



LETTER TO EDITOR

In recent decades, Kansas has been blessed by the leadership of two women, a Republican and a Democrat, who have guided our state with firmness and intelligence. In 2004, Governor Kathleen Sebelius signed a law -- written by legislators from both political parties -- giving in-state tuition to immigrant Kansans who comply with a set of requirements. Those leaders worked with wisdom and foresight to provide incentives for children of undocumented Kansas immigrants to stay in school, study hard and graduate with hopes of attaining a college degree and remaining in Kansas to make a positive contribution here.

Twenty-two years later, last week, the forces of racism -- in today's hate-driven national campaign by the White House -- found a federal judge willing to overlook the positive results Kansas has enjoyed from that 2004 law, U.S. District Judge Holly Teeter, who issued an injunction against this fair rule that served our state for so long.

Four years ago, after steering our country safely through COVID, President Joseph Biden led a bipartisan team of legislators in writing new laws to address problems in America's immigration system. But Donald Trump persuaded Republicans to resist those solutions for two years until he was able to take office and engineer a campaign of terror to rival the German atrocities of 1933 to 1945.

This administration, with acquiescence of the GOP, has leveraged America's democratic institutions to undermine the bedrock of our democracy: wave after wave of freedom-seeking immigrants who blessed this nation with patriotism and labor, continually renewing the promise of America. I believe in our capacity to fully recover from the ravages of the Trump Era and restore our heritage as "land of the free and home of the brave" and a global beacon of hope.

Sincerely,
Robb Scott
Council Grove

Discovery Trail

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On Friday, Sept. 18, the relay will cover 87 miles from Dodge City through Ford, Kinsley and Garfield to Larned. Saturday's 57-mile route will go from Larned through Pawnee Rock, Dundee and Great Bend before reaching Ellinwood.

On Sunday, Sept. 20, participants will travel 53 miles from Ellinwood through Chase and Lyons to McPherson. Monday's 86.1-mile leg will bring the relay to Council Grove, followed by Tuesday's 99.2-mile trip from Council Grove to Lawrence.

The relay will travel 39.1 miles Wednesday, Sept. 23, from Lawrence through Eudora and DeSoto and along Prairie Star Parkway, Haller Trail and Mahaffie Creek Trail before reaching Olathe. The final Kansas segment Thursday, Sept. 24, will cover 17.5 miles from Olathe toward Kansas City, Mo., using portions of Mahaffie Creek Trail, Kansas City Road/127th Street, Indian Creek Trail and Corporate Woods before crossing the Kansas-Missouri state line.

Organizers are encouraging Kansans to meet participants along the route or follow the relay as it crosses the state. Photos from the event may be shared on social media using #SunflowerStretch, #ADT250Relay and #KSTrailsInc and by tagging @ADT250Relay and @KSTrailsInc.

Questions about the relay may be directed to the American Discovery Trail Society at relay@discovery-trail.org. Equestrian questions may be directed to the Kansas Horse Council at director@kansashorsecouncil.com or 785-565-1976.

City Council

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Center and selected Ashton Kate Construction. The proposal included a \$58,450 base price and \$6,500 for the diving stands, for a total of \$64,950. The work includes cleaning, sandblasting, repairs and protective coatings and remains below the approximately \$100,000 budgeted for the project.

A City Lake Committee recommendation for Scott and Leslie Nord at C-36 was unanimously approved. The 17-foot variance from the 100-foot high-water setback will allow construction of a screened porch over a replacement deck in the same footprint.

The council voted 6-0 to hire Saiz as a police officer at \$22 per hour, contingent upon required screenings. She will attend the 14-week Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center program. The city is also working on an agreement intended to retain her for two years following completion of the academy.

Two utilities employees were unanimously approved. ReAnna Brown was hired as a water department apprentice at \$19 per hour effective Sept. 21, and Ryan Bertha at \$20 per hour effective Sept. 30. Bertha's higher rate reflects his plumbing and irrigation background.

During discussion items, McDonald presented a \$2,680 proposal for the metal portion of a new Council Grove Recreation and Events Center sign. The price does not include installation or the masonry base. No action was taken.

The council also continued reviewing guidelines for reinstating the city's 50/50 building improvement grant program. Discussion centered on whether assistance should focus primarily on roofs, windows, foundations and facades or continue to include HVAC, electrical and plumbing work. The matter is expected to return at the next meeting.

Jones also reported inquiries about purchasing or renting the former Fairmont property. Any sale would require sealed bids, and he recommended requiring development within a specified period. The city has more than \$50,000 invested in acquisition and cleanup of the property.

The council discussed the former Penny's Concrete property as well. Jones said the current rental arrangement provides the city with utility work, including replacement of poles valued at approximately \$20,000 to \$24,000 each, and indicated retaining the arrangement appears more advantageous than selling the property.

Before adjournment, Jones reported continued cemetery improvements, while McDonald reminded City Lake residents that the proposed final lake plat is available for review and is expected to return to the council for approval at its next meeting.

Statewide effort

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work together to protect workers, strengthen communities and save lives."

The proclamation seeks to emphasize the importance of equipping employers, managers, and workers with the knowledge and resources to recognize warning signs of suicide, build a culture of care and respond with compassion.

Organizations like the Construction Industry Alliance for Suicide Prevention, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) are supporting efforts to reduce the risks and promote safer and healthier workplaces.

Governor Kelly is encouraging all Kansans to recognize Construction Suicide Prevention Week and support its efforts to make workplaces safe and supportive for workers.

Fresh from the Hen House

By Ashley
Burkhardt Walker



by Ashley
Burkhardt Walker

Double Chocolate Chip Cookies

2 & 2/3 cup Fresh Milled Flour 320g I milled 320g soft white wheat berries to get this
1/2 cup Cocoa Powder 56g
1 tsp baking soda
1/2 tsp salt
1 cup softened butter 226g 2 sticks
2/3 cup sugar 130g
3/4 cup brown sugar 150g
1 tsp vanilla extract
2 large eggs
2 cups white chocolate chips 340g or we love semi-sweet chips
Instructions
1. Mill your flour
2. Preheat Oven to 350°F
3. Add cocoa powder, baking soda, & salt to the flour. Mix to combine.
4. In a separate bowl, beat softened (but not melted) butter & sugars until they are smooth & creamy.
5. Then, add vanilla & beat again.
6. Add eggs to butter mixture & beat until combined.
7. Now, add flour mixture into the wet ingredients, and mix until combined.
8. Add your chocolate chips
9. Scoop cookies with cookie scoop onto a baking sheet about 2 inches apart from each other.
10. Bake for 9-10 minutes.
11. Let cookies cool on the baking sheet for a few minutes, then transfer them to a wire cooling rack.

Community Thrift Store Board

President Catherine Hutchinson opened the September 14 Community Thrift Store Board meeting at the Community Christian Church. Following Rita Buchanan's prayer and the approval of the minutes, Larry Rose then gave the treasurer's report. He noted that sales were excellent. He added that one scholarship recipient chose not to attend college, so only 13 scholarships were actually awarded. Vice president Frances Davies read thank-you notes from scholarship recipients, Madison Brown and Macelyn Taylor.

Denise Chaney, co-coordinator, stated that winter clothes may now be displayed for sale. She asked members to tell workers who are not board members to test appliances to be sure they are in working order, to clean any soiled items, and to place dates on the price tags. She added that no one has complained about having to pay in the workroom for the new clothing that is kept there.

Rose requested members consider the construction of a carport-type structure with a ceiling fan to house furniture and other larger items that are displayed for sale outside the workroom door. The structure must leave adequate space for the loading of bags sent to Goodwill. He will determine what the dimensions

for the structure should be. The two co-coordinators will then ask for estimates.

Those present included Barb Adams, Chelo Banks, Rachael Barr, Rita Buchanan, Denise Chaney, Frances Davies, Vicki Elstun, Marc Evans, Susan Graham, Catherine Hutchinson, Denise Kosmicki, Maggie Linn, Anita McDiffett, Kathy McMillan, Kathy Montgomery, Larry Rose, Mary Rowley, Barb Sommer, and Jeanne Weeks.

The next meeting will October 12.

4-H summer camp ownership could change

JUNCTION CITY (KSNT) - Leaders of the Kansas-based chapter of a national youth development organization are examining a possible change in ownership of a large summer camp near Junction City.

Officials with the Kansas 4-H Foundation initially shared in April this year that its Board of Trustees were examining the possibility of transferring ownership of the Rock Springs Ranch summer camp and conference center. The transfer is part of a "long-term strategy" to support continued youth development in the Sunflower State.

Rock Springs Ranch, located around 12 miles south of Junction City, regularly brings in thousands of children each year for opportunities

needed. It took a bit of time getting her to suck, first on my finger, then on mama. My youngest did her fair share of pushing baby where she needed to be and helping guide her, all essential parts of helping her get what she needed to survive.

Maybe I don't love them growing up on me, but I sure do love seeing what capable people they're growing into, especially in their own areas of interest. Follow me on Facebook: Vintage at Heart Homestead

This was the cookie of choice to mix up on Sunday! We will bake them all through the week for fresh cookies for lunch bags.



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Attention Christmas Club Members

This year's Christmas Club is coming to a close.

Be sure to have all 49 deposits in **By Saturday, October 10, 2026.**

No deposits will be accepted after that date.

We will make a quarter of your 50th deposit

Checks will be mailed in mid-October



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