

# Linn County News

## Pleasanton council vetoed on fire volunteer appointments

BY JACKIE TAYLOR  
LINN COUNTY NEWS  
JACKIELCN1@GMAIL.COM

The Pleasanton Council heard from Fire Chief Jeff Wisdom Monday night concerning lack of personnel to respond to fires eliminating the department from getting credit for calls with ISO. “We need more people,” he said.

He said last week they trained on pulling hose and hooking them up and this week volunteers will be trained in SCBA, breathing apparatus, so Wisdom can see if anyone can’t handle close quarters, etc.

He said response to calls is going well, but there are not enough volunteers. “I’d like to have 10 fire



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The Pleasanton Council holds a moment of silence Monday for Councilwoman Angelina Randall who passed the week before.

fighters.”

Later in the meeting the council discussed ordinance 2065 concerning appointment of fire fighters.

Councilman Aaron Portmann made a motion to have fire fighters appointed by the fire chief and be approved by the council

rather than having the mayor appoint them as is done now. The motion was approved 3-0 with Portmann, Rochelle Schreckhise and Bill Skipper in agreement.

Mayor Mathew Young then vetoed the ordinance and said, “It creates conflict. The ordinance itself

is a gatekeeper; if the fire chief doesn’t appoint who the council wants.”

Shreckhise said, “You’re against the fire department; you want to be in control and be a dictator.”

Young said after more comments, “That is untrue.”

SEE VETO, A3

## Kansas Policy Institute talks property taxes with legislature

BY BARBARA PROFFITT  
LINN COUNTY NEWS  
LINNCOUNTYNEWSREPORTER@GMAIL.COM

Recently Dave Trabert with the Kansas Policy Institute gave testimony to the Kansas State Legislature regarding property taxes and the changes that the Institute has tracked over the last few years.

Trabert told legislators

that after staying in a narrow band of fluctuation in rates for many years, the increases abruptly changed in 2022 and have been consistently increasing since.

He noted that in 2021, the maximum county increase in Kansas was 9.6 percent with the spread that year being 11.4 percentage points between the highest and lowest;

SEE PROPERTY TAXES, A2

## County logo sees little change



BY BARBARA PROFFITT  
LINN COUNTY NEWS  
LINNCOUNTYNEWSREPORTER@GMAIL.COM

Following several months of discussion and review of designs, the county has received the final design for the new county logo that isn’t much different from the old one. The final cost on

the new design was a total of \$3,000 billed to the county in two \$1,500 increments by Mat Casner’s company, Red Logic, with one billing coming in June of this year and the final billing being dated for Sept. 15.

Former Economic Development Administrator Chasity Ware received permission from commissioners to move forward on the discussed logo change during the meeting on April 28, 2025. Commissioners at that time asked Ware to meet with designers and return with

SEE LOGO, A3

## Pleasanton city candidate forum Oct. 6

BY JACKIE TAYLOR  
LINN COUNTY NEWS  
JACKIELCN1@GMAIL.COM

The city of Pleasanton is hosting a candidate forum for city council candidates Monday, Oct. 6 to be held at the Pleasanton Community Center. The forum begins at 6 p.m.; the audience may submit written questions to candidates, whether to one candidate or addressing them all.

Questions should be

issue-oriented and not of a personal nature.

Candidates will each take turns answering questions first with everyone taking a turn.

The session will be moderated by Roger Sims and Jackie Taylor.

A meet and greet with drinks and snacks will be held after the forum to allow the audience time to visit with candidates and address any questions that may have arisen later.



ANGELA K. HOLT | LINN COUNTY NEWS

National Commander Dan K. Wiley presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Thomas Bradley for his contributions to the Blue Mound American Legion Post 279.

## Blue Mound American Legion Post 279 welcomes National Commander

BY ANGELA K. HOLT  
LINN COUNTY NEWS

American Legion members representing 11 area posts gathered for a luncheon to honor their visiting National Commander, Dan K. Wiley last Tuesday. A veteran of the Air force and a retired Kansas district court judge from Leavenworth, Wiley was elected to the position this past August.

During his address to the crowd, Wiley challenged the local posts to America 250, in celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of the United States. He suggested a physical activity, community program, or buddy check with the number 250 in the challenge. Wiley also took time to stress the importance of the Amer-

ican Legion’s Be the One program. This program is an outreach mission to prevent veteran suicides.

Another challenge Wiley placed on the attending Legion members was the Three C’s Challenge, which include: communication, community and commodity (buddy checks), stating, “we take care of one another.”

Following his speech, Wiley presented Thomas Bradley of Blue Mound Post 279 with a Certificate of Appreciation. In turn, Post 279 Commander Russell Beth gifted Wiley with a handmade wooden puzzle in honor of Wiley’s grandson.

Blue Mound was one of 13 stops for Wiley in Kansas during September.

Watch for our upcoming Sugar Mound Arts & Crafts special next week.

## Repaired and safe



PHOTO BY BONNIE RILEY

Freddie Rowland, Travis Needham and Alex Lowe shore up the Linn County Courthouse gazebo last weekend at no cost to the county. The gazebo has been painted and new shingles placed on the roof.

## Linn County Republican Sunflower Dinner Oct. 9

BY JACKIE TAYLOR  
LINN COUNTY NEWS  
JACKIELCN1@GMAIL.COM

The annual Linn County Republican Central Committee Sunflower Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 9 at 6 p.m. at the Pleasanton Community Building, 9<sup>th</sup> and Main.

Dinner will be served and is included in Sunflower memberships that are \$50 each. Dinner tickets are \$15 if anyone would like to attend who is not a Sunflower member.

The guest speaker will be Charley Pogue, Party Vice Chair. Pogue joined the military when he was 17 and went to flight school at Fort Rucker in Alabama.

He deployed to South Korea and was a rated pilot in UH1, OH58 and AH1 Cobra helicopters.

He served for 22 years and retired from the National Guard.

Pogue is an entrepreneur and owned a technology company. He is married to Tracy and all three of their children serve in the military.

Pogue is a District 2 chaplain for the American Legion and is currently a rancher in Linn County.

To reserve a spot and dinner call Becky Johnson at 913-594-2477.

The dinner is always an interesting evening and everyone is invited to attend.

To contact our staff, see our listing at [www.linncountynews.net](http://www.linncountynews.net)



### DEATHS

Carolyn Lee Wilson Dunlop  
Paul David Hamilton  
William Howard Hansuld

Betty Joan Haupt  
Angelina Marie Randall  
Lois Ann Simons

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