

Looking Back...*By Marcia Labbe* *A look at the past through the pages of The Herald*

4/9/2015 – 10 years ago
Rural fire departments in Pottawatomie County have been exceedingly busy the past few weeks, fighting 680 fires since the spring burn season began.
August Hartwich was re-elected mayor in Tuesday's city election.
Melanie Abitz was a Friday afternoon visitor of Janet McKinsey.
K.C. and Jean Corcoran of Shawnee spent Sunday night with Hazel Wyss. They had lunch with her at the Senior Center on Monday before returning home.
Mark and Pam Kufahl

spent this past week visiting Matt, Iris, Breanne, and Jayda Kufahl at their hoe in Saint Marys, Georgia.
4/13/2000 – 25 years ago
Cool Springs Golf Course is the name given the new course that opened Wednesday, April 5th, on Goldenbelt Road across from the Onaga Cemetery. Jason Konrade, Barry Nider, Nick Hrencher and Chris Flattery were the first foursome to tee off on opening day.
Joe Oswalt of El Paso, Texas spent from Saturday until Wednesday with his mother, Mrs. Winona Oswalt.
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Strahm of Sabetha visited Saturday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Bill Leuthold.
Mary Rowles of Texas is spending this week with Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Valburg and other relatives.
Bob Carl of Lecompton brought his mother, Mrs. Marj Carl, home from a Topeka hospital Sunday.

State University has announced the selection of Jo Winfough as the outstanding senior in mathematics and science at Onaga High School.
Dr. Tom Walsh and Miss Marcia Stewart of Kansas City spent the week end with Dr. and Mrs. E.A. Walsh.
Eugene and Debbie Berges are featured in an article describing their work for the Peace Corps in Ecuador. 1975 was their third year of service.
Mrs. Florence Leinbach spent the past two weeks with Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Huss at Rolla, Mo.

4/14/1955 – 70 years ago
Mr. R.W. Lewis, principal of the Onaga Rural High School for the past ten years, has announced his resignation, effective the end of the school term. Mr. Lewis has accepted the position Superintendent of Schools at Council Grove, Kansas.
Lewis Schwarz has accepted a position with the U.S. Government for two years' service at Anchorage, Alaska, where he will be an electrical motor repairman.
Andy Nolte, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Nolte, received his discharge from the U.S. Navy and arrived in Onaga this morning.
Wilbur Surdez and Karl Schwarz were in Junction City Monday to a Standard Oil dealer's meeting.
Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Labbe and boys and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Robbins were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ewing.

4/10/1975 – 50 years ago
Twenty-five-year membership pins were presented by Mr. Robert Arnold, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kansas to Mr. Lloyd Venneberg and Mr. Darrell Fordham. Mr. Orville Bays presented twenty-five-year Eastern Star pins to Mrs. Marjorie Shove, Mrs. Irene Junod, Mrs. Geraldine Falkens-tien, Mr. Earl Grossnickle and Mrs. Margot Eddy.
The College of Engineering at Kansas

Wheaton City Council Minutes

Mayor Kay Zeit called the March meeting to order at 7:02 in the Wheaton City Fire Department. Councilmen in attendance were: Roger Magnett, Scott Kufahl, Jeremy Sudduth, and Nathan Taylor, City Treasurer Bailey Starns and City Clerk Amanda Taylor. Absent was Lonnie Kufahl, guest was Deputy Dale Rice.
The minutes of the February meeting were reviewed and there being no changes, Roger made the motion to approve and Scott seconded the motion to approve the minutes; motion carried.
The treasurer's report was reviewed. Jeremy made the motion to approve the treasurer's report and Nathan seconded the motion to pay the bills as presented. It is noted that there was an unexpected expense for the repair of our dump truck.
Community Concerns:
The gutter on the street on the west side of the Fire station was recently cleaned. The city appreciates those who helped clean up this gutter. The gutter definitely looks better. The fire department is going to do some repairs to the entrance and it was felt that this would help their efforts.
The Starns family picked up the sticks and branches in the park.
Code Enforcement Report: – The mayor is going to contact Kansas League of Municipalities to see if there is any possibility of securing someone thru them.
Old Business:
Independence Day Celebration will be July 5,

2025.
The Triple V 4-H club Easter Egg Hunt will be April 6.
New Business:
1. Suggestions for improvements from the community are:
a. Power wash shelter house and tables before April 6 (Roger and Nathan)
b. Trim up the bush on the Wheaton sign (Taylors will do)
c. Clean out gutter inlets and the gutter on railroad street. Owner of the old milk plant is having water issues as water comes in thru the front door from flooding of the gutters. (Kay will contact the High School principal to see if any students need to complete a project as in the past.)
d. Patch cracks in new blacktop on Railroad and North streets. (Moved to 2026)
e. Fix inlet at Railroad and Highway 16. (Moved to 2026)
f. Find a contractor or someone to look at the North west corner of the city building.
g. Remove the piles of dirt the snow removal left. (Roger stated that he could complete)
h. Finish setting up the playground equipment. Taylor Starns will organize this project getting help from the resident of the city. Sunday April 27 is the target date to complete this project.
i. Clean out the city building to use as a place for storage of documents.
j. Replace stop sign at Summit and Wheaton Rd. (Jeremy will see if there are any old stop signs available)

2. To reserve the City Park, call 785-396-4351.
3. City will bring in a dumpster this spring for the residents to remove trash and to clean up their property, further information will be forthcoming.
4. From May 1 to May 31, Pottawatomie County residents can drop off passenger tires and refrigeration appliances at no cost. You will be asked for your address before you can drop off your items.
5. Pottawatomie County Commission has approved a 2025 allocation per city for parks and recreation equipment. An application will be completed to complete the set up of the part of the playground for the little children, and/or for the placement of something under the merry-go-round.
6. Due to the major wind storms that we have had recently, the Attorney General forwarded to all the cities, some brochures outlining the requirements that a reputable roofing contractor must possess, if you are in the need of roof repairs. Let me know if you are interested in a brochure.
There being no further business to be brought forward, Jeremy made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Nathan seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:39. The next meeting will be held on April 16, 2025 at 7:00 pm in the Wheaton City Fire Dept. Building.

Respectfully submitted
Amanda Taylor,

Local News Items

By Teresa Kathke

Daniel, Sarah, Katelyn and Charlotte McKinsey went to Wamego over the weekend and watched Isabel in her gymnastics meet where she performed very well.
Ruth Ensley's daughter Diane Kaster is here from Texas visiting her mother.
Visitors of Mary and Gerald McDougal this past week were on Wednesday, Gale McDougal, Lyle McDougal, and his daughter Lori and her puppy. On Thursday, Mary's great granddaughter Xandria Gent and her two children Aryn and Frankie came to visit grandpa and grandma.
Saturday, Mary went with her daughter Diane Roggenkamp to Havensville to a baby shower for Kinzi and Mason Colson.
Saturday Teresa Kathke went to Kinzi and Mason Colson's baby shower in Havensville.
Sunday after church Dennis and Teresa Kathke went to Wamego to the Columbian Theater to watch the play Steel Magnolia. Teresa said they enjoyed the play very much.
Bailey, Ellie and Zoey Starns, Tracy, Monty and Rayna Meyerkorth and Karen and Joe Harder went to Tecumseh, Nebraska to attend the Thomas Baum memorial. Mr. Baum was the grandfather of Makayla, Chloe and Austyn Balm of Wamego.

Senate

Continued from page 4

year, the House did pass another bill that would reorganize state agencies involved with childcare, but there was not a comprehensive discussion on the problems and solutions that might be available.
On Thursday, we acted on a motion to remove several bills from committee, including SB 179, which would establish a child tax credit. I have never supported these extraordinary procedural maneuvers because bills that get pulled out of committee (whether I like them or not) are typically not vetted well enough to become law. However, in this case I supported pulling SB 179 out of committee and voiced my frustration with the lack of a real conversation on childcare and thought this bill would at least provide that opportunity. The motions to withdraw all failed on the Senate floor.
Consumer Protection for Online Shoppers
Normally, a bill that modernizes state law regarding the work done by the Weights and Measures Program (W&M Program) within the Kansas Department of Agriculture would not warrant much comment in a newsletter, but the changes in HB 2255 contain some new protections for consumers. The W&M Program is already responsible for price verification checks and protections. State attorneys general have sued some major retailers because of the work of programs like ours. The changes to the law expand authority to investigate electronic applications, software,

and online purchasing systems and ensure that retailers cannot limit, exclude, or otherwise fail to provide access to generic, store brand, or less costly versions of products for purchase online if they are in-stock and available in the store for purchase. This will help those that are disabled and seniors who struggle with accessibility and travel and will hopefully result in better product selection for all consumers.
Confirmation of Court of Appeals Judge
The Senate voted to confirm Lori Bolton Fleming to the position of Judge of the Kansas Court of Appeals by a 40-0 vote. Judge Fleming currently serves as the Chief Judge of the 11th Judicial District based in Pittsburg in southeast Kansas. I had the opportunity to sit down for a one-on-one interview with Judge Fleming and the Senate Judiciary Committee asked questions in a public hearing. She was intelligent and articulate, and her record of working with children in need of care and taking a constitutional approach to reviewing the law made her easy to support.
My committee assignments this year include Agriculture and Natural Resources, Local Government, Judiciary, and Commerce. If you plan to visit the Capitol or a reception, please reach out in advance and let me know you are coming so I can make every effort to be available to visit with you. You can reach me via email at kenny.titus@senate.ks.gov or you can call my office at (785) 296-7656

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