

OBITUARIES

JANET KAY "JAN" JABBen



Jabben

Janet Kay "Jan" Jabben, of Parsons, Kansas left this world on Thursday, March 19, 2026 to be with her Lord and Savior.

She was born in Coffeyville, Kansas on February 2, 1947 to Orain "Sam" and Ruth "Peggy" (Wooten) Carnes. On April 15, 1963, she was united in marriage to Gene Jabben in Bentonville, Arkansas, who survives. Also surviving are her sister, Lois Williams of Hixson Tennessee; brother, Phillip Carnes of Bentonville Arkansas; five children that Jan and Gene welcomed into their family, Steve Jabben (Carrie) of Parsons, Kansas, Chris Jabben (Dawne) of Wichita, Kansas, Patty Jabben Roy (Steve) of Rochester, Illinois, Tammy Jabben Dickerson (Josh) of Neodesha, Kansas, and Dorothy Jabben (Starsky) of Frederickton, New Brunswick, Canada; 15 grandchildren, Ashley Jabben, Baylie Jabben, Andrew Jabben, Mary Hayse, Benton Hayse, Cale Glennie, Alex Jabben, Derek Jabben, Jordan Jabben, Desiree Smith, Matthew Denney, Megan Lee, Zac Dickerson, and Ben Dickerson. She was also blessed with 17 great grandchildren.

Jan was raised in the Coffeyville and Tyro areas, where she attended Coffeyville and Wayside schools. During her school years, she learned to play the piano, a gift she would carry with her throughout her life. Jan had a strong work ethic, holding several positions over the years, including The Manor Nursing Home in Independence and Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Parsons, where she cared for others with kindness and compassion.

A faithful member of the First Baptist Church in Oswego, Kansas, Jan shared her musical talent by playing the piano for church services, enriching worship for her congregation. She found her greatest joy in the people and simple pleasures she loved most—her family and friends, her beloved dog, Buddy, and tending to her flowers and plants, which reflected her gentle and nurturing spirit.

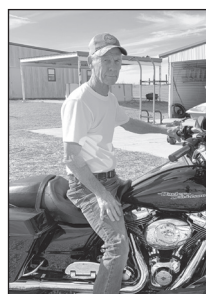
Jan was preceded in death by her parents and her brother, David Carnes.

A celebration of life will be held at 2:00 P.M. Saturday, April 4, 2026 at Oswego First Baptist Church in Oswego, Kansas. Pastor Jim Irwin will conduct the services. Cremation arrangements are under direction of Fohn Funeral Home in Cassville.

Contributions may be made to Oswego First Baptist Church in memory of Jan.

Visit www.fohnfuneralhome.com for online obituaries, guestbook and private condolences

WILLIAM "BILL" (WILLIE) PEYTON



Peyton

William "Bill" (Willie) Peyton passed away peacefully on March 19, 2026, in Gatesville, Texas.

Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 28, 2026, at Webb & Rodrick Chapel and Crematory, followed by a graveside service at Robbins Cemetery in Dearing, Kansas.

Bill was born on December 1, 1949, in Coffeyville, Kansas, to Frank and Margaret (Hopkins) Peyton. He met and married Kay (Niegsch) Peyton in 1965; they later divorced. Together, they had three children: Gail, Shelley, and Bill.

Bill attended school in Liberty and Coffeyville. After graduation, he began working for Larry Marang Texaco, then moved on to Pressure Cast Products. He later became a self-employed truck driver, a career he continued until retirement.

Bill had many hobbies that brought him joy throughout his life. From a young age, he loved motorcycles, and later developed a passion for stock car racing, fishing, and especially his horses.

He deeply cherished time spent with his family and the memories they created together.

He is survived by his children: Gail (John) Peyton-Derrick of Gatesville, Texas; Shelley Peyton of Bolivar, Missouri; and Bill (Melissa) Peyton of Independence, Kansas; ten grandchildren: Tejas Chastain, Emily (Garrett) Johnson, Amber Martinez, Laken (Elicia) Volmer, Paisley Batson, Lauren (Zach) Peyton-Willis, Vance (Shelby) Peyton, Karsyn Peyton, Ellie Gerke, and Kyler Henderson; five great-grandchildren: Hadley, Stryker, John, Remi, and Axel; his brother, Dale (Marcie) Peyton of Goddard, Kansas; and his sister, Lois (Dan) Mavers of Independence, Kansas. He also leaves behind many nieces, nephews, and cousins who brought love and laughter into his life.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Margaret Peyton; two brothers, Frank Peyton and Darrell Peyton; and five sisters: Barbara Ellen (Sam) Peyton-Abbott, Ethel Thompson, Corrine Thomas, Jody Hayden, and Kathy Berryman.

Memorials are suggested to the Alzheimer's Foundation (<https://www.alz.org>). To leave a special message for the family, please visit www.webbrodrickchapel.com.

Services have been entrusted to Webb & Rodrick Chapel and Crematory.

ALEXIS DANIELLE HASLETT

Alexis Danielle Haslett, age 38, of Coffeyville, KS, passed away Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at Coffeyville Regional Medical Center. A memorial celebration of life will be held at 3:00 PM, Saturday, April 4, 2026, at the First Church of the Nazarene, 3835 County Road 3900, Independence, KS, 67301, with the family receiving friends starting at 2:00 PM. The family has entrusted the arrangement of the services to Zach Webb Family Funeral Service of.

HAPPENINGS

SIXTY CLUB

Seniors 60 years of age or older are invited to join the Sixty Club for fellowship and games Friday, March 27, 2026 at :00 p.m. in the Memorial Hall Civic Center. Everyone is welcome to come and participate in games, fellowship and refreshments.

SOUTHEAST KANSAS LODGE OF PERFECTION

All members of the Valley of Southeast Kansas Lodge of Perfection are asked to attend the Maundy Thursday Stated Dinner and meeting with the Rose Croix Ceremony of Extinguishing the Lights Thursday, April 2, 2026 at the Armstrong Masonic Lodge, located at 3105 North Joplin Street, Pittsburg. Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m., dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will start at approximately 7:00 p.m. Reservations are required, so please RSVP by Wednesday, April 1 at sekscot-tishrite@sbcglobal.net or by calling 620-223-1330.

Commissioners

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that road to alert them to the construction plans. The Commissioners approved.

The KDOT cost-share application is due this week. Beurskens recommended they reapply for funding for the low water crossing on CR 6200 near mile 24 near Cherryvale. This will be the second time they applied this project for this funding. The daily road count is approximately 40 vehicles. The Commissioners approved.

Jonathan Booe, County Administrator, presented an RFP for review in preparation for approval. "It is the RFP for a comprehensive plan with county-wide zoning regulations," Booe explained. "Right now it's a free-for-all." He became aware of the zoning issues when a battery storage facility approached the County last year. Batteries, towers, solar panels and the like are on skids and not permanent structures which means that they are not restricted by the current regulations. Booe recently attended a KAC meeting in Topeka, where they recommended counties put regulations in place to restrict the use of AG land for data centers, cell towers, solar farms and wind farms.

Booe explained that the RFP presented requires new businesses coming into the County to seek the approval of the Planning and Zoning Board and the Board of Commission before establishment while not restricting what property owners can do with their property. "When you drive from Cherryvale to Independence, you pass far more fields full of cattle and soybean than you do big industry, and for the majority of people who live here that is their way of life; that's how they earn a living and I don't want to infringe upon that. What I do want to do is prevent wind farms, solar fields, battery energy storage systems having free reign... such that they can plow something hazardous down next to your farm and your cattle," he stated. Matt Debo, Environmental Health and Zoning stated, "We need to protect our AG land because each year we are losing more and more."

This will only establish regulations in the County and will not affect city zoning regulations. The new Cherryvale data center is located within the city limits of Cherryvale and is subject to the zoning regulations of Cherryvale. Commissioner Bever recommended getting stakeholder feedback before proceeding. Booe will return next week with the final draft of the RFP.

Jason Niemier, Health Department, provided an update on grant monies. He stated that the Work Force Development grant was required by the State of Kansas to be earmarked for use. Niemier earmarked it all for salary and supplies. He then recommended that they apply for two grants — the Pregnancy Maintenance Initiative and the Teen Pregnancy Case Management grants — and create a regional pregnancy assistance co-op with the surrounding counties. This would require hiring at least one more nurse whose salary would be paid by grants. Commissioner Bever requested that Niemier return with a concrete plan including monetary estimates. "I don't want to keep adding personnel that the taxpayers have to keep paying for," stated Bever. Booe responded that the funding for the program is expected to continue into the future similar to the current WIC program funding. "It only puts more people in Montgomery County," added Booe.

Journalist Andy Taylor drew the Commission's attention to the Buffalo Flats Evergy project which is expected to run a massive power line through Montgomery County to bring power to Springfield and Branson. The connecting point to Oklahoma is expected to be placed near Caney. The second proposed connecting point might be at CR 2300.

The next meeting of the County Board of Commissioners will be held on Monday, March 30, at 9:00 a.m., in the lower level of the Judicial Center. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Recordings of the meetings are available for viewing at the new county website www.ks-montgomerycounty.civicplus.com under the agendas section.

TRAFFIC

March 20- IPD Officers conducted a traffic stop at the intersection of Maple and 8th Streets. After investigating, Katelynn Jones, 29 of Independence, was placed under arrest and issued a citation for the following charges: pedestrians on highways and interference with a law enforcement official.

March 20- IPD conducted a traffic stop at the intersection of Maple and 8th Streets. After investigating, Zachary Wooten, 32 of independence, was placed under arrest and issued a citation for the following charges: driving while suspended and driving without valid proof of liability insurance.

March 22- IPD Officers attempted a traffic stop on a Jeep Liberty. The Jeep fled from officers. Following a short vehicle pursuit, Michele Gould-Shannon, 63 and Julian Garrison, 20, were arrested and transported to the Montgomery County Department of Corrections on charges of possession of opiate, opium, narcotic, or certain stimulant and possession of drug paraphernalia.

OLDER INCIDENTS

Feb. 9- IPD Offers responded to the 100 Block of 6th Street for a report of potential fraud.

March 7- IPD Officers were dispatched to the Police Department for a report of theft.

March 10- IPD Officers responded to the 100 Block of West Main Street for a report of theft.

March 10- IPD Officers received a phone call from Walmart, located at 121 South Peter Pan Road, regarding a report of past shoplifting.

Caney awarded

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"This crucial funding has already made a significant impact across the state and this new round of grants makes progress toward meeting the water needs of Kansas communities. In 2023, Senate Substitute for House Bill 2302 increased state funding for the State Water Plan Fund (SWPF) and created two new water-related grant funds—the Technical Assistance Grant Fund and the Water Projects Grant Fund. The programs together have funded over \$44 million in the two years its been operational, with an additional \$19 million awarded this funding cycle.

More than 280 applications were submitted for the 2026 funding period, totaling \$272 million in asked-for grant funding. Grants were awarded to 44 water-related communities and special districts across the state, including 10 water projects, 22 technical assistance awards and 12 loan assistance awards.

Both Caney and Liberty have benefited from this round of grant funding. Caney has been awarded \$1,574,751 to go toward the Caney/Coffeyville pipeline project, putting a large dent in the sizable cost of the project. Liberty was awarded \$67,201 in grant funding from the Water Projects Grant Fund for loan assistance.

In all, 13 grants were applied for in Montgomery County, ranging from the Caney/Coffeyville pipeline project, to funds to cover the rehabilitation of Cherryvale's lift station, to a number of projects in Coffeyville.

Kansas History

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could boast a general store, a hotel, restaurant and a post office. The Union Pacific Railroad drew a spur through the town due to the cement plant, which helped the economy boom. There were only 75 souls calling Yocemento home at this time.

By 1917, things were looking dire for the cement plant, which was losing money fast, heading toward bankruptcy. The equipment and mill were sold to a Denver competitor and most of the townspeople moved to find employment, while few families stayed on. The post office closed in 1917 and, without a congregation the church was abandoned and later moved to another town, to be used as a community center.

What is left of the town is located just six miles northwest of Hays on U.S. Highway 40.

KIPP

Located in rural Saline County, the tiny town of Kipp had some rather lofty ambitions early on. Before the Missouri Pacific Railroad appeared in the area in 1886, a gentleman by the name of William Exline opened a smithy shop in what would eventually become Kipp.

Settlers began filling in spots around Exline's shop and began making the area theirs. But, before they could even really settle in, the collective decided that the best way to make their town prosper is by having a Missouri Pacific Railroad depot in its borders. Well, that was easier said than done at the time- there wasn't a building ready to show the company to sweeten the deal.

The townsfolk racked their brains trying to figure out what they could do in the short time they had and then it came to them- they would steal the nearby village of Chico's train depot for their own! Penned as the Kipp Depot Caper, a group of men visited Chico, raised the depot from its very foundation, slid it onto a railroad car and transported it back to Kipp.

Later, it turned out that Kipp Cherry, the MoPac roadmaster was a part of the plan all along and the company wanted to move the depot from Chico to Kipp regardless. This way, it did not cost them a pretty penny. Soon after the depot found its "permanent" foundation, a Post Office was erected, which spurred growth in the town exponentially. The Main Street of Kipp housed, of course- a smithy- as well as a number of general stores and lumberyards. Telephone wires began to wind their way like black, inky snakes through the prairie, finding their way to Kipp in 1907. In 1920, Kipp State Bank opened on Main Street, but it did not last long, as the Great Depression closed it in the 30s. That did little to deter the townsfolk to push forward with a \$55,000 (adjusted to today's rate of inflation, it would cost them \$1,051,062 and some change) bond issue in 1929 to build a "full service school."

For some time, the town prospered and grew. In 1943, though, the inevitable happened. A large tornado ripped through Kipp, destroying part of the school, several homes and most of the Exline Machine Shop. Residents helped rebuild the school and homes that were destroyed, but Exline moved his shop to present day Salina. The town continued to live on until the school burned to the ground in 1953. The city built a new building, but it eventually closed in the early 60s due to declining enrollment. The town's Post Office closed in 1957.

As of the 2020 census, there are only 60 souls calling Kipp home. Its once-bustling Main Street is just a flicker in the memories left in an old black and white photograph.

LOTTERY



TOPEKA, KAN. - These Kansas lotteries were drawn earlier this week.
Super Kansas Cash.....Jackpot: \$410,000
Mega Millions.....Jackpot: \$60 million
Powerball.....Jackpot: \$147 million

WEATHER



Normal for today..... 63 (high) and 38 (low)
Records..... 92 (1910) and 15 (1894)
Sunrise..... Thursday 7:15 | sets 7:41
Elk City Lake level..... 797.28 feet | outflow 456 cfs
Big Hill Lake level..... 857.33 feet | outflow 0 cfs
Tuesday's lake level info. Visit www.swt-wc.usace.army.mil and click on Daily Report for today's info.

Forecast for Montgomery County: Sunny and warmer, with a high near 88 degrees. South south-westerly winds around 11 mph, with gusts as high as 21 mph at times.

Tonight: Mostly starlit, with a low around 65 degrees. South Southwesterly wind around 11 mph, with gusts as high as 21 mph.

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