and wife, Ilah Rose. Don was a big part of the Circleville community and will be missed by so many. I am going to miss seeing him drive by on his "farming missions." Funeral services were held Monday, Dec. 21, at 10:30 a.m. at the Circleville Christian Church with burial in the Circleville cemetery.

These Important Safety Tips are Brought to You by these Community-Minded Sponsors:

<p>* Appoint a Designated Driver. <i>Boomers' Steakhouse & Catering</i> 4th & Colorado, Holton • 364-2468</p>	<p>* Use a Buddy System. <i>Kirk's Towing - Scott's Shop</i> 326 Vermont Ave., Holton • 364-1964</p>
<p>* Organize D-Drivers through a local civic organization. <i>Off The Square Grill • 325 New York Ave., 785-364-3400</i></p>	<p>* Drive an Intoxicated Guest Home. <i>Jackson County Sheriff's Office</i> 210 U.S. Hwy. 75, Holton • 785-364-2251</p>
<p>* Provide Guests with plenty of Snacks. <i>Holton Family Health Center</i> 1603 W. 4th St., Holton • 785-364-3205</p>	<p>* Make Non-Alcoholic Beverages Available. <i>Chapel Oaks Funeral Home</i> 524 Pennsylvania, Holton • 785-364-2141</p>
<p>* Post Transportation Info. on Party Invites. <i>2 Kirks Fireworks</i> 2156 Robidux, White Cloud, KS • 785-595-3312 or 785-207-0471</p>	<p>* Plan an Alcohol-Free Celebration. <i>American Family Insurance - Les Gooderl Agency</i> 102 W. 5th St., Holton • 785-364-3302</p>

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All presenting donors receive a one-of-a-kind holiday shirt!

Blood Drive

Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2015

12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

St. Dominic's Parish Hall

416 Ohio, Holton

To make an appointment online go to www.savealifenow.org

Be sure to use Sponsor Code: HOLTONHS

For additional details contact Larry Tanking at 785.305.1730

or larry.tanking@yahoo.com

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