•Kensington

Continued from Page 1

contributions help make this event possible each year.

Everyone welcome, bring the whole family for good food and great fellowship.

KAY Clothing/shoe Drive

Starting now through November 22, Thunder Ridge KAY will be holding a clothing and shoe drive again this year. They will be partnering with Orphan Grain Train in their efforts to collect items to distribute worldwide. Collection boxes will be at the north Lutheran Church, First St. John, the United Church, and Heartland Worship. Items can also be brought to the high school. Orphan Grain Train collects a variety of things but this drive will focus mostly on clothing and shoes.

However, if you go to the OGT website, it lists all the items the organization does collect. There is a huge variety of items, and we will put any items you donate with our things and take it to Phillipsburg for you.

TR Schools Important Dates/Events

*Attn: New dismissal time of 1:30pm on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving.

November:

Wed-Sat: Thanksgiving Break

Mon. 30- Classes resume

December:

Tue. 1- HS BB @ Home vs Pike Valley 4pm

Thu. 3- MS BB @ Osborne 4pm

Fri. HS BB @ Home vs Stockton

Mathematics Competition 12

On Thursday November 5, 2026, twenty-two (22) students from Thunder Ridge High School participated in the American Mathematics Competition 12 (AMC 12). Thank you to Mr. Makings for all the technical assistance. Thank you to Mr. Greg Frank for oversight. Thank you to our phenomenal office personnel. Mr. Koelsch encouraged enrolling and holding the competition at Thunder Ridge. Mrs. McDowell encouraged students. Mrs. T. brought in support staff so that students could compete. The following is an excerpt from the American Mathematics Competition website.

The AMC 12 is a 25-question, 75-minute multiple-choice competition designed for students in grades 12 and below. It covers the full high school mathematics curriculum, including trigonometry, advanced algebra, and advanced geometry. Calculus is excluded. No calculators are allowed.

The AMC 12 helps students develop their problem-solving abilities and serves as the first step in qualifying for the USA team in prestigious international mathematics competitions, including the International Mathematical Olympiad.

The following students competed. Alanna Bretton, Noah Cline, Emma Cole, Emma Dixon, Daniel Ferguson, Jasmine Ferguson, Cameron Hardacre, Rhett Hopson, Breckyn McDowell, Brillon McDowell, Addison Molzahn, Gideon Nelson, Hannah Nelson, Harley Reed, Lexi Rust, Hailee Schneider, Dirk Stephens, Kaelyn Stokesbury, Tristan Taylor, Leanka van der Linden, Konner Wagenblast, Xylan Williams. Congratulations to all!

American Legion in Kensington

Please note: we will be serving on Friday nights again. Open from 6-8pm, call in at 476-3204.

Condolences

Sympathy to the family and friends of the late:

Mary Ellen King, age 82, who passed away on Friday September 18, 2026 at the Smith Center Health & Rehab Center in Smith Center, KS.

Kathy (Joe) McClure, age 69, who passed away October 26, 2026 after her battle with cancer.

The late Steven Lamont, lovingly known as "Papa Steve," passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday, November 11, 2026, at the age of 73.

Have News to Share??

Send your Kensington items to Erica Barnes at ebarnes8185@gmail.com by Sunday afternoon.

USD #110 BOE Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of USD #110 was called to order by President Staci Foreman at 6:00pm. Other members present were Kathy Holing, Bridget Wyrill, Ali Hadley, and Tina Dennis. Also present were Jeff Yoxall, Beth Norris, Greg Koelsch, and Heidi Struckhoff.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Kathy Holling moved to approve the agenda as presented. Bridget Wyrill seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

III. REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: None.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Ali Hadley moved to approve the minutes from the October 12, 2026, regular board meeting. Kathy Holling seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Staci Foreman moved that the board go into executive session for the purpose of discussing administrative positions, and the board return to open session at 6:12pm. Justification for the executive session is the exception relating to non-elected personnel under KOMA (Kansas Open Meetings Act). Bridget Wyrill seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Jeff Yoxall was invited to the executive session. Beth Norris, Greg Koelsch, and Heidi Struckhoff left the meeting at 6:02pm. The board returned to open session at 6:12pm. Beth Norris, Greg Koelsch, and Heidi Struckhoff returned to the meeting at 6:12pm.

Staci Foreman moved that the board go into **executive** session for the purpose of discussing administrative positions, and the board return to open session at 6:17pm. Justification for the executive session is the exception relating to non-elected personnel under KOMA. Bridget Wyrill seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Jeff Yoxall, Beth Norris, and Greg Koelsch were invited to the executive session. Heidi Struckhoff left the meeting at 6:12pm. The board returned to open session at 6:17pm. Heidi Struckhoff returned to the meeting at 6:17pm.

VI. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Request to Use the Gym for Youth Basketball Tournament on February 20: Bridget Wyrill moved to approve the use of both gyms for the Youth Basketball Tournament on Saturday, February 20th. Tina Dennis seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

B.Supplemental Position: Kathy Holling moved to approve Andrew Makings as HS Assistant Girls Basketball Coach for the 2026-2027 school year. Ali Hadley seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

C. FCCLA (Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America): Jeff Yoxall shared that Mrs. Schlatter wants to start an FCCLA group at the High School. Tina Dennis moved to approve the new activity. Bridget Wyrill seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Donation of $500 from Smith County Kiwanis: Jeff Yoxall shared that a $500 donation was received from Smith County Kiwanis. Kathy Holling moved to approve the donation with thanks. Bridget Wyrill seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

E. Donation of $120 from Prairie Land Electric for participation in Fire Safety Poster Contest: Ali Hadley moved to approve the $120 donation form Prairie Land Electric for participation in the Fire Safety Poster contest. Tina Dennis seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

F. Donation of $1,000 from Kensington Home Foundation: Jeff Yoxall shared that the Kensington Home Foundation donated $1,000 to help purchase tables to use in the HS gym. Tina Dennis moved to approve the donation with thanks. Kathy Holling seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

G. Calendar: Jeff Yoxall shared that 1,116 hours are needed for a school year. A mistake was made when creating the calendar, and we currently will only be at 1,114.6 hours. To fix this, Jeff proposed moving the planned 12:15pm dismissals on Tuesday, November 24th, and Wednesday, May 19th, to 1:30pm dismissals instead. Kathy Holling moved to approve the 1:30pm dismissals on November 24th and May 19th. Tina Dennis seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

H. Other: None.

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. Principals' Reports:

PreK-8 Principal Beth Norris reported on the following:

• Pre-K – Field trip to Hunter's Pumpkin Patch

• K-3 – Field trip to Liner's Lil Barn Pumpkin Batch in Beaver City

BOE Minutes 11/8/2026

• MS AR Party at Drop Zone in Kearney

• Parent-Teacher Conferences – Elementary attendance was 100%; Middle School was 85%

• Red Ribbon Week – NHS members presented anti-drug information

• MS Basketball Season – 12 boys and 15 girls participating. The first games are tomorrow in a tournament at Osborne

• Honor Roll – 64% of 7th grade and 60% of 8th grade, for a total of 63% of students on the Honor Roll

• At-Risk Accountability Plan

• KS Individual Literacy Plan

9-12 Principal Greg Koelsch reported on the following:

Congrats to Hannah Nelson for placing 19th at State Cross Country

Hannah Nelson will also receive an award for being in Honor Band all 4 years

Congrats to the students making Honor Choir: Dani Holling, Harley Reed, Isaiah Coomes, and Kaelyn Stokesbury

Parent-Teacher Conference attendance was less than 50%; would like to increase to at least 75%

22 students participated in the American Mathematics Competition

Float decorating for Veteran's Day Parade will be on November 12th – several students will be in Hays with Mrs. Sukraw for Math Relays that day

Attendance overall has been good so far

B. year at this time. An inservice will be held on Friday. Another positive of the 4-day weeks is the ability to have more inservices and touch base with everyone more often.

C. Planning: Jeff Yoxall shared that board members will have time to talk with teachers at the inservice on Friday regarding the building transition. A big issue is still lunch in Kensington. Jeff expressed that he would love to keep all three buildings open, but it doesn't make financial sense for the future.

D. Other: None.

VIII. APPROVAL OF BILLS: Ali Hadley moved to approve the bills as presented, with any additional amounts to be paid as needed to finish the month-end transactions. Kathy Holling seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

IX. MONTHLY REPORTS: Bridget Wyrill moved to approve the following reports as presented: Treasurer's, Clerk's, Food Service, and the Unencumbered Cash Balances Report. Ali Hadley seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

X. REPORT OF BOARD MEMBERS: Staci Foreman shared an update from the recent SITE Council meeting. She reminded board members that the December meeting will also be held on the second Sunday of the month due to scheduling conflicts.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: Ali Hadley moved to adjourn the meeting. Tina Dennis seconded. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:01pm.

The next regular Board of Education meeting will be December 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. on) (Date)

Legal Notice

(First published in the Smith County Pioneer Newspaper on November 12, 2026.)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SMITH COUNTY, KANSAS.

In the Matter of the Estate of George E. Stange, Deceased.

Case No. SM-2026-PR-000007

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Lance E. Stange, the duly appointed, qualified and acting Administrator of the Estate of George E. Stange deceased, requesting that Petitioner's acts be approved; account be settled and allowed; the heirs-at-law of decedent be determined; the Estate be assigned to the decedent's heirs-at-law; fees and expenses be allowed; costs be determined and ordered paid; the administration of the Estate be closed; the Administrator be discharged and Petitioner be released from further liability.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before December 9, 2026, at 2:00 P.M. in the Smith County District Court, Smith County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon *the Petition*.

Lance E. Stange
Administrator
Richard E. Dietz
Dietz Law Office
115 South First Street
P.O. Box 326
Osborne, Kansas 67473
(785) 346-2157
staff@dietz-law.net
Attorney for Administrator
Nov. 26

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(First published in the Smith County Pioneer on Thursday, November 12, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SMITH COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of MARY ELLEN KING, Deceased. Case No. SM 2026 PR 26

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on October 5, 2026, a Petition for Issuance of Letters of Administration was filed in the above captioned case in this Court by Lynda Sue Steinfeld, who has now been appointed Administrator of the estate of MARY ELLEN KING, deceased.

All creditors of the above-named decedent are notified to exhibit their demands against the estate within four (4) months from the date of first publication of this notice, as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

LYNDA SUE STEINFELD, Administrator

Michael-Shannon McDowell, #16002
Kyle C. Allen, #27734
Allen & McDowell Law, LLC.
113 N. Main Street/P.O. Box 68
Smith Center, Kansas 66967
Phone--(785)282-6688
Attorney for Petitioner
Nov 26

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(First published in the Smith County Pioneer on Thursday, November 26, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SMITH COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of SANDRA S. MAYDEW, Deceased.

Case No. SM-2026-PR-000032

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on November 9, 2026, a Petition for Letters of Administration was filed in the above captioned case in this Court by KYLA A. FREARSON, who has now been appointed Administrator of the estate of SANDRA S. MAYDEW, deceased.

All creditors of the above-named decedent are notified to exhibit their demands against the estate within four (4) months from the date of first publication of this notice, as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

KYLA A. FREARSON, Administrator

Kyle C. Allen, #27734
Allen & McDowell Law, LLC.
113 N. Main Street/P.O. Box 68
Smith Center, Kansas 66967
Phone: (785)282-6688
Fax: (785)686-5067
kyle@allenmcdowell.com
Attorney for Petitioner
Dec 10

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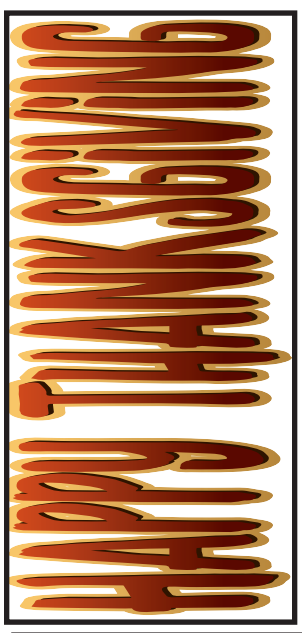

THE Smith County PIONEER

DPA AUCTIONS

Frontier Cooperative
EXCESS EQUIPMENT AUCTION
December 3rd, 2026
Floaters, Sprayers, Trucks, Vehicles and more!
DPAauctions.com

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS ACROSS NEBRASKA



Old enough for Medicare



Rick is turning 65 December 4th! Wishing a wonderful husband, dad and grandpa a very happy birthday! If you see him out and about, be sure to wish him a happy birthday! We hope your day is filled with everything you love!
Love, your family

We'd like to offer our heartfelt "Thanks" to everyone who has sent cards, flowers, or memorial contributions, and to those who have provided food, friendship, and support to our family since Steven's death. Your kind gestures of sympathy have been deeply appreciated.

The family of Steven L. Lamont
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