



# DICKINSON COUNTY NEWS-TIMES



*Getting back to our roots*

CHAPMAN. ENTERPRISE. HERINGTON. HOPE. AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

## THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA'S *Semiquincentennial*

CHAPMAN TEACHER WILL RETIRE IN MAY



Sonya Anders, Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS)—formerly known as home economics—teacher at Chapman High School USD 473, will retire in May after 43 years in education, including 42 years dedicated to the Chapman community. Throughout her remarkable career, Anders has served as the Chapman advisor for both Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) and ProStart. Under her leadership, the Chapman FCCLA chapter has made a lasting impact—hosting a community winter clothing drive for more than 30 years, organizing the annual Winter Ball formal dance, and guiding students to state and national FCCLA competitions.

For the past 20 years, Anders has also coached students in ProStart culinary and restaurant-management competitions at both the state and national levels. These contests allow high-school students to demonstrate their skills in cooking, hospitality, teamwork, and entrepreneurship.

Over the decades, Anders has taught an impressive range of courses, including Culinary Arts, Health and Wellness, Marriage and Family, Clothing and Textiles, Entrepreneurship, Interior Design, Career and Life Planning, Human Growth and Development, Fashion, and Teaching Pathways.

After retirement, Sonya plans to spend more time serving at Lyona United Methodist Church and volunteering with the Dickinson County Heritage Center. She is looking forward to cherishing more time with her family and grandchildren. She also hopes to enjoy the quieter moments—finishing quilts, creating new ones, and continuing the preservation of her beloved historic home.

Students, alumni and friends are invited to celebrate her retirement from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 26, at Chapman United Methodist Church, 426 Sherran Ave., Chapman, Kansas.

### Rural Vista Coach makes Coach of the Year Finalist

#### SPORTS IN KANSAS

##### 2026 BOYS BASKETBALL COACH OF THE YEAR FINALISTS

**6A**  
Brett McFall, SM South  
Benji Goerge, Manhattan  
Adam Olerich, Olathe North  
Brett Flory, Derby  
Gary Thomason, Wichita Heights  
Zach Bush, Maize  
Kurt Bangle, Mill Valley  
Ryan Phifer, BV North

**5A**  
Ken Darting, Shawnee Heights  
Drew Gruver, Bonner Springs  
Craig Cox, Seaman  
Christian Ulsaker, Topeka West  
Evan Burns, Emporia  
Steve Wallace, KC Piper  
Chris Fear, Salina Central  
Steve Eck, Kapaun  
Joe Jackson, Maize South  
Michael Green, KC Washington  
Sean Dreiling, Hays

**4A**  
Jeff Buchannan, Andale  
Justin Smith, Rock Creek  
Patrick Battle, Atchison  
Don Blanchat, Baldwin  
Chris Battin, Pratt  
Shane Traughber, Concordia  
Tyler Cleveland, Eudora  
Kurt Kinnamon, McPherson  
C.J. Korf, Hugoton

**3A**  
Justin Logan, Burlington  
Shannon Kruger, Silver Lake  
Chad Novack, Holcomb  
Garrett Roth, Hesston  
Brady Jasper, Hiawatha  
Brian Gentry, Scott City  
Rick O'Neil, Wellsville  
Nate Schmitt, Wichita Collegiate  
Tremayne Chambers, Heritage Christian  
Corbin Hostetler, Chaparral

**2A**  
Matt Lawson, Douglass  
Derek Schneider, Sterling  
Will Spradling, St. Marys  
Clint Heffern, Colgan  
Bill Meagher, TMP-Marian  
Brandon McDonnell, Rossville  
Lewis Wiebe, Berean Academy  
Tim Dolloff, Wichita Classical  
Dustan Kanitz, Moundridge  
Leighton Grover, Stanton Co.  
Nolan Smith, Trego

**1A-I**  
Larry O'Connor, Canton-Galva  
Lance Bergmann, St. Johns/Tipton  
Michael Hunter, Flint Hills  
Adam Sobba, Rural Vista  
Erik Base, Little River  
Nicholas Kyle, Norwich  
Michael Ryan, Central Plains  
Bud Valerius, South Central  
Matt Hoffman, Kiowa County  
Chris Schmidt, Olpe  
Cole Kinnamon, Meade  
Tim Staton, Pleasanton  
Ben Ponce, Central Burden  
John Crist, Quinter

**1A-II**  
Jayson Tynon, Axtell  
Cory Jensen, Hanover  
Nolan Cox, Weskan  
Larry Eisenhauer, Cunningham  
Keith Miller, Deerfield  
Dennis Becker, Lebo  
Devin Ryan, Victoria  
Will Bixenman, Wheatland/Grinnell  
Adam Clark, Central Christian  
Colton Barrett, Hartford

winners will be announced from Sports in Kansas on 3/28. voted on by statewide media panel.



#### RESULTS OF THE 78th ANNUAL DICKINSON COUNTY 4-H BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

By: Jill Martinson

The 78th Annual Dickinson County 4-H Basketball Tournament was held on Saturday, March 14, in Chapman at the U.S.D. #473 District Gym. Nine teams participated. Approximately 100 4-Hers from Dickinson and Marion counties took part in this fun, teamwork focused event.

The Lincolnville Wideawakes/Tampa Triple T's and Fragrant Hilltoppers competed for the championship with the Lincolnville Wideawakes/Tampa Triple T's winning the gold.

Other club teams participating in the tournament were Detroit Ramblers, Holland Sunflowers boys, Holland Sunflowers co-ed, Jolly Jayhawkers, Navarre Boosters, Sand Springs Rustlers, and Willowdale.

The Dickinson County 4-H Basketball Tournament is sponsored by KVK Inc. of Woodbine and organized by a committee of the Dickinson County 4-H Council.



Lincolnville Wideawakes and Tampa Triple T's – Champions

Front row: Grace Klenda (cheerleader), Breckyn Hajek, Abby Erwin, and Sage Schafer (cheerleader).

Back row: Leann Klenda (coach), Camdyn Hajek, Wesley Klenda, Kollin Klenda, Canon Schafer, Arlie Erwin, Ava Richmond, and Becca Erwin (coach)



Fragrant Hilltoppers – Runners Up

Front row: Silas Norton, Belle Kuntz, Reagan Hoskins, Kaleb Zook

Middle row: Josslyn DePew (coach), Karter Zook, Grace Lefert, Emmett Kuntz, Emma McWilliams, Matthew Stoffer, Campbell Stoffer, Reatta Lefert, Elise Norton, and Christine Stoffer.

Back row: Roper Lefert (assistant), Kaiden Kuntz, Luke Lefert, Lawson Norton, Lucan Lehman, Emil Pickerign, Asher DePew, Josey Freeman, Lorelai Kuntz, Gary DePew (coach)



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Closed: Monday - Tuesday for Delivery and Production  
Phone Hours: Wednesday - Friday 11 am - 3 pm

# Worship Guide

**First Baptist Church**  
 9 am - Connection Section  
 Enjoy snacks, coffee & fellowship  
 9:30 am - Sunday School  
 For adults & kids of all ages  
 10:30 am - Worship Service  
 201 E. Hawley St.  
 Herington, KS 67449  
 785-258-3207  
 www.fbcherington.org

**St. Michael Catholic Church**  
 210 E. 6th St. • Chapman  
 Sunday Mass 9 a.m.  
 Fr. Peter O'Donnell  
 Marita Campbell,  
 Parish Life  
 Coordinator  
 785-922-6509  
 smichael-chapman@sbcglobal.net  
 www.smchapmanparish.org

**Alida Upland Cooperative Parish**  
 2243 3300 Ave., Junction City  
 11 a.m. Worship Service

**Enterprise Community Church**  
 210 W. South St., Enterprise  
 9 a.m. Adult Sunday School  
 10:15 a.m. Worship

**First Baptist Church**  
 201 E Hawley St., Herington  
 9 a.m. Connection Section  
 Coffee & Fellowship  
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for adults and children  
 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

**First Christian Church**  
 15 S. First St., Herington  
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

**Grace Baptist Church**  
 117 E. Third St., Chapman  
 9:45 a.m. Bible School  
 10:45 a.m. Worship/Service

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
 2201 1000 Ave., Herington  
 8:30 a.m. Worship  
 (Alternating Sundays)

**Our Redeemer Lutheran**  
 802 E. Trapp, Herington  
 10:30 a.m. Worship

**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
 2124 Highway 4, Herington  
 8:30 a.m. Worship  
 (Alternating Sundays)

**St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
 114 N. Eighth St., Herington  
 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class  
 11 a.m. Worship/Communion

**Sutphen Mill Christian Church**  
 3117 Paint Rd., Chapman  
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Call 785-524-4200  
 to have your church added!



Rev. Connie D. Wooldridge  
**PASTOR'S CORNER**

This week Christians will observe Good Friday to remember the death of Jesus. GOOD Friday? What is so good about it? Shouldn't we call Bad Friday, Hard Friday, Don't Tell me Friday, or We Don't Want to Go Through This Friday? Christians understand this as Holy Week. We have relived Jesus' last days on earth. We read about the fickle crowds, the scheming, the denying disciple, the thorny crown, and all instruments of torture and death we prefer not to mention. The truth is that we wish we could just skip this difficult week. It would be easier to celebrate Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday leaping from hosanna shouting palm wavers to excited empty tomb viewers. Many of us do. And yet, the struggles of this week and the grief of Good Friday are important. We must embrace it, because Jesus did and it is our story. John 18 tells us that when Judas brought

## KEEP TRYING

a company of soldiers to find Jesus, he did not flee. He stepped up and announced that he was the one they were seeking. Knowing why they were there, Jesus could have turned away but he stepped up. He stepped up to the trial court, he stepped up to the whipping, he stepped up to the crown ringed with thorns, he stepped up to the ridicule, he stepped up to the slap across the face, he stepped up to carry the cross, and he stepped right up to be nailed to that cross. He did not need to go through this for his sake. He did it for me; he did it for you; he did it for all of us. So you see, this is Good Friday; for on this day we remember that for our sake Jesus stepped up and gave himself. We are the fickle crowd. We are denying disciples. We are the mockers. Perhaps most of all we want to be Pilate and just wash our hands and bury our heads at the ugliness of it all. But embrace this story we must. For without it there is no resurrection, no redemption, no restoration, no life abundant and everlasting. This is God's gift to us. Amen



## THIS DAY - IN THE HERINGTON TIMES

125 years ago - 1901  
**BUFFALO A THING OF THE PAST** - Many of the old inhabitants around here remember the time that buffalo were common on the prairie along what was then known as the Santa Fe Trail. It is now claimed that all buffaloes are in traveling shows or are kept for pets by those who have been able to raise them up from calves.  
 100 years ago - 1926  
**RURAL MAIL STRANDED** - The big snow of Monday took the rosy hue out of life for the rural mail carriers. Fred Dix, Route 1 carrier, covered only three miles of his territory Tuesday. He abandoned his car and tried to go horseback, but with no luck. W. G. Thompson, Route 2 and J. S. McCulley, Route 4, didn't get beyond the city limits. Joe Costello covered five miles of Route 3 and then had to abandon his car and come back to town. Maurice Kilgore, carrier on the Star Mail Route from Herington to Enterprise, got as far as Woodbine in the morning and was forced to return.  
 75 years ago - 1951  
**INSTALLED IN FHA AT TOPEKA** - A local girl, Miss Beverly Lee, will be among the newly elected district and state FHA officers who will be given recognition at the fifth annual state convention of the Kansas Association of Future Homemakers of America to be held in Topeka, April 7. Each of the new officers will be introduced and installed in her office in a beautiful candlelight ceremony. Miss Lee was recently elected treasurer of FHA District III.

**BUFFALO A THING IN THE PAST**  
 She is a student at Herington High School studying homemaking education under the supervision of her instructor and FHA advisor, Mrs. Ethel Haun.  
 50 years ago - 1976  
**TROOPER ASSUMES POST** - A new Kansas Highway Patrol district recently announced for the Herington Community, will be staffed by a six-year veteran of the law enforcement agency. Trooper Charles E. Smith has been assigned to fill the position. Smith graduated from high school at Oswego. He served two years in the U. S. Navy. He was employed in the recreational vehicle industry for seven years before joining the Highway Patrol. After graduating from the Patrol's academy at Salina, he was stationed at Pittsburg and later at Pleasanton. For the past 2 1/2 years, he has worked at Johnson County He has attended Johnson County Community College. The Smiths enjoy golf and fishing as hobbies. The family will be moving from Olathe to Herington within a few days. Smith said he will be regularly patrolling an area within a 15-mile radius of Herington in Dickinson, Morris, and Marion Counties. The trooper's office will be at the Herington Public Safety Building. (Many will remember the May 24, 1978, murder of Kansas Highway Patrol trooper Conroy O'Brien near Matfield Green. Trooper Smith encountered the subject's car on US-77 speeding toward Herington and Smith was fired upon. Three subjects were apprehended later that evening while hiding in a field.)  
 Herington Historical Society & Museum, 800 S. Broadway. Hours: 1 to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. - markcwill1963@gmail.com

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**Resurfacing on I-70 near Abilene has been delayed**  
 The Kansas Department of Transportation has delayed the start date for resurfacing on I-70 in Dickinson County. Work which was originally scheduled to begin today is now anticipated to begin on Thursday, April 16.

The project will involve concrete patching, mill and overlay, striping and rumble strips on 8.5 miles of I-70 from just west of the I-70/K-15 junction at Abilene to about 2.5 miles east of the I-70/K-43 junction.

During construction, traffic will be reduced to one lane at a reduced speed for about three miles within the work zone. Motorists should anticipate minimal delays, not exceeding five minutes.

APAC-Kansas Inc. Shears Division, of Hutchinson, is the prime contractor for the \$11 million project, which is scheduled to be completed by October, weather permitting.

KDOT urges motorists to stay alert and follow posted signs in all work zones. For current road conditions, visit kandrive.gov or call 5-1-1. Updates on highway projects in north central Kansas, are available at NewsReleases/District2- north central Kansas.

## VIEW FROM THE HILL- Scott Hill

Senate bills approved this week

The senate finished committee hearings on Tuesday of this week. Judiciary committee had an especially busy week. Bills that strengthen foster care and prevent violent offenders from being on our streets were especially important to get moved into the process. With committee work done, we focused on debating legislation on the floor of the Senate. Wednesday and Thursday were full days as we debated 87 bills in those two days. Most of those were House bills that needed senate approval before they were sent to the Governor. By contrast the House only debated a handful of bills that the Senate sent over before they adjourned and went home. Apparently, the House leadership thought it was more important to stop rural hospitals from having discounted drugs than it was to debate any other legislation. The following is a list of key legislation that the Senate approved:

- HB2594 increases the prosecution and penalty for individuals who blackmail others with digital images including those that have been digitally altered.
- HB2323 enables the insurance commissioner to crack down on insurance fraud.
- HB2518 increases the penalty for perverts who record and share explicit images of children.
- SB454 creates a way that we can prosecute individuals representing a foreign government and that threatens residents of Kansas.
- HB2018 creates a crime of intentionally interfering with a religious service.
- HB2468 expands educational scholarships from both the state and federal levels created by donations that the donor receives a

partial tax credit for. The federal scholarships are for both private and public-school children.

- HB2727 strengthens the protections women in crisis pregnancies are granted to know all of their options. In particular, it allows women to sue abortion providers who do not inform them of non-abortion alternatives.
- HB2729 clarifies that the Department of Health and Environment must provide information to women in a crisis pregnancy including information that there are reversal options to a chemically induced abortion.
- HB2762 protects school children from predators who are contractual workers at a school.
- HB2320, which I carried, helps foster children who change schools to get their records and transportation as well as attending the best school for them.
- HB2590 allows married couples to create a special kind of trust for estate planning.
- HB2737 enacts a new type of tax increment financing for municipal economic development.
- HB2114 reduced the burden on water-sheds and irrigators who use water retention structures.
- HB 2535 shows that the legislature even cares about feral cats. This bill protects those who care for feral cats by catching them for spaying and neutering from being charged with animal cruelty.

These are some of the bills that may be of interest to you. I supported each of these bills and they all passed out of the senate. Some will be going directly to the Governor and some still need to be reconciled with the House. The final week of regular legislative session is a flurry of ideas, combinations, and compromises.

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Friday, April 3: CLOSED  
Sunday, April 5: Easter Sunday  
Wednesday, April 8: Bingo at 10:30 am  
Hosted by Home Health  
Tuesday, April 14: Puzzle Day at 11:30 am  
Thursday, April 16: Footcare at 9 am - ?  
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Thursday, April 28: Trivia Day at 11:30 am

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**Friday, April 3:** Chicken & Noodle Casserole, Stewed Tomatoes, Butter Beans, Five Cup Fruit Salad, Wheat Bread

**Sunday, April 5**

**Monday, April 6:** BBQ Baked Chicken, Baked Beans, Marinated Slaw, Grapes, Wheat Roll

**Tuesday, April 7:** Pork Tenderloin w/Gravy Mashed Potatoes, Stewed Tomatoes, Rosy Applesauce, Bread

**Wednesday, April 8:** Taco Salad, Spanish Rice, Refried Beans, Hot Spiced Peaches, Tortilla Chips

**Thursday, April 9:** Meatloaf, Baked Potato, Broccoli / Cheese Sauce, Mixed Fruit Cup, Wheat Roll

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**Friday, April 3: Closed for Easter Holiday!**

**HAPPY Easter**

**Monday, April 6:** Cheeseburger, Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Potato Wedges, Cole Slaw, Fruit, Milk

**Tuesday, April 7:** Creamed Chicken over Biscuits, Carrots, Fruit, Milk

**Wednesday, April 8:** Taco Salad, Spanish Rice, Refried Beans, Spiced Apples, Tortilla Chips, Milk

**Thursday, April 9:** Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Ambrosia Salad, Roll, Salad, Milk

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**ABILENE IS A QUILT LOVERS DESTINATION IN APRIL**

All quilt enthusiasts will want to head to Abilene on April 11 and 12 to attend the Sunflower Journey Quilt Show hosted by the End Of The Trail Quilters Guild. It will be held at Sterl Hall, 619 N. Rogers Street, Abilene. The hours on Saturday, April 11, are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and the hours on Sunday, April 12, are noon to 4:00 p.m.

Visitors will be able to view dozens of quilts made by the guild members. They can also visit vendor booths, have scissors sharpened, bid on silent auction items, register for door prizes, and make donations for tickets for the 2026 opportunity quilt. The silent auction proceeds support local non-profits including Hospice of Dickinson County and the Heritage Center of Dickinson County. The food court will offer homemade soups, sandwiches, and pies.

Anne Rose, quilt show committee chairman states, "We invite everyone to come see the beautiful quilts made by our talented and creative members. No one will be disappointed. It is a fun time."

Also in Abilene is the Ida Stover Eisenhower Quilt Show. It is being held at the Heritage Center of Dickinson County from April 4 through 12. The Heritage Center is located at 412 South Campbell Street. Hours vary so check the website at [www.heritagecenterdk.com](http://www.heritagecenterdk.com) or call 785-263-2681.

Be sure to make Abilene your destination on April 11 and 12 to view dozens of beautiful quilts.



A group of children is shown at the last quilt show in 2024 learning from demonstrators about quilting techniques and the steps that are involved in making a quilt. The Sunflower Journey Quilt Show is held every two years.

**Driving Dickinson County Forward: La Isla Mexican Restaurant Expands in Herington**

Community & Business Growth | Driving Dickinson County

It's always exciting to see local businesses shifting into high gear and taking the next step in their journey.

That's exactly what's happening with La Isla Mexican Restaurant in Herington.

Now located at 557 US Highway 77, La Isla has officially moved into its new home—creating more room to serve customers and continue building on the strong following it has developed over the years.

Owned and operated by siblings Adan Ramirez and Lorena Ramirez, along with their father—who brings nearly two decades of experience in the restaurant industry—the family has poured their heart and hard work into this next chapter. After purchasing the building in 2023, they committed countless hours to remodeling and upgrading the space to create a welcoming and expanded dining experience for their customers.

**A Space Built With Pride**  
Walking into the new location, you can immediately see the pride they take in their business. The updated interior features a full bar area and beautifully hand-painted chairs and tables that showcase vibrant landscapes—adding a unique and personal touch that reflects both culture and craftsmanship.

**The Real Star of the Show**  
Of course, the real star of the show is the food.

One of their most popular menu items is the California burrito. When asked what makes it such a customer favorite, Adan didn't hesitate:

"Because it is smothered in white cheese sauce."  
— Adan Ramirez, Co-owner

And after trying it, it's easy to see why it keeps people coming back. Their AI Pastor tacos are equally impressive—fresh, flavorful, and packed with authentic taste.

**More Than a Restaurant**  
But for Adan, the most rewarding part of owning a restaurant goes beyond the menu. It's about the people.

From meeting new customers to building relationships with regulars, La Isla has become more than just a place to eat—it's a place to connect. That sense of community is at the heart of what makes local businesses like this so important to Dickinson County.

Mile by mile. Meal by meal. Connection by connection.

That's what keeps Dickinson County moving forward.

"La Isla," which means "The Island," is open seven days a week from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., offering daily lunch and dinner specials.

If you haven't had a chance to visit their new location yet, we encourage you to stop by, support this hardworking local family, and experience the fresh food and welcoming atmosphere for yourself.

Because when businesses like La Isla continue to grow and invest in our communities, it keeps Dickinson County moving forward—mile by mile, meal by meal, and connection by connection.



**Centre USD #397 will be conducting Kindergarten Open House on Friday, April 10, from 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM at the Centre K-12 School. Children who will be 5-years old on or before August 31, 2026, are encouraged to participate. If you have questions, please call the school at 785-983-4321 or the district office at 785-983-4304. There will be no kindergarten class on Friday, April 10. A Preschool Open House will be held on Friday, April 10, from 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM for those students who will be 4-years old on or before August 31, 2026. Students and parents are encouraged to come visit the school.**

**Murphy's Kitchen**  
Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> Noon - 6pm  
**Easter Bunny**  
Photos & Cookie Decorating  
**Parent's Golden Egg Hunt**  
All Free

One Golden Egg. Hidden In Herington. \$150+ In Prizes.

Join Us To Hear The First Hint To The Golden Egg's Location!

**Address:**  
2570 Q Ave, Herington, KS 67449  
Phone : 785-645-0077  
[www.Murphys-Kitchen.com](http://www.Murphys-Kitchen.com)

**POSTMASTER** Send change of address to: Dickinson County News-Times, P.O. Box 109, Herington, KS 67449

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**ADVERTISING AND NEWS DEADLINE - FRIDAYS AT NOON**

**P.O BOX 109, HERINGTON, KS 67449- PHONE (785)524-4200- USPS 242-100- DK.CO.NEWS-TIMES@GMAIL.COM - JLSNEWSGROUP.COM**

**Tombstone Talks - Hope Cemetery**

April 12th starting at 1:00 pm

Join us for an afternoon guided walking tour through the cemetery to hear re-enactors tell the stories of our ancestors. Our amazing portrayals will be portraying six residents of the Hope community. You will hear stories about the lives of Solomon Stauffer, Queen Cruse, Glen Rubin, Sarah Carpenter, Newell Thurstin and Della Swayze.

Tour slots are: 1:00 pm; 1:20 pm; 1:40 pm; 2:00 pm; 2:20 pm; 2:40 pm. Purchase tickets in advance at \$10 each. Please let the staff know what time slot you would like when you sign up. Meet at the Hope Museum to start tour.



We'd love to celebrate your little

**Marion County Community Baby Shower**  
 Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM  
 Marion Community Center  
 203 N. Third St.  
 Marion, KS 66861

**Plant the Seeds of Safety with this Interactive Safe Sleep Event**

- Learn evidence-based safe sleep practices
- Connect with Marion County health services, home visiting programs, and community resources
- Watch hands-on demonstrations of safe sleep spaces with opportunities to practice skills

**Blooming Support for New and Expectant Parents**

- New and expectant parents, family members, community support, and all caregivers invited to attend
- Topics to include breastfeeding, mental health, tobacco dependence, child passenger safety, injury prevention, health and physical wellness, and more
- In-person support for navigating assistance programs and community resources
- Free portable cribs for infants less than 1 year old, home safety devices, and gifts from local organizations

For questions, please call Taylor at the Marion County Health Department (620)382-2550  
 Brought to you in partnership by:

**Catholic Charities**  
 St. Michael Catholic Church  
 210 E 6th ST  
 Chapman, KS 67431  
 Every 4th Wednesday of the month  
 9am-10am

St. John Catholic Church  
 712 Broadway  
 Herington, KS 67449  
 Every 1st Wednesday of the month  
 1pm-2pm

St. Andrew Catholic Church  
 311 S Buckeye Ave  
 Abilene, KS 67410  
 Every 3rd Wednesday of the month

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church  
 3599 N Field Rd  
 Solomon, KS 67480  
 Every 3rd Wednesday of the Month

Enterprise Community Church  
 210 S High St.  
 Enterprise, KS 67441  
 Every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the Month  
 10:30am till 11am

**DRIVE THRU FOOD PICK UP**

First UMC Manhattan  
 1710 Avery Avenue  
 Manhattan, KS 66503  
 785-539-1748  
 PLEASE CALL TO CONFIRM HOURS  
 Tue  
 3rd of each month 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Westview Community Church  
 615 Gillespie Drive  
 Manhattan, KS 66502  
 785-537-7173  
 PLEASE CALL TO CONFIRM HOURS  
 Fri  
 1<sup>st</sup> of each month 10am-11am

Ogden Community Center  
 220 Willow Street  
 Ogden, KS 66517  
 785-564-0071 or 785-410-6672  
 PLEASE CALL TO CONFIRM HOURS  
 Tue  
 4<sup>th</sup> of each month 9:30am-10:30am

Highview Church  
 402 Main Street  
 Alta Vista, KS 66834  
 620-767-2844  
 PLEASE CALL TO CONFIRM HOURS  
 Tue  
 4<sup>th</sup> of each month 11:30 AM 12:30 PM

**ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT:**  
 Chapman Adult Care Homes, Inc will hold its Annual Membership meeting on April 23rd, 2026, at 130pm located at the Chapman United Methodist Church 426 Sheeran Street, Chapman, KS. The blueprints for the new Residential Healthcare Facility wing will be available for viewing. The public is welcomed to join us for the annual meeting; however, in order to vote you will have to be a member of the corporation. You can become a member at the annual meeting.

Hope to see you there.

**Spring Tombstone Talks to be Held on Sunday, April 12TH**

Please join us at the Spring 2026 Tombstone Talks on Sunday, April 12 at the Hope Cemetery, Hope, Kansas. Tour times for this event are 1:00 p.m., 1:20 p.m., 1:40 p.m., 2:00 p.m., 2:20 p.m., and 2:40 p.m., with each tour lasting around one hour. This event will feature some of Hope's most well-noted residents, such as Newell Thurstin, Della Swayze, Queen Cruise, Solomon Stauffer, Glen Rubin, and Sarah Carpenter.

Tickets for this event will be available at the Dickinson County Heritage Center, 412 S. Campbell Street, Abilene. Please call or stop by during business hours.

**Flint Hills Rural Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting**  
 The 88 th Annual Meeting of the Flint Hills Rural Electric Cooperative Association, Inc., will be held at the Herington Community Building, 810 S Broadway, Herington KS, on Thursday, March 31, 2026. The registration and meal start at 5:30 p.m. and the business meeting at 6:30 p.m. This meeting is open to all members of the Flint Hills Rural Electric Cooperative.

Statewide elected officials statement on the decision in Kelly v. Kobach  
 Kansas Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt, Kansas Secretary of State Scott Schwab and Kansas State Treasurer Steven Johnson, today, issue the following statement in response to the Kansas Supreme Court's decision in Kelly v. Kobach:

"The court's decision today fails to resolve the issue for which we became engaged. We continue to maintain that the governor does not and should not have 'supreme executive power' over other independently elected officials. If and when the argument properly comes before the court, we will remain steadfast in this position."

Sponsored by HCPC

**HOPE FARMER'S MARKET**  
**LOOKING FOR VENDORS**

**3 Saturday Evenings in 2026**  
 June 13th, July 11th,  
 August 15th

**Outside New Hope Library**  
 302 N. Main  
 6:00pm - 8:00pm

ITEMS MUST BE HAND-MADE OR HOME GROWN.  
 MUST BRING OWN TABLE.

**FREE VENDOR ENTRY**

**To Register**  
 Email: [HopeKSFarmersMarket@gmail.com](mailto:HopeKSFarmersMarket@gmail.com)  
 or Call 785-366-7225

Registration is required to be completed 14 days prior to the Farmer's Market.

# EVENTS

**2 Apr, Thu**  
 9 – 10am FFA Contests @ Beloit  
 9am FFA Ag Tech Management/Ag Issues/Vet Science @ Beloit  
 3 – 4:30pm USD 487 Track: High School Mission Valley High School  
 3 – 4pm USD 473 BTN V @ Concordia  
 4 – 6pm USD 473 Scholars Bowl - NCKL Tournament @ Marysville  
 4 – 5pm USD 473 BSB JV @ Russell  
 4 – 5pm USD 473 TR V @ Chapman  
 4 – 5pm USD 487 Baseball Double Header Herington  
 4:30 – 5:30pm USD 473 SB V vs Valley Heights  
 6 – 7pm Post 12 American Legion-Herington  
 6:30 – 7:30pm CES PreK, K, 1st Grade Concert

**3 Apr, Fri**  
 All day **NO SCHOOL**

5 – 6pm USD 473 Cheer Team Parent Meeting  
 6:30 – 7:30pm VFW Bingo 101 E Main St

**4 Apr, Sat**  
 All day USD 473 Forensics @ Halstead  
 8am – 5pm USD 487 HS Forensics to Halstead

**5 Apr, Sun**  
**EASTER**

**6 Apr, Mon**  
 All day **NO SCHOOL**  
 9 – 10am Veterans Coffee The Pin Up Cafe  
 3:30 – 7:30pm FFA District Banquet @ Chapman  
 4:30 – 5:30pm USD 473 BSB JV vs SVHE

**7 Apr, Tue**  
 All day USD 487 Golf: Varsity Herington  
 All day USD 487 HS Golf/Baseball/Softball Group Pictures  
 1 – 2pm USD 473 GF V @ Wamego  
 3 – 4pm USD 473 TR JV @ Wamego  
 4 – 6pm USD 487 League Quiz Bowl - MS Herington  
 4 – 5:30pm USD 487 Baseball: Varsity Herington High School  
 4 – 5:30pm USD 487 Softball: Varsity Herington High School  
 4:30 – 6pm USD 487 Track: High School Fairfield Unified School District 310  
 4:30 – 5:30pm USD 473 BSB V @ Marysville  
 4:30 – 5:30pm USD 473 SB V/JV @ Marysville  
 5:30 – 6:30pm Herington Commission Meeting

**8 Apr, Wed**  
 4 – 5pm CES Site Council  
 6:30 – 8:30pm USD 473 Employee Recognition Dinner  
 7 – 8pm Chapman City Council Meeting 446 N Marshall St

## Two Lanes. One Dream. R&K Boutique is Open in Abilene, KS.



Sisters Hanna Nagely and Karina Harris had a dream — to build something together that was rooted in faith, designed around their families, and flexible enough to let them be present for the moments that matter most. Two sisters. Two different states. Two distinct roles. But one shared direction — and that's exactly what makes their story so roadmarkable.

### Two Lanes, Moving as One

Hanna is based right here in Abilene, serving as the face of the brand — welcoming customers, running the storefront, and bringing the R&K experience to life every single day. Karina operates from Nebraska, driving the digital lane — managing the website, online shop, and social media strategy that keeps R&K connected beyond the front door.

Different lanes. Same destination. It's the kind of partnership that works because it's built on more than

they hit it that day, they took it as a sign to keep moving forward. That's the foundation R&K Boutique is built on — faith first, then momentum.

The name itself tells the story. The "R" and "K" aren't just initials — they belong to their daughters, Renli and Kenlee. This boutique was built for family, by family, from day one.

### From Online to Open Doors — In Two Weeks

When the dream of a physical location became possible — thanks to their mom generously offering the back room of her office — Hanna and Karina didn't hesitate. With the help of family and friends, they went from concept to open doors in just two weeks.

"We worked tirelessly. We owe a massive thank you to our parents and friends for making it happen. We truly feel beyond blessed."

— Hanna NAGely, Co-founder

### A Store With a Soul

Walk into R&K Boutique at 210 NW 4th Street in Abilene and you'll feel it immediately — warmth, welcome, and a space designed for real life. The collection spans graphic tees, faith-based apparel, trendy tops, jewelry, accessories, and a full selection of kids' clothing and gifts.

There's even a kids' corner stocked with toys and activities — because Hanna and Karina know what it's like to be a mom on the go. Bring your little ones. Stay a while.

"Whether you need a listening ear or a prayer, we are here for you. While we love helping you shop, our true goal is to create a community space."

— Hanna Negely, Co-founder

### This Is What Roadmarkable Looks Like

At Driving Dickinson County, we believe this county moves forward when people choose to invest here — with their time, their talent, and their dreams. Hanna and Karina chose Abilene. They chose this community. And in doing so, they've added something this county didn't have before.

### Come Celebrate With Them





Join Driving Dickinson County for the official ribbon cutting of R&K Boutique on April 2, 2026 at 12:00 PM at 210 NW 4th Street, Abilene, KS. Stop in, shop local, and show Abilene's newest small business what Dickinson County is made of.



business — it's built on family, shared faith, and a vision they've carried together from the very beginning. "We were already talking every day. Turning that connection into a business was a natural step." — Karina harris, Co-founder

### A Leap of Faith

Their journey began online — testing the waters before committing to a storefront. Before their very first pop-up event, the sisters prayed for clarity and set a goal. When

Game 1		23
		0
Game 2		18
		3





## Spice Up Your Life-Pistachio Barfi Lindsey Young

made online, yes, it is pronounced exactly how it seems it should be. The good news is, though, the name (as it sounds in English) is nothing like the texture and flavor that it may invoke. It's kind of like a fudge and is traditionally made with milk fats and ghee. In our case, though, this version makes the job a whole lot simpler, with excellent results.

the mixture on low heat for about 15 minutes. Once it has thickened into a sticky paste (kind of a thick fondant texture), remove it from the heat and transfer to the prepared pan. Spread it out evenly and press it flat. Let the barfi cool completely on the countertop before cutting. I ended up putting mine in the refrigerator and cutting it cold, because it was a little less sticky to do it this way, but it does not need to stay refrigerated. Store it in an airtight container. This was really good. It created a chewy bar that had a nice nuttiness and wasn't too sweet. You could easily make this out of any ice cream flavor you like, and it would have been nice with some chopped pistachios pressed into the top. It's a lot of hands-on stirring, but the final result is really satisfying and tasty. And if you need to call it something else to get your friends and family to try it, I think that's OK. Of course, you can also tell them the real name and hope they leave it all for you.

Even better, though, just say it's flavored like liver and onions. That would have kept me away. Spice Up Your Life is a weekly recipe column by Lindsey Young, who describes herself as an enthusiastic amateur cook and can be reached through her website at [spiceupkitchen.net](http://spiceupkitchen.net).

Pistachio barfi is a traditional milk sweet, hailing from India. This version takes the traditional recipe and makes it infinitely easier to create in your own kitchen.

This traditional Indian milk sweet is simply 'moo'velous I was a pretty stereotypical kid when it came to liver and onions. It was a "no, thank you" for me. Actually, I'm sure I said something much less refined than that, but the message was the same. On one occasion, my mom decided to trick my sister and me by telling us we were having steak, hoping our distaste for liver was all in our heads. It was not. (Good try, though, Mom.) I was thinking about whether the name of something changes how you taste it this week when I made an Indian dessert called barfi. According to several checks I

blog "Sanjana Feasts." You can find the original post at <https://www.sanjanafeasts.co.uk/2023/10/pistachio-barfi-recipe-2-ingredients>. Because this was a two-ingredient recipe, I didn't add or subtract anything to it.

**Pistachio Barfi**  
**Ingredients**  
 3 1/4 cups pistachio ice cream (I used a pistachio honey version)  
 4 1/3 cups whole dry milk (don't use non-fat)  
**Directions**  
 Prepare a nine-by-13-inch pan by lightly greasing the interior with oil or cooking spray, and set it aside. Add the ice cream to a large skillet, set over medium low heat. Stir regularly until the ice cream is melted completely. Reduce the heat to low and stir in the dry milk, making sure to fully incorporate it into the ice cream. Now, continue stirring constantly, keeping



**HOPE EASTER EGG HUNT**  
**APRIL 4TH @ 3:00PM**  
 RAIN DATE IS APRIL 5TH  
**HOPE CITY BIG PARK**  
**PRIZES FOR ALL**  
**0-5TH GRADE**



**USD 473  
 POWERLIFTING  
 TEAM  
 TAKES HOME  
 THE  
 CHAMPIONSHIP  
 COURTESY USD 473**





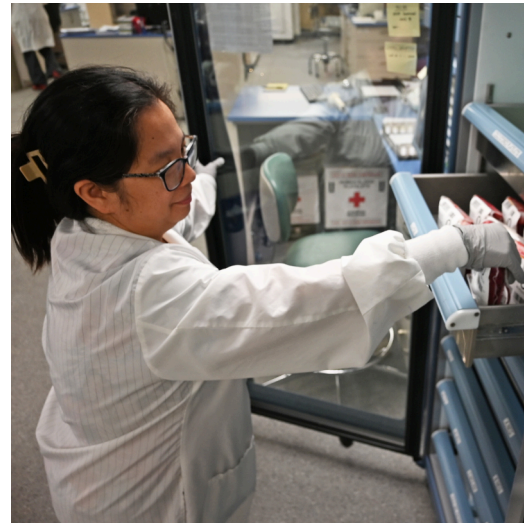
### SRHC Laboratory receives ACHC reaccreditation

(March 30, 2026) – Salina Regional Health Center’s Laboratory has achieved reaccreditation through the Accreditation Commission for Health Care (ACHC). The new accreditation was awarded following a two-day onsite survey in February.

Federal regulations require all facilities testing human specimens for health assessment, or disease diagnosis and treatment, to be accredited. “Accreditation assures patients that we’re providing the best possible care,” said Miriam Holzmeister, Laboratory director at Salina Regional Health Center. “The onsite survey is a rigorous review of our processes and procedures, staff competencies and reporting of data.”

As a hospital-based laboratory, the department runs testing for affiliated hospitals and clinics across the region. In 2025 Salina Regional’s laboratory performed 2,131,393 tests in the specialty areas of chemistry, diagnostic immunology, hematology, microbiology, coagulation, immunohematology, pathology and molecular testing.

The ACHC is a nonprofit organization that has stood as a symbol of quality and excellence since 1986. The organization is ISO 9001:2015 certified and has Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services deeming authority for Acute Care Hospitals, Critical Access Hospitals, Ambulatory Surgery Centers and Clinical Laboratories.



Salina, Kansas – OCCK, Inc. Transportation will have shortened hours on Friday, April 3, 2026, in observation of Good Friday.

On April 3rd, CityGo buses will run from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. with no peak routes running. Regional paratransit, GoAbilene, and GoConcordia vehicles will run a reduced number of trips. 81 Connection, KanConnect, and OCCK OnDemand will run normal schedules. Transportation services will resume normal operating hours on Saturday, April 4th.

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

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

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

## DO YOU WANT A GRADUATION/SPORTS PRINTED EDITION?

This is our first year going Digital for the Graduation/Sports edition. With this being said, I have been given permission to design a Graduation/Sports printed edition. I am SUPER EXCITED to be able to showcase our kids in our communities. However, I am only able to print IF I raise enough money to cover the cost of printing. So here is what I am offering....

**2x2**  
**\$50**



**2x4**  
**\$75**

**1x2**  
**\$30**

**SIGNATURE**  
**\$20**

This is also available for parents to put their dedications in for their students.

In the event I cannot get enough people to buy a sponsorship, we will still do a digital edition and sponsorship prices will be 50% less. I am hoping we can raise enough money to give the kids the recognition they deserve and the family members a keepsake.

Contact us by April 29<sup>th</sup> to support the printed Graduation/Sports Edition Invoices will be Sent May 1<sup>st</sup> and Must be paid by May 15<sup>th</sup> to continue.

**Contact us at**  
**[dk.co.newstimes@gmail.com](mailto:dk.co.newstimes@gmail.com) or call**  
**785-524-4200 Wed-Fri 11am to 3pm.**

## YES IT IS A RELIGIOUS WAR

By: Van Yandell

### THE GREATEST ANNOUNCEMENT

Luke 11: 26-28 "And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth. To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favored, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.

Wintertime in western Kentucky is about as unpredictable as anything can possibly be. Apparently the weather is somewhat of a joke in many places. I was in Greenock, Scotland on a rainy day and a Scotsman told me, "We can have all four seasons in twenty-four hours."

We always looked for signs of springtime. Some of the maple trees started budding as early as February but warmer temperatures are definitely not in the near future that early.

A little yellow flower we found in late winter is called a buttercup. Some years they bloomed as early as February. A tradition in our household was, when I found the first buttercups, I picked a few and brought them home to wife Margie. This action usually got me a kiss on the cheek and a "Thank you baby." Almost as important was those little yellow flowers signified the ending of winter and the approaching spring. It was like they were God's announcement to us that brighter,

warmer times were coming very soon. A very important announcement made in the Book of Luke is God's announcement to Mary that she will be the mother of the Savior of the world. By His birth, life, death and resurrection, He provided the world with a brighter future. No one in the future or past of humanity has made such a profound impact on mankind as Jesus Christ. Since the gestation period in humans is nine months, this announcement to Mary took place about the end of March in year one B.C. The Church of the Annunciation (Basilica of the Annunciation) is in northern Israel in the town of Nazareth. We were there, and deep inside the structure is a spring where it is believed the angel Gabriel (the annunciation angel) appeared to Mary.

I drank from that spring and would like to say had a life changing spiritual experience. That, however, did not happen with me but I'm told with some, it does. Being in Christ's tomb (tomb of Joseph of Arimathea) was a different story. Such an emotional, spiritual experience I had never had.

Luke 1: 28-29a "And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!" But when she saw him, she was troubled."

"Troubled" may very well be an understatement. We can imagine

that a young girl having such an unexpected experience would have been emotionally shaken beyond description. We cannot know exactly Mary's age at the time. Based on cultural history, she was probably in the 13 to 15 year old range. Yes, "troubled" would be a lessened description of her emotional state! Luke 1: 30-33 "Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

We find in these verses a very compassionate and understanding Gabriel. Could we see this level of empathy in humanity?

Gabriel explained very clearly and forthright a part of what Mary's experience would be. She apparently knew the prophesy of the coming of a Savior and when she became aware that she would be His mother, a state of emotions likely unparalleled took place within her.

Matthew 1: 23 "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted would mean, God with us." We are told in this verse that Mary was a

virgin, she would conceive, she would give birth to a son and His name interpreted "God with us."

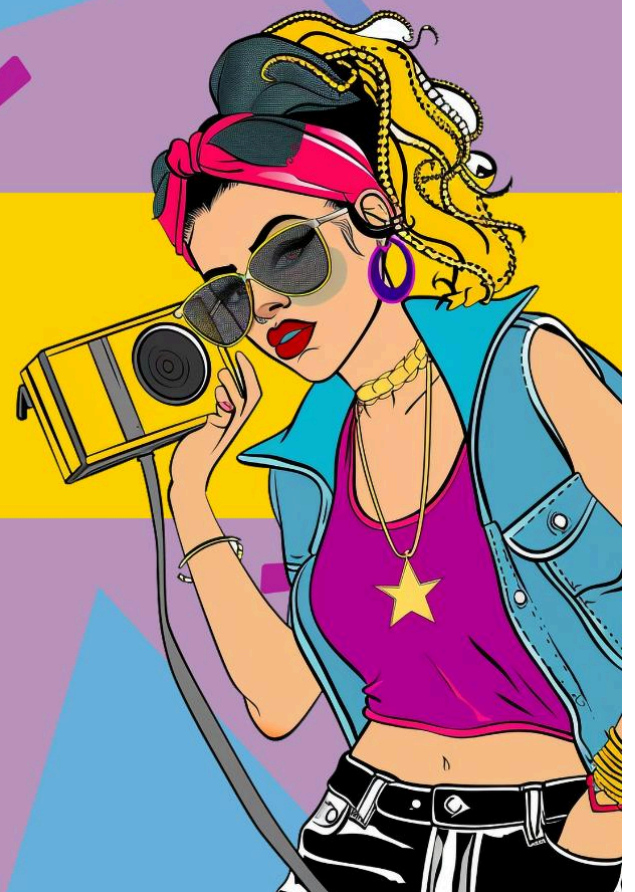
Some claim it is not necessary to know or believe Mary was a virgin and that Christ's birth was a virgin birth. That is untrue! To be the perfect, sinless sacrifice for the sins of the world (Deuteronomy 17: 1) Jesus had to be conceived by the Holy Spirit and virgin born. A typically born human (fathered by a human male) could not have lived the perfect, sinless life (1 Peter 2: 22) as required for the sacrifice for the sins of mankind.

After Mary received her announcement from Gabriel, she was anxious to visit her cousin Elizabeth and announce to her the encounter and news from Gabriel. Luke 1: 41 "And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost."

Elizabeth being pregnant herself was in an emotional state. Her son was to become John the Baptist who in later life would baptize our glorious Savior.

Announcements are important; there's no arguing that point. An announcement Christians must be making is the eternal salvation given to us by Savior Jesus is a free gift received through faith. Van Yandell is a retired Industrial Arts teacher, an ordained gospel evangelist and commissioned missionary. His email is vmy3451@gmail.com

**LADIES NIGHT OUT**  
**GIRLS JUST WANNA HAVE FUN!**  
**APRIL 10, HERINGTON KS**



# Prairie Doc Perspective

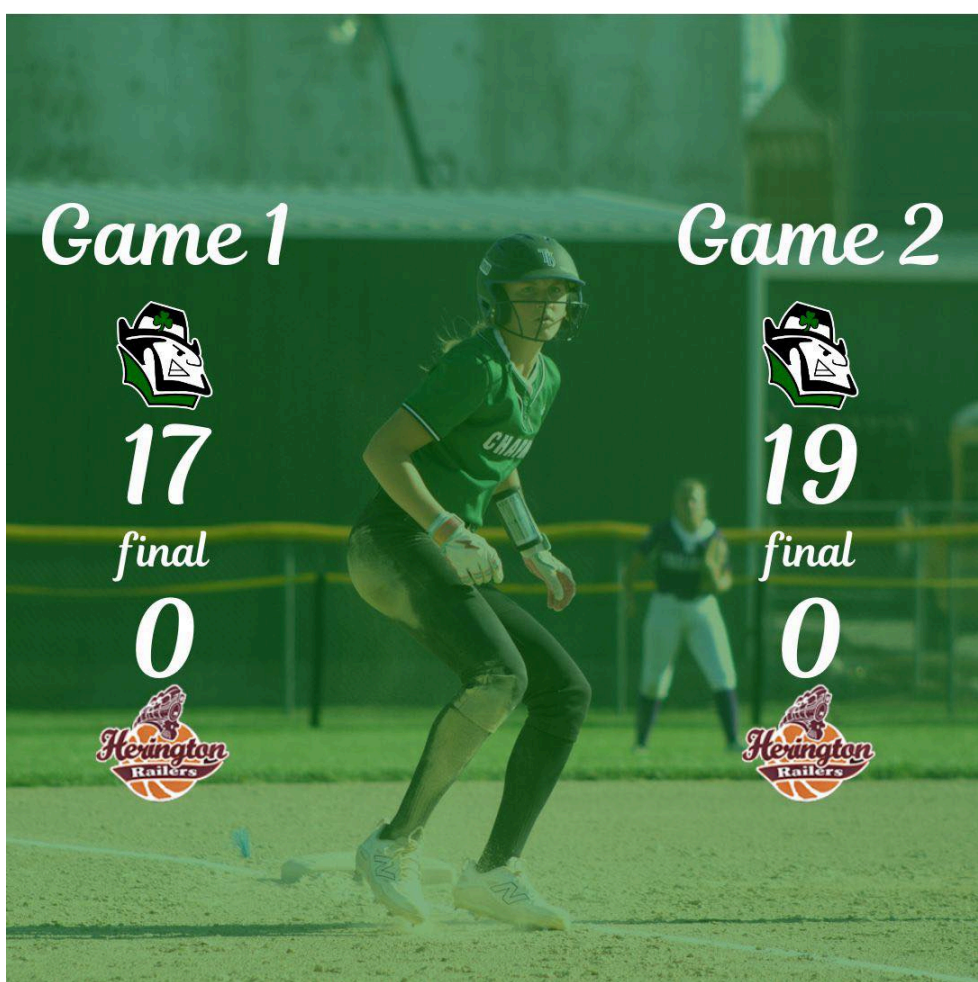
Anatomical Variations: Breaking Down the Basic Details of Tumors and Cancer  
By Ethan L. Snow, PhD, MA

Cells are the basic building blocks of all living organisms. In a healthy body, cells follow an orderly life cycle: they develop from a systematic process called mitosis, perform important physiological functions to maintain body homeostasis (i.e., a stable internal environment), and die via apoptosis when they become dysfunctional, old, or no longer needed. This cycle is tightly regulated by DNA – the body’s genetic code that controls when and how each cell functions. With about 30 trillion cells in each human body, some cells naturally develop mutations in their genetic code that disrupt their life cycle. Mutations can be caused by genetic issues, environmental exposures (e.g., tobacco smoke, radiation),

infections, lifestyle, and other etiologies. Cells with mutated genetic codes are usually detected and removed by the body’s immune system, or they stop working and die on their own. However, sometimes these altered cells survive and gain a competitive growth advantage, causing them to replicate more rapidly than normal. Over time, this uncontrolled growth can create a mass of cells known as a tumor. Tumors can develop anywhere cells are present (i.e., essentially anywhere in the body), and they are classified as benign or malignant. Benign tumors are non-cancerous, and they typically grow slowly and exhibit clear boundaries. Contrariwise, malignant tumors are invasive to nearby tissues – a hallmark of

cancer – and are characteristically more aggressive. A biopsy is often necessary to confirm whether a tumor is benign or malignant. Notably, not all tumors are cancer (e.g., a benign tumor is not cancer), and not all cancers produce tumors (e.g., leukemia is a cancer of the blood). A serious feature of malignant cancers is their ability to spread to other locations in the body – a process known as metastasis. Metastasis occurs when malignant cells break away from the original tumor, travel through the bloodstream or lymphatic system (or other pathway), and seed new tumors in other areas of the body. This makes cancer more difficult to treat and can provoke additional sequelae. Clinical jargon associated with tumors and cancer

can be daunting, but breaking down the terminology can be helpful. For example, the root words “hem-” means blood, “angio-” means vessel, and “-oma” means tumor, so a “hemangioma” is quite literally a “blood vessel tumor”. Additional terminology can be descriptive; for example, a “giant intramuscular lipoma” describes a fatty (“lyp-”) tumor (“-oma”) that is located within (“intra-”) a muscle (“-muscular”) and is at least five centimeters in any one dimension (the criteria for “giant” classification). While loss of control is the foundational concept for tumor and cancer development, routine screening, avoiding carcinogens, and other controllable actions are important for preventing cancer, detecting it in early stages, and



GAME STATS AND PHOTOS COURTESY OF USD 473

