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THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA'S *Semiquincentennial*



Congratulations to the HHS Forensics Team!
Conley Souza and Cheyenne Purkeypyle are state runner ups (2nd) in IDA (Improvised Duet Acting)!!!
Ethan Urbanek and Kylie Dester are state champs (1st) in Duet Acting!!!!
Coaches Hirsch and Duenas are so proud of the team! "We had some really low moments today, but the kids really looked at themselves and said we want this, and they got it! They did so well!" Said Coach Hirsch.
Go Railers!!
(Courtesy of USD 487)

Great day of JV golf. The team played well with Seth Pekarek and Cooper Carver taking home 6th place.

A'Den Peterson and Jordan Gray had a great day placing 2nd overall with a 38. (Picture to the right)

Courtesy of USD 393



JV BTN NCKL results 3rd place #1 doubles!
Atkinson / Worden (Pictured to the Right)
2nd place #1 singles Jance Beck (Pictured above Right)

V BTN update

League Champ #2 singles Jacob Boland.
(Pictured above left)

Courtesy of USD 473

Contact Information: Dickinson County News-Times
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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
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 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

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

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

Our Redeemer Lutheran
 802 E. Trapp, Herington
 10:30 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

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

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

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

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

Call 785-524-4200
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 church added!



Rev. Connie D. Wooldridge
 My dad,
PASTOR'S CORNER
 Coach Feste's words

echo inside me still today, "Be coachable!" He would encourage me again and again, "Be coachable, Connie." What does it mean to be coachable? There was a time when I heard those words as criticism. Surely, if you are always calling me to more, then I must not be enough. Sometimes, even today, I feel the pain of that deep fear and wonder if I will ever be enough. Perhaps, at some level, we all wonder if we are or will ever be enough. As a young adult, I was listening to the radio when I heard the preacher say, "If you think yourself ripe, you will rot; but if you think yourself green, you will grow." When I heard that, I realized that being enough

Be Coachable

is not my goal. Moving, growing, developing, becoming; these are the things that matter. My dad was right. I need to be coachable. I want to be coachable. I am not ready for stagnation. Rotting is not for me. When I stood before the representatives of my denomination to take my vows of ordinations as clergy, the question was asked, "Are you going on to perfection?" I answered with a resounding "yes", because I am coachable and I am green and my desire is to continue to develop. Does this mean I am not enough? No! God, my creator, made me in God's image and I am indeed enough. God did not create me to shrivel and rot. God created me as one who is becoming. My friends, I encourage you to "be coachable". You are enough. You are fearfully and wonderfully made, but you are made for continuation, for growth, for abundance. You are made to live.



THIS DAY - IN - THE HERINGTON TIMES

125 years ago - 1901
PLEAD GUILTY - The two young horse thieves which were caught last week and sent up to the district court from Herington have announced to the court that they will plead guilty and take their regular term in the penitentiary. According to the law, the judge could sentence them to from one to seven years. But, as they plead guilty without a trial, the chances are that Judge Moore will make it a little lighter on them.
 100 years ago - 1926
PERL ROGERS BARTON - (Editor of The Herington Times. The following was no doubt written by his Herington business partner following Barton's untimely death.) Twenty-one years ago, a new graduate of Baker College at Baldwin University named Perl Rogers Barton was offered a position with The Iola Daily Register and accepted. It was our practice to take long walks to discuss the progress of the day and to look for another paper that could be purchased with a shoestrapping and a promise. One day, a former Herington boy (likely Topeka State Journal editor A. J. Carruth, jr.), painted a glowing picture of Herington and its future prospects in his newspaper. It looked good to us, and we made our initial inspection in July of 1913. A price for The Times was obtained, and the paper was purchased from Walt Smith. Immediately, a U.S. Senator from Kansas wrote us encouraging us to locate in Herington. Barton leased a place with Mrs. Thomas on South

Herington Times Owner Passes

Broadway who became as near a mother as could be. Funeral services were held on Monday at the Methodist church in Herington.
 75 years ago - 1951
SMILEY BURNETTE IN HERINGTON - Smiley Burnette, popular Hollywood movie star, loved by every kid, big and little, from coast to coast, will be in Herington on Wednesday May 9th, for three shows, according to information announced this week by Tom Wolf, manager of the Dreamland theatre. At 4:15 that afternoon, he will have a special matinee for the school kids, at which time he will have his picture made with the kids.
 50 years ago - 1976
BICENTENNIAL FLAGPOLE PLANNED - As of Tuesday, only about \$500 of the estimated \$3500 total cost of erecting a flagpole and monument to be dedicated on the Fourth of July. Garland L. Rucker, who has overseen development of the plans, said not enough clubs, organizations and private businesses have become involved with making contributions. Rucker said the financial goal of the project is lagging. The Herington Lioness Club has been the biggest contributor thus far. A bronze plaque has already been ordered. The monument and flagpole will be erected in front of the new Herington Public Safety building. Plans call for a dedication ceremony to be held during the town's annual Fourth of July celebration. A time capsule will be buried inside the monument for opening 100 years from now.
 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

Does Freedom Still Ring?

The story of America is being told many ways this year as we march steadily closer to the moment when two hundred and fifty years ago an upstart motley group of freedom lovers changed the course of the world forever. One way the independence story can be framed is through the lens of our defining possession; our cars. Understanding that the automobile has only been around for about half the existence time of our country, it still symbolizes so much of who we are as a people. Style, power, and efficiency are all ways to judge a car, and also may have something to do with the success of a country. The defining principle, however, is how well a car or country accomplishes what it was designed to do. For a vehicle, the object is to move people and things from one point to another. A government, on the other hand, is to provide structure and order to groups of people who without it would descend into chaos. We accept as foundational the idea that rights exist outside of government; however, prior to the Declaration of Independence being penned, that idea was unimaginable. Similarly, the idea of motorized transportation for the masses was novel until a relatively short time ago, the first Fords rolled off the assembly line. It is essential to remember that the rights that were expressed by the signers of the Declaration are the heart and soul of our country. Without the protection of life, a country has no

reason to exist. If we look around the world today, the struggle to give value to an individual life is the difference between success and failure. The countries that say that each and every life is a gift from our creator have flourished. Time has been a severe winnower of those countries that conversely see humans as exploitable commodities to lay on the altar of communal dominance and greed. The establishment of "Route 66" one hundred years ago this year came to symbolize the liberty that America has enshrined. Every mind and every heart has a desire to have the unencumbered freedom of the open road. The story of America, much like a highway system, has shown that freedom only works if there are rules for the road. The task of legislative bodies is not to take away freedom, but to determine that moment when your personal freedom becomes a prison that enslaves another citizen. In the final analysis, the right to life only has value if each of us has the liberty to promote the well-being of others. This idea was spoken clearly by JFK when he said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but ask what you can do for your country." The selflessness which is also written in the Biblical principle of "loving your neighbor as yourself" was contained wholly by the founders in penning the right to liberty. The chaos of watching traffic flow through a busy urban area, when viewed from above, only makes sense when you understand the rules motorists abide by. The structure of society may appear to only help the other person, but ends up be-

ing the key determinant in your own success. In this column I have and will continue to recognize the importance of the "right to pursue happiness." Those who came before us a quarter-Millennium ago understood this to mean economic freedom. The 1980's nearly destroyed the American automobile industry because, through government heavy handedness, we shut down the power to build. An economy to flourish must have a climate, that while having guardrails to prevent abuse, must also have no ceiling to prevent upward expansion. Perhaps the most dangerous economic trend our country has faced in our existence is the idea that the role of government is to determine which industry succeeds and which does not. The marketplace is the preferred determinate of economic freedom, not the barrier laced, bureaucratic heavy, iron hand of socialism. As we pursue economic freedom together, it is difficult to understand that the market always results in inequity. The force that drives the marketplace is success and failure of multiple ideas. Using the government to prevent failure will most assuredly prevent success. Conversely, using government power to prevent success will absolutely ensure communal failure. Auto manufacturing, much like the rest of our economy, has tirelessly worked to make each generation better. We as a country need to understand the greatness of America and use founding principles to make the best better.

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will be host to a sealed bid abandoned vehicle public auction. All bids will be accepted by Monday, May 18, 2026, at 10 am where the following vehicle(s) will be sold to the highest bidder if said vehicle(s) are not claimed by owner on or before 5/15/2026.

2014 GMC Yukon Denali
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Thursday, May 21 – Footcare 9 am - ?
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Now Is The Time To Shop Local

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

(First Published in Dickinson County News Times on Wednesday, May 6, 2026)

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Chapman, KS at City Hall, 446 North Marshall St. until 2:00p.m., Thursday May 28, 2026 C.D.T for the furnishing of all labor and materials specified and the performance of all work in accordance with the Drawings and Specifications for:

Downtown Dance, Tumbling & Aerial Arts
Buhrer Opera House Building
428-430 North Marshall St.
Chapman, Kansas 67431

The scope of work of the project includes remodeling of an existing +/- 3,200 sq. ft. space for dance, tumbling and aerial arts classes, and related site requirements.

Plans and specifications will be available on May 7, 2026, for examination and can be obtained from the Architect, Baker McMillan Architects, by emailing admin@bakermcmillan.com. Plans may also be provided electronically. A Contractor's Qualification Statement, AIA Document A305-2020 shall be submitted with the bid. Without this submittal and required verifications with the bid, it will be rejected.

Plans will also be on file with:

- Drexel Technologies, Inc.
- SalinaBlue

Bid Security will be required in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders. Bidder qualifications may be required in accordance with Instructions to Bidders. Contract time will be set in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders and Agreement. OWNER reserves the right to reject any and all Bids and to waive irregularities in bidding.

No Bidder may withdraw a bid for a period of Thirty (30) days after the date of the opening of the Bids.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held Friday, May 15, 2026 at 1:30 p.m. at the project site located at 428 North Marshall Street, Chapman, Kansas 67431.

City of Chapman, Kansas

HELP WANTED

Centre USD #397 is accepting applications for the following position: Daycare Director

Applications available at district office, 785-983-4304, or on website, www.usd397.com.
Application deadline: Until position filled. EOE

Senior Center Menus

Abilene Senior Center
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Friday, May 8: Fish Filet OR Lemon Baked Chicken, AuGratin Potatoes, Roasted Brussel Sprouts / Wheat Roll, Pineapple Tidbits
Sunday, May 10 Happy Mother's Day

Monday, May 11: Beef Stroganoff on Noodles, Buttered Peas, Ambrosia, Biscuit

Tuesday, May 12: Herbed Pork Roast, Sweet Potatoes, Cauliflower w/Parsley, Peaches, Wheat Roll

Wednesday, May 13: Oven Fried Chicken Patty with Gravy, Garlic Mashed Potatoes Green Beans w/ Onions Wheat Bread

Thursday, May 14: Sloppy Joe on Bun, Potato

Hilltop Community Center
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Friday, May 8: Lemon Baked Fish or Lemon Baked Chicken, Roasted Red Potato, Brussel Sprouts, Pineapple Chunks, Roll, Milk
Sunday, May 10 HAPPY Mother's DAY

Monday, May 11: Beef Stroganoff Over Noodles, Peas & Carrots, Ambrosia Salad, Roll, Milk

Tuesday, May 12: Herbed Pork Roast, Sweet Potatoes, Cauliflower, Peaches, Roll, Milk

Wednesday, May 13: Oven Fried Chicken with Gravy, Garlic Mashed Potato, Green Beans, Strawberry Shortcake, Roll, Milk

Thursday, May 14: Sloppy Joe on Bun, Potato Wedges, Baked Beans, Apricots, Cookie Bar, Milk

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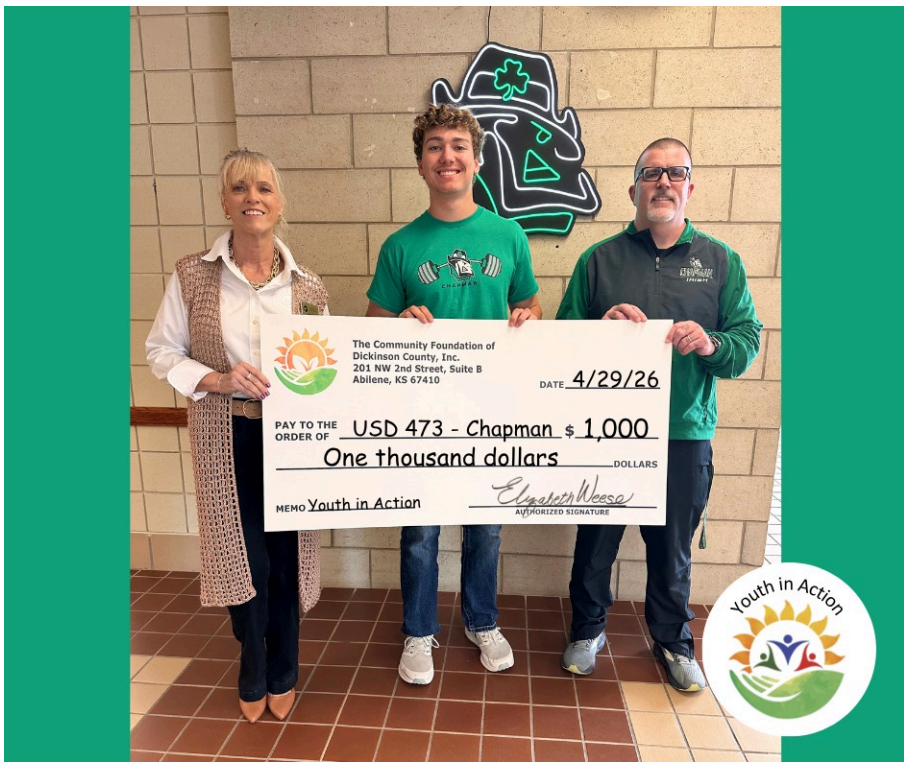
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We're excited to support students at USD 473 Chapman with a \$1,000 Youth in Action Grant. Led by student B. Smiley, this project focuses on revamping the Chapman High School weight room, helping replace equipment like plates, dumbbells, and racks to better serve students.

This effort will benefit not only high school athletes but also middle school students and others who use the space throughout the year for training and activities. The weight room also supports programs like state powerlifting, making it an important resource for the school and community.

Projects like this show how students can take the lead in strengthening spaces their peers rely on every day.

This is what Youth in Action is all about

- ♥ Building strong foundations
- ♥ Supporting healthy habits
- ♥ Creating opportunities to grow

NEW ART PIECE IN POCKET PARK



On Tuesday, April 28th, a new sculpture was added to pocket park in Herington. The artist, James Bryant, is from Herington and has several pieces on display around Kansas. James also had another sculpture revealed in Salina a few days after the Herington piece was unveiled. Rhonda Rice and other community members were able to get a grant to help with paying for the Art in the park.



For Injured Soldiers, a New Ambulance Could Mean a Return to the Fight

By Jorge Gomez, Irwin Army Community Hospital Public Affairs Officer

FORT RILEY, Kansas — When a training accident happens in the field, minutes matter. At Fort Riley, those minutes can determine whether a 1st Infantry Division Soldier makes a full recovery or suffers a career-ending disability. With the arrival of a new ambulance fleet at Irwin Army Community Hospital, those minutes are now better protected than ever.

The upgraded vehicles bring capabilities designed for the conditions of military training like rugged off-road terrain, unpredictable weather, and high-risk environments.

Emergency Medical Services at Fort Riley operate differently than most civilian systems. While civilian EMS primarily respond to emergencies on paved city streets, Fort Riley's EMS must be prepared to enter live-fire ranges and training areas.

"Our EMS service responds to emergencies that involve tactical vehicles, weapons mishaps, and more climate-related injuries than civilian services would see," said Dr. Andrew Bloom, Chief of the Department of Emergency Services and EMS Medical Director.

Before the arrival of the new fleet, EMS crews were operating ambulances past their prime, with over 100,000 miles of hard service on their frames. "We've had ambulances that wouldn't start and needed to be jumped just to be moved," Bloom said.

The new fleet is able to reach casualties in conditions that previously would have caused delays. The old rear-wheel drive vehicles struggled with Fort Riley's rugged landscape and periods of severe weather.

"During a major snowstorm a couple of years ago, the old ambulances couldn't get through unplowed roads on post," Bloom said. "We had to put patients in a fire department brush truck just to get them to a clear road where an ambulance could meet them. That's not ideal medical care."

The new ambulances are equipped with four-wheel drive, robust suspension, and heavy-duty front guards, significantly improving their ability to navigate mud, snow, and rough terrain. This capability translates into faster care.

"Time to definitive treatment is critical," Bloom said. "Faster care decreases mortality and morbidity. It also allows for quicker pain control, which may reduce long-term effects from trauma, including conditions like post-traumatic stress."

Beyond speed and mobility, the new ambulances enhance how care is delivered while en route to the hospital. One of trauma's most dangerous complications is hypothermia.

"Hypothermia in a trauma patient can be deadly, as blood loss causes the body's temperature to drop, even on a hot day," Bloom said. "Before, we were limited to cracking open chemical hot packs. Now, we can administer heated IV fluids and cover patients with 120-degree blankets from an onboard warmer."

In scenarios with multiple casualties, the new ambulances offer another advantage. They can transport up to three litter patients simultaneously, compared to just one in the previous models.

"In a mass casualty event, this allows us to get more patients to the hospital with fewer vehicles, clearing the scene and moving casualties to definitive care much faster," Bloom said. But for all the technology packed into the new ambulances, Bloom said that the most life-saving feature is the "improved reliability."

"The ambulances will look different, but the care will remain the same," he said. "What's improved is our ability to respond and deliver that care when and where it's needed."

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The new members for the Class of 2026 HHS National Honor Society were inducted today. Congratulations to Lexi, Hunter, Kenley, Atalie, and Pierce!!

Courtesy of USD 487



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

“This Is Community”: Scholarship Reception Celebrates Students, Donors, and the Power of Local Giving
Abilene, KS — The Community Foundation of Dickinson County recently hosted its annual Scholarship Reception, bringing together scholarship recipients, families, donor representatives, board members, and community supporters for an evening dedicated to achievement, generosity, and the promise of what comes next.

Held at the beautiful Sand Springs Venue, the evening offered a meaningful setting to recognize local students receiving scholarships for the 2026 academic year. Guests enjoyed a wonderful meal catered by Seven Ate Five, adding to an evening that was both celebratory and deeply personal.

This year, the Community Foundation awarded \$193,500 in scholarships through 50 scholarship funds, supporting 46 students and awarding a total of 71 scholarships.

Each scholarship represents more than financial assistance. It represents encouragement, opportunity, and the belief that investing in young people is one of the most important ways a community can invest in its future.

For many students, the reception provided an opportunity to meet the donors, family members, and representatives connected to the scholarship funds supporting their education. For donors and fund representatives, it was a chance to see firsthand the students whose lives are being impacted by their generosity.

“This is community,” said Elizabeth Weese, Executive Director of the Community Foundation of Dickinson County.

“When people choose to give in a way that supports students they may never personally know, and then we have the privilege of bringing everyone together in one room, the impact becomes very real. It is

neighbors helping neighbors, and it is one generation investing in the next.” Many of the scholarship funds administered by the Community Foundation were established by individuals, families, businesses, and organizations who wanted to create a lasting legacy through education. Because many of these funds are endowed, they are designed to provide support not just once, but year after year, continuing to benefit students well into the future.

“These scholarships are possible because of thoughtful, long-term generosity,” Weese added. “Each scholarship fund represents a story, a memory, a value, or a hope for the future. Together, they create opportunities for students to pursue their goals and remind them that their community believes in them.”

The annual Scholarship Reception is one of the Community Foundation’s most meaningful events, offering a visible reminder of the connection between donor generosity and student success. It celebrates not only academic achievement, but also the families, teachers, mentors, and communities that help students reach this important moment.

Through its scholarship program, the Community Foundation of Dickinson County continues to administer a wide range of scholarship funds that support students from across the county. These funds help make education more accessible while allowing donors to create a legacy that reflects their values and strengthens Dickinson County for generations to come.

The Community Foundation of Dickinson County...For good. For ever.® For more information about scholarship opportunities or how to establish a scholarship fund, contact the Community Foundation of Dickinson County at (785) 263-1617 or visit www.communityfoundation.us.



EVENTS

7 May, Thu
3 – 4pm MS TR @ Salina
3:30 – 5pm Track: High School Herington High School
4 – 5:30pm 100 Year of Class Night Rehearsal
4:30 – 7:30pm FFA Chicken BBQ
6 – 7pm Post 12 American Legion-Herington
7:30 – 10pm 100 Years of Class Night/Class of 2026 Class Night

8 May, Fri
All day BTN Regionals @ TBA
All day All Schools Day Parade @ McPherson
1pm ES Field Day
3 – 4pm TR V/JV @ Wamego
4 – 5:30pm Baseball: JV/Varsity - Senior Night Herington
4 – 5:30pm Softball: JV/Varsity - Senior Night Herington
4:30 – 5:30pm BSB V @ St. Mary's
4:30 – 5:30pm SB V @ St. Mary's
6:30 – 7:30pm VFW Bingo 101 E Main St

9 May, Sat
All day Regional BTN @ TBA
9 – 10am SB JV @ Rock Creek
7:30 – 10pm 100 Years of Class Night/Class of 2026 Class Night

10 May, Sun
5:30pm FFA Banquet

11 May, Mon
9am – 1pm 4th-6th Grade Track Meet (Make Up Day)
9 – 10am Veterans Coffee The Pin Up Cafe
9 – 10am FFA Greenhand @ Chapman
1 – 2pm GF V @ Abilene
6:30 – 7:30pm USD 473 BOE
7pm USD 487 8th Grade Recognition

12 May, Tue
10 a.m. Storytime @ Hope Library
11 a.m. Fresh conversations, Enterprise Library
12 – 1:30pm JH Track: Solomon
1 – 2pm League Golf Hesston
2 – 3pm MS TR @ Rock Creek (time changed)
4:30 – 5:30pm BSB JV @ Wamego
4:30 – 5:30pm BSB V @ Wamego
4:30 – 5:30pm SB V/JV @ Wamego
6:30 – 7:30pm VFW and Aux Meeting 101 E Main St

13 May, Wed
All day Mr. Wizard Competition (Day 1/3)
All day Baseball Quarterfinals (Day 1/3)
All day Seniors Last Day of School
9 – 10am Senior Send-Off
2:30 – 3:30pm 5th Grade Program
6:30 – 7:30pm Pre-K Program
7 – 8pm Chapman City Council Meeting 446 N Marshall St

Rep. Derek Schmidt Applauds Passage of House Passing Farm Bill Congressman Schmidt's Amendment to Strengthen Domestic Production of Natural Color Additives Included in Farm Bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Derek Schmidt (KS-02) today applauded House passage of the Farm Bill, highlighting its strong support for farmers, ranchers, and rural communities across Kansas.

The legislation expands investment in rural America, lowers energy costs, improves producers' access to credit, and strengthens conservation programs for working lands - helping ensure long-term stability and growth across the agricultural economy. "The Farm Bill will deliver meaningful support for Kansas farmers and ranchers," said Congressman Schmidt. "It strengthens our food system, bolsters rural communities, and provides the certainty producers need to plan for the future."

Schmidt also secured inclusion of his amendment to promote domestic production of crops used in natural color additives. The amendment directs the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Department of Health and Human Services to coordinate research aimed at expanding the ability of American producers to grow crops used in natural food colorings—an emerging market driven by increasing consumer demand.

"This amendment is about creating new opportunities for

MOTHER PLAYED A BABY GRAND Van Yandell

MOTHER PLAYED A BABY GRAND

James 1: 17 "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

Why do singers get the attention, while composers and musicians are the real talent behind the voices?

Many can sing but few have the ability to strike the ivories with precision to extract a musical tone.

As far back as memory allows, my mother sat at her old Wellington piano and played. Not to brag but she was very good. My musical talents certainly didn't take after hers, with my ability to play a radio being a major challenge. Wellington pianos were made by the Cable Piano Company in New York City. Their manufacture dated from 1885 until 1953.

Possibly mother obtained the piano from her mother and it became a part of the family in the early 1900's. The piano was unbelievably heavy and would have been a load for the Egyptian pyramid builders. I kept it several years after she died but finally gave it to a church in Hopkins County, Kentucky. The swivel stool, however, we kept. A few years ago I sanded it and painted it a light ivory color. It is now in our shower bath and used as a vanity stool. I'm told the stool is a collector's item. It has glass balls on the bear claw feet and the legs and spindles are lathe turned. It's actually quite a conversation piece with memories attached. Her favorite songs to play were "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" (Elisha Hoffman) and "Boogie- Woogie" (Clarence "Pinetop" Smith). I often told her if she ever needed a job she could get a job in a honky-tonk or on a cruise boat.

I well remember her playing and stomping the petals. She fit the stool perfectly, squirming around on it, giving an illusion of a sitting dance. I don't recall seeing her any happier than when she was playing her piano.

We lived in Marathon, Texas in the years before I started first grade in Kentucky. She played in the Marathon Baptist Church there. Often she mentioned the "baby grand" she played in that church.

I thought for years she had given the piano the name "baby grand." About 1978, we went to West Texas and one of our stops was Marathon. When I walked through the door of that little white church about three blocks north of Highway 90, I realized why she called it a baby grand.

There sat a miniature grand piano. Immediately I knew the one that had played that piano in the early 1950's was my sweet mother. If I had only thought and recorded some of her songs they would be an earthly treasure.

God gives us skills and abilities we can use to glorify Him. They may be building, organizational or skills dealing with church finances.

He also gives us spiritual gifts such as evangelism, preaching/teaching or workers of Jesus' mandate to be His

witnesses.

Proverbs 16: 3 "Commit thy works unto the Lord and thy plans shall be established." In mother's generation, the significance of the Great Commission (Acts 1: 8) did not seem to be of particular urgency. As a child however, I saw her actions as a way of daily life.

Mom's age group however, had their missions group. They met each month. A mission's magazine was summarized so they would remain knowledgeable about Christian outreach around the world.

There were special weeks each year for focus on local, state and international missions. They sometimes referred to the Acts 1: 8 scripture which included the many locations around the world where missionaries were active.

I can only imagine how devastated my mother and father would be to see the world in the condition it is in now. Wars on numerous fronts, hatred greater than Americans have seen since the Civil War and the Ten Commandments are literally ignored by society. If Christian missions have ever been needed it is now.

Leviticus 18: 22, Proverbs 22: 6, Genesis 1: 27 and Matthew 16: 18 have been perverted to the point my parent's generation would shudder at the thought. Racial tensions exist where we should be working together to unify mankind rather than constantly looking for reasons to divide us. Acts 10: 35 "Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons."

Mother used to say "There's only one race and that's the human race." She considered every person as someone that Jesus died for.

It certainly appears in retrospect, her piano was her way of conveying her feelings. At times, it became a method of relieving frustration but those times were few. The intensity of her fingers on the keys were an indication of her attitude at the time.

We often wish we could go back in time and ask our parents questions or simply sit and listen to their experiences in life. My memories are many of mother's words but if life was to live over, without a doubt, recordings of her piano would be a part of my most precious possessions.

Of all her teachings, to believe in a crucified Savior was at the top of the list. She believed with all her heart, soul and mind that Christ Jesus died for her sins and the sins of the world.

My memories of her are precious. For any mother that may read this, consider the memories you are leaving your children; they last a lifetime.

Van Yandell is a retired Industrial Arts teacher, an ordained gospel evangelist and commissioned missionary. His email is vmy3451@gmail.com

American agriculture while supporting innovation in our food system," Schmidt said. "By investing in research, we can help farmers diversify, strengthen domestic supply chains, and meet growing demand for natural ingredients."

Under the provision, USDA and HHS will establish formal interagency agreements within one year of enactment and implement a competitive, merit-based research process. The effort encourages collaboration among federal agencies, universities, nonprofit organizations, and private-sector partners. The amendment also supports research infrastructure, workforce development, and public-private partnerships to position American agriculture for long-term success in this growing sector.



Spice Up Your Life- Slow Cooker Mojo Pork Lindsey Young

cooked so that you can re-create it, too. This was a combination of a recipe from the website "All-Recipes.com," which you can find at <https://www.all-recipes.com/recipe/281144/slow-cooker-mojo-pork/> and from an Instagram creator, Nicole Nelson McLaughlin, who posts under @nicolemmom. Plus, Joey had some adjustments of his own, of course. Slow Cooker Mojo

sprinkle the rest of the ingredients around it. (You can stir a bit to combine things, if you want, but it'll combine as it cooks, too.)

Cook, covered, in your crockpot for seven to eight hours on high or four to six on low until the pork is cooked through and easy to shred. Discard the bay leaves. Shred the pork in the crockpot, and serve the shredded pork and onions on top of the yellow rice and black beans. Top with some of the juice from the crockpot, as well as some fresh cilantro.

The delicious smell of this recipe just completely took over our kitchen. The citrus came through in a really pleasant way to highlight the pork and give it some brightness.

We just ate this in bowls over the rice and beans, but you could put this into tortillas, too, if you wanted to or scoop it up with tortillas chips.

So, I do think our pork butt competition fully ended in a tie. But the good news is that we ended up with two very different kinds of leftovers over the next week or so. And I definitely had to refill several of my spice containers afterwards, but that's the price of a great meal.

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.



Slow cooker mojo pork has a bright flavor, thanks to plenty of fresh citrus, that makes it the perfect dinner over some yellow rice and black beans.

Get your mojo going with this citrus-forward pork recipe I've said before that trying to figure out measurements while Joey cooks is pretty much a herculean feat.

He's a man who always measures with his heart. And, boy, does his heart love our spice cabinet.

That's perfectly fine with me, though, because he is great at combining flavors, and he's also the person you want in the kitchen when you know the dish you made still needs "something," but you can't quite figure out what that is.

That's enough compliments for him, though, because as I mentioned last week, he and I decided to have a face-off on who could prepare the best pork butt, and the recipe I'm sharing this week is the one he decided to try.

The good news is I was hovering behind him, writing down measurements as he

Pork

Ingredients

- 4-pound pork butt roast
- 1 large yellow onion, thinly sliced
- zest from two large oranges
- zest from two large limes
- 3/4 cup orange juice, freshly squeezed
- 1/2 cup lime juice, freshly squeezed
- 1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/4 cup fresh cilantro, chopped, plus more for serving
- 8 to 10 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 bay leaves
- 4 teaspoons dried oregano
- 2 teaspoons cumin
- 2 teaspoons onion powder
- 2 teaspoons garlic powder
- salt and pepper, to taste
- prepared yellow rice, for serving
- 15-ounce can black beans, rinsed, for serving

Directions

If there's quite a bit of fat on your pork butt, you may want to trim and discard some of it (leave a little—fat is flavor). Add the pork butt to a crockpot, and then

Prairie Doc Perspective

A Bump in the Crossroads of the Body

By Andrew Ellsworth, MD

When was the last time you thought about your neck?

It's easy to overlook, but your neck is a remarkably busy place. It houses the spinal cord, carrying signals between your brain and the rest of your body. It allows food to travel from your mouth to your stomach. It delivers blood to your brain. It contains muscles that support and move your head, along with your vocal cords, thyroid, and parathyroid glands.

In many ways, the neck is a crossroads of vital structures, and it can offer clues when something is not quite right elsewhere in the body. Take a moment and gently feel your neck. Become familiar with what is normal for you. If you notice a lump or something that does not feel right, it's worth paying attention.

Many neck lumps are not dangerous. Some are simply swollen lymph nodes reacting to an infection. A cold, flu, sinus infection, strep throat, dental issue, or even a skin infection can

cause lymph nodes in the neck to enlarge. These typically improve over a couple of weeks as the body recovers.

However, as with any area of the body, if you feel a new lump or bump, consider an appointment with your provider to have it examined.

As a general rule, if a neck lump persists beyond two to three weeks in an adult, it should be evaluated.

In children, lymph nodes may remain enlarged a bit longer and still be harmless, but in adults, persistence deserves a closer look.

The feel of a lump can also provide clues. Lymph nodes from infection are often soft, movable, and a bit rubbery. In contrast, a hard, fixed, or rapidly growing lump is more concerning and should be checked promptly. Lumps that continue to enlarge or change over time also warrant evaluation. Other symptoms also matter. Fever, unexplained weight loss, night sweats, or difficulty swallowing are important signals that should not be ignored.

Swelling in multiple areas of the body may suggest a more widespread process, such as some infections or, less commonly, a cancer like lymphoma. Another common finding is a thyroid nodule, located in the front of the neck. These are fairly common and usually benign, but they are often evaluated with ultrasound to better understand their size and appearance and to determine if follow-up is needed. Some people experience a "globus sensation" which is the feeling of something stuck in the throat when nothing is actually there. This can be related to acid reflux, post-nasal drip, muscle tension, or even stress and anxiety. Once again, persistent symptoms should be checked out.

The bottom line is simple: if you notice a lump or bump in your neck, do not ignore it. While many causes are minor and temporary, some require further attention. When in doubt, have it evaluated. A quick check

today can provide reassurance, or catch something early when it matters most.

Dr. Andrew Ellsworth is a Family Medicine Physician at Avera Medical Group Brookings in Brookings, SD. He 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).



Detroit Ramblers March Meeting

By Grace Hanback

The Detroit Ramblers March Meeting was held on March 9 th , 2026, at 7pm. The meeting was called to order by President Eyer Holt. Our roll call question was "How do You Show Kindness?". The pledge of Allegiance and 4-H pledge were led by Savannah. Anna Holt and Ava Straight led our song. Later we all got into groups and each group was given a stuffed animal, a horse, a cow and a pig. Each group got the supplies to get their animal ready for a show. Each group worked together to prepare the animals. At the end we talked about germs and biosecurity. We used a black light to see the germs on all the supplies. We did a project to show how fast germs and sickness at shows and stuff can spread using water. After this Anna Holt moved that we adjourn the meeting with the 4-H pledge, "To Make the Best Better!".



Leader Angela Holt giving everyone instructions for our biosecurity project



Detroit Rambler Learn About Rabbits

By Grace Hanback

On April 13 th 2026 the Detroit Ramblers held their April monthly meeting. Elsie Purdue brought her three show rabbits to share with the club. Elsie first showed us how she feeds her rabbits to keep them healthy and ready for shows, she explained the different things she feeds them and how they benefit her rabbits, Elsie taught us all about rabbit showmanship and what she has to do to show the judges her rabbits, she let us pet her rabbits then gave us a presentation on facts about rabbits. The Pledge of Allegiance and 4-H pledge were led by Delany Stenger. For roll call we answered, "Describe Yourself with a Weather Term". Our songs were led by Ava Straight and Anna Holt. After the meeting we played Simon says for a little while. It was moved that we Adjourned the Meeting with the 4-H Motto "To Make the Best Better!".

Elsie Purdue showing the group how to handle her rabbit for judging



Community Foundation of Dickinson County Welcomes Two New Board Members
 Abilene, KS - The Community Foundation of Dickinson County has announced the appointment of two new members to its Board of Directors, Katrina Loader and Kevin Harris, both of Abilene. Loader brings a strong background in banking and community leadership. A Senior Vice President with Astra Bank, Loader currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Dickinson County CEO program. Her background also includes Leadership Dickinson County, Leadership Salina, and the Kansas Bankers Association's Bank Leaders of Kansas program. "I'm truly honored to serve on the board of the Community Foundation of Dickinson County. I care deeply about this community, and I love being part of something that connects people's generosity to real impact. Investing in Dickinson County today is how we make sure it stays strong and vibrant for the next generation," said Loader. Harris brings deep experience in agriculture and business. He and his wife, Rosemary, have owned Harris Crop Insurance since 1999, and he is also a fourth-generation farmer in Dickinson County. He currently serves in leadership with Kansas Grain Sorghum as Secretary-Treasurer, reflecting his long-standing involvement in agricultural advocacy and service. Harris reflected, "I am honored to serve on the Board of Directors for the

Community Foundation of Dickinson County. The Foundation plays an important role in strengthening our communities, supporting local nonprofits, and ensuring that generosity today continues to benefit Dickinson County for generations to come. I am pleased to be part of an organization that is so deeply committed to thoughtful stewardship, local impact, and the long-term future of the place we call home. "The Community Foundation is fortunate to welcome Katrina and Kevin to the board," said Executive Director Elizabeth Weese. "Both bring valuable professional experience, strong community ties, and a clear commitment to Dickinson County. We look forward to their service and the perspective they will bring as we continue working to strengthen our communities." The Community Foundation of Dickinson County works to connect donors with charitable opportunities, support local nonprofits, and provide community leadership throughout the county. The Foundation manages charitable funds established by individuals, families, businesses, and organizations, with the goal of creating lasting impact across Dickinson County. For more information about the Community Foundation of Dickinson County, contact the office at 7895.263.1863 or visit our website at www.communityfoundation.us

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS RIDE FOR THE FIRST MEMORIAL HIGHWAY IN KANSAS
by Lillian Flegle, Contributing Writer

On April 25, 2026, American Legion Riders, Post 40, (ALR 40) Leonardville, KS, hosted a ride for the first POW/MIA memorial highway and bridge in Kansas in remembrance of Prisoners of War and those Missing In Action (POW/MIA).

Jon Gran, Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 7774 (VFW 7774), Wakefield, KS, explained that the bridge East of Wakefield over Milford Lake and the stretch of Highway 77 between Junction City to Randolph have been approved by the State as a memorial highway and bridge commemorating POWs and those who are still MIA.

He and Glen Nelson, VFW 7774, spoke to the State Senate and House of Representatives to get this approved.

"When we went before the Senate and House, we talked about why this memorial is important. We need to remember those who served," he explained, "Also, we want to say that Rep. Lewis (Bill) Bloom was an instrumental part of getting the bill passed."

Gran also points out how important it is for kids and people to remember our history.

"We do that by paying honor to POWs and those MIAs so everyone sees their name and are reminded of them," Gran said.

Rep Bloom, who himself served six years in the National Guard, saw it as a great way to remember them and readily assisted in drawing up the bill for them to present.

"There's no other remembrance in Kansas for the POW/MIA," he said, "and I believe it's a very important memorial as a way to keep their memory alive."

John Reardon, 20-year Army veteran and director of ALR 40, said he sees the dedication of the highway and bridge as an act of remembrance.

"This is the first highway and bridge in Kansas dedicated to the memory of POW/MIAs," Reardon said, "It's an act of remembrance that opens people's eyes to the sacrifices some made to keep our freedom. It's something that needs to be done to make sure POW/MIAs aren't forgotten. We need to do everything possible to bring soldiers home."

Reardon's wife, Lori, believes in supporting this cause because people are forgetting, especially the young generation. She was excited to see a young girl riding with her father for this event.

"A father and his daughter were on the ride, and that's exactly what we need. This young girl will tell the story of this ride to her friends. She will remember it as an historical

moment. She can say she was on the first ride in Kansas for the first dedication of a highway to remember POWs and those MIA."

Ten-year-old Gwendolyn Rebecca Otter, back seat driver on her father's bike, quietly said, "I like riding with my dad, I feel warm and protected."

Brandon Otter, Gwendolyn's father, joined ALR 63, Norton, KS, a year ago after retiring from the Army. He sees this ride as a great father-daughter bonding experience that also helps his daughter realize what it means to support military men and women.

Otter said, "My own dad's been a rider for years and when it came time for me to retire, he bought back his old bike and gave it to me. Now I'm riding with my own daughter. It made me want to get more involved with Legion Riders as a way to give back. I thought supporting the POW/MIA ride was a great way to do that. Having my daughter ride with me helps her know more about how people can and have served their country."

Gwendolyn, sitting beside her father at the rest stop in Randolph said, "I want to serve my country when I grow up, just like my dad. But for now, I get to ride with him and honor people who served, but didn't come home." She added, "It makes me very glad that my dad came home and very sad for families whose dads didn't come home."

Lori Reardon understands that sentiment well because she is the daughter of a Korean War veteran. With a grateful heart, she said, "My dad was in the Korean war, Task Force Smith, which were soldiers who entered Korea through Japan," She explained, "He was the only soldier from his platoon who returned home.

I was very glad for that, but I remember how really hard it was for him to lose his comrades."

Will Ravenstein, nicknamed 'Tree,' joined ALR 45, Junction City, KS, seven years ago.

"I served two tours in Iraq as an Army National Guardsman," he said.

Being a pastor and a veteran, he also recognizes the veterans in his congregation, and feels strongly about honoring those who haven't made it home.

"I give thanks for those who were able to find their way home, and I pray for the families of those whose loved ones are still missing."

Ravenstein added, "We see public support by those wearing hats commemorating World War II, Korean war, Viet Nam conflict, Desert Storm and other military hats.

We're thanked for our service, and

we appreciate that; but there are still thousands of 'unaccounted for' veterans. The Defense Department is working on locating these veterans; and until they do, it's important to remember them. Why? Because they're someone's father, mother, brother, sister, uncle or aunt. Yes, we have to include our female veterans on the missing list too."

Remembering women who served was part of the reason Melanie Gangloff rode as an independent. Being five foot, two inches tall didn't inhibit her passion for riding her custom built, royal blue motorcycle in support of this event.

"I served 27 years in the Army Reserves," Gangloff explained, "This ride is about supporting our troops, and I think the POW/MIA signs on the highway and bridge are a good way to bring awareness to the public that there are still brothers and sisters that haven't made it home. It's sad to imagine the turmoil that families go through, not knowing the status of their family member. So, anything that promotes visibility for this cause is good."

It's not just about veterans who served in the past as Gran reminds us of the two pilots who were recently shot down over Iran.

"They were missing in action for a couple of days," he said, "and was very real for their families.

We thank God that they made it home, when others haven't." Gran also helps put it into perspective for civilians who have never served.

"For civilians, if you want to know what it's like, think about how you'd feel if you went to the mall with your child and they came up missing. You'd panic. You'd wonder, "Where are they?

What's happening to them? Will I see them again? Will I find them?" Gran adds, "For some families, that's a reality that never ends.

They wonder about their loved one who is still missing in action. They may go to their grave never knowing. That's what makes it so important to honor their memory and show respect to their families."

Dave Blair served 3 years, active-duty Army, and is a member of ALR 40. As the oldest rider (just shy of 80 years old), he explains it from the active-duty perspective.

"We need to remember those who served their country and followed orders. Even though we, as military, may not have liked the orders, we did the job, and were respected for it when we did it well. Now we need to extend that respect to those who did what they were ordered to do and never came home. Civilians may not understand what a military person goes

through. There are racial problems in other countries. You deal with hatred from both sides, in foreign countries and with those at home who don't agree with military involvement (like in the Viet Nam conflict). It hurts when you remember your own personal experiences. Some found their way home, but we need to think of those who weren't fortunate enough to come home (like the ones remembered on the walls of VFW 7774."

Blair continues by saying, "We need to remember that veterans' lives have a purpose. So many vets don't feel like they have a purpose anymore. This ride gives them purpose. In honoring a man whose MIA by displaying their name on a highway sign and bridge, we're saying 'You are remembered. You are worthy Your life served a purpose."

Ravenstein, a minister in White City, brings it all together with his patriotic heart.

"You hear stories of families being reunited after fifty years. For that reason, we will never give up hope. I applaud the efforts of groups like the small-town VFW post in Wakefield and all The American Legion Riders for working to raise awareness and funds to remember our comrades that are still missing.

We're only a few thousand dollars short, of establishing a long-lasting memorial for our POW/MIAs. It's what we can do so families know that their loved ones are not forgotten."

And as Levi Olson, who served 21 years, U.S. Army and a member of VFW 7774, said, "I may not know someone personally who was or is a POW/MIA, but I have empathy for those who do."

he added, "The military has a long-standing tradition 'never to leave a fallen comrade.' That's why I'm riding. I feel like I'm supporting a very worthy cause on this POW/MIA memorial ride."

Eszter Blair, seven years active Army, eleven years Army Reserves, and treasurer of ALR 40, managed the funds for the POW/MIA Memorial Highway and Bridge event.

"Thirty-eight riders turned out and we raised \$1000 dollars. But we're working toward the final goal of \$3000. We'll get there," she said confidently.

"You don't have to personally know a POW/MIA veteran or be a rider to show support," she said, "If you want to support this cause, you can mail your contribution to VFW Post 7774, c/o

American Legion Riders Post 40, P.O. Box 162, Leonardville, KS 66449. Write on the memo line: for POW/MIA memorial highway."



Brandon & Gwendolyn Otter pair up as a father-daughter team in support of the POW/MIA Memorial Highway ride. Gwendolyn is the youngest rider (3rd generation biker) and learns what it means to remember military Prisoners of War and those still Missing In Action who served to preserve our freedom.



Melanie Gangloff, (5'2" tall), an independent rider, didn't let her height inhibit her passion for riding the open road. She, along with 38 other riders, showed their support for raising money to erect signs along Hwy 77 and the bridge over Milford Lake in remembrance of POWs and those who are still MIA.



John & Lori Reardon, husband-wife team, pair up for the POW/MIA Memorial Highway ride, while a couple of stow-aways, Pete the Dragon and Mookey Bear go along for the ride.



Traffic Control at an intersection as riders turn onto HWY 77 from Wakefield to Randolph during the POW/MIA Memorial Highway fund-raising ride on April 25, 2026.



Will Ravenstein assists in managing traffic to allow riders to stay together.



Dave Blair talks with another Legionnaire before they begin wheelin' down the road. What an ominous site for passersby, as awareness is raised in remembrance of POWs and those MIA.



Lookin' in my rearview mirror and what do I see? Men and women riding for a cause that's worthy. All gave some, some gave all, and some still have not made it home. That's why we ride—to make it known; the price of freedom isn't free—POWS/MIA, they're still paying the price for you and me.



Levi Olson pulls into our rest stop where all riders are served good food and enjoy fellowship among their comrades at arms: military vets and civilian supporters alike.



American Legion Riders, along with independent riders, joined forces on the ride to raise money for the POW/MIA Memorial Highway that stretches from Junction City to Randolph and Bridge Memorial over Milford Lake in Memory of Prisoners of War and those still Missing In Action.



Rollin' down the road, we make 'em aware; there are still military men and women missin' out there. Till we take our dyin' breath, we'll remember prisoners of war that ain't dead yet. They're missing in action; that means everything... to their families... and me to never give up hope for their return to the land of the free.



R-L: Dave Apgar-ALR 40, Harold Stafford-ALR 45, Eszter Blair, Warren Rogers, Andy Tripp & Bill Cooley, (ALR 40), and all the riders, enjoy bar-b-que provided by the North County Restaurant on the outskirts of Randolph, KS.

THANK YOU LILLIAN FOR SENDING US THIS STORY AND PHOTOS. ~Brandy S