

How Abilene honored Marshall Tom Smith 100-some years ago

By Karman Diehl DCHS

The Dickinson County Historical Society's Memories of the Prairie program Saturday, July 12 will be a presentation of the program that honored the late Marshall Tom Smith.

In 1870, when Tom Smith was hired to be the town marshall, Abilene had the history of being a rough cowtown. Marshall Smith did

not use guns to calm the town; he used his fists.

On Saturday, James Holland will portray Abilene's first mayor T.C. Henry and talk about what the town of Abilene did to honor Smith and the 1904 dedication in the Abilene cemetery.

The Dickinson County Heritage Center is located at 412 S. Campbell St. in Abilene. The doors will open at 6:30 p.m. with the presentation beginning at 7 p.m.

Rutz- Ryff reunion Saturday

The annual Rutz-Ryff reunion is scheduled for July 12, 2025 at the Abilene Recreation Center.

Please bring a meat dish and a side dish.

New initiative looks to expand dental care to Kansans with disabilities

TOPEKA — Pathways to Oral Health, a new statewide initiative and online resource hub, has launched to improve access to dental care for Kansans with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Backed by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment Division of Health Care Finance and in partnership with all three KanCare managed care organizations, the program offers tools and support to reduce barriers and foster more inclusive dental care across the state.

A centerpiece of the initiative is the My Dental Care Passport, a free, customizable tool that allows patients or caregivers to share key preferences and needs with dental teams—such as communication styles, sensory sensitivities, or mobility support. The My Dental Care Passport helps reduce anxiety and supports smoother, more personalized visits.

Pathways to Oral Health also provides resources for dental providers, including step-by-step KanCare enrollment guidance, educational tools, and direct assistance through a dedicated Dental Medicaid Facilitator.

This concierge-style support simplifies processes, debunks Medicaid myths, and encourages sustainable practice growth by helping providers confidently serve Medicaid patients with disabilities.

“This is about dignity, access and health,” said Tanya Dorf Brunner, executive director of Oral Health Kansas. “With tools like the Passport and a dedicated support system for providers, we’re building stronger bridges between patients and the dental teams who care for them.”

To get involved or download the My Dental Care Passport, visit www.pathwaystooralhealth.org.



Courtesy photo

Community meal serves hundreds twice a month

Debbie Howie spoke at the Abilene Christian Women's Connection meeting recently, telling of the Community Meals offered two Mondays a month at the Community Bible Church. Eight churches participate in providing these free meals which serves hundreds of people each time. Over 14,000 meals were served in 2024.

Moon

Continued from Page 1

illumination. The night of Wednesday, July 9 will also be clear and humid, AccuWeather reports, and the night of Friday, July 11 will be “mostly cloudy and very humid with a couple of thunderstorms.”

The moon will rise above Wichita at 9:18 p.m. July 10, according to online clock Time and Date. When to see more full moons in 2025

After the buck moon, stargazers will have five more opportunities to see a full moon this year. Here's when to look, from Astronomy.com:

Saturday, Aug. 9: Sturgeon moon*
Sunday, Sept. 7: Corn moon*
Monday, Oct. 6: Hunter's moon (super-moon)*
Wednesday, Nov. 5: Beaver moon (super-moon)*
Thursday, Dec. 4: Cold moon (supermoon)

The Kansas Astronomical Observers will host its next monthly meeting from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, July 19, outside Lake Afton Public Observatory with announcements and stargazing, weather-permitting.

LEGAL S

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF DICKINSON COUNTY, KANSAS (Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 60 and 79)

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DICKINSON COUNTY, KANSAS,) Plaintiff,) vs.) Case No. DK-2024-CV-000108

(1) STEVEN D. ALBRECHT and RHONDA) ALBRECHT, owners of record,) BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DICKINSON COUNTY (23CV4), interested party,)

(2) MARIUS J. BLEDSOE AND RUTH M.) BLEDSOE, owners of record,) LIEN FILED BY ENTERPRISE ESTATES) NURSING CENTER (DK23SL1), interested party,) TRANSFER ON DEATH DEED (D249P257) KAYLA) M. HANNAH, CHRISTINA L.LITZ, JIMMIE D.) LITZ, interested parties,)

(3) MARIUS J. BLEDSOE AND RUTH M.) BLEDSOE, owners of record,) LIEN FILED BY ENTERPRISE ESTATES) NURSING CENTER (DK23SL1), interested party,) TRANSFER ON DEATH DEED (D249P257) KAYLA) M. HANNAH, CHRISTINA L.LITZ, JIMMIE D.) LITZ, interested parties,)

(4) L. BLIXT LANDFILL, INC., owners of record,) KANSAS STATE TAX LIENS (DK22ST98),) (DK23ST28), interested party,)

(5) BLIXT LANDFILL, INC. owners of record,) KANSAS STATE TAX LIENS (DK22ST98),) (DK23ST28), interested party,)

(6) BLIXT LANDFILL, INC., owners of record,) KANSAS STATE TAX LI-

ENS (DK22ST98),) (DK23ST28), interested party,)

(7) ADAN CARVAJAL, owners of record,) KANSAS STATE TAX LIEN (18ST93), interested party,)

(8) PABLO CARVAJAL and FARRAH N.) CARVAJAL and ISIDRO CARVAJAL and) YOSELIN CARVAJAL and ADAN CARVAJAL) and LORENA CARVAJAL, owners of record,)

(9) CEDAR RIDGE ESTATES, LLC, owner of record,) DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF) ABILENE, KANSAS (Z263-572), interested party,)

(10) CEDAR RIDGE ESTATES, LLC, owner of record,) DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF) ABILENE, KANSAS (Z263-572), interested party,)

(11) CEDAR RIDGE ESTATES, LLC, owner of record,) DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF) ABILENE, KANSAS (Z263-572), interested party,)

(12) ROBERT L. COCHRAN and THE HEIRS and) DEWISEES OF ROBERT L. COCHRAN,) owners of record,)

(13) THE HEIRS and DEWISEES OF CHARLES) DOUGHERTY, deceased, owner of record,) LIEN OF ASSESSMENTS CITY OF ABILENE,) KANSAS, interested party,)

(14) ERVIN FAMILY TRUST, owners of record,)

(15) DREW Q. FLYNN, owner of record,)

(16) DONALD K. GAITHER and DANA LOROFF,) GAITHER, owners of record,) MEDICAL ASSISTANCE LIEN FILED BY) KANSAS DEPT. OF HEALTH and ENVIRONMENT,) (Z306-904) and (U2020-2) interested party,)

Legal continued to Page 6

Internship or Exploitation? Attorney warns young Kansans of summer internship red flags

Bisnar Chase

As thousands of students and recent grads across Kansas take on summer internships, nationally recognized attorney Brian Chase of Bisnar Chase is sounding the alarm: some internships aren't stepping stones — they're legal minefields in disguise.

“Interns are often told to be grateful for the experience,” says Chase, “but too often, they’re delivering real value to a company and getting nothing in return — not even proper training. That’s not an internship. That’s exploitation.”

Internships have long been considered a rite of passage for young professionals, especially in competitive industries.

But the rise of unpaid or vaguely defined roles has raised concerns — not just among career advisors, but legal experts too.

“In the eyes of the law, there’s a difference between shadowing a team and becoming a free extension of it,” Chase explains.

“If you’re generating content, managing client accounts or working unsupervised on high-stakes tasks, you’re not interning — you’re working.”

5 red flags that could signal a

problem

To help Kansas students avoid legal and ethical pitfalls, Brian Chase is highlighting five key red flags to watch for before accepting - or continuing - a summer internship:

1. No clear job description
A legitimate internship should have a defined learning plan. If you're told to “wear many hats” or “figure it out as you go,” beware.
2. Unpaid with no structured learning
Labor laws allow unpaid internships only under specific conditions, including that the experience benefits the intern more than the employer.
If you're doing repetitive, menial work or lack mentorship, that balance is likely off.
3. You're doing the job of a regular employee
Interns can support teams, not replace them. If you're writing proposals, handling customers, or being left in charge, it's not legal unless you're paid.
4. Lack of mentorship or real guidance
If no one's checking in on your progress or offering feedback, that's a problem. Interns should have someone to turn to, ask questions, and learn from.
Being left to “figure it out” might sound empowering,

ing, but in reality, it usually means the company isn't invested in your development.

5. Unreasonable time demands or vague promises
Being asked to stay late, work weekends, or put in extra hours to “prove yourself” can be a sign that the role is more about filling gaps than supporting your growth.
If you're working like a full-time employee without the pay — or a clear path to something more — it's worth reconsidering the arrangement.

Chase emphasizes that not all internships are bad — many offer critical experience, connections, and mentorship. “We don't want to scare students away from internships altogether,” he says.

“But we do want to empower them to ask the right questions and recognize when something feels off.”

What to do if you think you're being exploited

If you're in an internship that seems questionable, Chase recommends documenting everything: dates, tasks, communications, and expectations.

“Interns often feel powerless, but they do have rights — especially if the company is benefiting significantly

from their work.”

He also suggests bringing concerns to a school advisor or career services office if the internship was arranged through an academic program.

“Some schools have policies that forbid students from participating in internships that don't meet minimum educational or legal standards,” Chase adds.

At the end of the day, Chase says the goal is to shift the narrative around internships — from vague, unpaid rites of passage to structured, mutually beneficial experiences.

“Interns deserve clarity, respect, and an actual learning opportunity,” he says. “If a company isn't offering that, then it's not just unethical — it may be unlawful.”

Come and Go Card Shower for Joan Atkinson's 90th Birthday

at Abilene Elks Club from 1:00 - 3:00 on Sunday, July 13th. Refreshments served. You can mail cards to P.O. Box 544 Chapman, Ks 67431

HARVEY DRUG

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community Calendar Sponsored by Black and Company Realtors

Kids Bingo Night Saturdays 7:00 pm offered by Enterprise Rec Commission, Enterprise Community Building

“Fresh Conversations” program on the 2nd Monday each month, 12:15pm, Abilene Senior Center. Given by K-State Research and Extensions SNAP-Ed Program. Other dates in the county include: 3rd Tuesday each month, 12:15pm, Herington Hilltop Community Center 4th or last Tuesday each month, 11:05am, Chapman Senior Center

7 PM every Monday, Boy Scout Troop 40 meets at VFW 3279 on Spruce

COMMUNITY MEALS will be served on the 2nd and 4th MONDAY of the Month at the Community Bible Church, 1400 N Cedar St. directly across 14th St. from the high school

Kiwanis Club meetings the 4th Monday of each month: 6:30pm @ Walts Campground and Country Store, Exit 281/1-70 (Mink Rd) Kiwanis Board meetings the 3rd Monday of each month : NOON @ Pizza Hut

Sons American Revolution, every 4th Tuesday at 7pm, at VFW Bldg, 317 N Spruce St, Abilene, KS.

Every 2nd Tuesday at 2 PM. The American Legion Auxiliary- Unit 39 meets in the National Guard Armory-1009 NW 8th St.Abilene

3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 PM The American Legion Post #1969 meets at VFW Building - 317 N Spruce St

7 PM every Tuesday, Pack 240 in the Brethren in Christ Church 11th & Buckeye, Abilene, KS 67410

The End of the Trail Quilters Guild meets every 4th Tuesday of the month except December. They meet at 7 PM at the First United Methodist Church in Wright Hall

1st Tuesday at 7 PM VFW Post 3279 meets at 317 N Spruce St, Abilene, KS

3rd Wednesday of each month, 12:15pm, Herington Hilltop Community Center

Narcotics Anonymous Meeting 1005 N. Buckeye Ave, Abilene, Sun 7 PM - Wed 7 PM • Open meeting wheelchair accessed Eddie A 785-252-7074

7 PM every Tuesday, open AA Step meeting at St. John's Episcopal Church 6th & Buckeye, Abilene Ks 67410

1st Thursday at 8 PM The American Legion Son's, Squadron #39 meets at The National Guard Armory-1009 NW 8th St. Abilene, KS 67410

1st Thursday at 7 PM The American Legion Riders, Chapter #39, meets at The National Guard Armory-1009 NW 8th St. Abilene, KS 67410

3rd Thursday at 7 PM The American Legion Post #39 meets at The National Guard Armory-1009 NW 8th St. Abilene, KS 67410

7 PM every Thursday, open A.A. meets at St. John's Episcopal Church, 6th & Buckeye, Abilene, KS 67410

7 PM every Saturday, open A.A. meets at St. John's Episcopal Church, 6th & Buckeye, Abilene, KS 67410

8 PM every Sunday, open A.A. meets at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church Parish Hall, 3599 North Field, Solomon, KS 67480

Biblical Citizenship in Modern America Class Starts on Sunday, November 5, 2023, 5:00 p.m. Countryside Bible Fellowship (2189 Broughton Rd, Clay Center, KS) www.CountrysideBibleFellowship.com for more information