



DICKINSON COUNTY NEWS-TIMES

Getting back to our roots



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THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA'S *Semiquincentennial*

DATA CENTER DISSCUSSION IN DICKINSON

Since my husband was diagnosed with a terminal brain disease, we have been traveling to see his battle buddies across the United States. We took a trip to California recently, going through Colorado and Utah. While going through Utah we hit a small town, quaint and quiet. This town was off of the Hwy 50 that runs through parts of Utah. I did not grab the name of it and our gas receipt on our bank statement did not show the name either.

The reason I bring this town up is there were two data centers being built right outside of the town and one mostly completed. It could have easily been one really big location. In the middle of the desert. Our gauges showed 101 degrees for the temp. Hot was an understatement. Why would they build data centers in the middle of the desert?

Knowing these data centers were trying to place locations in Kansas, I told my husband to let the car cool off under the overhang for a minute. Of course he immediately knew what I was up to, because he knows me that well. I asked people around the area about the data centers, and was able to get some honest

feedback from people living in the area. It took me about 45 minutes but that was enough to get the feel of the environment. Here is what I found out. The data centers were not in operation yet, however the effects were already taking place. The town had aqueducts that used to hold water for the community for farming. The aqueducts had been dried out since the completion of the first data center. Homes were going up for sale at a high rate due to water pressure in the town constantly lowering. One lady said that her cousin lives by a data center and now cannot use her water at all because it's contaminated. I asked "with what" and the lady replied "no one will tell them what it is". The cashier told me that she is moving "This town is dying and I have to go before the other locations are finished or I might not have enough money to do it". What about the jobs these places are supposed to create? The Cashier said the construction crew they used was not local and no one in the town has actually been hired in any part of the data center. (CONTINUED PG 4)

Meeting information:

***Blame it all on our roots
We showed up in boots
To defend our quality of life!***

Dickinson County Kansas
Planning Commission Meeting
Thursday, June 18, 2026
7:00 pm
Abilene KS

Request a copy of the agenda and confirm meeting location by calling Tim Hamilton: 785-263-4464

Submit written public comment by 6/17 to both:
THamilton@dkcoks.gov
AND
commission@dkcoks.gov

Our Rural Roots Run Deep

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Minutes

The Abilene Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution met on Tuesday, June 9th, at 10:00 am at the Old Shockey and Landes Building. Members present were Susan Bettles, Floy Bowers, Leesa Hettenbach, Marlene Howe, Joyce Latham, Judy Lynn and Michelle Stephens.

Michelle, Vice-Regent, called the meeting to order with the following opening rituals: Invocation by Marlene, Susan lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the US, Leesa began the Americans' Creed and The Star-Spangled banner was started by Michelle. Leesa said the President General's message was distributed with the May minutes. America 250! Moment was given by Leesa on general celebrations all across the country this year. For her DAR School Moment, she told about being a school teacher at Pioneer Camp. For National Defense, Marlene gave June 14th, Flag day holiday was established officially by President Woodrow Wilson in 1916 and signed by Congress in 1949, it celebrates the history and significance of the American Flag. For her Indian Moment she told about Grace Thorpe, youngest to the famed athlete Jim Thorpe. Father and daughter both attended Haskell Indian School in Kansas. When WWII began, she worked on aircraft assembly and after four months enlisted in the Women's Army Corps. After the war, Grace worked at General MacArthur's headquarters in Japan and eventually returned home to Oklahoma. Marlene's Conservation Moment was about sustainable travel when going on eco-friendly adventures. Sustainable travel isn't just about reducing harm, it is actively preserving nature's natural splendor. Michelle stated for a JAC Moment that the awards presentation was a success at St. Andrews Elementary School. A Flag Moment was given by Leesa about Flag Day. It celebrates the adoption of the official American Flag, which occurred on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. It honors the history, symbolism, and evolution of the "Stars and Stripes" as the national emblem of the United States.

Marlene made a motion to approve the minutes as distributed, Floy second, motion passed. Under new business, Michelle said July 1st at 11:00 am at the Eisenhower Library will be the next naturalization ceremony. A committee of Cassy, Leesa and Joyce was appointed to plan the July

28th CKFF parade float. Officer reports included Judy, Registrar, stating there is a prospective member's application at the State being reviewed before sending to National. This is new step in the process to help National approve the application quicker. Joyce gave a treasurer's balance and dues are due.

The program was on the DAR Insignia. The National Society formally adopted its distinctive Insignia badge and ribbon in 1891, and the original design has never changed. The badge itself was fashioned as a spinning wheel with thirteen spokes, thirteen stars, and a distaff filled with platinum flax. The accompanying ribbon commemorates the blue color of the Continental Army and, with the Insignia badge, served as the foundation for DAR members' unique sets of ribbons and pins. Cassy provided a handout for all members from National listing thirty-three Insignia Do's and Don'ts. A couple are "Do wear insignia and ribbons on left breast-the place of honor-and only at DAR functions or when representing the DAR" and "should you inherit a family member's pins, wear only those you have earned through your service/donation." Two Don'ts included "Don't wear the Insignia and ribbons on the street, in a restaurant, cocktail lounge or other public place unless a DAR or allied function is taking place then and there" and "Don't wear the Insignia and ribbons with jeans, shorts, tee shirts or other casual attire". Following the program, the meeting adjourned. Leesa Hettenbach, Recording Secretary



During Pioneer Camp at the DK CO Heritage Center, Leesa Hettenbach, was the one room school teacher. She is a member of the Abilene Chapter DAR, which promotes Educational, Historical and Patriotic activities. Also, they do Service to America which includes being involved in the community and volunteering. Her Leesa is with a group of students getting ready to head out for recess after they had their morning lessons of reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic.

Contact Information: Dickinson County News-Times
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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

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www.fbcherington.org

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Fr. Peter O'Donnell

 Marita Campbell,
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www.smchapmanparish.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sutphen Mill Christian Church
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10:30 a.m. Worship Service

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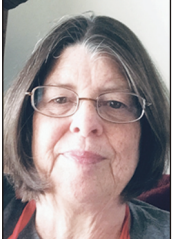
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Rev. Connie D. Wooldridge

Chapman United Methodist Church

PASTOR'S CORNER

I remember when our children were in elementary school and we first started hearing about something called Juneteenth. Feeling a bit clueless, I asked my friends and neighbors about it. They did not know any more than me. Now in 2026 we are called to recognize and commemorate June 19th as Juneteenth Freedom Day (it became a federal holiday in 2021). It's about time.

On the first day of January 1863 (163 years ago) President Abraham Lincoln announced that all enslaved people must be released to live as free people. It was two and one half years before enslaved people across Texas were finally released from those who had kept them as slaves. I didn't learn this because I was not adversely impacted by this history.

This is a year of celebration because 250 years ago the people of these United States declared their (and our) independence. What did they write? "We declare these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are en-

JUNETEENTH

dowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights..." We certainly have not always lived as if these words are true. We are not currently living as if these words are true.

My faith teaches that all people are created in the image of God; all are sparks of the Divine. My understanding of my citizenship teaches me that all are created equal. I am, however, a product of a world steeped in inequality. It is so much a part of our system that we may not even see it. I have not always recognized my privilege. I did not learn the Juneteenth history because it did not adversely affect my family. We did not come from Texas; we did not own slaves. We have, however, benefited in a world set up to give some an advantage and hold others back.

I think a good way to commemorate this holiday is first to acknowledge celebrate the ways in which we are doing better. I think it is also important to pay attention to the ways in which our system still fails to recognize the humanity of all people. I pray for courage and boldness to stand hand-in-hand with all people and work to enact the dream of equality once declared by our forbearers.



Mark Will
DCNT Columnist

THIS DAY IN THE HERINGTON TIMES

125 years ago – 1901
QUARANTINE LIFTED – The quarantine in Dickinson County was raised Tuesday and the county physician says that they have succeeded in stamping out the small-pox entirely. In Herington, we had it stamped out a couple of months ago, and there was no necessity at all in including us in the small-pox district. But the commissioners though best, it seems, to make the order general throughout the county. We now hope that every section of the county is clear of it and that should any be brought in from the outside, the proper authorities will nip it in the bud.

100 years ago – 1926
DRILLING IS RESUMED – Drilling was resumed at the Ballantyne oil well Tuesday of this week and Herington will know in a week or so whether it is an "oiler", a "gasser", or a "duster". Work was suspended on this well until some leases could be cleared up, and then it was necessary to wait a week to get hold of the same drillers who spudded it in. The Derby people announce that work will continue until they have an answer to the question.

75 years ago – 1951
THERE IS STILL MORE ROOM FOR SWIMMERS – Sam Klein, manager of the local swimming pool reports that 275 swimmers took the opportunity to swim on the opening day of June 17th. He reported that the management would like the cooperation of the swimmers in keeping the pool clean and using the receptacles in which to place their wastepaper, etc. Mrs. H. H. Tatge, chair of the Red Cross Swimming program reports

MARSHAL HART LAYS DOWN THE LAW

that they still have more room for enrollees in the intermediate classes. These classes will start each week or Herington enrollees. They would also like to start Junior and Senior Life Saving classes. Swimmers and Advanced Swimmers may pick up their enrollment cards at the swimming pool as soon as possible. In the classes already enrolled, there are between 25 and 30 from Woodbine, 40 beginners from Marion and between 45 and 50 beginners and intermediate swimmers from Herington.

50 years ago – 1976
MO-PAC GANG SETS WORK RECORD – Members of a Missouri Pacific Railroad tie-laying gang operating out of Herington recently established a new world's record for replacement of track ties in a single day. A record 4304 new ties were inserted during a one-day work period on May 27th on the main line and a siding near Delavan. The workmen posted the record by working a double-shift 16-hour day. A total of 46 men, including three supervisors participated in the railroading feat. The crew consisted of 18 machine operators, and 25 trackmen. Machines used included four spike pullers, fiver rail lifters, five tie removers, four tie handler cranes, for scarifiers, one tie injector, two tampers, for spikers and one track liner. The Missouri Pacific has been considered an industry leader for some time when it comes to speed in tie replacement programs.

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

Send your photos, stories, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and events to Dk.co.newstimes@gmail.com

VIEW FROM THE HILL- Scott Hill

Eighty-two years and counting

Reading the title, you might be wondering if I am much older than I look. The 82nd anniversary of this week has nothing to do with when I came into this world. It does have a great deal to do with the amazing country that we all live in. The many severe sacrifices made this week in 1944 changed the landscape of the world and propelled our country into the role of correcting wrongs worldwide. The Normandy invasion of France began in the early morning hours of June 6 eighty- two years ago. The leadership of General Dwight D. Eisenhower is well known on that infamous day. Another heroic central Kansan also participated in the "beginning of the end" for Hitler Europe. Two brothers from a farm near Junction City, Kansas, had already been fighting the Axis evil for several years by the time D-Day happened. Walter and Roland Ehlers were members of the Big Red One from Ft. Riley and fought in North Africa and Sicily before they boarded landing craft in England to begin the long road to Berlin.

Walter's leadership had caused him to be promoted to squad leader. When they landed at Normandy, his squad -- 3rd Squad, 3rd Platoon, Company L, 3rd Battalion, 18th Infantry -- stormed the beach and scaled the cliffs to take out German positions. In the ensuing two days, Walter was wounded while saving his unit from likely death at least twice with no thought for his own safety. He also carried a wounded fellow soldier to cover. The heroic behavior of Sergeant Ehlers not only propelled him to a Second Lieutenant promotion, but also the awarding of the Medal of Honor. The importance of remembering the sacrifices made on that day are summed up in Walter Ehlers' fiftieth anniversary speech made in front of Queen Elizabeth and President Clinton. Walter said in part: "I pray that the price we paid on this beach will never be mortgaged, that my grandsons and granddaughters will never face the terror and horror that we faced here," Ehlers said in his speech. "But they must know that without freedom there is no life, and that the things most worth living for

may, sometimes demand dying for." Walter died in 2014 after having a career of helping fellow veterans while working for the VA in California. At the time of his death, he was the only living Medal of Honor recipient left from the beaches of Normandy. When he talked about sacrifice, he had firsthand knowledge.

I have chronicled the heroism of Ehlers and how he helped to bring down the evil empire, but I haven't yet told the story of his brother Roland. While the 3rd Squad of the 3rd Platoon, Company L, 3rd Battalion, 18th Infantry was driving Hitler's troops from the cliffs overlooking Omaha beach, others had less success. Roland's squad was landing at the same time only to be hit by the very artillery that Walter was fighting to eliminate. The entire squad was instantly killed. Likewise, the sacrifice from that day must never be forgotten. I ask that you take a moment to reflect on the difference those soldiers made and live your life in gratitude.

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will be host to a **sealed bid** abandoned vehicle public auction. All bids will be accepted by Monday, June 22nd, 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 6/19/2026.

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AUCTION 

SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2026 • 10:00 A.M.
420 South D St • Herington, KS
OPEN HOUSE: June 19, 2026 • 5-7 P.M.

REAL ESTATE:
Description: Ranch style house on a nicely shaded corner lot. Spacious kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath and large living room with a fireplace. Large family room and full bath in the basement. 1848 sq. ft. Oversized detached garage, 45' x 24' and fenced backyard with deck. Lot size 75' x 140'. Hot water heater CA.
2025 Taxes: \$3,222.80
Terms: 10% earnest money due on the day of the auction. Balance due when merchantable title and Executors' deed are delivered. Closing on or before August 6, 2026. Property sells in As Is condition. All buyers' inspections are to be done prior to the auction. Broker and Auctioneers are representing the seller. For more information, contact Greg Hallgren, Broker and Auctioneer at 785-499-2897 or go to www.hallgrenauctions.net

FURNITURE & TOOLS:
Oak bedroom set with queen size bed and dresser - nice; Lazy Boy recliner; plaid love seat; trundle bed with brass frame; gentleman's chest; SS side by side refrigerator - nice; numerous occasional chairs; globe; several nice framed prints and paintings; maple hutch, tables, and chairs; globe; several nice framed prints and paintings; maple hutch with tables and chairs; floral sofa - extra-long; lift chair; pine hutch; wicker rocker; bar stools; toy chest; various glassware and kitchen items; potato bin; Somerset China; Roland keyboard; console stereo; music box; walnut curio cabinet - nice; filigree mirror; 2 vices; bench grinder; various hand tools; five point kerosene heater; misc. shop items.

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Friday, June 19: Cheeseburger on Bun, Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Bananas

Monday, June 22: Lasagna, Italian Vegetables, Peas, Fruit, Garlic Bread

Tuesday, June 23: Baked Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Broccoli / Cauliflower, Pineapple Tidbits, Oatmeal Raisin Cookie, Wheat Roll

Wednesday, June 24: Swiss Steak, Baked Potato, Strawberry Shortcake, Mixed Vegetables, Wheat Roll

Thursday, June 25: Taco Salad, Tortilla Chips, Garden Pasta Salad, Corn Salsa, Seasonal Fruit

Hilltop Community Center
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Friday, June 19: Breakfast Burritos, Hash-brown Casserole, Blueberry Muffins, Milk

Monday, June 22: Lasagna, Italian Blend Vegetables, Fruit, Garlic Cheesy Bread, Milk

Tuesday, June 23: BBQ Baked Chicken, Pasta Salad, Coleslaw, Bread, Fruit, Milk

Wednesday, June 24: Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Roll, Strawberry Shortcake, Milk

Thursday, June 25: Taco Salad, Tortilla Chips, Spanish, Rice, Corn Salsa, Fruit, Milk

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In Kansas, rural communities are losing population to the urban areas. This population shift is contributing to tension between small towns and the politically powerful big cities. Transitioning to a judicial election system will exacerbate this problem.

Under the current selection process, when a seat on the Supreme Court becomes vacant, lawyers and judges from all corners of Kansas apply for the position. A commission of legal professionals and average citizens from each congressional district conducts a rigorous hiring process. Members of this commission hail from towns as small as Bartlett, with a population of 69, to the state’s largest city, Wichita. The commission recommends three candidates to the governor, who then appoints one to the bench.

What has resulted from the geographic diversity on the nominating commission is a Kansas Supreme Court that is also geographically diverse. Here are the hometowns of the current justices: Lawrence (2), Leawood, Topeka, El Dorado, Goodland, and Scott City.

If voters approve Senate Concurrent Resolution 1611 (SCR 1611) on August 4th, it will be harder for Kansans from small towns to serve on the Supreme Court. Of the 32 candidates running for statewide office this year, 25 come from the five largest counties—Douglas, Johnson, Sedgwick, Shawnee, and Wyandotte. Statewide judicial campaigns will reward population centers at the expense of rural Kansas.

To protect the balance between small town and big city representation on the Kansas Supreme Court, vote NO on SCR 1611 (Elected Judges) on August 4th, 2026.

Kelm Lear
Manhattan, KS 66502

In 1966 the United States was declared totally free of screwworm infestation, a terrible scourge of livestock. In early 2025 under the term of trump's Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins the USAID program for the monitoring and control and tracking of the spread of screwworms in central America was TOTALLY TERMINATED. This program was one of the reasons we had been free of screwworms for 60 years. Also, under her term in early 2025 the USDA's Animal & Plant Health Inspector Service lost 1/4 of their work force. One of the responsibilities of APHIS was to do inspections to help prevent screwworms from entering the United States. This was another program that helped keep us free of screwworms. And in February of 2025 she allowed the importation of live cattle from Mexico which increased the chances of screwworms entering the United States. At the time none of our trump-enabling congressmen raised any objections to any of these 3 acts. In fact, senator Marshall praised the termination of the USAID program calling it wasteful and fraudulent (he has not called the gold-gilding of statues in DC wasteful). Now after 60 years we have a screwworm infestation in Texas. The response of Secretary Rollins and Marshall has been to blame Biden! Our trump-enabling congressmen are all praising Secretary Rollins for now stopping the importation of the cattle which she authorized, and they are all calling for more funding and action to stop the infestations when they stayed silent when the preventative programs were terminated or reduced. 4 of these congressmen, Marshall, Mann, Estes & Schmidt are up for reelection in November. When you go to vote remember what they did and did not do.

Ron Svaty, Ellsworth, Kansas 67439

VAN YANDELL
FREEDOM AND TO BE AN AMERICAN

FREEDOM AND TO BE AN AMERICAN

Matthew 24: 14 “And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.”

“Oh, The Places You’ll Go.” (Dr. Seuss). Working in missions where tourists rarely go has afforded me the privilege of seeing living conditions, meeting people and experiencing the foods few Americans have had as a tourist. Being there and witnessing such conditions makes me glad I was born in America.

In the Himalaya I saw where people lived in caves. In Sub-Saharan Africa, to sit and discuss the Gospel of Christ with people in their yard, in front of a mud hut with a grass roof and dirt floor produced a permanent memory.

In Africa and South America, it is not unusual to see people living under old car hoods, in houses built with sheet metal from burnt buildings or mud houses on mountain sides that could wash away the next big rain. To realize millions of children go to bed hungry every night is heart breaking. Infant mortality rate is still very high in many areas of the world.

Many children have never seen a mattress or a pillow. Sleep every night is on a dirt floor with no pad or cover. A dozen people may sleep in a room the size of an American bathroom and to be sheltered out of the rain or cold is impossible for many.

Going to bed cold and hungry is not a condition any child or adult, should have to experience. But it is more common than we may think.

In communist countries people have only what the government hierarchy deems necessary. Not having tools to work with or a hardware store or lumber supply to purchase materials limits capabilities. While government hierarchy eat steak and lobster, ordinary citizens live on rice and beans.

I’ve had conversations with witch doctors, Maasai tribesmen and Kikuku farmers. Talking to people of other cultures about our precious Savior Jesus is a great privilege. God has blessed us with.

Sitting in an African village and being offered a meal of ugali (thick corn meal mixture) or githeri (corn, beans and rice combination) was an honor. To be told karibuni (welcome) when we entered their villages made us very comfortable.

The wazungu (white man) was an unusual sight for many of the children. They were not shy at all and crowd around me like I was a rare site, which to them, I was.

Many Americans haven’t a clue what we have here. Millions of people in this world only have access to food they can grow or in some way produce themselves. There are no grocery markets to go to on a whim to procure something different for dinner.

In the case of a drought, many starve. The predictions of Jesus in Matthew 24: 6 are happening in our world today. “For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.”

One source tells us 25,000 people die of starvation or

nutritionally related conditions every single day; another reference states as many as 60,000.

Famines as stated by Jesus nearly 2000 years ago are happening right now. Pestilences such as covid, ebola and the other viruses are infecting humanity at alarming rates.

People in many parts of the world are dying of curable diseases. While medicines exist as cures, many have no access to those and governments make no efforts to secure them. Jesus said “nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.” Wars are killing thousands of innocent people in many places. All in all, we are witnessing Bible prophesy happening.

America has not seen a major war fought on this soil since the first American Civil War. Of course we’ve experienced the 9/11 terrorist attacks, but wars such as Vietnam, WWI and II have not come to our land.

When Americans think about what is happening as well as what is not happening, we live in the safest, most secure and strongest country in the world.

We have freedoms that millions can only dream of. While we have the American dream, their dream is to come to America or for their country to become like America.

We have our Bill of Rights securing freedom of the press, speech, religion and assembly. Those among other freedoms provide us with a greater freedom. That is the freedom of opportunity.

The right to educate ourselves, to capitalize, to come

and go as we please and to speak freely our opinions, are freedoms many of the over eight billion on planet earth do not have.

The Fourth of July is nearly here. It is time to celebrate 250 years of freedom and opportunity. We must not sit idly by and let the purveyors of bondage destroy us.

An Irish philosopher, Edmund Burke said, “When good men do nothing, evil triumphs.” This has never been truer than in America today.

Nikita Khrushchev said “you will destroy yourselves.” Ronald Reagan said “Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn’t pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same.”

Yes, America is a great nation, but with so many within intent on destroying her and few left to defend the true and original America, what will we be in twenty years?

Celebrating 250 years is a significant milestone. Our faith in country and God is paramount in our values and actions. We must also remember America was founded upon freedom of religion and that religion was Christianity.

We must teach the only eternal salvation is a faith based belied in Christ Jesus crucified for the remission of sin and resurrected.

Van Yandell is a retired industrial arts teacher, an ordained gospel evangelist and commissioned missionary.

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WHAT'S UP

Herington Public Library
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Phone: 785-258-2011
Email: director@heringtonlibrary.org
Webpage: herington.lib.nckls.org

at the LIBRARY

June 2026

LIBRARY Events

Summer Library Programs kicked off June 4 in the library basement. The first day was Dinosaur Day. Young children made mini dino lamps and the older children created dino terrariums.

The June 11 session is bound to be messy so wear old clothes. Youngsters will be painting with dirt, courtesy of the Dickinson County Conservation Service. The next session will be a surprise from the county Extension service and June 25 is searching for treasure with metal detectors.

July 2 is Red/White/Blue Day to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the USA.

Additional pop-up programs will be offered over the summer months. Watch for announcements!

NEW Books on order

- Road Trip by Mary Kay Andrews
- A Dark Path by Linda Castillo
- Ironwood by Michael Connelly
- Sing the 50 Unite States by Dr. Seuss
- Murder by Design by Lee Goldberg
- Meet Me in Paris by Kristin Harmel
- Duck & Goose, Honk! Quack! Boo! by Tad Hill
- Sleepless by Gordon Korman
- The Divorce by Freida McFadden
- Diamond Fever by Steve Sheinkin
- This Could All Go Bad by Spencer Hall
- Daughters of the Sun and Moon by Lisa See
- Jia Has a Dog Problem by Stephanie Allen Sy

Mark Your CALENDAR

Thur., June 4th Rotating books are exchanged
Tue., June 9th Board meeting - 4:30 PM held in the basement

Summer Program every Thursday in June at 9:00 AM & 10 AM

NOTIFICATIONS

North Central Kansas Libraries
Announce Summer "Public Library Crawl"
Celebrating America 250 * June 1 - July 31

Libraries across North Central Kansas are launching a region-wide Public Library Crawl in celebration of America 250. The summer initiative invites community members to explore local libraries while discovering the unique stories and history that shape each town.

Participants are encouraged to visit each library on the official crawl list. Every stop earns one entry into a regional prize drawing, and completing the full crawl awards an additional ten bonus entries.

At each location, visitors can scan a QR code and answer a library-specific history question or identify a special password to qualify for the drawing.

Winners will be selected on August 5, with multiple prizes awarded.

The Public Library Crawl is sponsored by the Marysville Public Library and the North Central Kansas Library System. For more information, contact director@marysvillepubliclibrary.org.



FRANK MEYER
Jan. 30, 1939-June 13, 2026

Frank Meyer, formerly of Herington and a resident of Salina since June 2025, passed away on June 13, 2026, at the age of 87.

Born on January 30, 1939, and raised on the family farm south of Latimer, Kansas, Frank was the son of A.W. and Lydia (Harmon) Meyer.

Frank attended country school near Latimer before continuing his education in Herington. He was baptized and confirmed at Zion Lutheran Church in Latimer and remained active in Lutheran church life throughout his years.

As a young adult, Frank served in leadership roles within the Lutheran Walther League, including as Kansas District President. Through his church involvement, he met Shirley Faulk of Salina, who became the love of his life. They were married in 1964 and shared 61 years of marriage and faithful partnership.

Frank proudly served his country in the Kansas Army National Guard during the Vietnam era. Following Basic Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, he attended the Army Ordnance Welding School at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, where he graduated with honors. He continued his National Guard service for six years.

Following his military service, Frank farmed near Latimer and worked at Ehrsam & Sons Manufacturing Company in Abilene. Frustrated with throwing hay bales by hand, he designed and patented an eight-bale hay accumulator, an invention that reflected the ingenuity and problem-solving mindset that would later lead him to found his own company.

In 1977, Frank and Shirley founded CMF (Custom Metal Fabricators, Inc.—or “Couldn’t Make It Farming,” depending on whom you asked) in Herington. The company remains family-owned and operated by the second and third generations. Frank’s strong work ethic and commitment to quality helped build a successful business and lasting legacy.

Beyond his business accomplishments, Frank was deeply committed to serving his church, community, and state. He taught and held numerous leadership positions within the Lutheran Church, served on the Board of Directors for Camp Tomah Shinga, and was a member of the Herington Public School Board of Education. He was appointed by the Governor of Kansas to the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Commission and served as Chairman of the Board of the Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry. He also helped establish the Mid-America Manufacturing Technology Center at Kansas State University and served on its board. Throughout his life, Frank received numerous honors and awards in recognition of his leadership, service, and contributions to Kansas industry and community development.

Known for his quiet leadership, unwavering faith, and devotion to family, Frank embodied the values of hard work and service passed down through generations. He took great pride in sharing family history and life lessons with his children and grandchildren. He will be remembered for his integrity, kindness, sense of humor, and steadfast example.

Frank is survived by his beloved wife, Shirley; children Paul (Sandy) Meyer and Ben (Kristi) Meyer, both of Herington, Kathy (John) Fennell of Fort Collins, Colorado, Kris (Ed) Neff of Salina, and Philip (Tabitha) Meyer of Fairway, Kansas; and niece Heidi Brown (Howard Glanton) of Salina.

He is also survived by grandchildren Jerico (Layla) Meyer, Mindy (Eric) Kirk, Jake (Haley) Meyer, Cara (Anthony) Gutsch, Abigail Fennell (Matt Stephens), Rachel (Andy) Chapman, Laura Neff, John Neff, Sam Neff, Milly Meyer, Teddy Meyer, Lucy Meyer, Gabe Grant, Elias (Sadie) Grant, Noah Grant, and Sarah Brown; great-grandchildren Haley (Trenton) Milsbaugh, Gracie Meyer, Annalee Meyer, Wylie Meyer, Priest Kirk, Sentry Kirk, Harper Gutsch, Hudson Meyer, Aidan Chapman, Preston Chapman, Coleman Grant, and Scottie Grant; and great-great-grandson Colter Milsbaugh.

He was preceded in death by his parents; siblings Marjorie Beasley, Bill Meyer, and John Meyer; and other loved ones who welcomed him into eternal life.

The family takes comfort in knowing that Frank’s steadfast faith sustained him throughout his life and now carries him home to the Lord he faithfully served.

Funeral services will be held at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 743 E. Magnolia Road, Salina, Kansas, on Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., with a luncheon and celebration to follow. Inurnment will take place at 2:00 p.m. at Zion Latimer Cemetery, 896 2825 Road, Herington, Kansas.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Frank & Shirley Meyer Scholarship Fund, c/o Community Foundation of Dickinson County, 201 NW 2nd St., Suite B, Abilene, KS 67410.

SEND YOUR STORIES TO DK.CO.NEWSTIMES@GMAIL.COM

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

4H MINUTES

Holland Sunflowers APRIL

The monthly meeting of the Holland Sunflowers came to order on April 13th at 7:00 pm at Sterl Hall. The meeting was called to order by President Carleigh Abeldt. This was an exchange meeting with the Willowdale 4-H club. An exchange meeting is when we meet at the same time and place with another club and we would take turns going through our meeting agenda. The goal of an exchange meeting is to learn new ways to conduct our meeting while sharing new ideas with a fellow club.

To begin our meeting, flag salute and 4-H pledge were led by Lucy Barton, Savanah Smiley, and Kyser Brownback. Roll call was answered by the question: How many pieces of candy are in this jar? It was answered by 26 members, two leaders, and numerous parents and guests.

During the program a member of the month talk was given by Judah Hedstrom. Carleigh Abeldt gave a project talk about the proper use of a photo jig and how to mount your photos for the fair. Colton and Cohen Abeldt about gave a joint project talk about what can be made from sheep. Kody Bogart gave a project talk about his woodworking project. A health and safety tip was given by Ava Hedstrom explaining safety while working in the kitchen. Recreation leader Cora Hedstrom led the club in playing ships and sailors. Refreshments were then served.

Treasurer, Steven Bogart, gave a report as well as Council Rep Ava Hedstrom. Leader Jo Emig gave a leader’s report reminding us that YQCA training was coming up soon as well as the Abilene marathon in which we will set up a snack table for the runners. Then our other leader Bailey Hedstrom told us about 4-H Discovery Days and reminded us that any 4-H volunteers need to complete their volunteer screening. Then the Neighbor to Neighbor and Cemetery committees both gave reports. In new business we moved to pay the bills for the mulch we spread at Brown’s Home and to paint a trashcan again this year for the Central Kansas Free Fair. Announcements were given by club leaders. We adjourned the meeting by standing and reciting the 4-H motto: To Make the Best Better.

Holland Sunflowers May

The monthly meeting of the Holland Sunflowers 4-H came to order on May 24, 2026 at Rural Center Elementary School at 7:00 PM. It was called to order by President Carleigh Abeldt. The Pledge of Allegiance and 4-H Pledge were led by Autumn Felbush and Colten Abeldt. Roll call was answered by the question: Would you rather wake up early every morning or go to bed late every night? it was answered by 15 members, 2 Leaders, and numerous parents and guests.

During the program Lucy Barton gave a Health and Safety tip on how to protect your skin when you are outside this summer. Cora Hedstrom led the club in playing a game where you had to balance a plastic cup in one hand while trying to knock down other people’s cups with a pool noodle.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved by the secretary, Ava Hedstrom. She also read one thank you note. Reporter and Council Rep, Autumn Felbush, gave reports. Leader Bailey Hedstrom gave a report and told us we will do a cookie jar for the livestock premium sale at CKFF this summer. Leader Jo Emig also gave a leader’s report thanking all the members who helped with the snack table for the Abilene Marathon. The cemetery committee presented a bill and the trash can committee reported that we will paint a trashcan for CKFF at the Hedstrom’s house at the end of June. They need ideas for how to paint it which will go with the fair theme: “Let Freedom Ring”. In new business, we nominated Carleigh Abeldt for CKFF queen and moved to have a club pool party this summer.

The meeting came to a close and we adjourned the meeting by standing and reciting the 4-H motto: To Make the Best Better.

The Jolly Jayhawkers 4-H Club met on May 10 with President Adeline presiding. The Flag Salute and 4-H Pledge were led by Korbin and Josh, and Emery led the club in singing "Alice the Camel." Roll call, “What is your favorite soda or drink?” was answered by 10 members, 6 Cloverbuds, and 2 leaders. During officer reports, Treasurer Korbin gave the treasurer’s report. Reporter Addison reported that club news had been submitted and published, and the council representatives shared information about upcoming county 4-H activities. Members selected Addison as the Central Kansas Free Fair queen candidate and Korbin as the king candidate. The club also voted to host the Fourth of July games and provide pizza for the exchange meeting. For the program, Jill presented information about ZBooks and how they work. Kinsey shared a talk on lessons learned from the beef industry, and Addison spoke about increasing cattle markets and their effect on the industry. Recreation was led by Whitaker with a game of Color Tag. The meeting concluded with announcements from Vice President Kinsey and the club motto.

The monthly meeting of the Chapman Shamrocks 4-H club was held on May 24th at 6:30 at Sheeran Park. The meeting was called the Order by President Claire Rock. Secretary Elle Spohn called roll, what is your favorite vegetable where there were 13 members 1 guest 1 leader and 10 parents. Maddie led the Pledge of Allegiance and the 4-H Pledge. Secretary Elle Spohn read the minutes of the last meeting, and Treasurer Riley Harris reported the club's balance. The club's ceremony was celebrating the club’s May birthdays. Riley Harris had an excellent program on Rhode Island Red Chickens. Recreation Leader Mac Moody and Hadley Havercamp led the group in an animal relay. The club adjourned the meeting by saying the 4-H motto to make the best better.

-Ike Moody 785 307 9908

Legal Notice

(First Published in Dickinson County News Times on Wednesday, June 3, 2026)

Darren Denter sentenced 36 Months for possession of paraphernalia w/intent to use for planting, growing, etc, any contrlld sub 5 or more plants, and distribution/possession with intent to distribute marijuana at least 25g less than 450g in Dickinson County, Kansas, has applied for executive clemency. Persons wishing to comment should send information in writing to below address within fifteen (15) days after the date of publication.

Kansas Department of Corrections
Prisoner Review Board
Jayhawk Walk
714 SW Jackson, Suite 300
Topeka, KS 66603

PUPPIES

Free male & female AKC registered yorkies puppies need a sweet/ loving home if interested contact BarbaraShaffalo1001@hotmail.com

Galen Schneider
Galen passed away on Sunday June 14th, 2026. His funeral will be Saturday June 20th, 2026 at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Herington. Visitation will be at 9am and Services will be at 10am.

POLICE NEWS RELEASE

On Friday, June 5th, 2026 the Abilene Police Department began investigating a missing person case involving 26-year-old Dominick Campbell of Abilene. Campbell was last heard from on June 3rd, 2026.

On Tuesday, June 16th, 2026, deputies with the Dickinson County Sheriff’s Office responded to an area in the 200 block of West Fourth Street in Solomon, Kansas for a report of a dead body.

Deputies located a deceased male on the ground behind a former grain elevator. The deceased male has been identified as Dominick Campbell.

No foul play is suspected, and no additional information will be released at this time.

Released approved by Chief Jason Wilkins



Berry pie bars mimic a great, fruit pie taste without having to roll out any dough. While the original recipe called for blackberries, it’s delicious to use raspberries or mulberries, too. Don’t have the right fruit? Your ingredients may ‘berry’

In one of our first shopping trips together over 20 years ago, I remember Joey grabbing a bottle of ketchup off the end cap at the grocery store. “Whoa,” I said. “Why are you buying the expensive ketchup?” He looked perplexed. And that was the day I probably made my then-boyfriend reconsider his relationship choices by explaining unit pricing to him. Nowadays, he’s an expert at it. (I’d like to think I helped him grow as a person.) I thought about that when I went to pick up blackberries for this week’s recipe and

added just a little extra vanilla in my version.

Berry Pie Bars

Crust Ingredients

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- zest from one lemon
- 1 cup cold butter, cut into pieces
- 1 large egg
- 3 teaspoons vanilla extract

Filling Ingredients

- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 4 teaspoons cornstarch
- juice from one lemon
- 4 cups fresh raspberries/blackberries/mulberries

Directions

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees, and prepare a nine-by-13-inch baking pan by coating the inside with butter or cooking

SpiceUpYourLife-BerryPieBars

Lindsey Young

figured out that the Craspberries were much, much cheaper that week. I decided to pivot from the original ingredients list and see what happened. And, thank goodness, theyCwere awesome. This comes from the blog “The Novice Chef.” You can find the original recipe at <https://thenovicechefblog.com/blackberry-pie-bars/>. I switched out the kind of fruit and

spray. Set it aside. To make the crust and topping, add the dry ingredients to a food processor, along with the zest, and pulse to combine. Add the butter, egg and vanilla, and pulse until everything it well-distributed and forms large crumbs. Press half of the mixture evenly into the bottom of the baking pan. For the filling, add the sugar, cornstarch and lemon juice to a bowl, and stir to combine. Gently fold in the berries, being sure to coat them all in the mixture, and then carefully distribute them into the baking pan. Finish by evenly crumbling the rest of the dough mixture over the top of the berries. (You won’t have full coverage. It’s OK for some of the fruit to be peeking out.) Bake for 45 minutes or until the topping is lightly browned and the fruit is bubbly. Let the bars cool completely before slicing and serving. Store any leftovers in an airtight container. We enjoyed these at a cook-out, and I came home with just crumbs in my pan afterwards. They were a huge hit. The raspberries were perfect in this, and I think blackberries or even mulberries would be good in there, too. They were buttery and sweet and great for a summer dessert. And I was able to save a few dollars at my local grocery store, while making something really delicious. For me, that was a definite win-win. 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

“Don’t Rub Your Eyes!”

By Dr. Vance Thompson

Keratoconus is one of the most important eye diseases for parents, teachers, coaches, and adults to understand because, if caught early, we now have the ability to help save vision and reduce the chance of future corneal transplantation. One of the most overlooked contributors to this disease is something many people do every single day without thinking about it: rubbing their eyes. People often do not realize how much repetitive eye rubbing can damage the eye. When we rub our eyes, we are pushing on the eyeball and especially on the cornea, the clear front window of the eye that provides most of the eye’s focusing power. Over time, repeated pressure can weaken this delicate structure. For many people, rubbing begins innocently because their eyes itch from allergies, dryness, or irritation. Unfortunately, rubbing can become habitual. Patients often push harder and harder over time to achieve the same temporary feeling of relief, without realizing they may be harming their vision. In some individuals, especially those genetically predisposed, repeated rubbing or pressure can contribute to the development or progression of keratoconus. Keratoconus

occurs when the cornea becomes weakened and begins to thin and bulge outward into a cone-like shape. When this happens, light no longer focuses properly, leading to blurred vision, increasing astigmatism, glare, halos, ghosting, and progressive visual distortion. If left untreated, severe cases can eventually require corneal transplantation. Eye rubbing is not the only source of pressure. We also see damage from what some doctors call “pillow diving,” where patients press their eye into a pillow while sleeping, particularly stomach sleepers or side sleepers. Sometimes we see one eye with very little astigmatism and the other eye with a large amount, and the patient will tell us that the worse eye is the one they constantly rub or sleep on against the pillow. Many patients later say, “I wish someone had warned me earlier.” Children are especially important to watch because keratoconus often begins during the teenage years and can progress rapidly in younger patients. Parents may notice frequent eye rubbing, squinting, changing glasses prescriptions, headaches, or declining school performance related to vision. Kids with allergies are particularly at risk because

itchy eyes drive the urge to rub. Treating allergies and dry eye disease early can help reduce this cycle. That is why comprehensive eye examinations are so important. Modern corneal imaging called corneal topography allows eye doctors to map the shape of the cornea and detect early keratoconus, sometimes even before vision becomes severely affected. Detecting the disease early can be life changing. One of the greatest advances in eye care has been corneal crosslinking. In this treatment, riboflavin (vitamin B2) eye drops and ultraviolet light are used to strengthen and stabilize the cornea. Crosslinking does not simply treat symptoms, it addresses the underlying weakness of the cornea itself. When performed early, especially in children and young adults, it can dramatically reduce progression and lessen the likelihood of needing a corneal transplant later in life. It is very important to stop rubbing your eyes, treat the underlying causes of itching, and make sure children and adults at risk are screened for keratoconus. Early detection and modern treatments like crosslinking are helping preserve vision for an entire generation of patients.

A Gregory, South Dakota native, Vance Thompson, MD has been Refractive, Corneal, and Cataract surgery in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, the state he grew up in, since 1991. He is an internationally recognized specialist in refractive corneal laser, phakic IOL, and lens replacement surgery. He is the Founder of Vance Thompson Vision Sioux Falls, SD which has grown to serve the mid and mountain west with nine locations. Dr. Thompson also serves as a Professor of Ophthalmology at the Sanford USD School of Medicine. As a leading international researcher, he has played a key role in the development of the most advanced technologies and techniques for both laser and implant vision correction. He has served as the medical monitor or principal investigator in over 130 FDA monitored research trials studying laser and implant surgery. 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).

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