OBITUARY

Gail D. (Bud) Shawgo

Gail D. (Bud) Shawgo 97, of Manhattan, KS, died of natural causes on November 9, 2026.

He was preceded in death by wife Betty, son Steve (Mary), and survived by daughter Patti Dible (Larry), son Bob (Becky) and son Russ (Dana), 9 grandchildren, and 14 great grandchildren.



He was born in 1928 in a farmhouse near Dunlap, Kansas to parents Bryan & Mae Shawgo. He attended and graduated schools in Emporia, Ks and Automotive Management with General Motors University. He worked his entire career as a Parts Manager with several different GM dealers in Council Grove, Lawrence, and Manhattan, Kansas.

During his 61 years with Betty he enjoyed playing softball, bowling, square dancing and traveling nationwide RV camping with their friends. He loved to play golf and enjoyed cards and board games.

Bud was baptized at the Church of Christ, Christian in Council Grove and is a member and life Deacon of the First Christian Church in Manhattan. He will be missed by his family and many friends.

Visitation will be held Monday November 16, 2026, from 5:30-7:00 PM at Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home in Manhattan.

Funeral services will be held at First Christian Church, 3001 Grand Mere Parkway in Manhattan, on Tuesday November 17, 2026 at 10:00 AM. Burial to follow at Sunrise Cemetery in Manhattan.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in memory of Bud may be designated to the First Christian Church or Katie's Way of Manhattan, KS. Contributions may be sent in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502. ymlfuneralhome.com

Christmas Project

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churches and organizations in the area such as books, socks, hats, mittens and gloves need to be delivered to the Morris County Courthouse meeting room by Monday morning, December 7. Call 620.767.5065 when arriving to deliver items.

Care & Share prefers that all clothing donations such as coats be taken to the Community Thrift Store at 17 South 5th St. in Council Grove since office space is limited.

If you have questions about the Christmas Project, or if you would like to make a contribution, please call 620-767-6801, or come by the Care and Share Office at 1003 West Main St. in Council Grove.

Care & Share thanks all who help in any way with the annual Christmas project and is proud to represent the community with this project.



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Councilgroverepublican.com or call 620.767.5123

Council Grove Republican

USD 417 BOE

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in location for the December board meeting, board member resignations and the high school building schedule.

An executive session concerning personnel is scheduled before the board considers employment recommendations for Heather Wallace as an activity/substitute route driver and Samantha Sharp as the Council Grove Junior-Senior High School chess club sponsor.

A second executive session is scheduled for the superintendent's evaluation, followed by any additional executive session deemed necessary. Board members will conclude with good news before adjournment.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Dec. 14, with its location subject to action at Tuesday's meeting.

MCH to host

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chair massage station will also be available.

A new attraction for younger visitors will be a Teddy Bear Clinic conducted by Council Grove High School's HOSA group, an organization for students interested in healthcare careers.

Children ages 3 to 7 are encouraged to bring their favorite teddy bear for a clinic and hospital visit featuring six stations. The activity will introduce children to a healthcare setting in a welcoming, hands-on environment.

Area residents are encouraged to take advantage of the free health screenings, and families with young children are invited to make the visit a family outing. Those planning to have laboratory tests should remember to fast beforehand, while children participating in the Teddy Bear Clinic should bring their favorite stuffed companion.

Shop Lo-ho-ho-cal

Letter to the Editor

To Whom It May Concern, A hot topic in USD 417 has been the potential closure of Prairie Heights Elementary School in Alta Vista. It has been stated that the district has declining enrollment, and lacks the funding to keep PHES open. We all can agree that enrollment is down, and this a nationwide problem. However where is the money going? Where is the transparency about funding? Just this last spring a $32 million bond was put on the ballot, which failed to pass at 70% against this bond. PHES wasn't set to close then, but here we are on the chopping block. The board is considering a $23 million bond again in March, but just to add to the last two schools that will remain in USD 417. Special elections are not cheap, the district has to pay for that election, they also have to pay architects and engineers. So for a district that is short on funds why are they so hellbent on spending money they don't have? Closing PHES will not solve enrollment issues or budget issues, it will only exacerbate the problem. It is statistically proven that when you close a school property values plummet, student enrollment declines, and local businesses suffer economic losses as well. Lets work together as a community to keep all schools open, in an effort to bring new families, jobs and industry into the area. Lets take an out of box approach to this and find real solutions. Closing schools is easy, working on solutions is hard work, but I believe there are many people willing to step up to that challenge. Keep PHES open, and our communities strong and thriving.

Sincerely,
Desiree Thompson
Alta Vista

Herington Commission

Addresses property concerns and budget amendment

A petition from approximately 20 residents concerning flashing lights, abandoned vehicles and blocked sidewalks at 201 S. 10th St. prompted the Herington City Commission to revisit a longstanding neighborhood complaint during its November 3 meeting.

During the public forum, Ms. Richard told commissioners that three flashing lights on the house and garage shine into neighboring homes, distract motorists and create difficulties for residents with migraines or epilepsy.

Mayor Eric Gares acknowledged that complaints involving the property have continued for years. City Manager Anthony Roy agreed to review previous code enforcement efforts and municipal court proceedings with City Attorney Brad Jantz and provide an update November 17.

Code enforcement and property cleanup

Commissioners discussed the continuing expense of mowing neglected properties and addressing deteriorating buildings. The city recorded 35 grass violations in October and more than 200 through September.

Some properties have absentee owners or are located in flood-prone areas with little market interest. Commissioners discussed whether the city's land bank could help return neglected properties to productive use.

Code enforcement staff reported approximately 49 buildings identified as hazardous, although not all require demolition. Roy said the city has begun setting aside demolition funds, and grants could provide additional assistance. Staff members are developing a plan to prioritize properties, potentially beginning with smaller structures.

Fire Department reports increased activity

The Herington Fire Department responded to 63 calls in October, bringing its yearly total to 651, an increase of 52 over the same period last year.

Fire Chief "Vinny" Avantagiato reported progress on the new fire station at Herington Regional Airport, where electrical, insulation and heating work continues. The station could be ready for occupancy before the end of November.

The department is also preparing for an insurance classification evaluation, expanding specialized rescue training and developing a live-fire training facility.

Commissioners congratulated Avantagiato on receiving a president's award recognizing his work in wildland firefighting and regional cooperation.

Former hospital property draws interest

Roy presented a proposal from the Belrock Group concerning possible acquisition of Herington's former hospital property. The company requested a 120-day exclusive negotiating period.

Roy said the company appeared to have healthcare real estate experience but might not know about the new rural hospital being developed in Herington.

Because another prospective purchaser previously expressed interest, commissioners agreed to obtain additional information before considering the request. No action was taken.

Generator repairs approved

The commission unanimously approved purchasing replacement fuel injectors for a generator at the city's electric light plant from Foley Power Solutions-CAT for $26,194.37.

Roy said the existing injectors are leaking diesel fuel and must be replaced to protect the generator. The expense will be covered by the electric production fund.

Budget amendment scheduled for hearing

Roy explained that errors in the city's 2026 budget documents require an amendment to correct discrepancies between the detailed budget worksheets and the official budget certificate.

Although the detailed worksheets contained the amounts commissioners had approved, some figures were omitted or assigned to incorrect funds when transferred to the certificate, which establishes the city's legal spending authority.

The Lloyd Group prepared the corrections, which will be considered following a public hearing November 17. Officials emphasized that the amendment does not change the approved 2027 budget.

Property exchange raises questions

Commissioners discussed unresolved ownership records involving an earlier land exchange between the city and Larry Lawrenz.

Property formerly owned by the city and leased to Pike's Auto Body was included in the exchange, but the business continued paying its $25 monthly lease to the city.

Gares questioned whether the property transfer had been properly recorded, whether commercial property taxes had been affected and whether the city should refund the lease payments.

Roy agreed to investigate the ownership records and payment history before the commission considers further action.

Following an executive session concerning an employment contract, commissioners returned to open session without taking action.

Commissioners also discussed improvements to Herington Lake campsites. Roy said cost estimates are being obtained for gravel pads and electrical upgrades, with the possibility of completing approximately 10 sites annually. An update on the proposed shower house was also requested.

Gares asked staff to investigate motion-activated lighting at the swimming pool building and consider installing two additional LED streetlights along West Walnut Street.

No formal action was taken on those requests before adjournment.

On This Day

1991 – Dili massacre--Several pro-independence protesters were shot at the Santa Cruz cemetery in Dili, East Timor by Indonesian soldiers. about 250 people were killed in this event, which is also known as the Dili massacre.

1990 – Coup in Lesotho--Justin Metsing Lekhanya staged a coup against King Moshoeshoe II of Lesotho and took over the government of Lesotho. Lekhanya was deposed a few months later in another military coup.

1984 – First salvage operation in space--Astronauts Dale A. Gardner and Joseph P. Allen aboard space shuttle Discovery performed a series of space walks to salvage parts from two satellites, the Palapa B-2 and the Westar 6 which had steered away from their orbits.

SCHOOL AND SENIOR MENUS

USD 417 Menus For Nov. 16-20

Breakfast and lunch menus have been announced for USD 417. Menus are subject to change.

Breakfast grab and go options daily are cereal, muffins, donuts, bread slices and pop tarts. Milk choices are 1% white milk and 1% chocolate milk.

Items offered daily on the fresh fruit/fresh veggie bar are lettuce, carrots, grape tomatoes, cucumbers, broccoli, mixed peppers, celery, seasonal fruit.

Breakfast

Monday – Breakfast pizza
Tuesday – Syrup Tuesday, sausage
Wednesday – Breakfast sandwich
Thursday – Biscuit and gravy
Friday – Cooks choice

Lunch

Monday -- *Meal of the Day* Chicken and waffles*Student Favorite*Corn dog, string cheese; salad bar/ grain; *Extras

Tuesday -- *Meal of the Day* Egg roll, vegetable fried rice *Student Favorite*Cheeseburger; salad bar/ grain; *Extras

Wednesday -- *Meal of the Day* Taco bar; salad bar/ grain; *Extras

Thursday -- *Meal of the Day* Pizza Hut pizza; salad bar/grain; *Extras

USD 481 Menus for Nov. 16-20

Breakfast and lunch menus for USD 481 for next week have been announced.

1% white milk and fat-free chocolate milk are served at both meals. Fruit and juice are offered at breakfast. Each day an extra fruit is offered for grades 9-12.

Monday

Breakast—Sausage-cheese English muffin; Lunch—Biscuit and gravy, sausage patty, tater tots, peas, applesauce

Tuesday

Breakfast—Breakfast pizza; Lunch – Chicken Alfredo, green beans, salad, garlic toast, pineappe

Wednesday

Breakfast – Breakfast – Granola bar; Lunch – Turkey, potatoes and gravy, stuffing, green bean casserole, berry fluff Jell-O salad, roll, pumpkin pie

Thursday

Breakfast – Waffles and yogurt; Lunch – Grilled cheese, tomato soup, tossed salad, baby carrots, banana

Friday

Breakfast – Pancakes and sausage; Lunch – Chili dog, potato wedges, celery and cucumber, pineapple

Alta Vista, White City Senior Citizens Menus

Fellowship Meals menus for next week have been announced by the Alta Vista Senior Citizens Center and White City Senior Citizens Center.

Alta Vista patrons should call 785-499-5350, by 9:30 a.m., to reserve a meal for that day. White City patrons should call 785-349-2813.

Tea, coffee, milk and a bread product will be served with each meal. The menu is subject to change.

Monday – Polish sausage/bun, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, peaches, cookie

Tuesday – Spaghetti with meat sauce, tossed salad, Italian veggies, strawberry yogurt

Wednesday – Roast turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, stuffing, green bean casserole, pumpkin pie; BINGO

Thursday – Tuma noodle casserole, peas and carrots, apple caramel crisp

Friday – Baked chicken breast, sweet potatoes, broccoli raisin salad, wheat roll, bluberry muffin. AV Commodities

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Ask for Randy.
Tuesday - Thursday 11 am - 8 pm
Friday - Saturday 11 am - 9 pm
Sunday 11 am - 3 pm

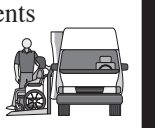
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SHIFTS:
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