

The Anderson County Review



COPY PRICE - ONE MEASLY U.S. DOLLAR
December 26, 2023
 SINCE 1865 157th Year, No. 49

The official newspaper of record for Anderson County, KS, and its communities.

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THE ANDERSON COUNTY REVIEW 12-26-2023 / BARB HICKS

The Anderson County Review recently added a historical exhibit to its main lobby with the acquisition of an 1890s-era Washington style hand press. The 2,100 pound piece of machinery and similar designs were a staple of the printing industry from the mid-1850s through the early 1900s. A rare find with nearly all its components intact, it was acquired from a Chicago-area auction house and required tow trucks to load and unload and is currently undergoing restoration. The helpful installation and re-assembly crew included, from left: Jeff Chandler of Jeff's Towing & Recovery and crewmen Shane McWhorter and Colton Egger, Bob Bennett, Review publisher Dane Hicks, and Steve Cox.

Former local man notches 1,000th broadcast milestone

Jim Hills has been the "Voice of the Wildcats" for two decades

BY KATIE MCMURRAY COFFEY COUNTY REPUBLICAN

BURLINGTON — On Friday, Dec. 15, Burlington High School not only hosted the always-competitive girls' and boys' basketball games featuring Pioneer League rivals Wellsville and Burlington, but also made a special recognition for a special figure on the sideline who hit a major milestone in his radio broadcast career.

Jim Hills, owner of Burlington Auto Supply and well known as the Voice of the Wildcats on KSNP's 97.7 The Dawg radio station, broadcast his 1,000th game from the BHS gymnasium when the Ladycats and Wildcats took on Wellsville's Eagles. Gene Morrow, the station manager at KSNP, made a presentation to Hills between the girls' and boys' varsity games, and Hills' actual 1,000th game was the BHS Wildcat boys' varsity game with Wellsville. Hills described it as a peculiar twist of fate, as when he was recognized with a plaque for his 500th broadcast, the game was also against Wellsville.

Hills got his start as a sports broadcaster 20 years ago. "I received a call from the

radio station on a Tuesday after Labor Day in 2003, when their former sports broadcaster informed them he was leaving town and would not be available for the game coming up on Friday," Hills said. "I had recorded several advertisements for my business, and they thought my voice would play well on a football broadcast. They had contacted Tony Furse from BHS, who had



THE ANDERSON COUNTY REVIEW 12-26-2023 / MICHAELA DIVOL

Jim Hills and his assistants have been calling play-by-play for Burlington teams for 20 years.

broadcasting experience, and he needed a color commentator to work with him."

Hills and Furse got in con-

SEE BROADCAST ON PAGE 11

Republicans tell Governor Medicaid expansion is "DOA"

BY DAVID HICKS THE SENTINEL

TOPEKA — Kansas Senate President Ty Masterson and House Speaker Dan Hawkins indicate Governor Laura Kelly's latest effort to secure Medicaid expansion is "dead on arrival" when introduced next year in the legislature.

At a roundtable discussion on child care in Emporia, the governor paired Medicaid expansion with alleviating the shortage of child care workers in the state:

"Parents rely on affordable, quality child care to participate in the workforce and contribute to our economy. Yet right now, far too many of our child care centers are struggling to find the workers they need to keep their doors open, as workers leave the industry or even the state because they don't have health insurance. We must expand Medicaid to extend health insurance to more working Kansans, so child care providers can recruit and retain workers and create more options for Kansas families."

Senator Masterson criticized the proposal as an effort to "expand the welfare state":

"Cloaked in a fake work requirement and a tax scheme, the governor's proposal to expand the welfare state creates more problems than it solves. It is poor pub-

lic policy to push able-bodied adults off of private insurance and onto a government program that was intended for the truly vulnerable. While we all agree that health care is too expensive, its cost is largely driven by government — and so adding more government is not a solution.

"Instead of more government, Kansans need and deserve more personal choice and control. They need more options, with more competition and price transparency, and less hassle through reforms that help people obtain quality private health coverage, providing superior health outcomes and more timely access to care."

Speaker Hawkins derided the governor's offer of a work requirement to secure the benefit:

"While I appreciate the governor's newly-found support for work requirements for welfare benefits, this is nothing more than smoke and mirrors because Governor Kelly most surely knows that the Biden Administration has not approved any Medicaid work requirement and proactively revoked every single work requirement approved previously.

"As she continues to make false promises, House

SEE DOA ON PAGE 5

Chips, money, politics topped stories in '23

Local residents dealt with gas prices, inflation and politics as hopes for growth sidled in

BY DANE HICKS THE ANDERSON COUNTY REVIEW

GARNETT — While Anderson County residents tried to find ways to outrun nagging inflation, high gasoline prices and escalating property taxes that punched at their household finances last year and would continue through most of 2023, local residents got some good news in some developing opportunities that gave a little hope to an otherwise gray economic landscape.

Economic development, chip & houses

The year started off with some pretty good news for Eastern Kansas. News in the Fall of 2022 that Panasonic had broken ground in DeSoto on a lithium battery plant that will employ as many as 4,000 workers was followed in February by announcements by EMP Shield that it would build a \$1.9 billion semiconductor plant in Coffey County to employ some 1,200 workers — a story that came shortly after word of a planned Integra Technologies chip plant in Wichita similar to the Coffey County plan.

Suddenly, lots of jobs seemed to be heading to within driving distance of Anderson County. But planners in the region saw a different problem — most surrounding counties in East Central Kansas just didn't have the available, affordable housing to meet the needs of an influx of workers that would follow those jobs. After push-back from the Garnett Housing Authority which was reticent to execute a housing survey of the area, Garnett officials pushed ahead with a study and made two new development-oriented appointments to the city's housing board.

The housing conundrum locally is affected by national factors as well. Few moderately-priced homes have been built in Garnett over the last few decades, mean-



THE ANDERSON COUNTY REVIEW 12-26-2023 / REVIEW FILE PHOTO

The Bike Across Kansas event made a big splash in Garnett in 2023 and finished off with a well-attended recognition program on the Anderson County Courthouse courtyard.

ing supply of housing is low. A conventional plan to build more senior housing options, in hopes those present homeowners would sell their homes to move to more hassle-free abodes and bring their present homes onto the market could take years to come together.

As expected, the study results reviewed in April pointed out the lack of housing supply but made suggestions to rectify it with development options like refurbishing delinquent structures and promoting construction on vacant home lots in town. As 2023 waned, some local projects were beginning to take root in the area with developers hoping to capitalize on regional growth.

But not all changes were good ones. The replacement of the city/county economic development director boiled into a personality conflict between outgoing director Julie Turnipseed and newly-hired Sherry Harrison, and an employment liability claim from Harrison against the city as the year ended. Though a black eye to the city, the tiff illuminated a city/county development organization which has

been too focused on bureaucracy, retention and administration with too little attention paid to recruitment toward a goal of expanding the county's tax base — a decades-long issue that's put homeowners and farmers more in the tax collector's crosshairs.

Money, one way or the other

That revelation about the local tax base pointed out a dynamic that's been growing in the county for decades and one much in the mind of those who pay property tax. As the county's industrial base declined, the property tax burden that funds city, county and school operations shifted more and more onto the back of homeowners and farmers whose assets by default replaced the industries the county has lost over the years.

That impact was compounded in the years post-Covid, when inflation fired by federal government spending drove prices higher for governments as well as family budgets, and market drivers pushed up the values of homes which was reflected in

SEE 2023 ON PAGE 3

NEWS IN BRIEF

REVIEW OFFICE CLOSED
The Anderson County Review office will be closed Monday January 1st for New Years.

TREASURER'S OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS
The Anderson County Treasurer's Office will be closed Monday, January 1, 2024 in observance of New Year's Day.

HOLIDAY TRASH SCHEDULE
Trash routes for the City of Garnett January 1-5 will be changed as follows: Monday there will be no service. Tuesday-Thursday they will run one day behind and on Friday they will pick up both Thursday and Friday routes.

TREASURER'S OFFICE TO CLOSE EARLY DEC. 29
The Anderson County Treasurer's Office will close at 11 a.m. for End Of Year Closing on Friday, December 29, 2023.

ACHS DANCE CLINIC
The ACHS Crimson Dancers will be having a dance clinic on Saturday, January 6, 2024 from 2 - 4 p.m. in the ACHS gym. Check-in begins at 1:30 p.m., late arrivals are welcome. Performance will be Friday, January 12 before the boys varsity basketball game.

AMERICAN LEGION BINGO
Bingo at American Legion Post 48 Garnett will be held every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE SCHEDULE
The Garnett Church of the Nazarene, 258 W. Park Rd., will have Sunday School at 9 a.m. and Worship beginning at 10 a.m. on New Year's Eve.

LAND TRANSFERS
Max B Harrell and Nancy L Harrell to Douglas R Erhart and Jodi L Erhart: Lots 6, 7, 8 and E2 lot 9 blk 49 City of Garnett.
Thelma I Culler to James R Smart: Lots 3, 4 & 5 less north 50' thereof, blk 45 City of Colony.
Mark Yutzky, Ryan Yutzky and Sylvia Yutzky to Kenneth S Price: Lots 5 thru 11 inclusive blk 1; lots 11, 14, 15, 18, 19, 22 & 23 blk 2; & all blk 10 in Highberger's Addition to Town of Westphalia, less beg at necor blk 10 in highberger's addition to town of westphalia, thence running south 250', thence running west 111', thence north 250', thence east 111' to pob; & also except beg 111' west of necor said blk 10 in highberger's addition to town of westphalia, thence west 122', thence south 112', thence east 122', thence north 112' to pob.
Mark Yutzky, Ryan Yutzky and Sylvia Yutzky to Kenneth S Price: Lots 1 thru 4 inclusive blk 1 Highberger's Addition to Town of Westphalia.
Brenda Jolene Hogan and Gary W Hogan to Drake Stephens: S2 se4 36-21-20 & ne4 se4 & 3 acres more or less off east side of nw4 se4 6-22-21.
Maple LLC to Confluence Ventures LLC: East 10' lot 16 & all lots 17, 18, 19 & 20 blk 12 Bronston Heights addition to City of Garnett, being a subdivision of part of se4 25-20-19; east 10' lot 16 & all lots 17, 18, 19 & 20 blk 12 Bronston Heights addition to City of Garnett, being a subdivision of part of se4 25-20-19.
Leanna J Trabuc to Charles Patrick Golden and Trena Loree Golden: Com at pt 230 2/3 feet west of secor nw4 se4 6-23-19, thence north 200', thence west 50', thence south 200', thence east 50' to pob.
Robert O Elliott to Sam C Gallaher and Genna M Gallaher: A tract of land in e2 e2 nw4 ne4 2-22-19, described as follows: Com at necor nw4 ne4 said section; thence n89°18'59" w on north line of nw4 said ne4 to pob a distance of 20.14 feet; thence s01°01'22" w a distance of 932.75 feet; thence n89°02'58" w a distance of 241.70 feet; thence n51°08'35" w to west line of e2 e2 nw4 ne4 said section a distance of 86.76 feet; thence n01°01'31" e on said west line to south r/w line of us 169 Hwy a distance of 828.24 feet; thence n83°45'24" e on said r/w line a distance of 240.68 feet; thence n01°15'32" e on said r/w line to north line of nw4 ne4 said section a distance of 20.73 feet; thence s89°18'59" e on said north line to pob a distance of 71.36 feet; said tract contains 6.40 acres, more or less; & except a reservation of all oil royalties and oil rights thereto.
David Hostetler to Hosty Rental LLC: Lots 19 & 20 blk 58 City of Garnett, & beg at pt on east line of North Oak Street, 221.00 feet south 0°30'47" east on north line of nw4 30-20-20, in Garnett, said north line having an assumed bearing of north 90°00'00" west, said pt being marked by a 1/2" iron bar; thence north 89°57'13" east 239.82 feet to west

line of old Santa Fe Railroad, now known as Rails to Trails and marked by a 1/2" iron bar; thence along said west line south 14°41'43" east 154.76 feet to 1/2" iron bar; thence south 89°57'13" west 277.74 feet to east line of said north Oak Street and 1/2" iron bar; thence along said east line, north 0°30'47" west 149.73 feet measured (148.0 feet deed) to pob; containing 0.89 acres; & com 680 1/3 feet south of necor nw4 30-20-20, thence south 110', thence west 496 1/3 feet; thence north 110 feet, thence east 496 1/2 feet to pob; except railroad r/w.
Vernon G Settlemyer and Ruth M Settlemyer to RLCB Settlemyer: S2 nw4 12-23-17 less beg at swcor said nw4; 9-29-2023 thence n01°29'15" w along west line of said nw4 a distance of 708.46 feet; thence s88°35'55" e a distance of 389.78 feet; thence s05°08'46" e a distance of 680.56 feet to south line of said nw4; thence s87°14'07" w along said south line a distance of 432.82 feet to pob; including those portions used for county road r/w purposes.
Ryan G Moore and Jori Moore to Roc Em LLC: Nw4 se4 20-21-20.
Harley C Yoder and Ruth Ann Yoder to Brian Glenn Miller and Regina Due Miller: All that part of ne4 26-20-18 lying north of Pottawatomie Creek.
Linca Barnhart to Linda Barnhart, Daniel Barnhart, Judy Barnhart, Terry Kellerman and Janet Kellerman: Lots 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12, except the north 25 feet, all in block 13 in the City of Harris.
George Bunnel to George W Bunnel Trustee and George W Bunnel Revocable Trust Dated 10-10-2023: Ne4 sw4 5-23-19.
Dwight A Nelson and Sandra L Otipoly to Dexter L Wiley and Macy N Wiley: W2 sw4 27-21-19 less minerals.
Gwen Stalcup and William R Stalcup to Robert D Ball: Ne4 ne4 20-21-19 (All our undivided 3/4 interest in and to).
Robert D Ball to Gwent Stalcup and William R Stalcup: All my undivided 1/4 interest in the following: ne4 20-21-19 except ne4 ne4 section 20 & 18 acres described as follows: beg at necor nw4 section 20, thence west 60 rods, thence south 48 rods, thence east 60 rods, thence north 48 rods to pob; said 18 acres being in necor nw4 20-21-19.
Robert D Ball to Brit Jordan Fulks and Allie Nikole Fulks.
Unified School District No. 365 Board of Education
Regular meeting held: Thursday, December 7, 2023, 7:00 p.m., Ray Meyer Gym Board Room.
Members present: Gina Witherspoon (President-presiding), Brian Schafer, Adam Caylor, Sonya Martin, Gaylene Comfort and Gary Teel. Michael Richards was absent.
Staff present: Donald Blome (Superintendent), Paula Wallace (Clerk), Jerrica McCarty (Asst. Business Manager), Stacey Hedges (Curriculum Director), Geoff Meiss

(Principal/ACJSHS), Marshall Nienstedt (Asst. Principal/ACJSHS), Angela Linn (Principal/GRE & WES), Dan Ackland (Principal/GES), Phil LaVota (District Police Officer), and Shelley Alexander (Teacher/ACJSHS).
Others present: Sean Gordon, Matt Self, Roger Shilling, Vicki Vossler, Colin Corley, Gaylon Corley, Lawrence Comfort and Gayla Corley.
Call to order: 7:00 p.m. by Witherspoon.
Recognitions: Gina Witherspoon recognized Gary Teel and Gaylene Comfort for their years of service as USD #365 Board of Education Members.
Public Comments: Phil LaVota announced the USD 365 police department, in collaboration with the Garnett Police department and the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, are pleased to announce a joint presentation on fentanyl and its potential impact on our community's youth. All USD 365 parents and patrons are invited to attend this presentation on Wednesday, December 13th, 2023 at 6:00pm. The presentation will take place in the auditorium of Anderson County Jr/Sr High School.
Ordering and approval of agenda: Motion to approve the agenda as presented. Martin, Comfort, passed 6-0.
Reports and Information:
• Audit Report – Sean Gordon
• Budget Summary – Don Blome
• Special Education Report – Vicki Vossler (Special Education Co-op)
• Negotiations Procedures – Don Blome
• KASB Superintendent Search –

Don Blome
Consent Agenda: Motion to approve the consent agenda. Schafer, Comfort, passed 6-0.
• Approved minutes of November 3rd regular meeting.
• Approved minutes of November 15th Special Meeting
• Payment of Claims
• Treasurers Report
• Activity Fund Account Statements
• Credit Card Account Statement
• Budget Transfers
Action Items
• Motion to accept and approve the report of the audit of the financial statements of the district for fiscal year 2022-2023 prepared by the accounting firm Gordon CPA. Comfort, Martin, passed 6-0.
• Motion to accept the gift of \$22,317.00 from the Throckmorton Riser Foundation to be used to purchase a new scoreboard system for the Anderson County Jr/Sr High School gym. Martin, Caylor, passed 6-0.
• Motion to approve the USD #365 graduation requirements and honor graduate requirements beginning with the graduating class of 2028. Caylor, Schafer, passed 6-0.
• Motion to approve Resolution 23-24-20. Schafer, Comfort, passed 6-0.
Discussion Items:
• Motion to approve the purchase of two (2) International buses from Midwest Transit for \$300,320.00 as per specification with pricing through the Kansas state bid order program. Martin, Schafer, passed 6-0.


• Motion to approve an agreement with Hollis Miller Architects to develop specifications and plans for remodeling nurse's station at Anderson County Jr/Sr High School and plans only for Science rooms and upper-level library windows. Superintendent to begin collecting information on roof repairs for Westphalia. Comfort, Martin, passed 6-0.
Break: None
Executive session:
• Motion that the board of education go into executive session to discuss the individual employee status, applicants for employment pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under KOMA with Superintendent Blome, Geoff Meiss, and Marshall Nienstedt and that the board will resume the open meeting in this room at 8:30 p.m. Witherspoon, Comfort, passed 6-0.
Marshall Nienstedt and Geoff Meiss leave executive session. 8:27 p.m.
• Motion that the board of education go into executive session to discuss the individual employee status, applicants for employment pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under KOMA with Superintendent Blome and that the board will resume the open meeting in this room at 8:40 p.m. Witherspoon, Caylor, passed 6-0.
There was no action taken during executive session.
Personnel:
• Motion to accept the retirement of Tonya Graham as a Garnett Elementary School Teacher. Witherspoon, Caylor, passed 6-0.

SEE RECORDS ON PAGE 11

Edward Jones > edwardjones.com | Member SIPC

Happy New Year

As the calendar turns the page, we wish you the very best in the year ahead.



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Thurs: Fried Chicken, mashed potatoes/gravy, dinner roll, \$10.50
Fri: Amish Wedding Feast, chicken stuffing, mashed potatoes/gravy \$11.50
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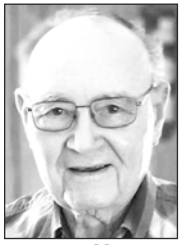
Traditional Pennsylvania Dutch Cooking

Saturday Breakfast Buffet 7:30-11:30

HAYNES

FEBRUARY 6, 1938 - DECEMBER 17, 2023

Garland Haynes, age 85, of Garnett, Kansas, passed away on Sunday, December 17, 2023, at The Mapleton Assisted Living in Andover, Kansas. He was born on February 6, 1938, in Garnett, Kansas, the son of James Alfred and Vivian M. (Dart) Haynes.



Haynes

Garland attended school in Garnett and graduated with the class of 1956. After high school he went directly into the Navy and became an Aviation mechanic and was a petty officer 3rd class. Garland served four years with fighter squadron 33. He was aboard the USS Intrepid and the USS Independence. After being honorably discharged he returned to Garnett and worked for Taylor Forge for two years before being employed for TWA as an aviation mechanic for three years. In 1971, he joined the Boilermakers local #83 in Kansas City, Missouri, retiring in 1999. After retirement, he took a job at the Garnett Airport as Airport Manager from 2003-2009. Garland acquired multiple degrees in his lifetime.

Garland and Charlotte Thompson were childhood friends that turned into high-school sweethearts. When he returned for Christmas leave from the service he asked Charlotte to marry him and they were united in marriage on January 7, 1957 in Garnett, Kansas. This union was blessed with three daughters.

Garland enjoyed building airplanes, he had a Barracuda kit airplane that he started building in 1980 and radio controlled airplanes. Creating things was a passion of his, including three items he had

patents on. Garland received his pilot license in 1971 and had a great love of flying. Listening to bluegrass music and traveling to Bluegrass festivals in Kentucky was a highlight of his fall days. After attending the festivals it sparked an interest in Garland to learn how to play the banjo, which led to taking lessons. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge in Garnett, Kansas, the Scottish Rite, Fort Scott, Kansas, and the Mirza Shrine, Pittsburg, Kansas. He also was a member of the Jaycees in Garnett, Kansas. Garland held a love for cars and was a member of the Garnett Lake Cruisers. He owned a 1957 Chevy that was a project that he tinkered on in his spare time, along with in recent years, a roadster t-bucket kit car that he was working on. Garland was a man that liked to work with his hands and always to keep busy.

Garland is preceded in death by his parents; his wife of 44 years; daughter Denise and her unborn son, Josh.

Garland is survived by his daughters, Sheri and husband John Scott of Bandera, Texas and Jana and husband Denis Mader of Harrah, Oklahoma; 6 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great-grandchild; and numerous other family and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 AM on Thursday, December 28, 2023 at Feuerborn Family Funeral Service Chapel in Garnett, Kansas. Burial will take place at the Garnett Cemetery, Garnett, Kansas. Garland's family will greet friends on Wednesday, December 27, 2023, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to Children's Mercy Hospital, Kansas City, Missouri, and left in care of the funeral home. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.feuerbornfuneral.com.

2023...

FROM PAGE 1

their tax valuations. After laying a \$1 million property tax increase on property owners last year, county commissioners tapped taxpayers' wallets for an extra \$644,000 for the coming year's spending plan - a move that did not escape the notice of some of those property owners.

All that said, the Crest USD 479 school district summed up a consensus on a \$5.9 million school bond issue that levied a new school tax for construction of a new gymnasium and upgrades to the school entrance, locker rooms and the kitchen/cafeteria areas. Even with the modern tax climate the turnout on the issue was just a little more than half that of the last failed bond attempt some 20 years ago - 729 votes were cast back then and only 434 this time around. Still the issue passed decisively with 56 percent approval.

While government had its hand out, families continued to deal with inflation that cut any wage gains that came in recent years. Economists said an easing of inflation that dropped to 4 percent on average gave the first increase of disposable income to most households in early summer, but many of those homes were also balancing increasing credit card debt brought on over the past 18 months. Gasoline prices dropped from all-time highs over \$4 a gallon locally in June of 2022 and bottomed a year ago, before beginning a steady rise through September 2023. The fall brought a decline in gas prices as demand slowed due to the softening economy, but the costs to fill a gas tank for the large percentage of local commuter work force remains top of mind.

All politics is local
With the illustration of national economic policy a constant drain on the wallets

of local residents, the issue of national politics and its local impact became more an issue for many county residents. That fact was no more apparent than in the voting habits of 3rd District Congresswoman Sharice Davids, who as Kansas' only Democrat representative follows a path in stark contrast to the generally conservative electorates in Anderson, Franklin and Miami counties. Davids' political angling in opposition to the new but slight Republican majority in the U.S. House was frequent through the year, but nowhere was it more apparent than a vote directly dealing with \$4.8 million in federal funding for water plant projects in Garnett, Olathe, DeSoto and other towns in her district. Davids first requested the funding for the projects, then voted against the actual bill when Republicans reduced part of the EPA's budget. The bill passed anyway by a 10 vote margin.

And politics really got local in Garnett when Mayor Jason Sheahan drew a bead on the city recreation department to rectify what he said were voluminous complaints he received about its general operation. An audit report eventually uncovered thousands of dollars in losses from concession stands at the ballparks and swimming pool, and the growing disdain between Sheahan and rec director Phil Bures spilled out at a summer city commission meeting that resulted in the resignations of several rec department staff, eventually including Bures.

Static over the issue brought two write-in candidates into the November race for Sheahan's commission seat, and a war-worn Sheahan himself decided to endorse Nate Wiehl for the post, which Wiehl eventually won.

Though there were plenty of scuffles and skinned elbows, 2023's challenges all came about with a hint of hope in the making for 2024.

The legend of the evergreen tree

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL



BY DAVID BILDERBACK

Christmas often creates mixed emotions for us. We wonder what is the essence of the season? Is it buying, cooking or entertaining? If we are searching for the true meaning of Christmas perhaps the "Legend of the Evergreen Tree" will prop us up and reveal it for us. It is a story of compassion, love and care. I can only summarize the story and I recommend it to your reading.

The story recounts the experiences of a small bird who breaks its wing and falls into a strange forest. Unable to take care of itself the bird asks the trees of the forest for help. It was of no use as the trees were not kind at all. The birch was vain and proud over its beauty. It refused to help saying it had to take care of the birds of that forest first. The oak tree refused because it was scared the bird would overstay and eat up all its acorns in the spring. The willow just refused to help any bird. The bird lost hope and was distressed. Trying it still could not fly. The spruce tree when it found out offered the little bird the thickest and warmest branch of all. The pine tree seeing this offered protection to the tree and the bird by protecting them from the North

Wind. Seeing this the juniper tree came to the birds aid offering its berries for the bird to eat. In due season the wing healed and the bird was ready to fly back to its friends.

The Frost King was in charge of all the trees so it commanded the North Wind not to touch a single leaf on the spruce pine and juniper. However the North Wind plucked the green leaves of the other trees. It is for this reason the pine, spruce and juniper are always green and thus called evergreen. Hopefully this story will help us to understand the importance of compassion, love and care at all times. The essence of Christmas is we should be ready and available with a giving heart and enjoy sharing what we have with others. What is required to do this? Compassion, love and care. These selfless qualities will make you a better person and keep you happy always.



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As Colorado judges usurp the Constitution, Trump's ballot ban is all about the theatrics

The Colorado Supreme Court ruled last week that former President Donald Trump is ineligible for the office of the presidency and can therefore be removed from the state's primary ballot as the GOP candidate and as a write-in.

...the Colorado Supreme Court is not going to stop Trump from winning the GOP nomination or the general election by banning him from the state's ballot...

goal was to send a statement — and send a statement they have.

The legal reasoning behind the Colorado Supreme Court's decision is spurious at best and sure to be thrown out by the Supreme Court upon appeal. To declare Trump disqualified, the judges had to decide that he was guilty of insurrection on Jan. 6, 2021, a crime for which he has never even been charged. In other words, the state court is acting as the attorney, jurist, and judge for a federal case that has never been brought, based on an event that took place thousands of miles away from its jurisdiction. There is a reason no other judicial circuit, even those as heavily liberal as Colorado's, has allowed this case to stand: It requires a total upending of the way our judicial system works.

The decision is a political disaster as well. For starters, the Colorado Supreme Court is not going to stop Trump from winning the GOP nomination or the general election by banning him from the state's ballot since Colorado is a deeply blue state that Trump realistically would never win anyway. If anything, the court has guaranteed Trump victory in the primary and even helped him edge out President Joe Biden in the general. If the past four indictments against Trump prove anything, it's that voters do not appreciate being told they cannot support or vote for someone the political establishment has deemed unworthy.

But again, the Colorado Supreme Court did not release this decision expecting it to with-



KAYLEE MCCHEE WHITE - WASHINGTON EXAMINER

stand an appeal or move the needle in Biden's favor. They released it because they had to make clear that the leftist efforts to punish Trump will not stop with the 44 federal charges, 47 state charges, and two civil cases against him. It's a statement — nothing more, nothing less.

Jonathan Turley noted that one of the key problems with the court's ruling is that it has no limiting principle. Indeed, that's the very point.

...they had to make clear that the leftist efforts to punish Trump will not stop with the 44 federal charges, 47 state charges, and two civil cases against him. It's a statement — nothing more, nothing less.

The Left is so determined to maintain power that it will bend and break the law, undermine our institutions, and do whatever else is necessary to prevent anyone from taking it away. And that means this won't end with Trump. The Left might have a particular hatred for the former president, but Republicans can be sure that whoever comes after him will be treated the same way. These are the new rules, and the GOP can either face this reality head-on with a willingness to fight or accept its status as the permanent minority party.

-Kaylee McGhee White is the Restoring America editor for the Washington Examiner.



*The Review's Phone Forum will return next week...

Colorado justices forget due process in Trump ballot ban

From the New York Post

In yet another dimwitted leftist gift to Donald Trump, four Democrats on Colorado's Supreme Court just bounced him from the state's ballot in next year's presidential primary.

It's transparently absurd and certain to be reversed by the US Supreme Court, since it's based on legal "reasoning" that makes sense only in the fevered precincts of the very-online left.

The justices' essential point? Orange man bad.

No, they didn't quite say that out loud: They cited Section 3 of the 14th Amendment, disqualifying from office anyone who swore to uphold the Constitution and then "engaged in insurrection" — a clause written after the Civil War to block soldiers who'd broken their oaths to fight for the Confederacy.

Trump's actions around the Jan. 6 Capitol riot "constituted overt, voluntary and direct

participation" in an "insurrection," the court ruled.

Without even a gesture at due process, when Trump was never even indicted for insurrection — let alone convicted.

Democracy and the rule of law be damned; the four judges plainly didn't care.

Inevitably, it has led Republicans to suggest (rhetorically, at least) getting President Biden barred in other states, since the ruling holds no limiting principle: Anyone can be deemed an "insurrectionist" for actions the accuser sees as harmful to the country (see Hunter Biden, the border, etc.).

You don't have to love Trump to see the dangers here: It's an invitation to a different kind of civil war.

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The Anderson County Review

GAROLD DANE HICKS, PUBLISHER

Published each Tuesday by Garnett Publishing, Inc., and entered as Periodicals Class mail at Garnett, KS, 66032, permit number 214-200.

POSTMASTER: Please send address corrections to: THE ANDERSON COUNTY REVIEW, 112 W. 6th Ave. • P.O. Box 409 • Garnett, KS 66032 (785) 448-3121 • review@garnett-ks.com

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More transparency needed about Kansas court hack

The justices of the Kansas Supreme Court now say they hope to restore most functions of the state's court computer system, shut down for nearly two months by an "evil, criminal" cyberattack, by the end of this month.

The system serves 104 of the state's 105 counties. Johnson, the largest by population, has its own computer system, but is set to join the state network next year. The computer network handles nearly everything for the state courts, from scheduling to filings to case records and public access.

This is good news for the courts and the public, and it goes without saying that we all should breathe a sigh of relief that the damage

The attack was pretty obviously intentional from the start; entire computer systems seldom just go "poof" and stop working on their own.

fact the computers if installed, and would have to be carefully cleansed before they could be used. That alone could have occupied



STEVE HAYNES, Haynes Publishing Co.

two months. Hackers usually demand payment, but while that's been mentioned by the courts, there's no indications the state paid anyone. The justices said they were proud to have upheld "the rule of law."

And not playing the criminals' game can make recovery more difficult and last longer. It is, we think, by far the better course than the one often taken by some private businesses bent on curbing costs and damage. So, if that is the case, we applaud the justices.

We think, however, that the courts have been a little disingenuous in avoiding reference to the criminal nature of this attack for as long as they did. The attack was pretty obviously intentional from the start; entire computer systems seldom just go "poof" and



RICH LOWRY, King Features Syndicate

This is not the normal course of business. According to Camarota, the foreign-born population has grown on average by 137,000 a month since the beginning of Biden's term, higher than Donald Trump's pre-COVID-19 42,000 and Barack Obama's 68,000.

What accounts for this? Some of it is a COVID-19 bounce-back in legal immigration. But that's not responsible for the lion's share of the story. The Biden administration has boosted the foreign-born share of the population well above the pre-COVID-19 trend line.

It has done it by ignoring the law and greasing the skids for new arrivals even if they have no right to be here. Of the total net 4.5 million increase of immigrants on Biden's watch, 2.5 million of that is illegal immigrants. Most of that illegal number is solely a function of discretion and the administration's opposition to excluding bogus asylum-seekers.

The Biden administration's border policy has obviously been the subject of debate,

stop working on their own.

Nonetheless, the attack, which has been a major and costly inconvenience to all involved, from lawyers and litigants to courts and court workers, will have been cleared up in fairly rapid fashion if indeed it is done this month. Other than a bit more openness on the part of the courts, we think it has been well-handled so far.

We are certain as well that the justices will expect their experts to make certain that something like this never happens again. No one can guarantee that, but some thought should be given to compartmentalizing and safeguarding multiple backups several times each day.

And of course, we hope the FBI, KBI and whoever else is investigating (perhaps the U.S. intelligence agencies) will track down the foreign hackers and make things difficult for them.

Information gathered from the case might well point out changes needed to protect other government and business software, from banks to military systems to state and federal agencies, power grids and utilities.

And that could make the cost of this crime — which might run in the millions — a lot more bearable.

- Steve Haynes is a former president of the Kansas Press Association and National Newspaper Association, and former publisher of Nor'West Newspapers in Oberlin.

including criticism from his own party. The overall number of immigrants, though, is rarely mentioned, and even treated as an almost illegitimate topic for public consideration.

This makes no sense. The foreign-born share of the population has consequences for schooling, welfare, wages, politics and the broader culture. It is at least as important, if not more so, than trade policy, Ukraine aid, the deficit, infrastructure or a whole host of other issues that are routine fodder for congressional debate and the Sunday shows.

It also should be subject to the approval of the American people and its representatives just like those other issues. We should affirmatively decide whether we want the foreign share of the population to be 15% and growing, or less than 15% and shrinking, and the mix of people who are coming — largely unskilled, or overwhelmingly higher skilled?

Instead, we treat immigration as something that happens to us, like the weather. (Although progressives now seek to influence the weather, so maybe this is a dated analogy.) It isn't. We are making the choices that have gotten us to this point.

The fact is that immigration has operated largely under its own power, and under false pretenses, since the immigration reform of 1965. One reason there's so little discussion of the underlying issue is that many people simply don't know the historic numbers involved. In short, there's been no debate on 15%, and one, shamefully, doesn't seem in the offing.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

Celebrating our 66th anniversary

Today is a very special day in Kay and my lives. It was 66 years ago today that we were married in Alameda, California. My how times flies by.

This is the last time in 2023 that I will be sharing photos of some of my finds. Again time has flown by. I've really enjoyed sharing all the photos of the artifacts found through

DIGGING UP THE PAST



Henry Roeckers
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the past year. I pray my Lord and Savior will continue to give me health and patience to continue excavating in 2024.

#1 - This is a brass overall button called "BIG MAN, from the 1930's-1940's

#2 - This small button is known as a "CALICO BUTTON". These were well known dress buttons in the late 1800's thru the early 1900's.

#3 - These are two small bot-

tlers found at an old log cabin site

#4 - I bet you can't begin to guess what this is? Do any of you remember the game of "TIDDLE WINKS" this is one of the little winks you tried to flip in the cup etc.

Respectfully submitted by:
Henry Roeckers. 12Dec023



DOA..

FROM PAGE 1

Republicans will be working on legitimate ways to improve healthcare access, lower costs, and address the IDD (Intellectual/Developmental Disability) waiver waitlist.

The simplest way to make childcare more accessible is to relax licensure requirements. Kansas law requires licensure for anyone who:

- cares for one unrelated child more than 20 hours per week

- cares for two unrelated children more than 20 combined hours per week

- cares for more than two unrelated children

In addition to licensure, there are also many state regulations imposed on childcare operators.

Proposing Medicaid expansion to alleviate a childcare shortage is a classic government scheme. First, government creates or contributes to a problem (childcare shortage); then, it proposes another costly government program as a solution.

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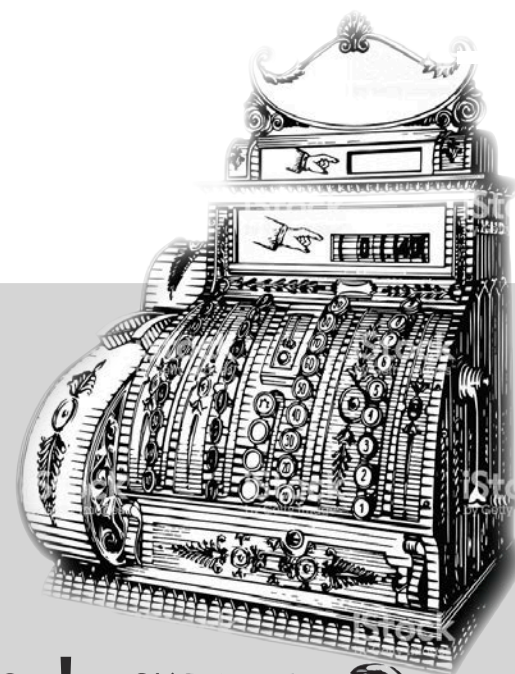
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Notice of hearing - Leslie B. Yoder Estate

(First published in the Anderson County Review on December 19, 2023.)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF ANDERSON COUNTY, KANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LESLIE B. YODER, DECEASED. Case No. AN-23-PR-300003

NOTICE OF HEARING (Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

The State of Kansas to All Persons Concerned:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in this court by Eileen L. Yoder, as one of the heirs of Leslie B. Yoder, deceased, praying:

Descent be determined of the following described real estate situated in Anderson County, Kansas:

The North Half (N/2) of the Southeast Quarter (SE/4) of Section Twenty-six (26), Township Twenty (20) South, Range Eighteen (18) East of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Anderson County, Kansas.

You are required to file your written defenses

thereto on or before January 10, 2024, at 9:00 A.M., in the City of Garnett, Anderson County, Kansas at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

Eileen L. Yoder, Petitioner

Thomas F. Robrahn # 14964 206 N. 3rd St. - P.O. Box 44 Burlington, Kansas 66839 Telephone (620) 364-5409 Attorney for the Petitioner.

dc1913*

Notice of final settlement hearing - Ackmann Estate

(First published in the Anderson County Review on December 19, 2023.)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF ANDERSON COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of Henry A. Ackmann, Deceased.

Case No. AN 23 PR 8 (Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been

filed in this Court by Ronda L. Rossman, duly appointed, qualified and acting Administrator of the Estate of Henry A. Ackmann, deceased, praying Petitioner's acts be approved; account be settled and allowed; the heirs be determined; and the Estate be assigned to the persons entitled thereto; the Court find the allowances requested for attorneys' fees and expenses are reasonable and should be allowed; the costs be determined and ordered paid; the administration of the Estate be closed; upon the filing of receipts the Petitioner be finally discharged as the Executor of the Estate of Henry A. Ackmann, deceased, and the Petitioner be released from further liability.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before January 10, 2024, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. in the District Court, in

Garnett, Anderson County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard by remote hearing. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the petition.

/s/ Ronda L. Rossman Administrator

ANDERSON & BYRD, LLP 216 S. Hickory - P. O. Box 197 Ottawa, Kansas 66067 (785) 242-1234, telephone (785) 242-1279, facsimile sryburn@andersonbyrd.com Attorneys for Administrator

dc1913*

Notice of suit - Guardianship and conservatorship

(First published in the Anderson County Review on December 12, 2023.)

Ty R. Wheeler, #15512 Kansas Legal Services of Emporia 527 Commercial, Suite 201 Emporia, Kansas 66801 (620) 343-7520 (620) 343-6898 wheeler@klsinc.org Attorneys for Petitioners

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF ANDERSON COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP AND CONSERVATORSHIP OF: O.C. Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59

Case No. ANPR30

NOTICE OF SUIT

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO Annamariae Culler AND ALL OTHER PERSONS WHO ARE OR MAY BE CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a Petition for Appointment of Guardianship and Conservator has been filed in the District Court of Lyon

County, Kansas, by Roger and Sherryll Culler praying for Guardianship and Conservatorship of minor child, O.C. and you are hereby required to plead to the Petition on or before 3rd day of January, 2024 in the Anderson County District Court. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

/s/ Ty R. Wheeler Ty R. Wheeler Kansas Legal Services of Emporia Attorney for Petitioner

dc1213*

Notice of hearing - Scobee Estate

(First published in the Anderson County Review on December 26, 2023.)

IN THE FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT OF ANDERSON COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of RICHARD EUGENE SCOBEE, deceased

CASE No. AN-2023-PR-000017

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS to the heirs of RICHARD EUGENE SCOBEE, deceased and

all persons concerned:

You are hereby notified that on the 12th day of December, 2023, a Petition for Final Settlement was filed in this Court by Jill Nichole Ochweri, Administrator, requesting final settlement herein, that fees and expenses be allowed and that her accounting and all her acts of the Administrator be approved; and that a family settlement agreement be approved and that the assets of the estate be assigned and distribution made in accordance therewith.

You are required to file your written defenses to the Petition on or before January 17, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., in the Anderson County District Court, 100 E. 4th Avenue, Garnett, Kansas, 66032, at which time and place the

cause will be heard. Should you fail to file your written defenses, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

PEGGS WHEELER, L.C. Attorneys at Law Jack Peggs, No. 07067 100 S. Main, Suite 420 Wichita, Kansas 67202 Phone: (316) 264-9730 Fax: (316) 260-6187 e-mail: jack.peggs@peggswheeler.com Attorneys for Petitioner

dc3613*

Notice of hearing - Elmer F. Rockers Estate

(First published in the Anderson County Review on December 12, 2023.)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF ANDERSON COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of Elmer F. Rockers, Deceased

Case No. AN 23 PR 29 (Petition Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Margaret Ann Uht, one of the heirs of Elmer F. Rockers, deceased,

requesting:

Descent be determined of the following described real estate situated in Anderson County, Kansas:

Beginning at the Northeast corner of the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of Section Twenty-two (22), Township Nineteen (19), Range Twenty (20), thence running south on the section line eighty (80) rods, thence north about 37 degrees 31 minutes west to intersert the north line of said Quarter about (40) rods west of place of beginning, thence east to place of beginning, containing ten acres, more or less.

and that descent be determined of personal property and other Kansas real estate owned by the decedent at the time of death.

You are required to file your written defenses to the Petition on or before the 3rd day of January, 2023 at 9, o'clock, a.m. in the Anderson County District Court, 100 E 4th Ave., Garnett, Kansas, in Anderson County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail to file your written defenses, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

/s/ Margaret Ann Uht

SUBMITTED BY: John L. Richeson, #06197 ANDERSON & BYRD, LLP 216 S. Hickory, P.O. Box 17 Ottawa, Kansas 66067 (785) 242-1234 jrcheson@andersonbyrd.com Attorney for Petitioner

dc1213*

Notice of hearing - Peine Estate

(First published in the Anderson County Review on December 19, 2023.)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF ANDERSON COUNTY, KANSAS PROBATE DEPARTMENT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOHN P. PEINE, Deceased (Petition Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

Case No. AN-2023PR300004

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that on December 13, 2023, a Petition was filed in this Court by Michael J. Peine, an heir and Executor named in the Last Will and Testament of John P. Peine, deceased, dated February 7, 2001, and First Codicil to the Last Will and Testament dated November 6, 2013, requesting that the Last Will & Testament filed with the petition be admitted to probate and record and Letters Testamentary under the Kansas Simplified Estates Act be issued to Executor to serve without bond.

to simplified administration are filed with the Court, the Court may order that supervised administration ensue.

You are required to file your written defenses to the Petition on or before January 10, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the District Court, in Anderson County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail to file your written defenses, judgement and decree will be entered in due course upon Petition.

This hearing will occur remotely. If you wish to participate in the hearing by video or conference call, please contact Probate Division at 785-448-6886 before the date of the hearing. Should you fail to do so, the Court will proceed and enter such orders as the Court determines appropriate.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within the latter of four months from the date of the first publication of this notice, as provided by law, 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.

Michael J. Peine Petitioner

KS ESTATE & ELDER LAW, LLC 11125 JOHNSON DRIVE SHAWNEE, KS 66203 (913) 385-0600 Attorney for Petitioner

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CALENDAR

Tuesday, December 26
 10:00 a.m. - Storytime For Preschoolers
 12:00 p.m. - Rotary International Club Meeting
 5:30 p.m. - P.M. Yoga
 6:00 p.m. - City Commission Meeting
 6:30 p.m. - American Legion Bingo
 7:00 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous

Wednesday, December 27
 8:45 a.m. - AM Yoga
 1:00 p.m. - Duplicate Bridge

Thursday, December 28
 2:00 p.m. - Emergency Food Assistance Program (Harvesters)
 5:30 p.m. - P.M. Yoga
 6:00 p.m. - 13-Point Pitch & Snacks
 7:00 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous

Friday, December 29
 8:45 a.m. - AM Yoga

Monday, January 1, 2024
 New Year's Day

Tuesday, January 2, 2024
 12:00 p.m. - Rotary International Club Meeting
 5:30 p.m. - Garnett Community Foundation Board Meeting
 5:30 p.m. - P.M. Yoga
 6:30 p.m. - American Legion Bingo
 7:00 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous

Wednesday, January 3, 2024
 8:45 a.m. - AM Yoga
 1:00 p.m. - Duplicate Bridge
 3:30 p.m. - Tinkering & Tech hosted by the Garnett Public Library
 5:30 p.m. - Bulldog Booster Club Meeting
 7:00 p.m. - Colony Lions Club Meeting
 7:00 p.m. - Kincaid Lions Club Meeting

Thursday, January 4, 2024
 5:30 p.m. - P.M. Yoga
 6:00 p.m. - 13-Point Pitch & Snacks
 6:30 p.m. - USD 365 Endowment Association
 7:00 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous
 7:00 p.m. - USD 365 Board of Education Meeting



On Thursday, December 14th, Crest Schools recognized students that have the character traits of being accountable. Pictured from left: Kayla Hermreck, Jacob Zimmerman, Allison Weatherman, Kamryn Jones, Koily Miller, Bella Sittler, Haylee

Powell, Esteban Villalobos, Nicole Bain, Tyler Edgerton, Claire Holloway, Hayden Powell, Nova Starr, Madison Holloway.



The Garnett Lions Club and Vice District Governor Shari Neidhardt honored Lion Dave Branton with a pin last week signifying his 45 years of service to the Garnett Club. Above from left, Keith Raddatz, Dave Branton, VDG Shari Neidhardt, Jim Sobba, Don Smith, Mike Canavan, John Malone, Bob Heriford, Alan Highberger, Clarence Hermann and Skip Landis.

Powls 90th Birthday

Wanda (Rockers) Powls of Garnett will celebrate her 90th birthday this week. She was born on the family farm just north of Scipio on Dec. 27, 1933. Her parents were John J. and Leona (Bowman) Rockers.



Powls

Send cards to her at:
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May the light of the Christmas Season shine on you and your family throughout the coming year.

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

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Highlights of Anderson County news from the past year

January

Garnett City Commissioners push ahead in early January with two new appointments to vacancies on the Garnett Housing Authority Board – Michael Burns, CEO and pharmacist Casey Smith, both of AuBurn Pharmacy, in hopes of driving the board toward a research project on prospects for housing development in the local market. The Garnett-based strategy group “Heart & Soul” is in the midst of a data gathering project to determine community desires to recommend to area leadership. Census data shows Kansas and Nebraska as the only states in the region to show population loss due to domestic migration. The Kansas Attorney General’s office isn’t commenting on a reversal of a Linn County murder case that ended in November with a misdemeanor plea agreement for James “Rocky” Allen, who was charged with the 2020 death of his mother, Charlotte Grimes of Garnett, in a vehicular attack on a rural road near Parker. Anderson County Hospital’s Family Care Center wins the 2022 Human Experience Guardian of Excellence Award, made by a leading company in the patient satisfaction survey industry. An Overland Park book club has awarded \$400 to the Garnett Library for its August 2022 decision not to ban or restrict the controversial book “Gender Queer” after a local group of citizens protested its open availability on library shelves. Congresswoman Sharice Davids, who represents the 3rd District, votes against Republican-led resolutions condemning violence against churches and pregnancy centers in the U.S. House. Donna’s School of Dance in Garnett celebrates its 40th anniversary. Convicted on felony drug charges, Garnett’s Garland White has been on the lam ever since he skipped out on his October 2022 sentencing hearing, and local authorities are looking for info on his whereabouts. Spelling Bee qualifiers from Anderson County Schools include Koiy Miller and Kallie Robb from Crest, Brayden Gibson and Brody Weiser from Westphalia, Brinnley Callahan and Eddie Duncan of Greeley, Owen Hawkins and Bryan Kelley of ACJH and Ashton Rouse and Aiden Perry from Garnett Elementary, and Ashton Rouse emerges as the victor. ARC Thrift Shop in Garnett is in a quandary after members of the local Delphian Lodge announce plans to sell the lodge’s historic building, where ARC leases operating space. Local Internet provider Kwikom Communications is bought by Overland Park-based fiber developer WANrack LLC. Award winners at the annual Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce banquet include Volunteer of the Year award posthumously to Betty Lybarger, Lake Garnett Grand Prix Revival winning the Organization of the Year, Troyer’s Prairie Gold and Monroe 816 as co-winners of the Business of the Year.

February

Parker McCarty and Morgan Sumner are crowned King and Queen of ACHS Winter Homecoming. Garnett City Commissioners announce plans to sever an 8-year staffing partnership agreement with the Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce. East Kansas Agri Energy is looking into developing its own electrical generation capabilities at the Garnett ethanol plant, and possibly selling electricity to the City of Garnett as an option to the city’s other power sources. Republicans in the new U.S. Congress oust Rep. Ilhan Omar from the House committee on Foreign Affairs, but 3rd District congresswoman Sharice Davids votes in her defense. Years after the closing of Little People’s Learning Center in garnett, Parkwood Day School opens to provide local daycare services. Central Heights cross country runner Emma Cubit earns a membership on the 2022 academic All State team for cross country with her sixth place championship at the state cross country meet last fall. Franklin County Commissioners take a side on the debate over wind farms when they refuse approval of a wind test tower in Northwest Franklin County sought by Next Era Energy. Karter Miller and Sydney Stevens

are crowned king and queen of Crest homecoming. Though their protests may be futile, opponents of the Blackberry transmission line from Wolf Creek to Blackberry Missouri plan to protest at upcoming KCC meetings in March. City, county and USD 365 officials are rehashing the details of the county’s Neighborhood Revitalization program, which allows tax benefits for property reinvestment in certain areas. Work continues in preparation for a major upgrade and lengthening to the Garnett industrial airport, with talks underway from land acquisition involving nearby neighbors. Garland White, who last fall skipped out on his felony sentencing hearing in Anderson County District Court, is picked up in Franklin County and now faces new charges while he waits in the Anderson County jail. The announcement of a huge microchip manufacturing facility in Coffey County has eastern Kansas abuzz, with communities anticipating its positive impacts and at least one nearby college already planning training programs for prospective employees. Arlyn Briggs of Kincaid, a former Republican candidate for governor, is set for arraignment March 20 after a preliminary hearing on his felony criminal threat charges last week found evidence for the formal charge. Anderson County High School wrestlers John Wright, AJ Schaffer, and Zach Schaffer along with Central Heights qualifier Baker Moore, prepare for competition at the Kansas State High School wrestling tournaments. High chicken and egg prices after avian flu hits the US chicken and poultry population have some people considering housing their own flocks, but experts say the cost and trouble may not be worth it. Subpoenas for two 12-year-old girls and a 27 year old woman were among those issued earlier this month in order to schedule testimony for a March 3rd preliminary hearing in the case of Isidro Madrid 79 of Colony who investigators allege sexually abused a number of children at his home over the period of more than a decade. City officials say a private developer has expressed interest in building additional senior housing in the area of Garnett’s Park Plaza North and Parkside Place campuses. The Republican dominated Kansas legislature has approved a group of bills designed to protect children against health threatening gender transformation measures, and took a third attempt at banning men from competing in women’s sports at the high school and college level in the current session of the Kansas Legislature.

March

Newly elected Kansas Attorney General Kris Kobach filed suit against a major corporate player that services Kansas Gas Utilities last week, alleging the company manipulated natural gas prices during the brutal February 2021 winter storm Uri that ravaged municipal gas service budgets in Garnett and towns across the Midwest and left millions of customers the tab through eventual rate increases. Former Homeland Security employees Travis and Megan Nichols purchase Garnett Flowers and Gifts from Erin and Jason Miller. A wide-ranging local theft case involving dozens of victims in Anderson and surrounding counties charged against Marvin Slyter of Garnett and more than 3 years in the making may in fact finally be set for a preliminary hearing in Anderson County District Court by the middle of this month. Forty years after he was found abandoned by a tree in the yard of the Anderson County Hospital, Asher Thies of Bremen, Kan., says he doesn’t think much about his origins, but is thankful for the adopted family that raised and loved him. A bill which was set for hearing in the Kansas legislature in March would expand the state’s Safe Haven laws to provide for temperature control bassinets at some 24-hour facilities for the relinquishment of infants like Asher by mothers or families in crisis. With recent revelations that elements of the US government apparently exerted influence on social media platforms to censor speech on topics officials deemed sensitive, Third District congresswoman Sharice Davids broke

with Kansas Congressional delegates this month to oppose a bill that would make federal employees subject to fines and penalties if they engaged in such censorship. The Kansas House narrowly passes a bill that would raise teacher pay and increase funding for special education while also establishing a far-reaching school choice program that would allow students to use their state education dollars at schools other than those in their geographic districts. Local bankers say they’ve heard only limited concerns from their area customers regarding the crisis that have beset a handful of US banks this month and caused worry across the spectrum of high-end banking industry such as the recent failure of Silicon Valley Bank. For the third time in 3 years Governor Laura Kelly vetoed a bill which would ban men from participating in high school and collegiate women’s sports in Kansas, but this time the legislature may have enough votes to override. The Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce has started interviews to fill its vacant director position, after the change up in its city affiliation was announced earlier this year. Spiking retail prices nationwide and a national inflation rate more than 12% higher compared to two years ago continue to drive sales tax collections in Anderson County, with recent sales tax revenues up 23.5% above a year ago. Third District Congresswoman Sharice Davids voted against a major Congressional Bill last week aimed at guaranteeing a “Parents Bill of Rights” entitling parents and guardians to information and access in elementary and secondary schools, but the measure still passed the House 213-208. The Kansas Department of agriculture’s Division of dam safety will inspect the 1879 vintage Crystal Lake dam sometime in April.

April

Garnett City officials plan to open the City swimming pool again this year but questions are mounting as to whether the 80 year-old structure will survive to the end of the summer, as discussions continue about whether the city can afford to replace it or shut it down and do without it. Cornstock organizers announced Casey Donahue will headline this year’s concert on the hill in September. The Kansas House of Representatives has followed the senate in approving a Senate bill termed the Women’s Bill of Rights into state law specifying an individual’s sex means their sex at birth, either male or female, as transgender issues continue to swirl nationwide. Researchers with the Anderson County Review track down the last living relative of Lee Oates, the 1903 Garnett High School graduate whose later-in-life vocation of wax sculpturing provided the backdrop for the 1933 horror film classic “The Mystery of the Wax Museum.” City officials meet with the public this month to review the findings of a housing study commissioned in recent weeks to determine the prospects for new residential development in the local area. Kansas legislators in the House and Senate rally to override Governor Laura Kelly’s veto of a law banning men from competing in women’s sports in Kansas after a 3-year battle with Kelly on the topic and two previous override failures. Straining to retain the assertion of federal authority over private lakes, ponds and streams in keeping with his administration’s priority on environmental initiatives, President Joe Biden vetoes a congressional move this month to repeal the “Waters Of The United States” rule that has expanded federal regulatory power over private property under the Clean Water Act, and Third District Kansas congresswoman Sharice Davids supports Biden’s move. Cornstock organizers announced that local musician Trevor Holman will perform at the September concert event this year, the first local performer ever to take the Cornstock stage. Rick and Connie Thompson of Kincaid are recognized as part of the 2022 class of Master Farmers and Master Farm Homemakers, presented by K-State Research and Extension and Kansas Farmer Magazine. A review of the recent Garnett housing study

suggests the community may miss the benefits of several local Industrial computer chip plant projects if local housing can’t be developed to house some of those needed employees. The Anderson County Sheriff’s department has revived the local Explorers Post in hopes of interesting some local youths into law enforcement and emergency services careers. Steven Yoder of Garnett wins the \$500 grand prize in the Review’s annual Spring Sweepstakes, with runner-up winners Including Rodney Phares, Jim Shmidl, John Wiesner, Ruth Wommelsdorf, Sandy Mills, Diane Doran, and Frank Feuerborn, all of Garnett. Family photo with markings from the former Strain Photography in Garnett is found in an antique shop in Superior, Arizona, and sparks a hunt for family members who may want to claim it. Terrence J. Wade of Shawnee, who led area law officers on a three county chase that ended Northwest of Garnett, got a firm dressing down by his sister on the Osage County Sheriff’s Department Facebook page for his behavior as he waited for his day in court. 3rd District Kansas congresswoman and former women’s mixed martial arts fighter Sharice Davids voted against a house measure this month aimed at banning men from competing in women’s sports, but she’s yet to answer questions from the Review whether or not she’d have been willing to fight a man during her MMA career. A recent Honor Flight for a Kansas City Missouri Vietnam veteran would have taken on a more lonely tone if not for cards, notes and well wishes from students at Anderson County High School and Garnett Elementary School. Peyton Markham and Kenzie Scheckel were crowned king and queen of ACHS Winter Homecoming. A mystery family photograph taken by strain studios in Garnett is identified as the Burnett family by local resident Howard Wilson, and the 1948 photo is reunited with the family. Garnett’s Business and Professional Women’s chapter awards the 2020 Woman of the Year award to Courtney Tucker of Agency West Insurance in Garnett. And its Business of the Year award to Donna’s School of Dance.

May

Anderson County Sheriff Vern Valentine draws fire from some commenters on Facebook after he says deputies will begin enforcing the state’s vehicle window tint regulations. More than 30 new subpoenas are issued this month in the theft case against Marvin Slyter. The failures of last summer’s Kansas abortion amendment vote spurs record numbers of women who now come to the state seeking to dispose of their unborn babies, as other nearby states have enacted bans and heavier restrictions. Two Republican state senators, Dennis Pyle of Hiawatha and Rob Olson of Olathe, join Governor Laura Kelly To support her veto of a bill that would have exempted Social Security benefits from income tax in Kansas. Garnett’s BPW Chapter has big plans for this year’s 50th Square Fair. A chance conversation about a family’s plan to pay tribute to their Civil War veteran who was left off of a family gravestone prompted two descendants of Manly Minkler, an 1850s Anderson County militiamen, to enact a local recognition ceremony with a new stone more than a century in the making. Local shoppers probably haven’t noticed it but as a whole they’ve saved almost \$18,000 in sales tax in the month of February compared to a year ago in 2022, after the county’s sales tax decreased by 1/2 cent with the payoff of the Anderson County Jail. Even with a 3.2 billion dollar surplus in state coffers, Governor Laura Kelly continues to veto Republican-led taxpayer relief efforts. The final Crest baseball double header of the season was cut short due to weather, but it still allowed Lancers’ Stetson Setter to throw a three-inning no-hitter to close out the season before the game was called due to weather. A year after gasoline prices hit their highest level ever in Kansas, fears over economic recession have 2023 summer prices down about 20% as the official summer travel season begins

over Memorial Day weekend, according to AAA. A ban by the city of Ottawa on homegrown honey being sold at the town’s farmers market has generated a lawsuit, and an invitation from Garnett Farmers Market organizers who would love to have the woman as a vendor at the local market. 3rd District congresswoman Sharice Davids cast the sole Kansas delegation vote against a bill that would mean an automatic deportation of a non-citizen found guilty of assaulting a police officer or first responder. Local garden enthusiast Rick Sumner has turned his interest in cross-pollinating irises into a local business.

June

St Luke’s Health System announces plans for a merger with Barnes-Jewish Christian Health System of St Louis, hoping to form a single company with two distinct profiles in Missouri and Kansas. Mark Powls is the sole challenger to file against Garnett Mayor Jason Sheahan in the upcoming 2023 city commission race. The U.S. Supreme Court rules on Sacket v. Environmental Protection Agency on the “Waters of The United States” case, defining private property rights as having priority over federal regulatory authority. The Kansas Corporation Commission votes 2-1 to approve a siting application by NextEra Energy Transmission over the objections of landowners along the trek from the Wolf Creek nuclear power plant to Blackberry, Mo., who petitioned the KCC to place the 94-mile project on existing power lines. Koby Hesse of Greeley, a senior in civil engineering at K-State, will head to the AISC National Steel Bridge Competition at the University of California – San Diego. Local country band Tevor Holman and the Haymakers play the annual Tony Barton Music for Youth benefit in Paola. Met by a city full of kids decorated bicycles, some 500 bicyclists from across the country converge on Garnett for the final leg of the Bike Across Kansas tour. Summer brings the annual crop of Poison Hemlock with its potentially toxic effects to most of Kansas with loads of it growing along roadsides and pastures in Anderson County. The amount of Covid funds distributed nationwide to schools is still being tallied, with more than \$1 million coming to USDs 365, 479 and 288 during the stretch of the pandemic. Local legislator Fred Gardner is one of 100 Republican lawmakers and GOP officials across Kansas who received a threatening letter containing an inert powder in an apparent attempt to intimidate them. Bolstered by information provided by a local housing study whose results were reviewed in April, the county’s economic development director said last week investors are now pursuing projects in Garnett to meet what’s anticipated to be an increase in local housing demand. Homeschooled students get to participate in KSHSAA activities this year, after a change in state law. Walmart announces to build a \$257 million case-ready beef facility in Olathe. A tip from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children results in 18 charges of child exploitation after images are found on Evan Ladewig’s cell phone. A major summer-long highway project on Maple Street in Garnett to replace and expand storm drainage continues to be a challenge for local drivers as well as workmen on the project. Family and supporters of 11 year-old Ethan Adams, who suffers from Duchenne muscular dystrophy, hope donations to a partner program will help provide a vehicle that will help Ethan return to school and gain back some sense of independence. The FBI refuses to comment whether the powder attacks earlier this month, sent to Kansas legislators, state officials, as well as U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas and former president Trump, were centered only on Republicans – though so far only Republicans have reported receiving them. Anderson County schedules a hearing on solar field restrictions as part of its comprehensive zoning plan. The Friends of the Garnett Library sponsor the “Life In Anderson County” photography contest with plans to exhibit the works in August.

July

Secure Semiconductor Manufacturing, LLC. (SSM) plans to break ground in September on a new manufacturing facility in Coffey County with some 1,200 new jobs, putting new emphasis on housing development in Anderson County as an option for workers who may seek homes here. The July 4 holiday marks the 60th anniversary of the Garnett “Race Riots” at the 1963 Garnett Grand Prix, when thousands of youths caused mischief in downtown Garnett after authorities forced the closing of the town’s taverns. Overland Park vendor Scotwood Industries no-shows the Anderson County Road Department to apply dust control to county residents this summer, so the county has to refund some \$58,000 to those residents who prepaid for the service. After several years of study and previous one-year moratorium, Linn County Commissioners adopt a full ban of wind farms in the county. Governor Laura Kelly says she’ll ignore the implementation of a new state law that requires sex-at-birth identifications on official state documents, so Kansas Attorney General Kris Kobach sues her. Cathy Parsons and her late husband Dennis will be grand marshalls at this year’s Richmond Fair parade. George E. Putnam (1887-1939), the only Rhodes Scholar from Franklin County and one of only 72 from Kansas, is the subject of a new display by the Richmond Museum which will be unveiled at the Community Building during the Richmond Fair July 13-15. Jared Shilling from Westphalia Elementary was awarded 2nd Place in the state for Division III of the Kansas Farm Bureau Safety Poster contest. Allen County continues to hold the regional title for highest overall crime per population, according to statistics released last week by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation. Kansas 3rd District Democrat Congresswoman Sharice Davids voted against funding the U.S. military as well as other payments to the country’s allies last week, apparently because the funding bill also prohibited the defense department from paying for military personnel abortions and sex changes. Three Johnson County area residents, Dr. Prasanth Reddy, Karen Crnkovich and Jonathon Westbrook announce plans to seek the Republican nomination to run against Sharice Davids in the 3rd Congressional District race. Spiking interest rates have jacked up the costs of the City of Garnett’s 2021 Winter Storm Uri loan by more than 900 percent and added \$55,000 to its anticipated interest costs for this year, forcing the discussion among city officials about tapping city reserves to pay off the note early. Anderson County’s unemployment rate ticked up slightly in June but still rests near record lows of less than 3 percent. John and Mary Cubit will be the grand marshals of the Anderson County Fair parade. Steve Gorsline of Colony files a federal lawsuit over the Kansas Corporation Commission’s handling of the Wolf Creek to Blackberry transmission line.

August

Garnett’s Marvin Slyter will be arraigned on seven felony theft charges August 14, after a day-long preliminary hearing Tuesday in a farm equipment theft case rooted in incidents the prosecution says date back more than four years. Eighty-year-old Isidro Madrid will be arraigned August 21 in connection with 14 counts of child rape and molestation after he was bound over on the charges at a May preliminary hearing. For the second time in a month 3rd District Congresswoman Sharice Davids voted against a major U.S. military funding bill, this one supporting military construction projects and the Veterans Administration, because the bill limited the funds to exclude abortion and sex change operations. Garnett city workers Josh Pate, Kyle Kobold, Quenton Trammell, Donnie Dilley and Roy Salazar are recognized after they responded to a mutual aid call after a July 14 windstorm smashed into cities in Allen County, resulting in widespread tree, power line and property damage. The Kansas

2023...

FROM PAGE 8

Policy Institute, a conservative Kansas think tank which presses issues of school choice, tax reduction and open government, gave local legislators Caryn Tyson, Fred Gardner and Rebecca Schmoie high marks for their votes in a recent analysis of the 2023 legislative session, yielding "Freedom Index" rankings for legislators all over the state based on how they voted. A new delay in the jury trial of Arlyn Briggs, the Kincaid man charged with felony threat against members of the Anderson County Sheriff's Department, has pushed that proceeding back to begin August 31. Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce organizers have announced a recognition program to highlight area businesses and pay tribute to their investment in and support of the community. The series will highlight seven randomly-selected local businesses each month which will display the "Kansas Business Appreciation Month's sign in their window. Two Garnett restaurants, Trade Winds Bar & Grill and Troyer's 1883, shut down last week, one temporarily while it arranged a reduced hours schedule and one apparently permanently, amid a continuing tough post-Covid environment for eateries. Candy Kent is injured and the horse she was riding killed when the two are hit by a truck on Bush City road driven by area resident Jason Hermreck. The seizure of computers and equipment from The Marion County Record on Friday for as yet unknown reasons, which apparently brought about the death of one of its owners over the weekend, has thrust the town of Marion into the national media spotlight, and focused national discussion on the issue of governmental abuse of a free press and the First Amendment. USD 365 publishes its anticipated budget for next year, outlining spending of \$23.8 million. The Trade Winds Bar & Grill passes a state Department of Agriculture inspection after its owner Angi Smith contracts a bacterial infection, but the Kansas Department of Health & Environment issues a statewide warning to the public later the same week anyway. After a year of static between Garnett Mayor Jason Sheahan and city recreation director Phil Bures, Bures tenders his resignation after a tense city commission meeting. Marion, Ks., police return the equipment seized from the Marion County Record newspaper and withdraw search warrant documents against the paper after a national uproar over the seizure of the newspaper's production equipment. An excessive heat warning is issued for Eastern Kansas later in August, as hot and dry temps ramp up. The passage earlier this month by Anderson County Commissioners of a one-year moratorium on industrial solar projects follows a developing theme among numerous rural and some urban-oriented counties in the state to say "no" to property-tax exempt wind and solar projects. The continua-

tion of high gasoline prices and 3rd District Congresswoman Sharice Davids' support of Biden Administration policies blamed for the inflation have made her the target of a billboard campaign in Johnson County by the National Republican Congressional Committee. Anderson County Commissioners ride an escalating county property valuation to reduce the mill levy for the 2024 budget, but still raise an additional \$644,000 in local property taxes and increase the overall spending plan by \$92,000. Garnett City Commissioner Mark Locke dresses down Mayor Jason Sheahan publicly in a followup to last month's angry exchange between Sheahan and former recreation department director Phil Bures. Former Welda resident Dena Bunnell has rejoined Kansas State University's College of Agriculture to serve as the associate director for research and international initiatives.

September

Greeley's Smokeoff BBQ event readies for its 23rd annual installment this month. Arlyn Briggs, charged with threatening Anderson County Sheriff's officers and staff while he was running for the Republican nomination for Kansas governor last year, pled guilty to misdemeanors in the case in exchange for the dismissal of felony charges. Local musician Trevor Holman, the first local musician to take the stage at Garnett's Cornstock Concert On The Hill, says support from his fans was the lynchpin to his booking at the event. A Patterson Family grant will match public donations to the Garnett Community Foundation during the months of September and November. Empty oil tanker cars derail on the Union Pacific railroad line between Garnett and Greeley, with no injuries but taking months to clear from the highway right-of-way. Taxpayers across the state are crowding into local government budget meetings to protest higher property taxes, as market forces drive up the value of their homes and farmland. Kansas abortion providers saw an estimated 4,650 more patients than usual in the first half of 2023, signaling a reshaped post-Roe policy landscape that has sent people traveling across state lines to Kansas in droves after state voters last year overruled a constitutional anti-abortion measure. Another semiconductor plant slated for a location near New Strawn in Coffey County says it will employ 64 workers in a 30,000 square foot building, the ground breaking ceremony for which was held this month. Williams Monument holds a ribbon cutting for its new monument shop on east 6th Ave. in Garnett. Kansas' 3rd District Congresswoman Sharice Davids votes against a bill designed to prevent states from banning gasoline-powered vehicles in an effort to force their residents to adopt electric cars. Local firefighters Colby Wittman, Alex Dennison, Korbin Edgcomb, Cole Armitage, Zach Wilper and Chief Wesley Skillman

walked stairs at Garnett Stadium in remembrance of the 343 firefighters who perished in the 9/11 attacks at the World Trade Center. Marion County Record reporter Deb Gruver files the first lawsuit surrounding the search of the newspaper this summer, when she files a federal civil rights case against police chief Gideon Cody. Casey Donahew headlines Cornstock, with supporting performances from Colt Ford and Wade Bowen. Crest Lancer volleyball player Kayla Hermreck records her 1,000th kill of her career during the recent Humboldt tournament. A district court judge sentenced 18 year-old Sean Williams, who was himself a victim of child sexual abuse, to less than half the prosecutor's requested time in prison for child rape after a motion from his defense counsel to depart from Kansas standard sentencing guidelines. Ryan Golden and Kayla Hermreck were crowned King and Queen of Crest Fall Homecoming. The Kincaid Fair celebrates its 114th edition this month with the theme "Back To The Country," with Janice and the late Terry Feuerborn selected as parade grand marshals. Don Wettstein took home the win at Heartland Motorsports Park on Saturday, September 30th in the Super Pro category with his 1938 Chevy Roadster Super Gas race car.

October

Garnett City Commission candidate Mark Powls proposes a resolution to city commissioners that would negate most city zoning resolutions, and commissioners not only do not support the concept but its language does not make the document enforceable. Counties in the region continued to enjoy low unemployment rates in August while the state of Kansas overall lost both private and public sector jobs, according to a report from the Kansas Department of Labor. A hearing set by state officials this month may finalize a rate hike request by Evergy that will affect vast swaths of Kansas' electrical customers - including those in Anderson County. Kinley Edgerton is crowned 2023 Kincaid Fair Queen. The 10th running of the Lake Garnett Grand Prix Revival will come this year with a solar eclipse to add spice to the October 13-15 event. Bailey Roehl and Nash Cardel are crowned queen and king of CHHS Viking homecoming. Local activist Paula Scott and pharmacist Nate Wiehl announce they plan to run write-in campaigns for the upcoming Garnett City Commission vacancy. Sharice Davids follows Democrats and angry members of the GOP to oust Representative Kevin McCarty as speaker of the U.S. House in the first ever removal of a U.S. House speaker. Ottawa beekeeper Ellen Finnerty wins her argument against the City of Ottawa that boiled into a lawsuit when Ottawa officials relent and change their restrictive ordinances that kept her from selling home-grown honey at the Ottawa farmers market. More than 200 junior high through high school students from area schools learned

about vintage equipment at Friday's Education Day sponsored in conjunction with the Anderson County Flywheelers' weekend show and exhibit in Lake Garnett Park. Upon news Nate Wiehl will seek office as a write-in candidate, Garnett Mayor Jason Sheahan endorses him and urges the public to vote for Wiehl. Family, friends and community members were reeling last week at the news from local authorities, who believe 1999 Central Heights graduate Susan Stanfrd shot and killed her eight year-old son before killing herself at a home they shared with her fiancé in Louisburg. Congresswoman Sharice Davids has condemned the Oct. 7 brutal terrorist attack against Israel by Hamas in Gaza, but critics note she has not returned campaign contributions from Hamas supporter Ilhan Omar and won't support a Senate plan to re-freeze funds belonging to Hamas-supporting Iran. The contentious and difficult beginning of USD 288, Central Heights, will be shared by Diana Staresinic-Deane of the Franklin County Historical Society at the Richmond Community Museum in a special program later this month. Again this season, the Crest Lady Lancer volleyball team has broken its season win record from 1988 with a record of 27-7, 9-2 in league. James Chambers bonded out of jail by noon Sunday after officers were able to subdue him Saturday night at his family home on North Oak Street in Garnett in what they described as an armed standoff stemming from a domestic incident. Thirty-three year-old Giovanni Rodriguez of Garnett will serve 25 years on two counts of child rape after getting a plea deal in Anderson County District Court. Eighteen year-old Weston Johnson of Garnett is charged with involuntary manslaughter in connection with a traffic crash near Baldwin City that claimed the life of 31 year-old Brice Crump of Newton. The Graduate Teaching Assistants Coalition at the University of Kansas - a labor union affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers - posts a "Palestine Solidarity Letter" calling for a "free Palestine," and effectively calling for an end to Israel. Garnett Elementary morning preschool students from Mrs. Jessica Feuerborn's class get a visit from Miss Kansas, Courtney Wages, as she spoke with the class and read books with them. Brian Davis, former city sports director at Newton, takes the post as Garnett Recreation Director. The electronic records system used to manage cases in Anderson County District Court and much of the rest of Kansas has now been offline more than two weeks due to a security breach, and courts locally and across the state have had to try to keep up with their work volumes while stepping back into hard-copy paperwork of almost a decade ago. Caleb Foltz of Kincaid, who was sentenced in June to nearly 25 years in prison on two charges of rape of his 13 year old stepdaughter, has filed an administrative motion claiming he received inadequate representation in his

case and seeks the overturning of his sentence and new trial on the charges. Rain started in the county late in the month; some areas reported as much as five to six inches of rain. Crest girl's cross country team finished as 1A State Runner-Up in Wamego, including runners Aubrey Allen, Josie Walter, Coach Kaitlyn Cummings, Peyton Schmidt and Kaylee Allen. Sherry Harrison of Emporia is tabbed as Garnett's new economic development director. Central Heights boys cross country team wins the 2A State Championship.

November

Congresswoman Sharice Davids requests federal funds to pay part of Garnett's water plant project costs and those of several other communities in the district, then votes in the minority against the actual appropriation of the money because the bill also cut EPA funding. The Kansas Department of Transportation is concerned its own staffing shortages may put snow and ice removal from the state's highways at risk for the winter of 2023. This Veterans Day marks the first time in recent memory that a Veterans Day assembly will not be held at Anderson County High School, after organizers with the local VFW and American Legion posts say they're too few and too old to do the program any more. Garnett voters pick write-in candidate Nate Wiehl in the city commission election. In her second public display of support for fellow Democrats disciplined for anti-Semitic comments in the U.S. Congress, Sharice Davids joined the minority in opposing a censure vote for Rashida Tlaib, who has advocated the destruction of Israel. Orshelns in Garnett officially changes brand to Tractor Supply with a grand opening even at the store this month. After 15 years at the head of the Unified School District 365 administration, superintendent Don Blome has announced his resignation. Garnett's Business and Professional Women's chapter awards Eileen Burns of AuBurn Pharmacies its Women of The Year honor, and TrustPoint Insurance wins Business of The Year. Though the error doesn't unseat Allen County as the highest crime jurisdiction in the region, a snafu in Wichita's records bumps up violent crime stats for Kansas in a KBI report and ends reflecting an increase - not a decrease as previously reported - in violent crime in the state. Turkeys are cheaper this year, which should drop the price to feed 10 people a Thanksgiving this year on average 29¢ per person according to American Farm Bureau statistics. Sherry Harrison, the newest but recently former director of the city/county economic development agency, has demanded four months continued salary and benefits from the City of Garnett as a settlement after her recent resignation, in exchange for her keeping mum about the "threatening, intimidating and humiliating" treatment she claims to have received from outgoing director Julie Turnipseed. Williamsburg's

Tammy Harabin purchases longtime local steakhouse Scipio Supper Club. Brylee and Brekyn Zook will be two of over 1,000 entries from 29 different states including 4 provinces in Canada competing December 6-13 at the Mike and Sherrylynn Johnson Vegas Tuffest Jr. World Championship, which is held in December in Las Vegas.

December

After working out the details the past year, St. Luke's and Barnes Jewish Christian Health Care of St. Louis plan their merger to be effective January 1. November's Anderson County Republican Party meeting becomes a venue for political announcements, when county emergency preparedness director Mark Locke and undersheriff Wes McClain announce they'll seek the office of county sheriff this year, as does county deputy Rob Smith in a followup newspaper interview. Knocked offline this fall by hackers, the Kansas Judicial Administrator's office says the state court record system should be back online by the end of the month. New data from the Kansas Department of Education show school districts collectively added \$68 million to their operating cash reserves in the last school year, bringing the total to \$1.25 billion held by school districts in the state. Congresswoman Sharice Davids dodges a congressional vote on a resolution to condemn the rise of anti-Semitism in the nation and the world by voting "present," but when university presidents from Harvard, University of Pennsylvania and MIT are roasted nationally for not calling out anti-Semitic student actions and protests at their campuses as violation of their own bullying policies, Davids votes to condemn those student protests and college presidents. So far there's no word on perpetrators who burglarized Princeton Liquors and made off with some \$10,000. Garnett will amend its budget to make up a \$600,000 2023 shortfall in payment of costs for the Cedar Valley Reservoir spillway work, and a Garnett city auditor recommends additional accounting measures after losses at city recreation-run concession stands total in the thousands of dollars. Curb Records star Dylan Scott is announced as the headline act for the 2024 Cornstock Concert. Westphalia's Wes Ludolph is promoted to the rank of Major in the Kansas Highway Patrol. Garnett newspaper publisher Dane Hicks joins with two other Kansas publishers to launch Ad Astra Global Media and its online publication The Kansas Informer, as a politically conservative alternative to statewide news. Kansas Attorney General Kris Kobach re-files a federal lawsuit against Texas-based Macquarie Energy, hoping to recover \$50 million in natural gas overcharges experienced by cities like Garnett all over the state. A national financial advisor referral company studying income, investments and property values pegs Anderson County as 9th in the state in overall wealth growth over the past decade.

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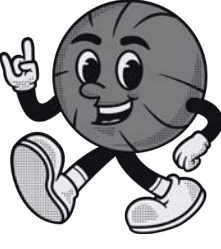
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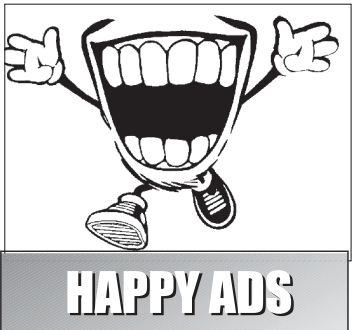
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BROADCAST...

FROM PAGE 1

tact with one another, and a partnership was quickly born.

"I talked with Tony and he assured me that if I got to the booth by 6 p.m., he could train me with what I needed to know by the 7 p.m. kickoff," Hills said. "Tony and I broadcast football games together for five years at BHS," Hills said. "We also covered several Waverly football games, including their two state championship games from Russell and Newton."

Since those early days, Hills has continued broadcasting games and has branched out to broadcast not only football but also other sports, including basketball and softball. Alongside Waverly's two football state championship games, Hills has broadcast Burlington state tournament games from Salina and Hutchinson, along with Ladycat softball tournament games from Emporia. He has also broadcast for six other radio stations when one of their local teams were playing at the same venue as Burlington and they were short on manpower to cover their team.

Hills has also gotten to work with multiple people, though his main broadcasting partner is Dr. Rick Smith, a local dentist who joined Hills as the

color analyst in 2009.

"Several guests have filled in to cover games while Rick has been unavailable," Hills said. "I especially enjoyed covering two games with the help of my son, Austin Hills."

Hills himself has rarely missed a game since that first evening under the Friday night lights in 2003.

"I missed two basketball games and two football games to attend weddings and funerals, in 20 years," Hills said.

Perhaps the most notable time Hills missed a game was in 2020.

"The 2020 football season humbled me from the listeners' support I received after missing nine games due to COVID and returning for the final game of the season," Hills said.

Hills said it is the teams and athletes themselves that have drawn him to continue broadcasting since that first game.

"Each year, the makeup of new teams change," Hills said. "I get to see young athletes develop from freshmen to varsity level during their four years at BHS."

As the Voice of the Wildcats, Hills said he especially enjoys the excitement and encouragement Burlington's home crowds provide to their teams.

"We arrive ahead of a large portion of the crowd to set up our equipment and take the opportunity to meet and greet spectators and gather information about their children who will be playing in that game," Hills said. "We also find out about friends and family members following the broadcast on the radio so we can share a shoutout to them during the game."

Working together, Hills and Smith don't only cover home games. They also hit the road and travel to away games.

"Rick has been my broadcasting and traveling partner for the past 14 years," Hills said. "We have piloted the DAWGMOBILE to locations all over the state. Scheduling sends the teams on home and away contests split mostly 50/50 each year, so we spend many miles and hours on the road."

The pair have enjoyed meeting people on their travels.

"We have enjoyed making friends with many people at road venues that we travel to," Hills said. "They have been great for information about the talents of their local players and a handy source for interesting dining choices in their towns."

Amidst home games and

travels to away games, there have been special seasons and special moments. Hills' favorite came not long after he first started broadcasting.

"The 2004 undefeated state basketball team was a special season for Burlington sports fans," Hills said. "From the opening tipoff of the season to the final buzzer of the championship game, you knew the team would work hard enough every game to succeed."

Over the years, Hills has especially enjoyed seeing the effort put forth by many athletes.

"Not every team will accomplish their year long goals, but I always enjoy seeing the effort and devotion to teammates exhibited by individual players," Hills said. "Though some players may possess natural talent, I look more to individuals who give all their effort to help their team."

Athletes are not the only ones who have provided special memories for Hills. Fans listening to his broadcasts have also given him memories that have stayed with him, including one military parent who left him especially touched.

"I once received a thank you from a father who had been deployed to Afghanistan with his National Guard unit who

had listened to his daughter's basketball game on the internet at 4 a.m. in Afghanistan as she was playing in the Burlington Invitational Tournament," Hills said. "It felt good to know he was able to visualize his daughter playing from the description of the game from Burlington."

Hills said as the Voice of the Wildcats he accepts the responsibility to provide information to listeners who are not able to attend the games. He takes that responsibility seriously.

"Though we support our local athletes, we also want to convey to the listeners the talents and efforts displayed by both teams," Hills said. "A biased opinion spoken about any aspects of the game shows disrespect to participants and officials."

Hills' broadcasts are well-received by both Burlington fans and people from other communities.

"I hear comments from listeners that have enjoyed our broadcasts and continue to listen to games after their athletes have finished school," Hills said. "People from other communities who do not have a local broadcast of their school's games often compliment us on the service we provide. Our listeners have placed

their trust in us, and we make the effort to keep a high standard of service."

Hills said his wife, Barb, has been his biggest supporter to encourage him to continue broadcasting. The two co-own Burlington Auto Supply, which is the longest continuously operating auto supply store in Burlington.

"Barb works at our business when I need to leave early for long road trips and has accompanied us to many venues," Hills said. "She offers advice on the choice of descriptive phrases she hears while listening to games."

Now preparing to broadcast his 1,000th game, Hills believes he still has all the energy needed for the Voice of the Wildcats, just as he did for that first football game in 2003.

"I feel I still have the excitement and enthusiasm to broadcast each game from the first game to this 1,000th game," Hills said. "The experiences I have gained may have guided me to avoid some mistakes made in the past, but each game opens opportunities for the future. Game number 1,000 merely opens the door to the next game."

RECORDS...

FROM PAGE 2

Motion to approve the recommendation of Malachi Abbott as Bus Mechanic/Assistant to the Transportation Director with Salary as per the classified handbook. Witherspoon, Schafer, passed 6-0.

Motion to approve the appointment of Jerrica McCarty as Board Clerk/ Business Manager beginning January 1, 2024. Schafer, Martin, passed 5-1 (Witherspoon abstained)

Motion to approve retention incentives of up to \$1000 in January and up to \$1000 in June using ESSER III funds. Witherspoon, Comfort, passed 6-0.

Adjourned: 8:45 p.m. Teel, Martin. Passed 6-0.

Paula Wallace, Clerk APPROVED:

CREST UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 479 December 11th, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Education of Crest Unified School District #479 was held at the Crest Board Office, Colony, on Monday, December 11th, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board President Travis Church.

Roll Call - Board Members Present - Jason Beckmon, Seth Black, Travis Church, Kevin Nilges, Lance Ramsey and Laura Schmidt. Board Members

Absent - Nathan Beckmon.

Others Present - Superintendent Shane Walter, Elementary Principal Stephanie Edgerton, Board Clerk Lynette Prasko and Larry Gleue.

Approval of Agenda - It was moved by Mr. Kevin Nilges and seconded by Mr. Seth Black to approve the agenda as presented. Vote: 6-0

Approval of Consent Agenda - It was moved by Mr. Lance Ramsey and seconded by Mr. Kevin Nilges to approve the consent agenda including the minutes of the November 13th regular board meeting, bills in the amount of \$335,435.46, Enrollment Report and Budget Status Ledger report. Vote: 6-0

Information Items

ANW Special Education Minutes - The minutes of the November 8th, 2023 ANW Special Education Cooperative meeting were reviewed.

Superintendent/Principal Report - Mr. Walter reported K-12 students have been completing benchmark assessments and the Christmas music concert is Thursday. The district would like to thank Jason Beckmon for his four years of service on the Board of Education.

Items of Business

Clay Target League - Mr. Walter discussed the Clay Target League opportunity and future breakfast fundraiser to help with startup. He introduced Larry Gleue to provide more information and answer any questions

from the board. It was moved by Mr. Jason Beckmon and seconded by Mr. Kevin Nilges to approve Crest join the Kansas State High School Clay Target League. Vote: 6-0

Resolution Authorizing the Offering for Sale of General Obligation Bonds -

It was moved by Mr. Seth Black and seconded by Mr. Jason Beckmon to adopt Resolution 2023-2024-20 Authorizing the Offering for Sale of General Obligation Bonds. Resolution is on file in the Board Office. Vote: 6-0

Facility Improvements - Mr. Walter updated the board on the safety/security improvements that are being researched or completed over Christmas break for the school facilities. Mr. Walter discussed the status of the bond project.

It was moved by Mr. Jason Beckmon and seconded by Mr. Seth Black to approve the quote from Smith & Oakes for the property boundary and topographical survey in the amount of \$8,800.00 Vote: 6-0

It was moved by Mrs. Laura Schmidt and seconded by Mr. Seth Black to approve the CMAR (Construction Management At Risk) process for the bond project. Vote: 6-0

Mr. Walter discussed CMAR company interview date options in January.

District Enrollment of Nonresident Students' Policy - Mr. Walter reviewed the Enrollment of

Nonresident Students' Board Policy.

It was moved by Mr. Lance Ramsey and seconded by Mr. Kevin Nilges to approve the Enrollment of Nonresident Students' Board Policy as presented. Vote: 6-0

Insurance Renewal - Mr. Walter updated the board on the property/liability insurance options.

Surplus Property - Mr. Walter discussed using Purple Wave auction for disposed surplus property.

Personnel - Executive Session - It was moved by Mr. Travis Church and seconded by Mr. Kevin Nilges to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing district staffing. The reason for the session was the non-elected personnel exemption under KOMA. The meeting was to resume in the board room at 8:48 p.m. Mr. Walter was invited to attend. Vote: 6-0

At 8:35 p.m., Mr. Walter exited the executive session.

At 8:48 p.m., the open meeting resumed in the board room and it was moved by Mr. Lance Ramsey and seconded by Mrs. Laura Schmidt to extend the executive session until 8:53 p.m. with Mr. Walter reentering the executive session. Vote: 6-0

The open meeting reconvened in the board room at 8:53 p.m. and it was moved by Mr. Seth Black and seconded by Mr. Kevin Nilges to extend the contract of Superintendent Walter through June 2026. Vote: 6-0

ANDERSON COUNTY ARREST FILED

On December 8, Jeremie Dale King, Princeton, was arrested for driving while suspended or revoked and no for no vehicle registration.

On December 11, Michael Garrett Adams, Wamego, was arrested to serve a court ordered sentence.

On December 11, Lacy Jean Michael, Brumley, Missouri, was arrested to serve a court ordered sentence.

On December 12, Celeste Madeline Nigh, Kansas City, Missouri, was arrested for failure to appear.

On December 12, Natasha Sioux Howard, Garnett, was arrested for a DUI conviction and interference with law enforcement.

ANDERSON COUNTY JAIL ROSTER

(As of Dec. 14, 2023.)

Isidro Madrid was booked into jail on August 12, 2022.

Eric Howell was booked into jail on April 20, 2023.

Joseph Wilper was booked into jail on October 20, 2023.

Eric Mersman was booked into jail on November 19, 2023.

Chasenda Snow was booked into jail on November 19, 2023.

Teela Meinke-Summer was booked into jail on November 19, 2023.

Roy Helton-Ball was booked into jail on November 28, 2023.

Lacy Michael was booked into jail on December 11, 2023.

Celeste Nigh was booked into jail on December 12, 2023.

ANDERSON COUNTY JAIL FARM-INS

(As of Dec. 14, 2023.)

Andrew Shubert was booked into jail on September 5, 2023.

Ronnie Masoner was booked into jail on September 5, 2023

Javier Romero was booked into jail on October 4, 2023.

Leah Thomas was booked into jail on November 13, 2023, 2023.

Ashley Hogan was booked into jail on November 13, 2023.

Joshua Towne was booked into jail on November 27, 2023.

Kenneth Soap was booked into jail on November 27, 2023.

Tanna Hays was booked into jail on December 5, 2023.

BBB: Research shows gift card scam reports rose by 50% over last year

Today's scammers want gift cards as payment, leaving those unaware of this tactic vulnerable to schemes designed to commit fraud. Better Business Bureau (BBB) research shows fraud reports to BBB Scam Tracker involving gift cards as a form of payment spiked in the first three quarters of 2023, up 50% from the same period the year prior. Scammers have doubled down on gift cards as a method to steal money from consumers - especially online shoppers - leading retailers to implement new fraud prevention solutions in response.

A new BBB study update, "Growth of gift card scams causes retailers to innovate solutions," examines patterns of reports, dives deep into court documents, reviews financial losses, and highlights interviews with affected consumers. The goal is to educate everyone on the tactics scammers use with gift cards.

Key findings

Technology, like algorithms meant to detect fraudulent behavior, helps retailers stop scammers in their tracks and sometimes return money to customers.

Fraudsters leverage international networks to convince consumers to hand over gift cards.

Advance fee loans, government impersonation, phishing and lottery/sweepstakes top the list of scam types used most often to obtain gift cards.

Scammers frequently seek gift cards from big-box, technology and online stores.

Key statistics reported to BBB and Federal Trade Commission (FTC) since 2020 about gift card payment scams

3,918 BBB Scam Tracker reports

177,074 reports to the Federal Trade Commission's Consumer Sentinel Network with \$690 million in losses

In 2021, BBB's International Investigations Initiative examined gift card payment scams in an in-depth study, "Gift card payment scams: BBB reveals why scammers love gift cards." Since then, retailers have identified several methods to protect consumers, but warn that it is impossible to stop all scams as fraudsters continue to find ways around safeguards.

Richard in Tempe, Arizona, reported to Scam Tracker he received a call from someone claiming to be from Amazon. There was a suspicious charge on his account, they said, and it looked like possible identity theft. The person claiming to be from Amazon offered to connect him with someone from the government. He was asked to withdraw \$10,000 and convert it to gift cards. He sent several hundred dollars before realizing everyone involved were scammers.

A Nebraska woman's quest for a furry companion turned

into a heartbreaking ordeal as she encountered not one, but two scams while searching for a puppy. In both instances, the scammers requested payments in gift cards, a red flag that the woman unfortunately failed to recognize. On the second occasion, Jill visited the specified, local address. To her dismay, upon arriving at the location, a woman informed her that she had fallen victim to a scam.

BBB tips to spot a gift card scam

Be wary of anyone asking for payment with a gift card, including "government" agencies. No legitimate government organization will ask you to pay with a gift card.

If you suspect a scam, contact the gift card seller, the actual business or government organization supposedly asking for money, and BBB to ask if you are dealing with a scammer. To find contact information, go directly to the organization's website rather

than search for their customer service number, which can be spoofed by scammers.

Keep all information related to your purchase if you are scammed, because some retailers may require that information for refunds.

If you suspect fraud, act immediately, contact the gift card seller or the number on the back of the card to report it. Follow advice and report suspected scams to BBB Scam Tracker and the Federal Trade Commission.

Celebrate the New Year... Just Do So Responsibly



**The New Year is a reason to celebrate,
but not a reason to drink & drive. ALWAYS designate a driver.**

These Businesses Wish You a Safe and Happy New Year!

**Adamson Bros.
Heating & Cooling**
Ottawa
(785) 242-9273

Anderson County Abstract
Garnett
(785) 448-2426

Anderson County Review
Garnett
(785) 448-3121

AuBurn Pharmacy
Garnett
(785) 448-6122

Barnes Seed Service, LLC
Garnett
(785) 304-2500

Benjamin Realty
Garnett
(785) 448-2550

Bluestem Farm & Ranch
Emporia
(620) 352-5502

Bones Rock Yard
Ottawa
(785) 242-3070

Brand 'N Iron
Princeton
www.thebrandniron.com

Brummel Farm Service
Garnett
(785) 448-5720

CARSTAR
Ottawa
(785) 242-8916

D&M Mini Barns
Garnett
(785) 504-9625

East Kansas Agri-Energy
Garnett
(785) 448-2888

Farmers State Bank
Garnett
www.fsbkansas.com
Member FDIC - Equal Opportunity Lender.

Flynn Appliance Center
Iola
(620) 365-2538

**Garnett Home Center
& Rental**
Garnett
(785) 448-7106

Midwest Collision
Paola
(913) 294-4016

Midwest Gun & Supply
Paola
(913) 557-4867

Nature's Touch
Garnett
(785) 448-7152

Patriots Bank
Garnett
www.patriotsbank.com
Member FDIC - Equal Opportunity Lender.

PrairieLand Partners
Iola
(620) 365-2187

PSI Insurance
Iola
(620) 365-6098

Quality Structures
Richmond
800-374-6988

Sandra's Quick Stop
Garnett
(785) 448-6602

**6th Ave Boutique &
Western Wear**
Garnett
(785) 448-2276

Sonic Drive-In
Garnett
(785) 448-6393

State Farm Insurance
Ryan Disbrow-Agent,
Garnett
(785) 448-1660

**Terry Solander,
Attorney At Law**
Garnett
(785) 448-6131

Tom Adams Construction
Garnett
(785) 448-3997

Valley R Agri-Service, Inc.
Garnett
(785) 448-6533

Wilson Chiropractic Clinic
Garnett
(785) 448-6151

Wittman NAPA Auto Parts
Garnett
(785) 448-6611

Wolken Tire
Garnett
(785) 448-3212

Yutzy Custom Structures
Garnett
(800) 823-8609

Our best wishes to you for your 2024