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Smith County Pioneer

Have a Safe
and Happy
4th of July!



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Home On The Range highlighted during Symphony in the Flint Hills

The Symphony in the Flint Hills celebrated its 20th and final anniversary with a Grand Finale performance on Saturday, June 14th near Emporia, Kansas.

The Peoples Heartland Foundation was invited to represent The Home On The Range Cabin with two presentations Saturday afternoon. Mitch, Tami and El Dean Holthus were invited to speak briefly about The Cabin and Mark McClain was available to answer questions about the Foundation and the recent campaign to build an amphitheater on the property.

Mitch presented the story of the song "Home on the Range" that included the proving of authorship, and the popularity of the

song. Mitch also added insight on the making of The Home On The Range movie and encouraged the large crowd to learn more about the amphitheater project. El Dean presented the timeline of ownership from Ellen Rust to her revocable Living Trust to the Peoples Heartland Foundation. El Dean also emphasized Ellen's planning, especially in two areas, a sunset clause to make sure the HOR Site had permanent ownership and the retention of nearly 200 acres with the Site to provide income to pay expenses of ownership. This foresight assured donors that 100 % of their gifts would be used to maintain and improve the Site. Tami explained the promotion strategy using Facebook, e-

mails and the homeontherangecabin.com website. Tami also read excerpts from reporter, Andy Raun of the Hastings Tribune who shared the emotions he felt being on the HOR Site when he covered the rededication of the restored Cabin in 2014. Mark, publicly and privately, answered ownership questions.

In addition to the portable Band Shell that provided the stage for the Kansas City Symphony there was a semi-circle of tents which housed food service and information tents with concurrent programs beginning at 2 pm and continued throughout the afternoon.

In 2006 the first
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Summer Heat



Saturday when temps reached triple digit, local children cool off at the pool. Several parents took advantage of the pool with their kids.

Joleen Brewer/SCP

King/Queen nominations are needed for Old Settlers' Day

"Our Roots Run Deep" is the theme for the Old Settlers' Day this year. It is right around the corner and nominations for King

and Queen are being sought from anyone in the county who has contributed to the well-being of the community. To

enter please write a short essay on who you would like to nominate and why you feel they should be chosen. Please send to the

Smith Center Chamber Office at 219 S. Main, or e-mail them to scchamber@smithcenter.net by September 1.

Lunch Bunch to be served at Nazarene Church

The SCMA is hosting a "Lunch Bunch" for children and their families. They will be serving a hot meal free of charge 11:30 AM-1:00 PM Wednesdays July 9, 16, 23 & 30 at the Smith Center Nazarene Church

Drug and Alcohol Council scrutinize laws for purchasing products over seas

Last week my article was about the alcohol and tobacco laws in Iceland. I will explain some of the laws concerning these products in Great Britain. First of all, the age to purchase alcohol in England is 18 years of age, whereas in the US it is 21. This is a significant difference. One can find alcohol easily available in pubs, restaurants, grocery stores, and convenience stores. Like in the US where beer and other alcoholic beverages are advertised, in GB, all sorts of alcohol products are advertised as well.

There is a MP, member of parliament, that is attempting to introduce a bill to restrict the advertising of

alcohol beverages between the prime TV times of 5:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. The MP is doing so because of the strain on the National Health System to the tune of five billion pounds a year that alcoholic diseases cause. There is, of course, considerable push back by the liquor industry and small businesses.

Tobacco laws are similar to the US laws. Tobacco is strictly regulated by the government to prevent health issues. No advertising is allowed across all mediums. There is no smoking inside all businesses just like the US. These laws also pertain to vape devices and e-cigarettes. We saw many vape

shops and most grocery stores and convenience stores sell these products. As with alcoholic beverages, most businesses require young customers to show an ID. I witnessed a store clerk refuse to sell an alcoholic beverage to a young man who didn't have his ID even when he claimed they sold it to him last week.

Except for the age of 18, the laws concerning alcohol and tobacco are very similar. Both countries are concerned about the long term affects of using and the misuse of these products. The SCDAC is also working to educate the public about the long term affects of these products. As was noted last

week, my well knowledgeable grandson contributed to this article.

Just an aside to our time in London, we rode the underground (subway) quite frequently. Every time that we got on and all the seats were occupied, some got up and offered me or Beccy their seat. Most of the time it was a minority and they seems happy to do it. Pregnant women also were offered seats. This has a lot to say about how people who absolutely know nothing about each other still show respect to their fellowman.

Submitted by:
Mike Isom

Future of Heritage Townhomes discussed

I. Call to Order
City of Smith Center City Council Meeting Minutes June 11, 2025
Mayor Wiehl opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at the Srader Building.
Attendance

Governing Body Members: Don Wick, Bryce Wiehl, Everett Mansholt, Tracy Kingsbury, and Chris Cole. Absent: Ty Wallgren.
Others: Tabitha Owen, Melissa Colby, Scott Roth, Joel Brewer, Richard Huffman, Chris Huffman, Kim

Phelps, Jamie Marshall, Brady Peterson (6:03 p.m.), and Jill Conaway.

II. Consent Agenda
Following review, a motion was made by Wick, seconded by Kingsbury, to approve the meeting minutes; vouchers, and receipts. Motion carried.

III. Previous/Ongoing Business

a) Scout House-The council asked that a second notice to bid for the replacement of the Scout House windows be sent out for review
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Resident involved in accident

The Kansas Highway Patrol is investigating a fatal crash that occurred just after 5:00 pm on Wednesday, June 11, 2025 in Cloud County.

One person died in an accident just after 5p.m. Wednesday in Cloud

County. The Kansas Highway Patrol reported a 2013 GMC Acadia driven by Kathy A. Hansen, 72, Smith Center, was eastbound on U.S. 24 just north of 130th Road.

The SUV crossed the center line and collided

with a westbound 2012 Ford Taurus driven by Harry L. Hodge, 18, Canandaigua, New York. After impact, the Ford rolled and struck the guard rail, and came to rest in the north ditch.

Hodge was pronounced

dead at the scene and was transported to Chaput-Buoy Funeral Home in Concordia. EMS transported Hansen to Wesley Medical Center. Both were properly restrained, according to the KHP.

KHP website

SCP needs your help

In a special tribute this August, The Smith Co. Pioneer is looking to honor Coach Roger Barta.

Memories and reflections on the life of Roger Barta and his impact on Smith Center are actively being gathered, and we need the public's help!

Stories, anecdotes, photos or insights about his impact on the Smith Center

Redmen and those individuals who modeled themselves from his coaching are encouraged from past players, parents, educators and friends..

Please send all tributes to pioneer@ruraltel.net
Call us at 785*282*3371 and set up a time to visit for a write-up.

Community Guide

Non-Profit & Community

Notices, Events, Reminders,

Cancellations, Schedule Changes, ECT.

Submit to The Smith County Pioneer,

201 S. Main /POBox 266;

785*282*3371 fax 785*282*6883

pioneer@ruraltel.net

*First come, first serve;

*25 words maximum

*Due each Monday by 4p.m.

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\*Summer Reading Club

K-6th grade. Tuesdays from 10-11AM

June thru July @ SCPL

\*July 17-21

Smith County Free Fair

\*BINGO every Tuesday @ the VFW

doors open at 6pm and games start at 7pm

\*August 9th

BUNCO Fundraiser for the Ken Sidles

Youth Training Facility @ VFW

Limited Tickets Available

More info to come

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