

• Pentagon seeks

Con't from Page 10

Trump has repeatedly said he wants to boost military spending, arguing last year that he wants to increase the annual defense budget by \$500 billion to \$1.5 trillion. That's run counter to his push, especially early in his administration, to deploy Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency to cut costs across the government.

U.S. officials told lawmakers that the first six days of the war with Iran cost more than \$11.3 billion. The Senate's top Democrat, Chuck Schumer of New York, said the size of the anticipated request reflects the intensity of the operations.

"If Trump wants \$200 billion, it means he believes we will be at war for a very, very long time," Schumer said on X. "That's the last thing Americans want."

Hegseth brushed aside criticism of the op-

eration at Thursday's press conference. He said the U.S. campaign was proceeding as planned and attacked the media for what he said was unfair skepticism about Trump's approach.

"The media here — not all of it, but much of it — wants you to think, just 19 days into this conflict, that we're somehow spinning toward an endless abyss or a forever war or quagmire," Hegseth said. "Nothing could be further from the truth."

Hegseth said the U.S. was "winning decisively" — destroying Iran's ballistic missile arsenal, its navy and submarines. He declined to answer a question about a specific time frame, but said the U.S. is "on plan" with a "clear set of objectives" and would end the conflict at a time of "the president's choosing, ultimately."

What's IN UP? IDY

When?	What?	Where?	What Time?
Mar. 20-21	Murder Mystery Inge Foundation Fundraiser – Murder at the Movie Premier	William Inge Boyhood Home – 514 North 4th	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Mar. 21	Free Clothing Closet	New Life Baptist Church – 2515 South 10th	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Mar. 22-May16	Walk Kansas	K-State Research and Extension Office – 410 Peter Pan Road Suite B	
Mar. 23	County Commission Meeting	Montgomery County Judicial Center – Lower Level 300 East Main	9:00 a.m.
Mar. 23	VFW Bingo Night	113 East Myrtle	Doors Open 4:00 p.m. Games Begin 7:00 p.m.
Mar. 24	Eagle Rock Shredders Group Trail Night Bike Ride	Elk City State Park Outlet Channel Parking Lot	6:00 p.m.
Mar. 24	Family Movie Night Featuring Disney's <i>Strange World</i>	Independence Public Library – 220 East Maple Written by 2026 Inge Festival Honoree, Qui Nguyen	6:00 p.m.
Mar. 25	IHS Annual Career Fair	IHS Gymnasium – 1301 North 10th	7:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Mar. 25	Library Board Meeting	Independence Public Library – 220 East Maple	5:15 p.m.
Mar. 25	Music Bingo	Uncle Jack's Bar & Grill – 104 North Penn. Avenue	7:30 p.m.
Mar. 26-28	Weekly Community Brush, Leaves & Limbs Dropoff	City Brush Yard 1/2 Mile South of College Avenue on CR 4100	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Mar. 26-27	Weekly Community Debris, Appliance, Furniture, & Bulky Item Dropoff	Sanitation Yard – 21st & Maple	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Mar. 26-27	Weekly Community Recycling	Sanitation Yard – 21st & Maple	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Mar. 26-27	Independence Children's Summer Theatre Auditions – <i>Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley Jr.</i> Musical – Grades 2-6 – indykidsonstage.com		
Mar. 26-27	Independence Children's Summer Theatre Auditions – <i>Ramona Quimby Play</i> – Grades 4-12 – indykidsonstage.com		
Mar. 26	Southeast Kansas Senior Safety & Wellness Coalition Luncheon	Four County Mental Health Center – 3751 West Main "Don't Get Caught Up In Scams!"	11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Mar. 26	"Take a Hike – Physical Activity in the Great Outdoors"	Labette Health Center – 510 North Peter Pan Road Sponsored by Diabetes Support Group & Friends	4:30 p.m.
Mar. 26	City Commission Meeting	City Hall – 120 North 6th	5:30 p.m.
Mar. 26	Zion Little Cubs Learning Center Open House	Zion Lutheran School – 301 South 11th	5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Mar. 26	Storm Fury on the Plains	Civic Center – 410 North Penn. Avenue	6:30 p.m.
Mar. 26	Trivia Night	Uncle Jack's Bar & Grill – 104 North Penn. Avenue	7:30 p.m.
Mar. 27&30	Independence Children's Summer Theatre Auditions – <i>Newsies Jr.</i> Musical – Grades 6-12 – indykidsonstage.com		
Mar. 27	Orange Friday	Show Your School Spirit Every Friday	
Mar. 27	Knights of Columbus Fish Fry	St. Andrew Parish Center – 210 North 4th	5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Mar. 27	Live Music Night	Uncle Jack's Bar & Grill – 104 North Penn. Avenue	6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Mar. 27	Karaoke Night	Turbos Sports Bar & Grill – 103 West Main	9:00 p.m.
Mar. 28	CPR Class with Indy Saves	Indy Fitness – 2801 West Main	9:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Mar. 28	Chili, Soup, Dessert & Bake Sale Fundraiser Benefiting Mark & Lisa Paige	Eisenhower Elementary School – 501 Spruce Street	11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Mar. 28	5th Annual Mountain Bike Easter Egg Hunt	Eagle Loop Trailhead – Central Park Sports Complex	2:00 p.m.
Mar. 28	Easter Egg Hunt	Medicalodges – 1000 Mulberry	2:00 p.m.
Mar. 28	3rd Annual Poker Tournament Fundraiser	IGC Sporting Heritage Center – 212 North Penn. Avenue	Doors Open – 4:00 p.m.



40 Hereford Bulls



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Thursday, March 26 at NOON

Three miles south of Lafontaine on Old Highway 39 (Harper Road) and 1 1/2 miles west; or two miles north of Elk City on Highway 160 to farm sign. Complementary lunch will be served at 11 a.m.

ALL BULLS BEING SOLD - Serviceable age, 12 month to 18 month. Semen evaluated. Freeze Branded, BVD-PI-Neg. First breeding season guaranteed. Many by calving ease or moderate birth weight EPD sires. Cattle can be seen at farm any time before sale. Sight unseen purchasing available. Guaranteed satisfaction. Cal for details.

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Classifieds

CLASSIFIED NEW DEADLINES

Daily-11 a.m. Day Before
Saturday- 3 p.m. Thursday

Minimum Charge- 1 day, up to 15 words, \$8.25

Call the office 620-331-3550 to place your ad. We accept Visa, MasterCard or Discover cards, or you can pre-pay for your ad at our offices at 6th and Chestnut streets.

The Reporter reserves the right to edit, classify or reject any ad submitted.

The Independence Daily Reporter does not accept responsibility for the character of advertisers requesting its readers to make cash investments in business ventures. The Reporter does suggest you check thoroughly with your Chamber of Commerce, credit bureau, or your local banks before you make investments with concerns you know little or nothing about.

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104 Notices

AA MEETINGS; 213 W. Oak; Independence; Noon Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday; Wednesday at 7pm. Thursday at 7pm; Sunday at 6pm. Alon meetings; Tuesday at 7p m TF

132 Rummage Sale

GARAGE SALE- Saturday 3/21, 8 am to 4 pm. Lots of vintage hand and automobile tools, mens clothes size XL & 2XL, shoes size 14, also lots of misc. 4841 CR 3910- formerly Hillcrest Road. MAR21

135 Pets & Supplies

FREE THREE year old half German Shepherd, great dog, not a watch dog, 620-252-5987. MAR21

151 Services

LOWRY CONSTRUCTION, new construction, room additions, steel buildings, remodeling, roofing, insurance claims. Locally owned since 2001. We do it all, 620-330-1943. TF

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ALWAYS A great gift idea; automatic garage doors, Independence Overhead Doors, Inc., 115 W. Main, Independence, 620-331-2445. TF

182 Property For Rent

CLIMATE CONTROL storage, available, Witwer Storage, 1691 CR 4325, Coffeyville, 620-251-8542. TF

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200 Public Notice

(First published in the Independence Daily Reporter March 21, 2026)
GENERAL NOTICE TO CONTROL NOXIOUS WEEDS
The Kansas Noxious Weed Law K.S.A. 2-1314 et seq. requires all persons who own or supervise land in Kansas to control and eradicate all weeds declared noxious by legislative action. The weeds declared noxious are: field bindweed, musk thistle, Johnsongrass, bur ragweed, Canada thistle, sericea lespedeza, leafy spurge, hoary cress, quackgrass, russian knapweed, kudzu and pignut. Multiflora Rose is a County option Noxious Weed declared noxious by the Board of County Commissioners of Montgomery County. Notice is hereby given pursuant to the Kansas Noxious Weed Law to every person who owns or supervises land in Montgomery County that noxious weeds growing or found on such land shall be controlled and eradicated. Control is defined as preventing the production of viable seed and the vegetative spread of the plant. Failure to observe this notice may result in the County:

1. Serving a legal notice requiring control of the noxious weeds within a minimum of five days. Failure to control the noxious weeds within the time period allowed may result in the County treating the noxious weeds at the landowners' expense and placing a lien on the property if the bill is not paid within 30 days or,

2. Filing criminal charges for non-compliance. Conviction for non-compliance may result in a fine of \$100 per day of non-compliance with a maximum fine of \$1,500. The public is also hereby notified that it is a violation of the Kansas Noxious Weed Law to barter, sell or give away infested nursery stock or livestock feed unless the feed is fed on the farm where grown or sold to a commercial processor that will destroy the viability of the noxious weed seed. Custom harvesting machines must be labeled with a label provided by the Kansas Department of Agriculture and must be free of all weed seed and litter when entering the State and when leaving a field infested with noxious weeds. Additional information may be obtained from the Montgomery County Noxious Weed Department, (620) 331-4139 or by contacting the Kansas Dept. of Agriculture, 1320 Research Park Drive, Manhattan, KS 66502.
March 21, 2026

Helpful Tips

Being a Team Player
So what does it mean to be a team player exactly? The following are some traits of team players.

Meets deadlines: People working together on a project have their own unique responsibilities regarding such projects. It's important that the end result is produced on time; otherwise, the entire group pays the price. Employees who care about their teams consistently meet their deadlines, making things easier for their fellow team members as a result.

Adapts easily: Team players are willing to adapt to change and take others' suggestions. Professional flexibility and openness to ideas are important traits, as you just may learn something from team members when you try things their way.

Listens attentively: In order for a team to function, every member has to listen to what his or her coworkers are saying. This also includes being receptive to criticism without lashing out. Listening can sometimes be more important than speaking.

Communicates clearly: Team players effectively communicate their thoughts and ideas. This includes using language that is constructive, honest and respectful.

Participates frequently: Even when his or her own work is done, a team player does not shy away from taking on the tasks of others to ensure a project is completed on time. This also can include offering tips or pointers.

Happily shares the spotlight: Never the glory hog, a team player is content to stand in the spotlight alongside coworkers. Team players make sure everyone is involved and recognized equally, and even take their share of the blame when things go awry.

Director of the Little Blue Devils Early Learning Center

USD 286 is seeking a qualified and motivated individual to serve as the Director of the Little Blue Devils Early Learning Center. The Director is responsible for the overall management and daily operation of the Early Learning Center, ensuring a safe, nurturing, and developmentally appropriate environment for all children. The Director oversees program compliance with all applicable state childcare licensing regulations, supervises staff, and ensures high-quality early childhood programming aligned with district expectations. Based on experience, minimum starting salary \$40,000.00 (12-month position)

- Essential Duties and Responsibilities:**
1. Oversee the daily operation of the Little Blue Devils Early Learning Center.
 2. Ensure the center provides a safe, supportive, and engaging environment that promotes the well-being and development of all children.
 3. Develop and implement procedures consistent with Kansas child care licensing regulations and district policies.
 4. Maintain all required documentation, records, and reports for state compliance and licensing requirements.
 5. Coordinate enrollment procedures, program scheduling, and classroom assignments.
 6. Compliance and Regulation
 7. Ensure full compliance with all Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) child care licensing requirements.
 8. Maintain all required health, safety, and compliance documentation.
 9. Coordinate required inspections, training, and reporting to state and local agencies.
 10. Ensure proper staff-to-child ratios and adherence to safety protocols.

Interested applicants should email Kati Sears (kati.sears@usd286.org) or call the district office (620-725-3187) for further information.