REMINISCING

(from the files of the Council Grove Republican)

1976

Douglas Parks is new member of Baker University choir…Mr. and Mrs. Keith Rohling, Osage City, parents of Noelle Denisse…Paula Campbell, Debra Comp, Vicky Schrader, Steve Albrecht, Patrick Marts and Rodney Morgan are White City High School homecoming queen and king candidates.

1986

Dionne Meyers, CGHS sophomore, selected to represent the school at Hugh O'Brian Leadership Conference…Twenty-two area students are among the 1,990 freshmen students at KSU; among them are Tracy Edwards, Raymond Essington, Kristine Wilson, Tami Tibbetts, Troy Anderson, Mack McClure and Michael Prohaska.

1996

Judge Tom Ball and Dana Neal parents of son Blake Thomas…Lady Huskies qualify for sub-state tourney in Class 1A volleyball for first time in school history…Michelle Herpich, White City, and Amy Strome, Herington, among KSU Classy Cats …Mr. and Mrs. Garland Richardson attend Baker University ceremony to hear speech by Margaret Thatcher.

2006

Lady Twisters of Dwight edged by Luckey in championship match of Flint Hills Junior League volleyball tournament; they posted a 10-2 record this fall…Larry and Karen Landgren attend H&R Block convention in San Diego, CA.

2016

Gary and Shirley Block, Alta Vista, to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Oct. 29…The unemployment rate in Morris County for September is 3.5 percent, according to preliminary Kansas labor force estimates from the Kansas Department of Labor.

Sternberg Museum to remain open as FHSU develops long-term plan

HAYS (KAKE) - Fort Hays State University announced Monday that the Sternberg Museum will no longer close in December, thanks to recent donations.

FHSU thanked the Bob and Pat Schmidt Foundation, Fort Hays State University alumni, and community members in a release. The December 18 closure date has been rescinded, and the museum will stay open while the university develops a long-term plan.

"In September, I announced the difficult decision to close the Sternberg Museum. Since then, community groups, individuals, and small businesses have stepped forward to support Fort Hays State and our Hays community," said FHSU president Tisa Mason.

Most notably, the Schmidt Foundation announced earlier this month that it would match donations up to $1 million. Each eligible donation, including those already made to the campaign, is being matched dollar for dollar.

"I am excited to share that in less than one month we have received gifts and verbal commitments from individuals and small businesses totaling more than $638,000," Mason said. "With the match, we will surpass our first $1 million fundraising goal. With additional fundraising, there's still potential to unlock a full $2 million in support. As a result, the previously announced December 18, 2026, closing date has been rescinded. Our focus has shifted to developing a right-sized, sustainable, long-term business plan for the museum."

FHSU said the Sternberg houses more than three million specimens documenting the diverse life and environments of the Great Plains and is recognized for its extensive collections and contributions to scientific research and education.

EMAIL YOUR NEWS TO
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LEGALS

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR OPERATING/CAPITAL FUNDS (5311, 5316 & 5317)

The Morris County General Public Transportation Agency will be applying for operating and capital assistance for transportation under the U.S.C. 5311 (rural public transportation) of the Federal Transit Act. The application will be for operating and capital funds to help provide transportation services in Morris County. Written comments and questions in regard to this application are encouraged and will be accepted until November 18th, 2026. Questions or comments should be sent to Chelsey Schmidt, Morris County Clerk/Public Transportation Director, at 501 W Main St, Ste 9, Council Grove, Kansas 66846 or emailed to cschmidt@morriscountyks.org

The Morris County General Public Transportation Agency receives Federal Transit Administration (FTA) operating dollars. This funding is utilized for the purchase of fuel, insurance, equipment maintenance and storage. This agency is seeking Kansas Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) certified companies as potential vendors of these services. Please contact Chelsey Schmidt at 620-767-5518 if you are a DBE and interested in learning more about the DBE program.

(Published in the Council Grove Republican October 27, 2026)

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the Morris County Board of Commissioners, hereafter known as the "Owner/Landlord", will receive sealed bids for the lease of the County Hay Property. The term of the Lease Agreement shall be for the period of March 1, 2027, through February 28, 2030.

The Lease Agreement will grant the right to mow, bale and take all hay, grass, or other plant life growing naturally on the strip of county-owned property described as follows:

The land located west of the county road running north and south between Sections 28 and 29, Township 16, Range 6, in the northwest corner of the Northwest Quarter (NW1/4) of Section 28, Township 16, Range 6, in Morris County, Kansas, in the 6th P.M. The tract contains approximately five (5) acres.

A complete copy of the Lease Agreement and description of the property is available at the Morris County Clerk's office in the Morris County Courthouse, Council Grove, Ks.

Sealed bids will be received until the bid opening at 11:00 a.m., on Tuesday, November 10th, 2026, in the Morris County Commission Meeting Room. Bids will be opened and publicly read at that time. No bids will be considered after the above-mentioned date and time.

A contract will be awarded to the highest responsible bidder; however, the Owner/Landlord reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and to determine which is the most responsible bid suitable to the Owner/Landlord, which is Morris County, Kansas.

Board of County Commissioners
Of Morris County, Kansas

(Published in the Council Grove Republican October 27, 2026)



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FOR RENT

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MISC.

"The 36-Hour Day" Support Group meets 1-2 p.m. on Thursdays at the Morris County Hospital Chapel. It is free, safe, confidential and open to anyone caring for a friend or loved one with dementia. For info, call Jan at 303-775-5901 or Liz at 785-466-1590.

ARE YOU Concerned about someone else' s drinking? Al- Anon can help! 785-561-0157.

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Officials warn of mountain lion sightings in eastern KS

MIAMI COUNTY (KAKE) — The Miami County Sheriff's Office is warning residents of the recent mountain lion sightings from September and October.

"We believe it is important to share this information so residents can remain aware of their surroundings and take appropriate precautions," MCSO said in a Facebook post.

September 27 – Coldwater Road and State Line Road area: A resident reported encountering what she believed to be a mountain lion near her residence during the early morning hours. The resident also reported that the animal ran toward a calf in a nearby pasture. Deputies checked the area, but no animal or injured livestock was located.

October 19 – Lane area: During an unrelated law enforcement incident, a resident mentioned reports of a large cat possibly roaming the Lane area. No additional details or evidence were provided.

October 21 – Hillsdale area: The Sheriff's Office received information about a video reportedly showing a large cat walking near an enclosed animal pen.

The reported mountain lion sightings have not been confirmed by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

Mountain lions generally avoid humans and encounters are extremely rare. However, if an animal presents an immediate threat MCSO says to contact 911.

The animals cannot legally be hunted or killed simply because they are observed on someone's property.

Mountain lions, also known as cougars or pumas, are classified as nongame wildlife in Kansas. There is no established hunting season for mountain lions in Kansas.

Although mountain lion encounters are uncommon in Kansas, these animals have been documented throughout portions of the state.

According to MCSO, a reported sighting does not necessarily mean an animal has established itself in the area.

Kansas law regulates the taking of wildlife and individuals should contact KDWP regarding applicable laws and circumstances involving threats to people pets, or livestock.

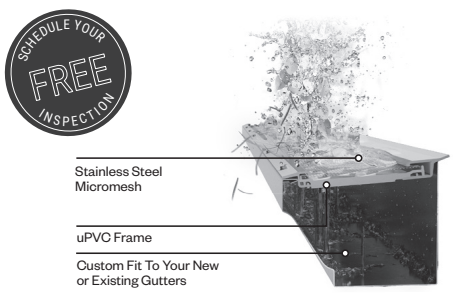




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