The Osage County The Official Newspaper of Osage County Serving Osage County since 1863 The Official Newspaper of Osage County Serving Osage County Since 1863 The Official Thursday, December 4, 2025 Vol. 163, No. 49 12 Pages + Inserts

Burlingame to host annual Christmas celebration Saturday

36th annual Burlingame Country Christmas celebration will be Dec. 6, in downtown Burlingame.

The day will begin with a breakfast feed from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Federated Church.

A door decorating contest will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the school, and from 10 a.m. to noon, kid crafts will take place at the Masonic Lodge.

Vendors will be set up from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at both the Schuyler Community Center and the Bus Barn.

From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., a cookie sale will be held at the library, a Festival of Trees will take place at Schuyler Museum, and a silent auction will be held at the chamber booth in the Bus Barn.

PK Country Designs will host a Christmas open house from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and a Santa meet and greet will take place from noon to 2 p.m. at the Trail Songs Stage.

From 2:30 to 6 p.m., carriage rides will be offered in front of the library, and beginning at 5 p.m., the Bluebelles of the Trail will perform on the Trail Songs Stage.



Kris and Tricia Kline will serve as parade marshals, shown here with their granddaughter, Blakely.

Free cookies and hot cocoa will be served at 6 p.m. in front of City Hall.

Parade entrants will line up at 5 p.m. at the high school, judging will take place at 5:30 p.m., and the lighted parade of lights, with the theme "Home for the Holidays," will begin at 6 p.m. down Santa Fe Avenue.

Cash prizes will be awarded for the top three float winners, in

the amount of \$200 for first, \$150 for second, and \$100 for third place, as well as a \$100 cash prize for the brightest and most lighted vehicle. Additional categories have been added this year, including youth, non-profit, ATV/UTV, people's choice, and other, with each category featuring a \$50 prize.

Kris and Tricia Kline will serve as parade

The Klines are lifelong residents of Burlingame. Both attended Burlingame schools, with Kris graduating in 1994 and Tricia in 1995. They were married in 1997. They have two children, Kristen Dreyer (Layton) and Kade Kline, and one grandchild, Blakely, with another on the way.

Kris is employed by Kansas Rural Water Association as a circuit rider/technical assistance. He previously served on the Burlingame USD 454 school board for 14 years and is a member of the Corinthian Lodge #79 A.F. & A.M.

Tricia works at Godderz Law Firm. She also owns and operates HTH Tax Services. In addition, she serves as treasurer of the Burlingame Chamber of Commerce, vice-president of the **Burlingame Community** Cemetery Board, treasurer of the Burlingame PTO, treasurer of the Burlingame USD 454 **Endowment Association** Board, and is also on the **Burlingame Enhancement** Committee. She also served on the Burlingame REC Commission

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Sheila Holle/Herald-Chronicle

Osage City was dusted with snow Monday as the first snowfall of the year hit Osage County.

Osage County turns white with snow

The first snow of the season arrived Monday in Osage County as a fast-moving winter storm brought accumulating snow across much of central and eastern Kansas.

The National Weather Service issued a winter weather advisory for Osage and surrounding counties, with predicted totals of 1 to 3 inches and isolated spots possibly seeing up to 4 inches.

Snow began overnight Sunday in some areas, and continued through much of the morning and afternoon Monday, before tapering off.

Drivers were warned to expect slick roads and

slower travel. Several highways in and around the county were reported as icy or partly covered, including stretches of U.S. highways 56 and 75, and Kansas highways 99 and

Local officials prepared for the cold and snow by extending warming-center hours and reminding residents to stay ready with emergency kits, warm clothing and a charged phone.

Even with light snow totals, Monday's storm marked the start of the winter season — and a reminder that colder, tougher weather may be just ahead.

'Tis the season



City of Burlingame staff got the Christmas tree, donated by Bryce and Jan Newman, put up in downtown Burlingame Monday, just in time for the city's annual Country Christmas event this weekend.



Newspaper deadline, distribution schedule

The Osage County Herald-Chronicle will be closed Dec. 24-26 for Christmas. However, we will publish a Dec. 25 newspaper, along with the annual Christmas Greetings section, which will be mailed out and distributed to newsstands Tuesday, Dec. 23. For those who pick up a newspaper at the Herald-Chronicle office, the paper rack will be outside the front door from noon to 2 p.m. Dec. 23.

The office will be closed the week of Dec. 29, 2025, through Jan. 2, 2026, and we will not publish a newspaper that week. We will reopen Jan. 5, 2026.

Note: The deadline for the Dec. 25 edition will be noon Friday, Dec. 19.

Osage County Commission

Osage County backs regional solid waste plan, sheriff's taser contract

LYNDON — Osage County commissioners approved an update to the Lake Region Solid Waste management plan, authorized a five-year taser replacement package for the sheriff's office, and broke two city council election ties during the Nov. 25 commission meet-

Commission Chair Heather Kuder called the meeting to order, with Commissioner Brandon Smith present. Commissioner Les Holman was

absent. County Clerk Michelle Morris was also absent, and Deputy Clerk Tempest Harrison handled roll call, agenda duties and clerk responsibilities throughout the meeting. County Counselor Josh Ney joined the meeting shortly after it began.

Shay Hanysak, regional coordinator for the Lake Region Solid Waste Authority, reviewed annual updates to the region's seven-county solid waste plan. She said the yearly

review updates names, dates and data, while a full overhaul occurs every five years.

Hanysak discussed ongoing issues with rural recycling sites, including contamination and illegal dumping, and said consolidation, limiting accepted materials or changing container types are all potential options. She also outlined available grants for equipment, trucks and structures to protect baled materials.

The Lake Region board re-

cently agreed to return \$5,000 to each county for recycling improvements, funds that may also serve as matching dollars for grants. Commissioners reviewed 11 edits to the plan and approved Resolution 2025-28, adopting the updated Lake Region Solid Waste management plan.

Sheriff Chris Wells presented two payroll action forms, which commissioners approved: Andy Goddard, full-time correction officer, effective Nov. 17; and

Chloe Connor, part-time dispatcher effective Nov. 25.

Wells then outlined a proposal from Axon Enterprise Inc. to replace the department's out-of-service tasers and provide training cartridges, duty cartridges and support for five years. The five-year package totals \$146,244. The first-year cost is \$23,000, reduced due to trade-in credit for the county's old units.

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The Osage County Herald-Chronicle | 527 Market St., Osage City, KS 66523 | (785) 528-3511 | www.och-c.com | ochcnews@gmail.com



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