

## Friendship Meals

**Jan. 24 through Jan. 30**  
**Friday:** Beef lasagna, cauliflower, side salad with dressing, warm cinnamon apples, garlic bread, milk.  
**Monday:** Salisbury steak, baked potato, green beans, pear, cookie, roll, milk.  
**Tuesday:** Beef pizza, side salad with dressing, tomatoes and cucumbers, fruit with Jell-O, milk.  
**Wednesday:** Cream chicken over biscuits, peas and carrots, pineapple, milk.  
**Thursday:** Chili, cole slaw, crackers, cinnamon roll, milk.

## VFW Auxiliary #7830 met

Jewell County Memorial VFW #7830 Auxiliary met Jan. 14, at the post home in Mankato. Seven members were present. The meeting opened per ritual and minutes were approved as distributed. There was no official communication to read, but a thank you card from Jim and Velma Gouldie was read.

The treasurer's report was given and filed subject to audit. Bills were presented for ISB Christmas goodies, gifts, raffle item for department convention and two Angel Tree gifts, were paid.

There were no department reports on programs for January. A poem was read from Veterans Voices. It was noted the Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act was passed and signed into law by the President.

There was no unfinished business. New business conducted included: draping charter for deceased member, Evelyn Love of Belleville, who died on Dec. 13, 2024; a donation was made to National Auxiliary President Special Project, Operation Bottom Cover; voted to purchase a library book for the Rock Hills Elementary library; and discussion of doing Valentines at Mankato ISB during the week of Feb. 10 through 14. Upon checking with the activity department, a 3 p.m. activity on Monday, Feb. 10, has been planned.

After closing prayer and National Home Prayer, the was adjourned. Next meeting will be at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 11, at the post home.

## Harmony United Methodist Church news and calendar

Harmony United Methodist Church met Sunday, with Lyle Dauner pianist, Dick and Rita Burns as greeters, Parker and Rowen Kuchinski as acolytes, and Bethany Roe as worship leader. The children's message told how Jesus invites us to be His friend.

There will be a free showing of the movie "The Forge" at 6:30 p.m., Sunday at the Life Theater. Birthday wishes went out to Wade Alexander and Nolan Grout. Prayers were offered for the Travis Cady family, Robbie Hoeft, wildfire victims and the hostages in the Middle East. Pastor Jim asked that we pray for one big thing for a person, our community, our church and our self.

Amy Rice shared the scripture from Matthew 9:9-17. When Jesus called Matthew and went to his house to eat, the religious leaders were appalled that Jesus would associate with tax collectors and sinners. Jesus replied that it is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. Pastor Jim explained that He meant all of us are in need of salvation that He freely gives, no matter what we've done in the past. The conventional wisdom in Jesus' time, which some still follow, is that bad company leads to bad morals. Jesus' message is that people who know God should share the Good News.

Tax collectors like Matthew were not like modern IRS agents. If you couldn't pay your taxes, the tax collectors of Jesus' time could sell your family members into slavery to pay your tax. Imagine how you would feel if a tax collector who had done this to you started attending your church. The Jewish leaders mistook Jesus' associating with tax collectors to be acceptance of their behavior, but being a part of a church means recognizing that we all have room for improvement. Everyone who comes into our door is someone whom Jesus loves, and we should love, too. Bringing people into the church means more than just joining a club. It means inviting them to receive the grace of God. We are the body of Christ in our community. Everything Jesus did was for the salvation of humankind, and we are called to follow His example.

**FARMWAY CREDIT UNION**  
 Beloit - Lincoln - Mankato - Osborne  
**www.farmwaycu.com**  
 Federally insured by NCUA

**Rock Hills School Weekly Sports Preview**  
**January 27 - Feb. 1**  
**Monday, January 27:** HS basketball vs Osborne  
**Tuesday, January 28:** HS basketball vs Tescott  
**Thursday, January 30:** Junior High Basketball vs St. John's at St. John's  
**Saturday, Feb. 1:** PTL League basketball at Rock Hills

**Mankato, KS • 785-378-3134**

## Raiders squeak by Grizzlies 64-63

Close games generally represent evenly matched teams, both of which plan to win. It was overtime, when the Raiders scored eight points and the Grizzlies scored only seven points that finally ended the game last Tuesday night when Lawrence-Nelson traveled to Mankato to play basketball.

In the first quarter, it looked as if the Lawrence-Nelson Raiders might easily win. They scored 18 points while the Grizzlies scored only 10. By the end of the second quarter the score was more evenly matched with the Raiders scoring 14 and the Grizzlies scoring 3. However, things reversed in the second half and Rock Hills out scored the Raiders by five in the third and four in the fourth to tie the game at 56.

Cooper McDill, a senior, led Rock Hills scoring with 26 points. Eli Whelchel and Ethan Wirth both scored in the double digits. Whelchel with 16 and Wirth with a dozen.

Camden Ward, Justin Luong and Christen Wurm each added three for Rock Hills.

Wyatt Frey, a Lawrence-Nelson sophomore, led with Raiders in scoring by completing 29 points. Carson Vaughn added 15. Caden Culbertson 9. Five other Raiders each added two points: Caleb Griffith, Sawyer Cox and Cooper Henkinen.

Rock Hills is scheduled to play the Osborne Bulldogs Monday, Jan. 27. The Bulldogs go into the game with a 0-8 record. They lost 57-14 when they played Lincoln.

## NPL tourney being played this week

This week the Grizzlies are occupied with the NPL tournament. It is an 11 team mid-season league tournament featuring Sylvan-Lucas,

Natoma, Osborne, Lincoln, Rock Hills, Tescott, Pike Valley, Stockton, Thunder Ridge, St. John's-Tipton and Lakeside.

The tournament began Friday with three play-in games for both the boys and girls divisions. The winners advanced to the quarter finals Monday. The semifinals and consolation rounds started Tuesday and will finish Friday.

All games are being played in either Lincoln or Tescott.

The tournament was canceled in 2021 because of COVID-19 and again last year because of inclement weather.

Rock Hills boys started the tournament by winning over Stockton 56-28. They then played Lakeside and lost 52-35. Tuesday afternoon they played Sylvan-Lucas. The score was not available at press time.

## Rock Hills School activities calendar

There was no school on Monday or Tuesday because of the weekend storm. Wednesday FBLA had a meeting scheduled during seminar.

Today (Thursday) the high school scholars bowl team is at Osborne. Junior high basketball teams play Pike Valley at Courtland.

Friday, the high school basketball games are at St. John's at Beloit. Saturday, 4-H quiz bowl is at Rock Hills. KMEA auditions are at Salina.

## Local Working Group meetings planned for Feb. 6

A Local Working Group that provides advice on the priorities for many U.S. Department of Agriculture conservation programs will meet at 10 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 6, at the Lower Republican NRD Board Room, 30 South John Street, Alma, Nebraska.

The public is encouraged to attend and express their natural resource concerns. Ideas generated from the public will help the U.S. Department of Agriculture tailor their natural resource programs to meet the needs identified locally.

There is a Local Working Group in each Natural Resources District (NRD). Membership includes federal, state, county, tribal or local government representatives according to Jerald Kovarik.

Kovarik, district conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). "The Local Working Group recommends to the NRCS State Conservationist how conservation programs like the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) or Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) would be used most effectively in their area. This recommendation can include special target areas, cost share rates on conservation programs, which conservation practices should have cost assistance, or how many dollars could be needed," said Kovarik. This work group allows local input into how federal dollars are spent, he said.

Typically, Nebraska NRCS obligates anywhere between \$45 million to more than \$75 million dollars to farmers and ranchers statewide through NRCS conservation programs. These programs help landowners and operators make natural resource improvements to their land, water, or wildlife. This funding was allocated according to the priorities set by the Local Working Group.

For more information about the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the programs and services they provide, contact your local USDA Service Center or [www.ne.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.ne.nrcs.usda.gov).

## Rock Hills defeats L-N Raider girls

Rock Hills marched into the game with the Lawrence-Nelson Raider girls with two straight wins. One over Stockton 50-27 on Monday, Feb. 13, and the other Friday, Feb. 10 over St. John's-Tipton 60-58. The Lady Grizzlies added a third win last Tuesday when they won over the Raiders 44-39.

Halle Mizner led the offense by posting 17 and picking up 9 rebounds. It was the fourth consecutive games in which Mizner scored at least a third of the Grizzly points.

Bethany Simmelink also had an outstanding performance with 17 points, five assists and four steals.

Both Mizner and Simmelink are juniors. Brylee Manning, a freshman, added eight points and Alivia Lindberg, a sophomore, scored two points.

The Raiders did not give despite being out scored in the first quarter by one point, the second quarter by eight points and the third quarter by three points. In the fourth they out scored the Grizzlies 15 to 8.

Eight Lawrence-Nelson players scored: Addison Melloskey scored 10; Brynn Harrison scored 7; Maya Fanning, Valie Koehler and Kara Menke each scored 3 and Kali Cassell, Bayleigh Bohlen added two; Josie Hany 1.

Rock Hills has eight wins and only one loss this season. They take on Tescott, Monday, Jan. 27, in regular season play.

This week they are focused on the NPL Tournament where they lost the

**Open 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.**  
**Closed Wednesdays**  
 Dec. 24 & 25  
 Accepting Chowdown App  
**Sweden V Creme**  
**785-378-8600**

**Thank You**  
 Thank you to all that came out or sent cards.  
 It was a wonderful 60th anniversary!  
*John and Sue Tucker*

## USD 107 Rock Hills Surplus Bid Request

USD 107 is accepting bids for a surplus 2001 Chevy Impala. This vehicle has electrical issues. More information can be obtained by contacting Jeff Sells at [jsells@usd107.org](mailto:jsells@usd107.org) or calling the District Office at 785-378-3102.

**All bids to be considered are due to the Board Clerk by Friday January 31st.**

Bids may be emailed to [107clerk@usd107.org](mailto:107clerk@usd107.org) or mailed to the Board office at 109 E Main St, Mankato, KS 66956. All bids must include pick up of equipment by the vendor within 30 days after notification of successful bid. Surplus vehicle successful bids must be paid in full to the district clerk before property will be released for pickup.

All purchases are considered final. No additional tech support or any other additional services or resources will be provided by USD 107 following the conclusion of the sale.

first game to St. John's-Tipton 53 to 40. Rock Hills played Thunder Ridge Tuesday afternoon. The score was not available at press time. Depending on who won, Rock Hills could play either Lakeside or Pike Valley, Friday.

## Mankato Eager Beavers plan events for May

The Mankato Eager Beavers meet for their monthly meeting Dec. 8. Faith Reinert had a demonstration on wrapping presents. Jacob Cockerott had a project talk about how to get sheep to the state fair. The Harnises provided snacks and drinks. The club discussed doing flags for the cemetery for Memorial Day and doing May Day baskets for LTC in May.

## Mankato News

Because of Christmas break and weather, Hope met last Wednesday for the first time this year. After prayer and snack, they had their lesson. Sharayah lead the school age students in the first study of Moses. The younger ones read the story from their Bibles, "The Light of the Whole World." The group talked about that light, then painted a large wood star and three small stars. They ended their time together with a treat to take home. They are asking prayers for them and our Nation.

Tonya and Amanda Chaput spent the weekend in Hastings for a much needed get away.

## Jewell Co. Memories

(Continued from Page 10)  
 so said Prime Minister Churchill  
**60 Years Ago**  
**January 25, 1965**

The 50th anniversary of the founding of the Civic Improvement Club in Jewell was celebrated with a dinner and program at the Christian church. Approximately 100 people participated.

The PTA of the Formosa school held the January meeting at the auditorium. The pupils presented an interesting program on "Kansas." "Home on the Range" was sung by everyone and other songs about Kansas. Refreshments were served by the committee.

Sleds and icy streets made for much fun for the youngsters. Snow drifts were reported near Ionia.

Several ladies met at Tucker Grocery in Ionia to make plans for the shower honoring Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Tucker of Ashland.

It seemed as though everyone was taking his turn with the old flu bug.

**50 Years Ago**  
**January 16, 1975**

The worst storm of the winter hit with blizzard-like conditions. The snow and high wind made driving hazardous. Temperatures fell to the lowest of the winter. Six inches of snow was reported.

Greg Diamond joined The State Exchange Bank staff as assistant cashier.

## UTE THEATER

**Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m.**  
**Sunday at 3 p.m.**  
**January 24-26**

## Mufasa PG

"Mufasa: The Lion King" enlists Rafiki to relay the legend of Mufasa to young lion cub Kiara, daughter of Simba and Nala, with Timon and Pumbaa lending their signature schtick. Told in flashbacks, the story introduces Mufasa as an orphaned cub, lost and alone until he meets a sympathetic lion named Taka—the heir to a royal bloodline. The chance meeting sets in motion an expansive journey of an extraordinary group of misfits searching for their destiny; their bonds will be tested as they work together to evade a threatening and deadly foe.

Rated PG for peril, action, violence and some thematic elements.  
**Mankato, Kansas • 785-378-3172**

ret.

Mr. and Mrs. Morris Hillman and children and Debbie Hake took wood to Mrs. Hermie Hake.

Mr. and Mrs. Merl Reed and boys took cake and ice cream to the Everett Reed home to remind Everett he had another birthday.

Glen and Steve Behrends attended the livestock show in Denver.

**40 Years Ago**  
**January 17, 1985**

A reception was held honoring Herschel Rhea, Jewell County Clerk, and Ardeth Wilson, Jewell County Register of Deeds, both of whom retired at the end of their terms.

Kim Ost, Jewell County Deputy Sheriff, held a meeting in the Ionia Church Fellowship Hall to set up a neighborhood watch program for crime prevention.

The Formosa area received 12 inches of snow during the snow storm earlier in the week.

Boogarts at Mankato special was four 1 pound loaves of Homestyle white bread for \$1.

Hulbert's Repair shop moved to a new location on West Highway 36 by the Missouri Pacific Railroad tracks. Myron Hulbert was the owner of the business.

**30 Years Ago**  
**January 25, 1995**

The Mankato Lady Cougars won the Pike Trail League Tournament.

Boyd Silsby was elected chairman of the Jewell County Hospital Board.

The Jewell County bridge crew constructed a building for the Jewell County road department in the county yards in Mankato.

Wayne Fogo and Delores Thornton hosted Tuesday Happenings at the Jewell County Long Term Care facility. Fogo sang a medley of songs and Thornton played the piano.

Airman Rick Gardner was a weekend guest of family and friends. He was en route to Montgomery, Alabama. He would attend an officers' training class for several months.

**20 Years Ago**  
**January 27, 2005**

Boyd Silsby, president of Jewell County Historical Society, received a plaque honoring his 17 years as president of the society and his years of dedication to the museum and other events sponsored by the group.

A ninth birthday party honoring twins, Shanni and Shawnee Schenck, was held at a Superior cafe.

Mr. and Mrs. Otten Underwood and family, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Underwood and Mr. and Mrs. Mark Underwood and family hosted a 90th birth-

day open house honoring their mother, Wilma Underwood, at the Burr Oak Senior Center.

The Jewell Red Hat group met at the pub for lunch, then went to Shirley and Earl Varney's house to view Shirley's doll collection and Earl's antique wrenches and kitchen utensils.

**January 22, 2015**  
 Aundrea Gardner opened Andy's Floral in Mankato.

Nex-Tech reached an agreement to acquire Computer Solutions, Inc., headquartered in Smith Center.

Dave Belden retired as a rural mail carrier after serving the Burr Oak community for 44 years.

Justin and Mandi Angleton, Esbon, were the parents of the 2015 New Year's Baby at Mitchell County Hospital Health Systems. Their son, Eli Wade, was born Jan. 7.

Irma Fogo and Ione Shipley were among the 11 members of the Highlanders Club that attended their monthly meeting. They had lunch at a restaurant in Red Cloud.

## OCCK Inc. Partners with Laundry Love

OCCK Inc. has entered a partnership with LaundryLove.org to bring the Laundry Love program to the Concordia community. This national initiative, designed to make laundry accessible for all, will kick off in February at 1548 Lincoln St., Concordia, Kansas, with events held twice a month.

• First Wednesday: 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

• Third Wednesday: 4 to 6 p.m.

Laundry Love provides free access to washers, dryers and detergent, helping participants wash work uniforms, school clothes and other essentials. Clean clothes go beyond hygiene—they're about dignity, confidence and belonging.

Laundry Love is open to everyone in the community, no questions asked. At OCCK Inc., the mission is to help North Central Kansans remove barriers to independence. By addressing the fundamental need for clean clothing, Laundry Love empowers people to focus on other aspects of their lives, from pursuing employment to engaging with their community.

"Our partnership with Laundry Love brings another resource to Concordia and rural Kansas, ensuring it helps people remove barriers and maintain independence is OCCK's mission," said Kendra Krier—vice president of Rural Outreach and Services.

For more information about Laundry Love or OCCK Inc.'s programs, visit [www.oock.com](http://www.oock.com) or call 785-243-1477.

**Congratulations on 60 Wonderful Years!**

Please join us in celebrating the  
**60th**  
**Wedding Anniversary**  
**of**  
**Bonnie & Everett**  
**Benoit - Esbon**  
 January 30, 1965 —  
 January 30, 2025

Their remarkable six decades of love, dedication to one another and commitment to family, friends and community are an inspiration to everyone who knows them!

With love and admiration from your family —  
 Thank you for showing us the beauty of a life well-lived!

**Invitation for Bids**

The Board of Education of U.S.D. 107 is accepting bids for a one-year lease on the following described farm real estate for haying purposes only: Approximately 21.17 acres of grass lying east of the Rock Hills Jr/Sr High School football field in Mankato, Kansas

To be considered, bids must be in writing and submitted to the U.S.D. 107 Board Office at 109 E. Main Street, Mankato, Kansas 66956. Bids must be a total dollar amount. Rent will be payable May 1, 2025. Tenant will be required to control noxious weeds in accordance with applicable Kansas law.

Bids must be received by Friday, February 7, 2025, at Noon at the U.S.D. 107 Office, to be considered. Bids will be presented at the February 10, 2025, Board of Education meeting. The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

## USD 107 Rock Hills Surplus Technology Bid Request

USD 107 is accepting bids for a SINGLE LOT of surplus technology equipment. An itemized list of equipment is available upon request by emailing [107clerk@usd107.org](mailto:107clerk@usd107.org) or calling the District Office at 785-378-3102.

**All bids to be considered are due to the Board Clerk by Friday January 31st.**

They may be emailed to [107clerk@usd107.org](mailto:107clerk@usd107.org) or mailed to the Board office at 109 E Main St, Mankato, KS 66956. All bids must include pick up of equipment by the vendor within 30 days after notification of successful bid. All bids must include purchase and removal of the entire lot of surplus technology equipment. Surplus technology successful bids must be paid full to the district clerk before property will be released for pickup.

All purchases are considered final. No additional tech support, software or any other additional services or resources will be provided by USD 107 following the conclusion of the sale. Additional questions about the surplus equipment may be submitted to Billie Cox at [bcx@usd107.org](mailto:bcx@usd107.org).