Give Thanks this Thanksgiving!

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Where Rooks County Comes Together

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Stockton Sentinel, LLC dba Sentinel-Times

ROOKS COUNTY, KANSAS

COMING TO YOU FROM THE HEARTLAND OF AMERICA

20 PAGES

Stockton Third-Graders Share Their Thanksgiving Blessings With Readers

Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on the many blessings in our lives, and the third-grade students in Laura Foss's class at Stockton Grade School are doing just that in a special feature in this week's Sentinel-Times.

Each student was assigned a letter or letters of the alphabet and asked to create a poster illustrating something they are thankful for that begins with their assigned letter. Their creativity and expressions of gratitude are showcased in individual advertisements throughout this week's issue.

SEE **BLESSINGS, 12A**

WEEKEND WEATHER

FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with winds from the WNW at 11 m.p.h.
HIGH: 59
LOW: 36

SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with winds from the NW at 11 m.p.h.
HIGH: 52
LOW: 34

SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with winds from the WNW at 11 m.p.h.
HIGH: 52
LOW: 31

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Scripture of the Week

I can do all things through Christ, because he gives me strength.

— Philippians 4:13 —



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SIXTY YEARS LATER, Stan Morin's barber shop is still open for business, with Morin surrounded by the treasures he has collected through the years.

Stan Morin awarded a 60-Year Barbering Certificate

By VIRGI LASKA
Sentinel-Times

"A shave and a haircut, two bits!" The Saturday-morning trip to the barbershop was once a weekly ritual. After a long week in the fields or at work, men gathered to catch up on the news, visit with friends, and prepare for a night "out on the town." Fathers also brought their sons for a milestone first haircut. That tradition lives on in Plainville at Stan's Barbershop, where Stan Morin has spent more than 60 years cutting hair.

Morin's career began in the early 1960s. After an attempt to join his brother working on the railroad fell through, he decided to enroll in barber school.

He traveled to Wichita to attend the Kansas School of Barbering, completing six months—or, by his calculation, 1,248 hours—of training. He learned haircutting, straight-razor shaving and sharpening a blade on a leather strop, along with the use of hair tonics, professional ethics and shop management.

Morin remembers one perk of student life: "I lived two blocks from a McDonald's, and I ate a lot of 12¢ hamburgers and 10¢ Cokes while I was there!"

At 18, Morin began barbering in Stockton, on the north side of the 500 block, in a building later remembered as Gail's Christian Book Store or Carsten's Shoe Repair Shop. After a few months, Frank Mitchell invited him to work in Plainville. With barber Donny Roberts leaving for Hays, Morin accepted. Jerry Monholan, Matt McClellan and Tom Philieger also worked at Plainville's Family Barber Shop, where business stayed steady six days a week.

Two dates stand out in Morin's story: July 9, 1962, when he married Barb, and July 13, when he opened his own Plainville shop. He met Barb while working on a custom-harvesting crew with

SEE **STAN, 12A**

Dr. Heath Latham Named Chief Medical Officer

Stockton native credits family, hometown and early influences for helping shape his successful career in medicine

By VIRGI LASKA
Sentinel-Times

From growing up in the small community of Stockton to taking on a major leadership role with one of Kansas' largest healthcare systems, Dr. Heath Latham has never forgotten the people and experiences that helped shape his journey.

Latham, a 1995 graduate of Stockton High School and the son of Sheila Latham and the late Dee Latham, has been named the new chief medical officer of The University of Kansas Health System's St. Francis Campus in Topeka. He will officially assume his new position on January 1, 2027, succeeding Dr. Sri Donepudi, the campus' current chief medical officer.

For Latham, the appointment represents another milestone in a medical career that began taking shape long before he ever stepped foot on a college campus.

In fact, he can trace his interest in medicine back to two experiences during his childhood in Stockton.

The first was witnessing the exceptional care provided by local healthcare professionals, particularly the late Dr. Harold Mauck, who made a lasting impression on the young Latham.

The second came when Latham was in second grade and broke his arm. After receiving treatment from an orthopedic physician in Hays, he found himself fascinated by how the doctor had repaired his injury.

Those early experiences sparked an interest in medicine that continued to grow throughout his school years. Once in college, his enjoyment of science and the courses he was taking further strengthened his desire to pursue a career in healthcare.

Following his graduation from Stockton High School in 1995, Latham attended Washburn University before transferring to the University of Kansas, where he began what would become a decades-long association with the university and its health system.

"I am a KU Lifer," Latham said, noting that he has been associated with the university since 1997.

During his medical training at KU, Latham completed his internal medicine residency and went on to serve as chief resident. He later moved into pulmonary critical care in 2008 and has remained on the faculty ever since.

Over the years, he has witnessed tremendous growth within The University of Kansas Health System, some-

SEE **LATHAM, 5A**

Stockton's Olde Tyme Christmas Is This Friday

Please note parade route changes!

By VIRGI LASKA
Sentinel-Times

Stockton's Olde Tyme Christmas, themed "Hometown Holiday," takes place Friday, November 27.

From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., enjoy the Fire Department Pancake Feed at the fire station, weather permitting; otherwise, it will be held at Stockton City Hall. Donations are accepted on a free-will basis to support a worthy cause.

At 2 p.m., catch a free screening of "Little Giants" at the Nova Theatre.

From 3:30 to 8 p.m., vendors will be set up at City Hall and the Stockton Senior Center. Downtown businesses will also be open during their regular hours.

Parade lineup begins at 5 p.m., and the parade starts at 5:30 p.m. Santa will visit Printer's Park afterward. The route has changed this year to accommodate work on U.S. 24: It begins at Solomon Valley Manor, north of South Elm Street, travels west on South Second Street, turns north on South Walnut Street, then west onto U.S. 24 and along Stockton's Main Street. The parade ends with a turn north onto North Cypress Street.

The SHS sophomore class will host a soup supper fundraiser at City Hall from 5 to 7 p.m. Enjoy a meal with family and friends while supporting the students.

Sunflower Clydesdale carriage rides will run from 6 to 8 p.m. Nex-Tech train rides will also be available.

A prize drawing will be held at 8 p.m. at City Hall.

(See this week's issue for an advertisement with additional details on Page 20A.)

Taco Night at Stockton City Hall!

Friday, December 4th

Come down to Stockton City Hall (115 South Walnut Street) at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, December 4th for the Stockton Wrestling Club Taco Night Fundraiser! The wrestlers will serve the meal until the food runs out! This is a free-will donation event, and proceeds will support the wrestlers this season. See you there!

(Look for the ad in this week's issue on Page 6A.)

Stockton Public Library Open House this Friday, Nov. 27

Come on in and see what is happening at YOUR Stockton Public Library this Friday, November 27th, during its Open House as part of the Olde Tyme Christmas Celebration!

The Parade of Christmas Trees officially opens for the season; there will be photo ops and a come-and-go book folding, plus much more! See you there!

(Look for the ad in this week's issue on Page 8A.)

'Deer Ones Deadline is next Wednesday, December 2nd!