

MOUNT LIBERTY

BY VIRGIL VESTERBERG

If one problem gets fixed two more crop up to worry about. Worry won't do any good anyway. There have been 3 countries that have had Foot and Mouth disease (FMD) show up already this year. That hasn't shown up in the U.S. for 95 years and we hope that continues. Germany, Hungary and Slovakia have had FMD diagnosed since January 10 but all have been isolated cases so far.

Cover crops seem to be all the rage these days. A neighbor has a big field of tritacale all headed out and would probably produce a thousand bales of hay if swathed now. He will probably soon spray it then plant soybeans in it for harvest this Fall. The killed crop will be a good mulch for the new crop but a high yield is not guaranteed. The old saying of "A bird in the hand is worth more than two in the bush" comes to mind.

Somewhere a farmer had a wind turbine on his land disintegrate. It sent pieces of fiberglass and steel all over his farm. The local elevator has told him they wouldn't buy his grain as it may contain foreign material. The company did give him a check for \$230,000 but he is filing suit for more money. I'm betting there is a lawyer in the background urging him on. There are constant ads on TV bragging about how much the various lawyers collect for their clients from the insurance companies. Who do you suppose pays that in the long run?

It is said that wrinkles show up where smiles have been. Make some wrinkles today!

TOOTLE’S TALES

BY JUDY LOBAUGH

TT

The maple tree in our backyard produced a tremendous amount of winged seeds this year. The strong winds we have had blew the seeds into large piles in front of a row of bushes by the driveway. The piles were large enough that we had to use a shovel to scoop them up and dispose of them. I had never seen this many seeds produced by this tree at any other time.

TT

Happy Birthday to: Audrey Walker, Shandi Olson, Mary Kaye Blackwood, Julie Walmsley, Cody Richard, Aspyrn Girard, Rhonda Lyne, Coreen Larson, Karla Hoover, Sharon Stepter, Auston Stepter, Austin Graham, Jessica Forshee, Jocelyn Forshee, Justin Shepard, Kathy Palmer, Trana Dockins, Tessa Travellute, August Revell, Jimmy Swagerty, Bud Dulohery, Harold Myer

TT

Happy Anniversary to: Jason and Kelly Mottin, Joe and Crystal Kelsey

TT

We send our prayers and get-well wishes to: Elizabeth Fuller, Knox Brummet, Larry Cyr, Gerald Braun, Linda Shepard, Gary Turner, Nancy Crawl, Kyle Stolzenburg and their caregivers.

TT

A number of people congregated at Hope Church last Sunday to listen to Eli Yoder. People from Ohio, Nebraska, Missouri, Oklahoma and Kansas came to listen to Eli's message of his life from an Amish youth to leaving the Amish as an adult. Eli has a huge following on Facebook and whenever he speaks at various places across the country his followers like to come and see him in person. He has also written a detailed version of his talk in his book Undeceived: From Amish Tradition to Christ's Redemption.

TT

Happy Mother's Day to all mothers this Sunday, May 11.

COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTION

Cloud County Commodities distribution is scheduled for **Every 2 Months from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on the Third Wednesday of the Month**, at the First United Methodist Church, 740 W. 11th Street, Concordia, Kansas. 785-243-4560.

To be eligible your household's total monthly income must be below •1 person, \$2,322 •2 people, \$3,152 •3 people, \$3,981, • 4 people, \$4,810. For each additional family member add \$830.

Scheduled date: May 21, 2025.

MAY 2025 - NICOL HOME MEALS ON WHEELS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4	5 CINCO DE MAYO LUNCH	6 Rosemary Prok, Long Grain Rice, Honey Spiced Root Veggies, Biscuit, Fruit Parfait	7 Parmesan Crusted Chicken, Boiled Potatoes, Cheesy Spinach, Roll & Butter, Ice Cream	8 Beef Stroganoff, Noodles, Candied Carrots, Biscuit, Snickerdoodle Blondie Bar	9 Shrimp Alfredo, Fettuccini, Green Peas, Bread stick, Peach Parfait	10
11	12 RESIDENT'S BIRTHDAY LUNCH	13 Pork Loin, Baked Potato w/ Sour Cream & Butter, Broccoli, Lemon Bar	14 Resident's Choice w/ Ice Cream	15 BBQ Meatballs, Smashed Red Potatoes, Green Beans, Roll, Fudge Oatmeal Bar	16 Butterfly Shrimp, Cocktail Sauce, Baked Potato, California Veggies, Chocolate Cake	17

SOUTHERN CLOUD
Glasco | Miltonvale Schools

MAY Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5 No School Teacher Workday	6	7 ● 4:00pm: Glasco Grade School Art Show @ GGS 4:00-8:00	8	9	10
11 Mother's Day	12 No School ● 7:00pm: Board of Education Meeting @ Miltonvale	13	14	15 ● 7:00pm: Miltonvale Pre-School Graduation 7:00 pm Multi-Purpose Room MGS	16 Miltonvale Pre-School Last Day of School ● 9:30am: K-5 Field Day @ M'vale	17

PASTOR SAM FLICK

I don't know if most houses are like this, (maybe it's just mine) but some of my kitchen shelves must be eight feet high. I can't see into them, and I have to stand on tiptoe just to put anything away. Therefore, almost all of the things up on those high shelves are things I don't use very often. I have a glass pitcher up there and my waffle iron is up there. The last time I used that waffle iron was around 1995. There's also an extra cover shade for one of the kitchen lights. They must have originally bought two and now they have an extra. I very seldom even think about the things resting on those upper shelves. They aren't really a part of my life. They are waiting for some distant someday considering that I almost never think about them in the today.

In Colossians 3:2 the apostle Paul admonishes us to, "Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things." My response to that is, "Yes, but earth is where I keep all my stuff. Earth is where I keep all those things I use every day. The things of earth are all on eye-level because I make use of them so regularly."

I think for most of us, heaven is sitting way up on the high shelves out of sight. Yes, we know it's up there. Yes, we want to go there someday. Yes, we know we should spend time getting ready to go ... but honestly, it's way up on the high shelf and therefore difficult to reach.

But then Paul comes along to tell us that the important things are the high things. The things above are eternal - the things below are not. The things above show us who we can become whereas the things below coax us to stay exactly as we are. How many of those things resting at eye level destroy instead of develop?

You know, waffles are pretty good. Why has it been so long since I've had any? Maybe the reason is simply because the waffle iron is way up out of sight. Paul says, "Bring those high things down to eye level." Think about the good things, the wise things, and the soul-forming things. Set your mind on who you can become instead of who you are.

Chamber Corner

Please join us on May 13, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. -9:00 a.m. at the Concordia Chamber of Commerce office, 207 W. Sixth Street for our weekly Chamber Coffee.

If you are interested in becoming a Chamber member or being a Chamber Coffee sponsor, please contact Annie Bergmann at 785-243-4290 or email info@concordiakansaschamber.com

Join us for coffee and donuts. Donuts provided by Me and Ma's Bakery. Keep up to date on all the events and activities happening in Concordia and the surrounding area.

Our coffee sponsor for May 13, 2025, is the Concordia Senior Center.

The Concordia Senior Center was formed in April of 1977 as the "Concordia Community Senior Citizens Recreation Center." At that time, it was located at 121 West Sixth Street in downtown Concordia. A building was later purchased at 109 West Seventh Street and is the current location of the Center. The name was changed to the "Concordia Senior Center" in 2016. The Concordia Senior Center was organized to serve those 60 years of age and over, but has also served the community at large over the years. For example, the public transportation operation, currently run by OCCK, was run out of the Center for several years. The Concordia Senior Center had operated a Meals on Wheels program in conjunction with the North Central Flint Hills Area Agency on Aging until January of 2024. The Center now operates the program independently and has done so since May of 2024. The kitchen has had a complete makeover with new equipment such as sinks, a dishwasher, freezers, a large mixer, a small oven, dishes, utensils and more. This would not have been possible without the generous donations from the community. The Center itself has also had a facelift with new paint, new flooring, and a new parking area behind the building to better accommodate the volunteer drivers for Meals on Wheels. Some of the activities at the Center include a pool table, exercise program for seniors, card games, coffee club, jigsaw puzzles and bingo, in addition to in-house dining five days per week.

Coming Soon!

- June 5-9th National Guard Armory-American Veterans Traveling Wall
- July 4, 2025 "Old Fashioned Fourth of July" @ The Broadway Plaza. Approximate time is scheduled from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Cloud County Commission Minutes

Minutes from the APRIL 28, 2025 meeting

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Regular session of the April meetings of the Cloud County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on April 28, 2025, in the Commissioners' room at 811 Washington, Concordia, Kansas, with Chairman Michael Cleveland, Members Dannie Kearn and Ron Copple, and County Clerk Shella Thoman present.

County staff attending was: Rod Michaud, Highway / Weed Administrator; Mike Hake, Solid Waste Director; Tonya Sulanka, Health Department Administrator; and Kim Winsett, County Appraiser.

Others attending: Mike Montoya, P.A. (by conference call)

The Board discussed the Trail Road area with Mike Montoya, P.A. (by conference call).

Rod Michaud, Highway / Weed Administrator, reported that they were finishing Noble Road and starting on the driveways, would work on the Transfer Station Road and be moving to 160th later in the week. Michaud will be meeting with Jason Johnson, Campbell & Johnson, to look at the jail access road.

Mike Hake, Solid Waste Director, discussed the seat-belt policy and warnings. Commissioner Cleveland reported that KWORCC would be sharing updated policy wording. Expected the Transfer Station to be closed on Wednesday for driveway repairs, although work would be done Tuesday afternoon and Thursday morning as well. Discussed purchasing a Skid Steer for the Transfer Station. Continued the discussion of moving the Solid Waste billing to the tax statements and reviewed the list of properties and possible exemption form. Residential / Commercial properties with a value under \$1,000 will be exempt. Discussed charges for apartment buildings, each apartment should be charged the established charge including the apartments above Downtown buildings.

Tonya Sulanka, Health Department Administrator, discussed the April evaluation. Reported that they will conduct a patient analysis following the billing symposium last week. May 1st at the Plaza will be an Early Childhood Safari; Safe Kids will have a presentation. May 17th is Touch-A-Truck at the Plaza @ 10:00 a.m. May 7th is Bike to School day, helmets will be given to those signed up on May 6th.

Shella Thoman discussed the pay scale and promotions within. Employees who are promoted will not have a 6-month evaluation / increase. Discussed the County-Wide Employee & Family Picnic scheduled for June 10th.

On a motion by Commissioner Kearn, seconded by Commissioner Copple, by unanimous vote the Board approved a 10-minute executive session for personnel exception to discuss non-elected personnel resuming open session at 11:17 a.m., including Thoman and Sulanka.

Recognized the resignations of Olivia Beikmann, Corrections officer and Donnie Kearn, Transport Driver.

The Board approved the following payroll expenses totaling \$195,940.61
General Fund – \$99,505.51
Road & Bridge - \$52,304.23
Appraiser - \$6,703.64
County Health - \$22,448.37
Noxious Weed - \$1,446.39
Election - \$2,151.67
Solid Waste - \$11,380.80
Payroll Deductions & Benefits - \$232,055.60

The above expense detail is available at the County Clerk's office and the Clerk's Public Records webpage.

On a motion by Commissioner Copple, seconded by Commissioner Kearn, by unanimous vote the Board approved abatements 2025-67 with a net change of (\$76.82) and no refund.

Commissioner Copple attended the North Central Regional Planning Commission meeting on Thursday, April 24th in Beloit and the Pawnee Mental Health Banquet on Tuesday, April 22nd in Clay Center. Commissioner Cleveland attended the KCCA Conference on Tuesday, April 22nd in Manhattan and the KWORCC Board of Trustees meeting on Thursday, April 24th by Zoom. Commissioner Kearn attended the KCCA Conference on Tuesday, April 22nd in Manhattan.

On a motion by Commissioner Kearn, seconded by Commissioner Copple, by unanimous vote the Board approved the April 21, 2025, minutes as presented.


On a motion by Commissioner Copple, seconded by Commissioner Kearn, by unanimous vote the Board adjourned at 12:01 p.m., until Monday, May 5, 2025.

Abitz

continued from 1

"Someone who is a champion in my eyes and leads by example is Mrs. Blain," said Abitz. Ashley Blain is the CES principal. Abitz said that without a great leader in the school, she could not work her best either.

USD 333 and CES stated, "For all she does and for who she is, we are better every day because of Mrs. Abitz. She battles for kids—our kids. Congratulations, Mrs. Abitz!"



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