

OBITUARIES

Rosemary “Rose” Rues Diehl

Rosemary “Rose” Rues Diehl passed away at age 67 on March 29, 2025 in Topeka, Kansas. Rose was born on April 12, 1957 in La Crosse, Kansas, daughter of Catherine “Arlene” (Ingraham) Rues and Albert “Al” Rues. Rose grew up in McCracken, Kansas, graduating from McCracken High School in 1975.

To honor and remember the life of Rose, everyone is invited to a memorial luncheon on Saturday, May 24, 2025 at 12 p.m. at the Community Building in



McCracken, Kansas.

Please join the family as they come together to share memories of Rose with family and friends while enjoying a delightful Mexican feast.

Following the luncheon there will be a 4 p.m. Mass at St Mary’s Catholic Church in McCracken in memory of Rose.

In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donations to the following organizations, which Rose supported throughout her life: McCracken Golf Course, McCracken Library, McCracken Beautification, St Mary’s Heritage Society.

Your presence and support will be deeply appreciated.

-Otis City Council Minutes-

Council members Lisa Moeder, Tabbie McVey, Mike Sharkey, Luke Pechanec, and Mayor Jenny Landers were present at the City of Otis council meeting held April 9, 2025. Employees present were Myron Wagner, John Landers, Shelly DeWald, and Lori Firebaugh. Absent was Jody Beckham.

Mayor Jenny Landers called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. There was a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guest: Adams Brown, CPA.

Public Forum: Adams Brown presented the 2024 audit.

Adams Brown left at 6:46 p.m.

Shelly DeWald left at 6:47 p.m.

Tabbie made a motion to approve the 3-12-2025 minutes as printed. Luke seconded the motion. 3-0. Motion carried. The special March 18, 2025 meeting minutes were gone over. Tabbie made a motion to approve the minutes as printed. Luke seconded the motion. 3-0. Motion carried.

Lori went over the bills. Mike made a motion to approve the bills. Lisa seconded the motion. 4-0. Motion carried.

Myron went over the water reports, well #4 is up and running properly.

The treasurer’s report was gone over.

City Clerk Report: We have a 6-month CD maturing this month and up for renewal. Luke made a motion to renew the CD at the rate indicated on the statement. Tabbie seconded the motion. 4-0. Motion carried.

Mayor Report: City cameras.

Correspondence: The Midwest Public Risk (MPR) 2025–2026 Property/Liability rating updates were distributed and discussed.

Old Business: Old camera security system parts – Tabbie made a motion to offer the old security camera system for sale through sealed bids, with a minimum bid of \$400. Luke seconded. 4-0. Motion carried.

Sewer pump – The sewer pump has been repaired and is ready to be reinstalled by Jaguar.

Mike left at 7:16 p.m.

New Business: Library Board – Two members are concluding their terms on the Library Board. Following discussion, the Council voted on new members. Luke made a motion to recommend that the mayor appoint Merri Taylor and Evy Sohm as new board members. Lisa seconded the motion. The vote passed 3–0. Motion carried.

Raising of court cost – Lisa made a motion to increase the City of Otis court cost to \$150. Luke seconded the motion. 3-0. Motion carried.

Dog Ordinance – After reviewing Dog Ordinances #134 and #174, the Council decided to table the discussion until the next meeting. Luke made a motion to table the ordinances, and Tabbie seconded. The motion passed 3–0. Motion carried.

Adams Brown Audit Payment – Luke made a motion to approve payment of the Adams Brown audit bill. Lisa seconded the motion. The motion passed 3–0. Motion carried.

City Cameras – Luke made a motion to approve the installation of a camera at the entryway of the city office. Lisa seconded the motion. The motion passed 3–0. Motion carried.

Event Blockage – The Council discussed the possibility of blocking off certain blocks for events. After further discussion, they agreed to block off the 100 block of Main Street for events in April and July. Lisa made a motion to approve the blockage. Luke seconded the motion. 3–0. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be on May 14, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Senior Room.

Luke moved to adjourn. Lisa seconded. 3-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 8:13 p.m.

From The Home Front... by Linda Kenyon



Tornado season arrives

Spring brings flowers and (hopefully) rain showers. Unfortunately, it’s also the best time of year for tornadoes in Kansas. Kansas averages 95 tornadoes per year but has seen up to 187, with the peak tornado season running from April to June.

I’ve said it before and I’ll say it again: you have to be very unlucky to get hit by a tornado. Most tornados are very narrow and don’t last very long. However, the western Kansas town of Grinnell ran out of luck last Sunday. Grinnell is roughly the same size as my hometown of Otis, which makes it feel very real to me. Fortunately, there were no deaths and only bumps and bruises, according to the Gove County Sheriff. Unfortunately, the sheriff estimates only three homes are still standing. The Catholic church lost its roof, but according to one account the ceiling remained intact and candles were still burning. Tornados are finicky and like to make their own rules.

The best thing anyone can do to survive a tornado is to be prepared. Make a plan ahead of time, follow through and don’t panic. Immediately seek refuge in the safest location possible, like a basement or interior room and avoid windows and outside walls. I know this will fall on deaf ears, but DON’T go outside to see what’s happening or take pictures. In vehicles, abandoning the vehicle and seeking shelter in a sturdy building or low-lying area is crucial.

When you go to shelter, be sure to wear sturdy shoes, not flip flops or sandals, grab your purse or wallet, and take your medications with you. Make sure your cell phone is charged at all times just in case you need it. It may seem like overkill at the time, but it’s better to be safe than sorry.

The levels of alerts are Tornado Watch, Tornado Warning and Tornado Emergency. A watch just means tornadoes are possible and stay alert. A warning means tornadoes have been spotted in the area or indicated by weather radar and head to shelter or make sure you can get there in a hurry. A tornado emergency is the National Weather Service’s highest alert level. It is issued when a violent tornado has touched down in the watch area. Immediately seek refuge in the safest location possible.

I have lived in Rush County all my life and have never been in a tornado. Bison was hit by a disastrous tornado in 1912, with two deaths reported. La Crosse has been hit twice – once in 1968 and once in 2012 with no deaths either time. There have been smaller tornadoes scattered throughout the county, but these three were the most damaging to communities. My advice is to not live in fear, but don’t forget to pay attention. Sometimes common sense is the best weapon you have!

Linda Kenyon is staff writer for The Rush County News. She can be e-mailed at rcnlinda@gbta.net.

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(USPS 473-380)

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(785) 222-2555

rcn@gbta.net

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Tim Engel

Publisher/Ad Director

rcn@gbta.net

Melissa Jay

Managing Editor/Circulation

rcnmel@gbta.net

Linda Kenyon

Staff Writer/Reporter

rcnlinda@gbta.net

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Comments from CC



I just heard we are in a severe thunderstorm watch, so I’m going to take shelter in this cabinet until the danger is past. I don’t like storms, and I don’t think they like me, too. I will stay here as long as I have to, unless I get hungry or thirsty. Fear is always trumped by hunger pangs!

Carbon Copy (CC) is a News office cat who has agreed to give us his opinion on things. He can be e-mailed at rcn@gbta.net.

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Obeying The Truth

1 Peter 1:22 “Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:”

Continuing with the thought, obeying the truth of God’s Word by following what the Lord Jesus and the Apostles told us, we can know for sure that Heaven will be our eternal home. The truth that we must obey, is the Word of God. Christ Himself told the Jews to search the scriptures because they testify of Christ, and this is important because Jesus is how we have eternal life. John 5:37-40 “And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape. And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not. Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.” We know that the first prophesy of the Lord found in Genesis 3:15 “And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.” One of my favorite prophesies of the Lord is when Job testified of Him, Job 19:25 “For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth:” Even Abra-

ham knew of the Lord because God preached the Gospel unto him, Galatians 3:8-9 “And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.” There is a very important chapter in God’s Word that we refer to as the Heros of Faith chapter, these are those of the Old Testament times that obeyed by faith what God told them, and because of this, they received eternal life. You will not find in the Bible a chapter on those who kept the Law and received eternal life, because it is not possible to do so. We must obey by faith, why, because over and over again, “the just shall live by faith.” Gal 3:10-12 “For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them. But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith. And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them.” We are to obey Christ by being born again so that we may enter into the kingdom of God. John 3:3 “Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

Pastor Daniel Lineberry, Independent Baptist, Fundamental, KJV

319 W. 10th St., La Crosse ~ 785-222-0017 ~ dankrys05@hotmail.com