

COUNCIL GROVE REPUBLICAN

A Daily Newspaper on the Santa Fe Trail in Council Grove, Kansas Since 1872



Contact Us
CALL (620) 767-5123
FAX (620) 767-5124
EMAIL
cgnews@cgtelco.net
or MAIL
Council Grove Republican
302 W. Main St.
Council Grove, KS 66846
ONLINE EDITION:
www.councilgrove
republican.com

Local Grain Prices
(Provided by Agri Trails Coop)
Corn\$4.60
Milo.....\$4.40
Soybeans\$12.54
Wheat\$7.03

Fishing Report
Council Grove Reservoir
Bass - White: Fair to Good along deep rock points and ledges on spinners and jigs; Catfish - Channel: Fair to Good near wind-blown flats and creek channel ledges on cut bait and worms; Crappie: Fair 10-20 feet deep on minnows and jigs near points, brush, and ledges; Saugeye: Fair near dam and gravel/rock points on jigs and worms.

Reservoir Lake Level
Normal elevation1274.00
Current elevation1274.07

THREE-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

Corps of Engineers Readings, Council Grove Reservoir
High and low temperatures for the 24-hour period ending this morning were 74 and 58, with the 8:00 am reading 59°.
Thursday: Partly sunny, high near 80. SE wind around 5 mph. A 30% chance for rain, low around 62.
Friday: A 60% chance for rain, high near 80. SE wind 5-10 mph. Mostly cloudy, low around 63.
Saturday: A 40% chance for rain, mainly before 1 p.m. Mostly cloudy, high near 84. South wind gusts, Partly cloudy, low 64.



**THURSDAY
FORECAST
High 80
Low 62**



A diversity of horse breeds and their riders came through Council Grove Tuesday morning. They represented the Sunflower Stretch of the Kansas segment of the American Discovery Trails 250 Relay. After a ceremony at Allegawaho Memorial Heritage Park, the riders continued on the Flint Hills Trail to Bushong where the Discovery baton was handed off to bicyclists.

Equine riders carry Discovery 250 Relay baton along Flint Hills Trail

The Sunflower Stretch, Kansas' segment of the American Discovery Trails 250 Relay, came through Council Grove Tuesday morning, reaching the community at approximately 7:30 a.m. before meeting an equine contingent at Allegawaho Heritage Memorial Park around 9 a.m.

Justine Staten, executive director of Kansas Horse Council/EquiFest of Kansas, described the 11-mile horseback portion of the relay, which traveled the Flint Hills Trail from the heritage park to Bushong.

The equine group was led by a vintage high-wheel buckboard wagon decorated with patriotic bunting and pulled by a team of Percherons — one black and one gray. Following the wagon was a 4-year-old Clydesdale under saddle, along with a Morgan, Missouri Fox Trotters, an Arabian, a Connemara carrying both a rider and dog, several American Quarter Horses of various colors, a mule and several Bureau of Land Management mustangs.

Staten said the variety of breeds represented more than the horses

taking part in the relay. "The diversity of breeds was a nod at the melting pot of this beautiful country," she said.

As the group traveled the Flint Hills Trail, riders passed through Kansas prairie, rolling hills, limestone bluffs, creeks and timber. Staten noted the ecological diversity found within the relatively short 11-mile stretch of the former railroad corridor, now converted to recreational trail.

At times, the riders traveled closely together at a steady pace. As the miles accumulated, the horses began spreading out along the trail. Staten said conversations ranged from the Pony Express to speculation about train robberies, stagecoaches and how Native people may once have used high points overlooking the surrounding landscape.

"It was fun. The weather was perfect," Staten said. "The trail is very well maintained, and anyone who has never traveled it should give it a try."

She said the Flint Hills Trail provides opportunities for several forms

of recreation while giving people a common place to experience Kansas.

"No matter if you're a walker, a cyclist or an equestrian, the trail brings us all together to enjoy our state, nature, recreation and meeting new people," Staten said. "That's exactly what we did today."

Staten expressed appreciation to American Discovery Trail organizers for coordinating the coast-to-coast, multimodal relay in celebration of America's 250th birthday. She also credited Kansas Trails Inc. with organizing the Kansas portion, known as the Sunflower Stretch, and inviting the Kansas Horse Council and its trail-focused Back Country Horsemen of Kansas to organize an equine segment.

She also recognized the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks for its stewardship of the trails used during the event.

When the equine group reached Bushong, the relay baton — which contains a rolled copy of the Declaration of Independence — was handed off to the O'Brien Bicycle Club to continue east.

The horseback segment covered 11 miles of the 99 miles scheduled to be traveled Tuesday and was part of the approximately 575 miles the Discovery 250 Relay will cover across Kansas.

Card Shower for Bacon
The family of Ruth Bacon is inviting the community to participate in a birthday card shower for Bacon's 90th birthday. Cards may be sent to Ruth Bacon, Assisted Living, 554 Country Lane, #118, Council Grove.

"Create your own tea blend" to be held this Saturday
The Community Arts Council of Council Grove will offer a hands-on tea blending class Saturday, Sept. 26, from 10 a.m. to noon at Tulip's, 120 W. Main St. in Council Grove.

The "Create Your Own Tea Blend" class will be led by Ellen Wickersham, an herbalist, artist, Reiki Master and Tai Chi practitioner.

During the class, Wickersham will introduce participants to a variety of herbs and guide them through the process of combining different ingredients and flavors to create their own custom herbal tea blends. Herbs needed for the activity will be provided.

The class will give participants an opportunity to learn about different herbs while experimenting with combinations to create a blend suited to their individual tastes.

The Community Arts Council encourages participants to attend with friends and make the class part of their Saturday morning activities.

Space is limited. Cost and registration information were not included in the event announcement.

Before dawn: The day Herington lost its Rock Island depot

A 101-year-old landmark disappeared on March 23, 1988, before many Herington residents knew demolition had begun.

For people who grew up in small Kansas towns, neighboring communities could sometimes seem much farther apart than the miles between them. Council Grove and Herington met on athletic fields and courts, and most people in this area knew that Herington was a railroad town. But events in one community did not necessarily become lasting memories in another.

That may help explain why one of the most dramatic episodes in Herington's history is not widely remembered today.

Thirty-eight years ago, on March 23, 1988, residents of Herington went to bed with their 101-year-old Rock Island depot still standing. Before sunrise, it was gone.

A private contractor began tearing into the two-story limestone passenger depot at about 5:40 a.m. According to later accounts based on contemporary preservation records, a large hydraulic backhoe reduced the building to rubble in less than an hour. There had been no advance public announcement that demolition was about to begin.

The depot's loss was especially significant because Herington's history and the railroad had been intertwined almost from the community's beginning.

In 1887, town founder Monroe Davis Herington persuaded the Chi-

cago, Kansas and Nebraska Railroad to build through the community. He provided land and right-of-way, helping secure Herington's position as a railroad division point with shops, two roundhouses, a freight house, bridge yards, a telegraph office and other facilities. Herington also furnished the limestone for the freight house and the two-story passenger depot. The depot was originally 28 by 66 feet and was later enlarged to 28 by 105 feet.

The building became closely identified with the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad and with Herington itself. For generations, the depot was a place of arrivals and departures — a physical reminder of the railroad industry that helped shape the town.

Passenger service eventually ended in the 1960s, but the Rock Island continued using the depot for offices. After the financially troubled Rock Island ceased operations in 1980, the St. Louis Southwestern Railway Co., commonly known as the Cotton Belt and associated with Southern Pacific, acquired the Golden State Route through Herington. The railroad later moved its offices elsewhere in the yard, leaving the old depot vacant.

By the mid-1980s, there was discussion in Herington about preserving the unused building, although no organized local effort had developed to acquire it. At the same time, the depot was receiving formal recognition.

(See Before dawn, Page 2)



The historic Rock Island depot in Herington is shown in 1970, 18 years before it was demolished. A contractor began demolishing the 101-year-old landmark before sunrise on March 23, 1988, reducing it to rubble in less than an hour.
Photo by Richard R. Makse



Unbeaten Braves travel to Minneapolis for week 4 matchup

Council Grove averaging 50 points per game through 3-0 start

The Council Grove Braves will put their undefeated record on the line Friday when they travel to Minneapolis for a Week 4 matchup with the Lions. Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.

Council Grove enters the game 3-0 and ranked No. 2 in Class 2A. Minneapolis is 0-3 and ranked No. 34.

The Braves are coming off a 66-0 Homecoming victory over West Franklin, while Minneapolis fell 54-5 to No. 5 Beloit in its most recent outing.

Through three games, Council Grove has averaged 50 points and 287.7 yards of total offense per contest while limiting opponents to 6.7 points and 83.3 total yards per game. The Braves have averaged 180.7 yards passing and 107 yards rushing, while opponents have managed averages of 55.3 yards through the air and 27.7 on the ground.

Turnovers have also worked heavily in Council Grove's favor. The Braves have forced an average of 2.7 turnovers per game while playing their first three contests without committing a turnover.

Senior quarterback Luke Stewart has completed 30 of 42 passes for 497 yards and six touchdowns without an interception. He accounted for 546 yards of total offense, including 49 rushing yards.

Council Grove has spread its production among several players. Junior Cooper Andres has rushed for 95 yards and two touchdowns on 11 carries, while senior Bradley Doornbos has 90 yards and three touchdowns on 16 attempts. Sophomore Leyton Olsen has added 84 yards on eight carries.

Senior Mason Samuels leads the receiving corps with nine catches for 173 yards and three touchdowns.

(See Braves preview, Page 3)

Grant meeting to focus on potential benefits for CG

Council Grove residents will have an opportunity Oct. 1 to learn how participation in an EPA Brownfields Grant program could benefit the community.

The Flint Hills Regional Council, in partnership with the Greater Morris County Development Corporation, will host an informational meeting from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 1, at The Territory Ballroom, 117-119 W. Main St., Council Grove.

The meeting will include an overview of the EPA Brownfields Grant application being prepared by the Flint Hills Regional Council. Representatives will also explain how participation could benefit Council Grove.

A question-and-answer session will follow the presentation.

The meeting is open to those interested in learning more about the grant opportunity and its potential use in the community.

For additional information, contact the Greater Morris County Development Corporation at 620-767-7355 or Chuck.GetOnTrack@gmail.com.

White City schedules fall clean-up Oct. 5

The City of White City will hold its annual fall clean-up Monday, Oct. 5, giving residents an opportunity to dispose of several types of unwanted household items and debris.

All items must be placed street-side by 7 a.m. Monday, Oct. 5. The city cautions that items placed out after Monday morning may not be hauled away.

Residents are asked to separate materials into categories before pickup. Accepted items include tree limbs and clean lumber with no nails; metal and appliances containing no Freon; old furniture; and tires. Residents may dispose of up to four light-duty tires, which must be removed from their rims.

Hazardous waste and house demolition materials will not be picked up.

City officials also reminded residents that White City has a blight ordinance and that the fall clean-up is the only time items of this type are permitted to be placed street-side.

(See WC fall clean-up, Page 2)