

Linn County News

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Tribute to a fallen officer



PHOTOS SUBMITTED AND LINN COUNTY STAFF
The procession headed to Galesburg, Kan. for the burial of fallen KCK Officer Hunter Simoncic. Sheriff James Akes and Undersheriff Bobby Johnson salute as Simoncic's body passes under KS Hwy. 52. Officers from across the county joined to close exits as the funeral procession passed through Linn County going south.

Commission 'bares' down to pass public nudity ban

BY TONY FURSE
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Linn County commissioners passed a resolution banning public nudity at its Sept. 2 weekly meeting, delayed a day for the governmental Labor Day holiday.

Resolution No. 2025-16, enacted on a 2-0 vote with Alison Hamilton not present, forbids nudity on public property or outside the home on private property when visible to others.

The resolution defines nudity as genital or anal exposure below a horizontal line crossing the top of the female areola at its highest point with less than a fully opaque covering.

The resolution designates "places set apart for

Parker Days set for Sept. 20

BY BARBARA PROFFITT
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This year's annual Parker Days event is set for Saturday, Sept. 20 and the theme for the event is "Sunshine and Smiles."

The event kicks off on Friday evening with the Mason's Fish Fry, a free-will donation dinner, at 5 p.m. at the Mason's Building.

On Saturday, the day begins with Breakfast at the Fire Department from 7-9:30 a.m. and then the Mason's Car Show runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Main Street.

The parade starts at 11 a.m. with registration taking place at the elementary school. Entries must be registered by 10:15 a.m. to

eligible for judging.

The museum will be open from 12-4 p.m. and the baby contest, open to ages 0-24 months, will be held at 12 p.m. in the Shelter House at Heritage Park.

Horseshoe pitching starts at 1 p.m. followed by kids' games at 2 p.m., which include a water balloon toss, an egg toss, a turtle race and more.

At 3 p.m. the Frozen t-shirt contest kicks off in the shelter house followed by the Community Dinner, also free-will donation, at 5:30 p.m. and Royalty will be announced at 7 p.m. along with prizes and the quilt drawing.

Sunday will bring a Fishing Derby at Parker Lake with registration at 3:30 p.m. and fishing from 4-5 p.m. with prizes to follow.

Mass text to precede Pleasanton water shut offs

BY JACKIE TAYLOR
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Following complaints of no notice before water shutoffs were done, the Pleasanton City Council approved working to send

mass texts to those who may be in danger of having their water shut off.

Approximately 50 meters were behind in bill payment, but "some unhappy people called city hall," and city employees

Property taxes and how they work

BY BARBARA PROFFITT
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In Kansas, there is a definitive process for determining what the property taxes are on any given piece of property.

Did you know that according to SmartAsset.com Linn County has the second lowest property tax average in the entire state?

According to information available on their website, the average property tax rate in Linn County is 1.06 percent and we are beat out only by Nemaha County which has a similar population and an average rate of 1.01 percent.

Neighboring counties all

have higher average rates, such as:

Miami County – 1.21 percent

Bourbon County – 1.77 percent

Linn County has the second lowest property tax average in the entire state

Johnson County -1.17 percent

Anderson County – 1.61 percent

According to the website, the median home value in Linn County is \$148,200, which at the rate of 1.06 percent, calculates to a median property tax payment of \$1,569.

In Johnson County, however, the median home value is much high-

er, at \$343,300 which at their rate of 1.17 percent calculates to a median tax payment of \$4,000.

This uses a formula of median tax payment /median home value x 100 to determine the average effective tax rate percentage or MTP/MHVx-100=AETRP.

Now that said, in determining the property taxes, there are several steps involved.

First, the county appraiser has to determine the appraised value of the property. What that means is starting on Jan. 1 each year, the Appraiser's Office is required to assign a fair market value to your property. To do that they can use a sales comparison approach in which they

SEE **PROPERTY TAXES, A6**

Pleasanton Fire Department personnel hiring questioned

BY JACKIE TAYLOR
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What started out as a department update from Pleasanton Fire Chief Jeff Wisdom, turned into a showdown between councilmembers and the mayor in who was hired as volunteer firefighters in Pleasanton.

Wisdom informed the council he was beginning training for new firefighters September through December and said he is seeking credentials with radio I.D.s for volunteers.

He then asked that the council agree to move the automatic aid agreement back to a five-mile radius that was initially set up by former Fire Chief Rob Dent.

He said they could possibly get Pleasanton into a

mutual aid agreement only and the city still gets automatic aid from the county; either way it won't affect the county's ISO status.

Mayor Mathew Young reiterated with any possible change to mutual aid for the department within five miles radius that there would still be automatic aid for structure fires.

The change would reduce the area Station 920 to a five-mile radius.

Wisdom said the reason behind the change would be to lessen the number of calls the city department would have to respond to while they are trying get equipment and training up to par.

"There would be less calls to respond to," he said, "but potentially more personnel to respond to calls."

Councilwoman Ro-

chelle Schreckhise then questioned Wisdom on why volunteer firefighter Dennis Mitchel and Jake Mattingley weren't hired and Wisdom said he had no problem with either and was comfortable with their experience in emergency situations.

After further discussion on the qualifications of both applicants, Mayor Mathew Young said, "That is an appointment by the mayor; I don't feel comfortable with the appointment."

Portmann said the chief needs more firefighters and wondered why the mayor was answering the question of hiring for Wisdom.

Schreckhise then said that she would recommend hiring Mitchell.

Young said, "Noted."

SEE **FIRE PERSONNEL, A6**

Jayhawk Blast a blast!



BARBARA PROFFITT | LINN COUNTY NEWS
People enjoy visiting as the Jayhawk Blast goes on Saturday evening. The splash park was busy as bands played to entertain bystanders and vendors alike.

To contact our staff, see our listing at www.linncountynews.net



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DEATHS
Martha F. Couch
Wallace Mack Probasco
Jackie Howard Shroyer

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