



SHOP LOCAL

THE *Smith County* PIONEER

Published on Thursdays
Serving the Residents
of Smith County since 1872

pioneer@ruraltel.net
www.mainstreetmedia.us
1 Section - 12 Pages

Thursday, October 8, 2026
Vol. 153, No. 41 ~ Smith Center, Kansas 66967 \$1.00

Alleged child abuser housed in Smith County jail

A Red Cloud man is facing felony charges across state lines following the death of an 8-year-old child last week.

Tyler J. Brooks, 36, of Red Cloud, has been charged with child abuse resulting in death and false reporting, according to authorities.

The child, identified only by initials in accordance with policy protecting mi-

nors, passed away Sept. 25 at Children's Hospital in Omaha. On Thursday, Red Cloud Community Schools shared with district families that a second-grade student had died, offering support resources to students and staff mourning the loss.

Around 3 p.m. Thursday, U.S. Marshals took Brooks into custody without incident. He is currently being held at the Smith County

Jail in Kansas pending extradition to Nebraska.

The Webster County Sheriff's Office, the Nebraska State Patrol, and the Nebraska Attorney General's Office are investigating. Authorities noted that because this remains an active case, no further details are being released at this time.

Commodities for Smith County are back

October 14th is the day that commodities will be distributed in Smith Center. Lebanon, Gaylord and Kensington will distribute them the day before, On Oct. 13 with times to be set at each location. The Smith Center Lions Club is the distribution agency for our county. It is part of the "We Serve" project for community services.

Some things have changed and other will remain the same with the new agency, Kansas Food Bank of Wichita, in the new contract for distribution. The income guidelines will remain the same; the secondary pick up authorization proxies will remain in place. Eligibility is your responsibility when you sign in that you meet the income guidelines. At this time verification is on an honorary system that carries with it legal ramifications if you

are found in error. In other words: if you sign that you are eligible and later found your income exceeds the guidelines you can be eliminated from the distributions.

One rule is that you need to pick up your commodities in the town closest to your address. If you live in Smith Center, you need to come to the Smith Center distribution, for example. Smith Center distribution will be at 9 with sign in before that on a first come, first serve basis. Note that this is a Wednesday! Distribution will be at Western Plains meeting room for Smith Center.

Food expected to come for distribution is subject to change according to availability. For October, we are to receive apricot halves, corn, dry pinto beans, lentils, long grain rice, grape juice, walnut pieces,

garbanzo beans, fish sticks, dry milk, frozen diced peaches, chicken drumsticks, unsalted crackers, butter and shredded Cheddar cheese. The chicken is frozen and can be divided after you receive it to freeze part since it is a 5 lb. package.

Guideline for income are the same as given earlier this year. One household, monthly income \$2461.00 with \$846 added for each added member in the household. Remember that income is based on income for each member of the household to be added together.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Questions? you can email Louise Greenberg, coordinator, at lberg@ruraltel.net or call 785-282-6822 for more information.



King & Queen

SCHS Homecoming King and Queen were crowned on Friday at 2PM. Holding the honors are Kalyn Ifland and Noah Stanford. Serving as crown bears were Ezree Newell and Theo Mull.

Amber McKelvey Photo

Allen down for a week after placing in Pickem' Contest

By JOLEEN BREWER
Smith Co. Pioneer

Fourteen entries this week played with one of the players adding another cantatory between Galen and Jaralee. They picked Jaralee to win. This last week we lost Lauren McKelvey but picked up Nathan Huffman, Lou Ann Benoit and another one of the city crew, Micky Drake and SCHS football coach's brother Ashton Hawkins.

With 14 players I was surprised that no one missed more than three. Monk and his wife Lou Ann and Mickey missing the most.

Five players missed two, Rick for the city, Jaralee, Randy Schultz, Ashton Hawkins and Tony Atwood. Missing only one was Mel, the other city crew Ryan LaDow and the two Huffman players.

This leaving ElDean Holthus and Galen Allen having perfect entries.

No one was close on the tie-breaker score of 118. The closest one taking home \$20 and this weeks first place winner was ElDean Holthus, leaving second place to Mr. Allen.

Apparently Galen Allen

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SMITH COUNTY COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Submit your "Community Connection" the Pioneer today!

Stop By the Office or Call 785-282-3371
Email your notice to pioneer@ruraltel.net

Upcoming Events

October 12- Columbus Day
October 16- National Boss Day
October 30- Downtown Smith Center Trick or Treat
October 31- Halloween

Regular Meetings

SCMH Board 4th Monday of each month at 4:00 PM in our Hospital Conference Room.
Smith Co. CommissionMondays at 8:30 a.m.
USD #237 School Board2nd Mondays at 7 p.m.
USD #110 School Board2nd Mondays at 7 p.m.
Smith Center City2nd and 4th Mondays at 6 p.m.
Kensington City2nd Mondays at 5 p.m.
Lebanon City2nd Tuesdays at 7 p.m.
Gaylord City2nd Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
Athol City1st Mondays at 7 p.m.
Cedar City1st Monday at 7 p.m.
Deadline: Mondays at noon for 'Community Connection' notices.

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Church

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Opinion page

Editorials, cartoons & more!
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Smith County
Winter Landfill Hours
Monday-Friday 8am-4pm
Saturday- the first Saturday of the month from 8am-Noon



Weekend Outlook

FRIDAY
High: 84°F Low: 60°F
Some clouds in the AM will give way to mainly sunny skies
SATURDAY
High: 86°F Low: 62°F
Sunny skies
SUNDAY
High: 82°F Low: 60°F
Generally sunny
~~~~~  
Information from The Weather Channel printed is current as of press time; subject to change

## Shop Local for Fall

### Crop Report

Prices effective at closing of October 5, 2026 courtesy of Trinity Ag in Smith Center  
WHEAT...\$6.61  
CORN...\$4.33  
MILO...\$3.98  
SOYBEANS...\$ 12.06



The Pioneer Office will be handing out treats for Halloween on Friday, October 30th



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SCHOOL PHOTOS IN  
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CALL JOLEEN @  
785\*282\*3371

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112 W. Kansas Ave.  
Smith Center KS  
785-282-3371

## Battle Cry



Iker Stansbury gives his best war cry after a touchdown by the Redmen during last Friday's game against Sacred Heart.

Amber McKelvey Photo

## Green Cover Tour Showcases Cover Crop Options for Post-Wheat Acres

The tour will showcase diverse cover crop mixes planted after wheat harvest at Green Cover's new Kansas pop-up test plots.

LEBANON, Kan. — Thanks to local farmer Art Befort, Green Cover Seed planted a variety of cover crop mixes July 27 follow-

ing wheat harvest to learn more about how they respond during this unique planting period.

On Oct. 13, from 9 to 11 a.m., Green Cover will host a free plot tour of the cover crops. The nonirrigated plots showcase a variety of species, from warm-season

grasses to cool-season brassicas and everything in between. The event will begin with breakfast at 9 a.m., followed by a tour and question-and-answer session with local experts. Registration is encouraged.

Green Cover, a cover

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