

McCRACKEN NEWS

by Carolyn and Shirley

Birthdays: June 24-Jordan Schwien; June 25-Tanner Higgins, Joe Higgins, Will Zeller, Donna Hansen, Jacqueline Littler, James Littler; June 26-Tracee Borger, Jason Moran, Landon Davis; June 27-Dana Minter, Mark Rubin; June 28-Danny McFarren; June 29-none; June 30-Ted McCormick, Amanda Lamer, Deb Luft.

Anniversaries: June 27- Jeff and Kristian Gambala; June 30- Paul and Cindy Canatella.

Congratulations to Sheila Brown who was promoted to Specialist Supervisor with the Records and Warrants Unit of the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office. She is the daughter of Cecilia Gilbert and Eugene Brown

Marlene Funk enjoyed a late birthday celebration with her girls, Anita Butler, Shari Funk and Kelly Weber. They traveled to Wichita and strolled around Botanica admiring all the landscaping and flowers. Luckily they finished up right as it began to get a bit steamy. Next stop was lunch at Spear's Restaurant and Pie Shop, where everyone bought an extra piece of pie to take home. They then stopped in Salina briefly to do some shoe shopping. All agreed the day was a success.

A nice crowd was at Coffee Chat this week. Those attending Ruth Crawshaw, Janice Stull, Jeanette McCormick, Arlene Gilbert, Ellen Kershner, Sharon George, Jan North, Lynn Litson, Sue Davis, Cynthia Ummel, Phyllis Conrad, Susan Rebel, Anya Graber, and Twila Higgins.

History Notes

1995: Doolin's Cafe opened this week in McCracken. Kenny and Angie Elmore are the owners. Frank Foster was a member of a band that played for a Super Bowl party held for the San Francisco 49ers at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs. Tuesday evening Floyd Thompson was surprised to see his car on fire when he stopped in front of his house. Mitchell Jacobs came to his assistance and they decided it was an electrical fire in the heater. When the McCracken Hotel was demolished a brass doorknob and lock was saved by Celestin Stremel. He has mounted it on a wooden plaque and it has been placed in the McCracken Public Library. Dean McFarren and Wilfrid Higgins assembled two new park benches for the McCracken City Park this past week. Twelve teams played in the alumni/rodeo golf tournament. Winners were the KHAZ team from Hays. Second place winners were Kenneth Foster, Doug Whitis, Terry Peters and Pee Wee Reifschneider; 3rd place finishers were Mary Beth Prather, Neal Jacobs, Sean Peters and Clayton Wilson. Scott McMullen had the longest men's putt; Greg Martin closest to the pin; longest drive was Neal Jacobs. For the ladies, Sandy Irvin had the longest drive and Marlene Funk the shortest drive. Stone Post Farms will have an open house at their new location in the former Schafer Furniture building. Employees are Thess Frick, Gloria Blackwell, Dan Zeller, Michael Harp and Ann and Mark Baus. Michael Morgan, a 4th grader at La Crosse Grade School was given the game ball at the Nickerson game last Sunday. He is a member of the little league football program. He was named MVP for the season. Helena McGaughey and Shelly Derr are enrolled in the CNA classes at Rush County Hospital. John Zeller, Melanie Urban, Sarah and Rachel spent the weekend in Topeka with Rose and

Les Diehl. They attended the B.B. King concert Friday evening, and on Saturday John and Les attended the KU vs Nebraska game. Liz Conner, Lorraine Ryan, Virginia Taylor, Mrs Ural Thompson, Eunice North, Shirley Higgins and Carolyn Thompson attended the Hays Christian Women's Club luncheon on Monday.

News from Pat Petz

Friday turned out to be a date that I had forgotten about! While I had many places of business to attend to, I was unable to visit the Post Office, Court House, ASCS Office and both Banks. I soon became aware that it was a National Holiday and that all federal offices were closed. To my disappointment, I will have to reach out to them next week. This federal holiday, which is celebrated annually on June 19, marks the end of slavery in the United States. It has been called Emancipation Day, Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Juneteenth Independence Day, Black Independence Day, and now it is called Juneteenth. It commemorates the day Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, to enforce the Emancipation Proclamation (issued by President Abraham Lincoln in 1862), freeing the last 259,000 enslaved people in the United States. It took many years before all 50 states recognized this as a state holiday. Kansas was the 33rd state who recognized Juneteenth as a State Holiday in 2009. President Joe Biden declared Juneteenth a federal holiday before a Congressional bill on June 17, 2021.

Saturday was a fun exciting day for many who attended the wedding of Kaylee Dreher and Adam Murchie. The services were held at the St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Hays. The reception, dinner, and dance were at the Fairgrounds. I left before the dance as the weather was beginning to look not very favorable. Kaylee was a beautiful bride. She has been a teacher for USD #395 for several years, so the students will need to adjust to her new name once classes begin. Congratulations to the new couple.

I left the house earlier than normal on Sunday morning because I didn't know what my roads would be like. Fortunately, even though we had received a lot of wind and rain, I was able to get down my road without too many problems. Lorna Herrman and I were blessed to take the communion and gifts to the altar at communion time. After church, Mom and I went to Jet. 4 for lunch.

Father's Day is an annual holiday dedicated to honoring fathers, fatherhood, and paternal bonds. It is celebrated on the third Sunday in June. Although traditions and dates vary globally, the first known Father's Day service occurred in Fairmont, West Virginia, on July 5, 1908, after hundreds of men died in the worst mining accident in U.S. history. Grace Golden Clayton, the daughter of a dedicated minister, proposed a service to honor all fathers, especially those who had died in the worst mining accident in U.S. history. However, since this was a local incident, it was not promoted. By 1910, Sonora Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington wanted to create a counterpart to Mother's Day to honor the father who raised her and her five siblings as a single veteran. It was officially signed into a national holiday by President Richard Nixon in 1972. I sincerely hope that many of you were able to celebrate with your fathers and or you remembered your loved ones on Sunday. Although I was not able to be with my dad, Marvin Foos, my stepdad, Leland Steitz, my father-in-law, Donald Petz, and my husband Danny Petz, I remembered all of them in prayer at Mass.



Clover Connection

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How 4-H Has Influenced My Life by Tavish Tracy

Answering how 4-H has influenced my life is a very overwhelming task. Phrases popped into my head like, "learning how to get everything done", "having fun and friends at the fair", "the memories that have been made" and "glad it's almost over". Most importantly 4-H has taught me responsibility, how to care for others, and that determination is important.

My definition of responsibility is making sure everything is done on time, and in the right way. Raising livestock has taught me that if I am not responsible, the animals will not survive or perform well. I would really like to know just how many times I have gone out to do chores in my 4-H career? A rough estimate would include twice a day for the last nine years multiplied by 365 days to equal 6574 times, not to mention all the extra watering when it is hot, cleaning pens, and fixing fences. This work associated with raising livestock, must also be done in a timely manner. Everything from making breeding arrangements to securing grain and hay; must be done by a deadline. Another important deadline is the county fair. It has been tempting to put off training the livestock until tomorrow, but I have worked very hard to make sure my animals are well trained. I did this by starting to work with them when they were young, getting them used to me and working with them in short time spans, but on a frequent basis. Completing all

those chores has helped me into being the type of person that wants to do things on time and in a correct way.

4-H has also taught me how to care not only for animals, but also for other people. I don't remember a time in 4-H that I have not been helped by other 4-H members and people in the community. I enjoy continuing this 4-H tradition by helping other 4-H kids. I have helped other members with their projects, including photography, visual arts, steers, horses, meat goats, swine, welding, and woodworking. I hope these members see me as a role model, and that I have helped to influence their 4-H career in a positive way. Caring for others has also taught me a lot of patience. I have found that I have more patience with younger kids than with animals. I gained more patience by practicing, learning and understanding that the animals and people needed to have to perform well. Working with other people has also shown me some families are taught different things in different ways. I learned different ways to teach the animals to get different or maybe better results. I learned from others and also gained insight into people. For example, I have witnessed generosity when a local family handed me a check when my pig was too small to sell in the auction;

and all the money and support that is given from the community during the livestock and food auction, this generosity along with learning how to care for others and gaining more patience has taught me that I enjoy and want to be the same type of person as what I see in the 4-H community.

Lastly, 4-H has shown me how much determination I need to have accomplished my goals. I had to have determination to show six goats at the fair this year and to try a ranch riding class in horse show, which I was unsure about. My strongest memory of determination involved a stubborn steer that was hot and done with our training session, one day he ran away from me and right into the pond in the pasture. I was so determined not to let him get away with that that I marched right into the pond after him and grabbed the lead. I led him out of the pond and continued our lesson. This proved to me that I could accomplish my goals by being responsible. Caring for others, being patient, learning from others and being determined to do things correctly and on time, this is how 4-H has shaped me into the person I am today. I plan to use these skills in my future, agricultural construction business, and as a continuing supporter of the 4-H program.

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-City of Liebenthal Council Minutes-

The Council of the City of Liebenthal met in public hearing in the city building at 6:00 p.m. on May 11, 2026. Presiding was Mayor Darrell Warner, council members present were Renee Legleiter, William Stark, Stephanie Schmidt-Koerner, Barbara Matal, Clerk Beverly Stark, Water/Wastewater and Maintenance Operator Kelly Koerner. No residents were present.

Minutes from the meeting held April 13, 2026, were read. Renee Legleiter moved to approve the minutes as read, Stephanie Schmidt-Koerner seconded, the vote was unanimous, motion passed.

Citizen's Comments: A resident complained about a dog barking constantly to the Clerk. Renee Legleiter noted the city's ordinances should be applied to every resident. The Clerk will send a letter to the resident addressing this complaint. A resident complained about a "sewer smell" in his home. The water pipes were flushed, chlorine levels were measured and were above minimum recommended levels. Several councilmembers suggested the resident likely needed to flush his sinks noting a dry P trap as a common cause of odor.

Clerk's Notes: The property located on the south side of the first block of East 4th Street has been mown by the city. The county emergency representative is compiling a list of tornado shelters in towns in Rush County. Several locations were suggested including St. Joseph's church or school basement, and Sonny's Tavern. Bev will contact the owners/caretakers about access during emergency situations. Bev contacted the Golden Belt Telephone representative to request West 3rd Street repairs after the recent water line repairs. Golden Belt will repair this as they complete their work.

Old Business: There is no update for the RO unit and meter replacement project.

New Business: Mayor Warner asked when the city is paid for sales tax revenues. Most members thought the city would get paid at the close of the year. The fiber optic project is projected to be completed within two weeks.

City Utilities and Maintenance Updates: Kelly Koerner reported that the sewer and water systems were running well, with no problems of note.

Calendar / City Events: The city-wide cleanup is scheduled for Sept. 4 through Sept. 14, 2026. The St. Joseph's Church Jubilee and the City Fall Fest is scheduled for Sept. 19, 2026.

Approval and Payment of Bills: Bill Stark moved to pay the bills as presented, Barb Matal seconded, the vote was unanimous, the motion carried. The next meeting is June 8, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the city office. Bill Stark moved to adjourn the meeting, Stephanie Schmidt-Koerner seconded, the vote was unanimous, the motion carried.

City Clerk Beverly Stark

Mayor Darrell Warner



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Rush County NEWS

RUSH COUNTY EMS New Mobilization Fees

Dear Rush County Citizens,

Rush County EMS is making a small change to our fee schedule due to rising fuel costs and the need to fairly pay our staff.

Effective July, 2026, the following fees will apply:

- **Non-transport (no treatment, including lift assists):** \$100
- **Treatment/Assessment non-transport:** \$200

These fees help cover the cost of sending an ambulance and crew, even if a patient is not transported to the hospital.

We appreciate your understanding and continued support as we work to provide reliable emergency medical services to our community.

If you have any questions, please contact us.

Sincerely,
Daniel and Krystal Lineberry

Directors of
Rush County EMS