

Congrats Class of 2020!



Cassidy Parks RVHS Valedictorian



Hadley Gregory RVHS Valedictorian



Will Davies HHS Summa Cum Laude



Taygen Altenburg HHS Summa Cum Laude

Today's edition of The Holton Recorder includes the annual senior section, honoring a total of 234 high school seniors who are bringing their high school years to a close, albeit in a manner different from normal.

This special graduation section is made possible by the businesses and professional people listed below the names of the graduates.

Concerns over the possible spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus), combined with Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly's executive orders to limit the size of gatherings and prohibit graduation ceremonies until at least June 1, have caused school districts in the Jackson County area to postpone traditional commencement ceremonies until later this summer.

That hasn't stopped school districts in the area and around the country from celebrating the accomplishments of graduating high school seniors, with parades and online events taking the place of a traditional graduation — at least for now, in many cases.

Holton High School, with



Kylie Dohl JHHS Valedictorian



Jerilyn Nelson JHHS Valedictorian



MaKenzie Kennedy JHHS Valedictorian

75 graduating seniors, is still looking at an alternate date for a traditional graduation ceremony. Dates being considered are June 27, July 11 or July 25.

HHS is honoring 11 students for finishing at the top of their class. The top two, honored as summa cum laude graduates, are Taygen Altenburg and William Davies.

Also honored are magna cum laude graduates Savannah Booth, Danika Hickman and Trey Wright, and cum laude graduates Ashlyn Carlson, Paige Crouch, Cody Mulroy, Cailin Parks, Seth Peterson and Keegan Purcell.

At Jackson Heights High School, where 34 seniors will be honored at commencement ceremonies set for either

Sunday, June 21 or Sunday, July 12. Kylie Dohl, MaKenzie Kennedy and Jerilyn Nelson are being honored as Class of 2020 valedictorians. Erin Curtis was named class salutatorian.

Royal Valley High School has set Saturday, July 11 as the date when 65 graduating seniors

Continued to Page 16

Johnsonville plant temporarily closes due to COVID-19

By Brian Sanders

Five employees at the Johnsonville sausage plant have tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus) over the past week, prompting the plant to temporarily halt operations starting this afternoon, a Johnsonville spokesperson said yesterday.

The five confirmed COVID-19 cases increased the total number of cases in Jackson County to seven, according to Jackson County Health Officer Angie Reith, who reported one case last Friday, one on Saturday and three yesterday. Two of the county's cases have recovered and have been released from isolation, while no deaths or hospitalizations have resulted from the county's cases, Reith reported.

According to Stephanie Dlugopolski, manager of public relations for Johnsonville Foods, the decision to temporarily shut down the Johnsonville plant in Holton after the five employees tested positive was made as an

extra precaution to protect other employees, their families and the Jackson County community.

Reith added that Johnsonville's decision to suspend operations in Holton was "tough" but appreciated as a means of helping prevent the spread of COVID-19.

"The Johnsonville team has implemented aggressive safety measures and did so early on to protect their work force, and those efforts have helped immensely in identifying the virus in the facility as quickly as possible," Reith said. "We'll continue our collaboration to minimize the spread of the virus."

Dlugopolski said the temporary closure of the Johnsonville plant in Holton, during which time employees will continue to be paid, will allow the company "an opportunity to implement even more aggressive safety protocols" before reopening.

Continued to Page 8

Volunteers restore Soldier water well

By Brian Sanders

Ron Gifford knows a thing or two about water wells.

The Topeka resident, who's part of a crew working on a Soldier Creek Wind Energy Center power substation north of Soldier, said he first took an interest in wells when he discovered an old well at a house where he and his brother, Randy, lived in Massachusetts.

"The house and the well had the pump handle and everything," Gifford said Thursday. "We thought it was just an old decoration."

But the work on that well led to more restoration work on wells up and down New England, Gifford said. Now,

he and other members of his crew have turned their attention to a community well in the northwest Jackson County community of Soldier, and as a result of their work, the hand-pumped well is up and running again.

"Randy came by and saw it, got out and tried it, and it didn't work," Gifford said of the well, which was established on property northeast of Soldier's city park in 1877, repaired in 1975 and has been inoperable for more than 30 years. "He saw it as a historical thing... We thought we'd like to see it going again."

Continued to Page 16

Reservoir's history goes back half a century

Banner Creek Reservoir has been serving the area's water and recreational needs for more than two decades, but the reservoir's history goes back nearly half a century — perhaps even further, it has been reported.

The reservoir grounds' recreational capacities may be expanded soon with the upcoming construction of a proposed new, multi-purpose shelter house with a gathering area, a kitchen and a basement for storm shelter, thanks to the efforts of the Friends of Banner Creek organization.

The reservoir itself, which encompasses 535 acres and was built in the mid-1990s, serves as a primary water supply for the City of Holton and Jackson County Rural Water District 3, both of which purchase treated reservoir water from

Public Wholesale Water Supply District 18.

But as The Holton Recorder has previously reported, the reservoir's origins can be traced back to February of 1957, when Delaware Watershed Joint District No. 10 was incorporated. The reservoir is located within the Elk Creek Watershed, which is a sub-watershed of the Delaware Watershed.

In 1960, federal assistance under the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act was approved for Elk Creek Watershed. Eight years later, officials with the Soil Conservation Service, or SCS — known today as the Natural Resources Conservation Service — approved planning assistance for the watershed.

A tentative plan for erosion and flood control structures in the Elk Creek watershed was

developed in 1971. Reductions in SCS funding delayed work on the plan, but planning got back on track a few years later, it was reported.

In 1978, a plan for 70 "grade stabilization structures" (dams) in the watershed, including a multi-purpose structure, was submitted and approved for federal funding. But funding for the plan was not approved until 1984, at which time a multi-purpose reservoir reportedly had a tentative cost of \$3 million.

Other watershed dams were built, but plans for the reservoir remained on the back burner until April 1986, when the Jackson County Commission and the Holton City Commission sent a letter of interest concerning the reservoir to the State Conservation Commission.

Continued to Page 11

Class photos still sought

Although concerns about the possible spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus) have caused the cancellation of plans for class reunions over Memorial Day weekend and in the following weeks, The Holton Recorder will still honor our 50-year graduating classes with class photos in the May 18-20 combined issue.

Composite photos from the Class of 1970 are still being sought from Hoyt High School and Wetmore High School.

Call The Recorder office at (785) 364-3141 for more information on submitting a class photo, or e-mail photos as .pdf files to holton-recorder@giantcomm.net

Diederich to serve as JHES principal, athletic director

By Brian Sanders

A 20-year veteran of the Topeka Seaman School district has been chosen to serve as the new elementary principal and athletic director at Jackson Heights.

Annie Diederich, who has been the principal at Seaman Middle School for the past three years, was offered a contract as Jackson Heights elementary principal and athletic director following a 10-minute executive

session for non-elected personnel matters during the USD 335 Board of Education's regular monthly meeting on Monday.

"With 21 years of elementary and middle school administrative experience, I think Mrs. Diederich will be an outstanding leader for Cobra Country," Jackson Heights Superintendent Adrienne Walsh said. "Diederich is a well-respected educator around the state and I look forward to working with her."

Diederich, a native of Hays and graduate of Fort Hays State University, said she is also "excited" to join the team at Jackson Heights.

Continued to Page 13

Courthouse to reopen Monday

By Ali Holcomb

The Jackson County Courthouse will reopen to the public on Monday, May 18, but Courthouse visitors are encouraged to continue to conduct county business over the phone, if possible.

The Jackson County Commissioners approved a resolution on Monday outlining public access to the Courthouse while the county is still in a health emergency.

Continued to Page 11

THURSDAY'S FORECAST RAINY, HIGH OF 79

Look for the complete forecast on page 2.



Giant Communications and JBN Telephone Company recently donated \$20,500 to the Love Jackson County: Disaster Relief Fund. A brief check presentation was held Friday with representatives from Giant and the Jackson County Community Foundation, which is administering the relief funds. Those pictured in the photo above are (from left) Giant representatives Brian Nelson, Chris York and Austin Taylor and foundation members Bryce Barnett, Mark Aeschliman, Rod Wittmer, Ashlee York, Mike Roberts, Justin Fluke, Carly Fletcher, Brooks Barta, Dr. Samantha Rieschick and Shannon Wright. An article on the donation can be found on page 3 of today's edition.

Photo by Ali Holcomb



Jackson County EMS personnel recently conducted a food drive in which area residents were asked to "fill an ambulance" with donations for the Jackson County Emergency Food Pantry and are in the process of filling another. "We know this is one of the best ways to help our community during this COVID-19 crisis, but we believe that this donation will help long past this pandemic," said Christa Villalobos, emergency care technician with Jackson County EMS. In the photo above, EMS personnel stock boxes for distribution. In the photo at left, emergency personnel showed off just how much food it takes to fill an ambulance. From left are EMT Katie Hueter, AEMT Jarrod Thompson, and Villalobos, shown with her daughter TayLynn. Submitted photos

Date set for JHHS graduation

By Brian Sanders
The 34 members of Jackson Heights High School's graduating class of 2020 will have the opportunity to collect their diplomas during a commencement ceremony this summer, thanks to action by the USD 335 Board of Education.

During the board's regular monthly meeting on Monday, conducted via internet and conference call, board members voted to schedule the JHHS graduation ceremony for 2 p.m. Sunday, June 21, with a "plan B" date of Sunday, July 12 established if Jackson County has not moved into the "phase out" of its plan to reopen the county to business and events.

"I think the families are in agreement," Middle and High School Principal Darren Shupe told board members about the planned graduation ceremony, which was postponed due to concerns over the possible spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus). "They'd like to have a graduation that's as traditional as possible if they could. So I think there are no major concerns in delaying it."

District Superintendent Adrienne Walsh said the June 21 date was chosen due to it being the first Sunday after Monday, June 15, the earliest possible date for beginning the "phase out" stage of Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly's statewide plan for reopening the state. Walsh also noted that board members had sought to

Continued to Page 8

Arrests reported in county

The Jackson County Sheriff's Office has reported the following arrests:

■ On April 30, Jennifer Torres, 30, Topeka, was arrested on a criminal warrant on a charge of failure to appear and on a criminal warrant on a charge of felony theft.

■ On May 1, Lloyd Ratzlaff, 37, Topeka, was arrested on charges of driving while suspended and driving while declared a habitual violator.

■ On May 2, Lexis Moore, 33, Holton, was arrested on a criminal warrant on a charge of criminal trespass.

■ On May 2, Cameron Mayer, 37, Horton, was arrested on charges of possession methamphetamine, possession of marijuana, possession of illegal drug paraphernalia, driving under the influence and no required interlock device.

■ On May 3, Gerardo Torres, 50, Topeka, was arrested on a charge of possession of stolen property.

■ On May 4, Brandon Welty, 21, Miltonvale, was arrested on a criminal warrant on a charge of failure to appear and on charges of felony obstruction, possession of marijuana, distribution of marijuana and possession of illegal drug paraphernalia.

■ On May 4, Dylan Couch, 23, Topeka, was arrested on charges of possession of opiates, possession of marijuana, possession of a hallucinogenic drug and possession of illegal drug paraphernalia.

■ On May 5, Brett House, 19, Silver Lake, was arrested on charges of possession of marijuana and possession of illegal drug paraphernalia.

■ On May 5, Cyrus Conklin, 22, Horton, was arrested on a traffic warrant on a charge of failure to appear.

■ On May 6, Violet Melchoir, 38, Topeka, was arrested on a criminal warrant on a charge of failure to appear.

COURT NEWS

Traffic

Alyssa A. Bivens, speeding, \$177.

Damien K. Boyd, driving while license canceled, suspended or revoked, \$228.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, May 14

*6:30 p.m. The Beck Bookman Library Book Club will meet online via Zoom to discuss "The Woman In Cain 10." Members are encouraged to think of books they enjoyed as children to discuss as well.

Saturday, May 16

*The Jackson County Farmers' Market will be open from 8 a.m. to noon on the east side of the Courthouse in Holton.

Monday, May 18

*9 a.m. Jackson County Commission meeting (closed to the public until further notice).

*The Harvesters Food Group will stop at 9 a.m. at the Hoyt City Park.

*7 p.m. Holton City Commission meeting.

Tuesday, May 19

*6 p.m. Beck Bookman Library Board of Directors meeting.

Wednesday, May 20

*The Crisis Pregnancy Center in Holton is open every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Thursday, May 21

*8 a.m. Holton Municipal Court at Holton City Hall.

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CenturyLink	9.73	+0.06	Corn	\$2.95
Lowe's	111.24	-2.15	Milo	\$3.35
Target	119.39	-0.79	Soybeans	\$7.97
Hershey	132.47	-0.48		
Walmart	123.78	+0.11		
Phillips 66	73.53	-3.14		
US Bancorp	31.65	-1.70		
Pfizer	37.36	-0.74		
Deere & Co.	130.05	-4.84		
United Parcel	92.85	-1.06		
Apple	311.41	-3.60		
Facebook	210.10	-3.08		
Goodyear	6.59	-0.37		

Source: New York Stock Exchange reports. Prices listed at close of trading on Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

FUEL PRICES			
	Current	Last Mo.	Last Year
Kansas Average	\$1.52	-\$0.112	-\$1.096
National Average	\$1.83	-\$0.011	-\$1.028
Holton Average	\$1.73		

Source: GasBuddy.com. Current prices listed as of Monday, May 11, 2020.

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Today's Weather

Thursday		Mostly cloudy, chance showers, T-storms	High: 79 Low: 58 Precip: 60%
14			
Friday		Cloudy, chance of showers, T-storms	High: 75 Low: 60 Precip: 80%
15			
Saturday		Mostly cloudy, chance showers, T-storms	High: 76 Low: 56 Precip: 60%
16			
Sunday		Sunny	High: 76 Low: 53
17			
Monday		Mostly sunny	High: 80 Low: 59
18			

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MEMORIES

Compiled from the Holton Recorder archives by Kendra Moppin

5 Years Ago

Week of May 10-16, 2015

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held at Seneca Cellular in Holton on Thursday, May 14.

A new "digital memory board" is now up and running at Jackson Heights High School, it has been reported. According to technology director Vern Andrews, the board will serve as a "Jackson Heights Alumni Center" and will allow school visitors to browse school yearbooks that date back to the school's opening in the 1969-70 school year. The display board is a 55-inch HDTV with a touch screen.

Holton High School senior Lucas Lovvorn recently announced his signing with Division I University of Wyoming, where he will continue his wrestling career at the collegiate level.

Lovvorn racked up the accolades during his high school career, accumulating 148 career wins (72 by pin) and just 21 losses while finishing as a two-time state champion in Class 4A and three-time state placer (third in 2013). He was also a three-time league champion for Holton and finished as runner-up his freshman year.

Six teachers and staff members will retire from Royal Valley USD 337 at the end of the current school year, it has been reported. They are Kenny Holthaus, John Nottingham, Becky Long, Joanne Berns, Aleta Bullard and Wayne Duncan.

10 Years Ago

Week of May 10-16, 2010

The Holton City Commission has agreed that it is time for the Holton Now! economic development organization to make a comeback, it has been announced. The group promotes the Holton area to interested businesses and industries, according to Assistant City Manager Kerwin McKee.

There's a new business in Holton. Start To Finish Celebrations held its grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony on Thursday, May 13. Owner Rose Souter said that the store's specialty is weddings, though the store also sells formal dresses for many other occasions.

A record total of 202 families and 677 people were given food by the Jackson County Ministerial Alliance Emergency Food Pantry in April, it was reported.

The fourth annual Royal Valley Middle School History Fair was recently held in the school's gymnasium. Features included a Chinese dragon, sod houses and blacksmithing demonstrated by Randy Hittle of Mayetta. Hittle is a member of several re-enactor groups and believes that "students don't know where they are going until they know where they came from," it was reported.

Four longtime teachers in Holton USD 336 are retiring after careers in education, it has been reported. Jan Brandt, Mary Schulz, Neta Halton and Marilyn Quinn were honored at a reception prior to the school board meeting held on Monday evening, May 10.

15 Years Ago

Week of May 10-16, 2005

Ten of the 13 teachers at Holton's Central Elementary School are being reassigned to teach different grades in the same school building next year in an attempt to improve students' State Assessment scores there, it was announced by school officials Monday night,

May 9.

Construction of the new fire station in Netawaka is moving quickly. The 40x70-foot structure is located where an old filling station once stood. It will house the district's two trucks, as well as a training room at the back and a restroom.

The Jackson Heights High School Horse Judging Team qualified for the national horse judging competition after placing first at the state meet, it was reported. Team members included Amy Gerhardt, Andy Bloom, Valerie Dysart and Casey Patterson.

A reception was held at the Holton school district office on Monday evening, May 9, in honor of retiring teachers and staff. Those honored were Maxine Sanders, Francis Watkins, Bonnie Coverdale, Jan Bissitt and Duane Bissitt.

A business that got its start in Delia is celebrating its 90th anniversary this week, it has been announced. Wehner's Thriftway, now located in Rossville, opened its doors in Delia in 1915, according to owner John Wehner. The business moved from Delia in the 1940s, he said.

25 Years Ago

Week of May 10-16, 1995

Construction is expected to begin in about a month on a building expansion at Royal Valley High School, it has been reported. The shop area will be renovated, and a 1,700-square foot addition will house art classes.

Jenny Herron and Michael Wilhelm earned the titles of Holton High School Band Queen and King on Tuesday night, May 9, as the band held its annual banquet, spring concert and awards presentation. Wilhelm also won the John Phillip Sousa Award.

Also during the evening, senior Anna Carder won the St. Cecilia Music Club Award and senior Jenny Hutchins won the Director's Award, it was reported.

After taking Royal Valley's football program from rock bottom to tip-top in the Big Seven League in a span of five years, Panther coach Tom Barta's advice is in demand. The local coach will be a featured speaker at the Highland Community College Football Coaches Clinic in Highland, it has been announced.

Alexandria Dunn, a student at Holton Middle School, has been chosen as a district winner in the Second Congressional District in the RespecTeen Speak for Yourself letter-writing contest, it has been announced. The daughter of Ed and Gayle Dunn of Holton, Alexandria received a prize of a \$50 savings bond. Her letter was chosen from more than 13,000 letters from seventh- and eighth-graders across the nation and was judged the most outstanding from Kansas' second congressional district.

50 Years Ago

Week of May 10-16, 1970

Holton Wildcat golfers Mark Sinning and Rick Buehler qualified for the state golf meet after placing first on the two-man team at regional competition, it was reported. The Wildcats received the first place trophy and gold medals for their effort with a score of 167. Sinning also added an additional trophy to the sizeable collection of five trophies already earned this year by the golf team by being first medalist with 76.

Also heading to state competition are Glen Law and Gary Amon in track. Law won first place in the regional pole vault

SONIC BLAST FROM THE PAST



This week's "Blast From The Past" is from the engagement announcement of a local couple in 1984.

Be the first to identify them by calling The Holton Recorder at 785-364-3141 and receive a coupon for a FREE Sonic Blast!

Last week's "Blast From The Past" featured Paula Birkbeck Taylor, who was correctly identified first by Charlotte Utz.

Winners may pick up their Sonic coupon at The Holton Recorder office or they can be mailed to you by calling the office.

event with a height of 13 feet, which set a new school record for Holton. Amon placed third in the regional 440-yard dash with a time of 52.5.

A new safety device for bicycles, the Safe-T-Flash, has been invented and developed by two Holton residents, Phyllis Cleland and Marvin Decker. The Safe-T-Flash consists of three lights. The center light is a tail light and the two lights on the sides are directional signals, which are activated by buttons on the handlebars.

Giant and JBN donate \$20,500 to county's disaster relief fund

By Ali Holcomb

Giant Communications and JBN Telephone Company have donated \$20,500 to the Love Jackson County: Disaster Relief Fund, and the first wave of relief funds - totaling \$11,000 - was distributed on Monday to 30 Jackson County businesses, it was reported.

A quick check presentation ceremony was held Friday at the Courthouse gazebo with representatives from Giant Communications and members of the Jackson County Community Foundation (JCCF), which is administering the funds.

The goal of the fund, which was created in partnership between Holton First Baptist Church, the Holton/Jackson County Chamber of Commerce and the JCCF, is "the short and long-term recovery of our neighbors and local businesses," according to relief organizers.

Austin Taylor, Giant Communications assistant general manager, said that every year, each Giant and JBN employee is given the opportunity to participate in a charitable contribution program, which allows them to select an organization to receive \$500 from the business.

"A large majority of staff members (21 employees) chose to give their donation to the Jackson County Community Foundation relief fund for a total of \$10,500," Taylor said. "Giant and JBN also chose to give a donation of \$10,000 to JCCF. Our team hopes to positively impact our community, local business-

es and residents through these gifts. I continue to be amazed by the generosity and commitment to bettering local communities exhibited by our staff members."

The donation from Giant and JBN was used as part of a matching challenge last week to encourage additional donations to the relief fund from other members of the community.

"The mission of the relief fund is strong and aligns with our own core values as a company," Taylor said. "COVID-19 has taken a toll on our local communities and several local businesses, and many residents are experiencing hardship in order to keep everyone healthy. We know that JCCF will do everything in its power to support those in need. We are just proud to be a part of their valiant efforts."

Disaster relief funds totaling \$11,000 (\$366 per business) were distributed on Monday to 30 Jackson County businesses that were forced to close due to the statewide stay-at-home order to reduce the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus), according to Carly Fletcher, JCCF secretary.

Assisting county businesses that are or were closed to stop the potential spread of the virus is the first mission of the fund.

Mission two is financially assisting businesses that are or were operating at minimal capacity. The third mission is providing Chamber Bucks to individuals in the county with the most needs.

Now that funds have been giv-

en to support the first mission, JCCF members look to support businesses that qualify for mission two.

"We really hope that it continues to catch on," Fletcher said of the donations received. "If more funds come in, and we've completed all our missions, we'll possibly go back to the first mission and give those businesses more. We're still collecting funds for the foreseeable future."

Donations can be made online at www.jacksoncountycf.org or by mailing a check noting "Jackson County Disaster Relief Fund" in the memo line to Jackson County Community Foundation, P.O. Box 381, Holton, KS 66436. All donations are tax-deductible.

The Farmers State Bank, Custom Creations and Lasting Impressions recently teamed up for a T-shirt fund-raiser for the fund.

Members of the JCCF reported that the disaster relief fund will be a permanent fund for the county and will hopefully continue to serve community members in the future who may be experiencing a disaster or emergency.

For more information about the disaster relief fund, contact Ashlee York, Chamber director, at 785-364-3963.

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Jackson County Senior Menu

Until further notice, Jackson County Senior Center meals are carry-out or delivery only (no dine-in).

Menus are subject to change. For more information, call 364-3571. Menus listed for the week of Monday, May 18 through Friday, May 22 are as follows:

Monday, May 18: Chicken broccoli rice casserole, country mix vegetables, pineapple, coconut pudding and muffin.

Tuesday, May 19: Pork cutlet with mushroom sauce, sweet

potato, peas, baked apples and bread and margarine.

Wednesday, May 20: Meatloaf, hash brown casserole, pickled beets, mandarin orange cake and bread and margarine.

Thursday, May 21: Southwest chicken salad with black beans, corn salad, five-cup fruit salad, seven-layer bar and crackers.

Friday, May 22: Baked steak, parsley potatoes, cauliflower and broccoli salad, peaches and bread and margarine.

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Public Notice

(First published in The Holton Recorder, Holton, Kan., on Wednesday, May 6, 2020.)

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OPINION

Hats off to the graduates!

This coming weekend was supposed to be graduation weekend for many area high schools, but the threat of possibly spreading COVID-19 (coronavirus) stopped those graduation ceremonies in their tracks.

With the help of the schools and many of our local businesses and professional people, we have been able to continue the tradition of "the senior section" in this edition of *The Holton Recorder*, featuring photos of all of the graduating seniors. Hats off to all of the seniors! Graduations are different this year but the community is no less proud of this year's graduates - and it shows.

Some high school officials surveyed their graduating seniors and gave them three options - a virtual graduation ceremony, a drive-by or drive-through graduation ceremony or a traditional graduation ceremony.

The first two graduation ceremony options could have taken place on regular schedule. The last one - the traditional one - will have to wait until the state gives the "all-clear" announcement that larger groups can get together again.

This year's graduating seniors in the area will get what they want - a traditional graduation ceremony - but they will have to wait a little longer.

The year of COVID-19 will be long remembered - especially so by this year's graduating seniors who also had the entire spring semester of their senior year disrupted, including proms and spring baseball, softball, golf and track seasons.

The motto for the HHS 2020 graduating class is especially fitting, it seems - "Perfect Vision, Yet Nobody Saw This Coming."

The debate will rage for some time about who is taking this worse - the graduating seniors, or their parents? Parents I have talked to say their senior sons and daughters are taking it a lot better than they are.

Legendary country singer Dolly Parton - also known for her national book project for young readers, said, "The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain!" Dolly is right.

Spontaneous "parades of seniors" in their vehicles this coming weekend and at other times - while social distancing, of course, may take place in the coming days along with other expressions of pride and love for this year's seniors. No official plans have been announced. Some of the graduates may not be able to wait until later this summer to start the next phase of their lives. Good luck to all at this exciting time. *David Powls*



Citizens must demand "reset"

By Lee H. Hamilton
We've seen plenty of evidence lately of the deep polarization in this country.

Even in the midst of this crisis, national politicians, the political parties and their adherents are finding plenty to fight over - even as, for the most part, ordinary Americans have been remarkably united and many governors and mayors have worked hard to handle the coronavirus pandemic competently and guided by expert advice.



The question as we look ahead is whether the trends we'd been seeing before the pandemic will reassert themselves, or instead there will be some sort of reset. Because those earlier trends are extremely worrisome.

For years now, it's been common for politicians to label their rivals as unpatriotic and illegitimate. The deep freeze in cross-aisle relations in Congress had made progress there extremely difficult, though the crisis has given congressional leaders and members of the Trump administration no choice but to keep bargaining until they

hammer out agreements.

Other trends are equally problematic. The federal civil service, for instance, has always fielded a lot of very good people - dedicated public servants who try not to be partisan, remain independent in their views and support the work of whichever administration is in power. They want to make government work better.

That has gotten much harder to pull off in recent years, and the result is a civil service that is losing workers, institutional knowledge and competence.

There are still capable civil servants, many of whom have been doing their best to keep federal services on an even keel during this crisis, but it's hard to escape the feeling that their impact has been diminished.

Likewise with the judiciary, which has become more politicized. It's a worrisome trend in a branch of government that has generally stood for even-handed justice and, over the long term, strengthened Americans' civil rights and civil liberties.

The president, however, likes to say that his biggest achievement in office has been to put very conservative judges into power, a claim that undermines the judicial branch's standing as

the pillar of independence this country long depended upon. Ideology will always play a role in judicial choices, but making judges more nakedly political is a destructive trend.

This extends to the media, as well. For whatever reason, it exercises less rigorous oversight of government, and what does exist is more partisan. While there's coverage of national issues and politics, the trends have led to less robust local coverage and a less healthy democracy.

As polarization has deepened, Congress has gridlocked, presidential power has expanded (not a new thing, by the way) and the government has become less responsive and less effective.

It took a national crisis to lay bare some of these issues, but the trends underlying them have been going on for some time, and fixing them will take time, too.

This has to start with ordinary Americans. Voters need to reclaim our democracy and demand that the system that made us a great nation - one that adhered to the checks and balances and separate institutional responsibilities laid out in our Constitution - be restored.

At the community, state and federal levels, our job is

to maintain the robustness of our institutions of government, agitate to ensure that they are performing as they should and recognize that if the trends I've laid out strengthen their grip our representative democracy will suffer. The threats may not be existential yet, but they could become so.

Because here's the thing. People may distrust government, but just as the pandemic has made clear that at bottom there's no palatable alternative to an effective and competent government system, so it's also true that the only way ultimately to solve the problems and worrisome trends of government is principally through government action.

Which means that in the end, as citizens we have to forcefully step up to our responsibilities and insist that our public officials do so, too.

Note: Lee Hamilton is a senior advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a distinguished scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a professor of practice at the IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

Hang tough as we journey through this together

By Glenn Mollette

Most of America has been idled from our normal lifestyle. Today, we aren't for sure what normal is anymore. COVID-19 has been and is like a walk in a wilderness where we have never ventured before.

While we are wandering through this new wilderness in our lifetime, here are some suggestions for you. Use your telephone or facetime every chance you have. Put voices or even faces with voices in your life.

Reacquaint yourself with some old friends or make some new friends. We live in a texting, messaging age. Messaging is good, but a real voice and even a face is nice when it's possible.

Clean out your closet, attic or garage. You'll feel better if you can declutter some of the stuff you never use. Put it in the trash. Put it on the street with a note that says, "free." Or give it away to the first charity that becomes available.

Leave a message at your beauty or barbershop. Tell them to call you as soon as they're available. There will be a line of people making appointments, and you don't want to be delayed two more weeks.

Have your car serviced. Most auto repair places are still open. This is someplace you can go to. Have the oil changed in your car or your wheels balanced.

Pay bills. You probably just got your stimulus check. Now is the time to try to unbury some from utility bills and other bills due. This is not a time to waste any money. If you are still out of work, be careful about how you spend your stimulus.

Be nice to those people you

are around. Keep your voice down and calm. Be kind. Be helpful and over considerate. Make a personal commitment to be easy going and go with the flow.

Don't stress or panic. Wash your hands. Wear your mask. If you feel sick, then stay home. If you start having an anxiety attack, pause and breath. Walk some around the house. Hug your spouse, child or whoever is in your home or close by.

Find ways to exercise. Keep moving your body during the day. Clean your house. Walk. Do sit-ups or pushups. Walk in your neighborhood or around your house or apartment building.

Practice on your favorite instrument. Listen to the radio. Dance. Sing a little.

Card games, Monopoly, checkers, chess are interesting for a change.

Write your congressman or senator. Bend their ear some. Send them an email or a letter.

Write your president. Someone will look at it. Write your governor. How do you like how he or she is handling your state?

Work on your faith. More than 200,000 people worldwide have died from COVID-19. Death is real and COVID-19 might not bother you much or it might take you out of this world. Why not get to know God a little better now?

Hang tough as we journey through this wilderness experience.

NOTE: Glenn Mollette is an American author and columnist. Learn more about him at his website.

State Legislature to reconvene for one day - May 21

By Rep. Francis Averkamp
R-Kansas 61st District

The 2020 legislative session adjourned on March 19 due to the unprecedented activity in response to COVID-19. Few of us could have foreseen either the onset of the illness, or the overwhelming reaction to it on every level.

The state of disaster proclamation by the Legislature ended on May 1. On April 30, Gov. Laura Kelly issued a new 15-day disaster proclamation that will expire on May 15.

This disaster proclamation can be extended once for up to 30 additional days if the majority of the eight legislative members on the State Finance Council approve the extension, and for additional 30-day periods with unanimous approval.

The State Finance Council, chaired by the governor, includes the Senate president, the Senate majority leader, the Senate minority leader, the chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, the speaker, the House majority leader, the House minority leader and the chair of the House Appropriations Committee.

The Legislature as a whole could also reconvene and vote either to extend the declaration

or rescind it. The Legislative Coordinating Council, made up of seven members of legislative leadership, postponed the date the Legislature reconvenes until May 6, and later postponed the date again due to health concerns.

Now it has been decided for the Legislature to reconvene for one day - May 21, the last day of the Legislative session (in legislative terms, sine die, literally "without day").

The recent Executive Order 20-29 by the governor lifts the stay at home order and removes the government's restrictions that closed many religious organizations, businesses and activities, allowing many to re-open under certain guidelines.

According to the governor's executive order, businesses such as hair salons, barber shops, gyms, bars and leisure spaces remain closed. This reduction of restrictions is Phase One of a four-phase process outlined by the governor to "open" Kansas gradually during the next few months.

The present situation related to COVID-19 continues to challenge our state on many levels. The governor has used her executive powers to prohibit practice of religion, close businesses and eliminate activities across the state, sometimes months in advance; she does so without consulting Legislative Leadership, which learns of her plans at press conferences.



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Serving the Jackson County community for 153 years

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear editor,
This is a difficult time for every Kansan. Residents of long-term care facilities, their family members and staff are especially impacted by COVID-19. Visitor restrictions have prevented many families from personally checking on the health and well-being of their loved ones, creating fear and concern.

The Office of the Kansas Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is available to help. Our program is a resident-centered and resident-directed advocacy program available to anyone residing in a nursing home, assisted living or other adult care facilities across the state.

Ombudsmen advocate for residents to address quality of life and quality of care issues along with resident rights concerns. We can help residents and families with concerns related to COVID-19 and related restrictions, and facilitate communication with facilities.

While ombudsmen are also currently restricted from visiting facilities, our office remains accessible by phone and email regarding any concerns or questions you may have.

For information, please contact me, Sue Schuster, the Regional Ombudsman for this region, at 785-230-0715 or Sue.Schuster@ks.gov; or call us toll-free at (877) 662-8362. You can also visit our agency website at ombudsman.ks.gov.

**Sue Schuster
Topeka**

OBITUARIES



Andler

Gregory Keith Andler, 57, of Hoyt passed away on May 4, 2020, at his home, surrounded by his family.

Greg was born Aug. 7, 1962, in Topeka, to Harold and Shirley Rhudy Andler. He grew up on a farm near Holton and graduated from Wentworth Military Academy in Lexington, Mo., in 1981. He attended Cowley County Community College, where he played football, and then went on to Washburn University.

Greg worked for Powell Masonry and Morton Buildings before dedicating 28 years of service to Walmart. At Walmart, his natural inclination toward helping others guided his career, and over the decades he developed many lasting relationships with coworkers and customers alike. He was a true servant of the Lord, and was a dedicated congregant at First Baptist Church of Hoyt, serving in many capacities over the years.

His family and friends were most important in his life. He was a devoted husband, father and Papa. To know Greg was to be his friend. He was selfless, hardworking, ornery, generous and gifted with an easy-going sense of humor. His work ethic was one of his strongest traits, and he passed it on to his children and grandchildren.

Greg was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, fishing, woodworking and tinkering with various projects in his barn workshop.

Greg was united in marriage to Kathleen Powell on Nov. 20, 1987, in Topeka. She survives of the home.

Other survivors include his children, Ryan (Jessica) Devlin of Long Island City, N.Y., Heather Droge of Topeka, Trent (Kay) Andler of Delia and Jesse (Liz) Kutina of Denver, Colo.; his grandchildren, Jordan (Brandon) Devlin, Wren and Wilder Devlin, Payton Droge, Raegan and Harper Andler and Brody and Piper Kutina; his parents, Bill and Shirley Slimmer of Topeka; brother Brad (Jaimee Lynn) Andler of Bentonville, Ark.; stepsister Melva (Dan) Pruent of Florida; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Greg was preceded in death by his father, Harold Andler; brother Scott Andler; and stepsister Marcia Barnes.

A drive-by memorial was held Saturday, May 9 in front of Royal Valley Elementary School. Honoring his request, cremation is planned. A celebration of life will be scheduled at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to the First Baptist Church of Hoyt, sent in care of Mercer Funeral Home, P.O. Box 270, Holton, KS 66436. Due to the critical situation our country is in, please remember the families during this difficult time and consider sending a card of condolence or posting on our Web site, www.mercerfuneralhomes.com

Holton Recorder 5/13/20

Obit guideline

When submitting obituaries to *The Recorder*, please remember that survivors listed in free obituaries are limited to those who are related to the deceased either by blood or by marriage. "Companions," "special friends," "life partners," pets and godparents do not fit into either category. However, if you would like the names of non-relations to be printed with the obituary, call *The Recorder* at 364-3141 to make arrangements for a paid obituary.

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King

Charles Glenn King, 88, of Holton, passed away Monday, May 11, 2020, at The Pines in Holton.

He was born April 16, 1932, in Mayetta, the son of Charles O. and Cliffie Maye (Suttles) King. He graduated from Holton High School in 1950.

He served in the United States Army during the Korean War from 1953-1955. He was released from active duty to the Army Reserves, where he served eight years and was honorably discharged as a corporal.

Charlie was employed for 37 years at Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. in Topeka. He also farmed for many years and especially loved putting up hay.

He was a member of Holton VFW Memorial Post 1367 and a member of the Oddfellows.

On Dec. 18, 1955, Charles was united in marriage to Ethel Ann Bradley in Holton. They shared more than 64 years of marriage.

Charlie is survived by his wife, Ethel Ann, of the home; two daughters, Debra "Deb" Knouft (Mark) of Holton and Carolyn King of Oskaloosa; a son, David King (Debbie) of Holton; two sisters, Dixie Haag of Holton and Betty Estes (Ronnie) of Holton; 11 grandchildren, Carly (Brett), Lindsay (Ryan), Tara (Lloyd), Dustin (Andrea), Josh (Amy), Ryan (Pam), Nick (Jody), Aaron, Ben (Danielle), Bryson (Heather) and Taylor (Eli); and 19 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Kenneth King; two sisters, Francis Richards and Mary McAlexander; and two grandsons, Nathan Wheeler and Lee King.

A private family memorial service will be held Thursday on the family farm. A drive-by memorial will take place from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday evening, May 14 in front of the B&P Propane building at 21786 Q Rd., Holton. It is suggested that those driving out to speak to the family enter from the north and exit to the south for better traffic flow.

The family strongly suggests that in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the SOLID Christian Church or Heart of Jackson Humane Society, sent in care of Mercer Funeral Home, P.O. Box 270, Holton, KS 66436. Due to the critical situation our country is in, please remember the families during this difficult time and consider sending a card of condolence or posting on our Web site, www.mercerfuneralhomes.com

Holton Recorder 5/13/20



Jacobs

William Robert "Bill" Jacobs, 77, Las Vegas, Nev., died Saturday, April 11, 2020, in Las Vegas after a brief illness.

He was born Nov. 23, 1942, in San Francisco, Calif., the son of William C. and Holiche Jacobs. He grew up in Holton and was a graduate of Holton High School. He received a bachelor's degree in nuclear engineering from Kansas State University in Manhattan, a master's degree in business administration from Montana State University and a master's degree in economics from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He was a member of the Triangle Fraternity while attending KSU.

Mr. Jacobs served in the U.S. Air Force for 21 years and was stationed at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, N.M., Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls, Mont., Norton Air Force Base in San Bernardino, Calif., and the Nevada Test Site north of Las Vegas, Nev. After retiring from the Air Force, he worked for Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) in Las Vegas for 19 years.

He married Laura Jane Lambert on Nov. 30, 1968, at chapel 2 at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, N.M. She preceded him in death. He also was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include a son, Christopher Jacobs, Henderson, Nev.; a daughter, Kim Brown Sims, Napa, Calif.; and a granddaughter, Mikenna Sims of Sacramento, Calif.

Graveside funeral services and burial were held by Davis Funeral Homes and Memorial Park in Las Vegas, Nev.

Memorial contributions may be made to The Animal Foundation, 655. N. Mojave Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89101, online at animalfoundation.com, or email donations@animalfoundation.com

Holton Recorder 5/13/20

McMullen

Mary Louise McMullen, 76, Topeka, formerly of Mayetta, died Thursday, May 7, 2020, at St. Francis Hospital in Topeka.

She was born Dec. 24, 1943 in Chicago, Ill., the daughter of Jess Dale and Mary Huston Lepart. She lived most of her life in Mayetta and Topeka.

Mrs. McMullen was a homemaker and housewife.

She married Donald E. McMullen on Jan. 13, 1964, in Valley Falls. He died May 22, 2002.

Survivors include her children, Alice Dryer, Macon, Mo., and Donald McMullen and Agnes McMullen, both of Topeka; and a brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Charles and Norma McMullen, Topeka.

Graveside services were held Monday at Half Day Cemetery in Elmont.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Rolling Health Center, sent in care of Mercer Funeral Home, P.O. Box 270, Holton, KS 66436.

Holton Recorder 5/13/20

Gray

Steven Melville Gray, 66, Hoyt, died Monday, May 11, 2020, at his home, surrounded by family.

He was born June 25, 1953, in Denver, Colo., the son of Melville and Frances Herring Gray. He graduated from Topeka West High School in 1971.

Mr. Gray had worked as a welder and also taught welding at Kaw Valley Vo-Tech School in Topeka. He also worked for KDOT, and for the last 20 years had owned and operated Gray's Trucking.

He was a member of the National Rifle Association.

He married Karen Dillon on Sept. 24, 1976, in Topeka. She survives.

Other survivors include a son, Jacob Gray and wife Sonja, Perry; a daughter, Hannah Johnson and husband Dennis, Mayetta; a brother, Tom Page and wife Pati, Grand Prairie, Texas; a sister, Susan Kramer and husband Tom, Independence, Mo.; six grandchildren, Kaileigh, Hunter, Katelyn, Tyler, Walker and Coy; and a great-granddaughter, Brynleigh. He was preceded in death by his parents and his mother and father-in-law.

Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 16 at the Muddy Creek Cemetery, east of Hoyt. Mr. Gray will lie in state from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. Friday at Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Hoyt.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Steven Gray Memorial Fund, to be designated later and sent in care of Chapel Oaks Funeral Home, P.O. Box 280, Hoyt, KS 66440.

Holton Recorder 5/13/20

Delia council meets

The Thursday, May 7 meeting of the Delia City Council was called to order at 7 p.m. with Mayor Don Trimble and council members Evelyn Shihler, Zacary McCullough, Molly Robb and John Nitsch present. Also present were city clerk Melody Matyak and city attorney Scott Hess; absent were city treasurer Nikki Dohrman and council member Denise Meltz.

Matyak read minutes from the April 1 council meeting. Robb's motion to accept the minutes was seconded by McCullough and approved. Robb's motion to pay current and additional bills was seconded by Nitsch and approved.

Mayor Trimble appointed McCullough, Chris Gordon and Chance Stum to a special committee to work on the pre-application of KDHE's SRF grant. This is a program for municipal water infrastructure improvements. Council members confirmed the appointment, noting that committee members will keep the mayor and council members up to date on their findings.

Robb's motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. was seconded by Nitsch and approved.

The next regular city council meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, June 8. The meeting is open to the public.

Dunham named HES assistant principal

During a special meeting yesterday, the Holton USD 336 Board of Education met with three candidates for the assistant principal's position at Holton Elementary School, with a physical education teacher at Auburn Elementary School eventually accepting a contract for the position, it was reported.



Taylor Dunham (pictured), a teacher in the Auburn-Washburn school district for the past seven years, was named to the HES assistant principal's position, replacing Chris Kasson, who resigned the position earlier this year. Dunham will receive a salary of \$62,000 plus a monthly stipend of \$250 for housing within the Holton district, it was reported.

Dunham and two other candidates for the position — Tricia Morgan and Baileigh Faler — met separately with Holton board members, Superintendent Bob Davies and recently-hired HES Principal Randy Fox in executive sessions during a special meeting yesterday at the district office. Dunham's hiring was announced this morning.

Prior to his teaching work at Auburn, Dunham taught physical education for five years at Robinson Middle School in Topeka. He was honored with the Topeka Public Schools First

Year Teacher of the Year Award in 2009, was a Horizon Nominee in 2010 and named a KSNT Teacher of the Month in 2012.

Morgan is currently the student services coordinator at Christ the King Catholic School in Topeka. She had previously been a first-grade teacher at Christ the King for 11 years and a kindergarten teacher at Topeka for two years. Morgan, who is presently working on her doctorate degree, was nominated for a First Year Teacher Award and for the National Kindergarten Teacher Award.

Faler is currently a fourth-grade teacher at Broken Arrow Elementary School in Lawrence, where she has taught for the last eight years. She was chosen by Broken Arrow staff as their "building pilot" for their school's redesign efforts this year.

Davies, Fox and members of the school board met in a series of executive sessions at yesterday's special meeting starting at 5 p.m., it was reported.

Morgan was called into the session from 5:05 p.m. to 5:37 p.m., followed by Dunham from 5:58 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. and Faler from 6:59 p.m. to 7:40 p.m. The board returned to regular session at 8:15 p.m. with no decisions made.

The board held an additional five-minute executive session for non-elected personnel matters with Davies and Fox present. No action resulted from the session, and the board adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Thank You

The family of Lucile Shaw would like to thank everyone for all of the prayers, support, cards, food, kindness and donations to the Holton Community Hospital and the American Bible Society.

Our mother was a long time member of the Holton/Denison community and appreciated her many friends. Special thanks to Vintage Park, the Holton Community Hospital and Mercer Funeral Home for the loving care they gave.

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Month-long camping at Banner lake approved, costs \$19 per day

By Ali Holcomb

Month-long camping reservations will now be accepted for campground "B" at Banner Creek Reservoir, it has been reported.

At a recent Jackson County Commission meeting, Lu Griffiths, reservoir director, reported that due to the many construction projects related to the new wind farm in Nemaha County, several contractors are staying for an extended period in campground "B."

Griffiths proposed to allow monthly reservations at this campground in order to help cover the expense of installing new electrical spots at that location, as well as to help with the shortage of lodging available in the area. The commissioners agreed.

Located on the north side of the reservoir, nine new recreational vehicle campsites with electrical hookups were recently added to campground "B."

The campground is also equipped with two water hydrants that can be attached to campers to fill their tanks. The area previously served as a primitive tent camping area.

Starting May 1, the reservoir began taking month-long reservations for the nine spots at the campground.

The spots are available to anyone – not just contractors – who want to reserve and pay for a month at a time. Reservations are available on a first come, first serve basis.

The reservoir charges \$19 a day to camp with electric hookups, it was reported.

The remaining campgrounds will continue to have limits on how many days they can be reserved, it was reported.

Griffiths also reported that the reservoir's summer employees have begun working. At this time, the swim beaches, bathrooms and rental shack remain closed. The lake office is open in the morning, and the park hosts are available to assist patrons.

Also during the meeting, County Counselor Alex Belveal gave an update on the upcoming tax sale. The petition for the tax sale has been drafted and packets are being prepared for property and lien holders. There are currently 35 parcels listed on the sale.

In other business, according to the approved minutes from April 20, the commission:

* Heard a weekly report from Scott Kieffaber, noxious weed and environmental services director, who submitted a bid from Riley Electric to install

electricity at the transfer station at the landfill.

The commissioners approved the bid, which totaled \$2,805 for labor, materials and for trench work.

Kieffaber also submitted a bid from Eisenbarth Construction for \$6,026 to install two concrete slabs and a sidewalk at the recycling center. The commissioners approved the bid.

* Learned from Dan Barnett, road and bridge director, that a jump span bridge has been set up on N Road by NextEra Energy crew members as they install transmission poles in Jackson County for the wind farm in Nemaha County.

Barnett said that NextEra crews have completed some patching work on 254th Road but it will need to be repaired after they complete the project. Barnett said he will seek bids for

the repairs at NextEra's expense per the road use agreement.

NextEra crews have also flattened some tubes and damaged a concrete banister near 262nd and Q4 Roads. They will be repairing all damages that occur during the installation of the transmission line.

* Heard about several road concerns from Commissioner Ed Kathrens, including 178th and T roads, V and 142nd roads and T Road from Birmingham south.

Kathrens also reported that a tube recently replaced near Mark Bowser's property needs rock and that he had spoken with Dan Pollock about the county getting rock from his property.

Barnett said he would look into the cost of getting a rock crusher from Hamm or Mid-States Materials to crush the rock from Pollock. Chairper-

son Zwonitzer suggested using some of the larger rock for rip rap where it's needed.

* Asked Barnett if his department is in need of supplies due to concerns about COVID-19. Barnett said he recently ordered some hand sanitizer, but his department is in need of wipes, gloves and masks if the commissioners can find any to order.

* Learned from Chad Phillips, Courthouse custodian, the roofs at the Courthouse and the senior center received hail damage from a recent storm. The claim is being processed through the Kansas County Association Multiline Pool.

* Adjourned the meeting at 12 p.m. All three commissioners were present.

Inside of Hoyt water tower needs to be painted, council learns

The Hoyt City Council met in special session at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 22, with Mayor Debbie Dreasher and council members Nathan McAlister, Dustin Brinkman and Lana Dillner present. Council member Leonard Allen was absent. Also present was Kenny Bryan.

Bryan was present to discuss water tower maintenance. The company that provides maintenance on the tower, Utility Service, recommended the interior of the tower be painted this year, including draining the tank, sandblasting and applying two coats of paint. The company estimates this could take four to six weeks.

Bryan confirmed with Jackson County Rural Water District 1 that the district could cover the city's water use during this

downtime. If approved, Bryan said he would like to move forward with the project soon before the weather gets hot, and with schools being closed, water usage is less.

Dreasher said she discussed the matter with fire chief Ed Kester, who said the fire department would be able to use other means, if necessary, during the time the tower is down. Brinkman said he would be more comfortable doing this after the larger water line by the school was installed, as the recovery time would be faster.

It was also noted that the maintenance payment has been submitted. Brinkman reviewed the water tower maintenance contract.

Bryan updated the council on the pump stations, noting that repair work had been done on the pump on Holt Circle and

that the two smaller pumps are running at maximum power. He asked to have the pump running at higher amperage sent in to determine the problem.

Bryan also reported annual maintenance on the pumps would likely be in May. This will be discussed further at the May meeting.

Dreasher noted that a portable toilet was ordered for the Harvesters distribution event on April 27 as the community building is closed.

Dreasher stated the 2019 audit was completed by John Welch and the report was presented for review. The council was asked to review the report for discussion in May. Dreasher also noted that the council needs to review the boundary map submitted for the 2020 Census.

Council members continued discussion regarding water

tower maintenance, noting they would like to wait until next year to paint the interior after the larger water line is installed by the school.

Dreasher noted the community service for Don Henderson. City Attorney Lee Hendricks had discussed it with the county attorney and confirmed that Henderson could perform the community service for Hoyt. It was recommended to wait until COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted for Henderson to begin the work, and the council agreed.

Bryan said he would need to purchase a push mower to mow the dog park. He also discussed the status of the dock at the city pond, noting that it may be necessary to purchase floats as the barrels leak. It was also reported the tether ball poles are done.

Council members said they would discuss the July 3 and Pride of Hoyt events at the next meeting.

Brinkman asked Bryan the status of the project behind Central Avenue. Bryan said he intends to finish the project, including reseeding and watering, but is waiting for dryer weather. Dillner also spoke with Bryan regarding the sprinkler set-up in the park.

Building permits for decks

were submitted for 113 W. Fifth St. and 106 W. Fourth St. Brinkman's motion to approve the permits was seconded by McAlister and approved.

It was reported that there will be no municipal court in May.

Brinkman said he is looking for a camera for livestreaming the council meetings.

Brinkman's motion to adjourn was seconded by McAlister and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Hoyt Council votes 4-0 for utility credits

The Hoyt City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 7, 2020. Present were Mayor Debbie Dreasher and council members Leonard Allen, Nathan McAlister, Dustin Brinkman and Lana Dillner. City Attorney Lee Hendricks appeared by phone.

Mayor Dreasher called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. The council was given minutes from the March 3 regular meeting to review. McAlister's motion to approve the minutes from the March 3 meeting was seconded by Brinkman and approved.

The council was given minutes to review from the March 18 special meeting. Brinkman's motion to approve the minutes from the March 18 meeting was seconded by Dillner and approved.

The council discussed Resolution 2020-03 passed in March that closed public access to City Hall and the community building, canceled public events in the park and closed Park Drive, all until April 15. The council discussed passing a new resolution revising the closing dates.

Brinkman made a motion to revise the resolution to coincide with Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly's executive order regarding the stay-at-home order, keeping the resolution in effect until the governor's order is lifted. The revised resolution will also include closing the park playgrounds.

Brinkman also wants to include closing the community building through May 31, as the

city does not have adequate staff to properly sanitize the building after each event. McAlister seconded the motion with the addition; the motion carried.

The council discussed opening Park Drive for Harvesters on April 27. They would like language added in the revised resolution to open the drive for the event. McAlister discussed closing both gates on Park Drive as the community building parking lot no longer needs to be available as a Wi-Fi hotspot.

The gates will be open for Harvesters and closed immediately thereafter. Brinkman's motion to empower the mayor to sign the revised resolution was seconded by Allen and approved. The clerk will notify all who have leased the community building in May that their reservations are cancelled due to closure of the building. Deposit and rent payments will be refunded.

Dreasher noted there would be no department reports at this meeting. The monthly police report was previously submitted to the council and mayor.

It was noted that no bid had been received for the waterline project by the school. Brinkman noted that the drainage project between Central and Highland had not been completed, and he wanted an update on the project. The matter will be discussed at the council's May 5 meeting.

Council members discussed a resolution that suspends utility account disconnections and late fees until May 6. A new

resolution to run concurrent with Gov. Kelly's executive order regarding utility shut-offs was sought. Dillner's motion to amend the language in the resolution to run concurrent with Kelly's order regarding utility shut-offs was seconded by Brinkman and approved.

Dreasher noted no public comments would be addressed at the meeting, but will be addressed at the May meeting.

The monthly financial report was reviewed. McAlister's motion to provide a \$100 credit to every household that receives a water bill for the City of Hoyt was seconded by Allen. McAlister said the reason for his motion was that because of COVID-19 (coronavirus), people are out of work or furloughed, and the credit may provide some assistance in that hardship.

Brinkman suggested changing the language to every utility account, adding that it would put the city's water fund in a pretty tight position and the double debt payments the city has been paying to reduce debt will not be possible this year. Hendricks recommended reviewing this with the city accountant for the

best accounting procedures. McAlister's motion for the \$100 utility credit then passed on a 4-0 vote.

Brinkman and Hendricks discussed enforcement of the stay-at-home order by city police. Hendricks said he hoped it would not be necessary, but the city does have the resolutions to ensure the police have the ability to enforce them, if need be.

Dreasher and Hendricks discussed court for May. Hendricks will meet with Chief of Police Dan Wentling and Municipal Judge Shawna Miller to discuss whether court will be held in May.

Blackwood said she received information from Cindy Hower on increasing building replacement costs and the cyber policy information Brinkman had requested. This will be provided to council and mayor and discussed at the May meeting.

McAlister's motion to pay bills was seconded by Allen and approved. Allen's motion to adjourn was seconded by Brinkman and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Royal Valley senior third baseman Jenna Elmer was a career .450 hitter for the Lady Panthers softball team and would have been a starting player for the third consecutive season. She was a First Team All Big Seven League infielder and a dominant player for the Lady Panthers.



Royal Valley senior pitcher Mae Joslin was a career .364 hitter and pitched 61 innings for the Lady Panthers. She had a career 9-3 pitching record that included 28 strikeouts and a 4.13 earned run average. She would have been a four-year starting player. She is graduating from high school a year early.

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~ NOTICE ~
The Steward-Muddy Creek Cemetery Association will hold its **Annual Meeting at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 16, at the Muddy Creek Cemetery.**
For more information, call 785-286-3365.



30 area Washburn Tech students to receive certifications this spring

Thirty students from Jackson County are among the 652 candidates to receive certifications at the end of the spring 2020 semester from Washburn University Institute of Technology, it has been reported. Candidates and their areas of certification are:

Circleville: Mark Tessoroff, information systems technology.

Delia: Thomas Penrod, welding (certification).

Denison: Damon Ruckman, carpentry and Garrett Will, carpentry.

Holton: Alexys Campbell, phlebotomy; Clayton Crook, welding; Kyle Figge, welding; Addison Hundley, locomotive diesel technology; Carilyn Huyett, practical nursing; Aneliz Lemon, early childhood professional.; Samuel Mann, automotive service technician; Bradley McCrory, emergency communications; Seth Peterson, automotive service technician; Southern Raborn, cosmetology; Zachary Swayzey, advanced systems technology; Keegan Taliaferro, welding (certifica-

tion A); Ian Watkins, welding fabrication and Zoey Zibell, diesel technology.

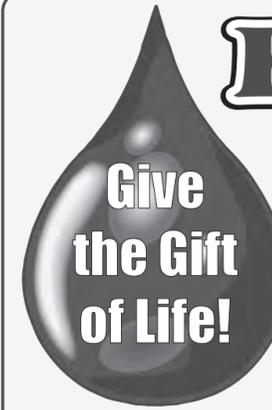
Hoyt: Zachery Burger, auto collision; Kain Fink, machine tool technology; Christian McAlister, advanced systems technology; Kyle Patterson, carpentry; Hannah R. Schnacker, cosmetology. Carley Scott, phlebotomy and Hannah Smith, graphics technology.

Mayetta: Devon Hale, advanced systems technology; Joseph Harris, welding (certification A); Reaghan Koon, emergency communications; Lorraine Ragsdale, phlebotomy and Daxton Ross, advanced systems technology.

Soldier: Allen Quinn, diesel technology.

Note: Washburn Tech offers 31 career programs in the divisions of construction, health care, human services, technology and transportation. Short-term, continuing education courses also are available along with custom courses for business and industry.

Blood Drive



Wednesday, May 20th
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Penny's Event Center • 409 New York Ave., Holton

Appointments are REQUIRED to donate. Walk-ins will not be accepted at this time. Masks are required and can be supplied if necessary.

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Fenceline: Never did I ever...

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

Never did I ever think that 2020 would turn out to be such a nightmare. Never did I ever think we could shut down our nation. Never did I ever think our grocery shelves would be empty. Never did I ever think I would need to worry about my next roll of toilet paper (still have enough).



Never did I ever want to get the call that hog producers are contemplating euthanizing the

hogs that they have nowhere to go with them. Never did I ever think the evening news would discuss how many deaths we can trade for opening the economy. It is just overwhelming.

On top of all that, the blue/green algae beast I have been battling (before COVID-19) has reared its ugly head. There have been some cattle deaths this spring in eastern Kansas. Already in March. This is not supposed to happen this soon. We usually consider this a hot/dry summer problem.

Harmful algae blooms can be hazardous to dogs that ingest or swim in infested waters. People as well can have skin reactions if they swim in a pond with blue/green algae.

I have been working with KDHE, Kansas Biological Survey, KCARE and others

to work on some projects to work on harmful algae blooms in private ponds. One of the recommended treatments in barley straw.

They will be doing some projects with public water bodies in Shawnee County and around the state.

I am excited that we have found a source of barley straw and will have some on hand to do some trials with this summer.

So if you have any problematic algae blooms in your ponds, let me know, and we will run a trial to see if we can help control it.

Or if you have some barley planted, consider baling the straw for future use. Let me know if you have some for sale.

Never did I ever think 2020 would be so problematic!

Foods and Nutrition

How to make a casserole out of leftovers from your home

By Cindy Williams
Meadowlark Extension
District Agent, Family and
Consumer Sciences

With so many of us staying home these days, cooking and eating at home has been on the rise. If you have small amounts of leftovers and would like to mix them together into some type of casserole, try this recipe. Turn those leftovers into favorite family foods!



"Make-Your-Own" Casserole
Makes six servings

• General directions:
Select food(s) from each category or use your own favorites. Combine in a 2 to 2½ quart casserole dish that has been greased or coated in cooking spray. Cover and bake at 350 degrees F or about 50 minutes to one hour or microwave using 50 percent power for about 15 to 30 minutes, rotating or stirring as necessary. Heat until steaming hot (165 degrees F) throughout.

Starch – select one:
• Two cups uncooked pasta (macaroni, penne, spiral, bow tie), cooked.
• One cup uncooked long-grain

white or brown rice, cooked.
• Four cups uncooked noodles, cooked.

Protein – select one:
• Two cups cooked ground beef.

• Two cups cooked and diced chicken, turkey, ham, beef or pork.

• Two cups chopped hard-cooked egg.

• Two (six to eight-ounce) cans fish or seafood, flaked.

• Two cups cooked or canned, dry beans (kidney, etc.).

Vegetable – select one:
• One (10-oz.) package, thawed and drained frozen spinach, broccoli, green beans, green peas.

• One (16-ounce) can green beans, peas, carrots, corn, drained.

• Two cups sliced fresh zucchini.

Sauce – select one:
• Two cups white sauce or one can sauce-type soup (mushroom,

celery, cheese, tomato, etc.) mixed with milk to make two cups.

• One (16-ounce) can diced tomatoes with juice.

Flavor – select one or more:
• ½ cup chopped celery, ¼ cup chopped onion, ¼ cup sliced black olives.

• One to two teaspoons mixed dried leaf herbs (basil, thyme, marjoram, tarragon).

• Salt and pepper to taste.

Toppings – select one or more (if desired after heating, place on top):

• Two tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese.

• ¼ cup shredded Swiss, cheddar or Monterey Jack cheese.

• ¼ cup buttered bread crumbs.

• ¼ to ½ cup canned fried onion rings.

Return casserole with topping(s), uncovered, to the oven for about 10 minutes or microwave for about two minutes.

Family Life: Go with whole grains

By Nancy C. Nelson
Meadowlark Extension
District Agent
Family Life

The Mediterranean diet is packed with delicious, whole grains, which are essential for good health.



They provide energy, help promote digestive health and reduce the risk of developing a number of diseases. Whole-grain foods are also more satisfying, they have great texture and taste and provide a feeling of fullness.

Common whole grains include brown rice, oatmeal, popcorn, whole wheat and wild rice. Expand your whole-grain choices with quinoa, whole-grain barley, whole-grain corn or cornmeal, whole rye and others.

One easy way to add whole grain is to replace half the flour in a recipe with whole-wheat flour. Give white whole-wheat flour a try. White wheat is lighter in color and has a sweeter, milder and somewhat nutty flavor while having the same nutritional benefits as traditional wheat flour.

To make sure you are selecting a whole-grain product, check the ingredient list. The first item listed should be "whole," followed by the grain. Enriched wheat flour is not whole grain.

Banana Oatmeal Pancakes
Makes two servings.

Ingredients:
2 eggs, beaten
2 bananas

½ cup old fashioned rolled oats, uncooked

½ teaspoon baking powder

¼ teaspoon vanilla extract

1/8 teaspoon cinnamon

½ teaspoon olive oil

½ cup fresh or frozen fruit (optional)

Directions:

1. Wash hands with soap and water.

2. Prepare fruit. Gently rub whole bananas and other fresh fruit under cool running water. Peel bananas and mash them in a medium-sized bowl.

3. Combine eggs, rolled oats, baking powder, vanilla extract and cinnamon with bananas. The batter should be cohesive and without lumps.

4. Heat oil in medium skillet on medium-low heat. Once the oil is heated, spoon ¼ cup portions of batter onto skillet, cook until golden brown on both sides (about four minutes on each side).

5. Heat fruit in a small skillet until warm, stirring occasionally. Serve over pancakes. You may also serve pancakes with chopped nuts or peanut butter on top.

Nutrition information per serving: 280 calories; 8g fat (0 trans fat, 2g saturated fat); 46g carbohydrates; 10g protein; 6g fiber; 210mg sodium; 0g added sugars.

Horticulture: Don't take trees for granted

By David G. Hallauer
Meadowlark Extension
District Agent, Crops and
Soils/Horticulture

Trees are often taken for granted. Once we get them established, it is pretty easy to "walk away" and forget them. 2020 might not be the year to do so.



2019 did a number on many of our tree species. Excess moisture resulted in foliar diseases like cedar apple rust and anthracnose. That same moisture likely caused root damage to some species as well, especially if trees were in standing water for an extended period.

Insect pressure – like bagworms – resulted in defoliation and could result in additional problems as well. All of this

means that close attention needs to be paid to our landscape and windbreak trees as they leaf out and start to grow this spring.

In some cases, we may see trees not leaf out at all, overcome by too much stress last year. Others may leaf out slower than expected. For some fruit trees, fruit production may be reduced. Still, other trees may seem to be just fine, only to begin to fail as we head into warmer weather with more variable moisture.

In all cases, be sure to do a thorough evaluation to determine the severity of damage and the potential for recovery before removal. If removal is the only option, do so with extreme caution or consider hiring a professional.

It may not seem logical that a tree would die from just one year of damage. In most cases, it is not a single year that gets the trees but stresses over multiple years.

Look back over the last five

to seven years of the tree's life. How many drought cycles did it experience? How many times was it diseased or defoliated from insect pressure? Was it ever in standing water for a period?

Even short-term stresses (like a month of hot/dry weather during July of 2019 in an otherwise wet summer) and multiple stresses begin to add up over time. Couple multiple stressors with years when the recovery time after drought going into fall was not very long, or a late spring frost burned leaves back, and all of a sudden, it can be more than the tree can take.

If trees are lost, now is a great time to start thinking about replacements as well. Both the K-State Research & Extension horticulture department and Kansas Forest Service have great resources to assist as you select replacements. Drop a line if you are interested in them by e-mailing dhallaue@ksu.edu or calling any of our three district offices.

Public Notice

(First published in The Holton Recorder, Holton, Kan., on Wednesday, May 6, 2020.)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JACKSON COUNTY, KANSAS Proceedings Filed Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 60

James L. Davis and Linda S. Davis

Plaintiffs,

vs.

Ralph F. Davis, V. Jean Davis, Larry E. Davis, Robert Hixson, Larry A. (Bud) Davis, Timothy L. Davis, Ronald L. Davis, Debbie Spreer, Vickie Harding, Lorretta O'Trimble, Anita Porter, And the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors and assigns of any deceased defendants; the unknown spouses of any defendants; the unknown officers, successors, trustees, creditors and assigns of any defendants that are existing, dissolved or dormant corporations; the unknown executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, successors and assigns of any defendants that are

or were partners or in partnership; the unknown guardians, conservators and trustees of any defendants that are minors or under any legal disability; and the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors and assigns of any person alleged to be deceased.

Defendants.

Case No. 2020 CV 20

NOTICE OF SUIT

The State of Kansas to the above-named Defendants, and all other persons who are or may be concerned:

You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in the District Court of Jackson County, Kansas, by James L. Davis and Linda S. Davis, Plaintiffs, praying for an order quieting the title to the following described property:

Commencing at the Northwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of Section Twenty-eight (28), Township Eight (8), Range Sixteen (16), thence East Twenty (20) rods, thence South Forty (40) rods, thence West Twenty (20) rods, thence North forty (40) rods to the place of beginning, containing five (5) acres, Jackson County,

Kansas.

The Petitioners further seek an Order holding the Plaintiffs to be the owners of fee simple title to the above described property, free of all right, title, and interest of the above-named Defendants, and all other persons who are or may be concerned, and that they and each of them be forever barred and foreclosed of and from all right, title, interest, lien, estate or equity of redemption in or to the above described property or any part thereof.

You are hereby required to plead to said Petition on or before the 17th day of June, 2020, in said court, at Holton, Jackson County, Kansas. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

James L. Davis and Linda S. Davis, Plaintiffs

SUBMITTED AND APPROVED BY:

DENNIS A. WHITE, #12108 White Law Office 120 West 5th Street P.O. Box 445 Holton, Kansas 66436 785-364-3971 Attorney for Plaintiffs

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Johnsonville...

Continued from Page 1

Those actions, she said, include placing additional barriers between workstations where social distancing isn't possible, providing COVID-19 testing for all staff members, including employees who have not yet been tested, additional sanitation efforts and providing employees protective masks to wear in public.

The company reported in late April that other safety protocols — such as mandatory temperature checks and screening questionnaires for employees prior to entering the plant, required protective equipment for all employees on the plant floor, increased cleaning and strict social distancing protocols — had been implemented at the plant.

Dlugopolski also noted that the temporary shutdown of Johnsonville's Holton plant is not expected to create a shortage of sausage products, as similar shutdowns at meat processing plants in Ford, Finney, Seward and Lyon counties has done.

"While this temporary shutdown is expected to impact some of Johnsonville's fresh sausage deliveries to U.S. retailers, Johnsonville expects to keep up with

demand as its other fresh sausage production facilities are healthy and operating fully throughout the Midwest," Dlugopolski said.

The increase in COVID-19 cases prompted Holton Community Hospital CEO Carrie Saia to remind members of the Holton and Jackson County community about testing procedures and plans for treating positive cases in the community.

"We realize the announcement of additional positive cases creates uncertainty and anxiety for our community," Saia said.

HCH is one of "several positive testing sites" in the county, Saia said, noting that all testing for confirmed COVID-19 cases completed at HCH took place in a controlled environment outside the hospital and Family Practice Associates building utilizing necessary personal protective equipment (PPE).

To date, no community members testing positive for the coronavirus have required inpatient admission at HCH, she added.

Anyone experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 is encouraged to call their personal care provider before making a trip to a hospital or clinic, it was reported.

JHHS graduation...

Continued from Page 2

keep the commencement ceremony on a Sunday due to tradition. However, district officials will continue to look into whether the graduation ceremony will be held in the JHHS gym as in previous years or at an outdoor location, which Shupe said was possible "if we're still limited to a certain group" of people as outlined in the governor's reopening plan.

Board president Dr. David Allen noted that the Jackson County Health Department would be "very interested" in seeing events moved to an outdoor setting, particularly if, for some reason, the county is still in the third phase of the governor's reopening plan. That phase limits "mass gatherings" to 90 people, it was reported.

"An outdoor activity will give you a little bit more leniency, even if we do get kind of restricted and a little backed up on our phases," Allen said.

Some elements of past graduation ceremonies may not be included in this year's ceremony, such as the receiving line after the end of the ceremony,

as Shupe noted. A video presentation that spotlights class activities and baby pictures may be posted at the district's Web site rather than held during the ceremony, he added.

Shupe and Allen suggested a "backup" for the proposed June 21 date — Father's Day, board members noted, whereas previous JHHS commencements have been held on Mother's Day — in case the county is not yet in the "phase out" stage at that point.

"I know a lot of surrounding schools are waiting a lot later, so I think having it early is nice," Allen said. "But it's a double-edged sword. Do you do it earlier and run the potential risk of being delayed, or just schedule a couple of dates?"

Walsh agreed, noting the "plan B" date of July 12 would ensure that graduating seniors would have a more traditional graduation ceremony, rather than follow the example of "a neighboring district" that set a definite date for commencement, "virtual or in person," on that date.

The dates were approved on a motion by board member Ed Rostetter.

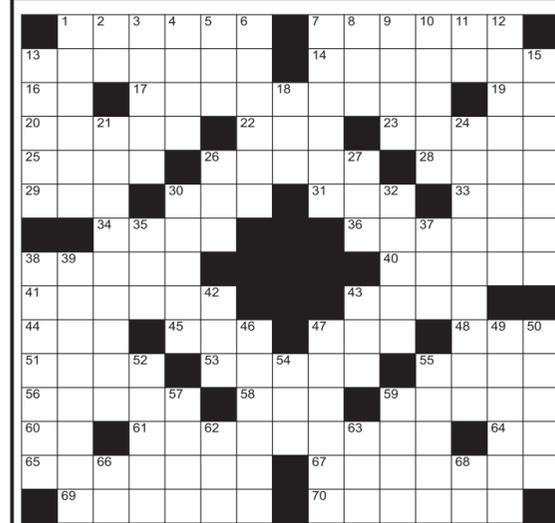
Later in the meeting, Shupe

noted that all 34 members of this year's senior class at JHHS had met requirement for graduation through the district's "continuation learning" program.

"Everybody made the dead-

line, some of them right at the very end like always," he said. "We're very proud as we've been able to keep communication with the parents about keeping it going."

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CLUES ACROSS

- Seed part
- Productive
- Popular cocktail
- Unfashionable person
- Sausages
- Western state
- Natural desires
- Defunct British automaker
- Early media tycoon
- Move from one place to another
- Letter of Semitic abjads
- Female birds
- Umbrella brand
- Delinquent
- Tax collector
- Cooking tool
- Female sibling
- Flat-topped hat
- Angolan currency
- Boardwalk candy
- European nation
- Leaflike part of palm

CLUES DOWN

- One or the other
- Doc
- Songs have them
- Record of payment (abbr.)
- Speak endlessly
- American state
- Digressions
- Tell on
- Brews
- Belongs to the bottom layer
- American cigarette brand
- Legal voting age in US
- Dish
- Expelled air from the nose
- Body art
- Fierce, destructive act
- Bear bright yellow flowers
- Japanese delicacy
- Get off your feet
- Male organs in some invertebrates
- Removed with solvent
- Uttered words
- Turkic people
- Disappointed
- Controversial device in soccer
- 007's creator
- Pain
- UCLA mascot
- Razorbill
- Turkic people
- Mimic
- Crime involving fire
- And, Latin
- A saponaceous quality
- Dorm employee
- Estate lands
67. States
- They slow you down
- Gets up
- so good
- Cleverness
- Protest yacht
- Anesthetized
- Mollified
- Touch lightly
- Diego, Francisco, Anselmo
- Some windows have them
- National capital
- Squirrels like them
- Grandmothers
- Painter's tool
- News organization
- and thesis: musical term
- Famed activist Parks
- Spumante (Italian wine)
- A number or amount not specified
- Body part
- Of I
- Old English

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Puzzle Solution On Classified Page!

Police Calls

The following calls were handled in recent days by the Holton Police Department. Calls included seven area checks at Prairie Lake and six area checks at the Holton Industrial Park.

■ 11:23 a.m. April 16, 500 block of West Fourth Street, non-injury accident.

■ 1:08 p.m. April 16, 400 block of South Arizona Avenue, non-injury accident.

■ 6:11 p.m. April 16, 400 block of South Arizona Avenue, EMS assist.

■ 7:01 p.m. April 16, 700 block of Nebraska Avenue, suspicious activity.

■ 6:43 a.m. April 17, 100 block of South Pennsylvania Avenue, citizen assist.

■ 9:33 a.m. April 17, 1100 block of Columbine Drive, assisted staff with patient.

■ 11:15 a.m. April 17, 1100

block of Columbine Drive, citizen assist.

■ 12:16 p.m. April 17, 700 block of West First Street, animal control.

■ 1:30 p.m. April 17, 400 block of South Arizona Avenue, suspicious activity.

■ 4:05 p.m. April 17, 100 block of East 10th Street, suspicious activity.

■ 9:37 p.m. April 17, 600 block of Ohio Avenue, disturbance.

■ 1:48 a.m. April 19, 100 block of East Fourth Street, arrested two suspects on charges of domestic violence.

■ 1:54 a.m. April 19, 200 block of Dakota Avenue, welfare check.

■ 4:17 p.m. April 19, Southern Heights, suspicious activity.

■ 11:10 p.m. April 19, 400 block of Lowell Avenue, EMS assist.

■ 8:12 p.m. April 20, 22300

block of Q4 Road, EMS assist.

■ 11:55 a.m. April 21, 800 block of Wisconsin Avenue, citizen assist.

■ 5:45 p.m. April 21, Fourth Street at Arizona Avenue, suspicious activity.

■ 5:56 a.m. April 22, 200 block of Arizona Avenue, animal control.

■ 5:17 p.m. April 22, 400 block of Hillcrest Drive, EMS assist.

■ 8:28 p.m. April 22, 400 block of Kansas Avenue, medical alert.

■ 7:54 a.m. April 23, 300 block of New York Avenue, EMS assist.

■ 5:03 p.m. April 23, Fifth Street at Ohio Avenue, injury accident.

■ 6:28 p.m. April 23, Fourth Street at New Jersey Avenue, citizen assist.

■ 3:53 p.m. April 24, 800 block of New Jersey Avenue, theft.

■ 8:26 p.m. April 24, 700 block

of Nebraska Avenue, suspicious activity.

■ 10:23 p.m. April 25, 100 block of Nebraska Avenue, citizen assist.

■ 8:43 a.m. April 26, 100 block of Parkview Court, EMS assist.

■ 6:22 p.m. April 26, 400 block of Arizona Avenue, suspicious activity.

■ 12:48 a.m. April 27, 200 block of West Fifth Street, welfare check.

■ 11:15 a.m. April 27, 400 block of South Arizona Avenue, non-injury accident.

■ 7:58 p.m. April 27, 200 block of Dakota Avenue, EMS assist.

■ 8:45 p.m. April 27, 900 block of Pennsylvania Avenue, non-injury accident.

■ 5:37 p.m. April 28, Arizona Avenue at Banner Road, suspect arrested on drug charges.

■ 11:09 p.m. April 28, 100 block of Parkview Court, EMS assist.

■ 9:55 a.m. April 29, 100 block of West Fifth Street, non-injury accident.

■ 12:55 p.m. April 29, funeral escort.

■ 2:50 p.m. April 29, Linscott Park, dealt with juveniles on playground.

■ 5:37 p.m. April 29, Linscott Park, dealt with juveniles on playground.

■ 7:25 p.m. April 29, Prairie Lake, motorist assist.

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

Services have been postponed until further notice due to COVID-19. Contact clergy below.

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 364-3468
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Fellowship
9 a.m. Worship

New Life Church of the Nazarene

100 Topeka, Ave., Holton • 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
Sunday School: 9 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
Website - circlevillechristian.com
Email - circlevillechristian@yahoo.com

Circleville United Methodist

Pastor: Charlotte Milroy • 234-4243
Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Community of Christ Church

222 New Jersey • Pastor Dean Sharp
Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service

Delia Presbyterian Church

514 Jackson St. • Rev. James Atbey
Sunday: 10 a.m. Every Other Month
Check sign board for other events.

Denison Bible Church

300 W. 5th St. • Pastor Tom Fraumelfer
Sunday: 10 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Worship
785/935-2464 • 785/422-2953

Denison Reformed Presbyterian

106 Seventh St., Denison, KS • 935-2348
Sunday: 10 a.m. Bible class
11 a.m. Worship service
Lunch following the service
1:15 p.m. Afternoon Service

Evangelical 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
Pastor - John Wisdom
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
8:25 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Services

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

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 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 Kathy Williams
1401 W. 4th, Holton • 364-3275
Sunday Schedule: 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Worship

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. Norma Jeane Miller • 785-207-2773
Sunday School: 9 a.m. • 10 a.m. Worship

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Netawaka

Pastor Michael Van Velzer
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

Larkinsburg 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. Youngwan Won
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. Jonathan Dizon
166 and "I" Road, Mayetta, Kan. •
785-364-3262

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

Potawatomi United Methodist

Rev. Howard Sudduth
Sunday: 9:50 a.m. Sunday school
10:30 a.m. Worship

St. Dominic Catholic Church

Pastor: Fr. Jonathan Dizon
416 Ohio, Holton, 364-3262
Saturday: 5:30 p.m. Mass
Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Mass
Confessions 30 minutes before mass.
www.jacocatholics.org

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

Pastor: Fr. Jonathan Dizon
3rd & James, Mayetta, 966-2690/364-3262
Sunday Mass: 8 a.m.
Confessions 30 minutes before mass.
www.jacocatholics.org

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

512 Wisconsin, Holton • Rev. Art Rathbun
Services on 2nd & 4th Sunday
Sunday Services: 10 a.m.
785-224-8798

stthomasholton@holtmail.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
Lay Pastor Kyle Claycamp
Sunday: 9 a.m. Sunday school (for all ages)
10 a.m. Worship Hour
10:30 a.m. Children's Church
Tuesday: 1:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study
Wednesday: 7 p.m. Youth Group (Jr. High & HS Ages)

Wetmore United Methodist

Pastor Brenda Harter
(785) 866-2512 Parsonage • 866-5556 Church
Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship service

Whiting Baptist Church

Sunday: 9 a.m. Sun. school
10 a.m. Worship service

Whiting United Methodist

Rev. Youngwan Won
Sunday: 10 a.m. Education • 11 a.m. Worship

New Hope Family Church

515 Iowa, Holton
Pastor: Sterling Hudgins
Wednesday Meal: 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Service: 7:15 p.m.
Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m.

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RV to continue meal program through May

By Ali Holcomb

Royal Valley is extending its “grab and go” meal program through the remainder of the month—and possibly longer—to continue to serve families in the district, it has been reported.

During the USD 337 board of education meeting on Monday evening, Superintendent Aaric Davis said that, due to the district’s number of free lunch applicants, the district has qualified to serve meals during the summer months.

The last day of classes for RV students is Friday, it was reported.

“Because of COVID-19, I think the grab and go meals have been popular because the parents can drive to a school, grab what they need and take it home to eat them,” Davis said. “Under regular summer circumstances, the families would have to go to the schools and eat the meals there.”

Davis said that there will be no additional costs for the district to continue its meal program through the month of May.

“If we see a decline, we could choose to discontinue the service,” he said. “Or if it continues to be utilized, we could extend it through June.”

Currently, any student can receive a free lunch and breakfast from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday outside RVMS in Mayetta and RVHS in Hoyt. Double meals are served on Thursday for Friday.

This will continue through the month at the meal site at RVHS, it was reported. Davis said that construction for the new entrance at RVMS is expected to begin later this week, which will force that meal site to be closed. Those families, which include 80 to 90 students (on average), can still travel to Hoyt to receive a free meal, it was reported.

“With the current circumstances, I think it’s a big help

to a lot of families,” said board member Ann Kelly. “We definitely need to continue doing it as long as there is a need.”

No meals will be served on Memorial Day, which is Monday, May 25, it was reported.

In other business, the board:

* Approved consent items as presented, including the agenda, minutes from the April 27 meeting, the treasurer’s report and warrants.

The board also accepted the resignations from Peter Plannenstiel as an assistant coach for football, basketball and baseball and JT Troxel as the RVES evening custodian.

* Reviewed the tentative agenda for the board of education retreat planned for 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 3, at the district office in Mayetta.

* Discussed the district’s contract with Providence Working Canines. This is the district’s fourth year working with the company, which conducts 10 random “safety sweeps” with local law enforcement dogs at RVHS and RVMS each year at a cost between \$7,000 to \$8,000, Davies said.

Jackson County Deputy Joe Romans has offered to provide “safety sweeps” at the district at no cost, Davis said.

“They will still be random, which is an important component,” Davis said. “I think we can accomplish the same thing with the county, which is creating a deterrent for our students.”

Providence Working Canines are dual-trained dogs, which can detect guns and ammunition, illicit drugs and prescription medication. Law enforcement dogs are mostly just trained to detect illicit drugs, such as marijuana, Davis said.

Kelly said she’s been disappointed with the level of service provided by Providence Working Canines.

“They get behind and do all the sweeps at the end of the year,”

Kelly said. “To me, if we can save money and accomplish the same thing, I think it sounds like a good plan.”

The other board members agreed, and Davis said he would not renew the district’s contract with Providence Working Canines for next year.

* Discussed several district activities and programs affected by COVID-19 and the closure of schools in Kansas.

Davis said the district will not be offering CLC childcare program this summer.

“Looking at the cost analysis, I’m not recommending we open at this time,” Davis said. “We have a low number of families who have indicated that they would utilize the service.”

Davis said that the Kansas State High School Athletic Association has released guidelines on how to reopen for sports practice and conditioning in June.

“My intention is to follow the rules of the state and local health officials are setting forth for us to follow,” Davis said. “If they say it’s OK to open up the weight room, I am going to allow the weight room to open here at RV following the correct guidelines.”

* Accepted the bid from Foster Ford of Holton for a 2020 Transit passenger van for \$32,600, which includes a reverse sensor, running boards and limited slip axle. Ellis Brothers and Doug Riechert of Holton were given bid specifications but did not submit a bid.

* Approved price increases for student and adult meals for the 2020-21 school year as required by the state pricing tool.

A five-cent price increase for breakfast and a 10-cent increase for lunch for all student and adult meals was approved.

The new prices include \$1.75 (K-4), \$1.80 (5-12) and \$2.25 (adults) for breakfast and \$2.55 (K-4), \$2.70 (5-12) and \$3.80

(adults) for lunch.

The price of extra milk will also increase by five cents to 50 cents next year and a la carte items will increase 10 cents to \$1.10.

* Approved the escalating milk bid from Hiland Dairy Co. for the 2020-21 school year, which totaled \$41,089. The firm bid was \$46,313. Hiland was the only company that submitted a bid.

* Approved the board of education meeting dates for the 2020-21 school year, which include Aug. 10 and 24, Sept. 14, Oct. 12, Nov. 9, Dec. 14, Jan. 11, Jan. 25, Feb. 15, March 15 and 29, April 12 and 26, May 10, June 14 and 28 and July 12.

* Met in executive session for seven minutes to discuss confidential student information. No action was taken back in open session.

* Accepted the resignation of Samantha Swank at the RVHS assistant volleyball coach and Trent Oliva as the RVES P.E. teacher, head high school boys basketball coach and head high school baseball coach.

* Extended employment contracts to Samantha Swank as RVHS head softball coach, Madison Greene as RVMS assistant girls basketball coach, Amanda Mulligan as a RVES second-grade teacher, Chris Brown as the RVES P.E. teacher and RVHS head basketball coach, Jolene Dressman as the RVHS dance team sponsor and Kim Muller as RVES evening custodian.

* Approved summer contracts for Jacob Lott and David Boucher, summer weights coaches, and Jennifer Gilbert, summer band teacher.

* Approved supplemental contracts and rule 10 coaching contracts as presented.

* Adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Board member Boone Smith was absent from the meeting.

Weekly COVID numbers

There are 7,116 positive cases of COVID-19 (coronavirus) in 82 Kansas counties as of Monday, which is an increase of 1,658 positive cases from the 5,458 cases reported last week, according to information released by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

A total of 158 deaths have been reported due to COVID-19 in the state compared to 137 deaths reported last week.

According to KDHE, 660 people who have tested positive for COVID-19 have been hospitalized, which is an increase of 94 people from the 566 people reported hospitalized last week.

There have also been 46,993 negative tests reported by KDHE and private labs. Last week, 34,634 negative tests were reported.

Jackson County has reported seven positive cases (including two recovered) of COVID-19. Last week, Jackson County had two positive cases. Neighboring counties and their positive case totals include:

- * Nemaha County – One case.
- * Atchison County – 14 cases.
- * Jefferson County – 13 cases.
- * Pottawatomie County – 21 cases.
- * Brown County – One case.

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Six teachers retiring from RV

By Ali Holcomb

Six longtime teachers - and two custodians - are retiring at the end of the school year at Royal Valley. Chris Gustin, Annette Roach, Dandy Thiessen, Terri Moore, Laurie Goetz and Janet Cyphers have taught for a combined total of 155 years at RV.

Chris Gustin

Chris Gustin has taught business and computer technology at USD 337 for 39 years.

"After I graduated from Kansas State University, I applied for the job at Royal Valley and have been there ever since," Gustin said. "At that time, I interviewed with Fred Staker and Gerald Leonard, who were both amazing men. I liked them and the facilities. I had another interview scheduled the next day at Abilene High School, but I canceled it because I liked Royal Valley so much."

Gustin's family lived in Hiawatha at the time so working in Hoyt also helped sway her decision.

While at RV, Gustin previously served as the head volleyball coach, assistant girls basketball coach, cheerleading and pep club sponsor, yearbook advisor, sophomore class sponsor and was the National Honor Society sponsor for 20 years.

"So many changes have occurred during my tenure at Royal Valley High School," she said. "I started out teaching with a room full of typewriters, IBM Selectrics. Then we graduated to electronic typewriters. The first computer that I ever had in my classroom was an IBM desktop that I purchased with a grant I wrote. I taught recordkeeping, shorthand, notetaking, typing I and II, office machines and a few other classes. Now I have a remodeled classroom with 30 student desktop computers on one side and a row of tables on the other side for non-computer work. I am pretty spoiled."

Gustin said she'll miss her students "tremendously" when she leaves RV.

"I have been so blessed to have a job where I have had the opportunity to have many wonderful students through the years. My hope is that I have made a difference in each of their lives and that they will always know that I cared for each and every one of them," she said. "I will also miss our faculty and staff. We have a lot of fun together and work hard to improve learning for our students."

Annette Roach

Annette Roach, a fourth-grade teacher at RVES, is retiring after a 26-year career in education, including 16 years at Royal Valley.

"I began teaching because I wanted to help kids learn and motivate them to find their best potential, and I returned to Royal Valley after 11 years at Jefferson West to give back to the district I graduated from," Roach said.

Roach said she'll miss many things about being in the classroom.

"I will miss my kids and watching the lightbulb ignite when they learn something they struggled with, as well as having brothers and sisters in my classroom throughout the years," she said. "They're part of my family. Also, I will miss having my former students return to tell me something I taught them helped them throughout their school years."

Dandy Thiessen

Dandy Thiessen, another fourth-grade teacher at RV, has spent her entire 22-year career with the district at RVES.

Thiessen graduated from Jackson Heights in 1980 and completed her student teaching at both Jackson Heights and Holton schools.

"I started as a reading teacher for third and fourth grades and got my master's degree in reading from Washburn University. Then I became a reading teacher for first through fourth grades," Thiessen said.



Chris Gustin



Annette Roach



Dandy Thiessen



Terri Moore

For the past 13 years, she has taught fourth grade. Thiessen said she could have never imagined what her final months of teaching would look like because of the concerns about COVID-19 (coronavirus).

"The biggest change in the history of education is occurring right now," she said. "I started this year in my perfectly decorated, well organized classroom and ended the year meeting my students on Zoom and working from home," she said. "I can't imagine anyone seeing more changes than we have this school year."

Although she will miss her fellow teachers, Thiessen said she is looking forward to traveling and spending more time with her grandkids and friends in retirement.

Laurie Goetz

Laurie Goetz spent her entire 26-year teaching career as a sixth-grade teacher for RV. Goetz also served as a cheerleader sponsor for two years and a paraprofessional for two years.

"I knew the students, knew that the administration was very supportive and knew it was where I wanted to teach. That's a lot of knowing," Goetz said of her decision to work for the district. "I also lived in the district, and my own children received their education at RV so I felt strongly about becoming a part of the outstanding Royal Valley team."

Goetz said she's seen a lot of changes through the years at the sixth-grade level.

"They say that the more things change, the more they stay the same. I've seen curriculum change and then cycle back around. Students have come into my life, moved on and then I have taught their children," she said. "I've seen amazing teachers retire or move to other positions or districts only to have vibrant new teachers join us. But fundamentally, the good that is education gets better and the challenges get met with thoughtful and sound educational practice."

Goetz said the camaraderie she has with her fellow teachers is difficult to leave behind.

"What I will miss most will be my fellow teachers who were always there as sounding boards, comedians who never failed to make me laugh, or at least smile a little, and cheerleaders," she said. "I will miss the students who made every day an adventure and the wonderful administrators I have today and who I've had over the years. And I'll miss lunch with the sixth-grade team, Becky and

Mike. Change is a scary, sad and a wonderful thing."

Terri Moore

For the past 34 years, Terri Moore has taught physical education at Royal Valley in addition to life science, health and driver's education.

Moore also coached several sports, including middle school volleyball, basketball and track and high school girls basketball. She also served on the District Staff Development Council for many years.

"Royal Valley is the only school district I have worked for," Moore said. "My career choice in physical education stemmed from many years of being involved in athletics myself and having great teachers and coaches who inspired me. It was an easy choice and a great fit."

Moore said that when she started teaching, "the paddle was still available, and you weren't allowed to say the S word."

"As a teacher, you wear many different hats - nurse, janitor, psychologist and many others. We have been through so many different changes - QPA (Quality Performance Accreditation), No Child Left Behind, SEL (Social and Emotional Learning) and then they usually get recycled with different titles," she said. "The biggest thing I will miss about RV are the great people I have had the opportunity to work with and form a very close family-type environment. Even more special is the fact that I have had many of their children in class through the years. I would like to thank the board of education, administration, staff, students and parents for all their support in the past 34 years."

Janet Cyphers

Janet Cyphers has served as a special education teacher at RVHS for 18 years. Before taking the position, she was a substitute teacher at all the school districts in the county.

"I will miss all my colleagues and administrators of USD 337," Cyphers said. "They have been very helpful, courteous and family oriented. They are genuine educators and care deeply for all students. I have been able to work in classrooms with teachers that go beyond the call of their duties. I will miss the students and everyone else greatly, which I have already come to realize through this COVID-19 experience."

In addition to the six teaching staff members, longtime custodians Gordon Hainey, 19 years, and David Crisp, 13 years, are also retiring at the end of the school term.

the hospital auxiliary continues as a volunteer organization whose sole purpose is to provide financial support to the hospital by providing supplies and any other items that will enhance the patient experience.

Contributions to the hospital over the past 53 years total almost \$300,000, which was all accomplished by volunteer fund-raising activities.

The scholarship was established in memory of Cathleen Reed, a longtime Holton Hospital Auxiliary member, hospital employee and hospital board member.

Reed was a registered nurse who was involved in "all things" Holton Hospital for the past 50 years.

Reed was also a public health nurse and Jackson County Friends of Hospice nurse. She would be very proud to know that a scholarship in her name is helping a student become a nurse.

The establishment of this scholarship will help to promote the growth of health care careers in Jackson County with the hope that some of the recipients will, at some point in time, return to their home county to practice medicine.

Degenhardt, Parks receive Cathleen Reed Memorial Scholarship

The Holton Community Hospital Auxiliary, in partnership with Holton Community Hospital, has selected seniors Adalee Degenhardt of Holton High School and Cassidy Parks of Royal Valley High School to receive the first annual Cathleen Reed Memorial Scholarship, it has been announced.

Both Degenhardt and Parks plan to pursue professional careers in nursing. Degenhardt plans to attend The University of Kansas, and Parks will attend Wichita State University. Since its inception in 1967,

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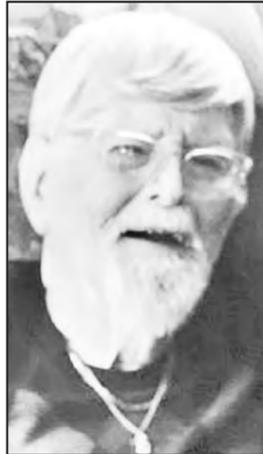
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Thank You!

Thanks to everyone for flowers, calls, cards and family surprises for my 90th birthday.

Madella Schreiber

Card Shower



Bob Brown

Bob Brown will celebrate his 90th birthday on May 20.

A card shower for Bob is being hosted by his family. Good wishes may be sent to him at 400 Iowa St., Holton, KS 66436.

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Ray Delay of Ray's Glass & Screen (at left) and Gerald Copeland (at right) are shown above constructing plexiglass partitions at the Jackson County Treasurer's Office this past week. The new partitions will help reduce exposure for office employees when the Courthouse reopens to the public next week. Many businesses have added screens and partitions to help reduce the possible spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus) in Jackson County.
Photo by Ali Holcomb

■ Banner Creek Reservoir...

Continued from Page 1

In May of 1987, the Holton Planning Commission sent a letter of support for a multi-purpose reservoir area to the Holton and Jackson County commissions. The reservoir was also an issue in city elections earlier in the year.

At the urging of the Holton Industrial Development Committee and the Holton Area Chamber of Commerce, the Jackson County Commission in March of 1988 set a \$1 million minimum on the county's contribution to the project. A reservoir steering committee set up by the industrial development committee and chamber recommended a county-wide sales tax as the best method of funding the county's share of the reservoir cost that June.

That August, the county commission adopted a resolution to place a five-year, one-cent sales tax to fund reservoir construction on the November ballot, and in October, a series of public meetings was held to inform voters about the project. The estimated cost of the reservoir at that time was \$4.3 million, it was reported.

The November 1988 general election saw county voters approve the sales tax by a vote of 2,883 to 2,011. But before the end of the month, the Kansas Department of Revenue said the sales tax violated state law because the county already had a one-cent sales tax, prompting local officials to lobby the state legislature for approval of the special-purpose tax.

The lobbying efforts worked. In February of 1989, the Kansas House of Representatives gave its approval to the sales tax, followed by the state Senate the next month. Kansas Gov. Mike Hayden signed it into law that April, and in July, Jackson County merchants began collecting the additional sales tax.

In September of 1990, county commissioners appointed a reservoir recreation committee, including representatives of local sponsors, SCS officials, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks representatives and reservoir area landowners, to create a recreation plan.

The county commission began signing work agreements for the reservoir in March of 1991, and Granville Davidson was hired as contracting officer and project manager that July.

Commissioners began negotiations for land purchases in September of 1991, but the county and owners of some of the largest land parcels were unable to reach a satisfactory purchase agreement. The county began condemnation proceedings on 629 acres in late 1992 and the last purchase contracts were signed in July of 1993.

Local sponsors of the reservoir negotiated with Kansas Power and Light in the fall of 1991 over relocation of power lines crossing the reservoir area, but the final cost of relocation was listed at \$850,000, which was well above the initial estimate of \$130,000 and marked the beginning of cost escalations that plagued the project.

In November of 1993, the county commission and SCS officials began trimming recreation facilities at the reservoir after realizing that the special sales tax revenue that had been raised to date would not cover the county's contribution. By that time, the reservoir's cost had risen to \$6.2 million, it was reported.

Bids for dam construction

were opened in August of 1994, and the low bid from Alta Pacific Contractors exceeded the engineer's estimates by about \$300,000. Dam construction began that September but was slowed over the next two years by periods of heavy rain.

Bids were opened on the first phase of the recreation facilities construction plan, which included roads, parking lots and a restroom. Scheid Construction of Holton was the winning bidder on the work, which was completed about a year later.

Work on the dam was completed in early 1997, and bids were let that fall for the next phase in recreation facility construction. In September of that year, a dedication ceremony for the reservoir — which was about six feet below its permanent level at the time — was held.

It was noted that the reservoir would not be open to the public until the next spring. But over the ensuing winter and early spring, plentiful snow and rain were received in the Holton area, and in April of 1998, the county commission noted that the reservoir had filled to permanent pool level.

Two months later, at 7 a.m.

on June 17, 1998, the reservoir opened to the public on a limited scale.

Today, the 12,000-acre watershed draining to the reservoir is 88 percent grass and woodland with the balance being chiefly cropland. Livestock production, principally cattle, is prevalent over a third of the watershed, it was reported.

Several structures have been added to the reservoir grounds to enhance its appeal for visitors, including fishing docks and shelter houses. Efforts are under way to get a new, enclosed shelter house built at the lake grounds, thanks to the efforts of the Friends of Banner Creek organization and \$25,000 from county officials for construction of the center.

Beth Nelson, Friends of Banner Creek treasurer, said efforts to raise \$125,000 toward a Land and Water Conservation Fund matching grant through the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism for the same amount have reached their goal, with the deadline for the grant application reset for July 1. Reservoir director Lu Griffiths is currently obtaining bids for construction of the new shelter house, Nelson said.

Public Notice

(Published in The Holton Recorder, Holton, Kan., on Wednesday, May 13, 2020.)

**JACKSON COUNTY
RESOLUTION
2020-21**

**A RESOLUTION
CONCERNING ACCESS
TO THE COURTHOUSE
DURING PUBLIC HEALTH
EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, public health officials on National, State and Local levels have recommended limiting unnecessary person to person contact as a means to slow the spread of the current COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic; and

WHEREAS, such conditions endanger the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Jackson County.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of Jackson County, Kansas adopt the following:

County Operations:

1. Department heads shall determine which of their staff may work remotely or may take COVID-19 leave with the preference to maintain a continuous service to the public and operation of functions;

2. Department heads are encouraged to conduct business via telephonic and/or electronic means of communication whenever possible; and

3. Department heads are to develop department specific protocols setting forth which items of business will require an in-person transaction and which items of business may be performed by another means of communication.

Access to Jackson County Courthouse:

1. Effective Monday, May 18, 2020, the only entrance to the Courthouse shall be through the south doors.
a. Notice of the restricted

access shall be posted on all Courthouse doors and shall include all Department telephone numbers and electronic contact methods.

b. The general public may access the first floor of the Courthouse for their general and business purposes. Upon entry to the Courthouse all persons must undergo a health screening to ensure they are not exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. An employee from the department the individual is wishing to transact business with will be notified and will come to the first floor to transact business with the general public. Persons wishing to transact business with the District Court will be allowed on the third floor, subject to public health and state set capacity guidelines.

c. Any individual of the public requesting to transact business with a Department is still encouraged to contact the appropriate Department via telephone or electronic means before making an in person visit to the Courthouse.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon adoption, and shall remain in effect until further Order.

Adopted this 11th day of May 2020.

By: */s/ Janet Zwonitzer*
Janet Zwonitzer,
Chairman

By: */s/ William Elmer*
William Elmer,
Commissioner

By: */s/ Ed Kathrens*
Ed Kathrens,
Commissioner

[SEAL]

ATTEST:

/s/ Tara Peek – Deputy
Kathy Mick,
Jackson County Clerk

L38t1

■ Courthouse...

Continued from Page 1

When the Courthouse opens, the south door will be the only door available to the public, and the public will be limited to just the first floor to conduct business.

A Jackson County Sheriff's Office deputy will be stationed at the south door to screen those entering the building, the commissioners have reported.

Visitors to the Courthouse will have their temperature checked using an infrared thermometer when they enter. In addition to COVID-19 symptoms, the deputy will also check each visitor for weapons.

Once inside the Courthouse, an employee from the department the individual needs to visit will be summoned to the first floor to conduct business.

Those who need to conduct business with the district court will be allowed to go to the third floor, however, it was reported.

The commissioners continue to encourage people to conduct business over the phone or online, if possible.

As part of the resolution, the commissioners give each department head the authority to continue to determine which of their staff members may continue to work remotely and those that may take leave.

Each department head is also required to develop their own department specific protocols for when a Courthouse visitor must be present at the building to conduct business.

A dropbox will continue to be utilized on the west side of the Courthouse to conduct business, and all the departments' phone numbers will continue to be listed on the doors of the building.

Summer breaks begin soon at local districts

Local students will be virtually "dismissed" for summer break soon.

Friday, May 15, will be the last day of school for both Royal Valley and Jackson Heights students, it was reported.

ACCHS students will be dismissed for summer break on May 19.

Thursday, May 21, will be the last day of the 2019-20 school year for Holton and Wetmore students.

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Happy Birthday!



Since a party is out of the question during the pandemic, a card shower for the 90th birthday of Bob Brown is being hosted by his family. Help us celebrate by sending good wishes by the big day, May 20, to 400 Iowa St., Holton, KS 66436.

**From "The Kids"
Lezlee, Bryce and Lisa**

Public Notice

(First published in The Holton Recorder, Holton, Kan., on Wednesday, May 13, 2020.)

**IN THE DISTRICT
COURT OF JACKSON
COUNTY, KANSAS
(Petition Pursuant to
K.S.A. Chapter 59)**

**In the Matter of the
Estate of
Terry Lee Harter,
Deceased**

Case No. 20-PR-19

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS
TO ALL PERSONS
CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on the 11th day of May, 2020, a Petition for Issuance of Letters of Administration Under the Kansas Simplified Estates Act was filed in this Court by Tamah Linn Harter, heir of Terry Lee Harter, deceased.

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

Tamah Linn Harter,
Petitioner

Submitted and
Approved by:
Dennis A. White, #12108
White Law Office
120 West 5th Street,
P.O. Box 445
Holton, Kansas 66436
785-364-3971
Attorney for Petitioner

SUDOKU

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HOW IT WORKS:

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

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WL38t3

Ag Week Recap: Livestock futures mixed, grains higher

By Matt Hines

Livestock futures were mixed to end this past week with cattle futures higher for the week and hogs lower. Slaughter levels picked for both with cattle up 6 percent, compared to the week previous and hog slaughter up 15 percent.



Cash feedlot trade was in a wide range again this past week from \$95 to \$110 live. In

the end, the average is most likely steady with the week previous due to low volume traded still, but the top end was \$5 higher. April unemployment shot up to 14.7 percent, compared to only 3.5 percent in February, with more than 20 million jobs lost.

Compared to last week, steers and heifers sold steady to \$5 higher. Sharply higher CME Cattle Complex values mid-to-late-week brought the optimism back in the feeder cattle realm.

For the week, Friday, May 1 through Friday, May 8, June live cattle were up \$7.40, August was up \$7.65, May feeder cattle were up \$10.07, August was up \$9.30

and June lean hogs were down \$1. Boxed Beef, Choice was up \$83.40 at \$460.88 and Select was up \$91.86 at \$448.99. Pork carcass cutout was up \$9.89 at \$116.50.

Cattle slaughter for the week was estimated at 452,000 head, up 27,000 from the week previous but down 215,000 from last year. Year-to-date beef production was down 3.8 percent compared to a year ago with slaughter down 5.8 percent.

Hog slaughter for the week was estimated at 1,768,000 head, up 235,000 compared to the week previous but down 564,000 compared to a year ago. Year-to-date pork production was only 4 million pounds ahead of a year ago now with hog slaughter down .4 percent.

Equities and energies are starting this week lower. June live cattle went into a new recent high last Friday at \$98.47 with the contract low from a month ago at \$76.60. Resistance is right around \$100 with nearby support at \$86.

May feeders peaked last week

at \$130.85 with resistance next at \$134 and support at \$121. June lean hogs were on a lower trend last week but were still holding the higher trend over this past month with support at \$61, then \$55, and resistance up at \$67, then \$75.

Outside markets were higher last week, helping to at least hold grains and even ease them higher to end the week. Coming out of this weekend, the grain markets were looking at freezing temps and crop progress on Monday afternoon. The USDA updated supply and demand on Tuesday, and of course fuel demand, along with export activity, which will be influencers as well.

For the week, Friday, May 1 through Friday, May 8, July corn was up \$.0034, December was down \$.01, July soybeans were up \$.01, November was up \$.0012, July Kansas City wheat was down \$.03, July Chicago wheat was up \$.0512, July Minneapolis wheat was up \$.094 and July soybean meal was down \$1.70 per ton.

Grains started this week steady

to higher. Honestly, if energies weren't under pressure, I would expect grains even higher. Record low temps were hit in parts of the ECB over the weekend and a Mother's Day freeze has never been good for fall crops.

On Monday afternoon, the USDA updated crop progress and conditions, as I would expect to see a large jump in both corn and soybean percent planted. Corn planting could exceed 70 percent and soybeans up to 40 percent, which would be a jump of 20 percent for both.

On Tuesday, the USDA updated supply and demand, both domestically and worldwide, along with their first estimate of U.S. winter wheat production. The all wheat average trade production estimate is at 1.847 billion bushels (BBU) compared to 1.92 BBU production last year.

Hard red wheat (HRW) was at 739 million bushels (MBU) vs. 833 MBU and soft red wheat (SRW) was at 280 MBU vs. 239 MBU last year.

The other key number in Tuesday's report was this marketing year's corn ending stocks. Last month, USDA increased U.S. ending stocks by 200 MBU to 2.092 BBU. The average trade estimate for this month is looking for an additional 132 MBU to be added to push corn stocks up to 2.224 BBU.

Below normal temps across the eastern half of the U.S. are still in the forecast for the next couple days with heavy rain this week from the Southern Plains into the Corn Belt. The six-to-10-day outlook shows normal to above normal temps across the U.S. except for the West Coast and Pacific Northwest with above normal precipitation for all expect in the Southwest.

Note: There is risk of loss in trading commodity futures and options. Matt Hines is a licensed commodity broker for Loewen and Associates, Inc. of Manhattan, specializing in grain and livestock operations as well as commercial consulting clients since 2004.

Netawaka United Methodist

By Mary E. Edwards

Pastor Younghwan Won sent out the home worship bulletin (as he has done since March 20) to members of Netawaka United Methodist Church for Sunday, May 10.

The opening prayer: "Gracious God, on this day of the Festival of the Christian Home, the celebration of Mother's Day, the witness to the eternal love of Christ, remind us that we are responsible for caring for each other. We are to lift up rather than tear down, to support rather than abandon, to reach out when others have turned away. Give us hearts of love that in all places and times we may be a witness to the hope that is found in Jesus Christ. Amen."

The hymn of praise was "Father, I Adore You." Singing at home alone is different, but Pastor Young selects easy songs with words included. The scripture reading was from 1 Peter 2:2-10, the living stone and a chosen people. The sermon was titled "New Identity And Responsibility."

We have been considering holiness and going through challenging times as followers of Jesus. We are called to follow Jesus' footsteps and bear fruits of love and hope.

Are we seeking spiritual nourishment each day? Are we hungry for spiritual growth day by day? As new creations in Christ, we should have that desire for God. As we read God's word, the Holy Spirit will guide and lead us to live and be in God's will.

By ourselves we are not able to understand the will of God in this challenging time. We ask, "Why

does God put us in this hard situation? Why are so many dying?"

Sometimes God's word is rejected, but the book of Isaiah says, "'For my thoughts are not your thoughts,' says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts higher than yours ways."

As we have a new identity in Jesus, we also have a responsibility to nourish and support other to grow in God. With God's grace, we can carry out this responsibility.

"More Like You" was the hymn before closing with the Lord's Prayer.

Prayers are in order for Glenn Oxandale, who had a procedure last week to repair a crack in the spine. Paul Dibbern is doing well after a hospital stay for treatment of a wound. Doris said she had a nice Mother's Day.

Neva Douglas went for a nice ride in the country with her son, Rusty, on Saturday. They returned home with a hanging basket of beautiful flowers for her porch, a gift from Rusty and family.

On Sunday, Rusty, Pam and Laura brought Neva a treat from Dairy Queen. She also received calls from her son, Ron, and daughter, Kathryn, wishing her a happy Mother's Day.

Mike and Helen Edwards brought Mother's Day lunch to Mary Edwards. They visited Olive Hill Cemetery and stopped by Sue and Verlin Wichman's home for a "yard visit." The Wichmans are enjoying hummingbirds, many wrens, several orioles and some annoying woodpeckers. Their garden is growing.

Buck's Grove

By Donna Ashcraft

The following is a summary of Pastor Charlotte Milroy's sermon for Sunday, May 10, at Buck's Grove United Methodist Church.

The sermon for the fifth Sunday of Easter came from John 14:1-14 with the title "Heart Trouble."

Did you know that heart trouble is the leading cause of death in the world today? That is the medical kind of heart trouble. It is the cause of more than 7 million deaths a year, which accounts for 12 percent of all deaths.

The most common kind of heart trouble is coronary heart disease, which is the failure of the blood circulation to the heart muscles, resulting in a heart attack. This may result either from the thickening of the coronary arteries or from a blood clot that blocks the flow of blood through them.

Many have been advised by doctors to change their diet to low-fat and high fiber food, and to change their lifestyle to include more physical exercise and better stress management.

Some of us may be taking cholesterol lowering medicine. Others may have had stents inserted inside their coronary arteries or have undergone a heart by-pass operation. These are the remedies commonly prescribed for heart trouble.

There is also a different kind of heart trouble, one that afflicts not our blood pumping organ, but the very center of our being or personality, which is the seat of all our emotions. This kind of heart trouble can afflict anyone young or old, good or bad. Nobody is immune to it. Even our Lord Jesus was not immune to it.

We have seen three instances when Jesus' own heart was troubled. The first was in John 11:33, when Jesus felt the sorrow of losing His good friend Lazarus. The second was just after His triumphal entry into Jerusalem when He told Philip and Andrew that His hour had come, referring to His fast approaching death on the cross.

According to John 12:27, Jesus said, "Now my heart is troubled, and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour? But for this cause I came unto this hour."

The third time was in John 13:21 when Jesus revealed to His disciples that one of them would betray Him.

This shows that there is nothing wrong with having a troubled

heart.

It is part of life on this side of glory. What is important is how we deal with a troubled heart. We need to make use of the right remedy, which comes from the great physician, our Lord Jesus. He understands perfectly what it feels like to be troubled in His own heart. His remedy is bound to be the most effective way to deal with it.

Jesus with His disciples at the Last Supper sharing His final moments with them knew He was going to be crucified the next day. He told them that He would have to leave them soon, and naturally, this made the disciples feel quite fearful and anxious. In their hearts, the future seemed very uncertain. They had many questions. Why did their master have to leave them? What will become of them after He is gone?

This time of the coronavirus is unexpected. In all situations the question that troubles us is, "Why must this happen?"

Whenever you feel as if the walls of your life are closing in on you and there is no way out, you must apply to your troubled heart those tender words of comfort which Jesus gave to His disciples in John 14:1. He said, "Let not your heart be troubled: ye who believe in God, believe also in me."

John 14:6 is a very important verse. Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one goes to the Father except by me."

There is no greater source of encouragement for facing life's difficulties than to know God Himself personally. He is everything that we need for every kind of need. When you have this personal relationship with God through Christ, then you also have a new life and power within you to do great things for Him.

Whenever we are fearful about an uncertain and difficult future, we will also usually feel quite powerless to do anything. Setbacks in life often leave us feeling very weak and unable to move on.

Look at John 14 verse 12. Jesus said, "Verily, I say unto you. He that believeth in me, the works that I do shall He do also, and greater works than these shall He do; because I go unto my Father."

Prayer: Oh Lord we ask for strength, for spiritual strength to overcome our weakened hearts. You know our needs. We leave them with you. Amen.

Public Notice

(Published in The Holton Recorder, Holton, Kan., on Wednesday, May 13, 2020.)

JACKSON COUNTY

Public Hearing Notice CDBG CV Economic Development Application

Jackson County, KS will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, May 20, 2020, at 9:00 am in the county commission chambers located at 400 New York Avenue, Room 106, Holton, KS 66436 for the purpose of considering an application to be submitted to the Kansas Department of Commerce for Small Cities Community Development Block Grant funds under the CV Economic Development category.

A specific project application to be discussed is Economic Development Grants for small businesses located within Jackson County in the amount of \$300,000.00. The proposed project will consist of funds for working capital, inventory, wages, utilities, rent and other eligible expenses. All project beneficiaries will be within the county lines of Jackson County.

The estimated project cost is \$300,000.00, with the grant request for \$300,000.00 of the project cost. Other project proposals introduced at the hearing will be considered. Oral and written comments will be recorded and become a part of Jackson County's CDBG Citizen Participation Plan.

Reasonable accommodations will be made available to persons with disabilities. Requests should be submitted to the Jackson County Clerk by May 18, 2020.

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Textbook fees might be reduced for next year

By David Powls

Taking into consideration the financial toll that COVID-19 is taking on families in the district, the Holton school board Monday evening at its meeting on Facebook live discussed whether to reduce textbook fees and other elective course fees by 50 percent for the next school term.

"A lot of parents lost a lot due to COVID-19," Superintendent Bob Davies said in his remarks to the board. "We have a lot of families who will be struggling next year."

Davies suggested cutting textbook fees from \$45 to \$22.50 and offering tech insurance on laptops, for example, for free instead of \$50, too.

Board member Orin Marshall said it might be better to offer a 50 percent rebate on the textbook and other fees next year, instead of actually approving a motion to lower the fees, since the fees would have to be increased the following year.

Other board members said they were interested to learn what the financial impact of the plan would be to the district and Supt. Davies was instructed to report on that at the next board meeting in June.

The school board, at its meeting, approved a motion 7-0 to update its policy on determining whether to enroll students who live outside the district boundaries. Davies said that the district currently has about 100 students enrolled in the district from out-of-district homes.

Davies said student grades, student attendance and student behavior are three reasons why the district could deny out-of-district students to be enrolled - or re-enroll - in the district. He added that he'd like to add a fourth reason - parental behavior.

Davies said 99 percent of the

time, there are no issues, but he added that if there is a pattern of continued issues with parents, that might be a valid reason to deny out-of-district enrollment.

In other business, the school board:

- *Approved bills totaling \$226,013 and payroll totaling \$1,184,134.26.

- *Accepted the resignation of Ruth Weber, assistant superintendent and curriculum director, after one year of working in the district.

- *Accepted the resignations of Geonlvia Pollock, food service; Christa Schloo, special ed para at JHES; Melissa Green, special ed speech at Onaga; and Colby Stoller, assistant softball coach.

- *Noted the retirements of Margie Grace, elementary school counselor, and April Gordon, special ed para at Royal Valley. Grace has worked in the school district more than 30 years, she said, in her letter to the board.

- *Approved certified and classified staff renewals for the Holton district and the Holton Special Education Cooperative, as presented on a list.

- *Approved the renewal of the district's contract with Delta Dental with no increases from the current contract.

- *Acknowledged a letter from the Kansas State Department of Education dated April 13 that stated the district "Meets Requirements" level of determination through IDEA State Performance Plan Report for FFY 2018."

- *Discussed alternative high school graduation dates with Rod Wittmer, HHS principal. Wittmer said a survey of this year's graduating seniors indicated they would like to have a traditional graduation ceremony. With that said, Wittmer said,

date options being considered are June 27, July 11 or July 25.

- *Reviewed a list of proposed school board meeting dates for next year that are similar to the current year. The board is expected to decide on meeting dates at its next meeting.

- *Discussed fund-raising activities in the district. Davies said he would try to compile a list of the school fund-raisers for each building for discussion at the next meeting.

- "Some people can't do all of them," Davies said, referring to families in the district. "We have a lot of fund-raisers. If you asked me to name them all today, I couldn't. I just think it's a good idea to review these kinds of things every once in a while."

- *Discussed the district's policy on contracted services and the district's bid process. This is another policy that probably should be reviewed from time to time, Davies suggested.

- "I see the value in staying with a contracted service until there's a problem," Davies said. "I also see the value in bidding products and services every three to five years. I am not trying to change anything. I just want to do what you want me to do."

- Board member Mike Ford suggested that since the district has four or five buildings, some projects could be divided up that way and bid separately.

- "Doing business local is so important," Ford said. "We should use local vendors as much as possible. They support our district."

- Another board member suggested local businesses should be favored over non-local ones.

- Davies thanked board members for their input and said he would continue to follow guidelines currently in place.

- *Approved a motion 7-0 to

renew the district's Parents As Teachers program contract with Keystone Learning Services for next year for four units serving 32 families at cost of \$19,500.

- *Approved a motion 7-0 to allow the Holton Special Education Cooperative to enter into either a one-year lease at \$550 per month (plus utilities) or a two-year lease at \$495 per month (plus utilities) for office space on the north side of the Holton Town Square for three staff members who will be relocating from the annex building at Holton Elementary School. The cooperative board of directors, consisting of superintendents from member school districts, meets this week to make the final decision on the lease, it was reported.

- *Heard from Davies that a decision will need to be made soon on whether to offer summer school classes. He suggested forming a task force to determine if, and how, summer school could be offered.

- *Met in executive session four times for a total of one hour and 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel issues with Davies, Holton Special Education Cooperative Director Amy Haussler and HSPEC Assistant Director Jeff Price. Becky Andreason, a para at Royal Valley Middle School, joined in one of the executive sessions for 15 minutes.

- *Met in executive session two times for a total of 35 minutes with Davies and HHS Principal Rod Wittmer to discuss non-elected personnel.

- *Met in executive session for five minutes with Davies to discuss non-elected personnel.

- *Upon returning to open session, adjourned the meeting at 9:06 p.m.

Jackson Heights board

Continued from Page 1

"I am very happy to be returning to the elementary level but yet still have the association with secondary students through athletics," she said. "As soon as the state allows, I'm looking forward to meeting students, staff, families and the communities that make up Jackson Heights."

She began her work with the Seaman district as assistant principal and athletic director at Logan Junior High School for five years, then worked at Elmont Elementary School for 10 years. She moved to the Seaman district office and served as director of elementary and secondary education, including one year where she split her duties as education director and middle school principal.

Diederich replaces Cody Witte, who served as the Jackson Heights district's athletic director for the last three years and as elementary principal for the past year. Walsh said board members approved a \$74,000 salary for Diederich in her first year with the district.

In other business on Monday, the board:

- * Approved the meeting's agenda and consent agenda, the latter including minutes from the board's April 13 meeting, monthly bills and activity account reports and receipt of a \$37,744 CARES grant.

- * Reviewed a set of guidelines for summer athletic activities and camps as recommended by the Kansas State High School Activities Association.

- * Approved the district's list of technology purchases for the 2020-21 school year, totaling \$69,182.15, as submitted by district technology director Vern Andrews and amended by Walsh.

- * Heard a report from Walsh

about signs of appreciation delivered to district teachers.

- * Heard a report from Walsh about facility work and preparations for the 2020-21 year, including work on the concrete wall outside the preschool classroom and possible fuel bids.

- * Noted that the district plans to go ahead with driver's education classes for this summer, pending consultation between the Jackson County Health Department and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment on student distancing.

- * Heard a report from Walsh on possible use of television news programs as sources for classroom discussions.

- * Heard a report from middle and high school principal Darren Shupe on end-of-year activities for students and middle and high school cheerleading tryouts for 2020-21.

- * Heard a report from Witte about a "teacher parade" scheduled for this Friday, end-of-year activities for elementary students and an upcoming retirement reception for Sheryl Kuglin, who is retiring after 40 years as an elementary teacher.

- * Met in executive session for 10 minutes with Walsh present to discuss non-elected personnel matters. After the session, board members approved contracts for John Troxel as custodian and Rachel Thomas as summer custodian, in addition to the contract approved for Diederich, and accepted the resignation of Chris Brown as middle and high school physical education teacher and coach.

- * Approved a list of certified staff for the 2020-21 school year.

- * Adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m. All seven board members were present for the meeting.

Land transfers

The following land transfers have been filed with the Jackson County Register of Deeds Office, located on the second floor of the Courthouse.

- * Trustees deed: Lisa R. McLeod, trustee of the Abramson Trust, to Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, land in the northeast quarter of S28, T7S, R15E of the 6th P.M., Jackson County.

- * Warranty deed: Walnut Creek Farm L.L.C., Deborah Simecka, aka Debbie Simecka, member, Mary Jo Albright-Peterson, member, and Bill Albright, aka William Albright, aka William C. Albright to William Albright, three tracts of land in S26, T9S, R14E of the 6th P.M., Jackson County.

- * Warranty deed: Walnut Creek Farm L.L.C., Deborah Simecka, aka Debbie Simecka, member, Mary Jo Albright-

Peterson, member, and Bill Albright, aka William Albright, aka William C. Albright to the Martin L. Albright Revocable Trust, four tracts of land in S26, T9S, R14E of the 6th P.M., Jackson County.

- * Warranty deed: Walnut Creek Farm L.L.C., Deborah Simecka, member, Mary Jo Albright-Peterson, member, and Bill Albright, aka William Albright, aka William C. Albright to Trent M. Andler and Kay M. Andler, four tracts of land in S26, T9S, R14E of the 6th P.M., Jackson County.

- * Warranty deed: Donald E. Hrenchir Jr., power of attorney for Donald E. Hrenchir Sr. and Clara D. Hrenchir, aka Dolores Hrenchir, husband and wife, land in the southeast quarter of S19, T9S, R16E of the 6th P.M., Jackson County.

Coaching changes are noted

Royal Valley High School assistant boys basketball coach and head baseball coach Trent Oliva is headed back to Seaman High School as the Vikings new head baseball coach after three years at Royal Valley, it has been reported.

The Panthers boys basketball team has a new head boys basketball coach in Chris Brown, the former head boys basketball coach at Jackson Heights, it has been reported.

Brown will also be the new physical education teacher at Royal Valley Elementary School.

Boil water advisory at Wetmore lifted

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) recently issued a boil water advisory for the City of Wetmore, located in Nemaha County, it has been reported. This morning, the advisory was lifted.

Under a boil water advisory, customers should observe the following precautions until further notice:

- * If your tap water appears dirty, flush the water lines by letting the water run until it clears.

- * Boil water for one minute prior to drinking or food preparation or use bottled water.

- * Dispose of ice cubes and do not use ice from a household automatic icemaker.

- * Disinfect dishes and other food contact surfaces by immersion for at least one

minute in clean tap water that contains one teaspoon of unscented household bleach per gallon of water.

- * Water used for bathing does not generally need to be boiled. Supervision of children is necessary while bathing so that water is not ingested. Persons with cuts or severe rashes may wish to consult their physicians.

The advisory took effect on Monday, May 11, and remained in effect until the conditions that placed the system at risk of bacterial contamination were resolved.

KDHE issued the advisory because of a line break resulting in a loss of pressure in the system. Failure to maintain adequate pressure may result in a loss of chlorine residuals and bacterial contamination.

Regardless of whether the public water supplier or KDHE announced a boil water advisory, only KDHE can issue the rescind order following testing at a certified laboratory.

For consumer questions, please contact the water system or KDHE at 785-296-5514. For consumer information please visit KDHE's PWS Consumer Information webpage at www.kdheks.gov/pws/emergencyresponse/water_disruption.htm.

Restaurants and other food establishments that have questions about the impact of the boil water advisory on their business can contact the Kansas Department of Agriculture's food safety and lodging program at 785-564-6767 or kda.fsl@ks.gov.

Tribe-owned casinos may be reopening soon

Three tribe-owned casinos in northeastern Kansas may all reopen to the public on Monday, June 1, after being closed since mid-March due to concerns over the possible spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus), it has been reported.

Officials at Sac and Fox Casino north of Holton and Casino White Cloud, owned and operated by the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska near White Cloud, are both looking at reopening on June 1, according to statements released by both casinos last Friday.

Golden Eagle Casino, owned and operated by the Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas west of Horton, issued a May 5 statement in

which casino officials said they are "watching to make sure our open date coincides with safety measures" and that while "a firm open date" has not been set, they are looking at a tentative June 1 opening.

Prairie Band Casino and Resort has not yet announced a date for reopening, although Firekeeper Golf Course, which is owned and operated by the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, has remained open with restrictions. The casino has also been offering a "curbside" dinner menu since early April, it was reported.

Four state-owned casinos, including Hollywood Casino in Kansas City, Kansas Crossing in

Pittsburg, Kansas Star Casino in Mulvane and Boot Hill Casino in Dodge City, are also closed and will not be allowed to reopen until they are authorized to do so under the second phase of the state's reopening plan, from which the tribal casinos are exempt.

The state-owned casinos could reopen as soon as Monday, May 18 — the earliest possible date for the second phase of the reopening plan to begin — as long as the Kansas Department of Health and Environment approved plans for protecting the health and safety of casino customers and employees, it was reported.

Band canceled

The Jackson County Community Band has canceled its summer concert season due to concerns about the possible spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus), according to Jayme Malsom, one of the volunteer directors for the band.

"We are deeply saddened to make this decision but feel it is in the best interest of the band members and concert-going patrons," Malsom said. "Everyone's health is just too important to risk it. We really appreciate all of the support the Holton and Jackson County communities have given to us. And we want you all to know that if we are able to, we will be back in the summer of 2021 with our next concert season."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear editor,

In response to the March 4, 2020, Mayetta City Council meeting minutes published in the April 20-22 edition of *The Holton Recorder*, I was told by the city attorney that my exceptions would be duly noted in these minutes.

Duly noted, yes, but not accurately noted, and since they weren't recorded in the minutes as I presented them to the council at the meeting, I would like the facts to be noted — if not in the City of Mayetta's minutes as it should be, it will be published for viewing and for voters to see.

The first issue I have regarding the Jan. 2, 2020 city council meeting minutes is the mayor's report, which reads that in August 2016, the council established a community foundation fund that will hold all donations made to the city. All donations made to the city through the foundation fund are tax exempt.

A board was appointed at this time to govern the expenditures from this account and their terms have expired. Then when the appointments to this committee were being voted on, the name of this committee became the Community Foundation

Fund Governing Board, along with varied terms for members to serve on this board from one to three years.

That information did not sound accurate to me, so I did some checking and found in the minutes from Sept. 7, 2016, the mayor's report reads that the foundation fund for the spray park has been set up and we now need to appoint a committee to advise the council on expenditures.

The mayor recommended a committee of five, including two city council members, the mayor, a resident from outside the city limits and one from inside the city limits. These would be three-year terms.

I felt the council was being manipulated, and that they should be made aware of the facts.

First, that the name of the mayor's hand-picked committee changed from the "Foundation Committee" to the "Community Foundation Fund Governing Board;" second, that the "Foundation Committee" was set up to advise the council on expenditures and not to govern the expenditures from the foundation's account; third, that terms were for three years; and fourth, that donations made to this account are tax-deductible, not tax-exempt.

I felt the Jan. 2, 2020 minutes were misleading and should be amended, stating the correct committee information, and since the council was presented with false information about this committee, they should have the opportunity to vote again, as to the name, purpose, terms and appointments of this committee, or if this committee is even needed, as the spray park is almost finished.

I also stated that if the "Foundation Committee" had been spending the foundation funds without the council's approval prior to January 2020, they had been spending without the authority to do so.

It could be that the reason the mayor was being so adamant about changing the name and purpose of this committee and getting it recorded in the present minutes, that in 2016, his committee governed the expenditures from this fund.

I requested that they amend the Jan. 2, 2020 meeting minutes, using the correct information from the Sept. 7, 2016 minutes as to the committee's name, purpose and terms as it was established.

Attorney Barnes told me that since these minutes had already been approved, they couldn't be changed, and my exceptions would

be duly noted in the March 4, 2020 meeting minutes. I did not agree with him that approved minutes could not be amended by a vote of the council; this was also not noted in the minutes.

I never requested that the officially approved minutes from August and September 2016 be amended, as was implied in the March minutes. However, I did request that they amend the Jan. 2, 2020 minutes, which was omitted from the minutes. So, how I see it, the March 4 meeting minutes are not accurate, either.

I would also like for it to be noted that in their response to changing the minutes of August and September of 2016, it says that they should not be amended at this time, leaving them the option to change them at a later time.

My first letter to the editor was a bit lengthy and I was asked to shorten it. I still have more to report, so I will write another letter later as to other actions of our city government.

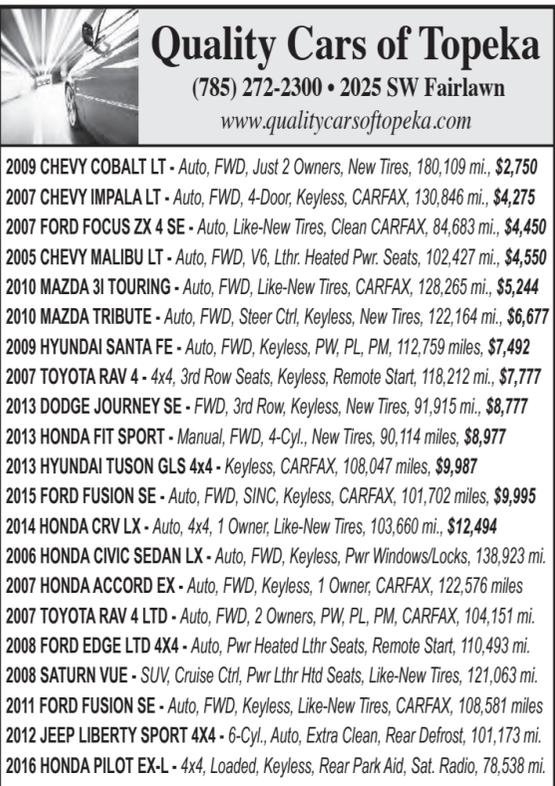
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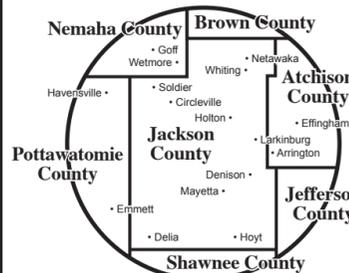
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We have appliance parts in stock. Call Jayhawk TV & Appliance at 364-2241.

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BARRELS: Camping firewood; Pigeons \$5-each; Handi-cap Equipment, Furniture; In-Vac-Care Hospital Beds; Jazzy Mobility Chair, new batteries. Appliances, Windows, Doors, Sinks. (785)969-9167/Holton.

KPA Classified Ads

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BEST SATELLITE TV with 2 Year Price Guarantee! \$59.99/mo with 190 channels and 3 months free premium movie channels! Free next day installation! Call 316-223-4415

Misc.
Get A-Rated Dental Insurance starting at around \$1 PER DAY! Save 25% on Enrollment Now! No Waiting Periods. 200k+ Providers Nationwide. Everyone is Accepted! Call 785-329-9747 (M-F 9-5 ET)

Misc.
BATHROOM RENOVATIONS. EASY, ONE DAY updates! We specialize in safe bathing. Grab bars, no slip flooring & seated showers. Call for a free in-home consultation: 855-382-1221

Misc.
Medical Billing & Coding Training. New Students Only. Call & Press 1. 100% online courses. Financial Aid Available for those who qualify. Call 888-918-9985

Misc.
Recently diagnosed with LUNG CANCER and 60+ years old? Call now! You and your family may be entitled to a SIGNIFICANT CASH AWARD. Call 866-327-2721 today. Free Consultation. No Risk.

Misc.
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Garage Sales

MOVING SALE: Friday/May 15, 8a.m.-5p.m. & Saturday/May 16, 8a.m.-11a.m. 120 Roselawn Dr./Holton. Furniture, set of china dishes, some Nikko Christmas time dishes, lamps, wall pictures, electric skillet, pots & pans, Dept. 56 Christmas collectibles, miscellaneous odds & ends.

Farm Equipment

FOR SALE: 2003 John Deere 567 round baler, mega-wide, new tires, field ready! 785-456-5427.

FOR SALE: 2-horse trailer and 3 saddles. 785-364-6453.

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Farm Land

40 ACRES pasture, fenced, Soldier, KS for sale. Water line available, electricity across road, great location for building house, 13 miles West of Holton, 1/2-mile North on D Road. Claude Savage, 714-349-2525.

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Crossword Answers

EMBRYO ARABLE
SIDECAR SALAMIS
UT APPETITES GN
SHOTT GAD SADHE
HENS TOTEST LATE
IRSPAN SISFEZ
LWEI TOFFEE
SPAIN FROND
ELUTED SAID
DAGSAD VARIAN
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DEMESNE NATIONS
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Employment

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Three 12-hour shifts per week!

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If you are interested in becoming a part of a team that is making a difference in our residents' lives, call us at 785.857.3388 for more information or apply online at www.chcsks.org.

A Division of Community HealthCare System, Inc. EOE.

Miscellaneous

WORD CLASSIFIED ADS in The Holton Recorder are placed FREE online at www.holtonrecorder.net!

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

IF YOU BELIEVE you have been the victim of identity theft or a scam, you can file a report online with the Consumer Protection Division at www.InYourCornerKansas.org or call 1-800-432-2310. - Any questions about any classified ads in The Holton Recorder please call, 364-3141.

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, 2020-2021. Phil and Colene Gutierrez, Roger Ackeret, Joseph B. Nick, Harold Knouft, Larry & Marguerite Mzhickteno, Charlene Zeller and Rueben Zeller.

LINEMAN

This position is responsible for ground assistance in repair and construction of electric distribution system, assists with aerial work, shop and equipment maintenance. High school diploma/GED required, completion of line school and at least 2 years experience preferred.

Applications accepted until position is filled. Applications available at www.holtonkansas.org and at City Hall, 430 Pennsylvania, Holton, KS 66436. For questions contact Scott Fredrickson at 785-364-3425. The addition of a resume and cover letter is encouraged, but not required. EOE.

ASSISTANT PAYROLL CLERK

Holton USD #336 has an opening for an Assistant Payroll Clerk.

This is a 12-month position and pays \$13.05 per hour with benefits.

Skills required for this position: Telephone skills, good verbal, listening and written communication skills, Microsoft Office skills, 1+ year experience in accounting/secretarial, professional, capable of multi-tasking, working independently and can handle pressure in a professional manner.

This position is open until filled. An application can be obtained on our website at: <http://www.holton.k12.ks.us/district/employment> Applications can also be picked up at the District Office at 515 Pennsylvania, Holton. All applications are to come to the district office or e-mailed to d.folk@holtonks.net

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Word Search Answers

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NCSLWVGNLHNOHNKPPBEJ
CLLVCFUICFYTMTI
OEDBYTSTRANUDTUBUCUE
GVLEPSSRANUDTUBUCUE
ZGLMAMPHESTANUDTUBUCUE
VKATNASESTANUDTUBUCUE
VFEYJBNENHNFEBJFV
IAELTYNRYFESKVTJF
ALLSTZNGHGTTFESKVTJF
ORITFCGWHPTGZSCXVGRILL
ZUOOLVBLKBEZOLDLHSP
TVDNUSITCRGGLGCARE
VVCVJMTIFIWOSJHSDJL
VHKADINEREYSIEVNA

Word Search Answers

GRZKOSFZHNSKCCZJVVSEWTFPL
NVETDZNRNOBHWFUJGOTUWVLY
NCSLWVGNLHNOHNKPPBEJ
CLLVCFUICFYTMTI
OEDBYTSTRANUDTUBUCUE
GVLEPSSRANUDTUBUCUE
ZGLMAMPHESTANUDTUBUCUE
VKATNASESTANUDTUBUCUE
VFEYJBNENHNFEBJFV
IAELTYNRYFESKVTJF
ALLSTZNGHGTTFESKVTJF
ORITFCGWHPTGZSCXVGRILL
ZUOOLVBLKBEZOLDLHSP
TVDNUSITCRGGLGCARE
VVCVJMTIFIWOSJHSDJL
VHKADINEREYSIEVNA

Sudoku Answers

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

The Holton Recorder Classifieds



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Craig M. Fox
(785) 305-1636



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Diana Rieschick
(785) 364-0267



Roger Hower
(785) 364-8272

20026 K-16 Hwy., Holton
\$49,500
1 BR, 1 BA
Roger Hower
#212589
Cute & Cozy Starter Home

609 Nebraska Ave., Holton
\$139,500
3 BR, 2.5 BA
Roger Hower
#212426
Open Floor Plan

16575 178th Rd., Mayetta
\$195,900
3 BR, 2 BA
Roger Hower
#212836
Move-In Ready!

21300 P Rd., Holton
\$285,000
4 BR, 3 BA
Roger Hower
#212363
Sprawling, Covered Deck

20797 R4 Rd., Holton
\$380,000
3 BR, 1.5 BA
Roger Hower
#209787
Privacy with Long Driveway

301 Dakota Ave., Holton
\$225,000
Roger Hower
#211217
Small Town Car Wash

121 New York Ave., Holton
\$74,900
2 BR, 1 BA
Roger Hower
#209979
Somewhat Open Floor Plan

324 E. 3rd St., Holton
\$144,900
2 BR, 3 BA
Roger Hower
#212192
Finished Basement

203 W. 1st St., Holton
\$206,900
2 BR, 1 BA
Roger Hower
#210461
Senior Living (Age 55 & up) Subdivision

23590 T Rd., Holton
\$319,000
3 BR, 2 BA
Roger Hower
#208302
Quality Built & Well Maintained

000 Banner Rd., Holton
\$159,500
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719 Wisconsin Ave., Holton
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TIME TO BUILD
Westridge Rd., Holton: Lot #5 - 4.64 A ml
Westridge Rd., Holton: Lot #7 - 4.07 A ml
Necole Rd., Holton: Lot #8 - 3.89 A ml
Necole Rd., Holton: Lot #12 - 4.58 A ml
218th Rd., Holton: 3.0 A ml
NW 62nd St., Topeka: 4.56 A ml
Shenandoah Rd., Topeka: Lot A, Blk C - .32 A ml

Rental Property
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From left to right in the photo above, Ron Gifford, Enrique Zamora and Kirk Gifford spent part of last Thursday working on restoring the Soldier community well, which has been out of commission for several years. The restoration project was a labor of love for Ron Gifford, who has been restoring wells with his brother for several years.

Photo by Brian Sanders

■ Soldier Well...

Continued from Page 1

Restoration work on the old, hand-dug well was done completely on a volunteer basis, said Gifford, citing the efforts of area residents who provided him and his crew with equipment to repair the well, as well as historical knowledge about the well.

A couple of weekends ago, the Gifford brothers and other members of their work crew came to Soldier to set up lodging at Red Rock Guest Ranch east of town, discovering the old well on the way.

After discussing their plan with Soldier mayor Penny Ludlow, Red Rock Guest Ranch owner Bill Brown — who estimated that the well had not been in active use since the late 1970s or early 1980s — and other Soldier residents, Gifford said, the crew got the go-ahead to work on the well.

According to an account written by Soldier resident Clyde Minner in 1916, the “town well and pump” was located in front of the town’s blacksmith shop.

“It was used by several people for drinking water as Soldier didn’t have a water system,” Minner wrote. “It had a water trough for horses but the water was pumped by hand. The pump is still there.”

Work on restoring the well began on Monday, May 4, and Gifford’s crew dug through four feet of concrete to get to the well’s

pump, finding out that the actual well was located about 10 feet away from the pump. Pieces of the pump system were badly rusted, so the crew decided to install a completely new pump system in its place.

As for the well itself, it was located closer to the roadway and under the street. Gifford said the well, which appeared to be 23 feet deep, was filled about halfway with water.

“The water was clear,” he said. “We’re going to test it.”

Brown said Monday that water from the well was being tested to make sure that it is potable for people and animals. The water will also be used to water plants and other items in the park, he added.

A new manhole was installed to allow Soldier city officials access to the pump and the well for maintenance purposes, Gifford said.

In addition to installation of the new pump system, the well’s housing received new shingles and a new coat of paint, and a plaque that Soldier’s Extension Home Unit placed near the well in 1976 was rehung.

Gifford also said that while the process of bringing the well back to life was “kind of fun,” what was most encouraging was “the tremendous amount of support”

from Soldier residents who came out to watch the restoration process and take photos for posterity.

He also expressed gratitude to Aaron Jones, a local HVAC contractor and a member of the Soldier City Council who provided Gifford’s crew with equipment and other materials to finish the job.

“Aaron was a super nice guy and super helpful,” Gifford said. “He supplied us with some 2x6s, and he loaned us some equipment we didn’t have. He took a real interest.”

Brown also praised the work of the Giffords in restoring the piece of Soldier’s history.

“It’s a mission of generosity and love to the residents of Soldier,” Brown said. “What a kind and generous gift during these trying times.”

And while the new manhole and pump system were described as “pretty hefty” by Gifford — “The next guy is not going to want to take this apart,” he said with a laugh — he and his crew, including his son Kirk, along with “top-notch” co-worker Enrique Zamora, were proud to do something for the Soldier community while they were in the area.

“We saw it, and we figured, why not get it to run?” Gifford said. “This is their well, but it’s something we wanted to do.”

■ Graduations...

Continued from Page 1

will receive their diplomas. Leading the class are valedictorians Hadley Gregory and Cassidy Parks.

And at **Atchison County Community High School** in Effingham, senior valedictorians Victoria Caplinger, Sarah Kimmi, Jayden McNerny, Graci Postma

and Kayla Vanderpool, along with salutatorian Tucker Smith, will lead their class of 42 seniors in a commencement ceremony to be held either on Sunday, July 26 or Sunday, Aug. 2.

Wetmore High School will announce the valedictorian and salutatorian of this year’s

graduating class of 12 seniors on Friday, school officials noted. Graduation ceremonies have been scheduled for Sunday, July 26, it was reported.

Selected students from Kickapoo Nation School and Rossville High School are also honored in today’s special section.

Commissioners seeking grant funds to assist local businesses

By Ali Holcomb

The Jackson County Commissioners are seeking \$300,000 from the Community Development Block Grant-CV funds program to assist local businesses affected by COVID-19 (coronavirus), it has been reported.

The state is expected to receive more than \$9 million as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, and counties and cities can now begin applying for these funds, it was reported.

Jackson County Commissioner Janet Zwonitzer said the county is seeking \$300,000 in funds to

serve as business grants for area businesses.

If awarded, the grants must be awarded to Jackson County businesses to be used for working capital, inventory, wages, utilities, rent and other eligible expenses.

Before the county can submit its application to the state, the commissioners are required to hold a public hearing, which has been set for 9 a.m. on Wednesday, May 20, at the commission meeting room on the first floor of the Jackson County Courthouse.

A public notice regarding this hearing is published on page 12 of this edition of

The Holton Recorder.

“We want Jackson County to be first in line to receive these funds,” Zwonitzer said. “We know the money will go quickly, and we want to help businesses that have struggled through this pandemic.”

Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly recently announced that the \$9 million in federal funding was now available through the CDBG program, which is administered by the Kansas Department of Commerce.

The state began taking applications yesterday (Tuesday), and funds are awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis until all the funds have been disbursed.

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