



Getting back to our roots

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THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA'S *Semiquincentennial*

Daughters of the American Revolution- Abilene
Submitted by: Leesa Hettenbach

The Abilene Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution met at 11:00 am on Wednesday, May 6 th , at the home of Ann Strunk. Members present were Mary Jean Eisenhower, Leesa Hettenbach, Lacinda Heller, Marlene Howe, Joyce Latham, Shari Lenhart, Judy Lynn, Julie Roller-Weeks Michelle Stephens, and Cassy Wilson. Guest were Casey Foltz, Bill Marshall and Ruby Stephens.

The following opening rituals were done. Devotions by Marlene, The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the USA was led by Lacinda. Michelle started the National Anthem. Leesa lead the American's Creed and had distributed the President General's Message with the minutes. Committee highlights included an America 250! Moment given by Leesa.

She asked the question "Where is the best place to Celebrate America's 250th Birthday?" According to Google, it is at Washington, D.C., however, the members disagreed. They said in Abilene or Wamego or wherever you were, especially with family. Her DAR School Moment was about the Youth Luncheon at the State Conference. Ella Strunk was a State JAC winner and was able to attend the meal with her Mother. Marlene gave a National Defense report that May 8th marks Victory in Europe Day (V-E Day), official end of WWII in Europe as Nazi German surrendered unconditionally to Allied forces. Her Indian Moment was about native regalia and dances have sacred and spiritual meaning. Ritualistic dances should not be mimicked for comedy, nor should ceremonial clothing be worn as costumes. The regalia is sacred and are often passed down from generation to generation. For the Conservation Moment, Marlene talked about the fashion industry's environmental toll of pollution, waste and resource depletion.

Everyone can help preserve by starting to shop second-hand stores, opt for eco- friendly fabrics and mend old clothes. Cassy, JAC Chairman, announced the St. Andrews awards assembly. For a Flag Moment, Shari reminded members to notice all the flags placed at cemeteries, including small flags at the individual graves of service men and women who fought for our freedom.

Shari made a motion to approve the minutes as distributed, Mary Jean second, motion passed. Officer's report included Registrar, Judy, who is working on Tanya Sims application. Secretary, Leesa, gave a KS-DAR State Conference report, about attending and the different activities that took place. Abilene Chapter received nine awards for the following Committees: Membership, Commemorative Events, Health & Wellness, America 250!, Project Patriot and Veterans. The final one was for Outstanding Achievement Service to America for Volunteer Hours. A total of 5,522 hours were submitted which is 541% above the assigned goal. Joyce, Treasurer, gave a balance and dues are due. Regent, Cassy, also spoke about the State Conference. She was able to attend on Friday for the business session and Regent's luncheon.

New business, Bill Marshall invited the Abilene Chapter to participate with the SAR in the Abilene CKFF Parade. The SAR Color Guard will be leading the parade at 4:00 pm on Tuesday, July 28th . A Memorial Service was conducted by Marlene. She lit two candles, one for Dee Marshall and the other for Jane Foltz. Dee had been a DAR member for 40 years and Jane for 1-3/4 years. Both women were outstanding pillars of the community and dedicated many hours to make Abilene a great place. Obituaries were read and memories shared. At the closing of the ceremony, spouses Bill and Casey, were given beautiful single white flower arrangements in behalf of their wife's loving memory.

Everyone then enjoyed a delicious lunch of salad, bread sticks and cheesecake provided by the hostesses of Ann, Cassy and Julie. The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 9th at 10:00 am at the old Shockey and Landis Building in Abilene.

Leesa Hettenbach
Recording Secretary

Pictured to the Right:
Memorial Service : L-R Marlene Howe, Cassy Wilson,
Casey Foltz, Ann Foltz and Bill Marshal.



Pictured to Left : Regent, Cassy Wilson
and KSDAR Meetings Marshal, Leesa
Hettenbach




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Worship Guide

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Enterprise Community Church
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 10:15 a.m. Worship

First Baptist Church
 201 E. Hawley St., Herington
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 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
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PASTOR'S CORNER

I have been thinking about all you parents out there. Are you ready for the abundance of sticky fingerprints? These are the days that will have you busy searching for the snack plates and half-filled glasses left all around the house. I can imagine you rolling your eyes and murmuring under your breath as you honk for someone to come move the bicycles and scooters out of the driveway—again. It's a good thing the sun stays out late these days because there are so many games and activities that will keep you and your family busy late into the evening. It may feel like you are living on snacks, sandwiches, and fast

HELLO SUMMER

food. Such are the lives of busy families during the summer break. My prayer for you is one of safety, peace, and awareness. These days with your family go by so fast. Every day runs into the next with such fervor that before you know it another week is gone. The weeks turn into months, and “poof” summer is over and your kids are heading out to their first day of school. My kids are out of the house and rushing through their own busy summer days, so I know just how fast these days will go. The sticky fingerprints will soon be gone, and the dishes and towels will stay where you put them. One day you will miss seeing that pile of bicycles; I know I do. Cherish all the chaos of family life because every moment you have together is a blessing.



THIS DAY IN THE HERINGTON TIMES

125 years ago – 1901 DID THEM UP BROWN – City Marshal George Hart had a regular knock down and drag out with half a dozen chaps at near the Rock Island round house last Friday afternoon. He was notified that a group of tramps had taken possession of that part of town and were holding high carnival among themselves with a good supply of whiskey. Marshal hart proceeded to where they were and in terms perfectly well understood gave them just long enough to leave town and assured them that a refusal to comply would subject them to ten to fifteen days of street labor. This didn't seem to please the chaps very well and with threats, they told Marshal Hart that they would run business to suit themselves. With a loaded cane, Marshal Hart proceeded to lay out two of them sprawling on the ground before reaching for his gun and informing the rest of them that if they weren't satisfied with that, they could walk in themselves. Of course they had no further anxiety about threatening Marshal Hart and agreed to leave town.

100 years ago – 1926 NEW CITY CAMPGROUND – The city authorities have been turning tourists into the new campground on (the south side of) Third and Trapp streets for some time. The new ground is as yet in a somewhat raw condition but is inhabitable with ovens, running water, and rest rooms ready for the campers. Work is being carried on at a very moderate rate that will make the ground suitable in every respect in a year or so.

75 years ago – 1951

MARSHAL HART LAYS DOWN THE LAW

WINNERS OF “EYES TO THE FUTURE” CONTEST – Mrs. Edith Morgan, a former Herington resident, was the first-place winner in the “Eyes to the Future” contest sponsored by the Herington Advertiser-Times. Second place was won by Mrs. Ethel Biehler of Herington, and third place honors went to Keith D. Longabaugh. Forty-one sent in entries for the contest and all did a remarkable job of identifying the 75 business and professional men, but many failed to use the proper first names. Much time was spent by the contestants preparing their entries and the publishers of the Advertiser-Times are grateful for this effort.

50 years ago – 1976 STUDENTS RELIVE PAST – Students in the fifth-grade class of Mrs. Helen Strome in Herington relived activities of an old one-room school Thursday as a Bicentennial project. For the day, the classroom was bare and sparsely furnished. Each child made a horn book and several had quill pens for writing. Students pretending to be in grades one through eight were instructed by Mrs. Strome at the “recitation bench.” Drinking water was provided from a bucket, using tin cups. The students went outside for lunch, which consisted of homemade bread, cookies or cake, boiled eggs or a fried egg sandwich; chicken or fish and fresh fruit. Early-day games were also played as part of the activities.

Herington Historical Society & Museum, 800 S. Broadway. Hours: 1 to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. – markcwill1963@gmail.com



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VIEW FROM THE HILL- Scott Hill

Improbable Victory of Independence

In less than two months we will loudly celebrate a quarter of a millennium of our country's independence. Some detractors try, with occasional help from a willing leftist media, to denigrate the significance of the United States as a world leader. The truth is that no country has in the past, or currently makes the impact on the world that our Republic does. That was not always the case. On this date 250 years ago, the struggles were real and the results were anything but guaranteed. The second continental congress started meeting in May of 1775. At that time, it is estimated that the majority of colonists wanted to reconcile with the British crown. After some early victories for the army of the colonies, the British had started to seem invincible in a continuing series of defeats for the colonist troops. When the second continental congress convened, they elected leadership from their body. If you are wondering which famous patriot was elected, it might surprise you that his name was Peyton Randolph. If you have never heard of Peyton, it is be-

cause he became ill and was replaced by John Hancock. The oppression of the British crown on the colonies had a unifying effect on the colonists. Throughout 1775 and into the spring of 1776 support for independence from Britain grew. This growing support even led to an attempt to get Quebec to join the rebellion as the 14th colonial state. Although, much like today, the Canadians did not support an alliance with the colonies, the effect of the “intolerable acts” by Britain solidified resistance. By the time the second Continental Congress entered its second year in May of 1776, the 60 delegates decided it was time to take action. The decisiveness of the Congress after a year of inactivity was spurred on by states starting to establish governments separate from England. In early 1776 Thomas Paine published a pamphlet that was widely read and concluded that: “Reconciliation is now a fallacious dream.” At the same time, the Congress had declared that the colonies would trade with the entire world except Britain. Then on the fifteenth of May in 1776 the Continental Congress issued a proclamation that every

colony should establish a government that favored independence from Britain. We know July 4th as our Independence Day. While that is a valid date it is important to realize a couple of timeless principles. The first is that change takes time and momentum. It had been six years since the British government had fired on colonists in Boston before the support had finally reached the point of governmental action. The second principle that the Founders pointed to over and over again is the hand of Providence. If there had been online betting in 1776, Britain would have been the overwhelming odds on winner in the Revolutionary war. The founders recognized without Providence (which is what we would call “the hand of God”) success would never have happened for the fledging country. When we say “God Bless America,” it is recognizing the latter and most important truth: That we will not continue to thrive without God's blessing and we should seek it as we enter our second quarter millennium.

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

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

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Wednesday, June 3: Beef & Noodles, Mashed Potatoes, Chopped Green Salad, Fruit, Cornbread

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Wednesday, June 3: Beef & Noodles, Chopped Green, Salad, Fruit, Roll, Milk

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THAT'S THE TICKET

Abilene rodeo tickets to go on sale June 1

Abilene, Kan. (May 26, 2026) – Hang on to your hats, rodeo fans, because tickets for the Wild Bill Hickok Rodeo go on sale June 1! events: bareback riding, steer wrestling, tie-down roping, saddle bronc riding, team roping, women’s breakaway roping, women’s barrel racing, and everybody’s favorite, the bull riding!

The rodeo is the best ticket in town, said Matt Farson, committee chairman and volunteer. “We are proud to host a PRCA rodeo, with professional rodeo competition. We’ll have world champions competing here. Fans will get to see the best rodeo talent and not have to drive far to see it.”

Farson said the specialty act this year is a fan favorite. Cowboy Kenny will bring freestyle motocross and will perform with crazy stunts like nac-nacs, heel clickers, and the kiss of death!

Tickets are available online at this link: <https://www.rodeoticket.com/rodeos/wild-bill-hickok-rodeo/2026/tickets> or by visiting WildBillHickokRodeo.com.

Andrews Rodeo Co., Bagwell, Texas, returns with their top-quality bucking horses and bulls. Scott Grover will take care of announcing duties, and bullfighters Cody Emerson and Colt Carlisle will serve as bullfighters.

Tickets are \$12 for adults in advance and \$15 at the gate. For kids ages 4-10, tickets are \$8. Currently, tickets will only be available online, but in July, they will be available at West’s Country Mart, Lumber House and Pioneer Farm and Ranch.

New this year is a third person of royalty. The Wild Bill Hickok Rodeo held its first queen pageant since 1981. Sarah Nemechek of Goodland, Kansas won the 2026 title. She will be joined by Miss Rodeo America Olivia Favero and Miss Rodeo Kansas State Faith Roten.

The rodeo takes place at the Central Kansas Free Fairgrounds in Abilene July 28-31. Performances start at 7:30 pm nightly.

The rodeo will hold its annual Tough Enough to Wear Pink night on Thurs., July 30. Fans are asked to wear pink that night, and donations will be picked up to benefit the Elsie Brooks Memorial Cancer Fund. The fund provides monetary donations to Dickinson County residents undergoing cancer treatment.

The rodeo is sanctioned by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, which means cowboys must be PRCA members and the cowgirls must be members of the Women’s Pro Rodeo Association.

For more information, visit the website.

More than 550 contestants are expected to compete in eight



A bull rider competes at the 2025 Wild Bill Hickok Rodeo in Abilene. Tickets go on sale June 1 for this year’s rodeo, which is July 28-31. Photo by Fly Thomas



Barbara Joan Zerbe
June 5, 1942 - May 16, 2026

Barbara Joan Zerbe, 83, died Saturday, May 16, 2026, at Halstead, KS.

She was born on June 5, 1942, at Council Grove, KS, to Alvin and Beulah Eileen (Edwards) Harvey.

She returned to Halstead in 2022 from a move to Logan, IA in 2017

Survivors include sons: Mark (Patty) Carson, Wilsey, KS; Shane Zerbe, Wichita; daughters: Michelle Carson, Halstead; Shannon (Duane) Hefling, Halstead; Jacki (Don) Harper, Burrton; Melanie Carson, Ft. Worth, TX; brother: Larry (Eva) Harvey- Memphis, TN; sister: Sherrie Pretzer, Manhattan; bonus children:

Kim Zerbe, Georgetown, TX; Kelly (Gary) Wilding, Flagstaff, AZ; Kevin (Robin) Zerbe, Panama City, FL; seven grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a sister: Pam VanBoxtel.

A memorial service is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Monday, June 1, 2026, at Kaufman Funeral Home, Halstead.

A private inurnment will be at Delvan Cemetery, Delvan, KS.

Memorials may be given to Good Shepherd Hospice in care of Kaufman Funeral Home, Halstead.

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**Council Grove Braves
will be the 1seed going
into 3A State
Tournament.
CONGRATULATIONS!
(Courtesy of Jay
Doornbos)**

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 4th 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
1st 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
4th 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
4th of each month 11:30 AM 12:30
PM

Speakers, Special Events Set for 88th Session of
American Legion Boys State of Kansas
Secretary of State Schwab, Other Government
Officials Set for Visits

May 21, 2026 — High school students from across the
State of Kansas will participate in the 88th session of
the American Legion Boys State of Kansas, Sunday,
May 31, through Saturday, June 6, at Kansas State
University in Manhattan. This will be the program's
34th consecutive session at KSU.

The list of dignitaries scheduled to appear includes a
visit by Kansas Secretary of State Scott Schwab on
Monday, June 1. Schwab, who was a 1989 Kansas
Boys State delegate, will be a part of the evening
retreat ceremonies and will swear in Kansas Boys
State delegates who are elected mayor of their KBS
city.

Other Kansas state and local government officials
scheduled to make appearances — all on Monday as
part of a public service seminar — include: Sen. Ethan
Corson (D-Fairway, District 7); Rep. Nikki McDonald
(D-Olathe, District 49); Judge Amy Fellows Cline, J.D.
(Kansas Court of Appeals); District Judge Courtney
Craver Boehm, J.D. (8th Judicial District — Dickinson,
Geary, Marion and Morris counties); County
Commissioner John Ford (Riley County); Mayor Kurt
Skog, Overland Park; and City Councilman Cole
Robinson, Prairie Village (Ward 1).

A list of featured events during the week follows.
Unless noted, all events are open to the public.

Sunday, May 31
Opening ceremonies, 1:30 p.m., McCain
Auditorium

o Opening remarks: Kyle Wheatley, Kansas Boys
State executive director, a 2003 KBS delegate from
Wichita (Kan.) Northwest High School and current
resident of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Tom Fimmen,
Kansas Boys State 2025 lieutenant governor, a
resident of Leawood, Kan., and a 2026 graduate of
Rockhurst High School in Kansas City, Mo. In
addition, representatives from Engaged Kansas,
whose mission is to demystify public service and
make it more accessible for anyone interested in
shaping their communities, will speak.
Media note: Starting at approximately 1 p.m., the KBS
delegates, following a color guard and flag detail, will
walk from Goodnow Hall to McCain Auditorium — great
photo/video opportunity.

Monday, June 1

o Swearing in of 2026 Kansas Boys State mayors,
7 p.m., Kansas Boys State Assembly Area (Goodnow
Hall/Marlatt Hall parking lot [between buildings on
Claflin Road]).
o Scott Schwab, Kansas Secretary of State and 1989
KBS delegate from Great Bend High School, will
provide remarks and swear in the KBS mayors.
o Party caucuses, 7:30 p.m., Federalist Party,
Fiedler Hall, Room 1107; Nationalist Party, Rathbone
Hall, Room 1073 (each party will select their
candidates for the six state offices and formulate their
party platforms).
This event is not open to the public, but the media is
invited to attend.

Tuesday, June 2

o Kansas Boys State governor and other state
office candidates' debate, 1:30 p.m., McCain
Auditorium.
o Announcement of Kansas Boys State general
election winners for governor and other state offices,
and swearing-in ceremony, 7 p.m., KBS Assembly
Area.

Wednesday, June 3

o Pass-in-Review, approximately 7:15 p.m.,
Anderson Hall (east side). Officials from the American
Legion Department of Kansas and other Legion
members will participate in this military tradition
where troops (in this case, KBS delegates) march past
reviewing officials, allowing them to inspect the unit's
readiness and discipline. It's a ceremonial event
showcasing pride and mutual respect between troops
and their leader.

o Flag retirement ceremony, 7:30 p.m., World War
II Memorial in front of McCain Auditorium. The event is
an observance of the proper respect for the American
flag and how unserviceable flags are properly
disposed. The honor guard from American Legion
Pearce-Keller Post No. 17 in Manhattan will present the
ceremony. Dr. John Lindholm, a 1949 KSU graduate
who provided the dog tags as a model for the "Tags of
Honor" sculpture at the Memorial, was a longtime
Kansas Boys State staff member as a Legionnaire
advisor before passing away in January 2020.
Media note: Both events are great photo/video

opportunities.

o Evening ceremonies, 8 p.m., McCain Auditorium.
o 2026 Kansas Boys State governor's inaugural
address.
o Address by the American Legion Department of
Kansas commander (to be announced by the ALDK on
May 31), and introduction of Kansas American Legion
dignitaries
o Kansas Boys State band performance, chorus
performance and talent show.

Thursday, June 4

o Candidates for Boys Nation, two of whom will
represent Kansas Boys State as senators in
Washington, D.C., July 17-25, will present speeches,
8:30 a.m., KBS Assembly Area.

Friday, June 5

o Announcement of delegates who will represent
Kansas Boys State as senators at Boys Nation, 8:30
a.m., KBS Assembly Area.

Saturday, June 6

o Closing ceremonies, 9:15 a.m., McCain
Auditorium.
o Announcement of Kansas Boys State outstanding
citizens, Kansas Boys State Samsung American
Legion Scholarship and KBS Executive Director
Scholarship winners, and announcement of various
awards, including Advisor of the Year, Counselor of
the Year, New Counselor of the Year, William "Bill" F.
Stahl Outstanding Supreme Court Justice Outstanding
Senator and Outstanding State Representative.
o Farewell address by KBS Executive Director Kyle
Wheatley.
o Closing Address by 2026 KBS Governor
o Final State Assembly/Final Flag Lowering, 11
a.m., KBS Assembly Area

In addition to the above events, the public is invited to
view the daily morning assembly/flag raising at 8:30
a.m. Monday through Friday, as well as the evening
retreat/flag lowering at 7 p.m. Sunday through Friday.
For those who cannot attend events, Boys State of
Kansas will provide updates during the week on its
Facebook page, facebook.com/KansasBoysState, and
on its website at ksstate.org.

The Kansas Boys State program includes students
who have just completed their junior year of high
school (will be seniors in the fall) and sophomore year
of high school (will be juniors in the fall).

The objective of the ALBSK is to inculcate a sense of
individual obligation to community, state and nation.
Kansas Boys State provides a relevant, interactive,
problem-solving experience in leadership and
teamwork that develops self-identity, promotes mutual
respect and instills civic responsibility. Boys State is a
"learning by doing" political exercise that simulates
elections, political parties and government at the
state, county and local levels, providing opportunities
to lead under pressure, showcasing character and
working effectively within a team. It's also an
opportunity to gain pride and respect for government
and the price paid by members of the military to
preserve democracy.

— #KSBoysState —

The American Legion Boys State of Kansas is an
interactive simulation that teaches high school
seniors-to-be the value of democracy and civic duty.
Participants form mock governments and campaign
for positions at the city, county and state levels. After
the elections, participants find out firsthand the
difficult decisions made daily by those in government
through a series of challenging simulations.
Delegates, nominated to attend by their high school
counselors and other influential people in their lives,
are sponsored by American Legion posts and various
civic organizations from across the state. All
delegates demonstrate outstanding leadership
qualities in student government, athletics and/or other
activities.

The Boys State program was founded by Legionnaires
Hayes Kennedy and Harold Card in Illinois in 1935,
and was first held in Kansas two years later in Wichita.
The Kansas program moved to the University of
Kansas in Lawrence in 1963 and remained there until
1991. The following year, it moved to its current
location at Kansas State University in Manhattan. For
more information about the American Legion Boys
State of Kansas, visit ksstate.org.

TWENTY FIVE HUNDRED YEARS WITH NO RULES? Van Yandell

TWENTY FIVE HUNDRED YEARS WITH NO RULES?

1 John 5: 3 "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous." From the creation of Adam (Genesis 2: 7) until Moses came down from Mt. Saini with the Ten Commandments (Exodus 34: 29), twenty-five hundred years had passed. Mankind had existed for those 2500 years with no rules with which to govern or control themselves. Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden had only one commandment and that was to not eat the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil; and they broke that rule. During that 2500 years God stated He regretted creating man. Genesis 6: 6 KJV "And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart." We cannot imagine God doing anything He would regret; Him being omniscient. The only feasible explanation is that man was such a disastrous creation, God could not fathom humanity becoming so evil and depraved. During those 2500 years, Noah built an ark and a global cataclysmic flood destroyed all life except those on the ark (Genesis 7: 11-12). Also soon after that time, God established a special race of people (the Jews) to provide the world with a Savior (Genesis 12: 1-3). The Patriarch Jacob's eleventh son, Joseph, was sold into slavery into Egypt. The Hebrew people were subjected to a famine that caused the King of Egypt (Pharaoh) and Joseph to move Jacob and his family of sixty-seven people to Egypt to survive (Genesis 46: 6). In Egypt the Jews were enslaved for which a rescuer Moses was sent to deliver them (Exodus 3: 4). They were sentenced to a wilderness for forty years before being allowed to re-enter their promised land. In the entire scheme of things, the Hebrew people had to be in Canaan for the Savior to be born so their deliverance and home-

coming had an extended and very special purpose. All in all, the 2500 years were very eventful and Jewish history was written during a time of two and one half millennia in which they had no confirmed set of rules to live by. Interestingly enough, after the giving of the Ten Commandments, mankind made it obvious to God that "he" had no intention of following those rules. The prophesy of the scriptures (those today's Christian calls the Old Testament) had to be fulfilled in order for mankind to be reconciled to God for eternal life. Only 1500 years elapsed between the giving of the commandments and Jesus' coming. Second Peter 3: 8b "one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day." That time period to us is a long time but to our eternal God, it is not. Are there connections we can make to the 4000 years between Adam and Christ to our lives and America today? Absolutely! We have been given a beautiful and once firmly established nation. At one time I believed The United States of America was God's chosen nation just as much as was Israel.

That choosing was for the purpose of evangelizing the world. We were given the financial resources, the incentive/motivation, the transportation and communication abilities to reach "the uttermost parts" (Acts 1: 8) for our Jesus. Powerful, bold and vocal evangelists were called by God to deliver that imperative to the world. Writers, speakers and other courageous Christians were empowered with the spirit and the Holy Bible's directive to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The internet gives us an ability to evangelize the world in a faster and more efficient way than ever before. So, what's the problem? The rules listed in Exodus twenty (Ten Commandments) have been relegated by the masses as unimportant. With that, the proclivity to disregard God has become a mostly

unconscious mindset! Even among Christians, to consider the Ten Commandments as "suggestions" is apparent. When humanity designates the Word of God as politically incorrect, divisive and prejudiced, mankind's right to choose and have an opinion has been drastically perverted. Where are we today? Are we in the next 2500 years of depravity even with God's rules published in Exodus and available to all? Sodom was destroyed (Genesis 19) for less than the level of decadence observed in America today. The prophetic characteristics of mankind listed in 2 Timothy 3: 1-5 are all around us and casually practiced by many including Christians. We are being warned by history and Bible prophesies. While we may heed the warnings on posted signs, why do we ignore the future actions of our Creator? We have seen His revelations happen before our very eyes, so "obvious" and "certain" are the applicable words. Perhaps this developing series of all so observable conditions and events in our world are a warning of which we can take heed. As we read in Daniel 5: 5-6, as Belshazzar saw "the writing on the wall," are we there today? Is there a solution? As we witness chaos developing at an unprecedented rate do Christians hold a solution for the problem? Of course we do! Perhaps we could begin to obey God's commandments and the Jesus commandment of telling the world about Him. The Bible teaches there is only one eternal salvation. That is by a faith based belief (Ephesians 2: 8) that Christ Jesus was crucified (Matthew 27: 35) for the remission of sin (Romans 4: 25), resurrected (Matthew 28: 6) and ascended alive into Heaven (Acts 1: 9). Van Yandell is a retired Industrial Arts teacher, an ordained gospel evangelist and missionary. His email is vmy3451@gmail.com

EVENTS

27 May, Wed
All day Drew Kraxner Boys Basketball Camp (Day 2/4)
All day FFA State Convention @ Manhattan (Day 2/4)
All day Boys State Golf (Day 2/2)

28 May, Thu
All day Drew Kraxner Boys Basketball Camp (Day 3/4)
All day FFA State Convention @ Manhattan (Day 3/4)
All day BSB/SB State @ TBA (Day 1/2)
6 – 7pm Post 12 American Legion-Herington

29 May, Fri
All day Drew Kraxner Boys Basketball Camp (Day 4/4)
All day FFA State Convention @ Manhattan (Day 4/4)
All day BSB/SB State @ TBA (Day 2/2)
All day State Track & Field (Day 1/2)
6:30 – 7:30pm VFW Bingo 101 E Main St

30 May, Sat
All day State Track & Field (Day 2/2)
All day Downtown Dance Recital (Day 1/2)
CHS Auditorium

31 May, Sun
All day Downtown Dance Recital (Day 2/2)
CHS Auditorium

1 Jun, Mon
All day Jason Grider Girls Basketball Camp (Day 1/4)
All day Summer Weights Begin
9 – 10am Veterans Coffee The Pin Up Cafe

2 Jun, Tue
All day Jason Grider Girls Basketball Camp (Day 2/4)
5 – 6:30pm Youth VBALL (Espeseth)
Chapman High School
5:30 – 6:30pm Herington Commission Meeting

3 Jun, Wed
All day Jason Grider Girls Basketball Camp (Day 3/4)

MEDIA RELEASE (02/12/2026)

In March of 2026, the Dickinson County Sheriff's Office Drug Enforcement Unit began an investigation into the distribution of Methamphetamine.

The approximate two month-long investigation resulted in a search warrant being executed on May 13, 2026, at a residence in the 1200 Block of 2900 Avenue in rural Dickinson County. Methamphetamine, Drug Paraphernalia, Marijuana, and a Firearm were seized during the search of the residence.

As a result of the investigation and search warrant, arrest warrants were issued through Dickinson County District Court on May 22, 2026, for Brandon Ray Hixson, 44, and Sarah Marie Drummond, 43, both of Abilene. On May 23, 2026, Brandon Ray Hixson was arrested by the Abilene Police Department on the warrant and booked into the Dickinson County Jail on the following requested charges:

- Possession of Methamphetamine with the Intent to Distribute
- Possession of Marijuana with the Intent to Distribute
- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
- No Drug Tax Stamp
- Criminal Possession of a Weapon by a Convicted Felon

On May 24, 2026, Sarah Marie Drummond was arrested by the Abilene Police Department on the warrant and booked into the Dickinson County Jail on the following requested charges:

- Possession of Methamphetamine with the Intent to Distribute
- Possession of Marijuana with the Intent to Distribute
- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
- No Drug Tax Stamp

Sarah Marie Drummond

All persons are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Anyone with information regarding the use/distribution of illegal drugs or any other crime can contact the Dickinson County Sheriff's office at 785-263-4081. Citizens can submit anonymous tips to Crime Stoppers of Dickinson County at 1-888-535-8477 or the Crime Stoppers online/mobile app via www.p3tips.com.



Brandon Ray Hixson



Sarah Marie Drummond



Caramelized pork with rice is slow-cooked on the stove top, along with onions and plenty of Asian-inspired seasonings to make a hearty dinner, along with plenty of leftovers.

Rice to the occasion with tasty caramelized pork. Until I really started exploring some Asian recipes during the pandemic, the ginger in my spice cabinet was pretty much only for baking sweets.

If you would have asked me, I would have said it was there merely for projects like pumpkin bread and ginger snaps.

Boy, was I missing out on an entire, delicious genre of ginger-filled recipes.

I was thinking about that recently when I made this week's recipe for some delicious, Asian-inspired pork.

SpiceUpYourLife-CaramelizedPorkwithRice Lindsey Young

This comes from the blog "Berry & Maple." You can find the original post at <https://berrymaple.com/sweet-caramelized-pork-rice/>. I added extra onion and soy sauce and added more seasonings in my version.

Ingredients

1-2 tablespoons olive oil
1 small yellow or white onion, diced
2 pounds pork butt, cut into one-inch pieces
3 tablespoons brown sugar
2 tablespoons fish sauce
2 tablespoons soy sauce
4 teaspoons garlic powder
2 teaspoons dried ginger
2 teaspoons onion powder
salt and pepper, to taste
prepared white rice and sesame seeds, for serving

Directions

Heat one tablespoon of olive oil over medium heat in a large skillet.

Add the onions and saute until they are almost cooked through. Add more oil, if necessary, and saute the pork in batches until it's browned on all sides.

Add one cup of water to the skillet, along with the onion, pork,

brown sugar, fish sauce, soy sauce, garlic powder, dried ginger and onion powder. Stir to combine well.

Bring the mixture to a low boil, and then let the mixture simmer for about 30 minutes, stirring regularly, until the sauce reduces and becomes thick. Give it a taste, and add salt and pepper, if needed.

Serve the pork over white rice and topped with some sesame seeds.

In the past, I would have never thought to add ginger to a recipe like this, but it adds a lot of great flavor, so I highly recommend it. It's amazing how many applications different spices have, especially ones like ginger, cinnamon or even cayenne, when it comes to both sweet and savory dishes. Something I take pride in is continuing to explore the entire grocery store aisle of herbs and spices. The good news is I don't think I'll ever get bored or actually conquer them all.

The better news is there's always good old ginger snaps to come back to, as well.

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.

Prairie Doc Perspective

"Reflecting on Progress"

By Debra Johnston, MD

It's human nature to tell stories about the past, and doctors aren't immune to that impulse. The second year medical students rotating through my clinic have me reflecting on my own years as a fledgling physician, and the changes I've seen in my decades of practice.

I remember one late evening spent in the PICU watching over a toddler who had meningitis. At one point I turned and bumped into a bedrail, which came crashing down. Both my preceptor and I jumped, and I probably even shrieked. The child, however, didn't even blink. That's when we knew her illness had left her profoundly deaf.

The seasoned pediatrician I was with that month had started practice before the introduction of the Hib vaccine. As we talked about what we could do now for the child in our care, he told me stories from "the old days", when the PICU at Sioux Valley Hospital would perpetually have 2 or 3 children being treated for meningitis. Less

than 10 years later, our unimmunized patient was the first case they'd had in months.

Early in my own practice, winter months would see at least a child or two here in Brookings hospitalized with rotavirus on any give day, and the occasional adult. They would be with us for a few days or even a week, getting IV fluids until the diarrhea slowed down. Our first vaccine had rare but serious side effects and was pulled off the market. The vaccine we've been using for nearly 20 years now has turned the illness into something that rarely lands a child in our hospital. To be sure, we still see rotavirus infections. It's just that far fewer patients are so sick that they require IVs.

We've got a new weapon against another common childhood scourge. RSV has been a terror for longer than I've been in practice. It results in the hospitalization of nearly 2% of children before they turn 1. We now have two ways to protect infants. The first is a traditional vaccine given to ex-

pectant mothers later in their pregnancy.

Mom's immune system responds by developing antibodies, which are transferred to the infant. Since babies' immature immune systems can't respond to the vaccine we have for RSV, we can't give them that vaccine. However, we have an antibody against RSV that can be given directly to newborns. We've had something similar for most of my career, but it was expensive and had to be given monthly, so we only used it in the highest risk children. This new version is much less costly, and requires only one shot.

These strategies don't teach the baby's own immune system to fight the infection. Instead, they provide temporary soldiers to wage the battle. That protection will fade, and the baby's immune system will still have to learn to fight RSV by catching it, but we will have delayed that day until the child is older, and less likely to get terribly sick.

I am optimistic that RSV, too, will become

something we still see, but that doesn't cause the suffering it once did. And I wonder, what will my young colleagues someday tell their future students about medicine in "the old days?"

Dr. Debra Johnston is a Family Medicine Physician at Avera Medical Group Brookings in Brookings, SD. She serves as one of the Prairie Doc Volunteer Hosts during its 24th Season providing Health Education Based on Science, Built on Trust. Follow The Prairie Doc® at www.prairiedoc.org, Facebook, Instagram,

YouTube, and Tik Tok. Prairie Doc Programming includes On Call with the Prairie Doc®, a medical Q&A show (most Thursdays at 7pm on YouTube and streaming on Facebook), 2 podcasts, and a Radio program (on SDPB, Sundays at 6am and 1pm).