

LIBRARY CORNER...

“What’s New At Barnard Library”

New Adult Books

Five Star Summer by Sarah Morgan, More Than Friends by Denise Hunter, The Divorce by Freida McFadden, The Daisy Chain Flower Shop by Laurie Gilmore, Meet Me In Italy by Brenda Novak, The Lumber Baron’s Wife by Lynn Austin, Love On The Shelf by Sheila Roberts, Hold On To Tomorrow by M. B. Henry, Chasing The Clouds Away by Debbie Macomber, The Parisian Chapter by Janet Skeslien Charles, A Founding Mother by Stephanie Dray, Rocket’s Red Glare by James Patterson, Road Trip by Mary Kay Andrews, The Fourth Option by Jack Carr, All Booked Up by Melody Carlson, The Chateau On Sunset by Natasha Lester, The Windsor Affair by

Melanie Benjamin, When No One Else Will by Amanda Skenadore, Wake-Up Calls by Mariah Stewart, Wait And See by Iris Johansen, Mail-Order Viscountess by Misty M. Beller, The Chase by Elle Kennedy, The Risk by Elle Kennedy, The Play by Elle Kennedy, The Dare by Elle Kennedy.

Happenings at Barnard Library

Coffee Hour every Tuesday 10 – 11 a.m. Next Book Club Monday, September 14 at 6 p.m. – ask librarian if you’re interested in joining. Board Meeting – Second Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. Story Hour the last Friday of every month from 10 – 11 a.m. The next one will be August 28. Don’t forget about the Summer Reading Challenge. It goes until the end of July.

Library Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 11 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Thursday 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
521 Elm ~ La Crosse, Kansas ~ 785-222-2826

-City of Liebenthal Council Minutes-

The Governing body of the City of Liebenthal met in public hearing in the city building June 8, 2026, at 6 p.m. Presiding was Mayor Darrell Warner, council members present were Barb Matal, Renee Legleiter, William Stark, Stephanie Schmidt-Koerner, Kathy Herrman, Clerk Beverly Stark, Water/Wastewater/Maintenance Operator Kelly Koerner. Resident Karlee Legleiter entered at 6:12 p.m.

Minutes from the meeting held May 11, 2026, were read. William Stark moved to approve the minutes as read, Stephanie Schmidt-Koerner seconded, the vote was unanimous, motion passed.

Citizen’s Comments: Karlee Legleiter discussed the upcoming Fall Fest (Sept. 19, 2026) having delivered a sponsorship form to each resident in Liebenthal. The Altar Society will be applying for a Cereal Malt Beverage License for the Fall Fest. A parade is planned for Fall Fest, and the route was discussed. The council suggested the paperwork be started in July 2026. She also questioned if the city would be mowing the ditches along West 3rd St. up to and along the cemetery. The council reported that the city will mow the ditches along West 3rd St., and the ditches along West 4th St. are mowed by Rush County.

Clerk’s Announcements: A signature card for the city’s bank account was presented to the council with Darrell Warner, William Stark, Renee Legleiter, and Stephanie Schmidt-Koerner listed as co-signers for the checking account. The clerk received recommendations from Alex Herrman for finalization of the proposed ordinances regarding fireworks and dangerous animals. Bev had updated some of the language as per the recommendations. The clerk requested clarification of action on the complaint pertaining to untagged vehicles. It was noted that the resident in question is complying with the city’s request, and no further action will be taken.

Old Business: The clerk reported that there is no update on the loan for water meter and RO unit replacement. The city received a message from the GBT representative regarding the Fiber Optic installation that the mainline is complete except for three customers, they plan to “pull and splice” the mainline this week or next and GBT will begin scheduling installation to residents/customers.

New Business: The ordinance for fireworks discharge has been updated in regard to the attorney’s suggestions. The Council discussed and voted on the adoption of Ordinance 2026-01, An Ordinance Providing For The Regulation Of and The Discharge Of Fireworks Within The City Limits Of The City Of Liebenthal, Kansas. The Council discussed and voted on the adoption of Ordinance 2026-02 An Ordinance Pertaining to Keeping Certain Dangerous Animals Within The Corporate Limits Of The City Of Liebenthal, Kansas, And Repealing And Replacing Ordinance No. 121. Stephanie Schmidt-Koerner moved to accept the edits as proposed to Ordinance 2026-01 and Ordinance 2026-02, William Stark seconded, the vote was unanimous (5 votes for adoption of Ordinances 2026-01, and 5 votes for adoption of Ordinance 2026-02). It was noted by Mayor Warner that the city must abide by a fireworks ban if presented by the KS State Fire Marshall at any time, or if banned by Rush County. (Note: These ordinances take effect the day of publication unless otherwise stated in the ordinance as per The Governing Body handbook 2026 published by the League of Kansas Municipalities.)

A discussion was held regarding an abusive citizen. Members of the council, and employees of the city have received calls at night with pejorative and insulting remarks from this citizen with frequent profanity. This abusive language persists even as the city has addressed a number of concerns and made payment accommodations. The abusive language has been particularly focused on the city clerk and so the citizen will be advised that they are to make in-person meetings by appointment only, and in the presence of council members or a Sheriff Deputy.

City Utilities and Maintenance Updates: Kelly Koerner has maintained the mower, and completed all city mowing this week. The water chlorine levels are all within acceptable KDHE limits. Kelly has also attended classes in pursuit of certification for water and sewer operation, and passed all preliminary exams. He will attend a class June 10 in Great Bend, which will require his absence from Liebenthal during the day.

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: William Stark moved to pay the bills as presented, Stephanie Schmidt-Koerner seconded, the vote was unanimous, the motion carried.

The next meeting is July 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the city office. Renee Legleiter moved to adjourn the meeting, Stephanie Schmidt-Koerner seconded, the vote was unanimous, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:15.

City Clerk Beverly Stark

Mayor Darrell Warner

LHS Class of 1976 to gather for 50th reunion

The La Crosse High School Class of 1976 will be celebrating their 50th class reunion on August 1, 2026 at Sixty-Plus Center, 704 Main St., La Crosse.

Tours of the High School, Post Rock, Barbed Wire, old Nekoma State Bank and Country School will held from 3 to 5 p.m. Cocktail hour will begin at 5 p.m. followed by BBQ dinner at 6 p.m.

Friends of the class above or below are welcome to drop in to visit after dinner.

For further questions contact Richard Brandt or Nancy (Moran) Ong 979-324-9748.



Kamryn Anderson

La Crosse graduate receives scholarship from Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative

Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Inc. recently announced the winners of the 2025-2026 Continuing Education Scholarships. Lane-Scott awarded six \$1,500 scholarships to current high school seniors, graduates, or students already on their path of higher education.

This year, 66 applications were received. Applications are reviewed by a scholarship committee and awarded based on the students’ written essay, educational goals, G.P.A., achievements, extracurricular activities, community and school involvement.

Among the six scholarship winners is Kamryn Anderson, daughter of Kevin and Valerie Anderson from McCracken. Kamryn graduated from La Crosse High School in May. In the fall, she will attend Fort Hays State University to pursue a degree in Early Childhood Education. After completing her degree, she would like to teach at a rural school or childcare center where they are faced with shortages of teachers and limited access to educational resources.

The application period for the 2026-2027 school year will begin in January 2027. More information about the program can be found at <https://www.lanescott.coop/scholarship-opportunities>.

Potting materials make a difference when growing plants in containers

Not all soil-less potting materials are created equal. Just ask your potted plants. Or, better, ask Cheryl Boyer. “There are a lot of (potting mixes) that you can use to grow plants in,” said Boyer, a nursery crop production and marketing expert with K-State Extension. “It actually matters how big the particle sizes are, and what they are composed of.”

For bigger containers, she says, gardeners should choose potting mixes with bigger pieces, “because they’ll break down over time.”

“But for a smaller container, you want potting mixes with smaller pieces that also include components that have a good water-holding capacity so that when it gets hot and dry, there are resources in the container for the plants to survive.”

The ingredients in potting mixes also make a difference. Boyer said gardeners should be like any good consumer: Read the label before purchasing a particular mix.

“The ingredients in potting media will influence how your plants perform in containers,” she said. “For example, probably the worst thing you could put in a container is field soil, and there are quite a few products that are just bagged field soil. There’s just not enough air space in field soil, and it will tighten up like concrete and make it so plants can’t explore and get the nutrients they need.”

What to look for? Boyer suggests:

- Spaghnum peat moss, a Canadian-mined product that comes in various species, sizes and coarseness.
- Pine bark. For Kansas-grown plants, pick a product that is low in acidity, or pH. “If you put low pH items in the potting media, our water – which might be high in pH or be considered alkaline – will begin to balance that out and provide a neutral environment for plants.”

“Pine bark and peat moss are going to be your major components, and maybe some sand (for weight),” she said.

Minor components in bagged potting soil include perlite and vermiculite, which Boyer says are “inorganic materials that are included for airspace or particle size.”

Vermiculite is often used in plant propagation where you need a lightweight media that the roots can grow easily into, and then you shift it into a larger container that has more structure to it,” she said. “Perlite is those little, white expanded volcanic materials; a lot of people think that’s fertilizer, but it’s not fertilizer at all. It is really just for air space.”

Research indicates that wood bark and wood-based substrates can be a viable substitute for perlite, according to Boyer. “There are a lot of common materials that continue to be used and we are innovating these products to make them available for consumers to use for growing plants.”

She adds: “There are a lot of things that you might see in potting media. Many of them will promote that they’re organic, but most of these products are organic by nature – they just may not have gone through the organic certification process. But it’s hard to go wrong with a lot of the potting media that we have, and they come in different sizes of bags and price ranges.”

Boyer said gardeners should also look for mixes with a “starter charge,” which means that fertilizer was added before the product was bagged.

“If it’s going to go in a container for your annual plants, it’s really nice to have some fertilizer already mixed in so that plants have something to eat as soon as you get them in the container,” she said.

Boyer urges gardeners to consult with their local garden center. More information also is available at K-State Extension’s local offices across the state.

Notice To Subscribers

If you have a change of address please notify The Rush County News at 785-222-2555 as soon as possible to ensure prompt delivery of your newspaper.

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