



Dear Readers,
I was taught in kindergarten that March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. That isn't what is happening around these parts lately. It's been cool and gray with a little rain but thus far that lion hasn't

roared. But we know he will. It is just a matter of time. It is odd that such a benign and regenerative season as Spring is launched with the kind of meteorological violence Kansas is known to dish up. There will be outrageous window-rattling

thunderstorms. There will be gale force winds and flooded creeks and rivers. And there will be tornados. It would not be Spring in Kansas without these things. That would be like pancakes without syrup or bagels without cream cheese. (You can insert your own food-related analogy here.) And if nothing we have grown accustomed to tornados.

When the movie "Twister" came out a friend of mine said that it was the silliest darn movie he ever saw. Only he didn't say "darn." Not because of the tornados, which were pretty cool, but because of the manner in which the citizens in the film REACTED to the tornados. When they hear

about a tornado in Kansas folks don't run around in a panic like in the film. They don't take to the streets screaming. Most of them just batten down the hatches and hope to maybe see one." I know that is what I do. But then again, the tornado's I've seen never hurt anyone or destroyed any property. I'd wish we'd have more kinder, gentler tornadoes.

Maybe we should name them, just like they do with their cousins—the hurricanes. I think they merit such notoriety. We could name them alphabetically, unisexually and chronologically—just like hurricanes. Tornado AL... Tornado Beatrice... Tornado Carl... We may have to go through the

alphabet a few times because on average about 81 tornados touch down here each year. That's second only to Texas because, well, it's Texas and they can't help themselves. So, chew on that for a moment while I dredge up some more weather-related adages, and there are many.

There is another kindergarten staple: April Showers Bring May Flowers. But here's a few lesser-known ones: Clear Moon, Frost Soon. Rain Before Seven, Quit by Eleven. Rooster Crows At Night, Rain by Morning. And my personal favorite: Red Sky at Night Sailor's Delight, Red Sky in Morning Sailor Take Warning.

I don't know if any of the

above are scientifically accurate but they're fun to say. And like most clichés there is usually a little bit of truth in there somewhere. Perhaps the most truthful observation of all comes from Mark Twain, who said "Climate is what we expect. Weather is what we get." So, when that lion does roar, one thing we can hang our rain hats on is that whatever force of nature gets hurled at us there will be a rainbow somewhere at the end of it.

Keep your eyes on the stars and your back to the wind.



Next Wednesday I will be going in for a total right reverse shoulder replacement. This will mean that the doctors will take my right shoulder, cut the ball in half, make a cushion out of it and put in a new stainless-steel ball attached to the upper part of my shoulder. It is one surgery that I am not looking forward to, but after putting it off for four years, I now have the choice-now or never. The doctor said that they cannot wait any longer as in the near future, I might not have an anchor bone to attach things to.

It is the pits to get older, especially when you have been physically active your whole life. I have always been

a tom boy. Enjoying sports in high school and working on the farm. Years of nursing, walking cement floors, lifting patients and caring for family members have added to the stress on the body.

I have always been on the heavy side, even as a kid, but I did not let it stop me. I was right in there. Track, softball, volleyball, basketball. I remember taking a fitness class in college with my younger sister. We thought that we would get in shape but what we did not understand is that our instructor was a former Olympian runner from Kenya. Our final grade was a three-mile run. That didn't go well to say the least! We were at the back of the class

when we took off and everyone had already gone to the locker rooms, showered, changed and were headed home. The teacher kept circling back and yelling at us to run faster. I wanted to tell him that we were built for comfort and not for speed, but I didn't want him to flunk us for being mouthy. So, we cried as we ran at turtle speed until he finally gave in and let us walk the last mile. It was almost dark when we hit the showers. We were so affected by the trauma, that we got in the car and immediately drove to Dairy Queen for a Dilly Bar. WE felt we owed it to ourselves as consolation for the stress of it all.

I firmly believe that no matter what life hands you, there is always a way to persevere. It might be one step at a time, or you just might get lucky and have everything you touch turn to gold. But let's be realistic. 99 percent of us are just average Joes. Just doing ordinary things and living ordinary lives with the occasional extraordinary opportunities.

Everything is a learning experience. Even this surgery. I am learning that I can be fearful,

worrisome, and even sink to a low level of self-pity. I know in the back of my mind, that it could actually be a time for me to shine. To take the high road. To set the example for my children, that even in the face of adversity, I can come out on top.

My husband and I learned that during the tornado. We learned that with hard work, sticking together, looking at what really counts in life and having faith can get us to where we need to go.

I don't want to do this surgery, but if I want the quality of life to continue that I feel that I want, I have to do it. And I will not be alone. My husband Ray will be there for me for at least two weeks. He goes in to have hip surgery just a couple of weeks after I get my shoulder done. Won't we be the pair?

So, for now, I am getting prepared for what is to come. I am trying to get a few extra articles for the newspaper to put aside to send in. I have a new cook at the Senior Center and wonderful volunteers to hold down the fort while I am out and I have a fantastic church who will pray for us and who

will be there for us if we need some help along the way.

It won't be forever. It is just a season. In the end, I will be stronger for it. It is just a

bump in the road. We have good surgeons. We have good therapists locally. We will have everything we need to bounce back. And that is a good thing.

Legal

(First published in the Montezuma Press on March 12, 2026)

CITY OF MONTEZUMA, KANSAS TO AMEND A BUILDING SIZE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING THEREON

Notice is hereby given that there will be a public hearing to approve the size of a building larger than allowable in Ordinance #466. Located at 303 W. Geronimo Street. The said amendment will allow a building or structure to be larger than allowable in Ordinance #466. The hearing shall be held before the City of Montezuma Planning Commission on the 2nd day of April 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Montezuma Community Building in the small meeting room. YOU ARE SO NOTIFIED.

GRANT Salmans, Mayor
ATTEST: KARA Smith, City Clerk

Legal

(First published in the Montezuma Press on March 12, 2026)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In the matter of a Variance Permit Application request filed by Cimarron Wind Energy 700 Universe BLVD. Juno, FL. 33408, which proposes to add Variance as to setback to the current CU zoning on a tract of land in the:
SW % Quarter of \$28/T25/R27W of Gray County, Kansas.
NE % Quarter of \$26/T25/R27W of Gray County, Kansas

NW % Quarter of \$23/T25/R27W of Gray County, Kansas
NW % Quarter of \$17/T25/R27W of Gray County, Kansas
NW % Quarter of \$16/T25/R27W of Gray County, Kansas
NW % Quarter of \$14/T25/R27W of Gray County, Kansas
Notice is hereby given to all residents and property owners that the Gray County Planning Commission has scheduled a Public Hearing to be held on Wednesday, April 8, 2026, at 6:00 in the County Commissioners Meeting room in the Gray County Courthouse, 300 South Main Street, Cimarron, Kansas. The purpose of this Public Hearing is to listen to any land-owner or tenant with concerns regarding this proposal. Anyone wishing to

make comments concerning this issue is urged to attend. At the conclusion of the Public

Hearing, the Gray County Planning Commission may (as stated in Article 20, Section 20-102) vote to approve or deny issuing a recommendation, or continue deliberations to a future date.

A complete application is on file in the Gray County Public Works Office.
Sean Wendel
Gray County Zoning Administrator

Legal

(First published in the Montezuma Press on March 12, 2026)

GENERAL NOTICE TO CONTROL NOXIOUS WEEDS 2026

The Kansas Noxious Weed Law K.S.A. 2-1314 et seq requires all persons who own or supervise land in Kansas to control and eradicate all weeds declared noxious by legislative action. The weeds declared noxious are: field bindweed, musk thistle, Johnsongrass, bur ragweed, Canada thistle, sericea lespedeza, leafy

spurge, hoary cress, quackgrass, Russian knapweed, kudzu and pignut.

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the Kansas Noxious Weed Law to every person who owns or supervises land in Gray County that noxious weeds growing or found on such land shall be controlled and eradicated. Control is defined as preventing the production of viable seed and the vegetative spread of the plant.

Failure to observe this notice may result in the County:

1. Serving a legal notice requiring control of the noxious weeds within a minimum of five days. Failure to control the noxious weeds within the time period allowed may result in the county treating the noxious weeds at the landowner's expense and placing a lien on the property if the bill is not paid within 30 days or,
 2. Filing criminal charges for non-compliance. Conviction for non-compliance may result in a fine of \$100 per day of non-compliance with a maximum fine of \$1,500.
- The public is also hereby

notified that it is a violation of the Kansas Noxious Weed Law to barter, sell or give away infested nursery stock or livestock feed unless the feed is fed on the farm where grown or sold to a commercial processor that will destroy the viability of the noxious weed seed. Custom harvesting machines must be labeled with a label provided by the Kansas Department of Agriculture and must be free of all weed seed and litter when entering the State and when leaving a field infested with noxious weeds. Additional information may be obtained from the Gray County Noxious Weed Department or by contacting the Kansas Department of Agriculture, 1320 Research Park Drive, Manhattan, KS 66502.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Tim Brown at 620-855-0331. I will be happy to help any way I can with any of your noxious weed problems you might have.

Thank you,
Tim Brown
Gray County Weed Director
620-855-0331
tbrown@grayco.org

Legal

(First published in the Montezuma Press on March 12, 2026)

Montezuma USD #371 is accepting bids for the removal and replacement of 11,500 sq. ft. of tile flooring. The project will include the removal of existing VCT tile and adhesive, subfloor prep, installation of LVT J & J Flooring Group: Style Make Your Mark/Step by Step; 3mm; with pattern, 4.5" rubber base and installation, trim and reducers, removal of vestibule carpet, installation of Walk off Carpet Tile for vestibule; J & J Flooring Group; and an option bid for waterjet cut logo in LVT at specified location. Bids will be accepted until Noon, March 23rd, 2026. The project must be completed by August 17, 2026.

For more information, please contact Mr. Jay Zehr, Superintendent, @ 620-253-6086. Bids may be submitted to jay@usd371.org or dropped off at USD #371, 103 W. Sunnyside St., Montezuma, KS.

AUCTION
HAROLD & JUDY KOEHN
SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH 2026
AT 10:30AM
29705 10 RD, MONTEZUMA, KS
SIDNEY SCHMIDT: 620-846-0716 -- FRED WILSON: 620-846-0149

<p>HOUSEHOLD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GLASS CABINET • LOVE SEAT • END TABLE • GLIDER ROCKER • ROCKING CHAIR • WOODEN ROCKING CHAIR • TWO RECLINERS • LAMPS (ALL KINDS) • FOLDING CHAIRS • DINING TABLE, 3 LEAVES, 6 MATCHING CHAIRS • ROUND KITCHEN TABLE 4 MATCHING CHAIRS • TABLE, FOUR MATCHING CHAIRS • CHINA CABINET • TRASH CAN, PAINTED • 1 TWIN, 1 QUEEN BED • DRESSER, 4 DRAWERS • QUEEN BEDROOM SUITE • ARMOIRE • KIRBY SWEEPER • PANASONIC SWEEPER • CEDAR CHEST • KITCHEN UTENSILS • MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS • SCHWINN EXERCISE BIKE • MINI STAIR STEPPER • CHILDREN'S CHAIRS • BLANKETS AND RUGS • BOOKS • BOARD GAMES 	<p>YARD/TOOLS & OUTDOORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YARD DUMP TRAILER • MOVEABLE OUTDOOR SINK • WHEEL BARROW • GARDEN TOOLS • PULL TYPE YARD RAKE • CRAFTSMAN AIR COMPRESSOR • SPEEDAIRE COMPRESSOR • EXTENSION CORDS • EXTENSION LADDER • WELDING TABLE • LINCOLN STICK WELDER • CRAFTSMAN FLOOR JACK • MAKITA SAWZALL (CORDED) • CRAFTSMAN WET/DRY VAC • PROPANE HEATER • 100 LB. PROPANE TANK • 500 GAL. PROPANE TANK • SMALL BUMPER PULL TRAILER
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LOTS OF MISC. ITEMS TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION
LUNCH WILL BE SERVED

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