

WESTERN KANSAS World

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Your Community. Your News. Your World

Honoring Our Past While Preparing For Our Future

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Thursday,
November 5, 2026

WaKeeney, Trego County, Kansas - Official County and City Paper

Trunk or Treat!



These area first responders welcomed families on Halloween during the Trunk or Treat event in downtown WaKeeney! ***Courtesy photo***

Unofficial election results given

City's Special Tax question appears to have failed; Phillips shows higher unofficial numbers for Judge

By Nickole Byers
Western Kansas World

The polls are closed, and the final count is underway to determin the seats and questions on this year's November ballot.

Highlighting this year's Election in Trego County was the race for Magistrate Judge, and a special tax question proposed by the City of WaKeeney.

A selection of the unofficial results are listed below. and an official canvass of the General Election for Trego County by the County Board of Canvassers will take place starting at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 10, in the County Commissioner's Room.

Watch for the full list of official results in the Nov. 12 issue of the *World*.

Magistrate Judge race The Magistrate Judge race had two candidates on the ballot, incumbent Richard Hanks, who was appointed to fill the vacancy left by the early retirement of Judge Richard Flax, and Travis Phillips, who currently serves as WaKeeney City Police Chief and ran against Judge Flax in the last election for the Magistrate Judge position.

Unofficial election results for the Magistrate Judge are Travis Phillips (R) with 781 votes, and Richard Hanks (D) with 588 votes. There were 3 write ins reported. Total votes cast were 1,372.

Special Tax Question - City of WaKeeney The City of WaKeeney added a special tax question to the November ballot.

The Unofficial election results for this special tax question was reported as 328 yes and 512 no. There were 840 total votes cast.

Trego Co. Commission Dist 1 Calvin J PFannenstiel Jr. ran unopposed in the County Commission race for District 1. He received 395 votes. There were 6 write ins reported.

Collyer Township Clerk John Malinowsky ran unopposed for the Collyer Township Clerk COLT position. He received 145 votes. There was one write-in reported.

Ogallah Township Clerk Darryl Steckline ran unopposed for the Ogallah Township Clerk OGAT position. He received 138 votes. There were no write-in reported.

WaKeeney Township Clerk There were no names on the ballot for the WaKeeney Township Clerk position. There were 53 write-in reported.

Other There were 1,383 votes cast in Trego County, with a 66.01% voter turnout.

For a full list of the unofficial results, visit the Trego Co. webpage, or stop at the *World* office and get a copy!

Purinton Ranch hosts team of students

October 19-22, students, faculty, and staff from the University of Kansas Biodiversity Institute (KU) visited Wayne Purinton's ranch near Banner, KS to survey mammals, birds, and invertebrates.

This is the third time the group has visited the Purinton Ranch. Previous trips in 2024 and 2025 consisted of a "biotic resurvey" of the land that was last assessed in the 1920s by Charles Dean Bunker and his associates at KU (they were hosted on the Purinton Ranch by Wayne Purinton's grandfather, Ray Marion Purinton).

Renewed inventories document changes in the community composition of animals and habitats over the last 100 years.

Modern biological surveys are in-progress at more than 20 counties, representing variable habitats across the State of Kansas.

This visit, however, KU researchers added ticks to the survey targets.

Ticks are small blood-sucking arachnids that can transmit diseases to humans, livestock, and wildlife.

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TEAM-The team of students and staff from the KU Biodiversity Institute, shown here at the Banner Road Hunt Club with Wayne Purinton. (L to R) Marlon Cobos, Yantzaza, Ecuador; Jennifer Ramos, Havana, Cuba; Natalia Betancurt, Medellín, Colombia; Dianna Krejsa, Indianola, IA; Nate Carley, Dallas, TX; Wayne Purinton, Banner/WaKeeney, KS; Danny Ibañez, El Paso, TX; Vera Ting, Hamden, CT; Lucas DeCicco, Fairbanks, AK. ***Courtesy photo***

Blood Drive Notice

Upcoming blood donation opportunities: WaKeeney, Nov. 5, 12 - 6 p.m., United Methodist Church, 500 Summit Ave.

Midwest Energy announces WaKeeney walk-in office closure

Midwest Energy is closing its walk-in office located at 415 Barclay in WaKeeney, Kan., and relocating the payment drop box to the alley south of the city building next to the Senior Center, effective Thursday, Jan. 7, 2027.

The office, currently staffed twice a week, has seen a decrease in walk-in traffic over the past few years. In 2025, only 2.7 percent of WaKeeney customers used the office to make payments, with an average of just four customers visiting the office each day it was open.

"As a customer-owned cooperative, we have a responsibility to spend our customers' dollars wisely," Justin MacDonald, Midwest Energy's Vice President of Customer Service, said. "With so few people using the office, it became difficult to justify the rent and staffing costs."

While walk-in office traffic has declined, the payment drop box remains popular. Beginning Jan. 7, this drop box will be moved to the alley south of the city building. The city and several other businesses have drop boxes in this location, making it convenient for customers.

Customers can also pay online using a variety of methods, including bank drafts, credit or debit cards, Venmo, Apple Pay, Google Pay, and PayPal. Across Midwest Energy's service area, more than 22,000 customers use automatic bank drafts to pay their bills, and the online payment portal has nearly 45,000 users.

"Customers have more ways than ever to do business with Midwest Energy," MacDonald said. "As always, our Customer Service Representatives are happy to help customers set up automatic bank drafts or make other payment arrangements."

Customers who wish to share concerns about the office closure can contact MacDonald directly at 1-800-222-3121.

Special Mailing Notice

We remind all local businesses, Rec teams, clubs, school groups and churches to submit their news today!!

Holiday specials, Tree Lighting information and much more will be in the Nov. 12 & 19. WE WANT YOUR NEWS! Send news to theworld@mainstreetmedia.us

Temperatures & precipitation

Date	High	Low	Prec
10-27	65	44	-
10-28	64	45	-
10-29	71	47	0.02"
10-30	57	49	-
10-31	67	52	-
11-1	57	52	0.22"
11-2	67	51	-

Senior Citizens Center

413 Russell Avenue, WaKeeney
785-743-5449

Affordable, Well-Balanced Meals for Aging Trego Co. Residents

60 yrs. & up $4.00/meal
Under 60 . . . . . $6.75/meal

GOOD FOOD & GOOD COMPANY ALL IN ONE PLACE!
SIMPLY CALL BY 10:30 AM ONE DAY IN ADVANCE WITH YOUR R.S.V.P.

Guests Welcome!

~ Meals on Wheels Also Available ~
Call for details!

The WaKeeney Senior Center is affiliated with the NorthWest Kansas Area on Aging

This Week's Menu

Thursday, Nov. 5: Chicken and rice casserole, catalina blend vegetables, bread, cookie and peaches.
Friday, Nov. 6: Shepard's pie, scandinavian vegetable, dinner roll and mixed fruit.
Monday, Nov. 9: Chicken strips, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, bread and tropical fruit.
Tuesday, Nov. 10: Chili, cinnamon roll, crackers and mandarin oranges.
Wednesday, Nov. 11: Oven baked chicken, baked potato, coleslaw, bread and pears.
Thursday, Nov. 12: Goulash, italian blend vegetables, bread, peaches and cake w/frosting.
Friday, Nov. 13: Cook's Choice.

INSIDE News & More

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See more inside!

Collyer News 3A
From past Collyer Advance newspapers! Includes vintage ads!

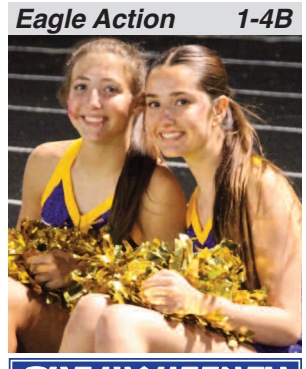
Beware the Scents of Autumn by Karen Madorin ***Page 3A***



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Classifieds!
Homes for sale, jobs and more! ***Page 7A***

Eagle Action 1-4B



THE WAKEENEY COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Cards every Friday, 6:30 P.M., Senior Center; Bus. mtg. 2nd Mon., 12:30 pm

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Line Dancing, Scout House, M-W-F, 9:30-10:30 A.M.

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REGULAR MEETINGS
Trego Co. Commission
each Tuesday at 5 P.M.

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WaKeeney City Council
1st & 3rd Tuesdays@6:15 PM

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USD #208 School Board
meeting, 2nd Mon. 5:30PM

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Trego Co. Chamber
2nd Monday of month, 6 PM, Queen of Stars, 128 N. Main St., WaKeeney

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American Legion & Aux.
WaKeeney Moore Post #197, 2nd Mon, 6:30 p.m. (Sept-May) 517 Russell Ave

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WaKeeney Eagles
Regular Lodge-
2nd & 4th Tues., 8 pm,
Joint meetings, 7:30 pm prior to Regular meetings
Next Bingo: Nov 22
Early Bird at 1:30 P.M.
Regular Bingo at 2 P.M.
Specials
Chicken Dinner
Nov. 8 @ 11 am-1 pm
Texas Hold'Em
Nov. 8 @ 4pm (sign up 3:30)
Hamburger Night,
Nov. 19, 6-8 pm
Steak Night,
Nov. 28, 6-8 pm
Nov. 26 last night to order
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