



THE SABETHA HERALD



WEEKLY RECIPE

Oh Deer
This Chili Is Good

FUN&GAMES 6B



GENERAL ELECTION

Candidate Q&A

PAGES 4A-10A

SINCE 1876

WEDNESDAY

21

OCT

2026



TRICK OR TREATING

Calling all
boo-tiful
costumes
for some
sweet fun!

HERALD REPORT

There will be a couple opportunities for children to participate in trick-or-treating in Sabetha.

Main Street

Once again, the Sabetha Police Department (SPD) and Sabetha Chamber of Commerce are teaming up to sponsor area families with another Fright-tastic Trick or Treat experience.

The annual Sabetha Trick or Treat on Main Street event is set for Friday, Oct. 30, with a Spooktacular Storytime kicking off the event at the Mary Cotton Public Library at 4 p.m.

Trick-or-Treating begins at 4:30 p.m. on Sabetha's Main Street. Downtown businesses and other local organizations will offer treats until 5:30 p.m.

Parents and/or guardians are asked to bring children to Sabetha City Hall to receive a treat bag from an SPD officer, and then proceed westward down the south side of Main Street, crossing at 12th Street and walking eastward back toward City Hall.

Sabetha Manor

The Sabetha Manor will be sponsoring Trunk or Treat in the Sabetha Manor Parking Lot on Friday, Oct. 30, from 4 to 6 p.m.

In case of inclement weather, trick-or-treating will be held in the living room.

BLOOD DRIVE

Fifty-six units
collected

HERALD REPORT

Fifty-six units were collected by 55 donors during Sabetha's Blood Drive on Tuesday, Oct. 13, at City Hall.

Volunteering at the drive were Diane Hicks, Alice Zahner, Kay Frey and Whitney Hartter.

A few milestones were met during the drive. Those included Larry Bauerle, 19 gallons; Gary Barrett, nine gallons; and Randi Schmid, three gallons.

During the drive, there was one first-time donor, one plasma donor and five double red donors.

The first-time donor was Winnie Huang, and the plasma donor was Rodney L. Strahm.

Double red donors included Rodney L. Allen, Corbin R. Anliker, Justin C. Coelho, Dennis J. Enneking and Howard J. Hinton.

Other donors include Richard W. Smith, Edith M. Strahm, William F. Arneson, Kyle L. Strahm, Gary D. Barrett, Michael Strahm, Larry H. Bauerle, Christopher L. Baumgartner, Dale W. Ulrich, Dennis H. Baumgartner, Brenda J. Wenger, Kiaya J. Beyer, Darrin Wenger, Kellie Brockhoff, Debra D. Wenger, Lawrence Burdick, Joy A. Wenger, Galen F. Wiltz, Rachel N. Enneking, Douglas B. Fortmeyer, Corey N. Futscher, Douglas G. Grimm, Lori K. Gruber, Beth R. Hartter, Charleen K. Hartter, David D. Hartter, Jed W. Hartter, David E. Herbster, Gerry M. Hertzel, Timmy W. Kellenberger, William M. Kent, Joyce Kesler, Kylie LaCruze, Janice M. Lehman, Evey A. McNally, Beritny S. Mortorff, Dennis J. Osterhaus, Ada J. Plattner, Tara L. Ploeger, Gregory A. Renyer, Daniela L. Rippe, Mary M. Ryan, Randi L. Schmid, Tristan L. Schmid, Beverly Schuster, Christian Scott, Julie D. Shafer and Charles C. Sjulin.

The next blood drive is scheduled from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15, at Sabetha City Hall.

MANUFACTURING DAY

Fifth annual event draws more than 115 students

HEATHER STEWART

The much-anticipated fifth annual manufacturing day was heavily attended on Wednesday, Oct. 14, with 118 students participating in the event and touring four local manufacturing facilities.

The Sabetha Chamber of Commerce — along with eight area manufacturers — came together on Wednesday, Oct. 14, to introduce students from area schools to the manufacturing industry.

The eight local manufacturers present were Coperion, CW Mill Equipment, Horizon Systems, Triple C HydraBed, KSi, USC, JBT Marel Wenger and NorthWind. Area students ranging in ninth through 12th grades came from the following schools: Sabetha, Auburn, Axtell, Hiawatha, Holton, Horton, Jackson Heights, Prairie Meadows, Nemaha Central, HTRS and Cornerstone Classical Academy.

Also present were multiple local colleges and technical schools including Highland Community College, Kansas State University, Pitt State, Washburn University Tech and Washburn University. These schools were present to discuss with students educational opportunities that are available in engineering, welding, etc., but also in business management that helps these manufacturers thrive.

Following registration and announcements, attendees loaded multiple busses to travel to four different Sabetha manufacturers — NorthWind, Triple C, Coperion and Wenger — for facility tours.

The Herald attended Manufacturing Day to interview the manufacturers and students and asked what they hoped would come out of the event.

ABOUT MANUFACTURING DAY

Manufacturing Day in Sabetha was created five years ago — and is now an annual event — with the purpose of introducing area students to the world of manufacturing. With an extensive list of manufacturers, Sabetha is the ideal location for this special event that continues to grow each year.



Connor Belveal, Senior
Holton High School

What are you looking forward to today?

"I'm looking forward to learning about the process and I know it's a big thing in this community. I'm looking for ways to grow positively." — Connor Belveal



See more from Manufacturing Day on Pages 13A-14A.

JBT Marel Wenger



Katie Compo, Jason Selland and Amy Schmitz

"I hope that they see that there are local jobs that include technology and that there are jobs for women that are outside nursing and teaching." — Amy Schmitz

"There is more to manufacturing than just working on a shop floor." — Katie Compo

What do you hope the students get out of Manufacturing Day today?

"I want students to understand that there are endless opportunities in manufacturing. We talked with students a lot about the surface level jobs that we all know of, machinist, welder, those kinds of things. There are so many more support roles that go along with those. I think exposing students to our facilities here in Sabetha, you can have a really great conversation about what that job is and all of the things that have to happen to make that welder capable of doing his job. Those are all roles that need to be filled. I love today. Manufacturing Day is my thing." — Jason Selland



Silas Aberle, Freshman
Homeschool

What part of Manufacturing Day are you most looking forward to?

"I think I'm looking forward to going to KSi, and looking at what they have there." — Silas Aberle



Jenna Hanley, Senior
Auburn High School

What are you hoping to learn today or what are you hoping to see?

"The different opportunities that you have in manufacturing. It's not all about construction. There's other things that you can do. It has opened my mind into different possibilities for college." — Jenna Hanley

USC



Brandy Youde

What do you hope the students get out of Manufacturing Day today?

"For them [the students] to learn what all Sabetha has to offer them in the manufacturing field." — Brandy Youde



Madalyn Carlson, Sophomore
Hiawatha High School

What are you most interested in learning during Manufacturing Day?

"Well, from last year, I came last year, and I want to see what has changed throughout all of the businesses, and see if anything has changed, and if it's changed, what changed and why did it change." — Madalyn Carlson

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2 Sections - 20 Pages



\$2

...inside this edition

SUPPLEMENT

General Election Q&A - Pages 4A-10A

INSERTS

Garrett Country Mart
Bomgaars

ONLINE ONLY

See more on the EXTRA!

1876

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online anytime...

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MEMORIES

Compiled from past issues of The Sabetha Herald

125 YEARS *Thursday, October 17, 1901*

A number of important real estate deals have been closed this week. J. C. Bigler has bought Guy Furnish's dwelling for \$800. John Masters has bought the John Lorstchers quarter and David Crews eighty adjoining, paying \$15,500 for the two. N. K. Boley has bought the C. Hughes twenty acres northwest of town for \$1,600. Ab. Lanning has bought Fred Lukert's 200 acres for \$14,000. A Mr. Stevenson from Nebraska, a cousin of J. P., has bought the Carmichael place between here and Oneida for \$4,500. W. I. Neil has bought the building he occupies of Roy Hesseltime, paying \$4,000.

J. A. Van Akin is a victim of the hardest kind of luck. In June, he broke his left leg and was totally disabled until the latter part of September, when he began to walk a little about the house. On September 28th, he fell and broke the other leg. Surely he has had more than his share of misfortune. His Sabetha friends sympathize with him deeply and hope he will yet conquer all his difficulties.

100 YEARS *Wednesday, October 20, 1926*

Get Quilting Done Early. Mrs. Kirkpatrick across from Green House, does fine quilting. Take quilts to her now and avoid the Christmas rush. — Adv.

On account of the heavy rains a good many farmers are just getting their wheat in.

Billie Brammer filled silo the latter part of last week and the first of this week.

The school board of this district has invested in a set of Compton's encyclopaedia for use in the school.

George Swart is considered a very good financier and started to make an investment in guineas one day last week, but changed his mind.

75 YEARS *Wednesday, October 17, 1951*

The city commissioners have voted to purchase three new signs to be used during the hours that school children are going to and from school. The American Legion post recommended the purchase of the signs which will stand five feet three inches high. On both sides of the signs will be a uniformed figure of a man. His uniform will be bright red with a white belt and black boots. The base will be of heavy iron.

For the second year, Harvey Bechtelheimer, Sabetha, has qualified for the Progressive Breeders' Award, presented by The Holstein-Friesian Association of America. This honor, the highest recognition bestowed upon a breeder of registered Holstein-Friesian dairy cattle, has been achieved by only 191 Holstein breeding establishments in the entire nation, and Mr. Bechtelheimer is one of seven in Kansas to be recognized.

50 YEARS *Wednesday, October 20, 1976*

FIRST SNOW FELL MONDAY. Temperatures fell into the twenties Monday and Tuesday nights. Monday's weather brought sleet and the first snow flurries of the season. Temperatures were held in the thirties by cold winds. The outlook is for gradual warming to the low sixties by Saturday.

THESE ARE THE 'GOOD GUYS.' Last week The Herald reported some unauthorized people attempting to sell candy in town. Now it turns out that at least some of the young sellers are on the "up and up." The VFW Auxiliary is sponsoring the sale of candy as a fund raising project and the United Methodist Church youth are selling cards and both groups have proper authorization.

Wichita, Ks. — The Dorothy M. Koch family of Baileyville. Kans., was named Thursday as the 1976 Kansas Farm Family of the Year by the Farmers Home Administration of the USDA.

25 YEARS *Wednesday, October 17, 2001*

"This is a case where we took a lemon and made lemonade," Milt Krainbill said of the work Sabetha farmer Rodney Strahm and he undertook when runoff from his livestock feeding operation was partly responsible for pollution of the small lake north of the Sabetha Golf Club. The problems with the lake were initially reported earlier this year in May. It was reported that the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) was made aware by fisherman in late April of a foul smell. Water sample indicated that there were high levels of fecal coliform bacteria, both human and animal in the lake, said Mike Heideman of KDHE.

Reports of the anthrax virus being spread through the mail during the past few days have U.S. Postal Service workers everywhere on alert — even here in Sabetha. "We're on alert," said Sabetha postmaster Jack Barnes. "We've had a lot of people call us, wanting to know if we are keeping an eye on their mail. We want to reassure them that they are." So is the U.S. Postal Service as a whole, which issued a statement Monday that there were only two confirmed incidents of mail being used to transport anthrax bacteria. One instance involved a letter that was sent to NBC News in New York; the other involved a letter mailed to a Microsoft subsidiary in Nevada, according to national news sources.

10 YEARS *Wednesday, October 19, 2016*

Women in Sabetha and surrounding areas have taken to the crafting craze with Create Sabetha: Girls Craft Night. For the last year, crafty moms and business owners Danielle Rebant and Kelsi Strahm have brought creative craft nights to the community. Create Sabetha hosts craft parties, birthday parties, baby showers and bridal showers, along with their once-a-month girls' craft night.

The Northeast Kansas Lutheran Partnership — a partnership of Sabetha's First Lutheran Church, Hiawatha's Zion Lutheran Church, and Fairview's St. Paul and Immanuel Lutheran churches — recently welcomed a new associate pastor, Sean Kilgo. Kilgo moved his family to Fairview after completing seminary and "Answering the Call" for these churches, which had been without an associate pastor since Quentin Nuttman departed in 2014. Senior Pastor Michael Dunaway has served the NEK Lutheran Partnership since 2007.

This year, Wetmore High School athletics has undergone several changes in their coaching department. One of these changes is the hiring David Martin of Holton. Martin has stepped in as the high school boys' basketball coach, replacing Gary Smith.

PHOTOS FROM YESTERYEAR

A perfect season in 1993



Back in November of 1993, the Wetmore eighth grade volleyball team finished the season with an 11-0 record, dropping only one set the entire season, while holding opponents to an average of less than six points per game. The Junior Cardinals are FRONT ROW (L-R) Janel Niehues, Christie Stimac and Kelly Boeckman; MIDDLE ROW (L-R) Jill Rilinger, coach Alana Strahm and Monica Niehues; BACK ROW (L-R) Bonnie Sperfslage, Greta Osterhaus, Deanne Spiker and Leigh Ann Boeckman.

The Sabetha Herald Archives

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deadlines&information

The Sabetha Herald is the official newspaper for the cities of Sabetha, Morrill and Fairview and the Prairie Hills USD No. 113 School District. The Herald is published each Wednesday. Circulation for 2026 averaged 1,400 copies per week.

The Herald is a member of the Kansas Press Association and Sabetha Chamber of Commerce.

Hours of operation are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

GENERAL

POSTMASTER
Form 3573 should be sent to: The Sabetha Herald, P.O. Box 208, Sabetha, KS 66534.

POLICY
All material published or inserted in The Sabetha Herald is subject to final acceptance of the publisher. The Sabetha Herald reserves the right to accept or reject any advertisements for any reason at any time and to, if necessary, print the word "advertisement" in any display advertisements. The Sabetha Herald is not responsible for errors submitted for advertisements. The Sabetha Herald is not responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. No adjustment can be made if error does not alter the value of the ad.

HOLIDAY DEADLINES
Special Holiday Deadlines for News and Advertising are 5 p.m. Thursday for next Wednesday's newspaper unless otherwise noted. If the holiday falls on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, holiday deadlines apply. Holidays include the following: New Year's Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

NEWS

HOW TO SUBMIT NEWS & ADVERTISING
(1) Stop in our office at 1024 Main Street, Sabetha.
(2) Mail the information (typed or printed legibly) to P.O. Box 208, Sabetha, KS 66534.
(3) Email the news to news@sabethaherald.com; Email the advertisement to advertising@sabethaherald.com.
(4) Fax the information (typed or printed legibly) to 785-284-2320.

NEWS DEADLINES
10 a.m. Monday for Wednesday newspaper.

PHOTOS
When submitting news photos, please submit by email or in person. Be sure to provide adequate information naming all persons in the photo & describing in detail what is going on in the photo. Engagement, Wedding and Anniversary photos are \$25. These photos run two columns wide. Anniversary photos are \$25 for (1) two-column photo, or (2) one-column photos. The charge is \$35 to run (1) two-column photo AND (1) one-column photo. Obituary photos are \$20 and run one column wide. Birthday and Birth photos are \$20 and run one column wide.

OBITUARIES
Obituaries printed in The Sabetha Herald are printed for free up to 250 words. For anything beyond that, the charge is \$.50 per word. A photo can be added for \$20. For more information, contact us at 785-284-3300 or news@sabethaherald.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Announcements printed in The Sabetha Herald are printed for free up to 150 words. For anything beyond that, the charge is \$.50 per word. Photos can be added for an additional charge.

LETTERS
We welcome letters of general interest to the community and reserve the right to edit for clarification or length. Letters should be fewer than 400 words, and writers are limited to one letter every other week. Letters are due by 10 a.m. on Monday before publication and must be signed with the writer's name, address and phone number for verification purposes. Only the name and hometown will be included in the printed letter. We do not publish anonymous letters or letters printed elsewhere.

ADVERTISING

ADVERTISING DEADLINES
Advertising: 10 a.m. Monday for Wednesday newspaper. Changes to ad copy must be submitted by 5 p.m. Monday. Because space is limited, The Sabetha Herald staff must be notified of full color advertisements two weeks in advance. Placement is first come first serve.

AD PROOFS & AD TEARSHEETS
If requested, proofs of advertisements will be delivered prior to publication by fax or by e-mail, providing all copy is submitted by the deadline. Electronic Tearsheets will be provided upon request through The Sabetha Herald DropBox folder.

PAYMENTS
The Sabetha Herald requires prepayment on all ads unless you or your business has an established account with us. Payments are due by the end of the month. Late payment penalty is \$3.50 per month. A \$30 charge will be added to advertising bills paid with an insufficient funds check.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES
The local rate for legal and public notices is \$7.00 per column inch per issue.

DISPLAY ADVERTISING
The local display advertising rate is \$6.75 per column inch. This rate is non-commissionable.

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY ADVERTISING
The local classified advertising rate is \$7.25 per column inch. This rate is non-commissionable. The Herald does not run line classifieds.

INSERTS
The non-commissionable insert rate is 10 cents a piece for pre-prints, 12 tab pages or less. The non-commissionable insert rate is 12 cents a piece for pre-prints 12 to 24 tab pages. The insert rate for non-mechanical inserts is 12 cents a piece.

SUPPLEMENTAL ADVERTISING CAMPAIGNS
We offer businesses the opportunity to participate in a number of campaigns aimed at boosting your business. Select from themed campaigns or contact our staff and request that we design a campaign specifically for you! For more information, e-mail advertising@sabethaherald.com.

SUPPLEMENTAL SECTION SPONSORSHIP
We offer a number of opportunities for area businesses to sponsor our Special Supplements. For more information, e-mail advertising@sabethaherald.com.

ADDITIONAL CHARGES & FEES
A design fee of \$35 per hour will be charged for any advertisement requested and designed, but not placed. A late fee of \$2 per column inch will be charged for advertisements requested after deadline.

opinion

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Technology in schools

Dear Editor,

Technology has been a topic of discussion in school boards across the state lately, both at the local level and extending to the state and legislative levels. At Prairie Hills, we have been debating the appropriate use and access electronic devices (iPads and laptops). This debate takes on a special significance at this particular time because this is the year when a significant portion of those devices are due to be replaced, which happens on average every five years. This is a fairly major expense, and our capital outlay fund reserves are very low.

As I have been reading articles on education, especially younger kids, I am finding articles relating to retention of concepts. Some of these articles, written by clinical psychologists who study how we learn and retain information, have advocated doing away with electronic devices especially in younger classes. They contend we learn better using the old “paper and pencil” method rather than looking at a screen and trying to type. Seems something about that writing helps imprint that info in our brain measurably better.

One problem that does come up is state mandated testing. State assessment testing is given on either the iPad or computer. Admittedly, this could be a complication, but, in my opinion, it is not an insurmountable one.

Now, one argument made by a Kansas City paper against doing away with these devices is that it would require schools to purchase more textbooks without the State kicking in increased funding. However, the state does not pay for either the licensing fees or e-curriculum (comparable to buying textbooks) or the purchase of iPads and computers.

Our USD 113 test scores have, at best, stayed relatively steady, but mostly showed a steady decline, which is in line with the rest of the state. Why is this? Have we put too much emphasis on the use of devices in the classroom? While I use technology in all my businesses, I also like my paper and pencil. The real question should be what is the best thing for the kids, and how do we ensure they retain what is being taught. Our teaching staff has proven time and time again to be very resourceful individuals. How do we best support their efforts while doing what’s best for our kids?

You, the public, need to contact us on the school board with your thoughts.

Jim Scoby, Sabetha
Prairie Hills USD No. 113 BOE Member

The Buzz Café

Dear Editor,

Dear Community of Sabetha,

First and foremost, we want to thank God for the incredible blessing of serving this community over the past 25 years. It has been a privilege to be part of your lives and to share in the friendships, memories, and support that have made the little downtown Buzz Café such a special place.

It is with heavy hearts that Troy, our girls, and I find ourselves needing to make some difficult decisions regarding the future of the Buzz Café. Due to ongoing health challenges, we can no longer provide the daily involvement and support that a business like this requires to operate successfully. Unfortunately, decisions will be made sooner than later.

We want to emphasize this is not a financial decision. The café has been an important part of our lives and the downtown community for many years. Our concern is simply that we are no longer able to dedicate the time and energy necessary to continue operating it the way it deserves.

Because we recognize the value the Buzz Café brings to our community, we wanted to reach out to this community, as well as surrounding communities, to ask for your thoughts, ideas, and hopefully interest in preserving the Café’s legacy. If there is someone with a passion for serving others, supporting downtown Sabetha, and continuing the legacy, we would welcome the opportunity to explore possibilities for its future.

We are incredibly grateful for the support, encouragement, and friendships this community has given us throughout the years. Whatever the future holds, we will always cherish the role the Buzz Café has played in bringing people together and give all Glory to God for it.

Thank you for your consideration, prayers, and guidance as we navigate this timely decision.

With sincere gratitude,

Troy, Sheri and Family
Buzz Café

Let’s make the right choice, our future depends on it.

Dear Editor,

Our decisions influence our lives, our families and business. On whether we have a legacy to hand down to our children and grandchildren, to our community and our country.

We recently witnessed firsthand the scaling down of America through the Obama and Biden administrations. We are now finding out how much fraud took place, and the cost of our hard-earned tax money that was wasted. It is estimated that the amount of fraud associated in Social Security, SNAP payments, healthcare and other social programs can pay for those programs without any additional money from our treasury.

Through the leadership of the Trump administration in two years, we have changed course to make our country safer, healthier, fiscal responsible and headed in the right direction by bringing back manufacturing to support jobs for the working class. When we vote for our state officials, we are voting for the direction of not only our state but our country.

Here are some issues that by voting for solid Republican candidates can do and what the Republican party stands for and what the opposition adheres to.

Only the Republican party supports: The Right to Bear Arms, Legal Immigration and the deportation of illegal criminals. We support our law enforcement, for a strong military to defend our borders and allies and support parental rights for education and health. We support a color-blind society and our Christian heritage and values that built our nation. Republicans are for the working class, with more jobs and manufacturing and more equal and open markets. We support tighter control on government spending and dismantling the fraud and corruption within our social programs. Republicans are for reducing taxes and promoting savings and investments for families. The Republican party is the only Pro-Life party that promotes life from the moment of conception until natural death. It is Republican officials who fought for men out women’s sports, bathrooms and locker rooms. We are fighting for free speech in the truth of our health care, the food we produce and the vaccines for our children with better health for all Americans.

The other party leadership has fought and voted against those issues. Do you as a Kansan and American want to go back to hard fisted government control on our medical decisions, our children’s education and health, open borders and fraud in our elections and social programs? Do you really want men competing against women in sports and open lockers? Do you want abortion up until birth and even after birth? Voting in our Kansas election has ramifications on not only us as Kansans, but as America.

On November 3rd, Vote for prosperity, sound fiscal government and morals in our society. Vote Republican, the only clear choice.

The Nemaha County Republican Party

PAID FOR BY THE NEMAHA COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY, RAY SHINN, CHAIRMAN

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The opinions expressed in editorials, columns, letters to the editor or editorial cartoons do not necessarily reflect those of The Sabetha Herald or its staff. Furthermore, The Sabetha Herald does not and will not fact check the information included in letters to the editor. All information will be left as presented by the author.

COLUMNS

Patience: waiting well in an impatient world

Patience is one of the fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22–23), and it is part of how Christians are called to live. The fruits of the Spirit show us who God wants us to become. Many of them are also the visible side of our faith, the part other people notice in how we act. Patience matters because it lets us wait with hope instead of anxiety.

Most of us know what it is to wait for something we really need. We wait to hear back after a job interview. We wait for a paycheck even when we know exactly which day it will arrive. We wait for a diagnosis after medical tests, and those days can feel like the longest of all. Waiting comes in many forms, and every one of them asks us to be patient. When the need in front of us is pressing, even a short wait can feel long, and impatience creeps in.

Our walk with God takes a great deal of patience too. We lift up our prayers. Sometimes the answer comes quickly, and sometimes nothing seems to happen at all. So, what are we doing while we wait? Are we still trusting the

One who knows everything and holds everything in His hands? That waiting is where our patience is tested.

The world can feel like it is turning upside down. So much is happening at once. Our children face pressures and make choices we never imagined. We see people suffering every day, and we keep helping. We see injustice and pray for justice. Still, things often don’t move the way or as fast as we hoped.

In times like these, patience isn’t passive. It is faith that keeps praying, keeps serving and keeps trusting while the answer is still on its way.

During election season, patience should be a priority for us.

Minister Speaks

BY: JACKIE CHIPONGO
BERN-SENECA
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH



We are called to see one another first as human beings, made in God’s image, and to treat everyone with dignity and respect, including people who disagree with us. We see the predictions and all that is happening right now and this brings uncertainty, we go on social media to see how people are responding to everything.

It’s easy to get worn out or frustrated by what others say about the candidates we support. But these moments are a test of our character. How we speak, listen and respond shows whether the Spirit’s fruit is really growing in us.

Scripture reminds us of the purpose behind our waiting:

“But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing,” (James 1:4, KJV).

Patience isn’t wasted time. God uses it to shape us and make us complete and mature. So whether we are waiting on an answer to prayer, on change in our communities, or on peace in our nation, let us wait well: trusting God, honoring one another, and letting patience finish its work in us.

Marvin’s mumblings

Marvin’s “M” this week is for his high school Morrowville, in Washington County where sister, Joyce, was a cheerleader and I thought people might enjoy some of the traditional outfits. This past week was quiet with multiple visits to doctors for a sinus infection. But there was some craziness.

At Friday night’s Bluejay win over Royal Valley, I overheard Scott Burger, the announcer, share that he had tried to get in the wrong car at Country Mart.

Of course, this reminded me of this happening at the AC Home when I actually got in and sat on a lady in the wrong car. But what it really reminded me of was forgetting my car at the KCI airport again. This had happened in 1994 when my daughter Jada and I went to St. Louis, she driving her car and me flying from KCI to meet her there and then coming back home and forgetting the car at the airport.

The next morning, Karen got me a ride with Adrian Strahm from Wenger’s, but when I got to the airport, I had forgotten to take the car keys. I told Jada, who had to come and bring me the keys, “do not tell Karen,” but she did, and Karen put it in our Christmas letter that I was already looking forward to Easter and hiding my own Easter eggs.



BY: MARVIN KOHLMEIER

So, this time after driving the Mini Cooper home from California, I forgot that I had driven my Acadia to the airport. Two days later, I had to get another ride from Wenger’s with Kevin Montgomery. I had driven my van and parked it in front of the technical center and then two days later, they called to ask me if I was gonna come down and pick it up.

So if I forget your first name right now, that will be a minor incident. I forgot my own and had to sing happy birthday to me, happy birthday, dear Marvin, before I could remember mine. I’m blaming it on the sinus congestion.

They do say that there are four stages of senility. Number one, you forget other people’s names. Number two, you forget your own name. Number three, you forget to zip up and number four, you forget to zip down. I’m not there yet.

LETTERS POLICY

WRITE: Letters to the Editor, The Sabetha Herald, P.O. Box 208, Sabetha, KS 66534

EMAIL: news@sabethaherald.com

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Worship DIRECTORY

Find the local Worship Directory under the “Church Schedules” tab on our website at www.SabethaHerald.com.

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If it matters to you... It matters to us.

We have been serving Sabetha and the surrounding area since 1876. The Sabetha Republican was established in 1876, and The Sabetha Herald was established in 1884. The two consolidated in 1893.

MEET THE CANDIDATES

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 1

Amy Cawvey, Republican

Tell us about yourself.
I am a former local school board member, longtime education advocate, wife, mother, grandmother, and proud Kansan. My husband served 36 years in the United States Air Force, and our family settled in Lansing in 2016.
My involvement in education began long before elected office. I have served as a PTO president, substitute teacher, youth coach, Scout leader, and parent volunteer. Those experiences gave me an understanding of education from the perspectives of parents, students, teachers, and communities.
As a school board member, I focused on student achievement, parental rights, transparency, responsible spending, and supporting teachers. I introduced and helped pass a Parent’s Bill of Rights, established a student achievement policy, and advanced policies providing greater transparency and accountability for classroom and library materials.
Today, I serve as Kansas Chairman of the National School Board Coalition. I am running for the Kansas State Board of Education because I believe our education system must remain focused on its most important responsibility which is preparing every Kansas student to succeed.



and support.
Second, I want to conduct a serious review of how state requirements, programs, and resources affect the classroom. Teachers have limited instructional time, and every additional mandate competes for that time. I want to identify requirements that can be reduced or eliminated so teachers can spend more time teaching core academics. That review should include unnecessary administrative burdens, classroom screen use, chronic absenteeism, and programs that consume instructional time without sufficient evidence of academic benefit.
My first-year goal would be straightforward: focus the State Board more directly on achievement, remove unnecessary distractions, support teachers, and ensure more educational time and resources reach the classroom.

What makes you the best candidate for this position?
I bring something especially important to the State Board: experience turning principles into actual policy.
As a local school board member, I did more than talk about parental rights, transparency, student achievement, and accountability. I worked with others to put those principles into policy. I introduced and helped pass a Parent’s Bill of Rights, established a student achievement policy, and advanced classroom and library material policies providing greater transparency for parents.
I also understand that effective board service requires more than taking positions. It requires studying budgets and data, understanding governance, listening to teachers and families, building support, and knowing how to move an idea from discussion to implementation.
My experience extends beyond my local district through my work as Kansas Chairman of the National School Board Coalition and extensive school-board leadership and education training. At the same time, my perspective remains grounded in the classroom and community through my experience as a parent, substitute teacher, PTO leader, volunteer, and former board member.
I will bring proven leadership, preparation, and a willingness to ask difficult questions while working constructively with others. Most importantly, I will keep the State Board focused on its fundamental responsibility: ensuring Kansas children receive an excellent education.

Why should voters elect you?
Voters should elect me because I have both the experience and the determination to keep Kansas education focused on what matters most: students, achievement, teachers, and parents.
I have a proven record of taking action. As a school board member, I successfully advanced policies strengthening parental rights, curriculum transparency, accountability, and student achievement. I understand how education policy affects classrooms, families, taxpayers, and teachers because I have experienced public education from each of those perspectives.
On the State Board, I will ask whether our policies are improving reading and math achievement, supporting teachers, respecting parents, and using taxpayer dollars effectively. I will challenge programs and mandates that distract from those goals and support approaches that demonstrate results.
Kansas does not need to lower expectations for students. We need to raise achievement and give students and teachers the tools to meet high expectations.
I will bring experienced, principled leadership to the State Board and keep the focus where it belongs which is on helping every Kansas student succeed.

Jennifer Lloyd, Democrat

Tell us about yourself.
My name is Jennifer Lloyd. I am a wife, mother, grandmother, and lifelong Kansan who has dedicated nearly three decades to public education. I am beginning my 29th year in education and currently serve as an elementary school librarian and a reading interventionist in Jefferson County.
Throughout my career, I have been a classroom teacher, special education teacher, coach, and librarian. These experiences have given me a firsthand understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing Kansas students, families, teachers, and school communities.
I believe every Kansas child deserves access to a strong academic education, regardless of where they live or the circumstances they face. I am passionate about literacy, student achievement, strong teacher-student relationships, local control, and ensuring schools have the resources they need to serve every student.
I am running for the Kansas State Board of Education because I believe my experience in the classroom and school library, along with my commitment to listening to communities, can help strengthen public education across Kansas.



What do you believe are the three most important issues you would face if elected and what is your position on each?
1. Protecting Local Control
I believe decisions about our schools are best made by the people who know their students and communities best—local educators, parents, school boards, and community members. The State Board should provide guidance and accountability while respecting the ability of local communities to make decisions that meet their students’ needs.
2. Fully Funding Special Education
Kansas must live up to its commitment to fund special education. When the state falls short, local districts are forced to use resources from their general education budgets to make up the difference. I will advocate for the state to meet its funding responsibility so schools can provide appropriate services to students with disabilities without taking resources away from other students.
3. Maintaining High Academic Standards
Every Kansas student deserves a strong academic education that prepares them for their future, whether that means college, a career, or a skilled trade. I will support high academic standards, strong literacy instruction, and meaningful measures of student achievement while ensuring educators have the support and resources necessary to help students succeed.

If elected, what are two things you would like to accomplish within the first year of your term?
1. Make special education funding a top priority.
I would work with the State Board, educators, school districts, families, and legislators to advocate for the state to meet its commitment to funding special education. Schools should not have to take resources away from general education to cover funding shortfalls.
2. Strengthen academic achievement and literacy across Kansas.
I would work to ensure Kansas students have strong literacy skills and high academic expectations, while supporting educators with the resources and professional support they need. My goal would be to keep student learning at the center of every decision and ensure that every Kansas child has the opportunity to succeed.

What makes you the best candidate for this position?
I believe my nearly 29 years in public education give me a perspective that is valuable on the Kansas State Board of Education. I have experienced education from many different roles—as a classroom teacher, special education teacher, coach, librarian, and reading interventionist. I understand firsthand the challenges educators face and the importance of putting students at the center of every decision.
I also understand that Kansas schools are not all the same. Rural, suburban, and urban communities have different needs, and decisions made at the state level should respect the voices and expertise of local communities.
I bring a commitment to listening, asking questions, using data, and working with people who may have different perspectives. My priorities are protecting local control, advocating for fully funded special education, and maintaining high academic standards so every Kansas student has the opportunity to succeed.
Most importantly, I am not seeking this position because I have all the answers. I am seeking it because I have spent nearly three decades listening to students, families, and educators—and I am ready to bring those experiences to the State Board.

Why should voters elect you?
I know our schools because I have lived the work—not simply studied it. I have been in classrooms, worked alongside special education students and teachers, coached students, supported young readers, and served as an elementary school librarian. I understand both the challenges our schools face and the incredible things Kansas educators accomplish every day.
I believe my greatest strength is my willingness to listen. Kansas is made up of diverse communities, and decisions about education should be informed by the people working and learning in our schools every day.
My priorities are protecting local control, advocating for the state to meet its special education funding commitment, and maintaining high academic standards with a strong focus on literacy and student achievement.
I would bring practical classroom experience, a commitment to collaboration, and a willingness to ask questions and use data when making decisions. My goal is to represent the students, families, educators, and communities of District 1 while keeping the focus on providing strong public schools for every Kansas child.

COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

Dinah Sykes, Democrat

Tell us about yourself.
I have served Kansas as a state senator since 2017. I am the first woman to be elected Minority Leader of the Senate and have served in this role since 2020. I work every day to bring common sense solutions to everyday Kansans. Throughout my legislative career, I have focused on bipartisan solutions that improve people’s lives, including lowering health care costs, increasing accountability for insurance companies, and expanding access to mental health services. I believe Kansans deserve an Insurance Commissioner who understands both policy and the real-world impact insurance decisions have on families, businesses, and communities. My work has consistently been centered on fairness, transparency, and responsible oversight, and I am committed to bringing that same approach to this office.
What do you believe are the three most important issues you would face if elected and what is your position on each?
1. Consumer Protection Kansans deserve clear, fair, and transparent insurance practices. I support stronger oversight to ensure companies are financially solvent, follow the law, treat consumers fairly, and resolve claims promptly.
2. Health Care Affordability and Access Insurance plays a major role in whether families can access needed care. I support policies that reduce surprise billing, improve mental health coverage, and ensure plans meet essential standards.
3. Accountability and Transparency in the Insurance Market The Insurance Commissioner must provide clear information to consumers and hold companies accountable. I support modernizing reporting systems, improving public access to data, and ensuring regulatory decisions are transparent and evidence-based.



The Department of Insurance has solid systems in place to support these goals.
To strengthen consumer protection, I will ensure complaints are addressed quickly, enforcement actions are transparent, and insurers are held accountable when they fail Kansans. To improve access and clarity, I will expand consumer-education tools, simplify communication, and work with insurers and providers to reduce unnecessary administrative barriers that drive up costs. And to deliver practical, bipartisan leadership, I will collaborate with legislators, agency staff, and stakeholders across the insurance market to identify problems early and implement solutions grounded in data, transparency, and fairness.
Throughout my legislative career, I’ve worked to protect Kansans from unfair practices by insurance companies and pharmacy benefit managers, and I will bring that same commitment to this office.

What makes you the best candidate for this position?
My legislative experience, bipartisan approach, and long-standing commitment to consumer protection uniquely prepare me for this role. I have worked directly on insurance-related legislation, collaborated with stakeholders across the state, and consistently focused on practical solutions that improve affordability and access. I understand how insurance decisions affect families, small businesses, and health care providers, and I have a proven record of advancing policies that increase fairness and transparency. I also have not taken a penny from the companies that I will be regulating because Kansans should not question who the Insurance Commissioner is working for.
Why should voters elect you?
I bring experience, accountability, and a clear commitment to protecting Kansas consumers. My work in the Senate demonstrates my focus on transparency, fairness, and responsible oversight — all essential qualities for the Insurance Commissioner. I will ensure Kansans have access to clear information, strong consumer protections, and a regulatory system that works for families and businesses. I am prepared to serve with integrity and a steady focus on what benefits Kansans most.

Ric Koehn, Libertarian

The Sabetha Herald contacted Ric Koehn, but he did not respond in the time allowed or within the word limit guidelines.

Daniel Hawkins, Republican

The Sabetha Herald contacted Daniel Hawkins, but he did not respond in the time allowed or within the word limit guidelines.



ELECTION DAY

★★★★★

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

MEET THE CANDIDATES

KANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT NO. 62

Sean Willcott, Republican (Incumbent)

Tell us about yourself.

I am a lifelong Kansan, with family roots dating back seven generations into the 1800s. My wife, Jennifer, and I have been blessed with three wonderful children, ranging from high school to college ages. We have called the Holton community home for nearly 20 years and are members of St. Dominic Catholic Church.

I was raised in Leavenworth County and graduated from Kansas State University with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. My professional background includes machine design, project management, and business development, having worked for MAC Equipment (now Coperton), Anheuser-Busch, and J.M. Smucker Company. Jennifer and I previously owned and operated Willcott Brewing Company for several years.

My conservative principles are rooted in faith, family, personal responsibility, and the belief that government should be limited and accountable to the people it serves.

During my first legislative term representing our district, I served on the Federal and State Affairs, Commerce, Labor and Economic Development, and Social Services Budget committees. Having identified a need, and with legislative leadership's support, I led the formation of an AI Taskforce to research emerging technologies and serve as a resource for the Legislature.

What do you believe are the three most important issues you would face if elected and what is your position on each?

I believe the three most important issues we will face next term are tax relief, government efficiency and regulatory reform, and education funding. Addressing these challenges will require working closely with fellow legislators and legislative leadership, local governments, and the incoming Governor's administration to develop strategic plans that can be executed, not just talked about.

First, rising living costs make reducing the tax burden on Kansas families increasingly important. Taxes are the symptom of the root problem, government spending. Sustainable tax relief is only achievable when our leaders take decisive action at reducing costs. Since property taxes are largely determined locally, the state must work with county governments to identify unnecessary mandates, cut costs, and explore opportunities to provide meaningful property tax relief.

Second, improving government efficiency and reducing unnecessary regulatory burdens are essential to responsible government. I support modernizing government operations, eliminating duplicative services, and reviewing regulations that unnecessarily increase costs for individuals and businesses. The Legislature must collaborate with the executive branch to implement technology with a unified vision of reducing the size and cost of government while preserving essential services.

Finally, the Legislature will face the significant responsibility of revisiting Kansas' K-12 education funding formula. I believe any revised formula must balance adequate and equitable educational funding with fiscal responsibility and accountability. This process requires meaningful partnership with local school districts, educators, parents, and taxpayers, while recognizing the unique challenges facing rural communities and the financial burden placed on property taxpayers.

If elected, what are two things you would like to accomplish within the first year of your term?

Two objectives I'd like to accomplish next year directly align with the important issues just described.

First, I want to build off work started last year and finish the elec-



trical licensing reform we introduced through HB 2588. This legislation originated from concerns raised by a business in our district regarding unnecessary licensing requirements. The bill passed the House with strong bipartisan support but did not make it through the Senate. I intend to continue working with legislative colleagues and industry stakeholders to reduce unnecessary regulatory burdens while maintaining important safety standards. This is a practical example of how listening to a local business can lead to positive, meaningful changes throughout the state.

Second, I want to work with the incoming Governor and legislative leadership to develop a clearer, more effective way to understand and evaluate how taxpayer dollars are spent. I believe modern technology can help us better examine where money is going, identify unnecessary spending, and find ways to operate more efficiently. My goal for the first year is to establish a working partnership and begin laying the groundwork for a long-term legislative effort to reduce government costs while maintaining essential services.

What makes you the best candidate for this position?

I bring a combination of private-sector experience, firsthand legislative knowledge, and a commitment to conservative principles. My background in engineering, manufacturing, project management, and small business has taught me the importance of solving problems, managing costs, working with and leading teams, and being accountable for results. Those same principles guide my approach to public service.

I believe government should live within its means, respect individual freedoms, remove unnecessary obstacles for businesses, create an environment where families can thrive, and remain accountable to the people it serves.

During my first term, I have worked to understand the issues facing our communities, listen to the people affected by them, and pursue practical solutions. My work on electrical licensing reform and leading the effort to establish the AI Taskforce as a resource for lawmakers are examples of turning concerns and opportunities into legislative action.

I also believe public service requires sound judgment, guided by principle. I take the responsibility of representing our district seriously, study the issues before making decisions, and strive to do what I believe is right, even when the decision is difficult.

My professional background, legislative experience, and commitment to principled, responsible government are what I bring to this position.

Why should voters elect you?

Serving our communities has been an honor. I have approached this position as a responsibility to serve and make thoughtful decisions, rather than simply engage in politics. The people of our district deserve someone who listens to their concerns, respects their values, understands their priorities, and represents them with honesty and integrity.

My beliefs are grounded in faith, family, freedom, personal responsibility, and conservative values. I believe in protecting individual liberties, respecting the hard-earned dollars of taxpayers, and ensuring government remains accountable to the people it serves.

I recognize that not everyone will agree with every decision made. My responsibility, however, is to represent our district as a whole. That means listening to different perspectives, carefully considering the facts, and making decisions guided by sound judgment and the responsibilities of the office.

I am grateful for the trust placed in me during my first term and would be honored to continue serving our communities. My commitment is to remain accessible, work hard, and uphold the conservative principles of personal responsibility, limited government, and accountability to the people I represent.

Jack E. Geiger, Independent

Tell us about yourself.

My name is Jack Geiger. I am a 6th generation Kansas farmer from Brown County. I hold a BS from KSU '93, dual major in Agronomy and Natural Resource Management with a minor in Political Science. My wife Deborah and I have raised three children on our farm south of Robinson. I have held local office as a Township Trustee and Cemetery Board President, as well as positions on the State level, including the Kansas Executive Beef Council, Farmers Union, and the Kansas Department of Agriculture Noxious Weed Advisory Board. Throughout my career, I have worked to build local ag production, value added ag processing and fostering an environment for family scale ag production in Kansas. This work is exemplified by my personal farm operation and the advocacy I have undertaken in Kansas.



What do you believe are the three most important issues you would face if elected and what is your position on each?

The most important issue our State will face in the coming years will be navigating the ongoing inflation crisis. Inflation will affect our State and local governments from both an expenditure and taxing perspective. Navigating this challenge will require more honest and open dialogue between elected officials and their constituents. A second area of concern will be the oversite required in relation to proposed data center development, ALPR technology, and AI deployment within our State. I am aware of Kansas' Home Rule Constitutional authority and that solutions to these questions must come from the "ground up". At the same time, the State has a responsibility to see that these technologies are not used to erode citizens' constitutional rights and freedoms. Finally, our State must get its' fiscal house in order and stop spending from our reserves. The current school finance formula expires on July 1, 2027. Since the funding of public schools is a constitutionally mandated responsibility for our state, the Legislature must deal with this issue in the upcoming session.

If elected, what are two things you would like to accomplish within the first year of your term?

Two items that I would work on in the upcoming term are sound fiscal policy and more transparent communication with constituents. The use of tax dollars by Representatives last May, in order to direct mail a brochure with popular talking points, highlights the problem. There's a serious disconnect between taxpayers in general and the legislators elected to represent them. I am a firm believer in transparency, open communications and civic engagement. I will work to improve all three.

What makes you the best candidate for this position?

I have a proven record of sound fiscal management and competent executive capacity. I love this state and will always strive to honor our constitution. I will also strive to empower all citizens to expand civic engagement. By conducting my campaign as an Independent, I am uniquely capable of speaking truth to power and representing all of my constituents free of subservience to the political establishment, PAC's and special interests.

Why should voters elect you?

Kansas has never elected an Independent candidate to the State House. In our petition drive, we encountered a general unease and dissatisfaction with political activity at the state level. Repeatedly, we were told, "the system is broken". The upcoming election is a truly unique opportunity for the voters of this district. They have an opportunity to send a message to Topeka and the political establishment. Stewardship is both a burden and a joy. I am humbled by the support I have received. I will strive to honor it.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Chris Mann, Democrat

Tell us about yourself.

My name is Chris Mann. I'm a lifelong Kansan, now raising my two children here with my incredible wife, Ashley. I have dedicated my life to serving and protecting Kansas communities – first as a police officer and then as a prosecutor. My career as a police officer was cut short when I was injured in the line of duty by a drunk driver who hit me at 50 mph while I was outside my car on a routine car stop. I continued my career in public service, going back to law school and becoming a prosecutor, handling complex cases including murders and drug trafficking in Wyandotte County. I also protected consumers by holding white-collar criminals accountable as an attorney with the Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner. I now have my own law firm where I represent victims of drunk driving. Outside of my law practice, I've been a member of the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce, and currently serve on the boards of the Lawrence Habitat for Humanity, Just Food, and FRST, a non-profit organization that provides peer support services for first responders with PTSD.

What do you believe are the three most important issues you would face if elected and what is your position on each?

My first priority will be to refocus the office on supporting local law enforcement and prosecutors. 70% of local law enforcement agencies in Kansas have ten or fewer officers, and the majority of those have five or fewer. As I've traveled the state, I've heard from local agencies that calls for help from the Attorney General's office often go unanswered, or they're told no. As Attorney General, I will pick up the phone and make sure local agencies have the resources they need to keep Kansans safe. That is why the Kansas State FOP has endorsed me in this race.

Another top priority is addressing rising levels of consumer fraud by strengthening consumer education and aggressively prosecuting cases. In the first six months of 2026, Kansans have lost more than \$30 million through fraud. Scams are getting more sophisticated, and they're targeting our most vulnerable population, the elderly. As a securities prosecutor, I've investigated and prosecuted scam artists and white-collar criminals across the state.

Third, we need to work with partner organizations to assist victims of domestic violence. The lethality in these cases has risen dramatically in recent years. From 2024 to 2025, domestic violence-related homicides rose 65%. We lost two police officers in 2025 on domestic violence calls. The AG's office can provide grant funding to local victim and survivor support organizations, including non-profits, and partner with law enforcement agencies to address resource needs.

If elected, what are two things you would like to accomplish within the first year of your term?

Within my first year in office, I will conduct a top-to-bottom review of the resources available to the Attorney General's office to ensure its resources are being used effectively to keep Kansans safe. That includes identifying where resources are stretched too thin and where they can



be better directed. For example, the Division of Youth Suicide Prevention is currently under-resourced, even as Kansas' youth suicide rate remains far above the national average. I will look for opportunities to reallocate or expand resources so the division can better fulfill its mission.

I will also establish quarterly meetings with local law enforcement agencies across Kansas. As I've traveled the state and met with dozens of sheriffs, chiefs of police, and other law enforcement leaders, I've heard from many who want a stronger line of communication with the Attorney General's office. As the state's chief law enforcement official, the Attorney General plays a critical role in ensuring local agencies have the resources and support they need to keep our communities safe. These meetings, held in communities across Kansas and online, will give law enforcement leaders a direct line to my office as well as an opportunity to share information, identify emerging trends, and discuss challenges they are facing so we can address them before they become crises.

What makes you the best candidate for this position?

I've spent my career in public service. I started as a police officer when I was just 21 years old. After I was injured in the line of duty by a drunk driver, I became a prosecutor, holding violent offenders and drug traffickers accountable, including securing a decades-long prison sentence against a man who committed an execution-style murder in Wyandotte County. I then investigated and prosecuted white-collar criminals and scam artists as an attorney with the Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner, including securing a prison sentence for a scam artist who stole the life savings of an elderly widow in Sedgwick County. I've also worked with Mothers Against Drunk Driving to pass laws to make our roads safer, including requiring ignition interlock devices in all convicted DUI offenders' vehicles. This law has resulted in a dramatic decrease in drunk driving fatalities in Kansas since its implementation. The Attorney General is the state's top law enforcement official, and I'm the only candidate in this race who has ever served in law enforcement. The Attorney General is also the state's attorney. Throughout my legal career, I have fought to hold violent offenders accountable and keep Kansans safe. As Attorney General, I will fight every day to keep our communities safe.

Why should voters elect you?

I've spent my entire life running towards the problem, and I'm not done yet. From police officer to prosecutor, I've worked to keep Kansans safe. Kris Kobach has never worn a badge. He's never stood toe-to-toe with violent criminals on the street or in the courtroom. Instead, he's run for almost every office in Kansas, and he's done it to push his political agenda. Since being elected in 2022, he's told the Legislature he couldn't fulfill the core functions of the Attorney General's office. He's refused to stand up against a natural gas company accused of price gouging, walking away from \$50 million owed to Kansans. And he's refused to stand up against the federal government, even when more than \$1 billion of our tax money was withheld. For me, this office isn't about Team Red or Team Blue, but Team Kansas. It's time to take this office away from one man's political agenda and bring it back to the people of Kansas.

As Attorney General, I'll answer law enforcement's calls for help investigating and prosecuting complex cases. I'll stand up to anyone who tries to hurt the people of Kansas, and I'll focus this office on protecting Kansans.

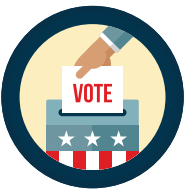
SABETHA AREA VOTING LOCATIONS

NEMAHA COUNTY VOTING LOCATIONS

Bern Community Building	Gilman Township Washington Township
Goff Community Center	Harrison-Goff
Nemaha County Community Building	Adams Township
Sabetha City Hall	Berwick Township Capioma Township Rock Creek Township Sabetha City - Wards 1, 2, 3, 4
Wetmore American Legion	Granada Township Wetmore Township

BROWN COUNTY VOTING LOCATIONS

Fairview Community Center	Morrill Township Walnut Township Powhattan Township
Hiawatha Fisher Center	Hamlin



GENERAL ELECTION

Tuesday, November 3, 2026
Polling places are open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.



VOTER ID

Must present photo identification to vote.



ADVANCE VOTING

Ballots are available by contacting the election office by phone, by mail or in person. Advance voter ballots may be voted in the election office until noon Monday, Nov. 2. **All mail ballots must be received on ELECTION DAY!**

Nemaha County Clerk's Office: 785-336-2170
Brown County Clerk's Office: 785-742-2581

Kris Kobach, Republican (Incumbent)

The Sabetha Herald contacted Kris Kobach, but he did not respond in the time allowed or within the word limit guidelines.



MEET THE CANDIDATES

STATE TREASURER

Eric Lund, Libertarian

The Sabetha Herald contacted Eric Lund, but he did not respond in the time allowed or within the word limit guidelines.

Steven Johnson, Republican (Incumbent)

Tell us about yourself.

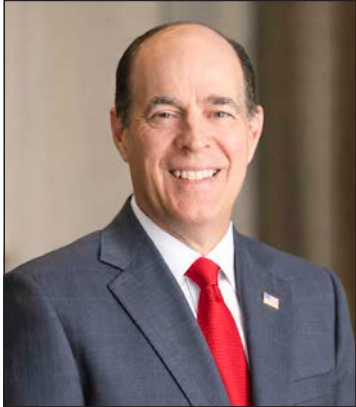
I was born and raised on a family farm near Assaria, Kansas, where I learned early the importance of hard work and being a good steward of the resources entrusted to you.

I earned my degree in agricultural economics from Kansas State University and later an MBA from the University of Chicago, with an emphasis in finance and business policy. Before entering public service, I spent much of my career in financial services and investment planning.

I was elected to the Kansas Legislature in 2010, where I served for 12 years, including as chairman of the House Taxation Committee and the Insurance and Pensions Committee.

Since being elected State Treasurer in 2022, I have worked to bring that financial experience to the management of Kansas taxpayer dollars. My focus has been straightforward. Protect public funds, improve investment returns, and make government work more efficiently.

I continue to be involved in our family farm, which keeps me grounded in the values and practical financial decisions that matter to Kansas families.



What do you believe are the three most important issues you would face if elected and what is your position on each?

1. Protecting Taxpayer Dollars
The Treasurer's first responsibility is to safeguard the money entrusted to the state. That means managing risk, maintaining sufficient liquidity and earning the best reasonable return on our investments. During my first term, we have generated hundreds of millions of dollars in additional interest earnings for Kansas. I will continue putting sound financial management ahead of politics.
2. Helping Kansas Families Save
Families should have access to affordable, flexible savings options. We recently modernized Kansas' 529 education savings program, now Quest529, significantly reducing fees and expanding investment options. I want to build on that progress while increasing awareness of our ABLE savings program, which helps individuals with disabilities save for their futures without jeopardizing essential benefits.
3. Making Government More Efficient
Taxpayers deserve a government that operates responsibly and makes the most of every dollar. We have improved the way public deposits are protected through the Kansas Collateral Pool and strengthened financial operations across the office. I believe government should continually look for ways to reduce unnecessary costs and improve service. Our office operates without an appropriation from the State General Fund, and I intend to keep it that way.

If elected, what are two things you would like to accomplish within the first year of your term?

First, I want to build on the improvements we have made to Kansas' savings programs.

This year, we completed a major modernization of our 529 education savings plans, reducing costs for account owners while providing greater investment flexibility. In the first year of my next term, I want to build on those improvements by helping more Kansas families take advantage of Quest529 and our ABLE savings program.

We have some excellent financial tools available to Kansans. Our responsibility is to make sure families know about them and understand how they can benefit.

Second, I want to continue improving how we manage and protect public funds.

The implementation of the Kansas Collateral Pool represents an important improvement in how state and local government deposits are secured. I want to continue refining that system while identifying additional opportunities to improve efficiency and investment management.

Good financial management is not a one-time accomplishment. It requires constant attention to changing conditions and a willingness to improve how we do business.

What makes you the best candidate for this position?

I believe the position of State Treasurer should be held by someone who understands financial markets, investment management and the responsibility that comes with managing taxpayer dollars.

My background is particularly well suited to that work. I spent much of my professional career in financial services before serving in the Legislature, where I focused extensively on tax policy, pensions and financial issues.

More importantly, I have a record of results as State Treasurer.

Since taking office, we have generated hundreds of millions of dollars in additional interest earnings for Kansas, modernized our education savings plans to save account owners millions of dollars annually, and implemented a new system to better protect public deposits.

I have also been honored to be selected by fellow state treasurers from across the country to serve in national leadership positions, including as Chair of The 529 Network and Secretary-Treasurer of the National Association of State Treasurers.

Those responsibilities reflect the trust placed in our work here in Kansas.

The Treasurer's Office is not a place for political headlines. It is a financial management position that requires experience, sound judgment and an understanding of risk. I have spent my career preparing for that responsibility, and my record demonstrates what that experience can deliver for Kansas.

Why should voters elect you?

When I first ran for State Treasurer, I made a commitment to put my financial experience to work for Kansas taxpayers. Over the past four years, we have done exactly that.

We have earned more on state investments, reduced costs for Kansas families saving for education and improved how taxpayer dollars are protected. We have accomplished this while operating the Treasurer's Office without relying on State General Fund appropriations.

I believe public service should be measured by results, not headlines.

There will always be new challenges in managing public finances. Interest rates change, markets fluctuate and the needs of Kansas families evolve. My responsibility is to make sure we are prepared to respond while protecting the resources entrusted to us.

I am proud of what we have accomplished, but there is more work to do.

Making a plan is the first step, sticking to the plan is the next and more important one. I am asking Kansans for another four years to continue providing the experienced, responsible financial management they deserve.

Juan C. Luengo, Democrat

Tell us about yourself.

My name is Juan C. Luengo. I am a graduate of Penn State University with a Bachelors of Arts in Communication and I hold certificates from Dartmouth College in Strategies and Business Development and University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business in Mergers and Acquisitions. I am also a graduate of the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Business. Mr. Luengo is currently the CEO of Engage Insurance Group, which is a risk management and insurance firm.

What do you believe are the three most important issues you would face if elected and what is your position on each?

1. Growing the Quest529 program - kids are coming out of college with an excessive amount of debt and I am going to partner with as many school districts to bring financial education to parents and grandparents. The 529 needs to be the funding source rather than student loans that are keeping the younger generation from living the American Dream.
2. Main Street Capital - small businesses don't have a seat at the table and access to capital is tough. We are going to move capital by providing capital to the banks that are enrolled in the linked-deposits program so that businesses can grow, scale and innovate
3. Establishing a non-partisan Economic Council - I will have the government, the private sector and the trades at the table helping the department draft economic policy so that we can get it passed through the legislature

If elected, what are two things you would like to accomplish within the first year of your term?

Our top priorities will be growing the Quest529, main street capital and the non-partisan economic council.

What makes you the best candidate for this position?

Juan wants this office to use the authority it already has. It is not underpowered. It is underused. The office is not meant for the Treasurer and the staff to sit behind a desk. Juan will be out in the community understanding what is going on.

This is what Juan is going to do for long term growth and sustainability: invest in systems that help the staff and the taxpayer, deploy capital to its limits, work with school districts to bring financial education and an alternative to student loans - Quest529. Juan will also build an economic council where the government, private sector and the trades are at the table helping us drive economic policy. Small businesses and farmers are being hurt which we depend on for our food supply chain. Kansas is primed to be a mecca for innovation and farming. It's time we live up to our potential.



Why should voters elect you?

Because this office should work for every Kansan, not just sit safely in Topeka. I'm an operator, not a politician. I am the CEO of an insurance and risk-management firm that is licensed in a few states, and handling other people's money with care is my day job. This job calls for someone who is building relationships in the communities not sitting behind a desk. Kansas has a \$14 billion college and trade savings plan, a matching grant for working families, low-interest loan programs for farms and small businesses, and more than \$600 million in unclaimed property, and too few Kansans are using them. Every dollar the Treasury touches should do two jobs: earn its return, and clear a path for a Kansas family, farm, or business. Juan wants this office to use the authority it already has. It is not underpowered. It is underused

U.S. SENATE

Roger Marshall, Republican (Incumbent)

The Sabetha Herald contacted Roger Marshall, but he did not respond in the time allowed or within the word limit guidelines.

Adam Hamilton, Democrat

Tell us about yourself.

I've devoted my life to service, and now I'm running for the U.S. Senate to lower costs, protect Kansans' health care and stop the chaos and corruption in Washington.

I'm a fifth-generation Kansan. My great-great-grandparents moved to Dickinson County in the 1870s and were farmers and builders in Hope and Elmo. I grew up in Prairie Village. In 1990 my wife LaVon and I started the Church of the Resurrection with four people and a dream. Our congregation today is roughly equal parts Republicans, Democrats and independents, so for 36 years I've been doing the work of bringing people together that politicians mostly just talk about. Together we've given tens of millions of dollars and hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours to neighbors in need.

I've been married to my high school sweetheart for 44 years. We have two daughters, a granddaughter and two dogs.



What do you believe are the three most important issues you would face if elected and what is your position on each?

Kansans keep telling me the same three things.

First, costs, and much of it is self-inflicted. The war in Iran drove up what we pay for gas, diesel and fertilizer, and Roger Marshall keeps voting against ending it. Tariffs that change from week to week raise the price of equipment and groceries. Farmers tell me markets they spent years building were gone with a tariff and a tweet. I'd vote to end the war and require Congress to approve new tariffs.

Second, health care. Kansas has more rural hospitals at immediate risk of closing than any other state. Last year's budget law cut Medicaid, and the health insurance tax credits expired, so more patients are uninsured. They still come to the emergency room, but the hospital doesn't get paid, and it gets even harder to keep a doctor in a small town. A rural hospital is often a county's biggest employer as well as its emergency room. I'd vote to restore the tax credits and reverse the Medicaid cuts.

Third, a Washington that works for itself instead of for us. Members of Congress shouldn't trade stocks in companies they vote on, and I support term limits. It's also why our campaign isn't taking corporate PAC money. Too many people in Washington would rather score points against the other party than solve a problem. We can't fix Washington corruption with just one party, and I'll work with anyone who wants to get something done.

If elected, what are two things you would like to accomplish within the first year of your term?

First, a full five-year farm bill. It's a travesty that we're in year eight of a five-year farm bill, and even the extension ran out Sept. 30. New conservation enrollment is on hold, and dairy farmers face a cliff at the end of the year. The House passed its bill in April. The Senate still hasn't. Producers can't plan when they don't know the rules. I want a seat on the Agriculture Committee, and I'd partner with Senator Moran and anyone else, in either party, to get a farm bill to the president's desk. Kansas farmers want customers and predictable rules, not bailouts.

Second, bring down health care costs. I'd vote to restore the health insurance tax credits that expired at the end of last year. In Hutchinson I met a woman about my age whose insurance had climbed to nearly \$3,000 a month. That was more than her house payment, so she was dropping her coverage and hoping to make it to Medicare without a cancer diagnosis or a heart problem. I'd also vote to reverse last year's Medicaid cuts and fix prior authorization, so doctors, not insurance companies, make medical decisions.

I wouldn't be starting from scratch. Josh Hawley, a Republican, voted to extend the tax credits and has his own bill to undo Medicaid cuts that hit rural hospitals. I'd start with Republicans who have shown a willingness to work across the aisle and build from there.

What makes you the best candidate for this position?

Kansas needs a senator who can bring people together, and I've been doing that for 36 years.

When I was in Sabetha, I met with a farmer who told me, "I hate how crass and mean-spirited our politics have become. I want somebody to do something about it." I hear some version of that everywhere I go.

In 2024 I invited Kevin Yoder, a Republican former congressman, and Claire McCaskill, a Democratic former senator, to join me in front of our congregation. Each explained why they belong to their party. Then I asked each to name something they appreciate about the other. We're not as far apart as Washington makes it seem.

I'll also be independent. I've been a registered Republican, a Democrat and an independent. Someone asked me what I'd do if Democratic leaders told me how to vote. If it's good for Kansas, I'll vote for it. If it isn't, I won't, no matter who's asking. If that makes me a one-term senator, then I'll be a one-term senator.

And I listen. This year I've sat with farmers, ranchers, teachers, retirees and small business owners in towns across Kansas. As your senator I'll hold town halls across the state, for everyone, not just my supporters.

Why should voters elect you?

Because people in Kansas are being hurt by decisions made in Washington, and nobody there seems to be speaking up for them. I want to.

I've met with farmers and ranchers who voted for the President three times. They tell me they're fine with moderate, independent minded members of any party, as long as they know I care about them and will listen. I do, and I will.

My family has been in Kansas for five generations, and I love this state. I'll fight like crazy to lower costs, protect our farm economy and keep the rural hospitals that small towns depend on. I'll do it without tearing down people who disagree with me.

Right now in Washington, two teams are trying to sabotage each other. But we don't have two teams in America. We have one. I'd be honored to have your vote.

David Graham, Libertarian

Tell us about yourself.

My name is David Graham. I am an attorney who lives in Overland Park, Kansas. I grew up in Kansas and am proud to make it my home. My father was a truck driver and my mother worked for Macy's. They taught me the value of a dollar. I am running for United States Senator to give voters an alternative to the other two candidates, both of whom favor bigger government and more spending. I favor greatly reducing the size and scope of government. Less government equals more freedom. Please visit my website at GrahamForLiberty.com. I would appreciate your vote.

What do you believe are the three most important issues you would face if elected and what is your position on each?

Affordability and the cost of living. Government created the problem; government is not the solution. The federal government must reduce its size and scope. It is too big! Laws upon laws and scores of regulations require a huge workforce to enforce compliance with all the laws and regulations. They add to the cost of delivering goods and services to consumers. The United States should abolish the Department of Education, the Department of Energy, and other unnecessary departments and agencies. By reducing the regulatory burden on suppliers, the cost of goods and services will go down and allow for a lower, affordable cost of living.

Criminal justice reform. Criminal justice reform needs to be addressed as soon as possible. The federal sentencing guidelines need to be rewritten. Mandatory minimum prison sentences should be abolished. The test for qualified immunity for police must be changed, so that it protects police officers who act reasonably while holding accountable those who act unreasonably or recklessly. Judges should have qualified immunity, not absolute immunity.

Strong national defense. The United States military must be able to defend against any existential threat to the United States. The military should not be used to fight wars which pose no existential threat to the United States. If the President wants to go to war, Congress must declare war. It is a Constitutional requirement.

If elected, what are two things you would like to accomplish within the first year of your term?

I would like to abolish at least one unit of government, whether it is large, like the Department of Education, or relatively small, like the Federal Interagency Council on Statistical Policy. Once one unit of government is abolished, more can follow, but it starts with one.

I also would like to pass a bill to insure transparency in government. Any bill to be voted on by either chamber of Congress should have to be posted on the internet for a minimum of 72 hours before it is voted on. Once it is voted on, the recorded vote should be posted on the internet for a minimum of 72 hours.

What makes you the best candidate for this position?

I shall serve the people of Kansas, first. Not my political party. I won't have to worry about party bosses pressuring me to vote a certain way or face draconian consequences. Since I am not in a major party, I can serve the people of Kansas. I am running a positive campaign, telling voters where I stand on the issues.

Why should voters elect you?

I believe Kansas can lead the nation in breaking up the toxic two party hold on our government. By electing me, the two older parties will have to communicate with me to legislate. I favor freedom. If you do, too, I respectfully request your vote.

YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

MEET THE CANDIDATES

KANSAS SECRETARY OF STATE

Jennifer Day, Democrat

Tell us about yourself.

I am a small business owner, former Kansas State Representative, and experienced election worker who believes the Secretary of State's office should serve every Kansan, regardless of political affiliation. Since 2018, I have worked directly in Kansas elections, including serving as a supervising election judge. This firsthand experience working alongside voters and local election officials has given me a deep understanding of what it takes to run elections that are secure, accessible, and transparent. My commitment to civic engagement began early, accompanying my mother to the polls and learning the importance of every person having a voice in our democracy. As a former state legislator and small business owner, I also understand the challenges facing Kansas families, workers, and businesses. I believe government should work for the people it serves by providing accessible services, clear information, and practical solutions rather than unnecessary barriers.

What do you believe are the three most important issues you would face if elected and what is your position on each?

If elected, my priorities will focus on voter education, protecting secure and accessible elections, and supporting Kansas businesses. One of my biggest priorities is increasing voter education and civic engagement. Voting is how Kansans make their voices heard and shape their communities, from affordable healthcare and the cost of living to school funding and supporting our first responders like our police officers and firefighters. I want Kansans of all ages to understand how elections work and how they can help shape the future they want for their families. Regardless of political affiliation, whether Republican, Democrat, or Independent, every eligible Kansan deserves to have their voice heard and access to accurate, accessible election information. I am also committed to protecting secure, accessible, and trustworthy elections. Every eligible Kansan deserves the opportunity to vote and confidence that their ballot will be handled fairly and counted accurately. I will work with county clerks, election officials, and the Legislature to protect election integrity, preserve access to the ballot, strengthen transparency, and ensure facts and public service come before politics. Finally, I want to strengthen the services the office provides to Kansas businesses. As a small business owner, I understand the importance of reliable, accessible government services. I will work to simplify filing processes, improve online services, reduce unnecessary barriers, and provide responsive customer service so Kansas entrepreneurs can grow their businesses, create jobs, and strengthen our communities.

If elected, what are two things you would like to accomplish within the first year of your term?

While there are many things that I hope to accomplish within my first year, there are two that immediately come to mind. I want to extend Kansas's advance voting period. Giving voters more time to cast their ballots would also provide additional time for mail ballots to move through the USPS and reach election officials for processing. My goal is to improve the voting experience while helping ensure election officials have the time they need to administer elections



efficiently and securely. I also want to modernize how Kansas agencies work together to support employers and employees. Businesses must navigate multiple agencies when starting a business or hiring employees. I would work to improve coordination between these agencies, streamline processes, and reduce unnecessary administrative barriers. By making it easier to navigate state requirements, we can support business growth, help employers create opportunities, and contribute to a stronger Kansas economy that benefits workers and communities across our state.

What makes you the best candidate for this position?

What sets me apart in this race is that I am the only candidate in this race with hands on election experience. Since 2018, I have worked elections, including serving as an assistant supervisor and a supervising election judge. I have helped voters resolve registration issues, addressed electioneering concerns, followed election procedures, and helped first time voters feel comfortable participating in our democracy. That experience gives me a practical understanding of what it takes to run an election, from preparing polling locations and supporting election workers to applying election laws and ensuring voters are treated fairly. As Secretary of State, I would use that real world experience to make decisions that affect county clerks, election officials, and voters across Kansas.

My experience also extends beyond elections. As a former Kansas State Representative and a small-business owner, I understand the importance of responsible leadership, effective government services, and listening to the people government serves. I have built relationships with people on both sides of the aisle, and I believe we can find common ground when we put Kansans ahead of partisan politics. The Secretary of State must serve every Kansan, regardless of political affiliation. I would bring real experience and a commitment to ensuring the office works effectively for voters, county election officials, and Kansas businesses.

Why should voters elect you?

I am the only candidate in this race with real election experience. As a small business owner, I also understand the business services side of this office. I bring firsthand knowledge of both, and I will be ready to serve Kansans on day one. Kansans deserve a Secretary of State who isn't looking to make headlines or tip the scales for one political party. This office should be about serving the people, not advancing a partisan agenda. I believe this role should be nonpartisan, with decisions guided by fairness, integrity, and the best interests of all Kansans. Your vote is sacred. It is your voice in shaping your community, electing leaders who reflect your values and beliefs, and deciding the future you want for yourself and your family. Your vote helps determine the direction of our communities, including priorities like affordability, healthcare, funding our schools, and public safety, including support for our police officers and firefighters. The decisions made at the ballot box have a real impact on our daily lives. That is why every eligible Kansas citizen deserves the opportunity to make their voice heard, and why protecting the right to vote matters.

Pat Proctor, Republican

Tell us about yourself.

I served twenty-five years in the Army, including two tours in Iraq and one in Afghanistan. My wife, Aree, and I own restaurants in Leavenworth and Manhattan. For the last seven years I taught in the Homeland Security program at Wichita State University. For the last six years I have served the people of Leavenworth, Fort Leavenworth, and Kickapoo as their state representative. And for the last four years, I have served the people of Kansas as Chairman of the House Elections Committee. I also chair the Joint Committee on Kansas Security and serve on the Board of Advisors to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission. I have a PhD in History from Kansas State University, master's degrees from the Army War College, the School of Advanced Military Studies, and the Command and General Staff College, and a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Purdue University.

What do you believe are the three most important issues you would face if elected and what is your position on each?

Combating Non-Citizen Voting. Every illegal vote cancels a citizen's vote. One is too many. Federal law covers federal elections, not our state and local elections. The Kansas Constitution says "every" citizen can vote. It does not say only citizens can vote. I sponsored the Citizens-Only Voting amendment to fix this and protect the SAVE Kansas Act that I carried and passed to find and remove non-citizens from the voter rolls. I urge Kansans to vote YES this November. Cleaning up Our Voter Rolls. We found out last year that there are more folks 65 years or older on our voter rolls than there are folks 65 years or older alive in our state. It's not that our clerks are bad people. It's that they can only do what we authorize in statute for them to do. Another measure in the SAVE Kansas Act I passed this year allows family members to sign an attestation to remove their loved ones who have passed away from the voter rolls. There's still more we can do. Combating Ballot Harvesting. Shadowy, out-of-state, dark money groups use big data to find people who do not vote, mail them prefilled ballot requests over and over again, then harvest their ballots. I have fought for signature verification, a limit on the number of ballots one person can turn in, and a ban on those prefilled applications. And these groups are suing us on every one of those measures because they want to keep ballot harvesting legal.

If elected, what are two things you would like to accomplish within the first year of your term?

Citizenship on Drivers' Licenses. You do not have to be a citizen to get a Real ID. The DMV knows who is a citizen or non-citizen and encodes that information on drivers' licenses. But because there is no visible marker of citizenship, a poll worker cannot tell when they



check a voter's ID. I carried House Bill 2448 to print citizenship status on the face of new and renewed licenses, but Democrat Governor Kelly vetoed that bill. I will fight to pass this measure next year. If a voter presents a non-citizen license and still claims he is a citizen, he gets a provisional ballot, and he can come in later, before the canvass, to prove his citizenship. That allows poll workers to be the last line of defense against non-citizen voting. Turning the Business Division into an Entrepreneurship Engine. When my wife and I opened our first nineteen-seat restaurant, we did our best to understand the rules and regulations. But we frequently found out we had missed something when a letter showed up in our mailbox, frequently with a fine. I want to AI-enable the Business Division website to arm business owners with the rules up front and shift the burden from the business owner having to know to the government having to tell you the rules.

What makes you the best candidate for this position?

My opponent, California Democrat Jennifer Day, wants to make Kansas elections look like California elections. On October 18 of last year, she told a whole room of Douglas County Democrats that she thinks it is "unfortunate" that non-citizens can't vote. And a few weeks ago, she said she wants to mail a ballot to every registered voter, dead or alive, moved or in Kansas, citizen or non-citizen, just like they do in California. I have fought to stop non-citizen voting and mail-in only elections. I sponsored and passed the Citizens-Only Voting amendment that is on your ballot this November. And I carried the bill to ban mail-in-only elections. I will fight to secure our elections. My Democrat opponent wants to undermine them.

Why should voters elect you?

The ACLU and the League of Women Voters sue every law I pass to secure our elections. They do not sue the legislature. They sue the Secretary of State. They have already put the Secretary of State on notice over the SAVE Kansas Act, the law I carried to find and remove non-citizens from the rolls. My opponent, California Democrat Jennifer Day, wants non-citizens voting. She wants to mail a ballot to every registered voter, dead or alive, moved or living in Kansas, non-citizen or citizen. She is a Vice President in the League of Women Voters. How hard do you think she will fight to defend those laws when her buddies sue her? As a legislator, I passed those laws. As Secretary of State, I will defend them. If I have the honor of your vote to serve you as your next Secretary of State, I will fight to restore confidence in our elections and defend our laws.

Scott E. Morgan, United Kansas

Tell us about yourself.

I am a fifth-generation Kansan, a lawyer, small-business owner, and longtime community volunteer. My wife Kathleen and I live in Lawrence, where we raised our three children. I graduated from the University of Kansas with degrees in journalism and law. Early in my career, I worked for Senator Nancy Kassebaum in Washington. After law school, I returned to Washington to work for Senator Bob Dole, first as Staff Counsel on the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, then as the Senate's non-voting representative on the Federal Election Commission, and later as Chief Counsel for Senator Dole's 1988 presidential campaign. We returned to Kansas, where I served as Chief Counsel for Governor Mike Hayden. My wife and I later started a publishing company that we operated in Kansas for 17 years. I served two terms on the Lawrence School Board, including twice as president, and have been active in numerous civic organizations. I am running for Secretary of State as the United Kansas candidate. I am not a Republican or a Democrat. I believe Kansas needs a Secretary of State who serves as a neutral referee, administering the law professionally and putting voters ahead of party.



What do you believe are the three most important issues you would face if elected and what is your position on each?

First is maintaining public confidence in Kansas elections. Elections must be fair, secure, accessible, and administered without regard to political pressure. The Secretary of State should be a neutral referee, not a political player. Second is supporting the county officials who actually conduct our elections. Kansas has 105 counties with different resources and challenges. The state should provide strong security standards, technical assistance, training, and appropriate financial support while respecting local expertise. Third is ensuring that eligible Kansans can participate conveniently and confidently. I support voter identification while also making identification readily available. I support advance voting, including voting by mail, and I oppose unnecessary barriers that make voting harder without making elections more secure. Voting is a right, not a privilege. We should be very cautious whenever government proposes limiting that right in the name of protecting it. Across all three issues, I would emphasize transparency. Kansans deserve clear explanations of how elections work, what safeguards are in place, and how questions or disputes are resolved.

If elected, what are two things you would like to accomplish within the first year of your term?

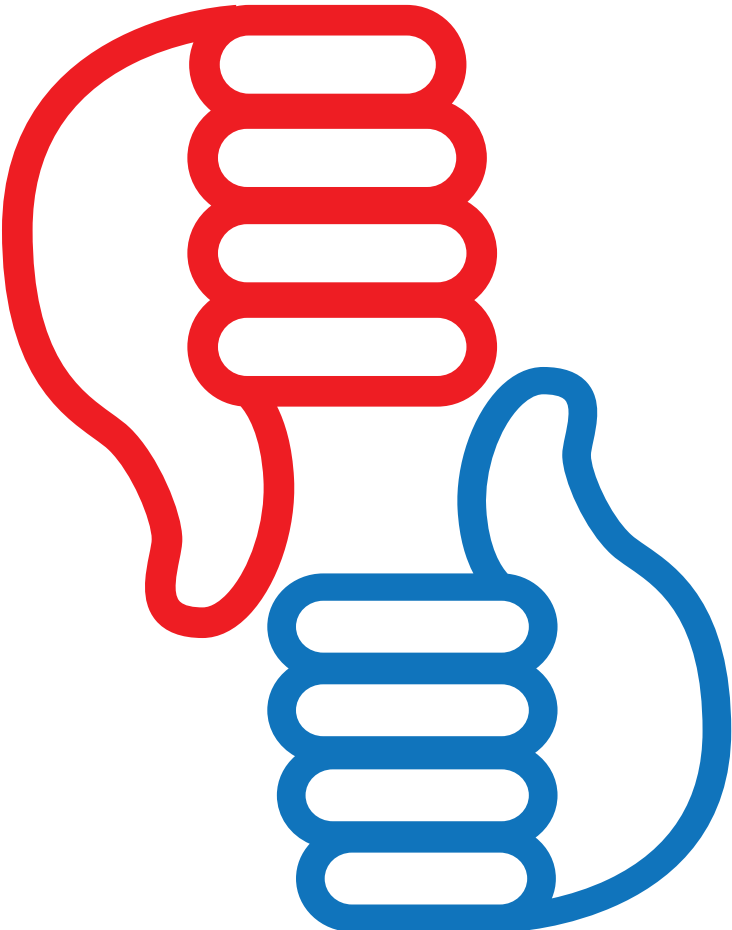
First, I would conduct a comprehensive review with county election officials of what they need from the Secretary of State's office. County clerks and election commissioners are on the front lines. I would focus on election security, training, technology, staffing challenges, and the cost of new state requirements. I would also look for ways to strengthen post-election auditing and public understanding of the safeguards already in place. Second, I would review the Secretary of State's business services with the goal of making them as simple, reliable, and transparent as possible. My wife and I operated a Kansas business for 17 years, so I understand that businesses do not need government to tell them how to run their companies. They need government filings to be straightforward, efficient, and predictable. Both efforts reflect the same philosophy: competent government that provides good service without unnecessary politics or bureaucracy.

What makes you the best candidate for this position?

I bring a combination of legal experience, government experience, business experience, and independence from the two major parties. I have practiced law, worked in both state and federal government, operated a Kansas business for 17 years, and served in elected local office. Those experiences taught me the importance of following the law, listening to people with different viewpoints, and making government work competently. Just as important, I am not a Republican or a Democrat. That matters in an office responsible for administering elections involving Republicans, Democrats, independents, and members of other parties. The Secretary of State should not be trying to help one side win. The job is to establish clear rules, apply them consistently, support local election officials, and give every eligible voter confidence that the process is fair. I believe my experience and independence allow me to approach the office the way it should be approached: as a neutral referee serving Kansas voters rather than a political party.

Why should voters elect you?

Kansas voters deserve a Secretary of State who puts voters over party. I am not running to use the office as a political platform or as a stepping stone to something else. I am running because the person responsible for overseeing our elections should be a neutral referee. I will follow the law, support the county officials who conduct our elections, protect every eligible Kansan's ability to vote, and be transparent about how our election system works. I also bring experience in law, government, business, and public service. I understand that good government is usually not dramatic. It is competent, fair, transparent, and dependable. I am not a Republican. I am not a Democrat. I am something different. I believe that independence is a strength for this particular office, and I would bring calm competence and quiet integrity to the job.



MEET THE CANDIDATES

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 2ND DISTRICT

Derek Schmidt, Republican (Incumbent)

Tell us about yourself.

I'm a fifth-generation Kansan and a native of Independence. Before serving in Congress, I spent 12 years as Kansas Attorney General, where I focused on protecting Kansans—particularly children and seniors—from fraud, abuse, and exploitation. I also fought unlawful federal regulations that threatened Kansas farmers, small businesses, and consumers and personally argued three cases for Kansas before the U.S. Supreme Court, winning all three.

Before becoming Attorney General, I served 10 years in the Kansas Senate representing a rural Southeast Kansas district, including four years as chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee and six years as Senate Majority Leader. Those experiences gave me a strong understanding of the challenges facing Kansas families, farmers, businesses, and rural communities.

Today, I'm honored to represent Kansas' 2nd Congressional District in the U.S. House, here I continue working to protect Kansans, limit federal overreach, and ensure our communities have a strong voice in Washington.

My wife and I have two grown daughters, and I enjoy spending time on our Southeast Kansas farm.

What do you believe are the three most important issues you would face if elected and what is your position on each?

First, we must confront inflation, federal spending, and our growing national debt. Kansans continue to feel the effects of higher prices for groceries, housing, energy, and other necessities. Congress cannot simply spend its way out of these challenges. We need to restrain federal spending, eliminate waste, and pursue policies that encourage economic growth while putting our nation on a more sustainable fiscal path.

Second, we must keep our southern border secure and enforce our immigration laws. We have made much progress on this front over the past two years, cleaning up the mess Joe Biden left behind. Just two years ago, hundreds of thousands were pouring across our southern border, whileentanyl, crime, and human trafficking threatened communities across America. I voted to increase funding for border security and protection. And I was proud to support tougher laws like the Laken Riley Act to hold criminal illegal aliens accountable and remove them from our country. We must continue to codify President Trump's border policies so future administrations cannot take us back to the open-borders policies of the Biden years.

Third, we must rein in federal overreach. Kansans should not have unelected federal agencies making sweeping decisions that affect their farms, businesses, vehicles, and everyday lives without clear authorization from Congress. As Kansas Attorney General, I challenged burdensome federal regulations, and I bring that same approach to Congress—and have introduced legislation to hold agencies accountable and ensuring they operate within the authority Congress has actually given them.



If elected, what are two things you would like to accomplish within the first year of your term?

First, I want to protect the farm programs Kansas producers depend on, particularly crop insurance. With unpredictable weather and markets, a strong safety net provides stability and helps family farms and ranches weather difficult years.

Second, I want to continue reigning in federal regulations that make it harder and more expensive to farm, ranch, and operate a small business. As Kansas Attorney General, I successfully fought federal overreach on issues including WOTUS and the lesser prairie chicken. In Congress, I can work to prevent burdensome regulations before they take effect and use congressional authority to overturn them when necessary.

Both priorities will provide Kansas producers with greater certainty and the freedom to grow and plan for the future.

What makes you the best candidate for this position?

Kansas deserves an experienced, effective conservative voice in Congress who understands our communities and can deliver results. I spent 10 years representing rural Southeast Kansas in the State Senate and 12 years as Kansas Attorney General, where I protected Kansans and fought federal overreach, including successfully arguing three cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.

During my first term in Congress, I have put that experience to work securing our border, reducing unnecessary regulations, restraining federal spending, providing tax relief, and delivering on priorities throughout the 2nd District.

As a fifth-generation Kansan, I understand the people and communities I represent. I have a proven record of standing tall for Kansas, the experience to be effective, and the commitment to continue providing strong conservative leadership on behalf of the 2nd District.

Why should voters elect you?

During my first term in Congress, we made significant progress securing our southern border, reducing burdensome regulations, slowing the growth of federal spending, and delivering meaningful tax relief for Kansas families, farmers, and small businesses. But there is more work to do, and I want to continue ensuring the values and priorities of Kansans are heard in Washington.

I believe my responsibility begins with listening to and representing the people of the 2nd District. That is why I have made it a priority to repeatedly visit every county in the district and hear directly from the Kansans I serve.

I also remain committed to our constitutional principles of limited government and to keeping decision-making as close to the people as possible. Washington does not always know best, and states, communities, families, and individuals should have the freedom to make more of their own decisions.

Finally, I will continue working to strengthen our economy by lowering taxes, restraining federal spending, and cutting unnecessary regulations so Kansas families, farms, and businesses have every opportunity to succeed.

John Hauer, Libertarian

Tell us about yourself.

Hi there! I am a regular blue collar guy, living in Topeka. I work in a car battery warehouse, and am going to truck school so I can drive semis in the near future. I love nature, and go hiking or camping with my old puppy Starfox whenever I get the chance. I grow vegetables and raise ducks in the backyard, and take pride in eating food that I personally grow. I try to learn and grow every day, I'm an avid reader and audio book listener.



What do you believe are the three most important issues you would face if elected and what is your position on each?

The biggest issue for the working class right now is inflation, especially the cost of everyday essentials such as food and fuel and housing. I think that this is due to the federal government spending more than it brings in and printing money to cover the difference.

Another big issue is our involvement in foreign entanglements. This is one of the main drivers of government spending, and therefore inflation. My position on war is to get out of every conflict we're currently involved in, close all bases not on American soil, and bring every troop back home. Then, close down all foreign bases and keep our troops home.

Corporate bailouts and foreign aid are also areas in which the federal government wastes way too much money. I would vote to keep all taxpayer dollars here in America, and not use a single one to bail out failing banks or corporations.

If elected, what are two things you would like to accomplish within the first year of your term?

Even if elected as a third party candidate, which would be a groundbreaking achievement in itself, I fully understand that one congressperson can't make a huge difference. What I could realistically hope to accomplish would be to vote "NO!" on anything that spent taxpayer dollars, especially sending those dollars overseas. The only bills I would vote in favor of are those that reduce government spending, waste, and power. Eventually, I would try to build a coalition of like minded, freedom loving allies in Congress and reduce or end our military presence around the world and eliminate most federal agencies. The goal is a federal government so small and powerless that elections wouldn't matter much anymore.

What makes you the best candidate for this position?

Being hones, I'm a warehouse worker not a politician. I'm not the smoothest talker nor do I enjoy watching politics or news as a hobby. But if you want someone who hates the government as much as you do and wants to eliminate the power it has over us working class citizens, then I'm your guy.

Why should voters elect you?

Voters should elect me if they value freedom over safety. I dream of a very free, unregulated, and diverse society where everyone can make their own choices about almost anything. I dream of a land with few laws and very little ability to enforce those laws. The only safety nets would be an individual's family, friends, and community. People would have to start looking out for one another because the government wouldn't have the ability. Vote for me if personal freedom and personal responsibility are paramount for you!

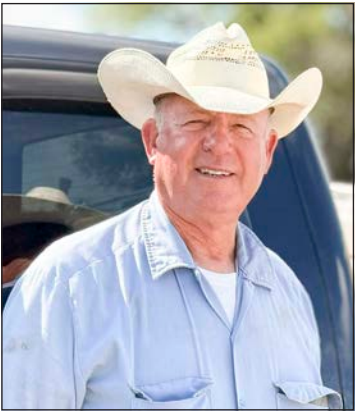
Don Coover, Democrat

Tell us about yourself.

I was born and raised in rural Southeast Kansas. I am a West Point Graduate and served more than 10 years in the U.S. Army, including as a pilot with an aviation intelligence unit in Korea.

I earned my Veterinary degree from Kansas State University. After my military career, I developed a feed manufacturing business with my brother. I now run a successful beef cattle genetics company, along with a working ranch operation of several hundred head of cattle, and a veterinary practice for local and regional livestock producers.

My wife Traci and I live on our ranch in Galesburg. I share two stepdaughters and one cuter-than-hell granddaughter with Traci.



enriching politicians and their families. We have to change the campaign finance system that allows billionaires and corporations to buy elections. This corruption impacts every other issue before Congress, as too many members, like my opponent Derek Schmidt, take the special interest money and then vote the way they want, not what is best for Kansans. For example, last year he voted for huge tax breaks for billionaires and corporations while cutting health care for everyone else. Kansans need cost relief and I want to work with Democrats and Republicans to stop the harmful policies that are making things too expensive, such as the tariffs, the war in Iran, and the cuts that have made health care more expensive and less accessible.

What makes you the best candidate for this position?

Kansans have seen costs continue to go up in every part of their lives. Our farmers are getting crushed and people have to decide between taking their prescription medications or eating supper. That should never have to happen. It's because the politicians in Washington, like my opponent Derek Schmidt, have lost sight of who they are supposed to be working for. Instead, they are focused on what their party leaders, billionaires, and corporate funders want, because they fund their campaigns.

I'm the best candidate for this position, because I'm new to politics. Until we change who we send to Washington, we'll keep getting the same expensive results.

I'm an Army veteran, rancher, and small business owner. I'm from southeast Kansas and grew up working on my parents' farm and hunting and fishing. I learned the values of hard work and responsibility. At West Point, we were taught to choose the harder right instead of the easier wrong. That means standing up to powerful Washington interests when they want you to vote a certain way, even though it's bad for the people back home.

I'm not looking to build a political career. I want to help clean up Washington, make Congress work for the people again, and then get out.

Why should voters elect you?

Voters should elect me, because I will answer to them, not a political party, not a billionaire, and not faceless corporations. I'm running, because we need to give power back to the people who elect their representatives. We need elected officials in Washington who don't say they will "stand tall" for Kansans, and then shrink as soon as a difficult vote comes up. I believe I can make a difference and be part of the solution to get our country back on track. If voters want an independent voice who will put them first, then I'm their guy. I humbly ask for their vote in the November election.

“Qualifications of Electors” Constitutional Amendment

Kansans will decide to keep or change the Qualifications of Electors during the General Election. Below is the verbage for the general election:

Explanatory statement. This amendment would clarify that only a person who is a citizen of the United States is eligible to vote in this state.

A vote **FOR** this proposition would clarify that only a person who is a citizen of the United States is eligible to vote in this state.

A vote **AGAINST** this proposition would make no change to the constitution of the state of Kansas, and the language concerning voter qualifications would remain the same.”

Shall the following be adopted?

§ 1. Qualifications of electors. Every(a) No person shall be deemed a qualified elector unless such person:

- (1) Is a citizen of the United States who;
 - (2) has attained the age of eighteen years; and who
 - (3) except as provided in subsection (b) or (c), resides in the voting area in which he or she such person seeks to vote shall be deemed a qualified elector.
- (b) Laws of this state relating to voting for presidential electors and candidates for the office of president and vice-president of the United States shall comply with the laws of the United States relating thereto. A citizen of the United States, who is otherwise qualified to vote in Kansas for presidential electors and candidates for the offices of president and vice-president of the United States may vote for such officers either in person or by absentee ballot notwithstanding the fact that such person may have become a nonresident of this state if his or her such person's removal from this state occurs during a period in accordance with federal law next preceding such election.
- (c) A person who is otherwise a qualified elector may vote in the voting area of his or her such person's former residence either in person or by absentee ballot notwithstanding the fact that such person may have become a nonresident of such voting area during a period prescribed by law next preceding the election at which he or she such person seeks to vote, if his such person's new residence is in another voting area in the state of Kansas.”



**KANSAS
SUPREME
COURT
JUSTICES**
Should these
Kansas Supreme
Court Justices be
retained?
Yes or No?

KANSAS COURT OF APPEAL JUDGES
Should these Kansas Court of Appeals Judges be retained?
Yes or No?



Lesley Ann Isherwood
Wichita
Position No. 2



Amy Fellows Cline
Wichita
Position No. 3



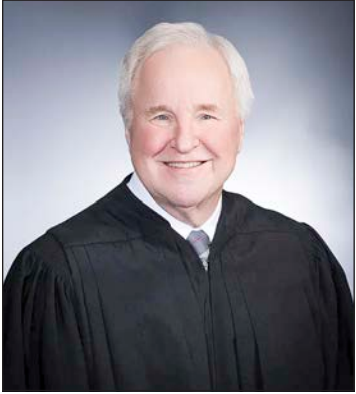
Kim R. Schroeder
Hugoton
Position No. 5



Lori Ann Bolton Fleming
Weir
Position No. 7



Jacy Hurst
Lawrence
Position No. 13



Eric S. Rosen
Topeka
Position No. 4



Larkin E. Walsh
Leawood
Position No. 6

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ELECTION

2026



local&area

NEMAHA COUNTY

Advanced ballots now available

Submitted
Nemaha County registered voters may now vote an advance election ballot for the Nov. 3 General Election in person at the Nemaha County Clerk's Office. Voters may vote in person up until noon on Monday, Nov. 2.
Hours for advance voting are Monday through Friday, Oct. 14 through Oct. 30, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 31, from 9 to 11 a.m.; and Monday, Nov. 2, from 8 a.m. to noon.
Remember to bring a photo ID. For more information, contact the County Clerk's Office at 785-336-2170, Option 1.



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FALL FUN

Chili Cook-off takes center-stage in Parkview neighborhood

"Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them." — William Shakespeare in "Twelfth Night"

Submitted by Parkview Neighborhood
The debate about greatness or goatness has long been raging. But in the north-central Sabetha neighborhood of Parkview, some would say greatness is found in a spoonful of chili. Like a beautiful poem, prose or play, a delicious chili soup demands planning, creativity, and ultimately execution. A chili soup is neither autogenic nor self-actualized. No, it must be created by a maker — nay, an artist. The artist must fashion raw materials and liquids, and apply just the right heat over time to produce the masterpiece. The technique requires much practice to achieve the perfect chili soup. This was the challenge bravely accepted by five of the finest culinary artists in the area. Could one rise among the rest to be crowned Chili Champ? The tension was palpable as the stage was set. The entries and soup descriptions were as follows.

Sue Plattner's, "Bowl Movement" — Thick, hearty, stick-to-your-ribs typa chili! Heavy on the beans, so you might wanna plan an evening close to home after eating!
Noelle Meyer's, "El Classico" — A hearty, slow-simmered beef chili with a rich tomato base, tender beans, and a balanced blend of savory spices.
Watson Yoder's, "Oh Deer This Chili Is Good" — Oh deer! This chili packs a punch. Slow-simmered venison, beans and a secret ingredient (it's probably love). Warning: may cause second helpings, seconds of silence and the overwhelming urge to give the chef a trophy!
Nick Strahm's, "Double Meat Bit o' Heat Chili" — A hearty, two meat chili with a mild background heat.
Emily Plattner's, "No Recipe, No Problem" — Beans, tomatoes and meat, this chili is really neat. Ketchup, mustard, spices and more, this soup you will adore!
As per tradition, the audience (residents) of the Parkview Neighborhood and friends were treated to a delightful adventure for the culinary senses serving as taste testers of the chili soups. It was pure theatrics, tragicomic in fact, with tastebuds experiencing sweet, savory, spicy, joy, laughter, sadness, resolution and absolution, all in a bowl of chili. After the last spoon had been laid to rest, results were tabulated as the artists paced nervously backstage waiting for the announcement, knowing the outcome would be life-changing.
The winner based on the popular vote was indeed Watson Yoder's, "Oh Deer This Chili Is Good." Yoder joins the hall of legendary Chili Champs of past years, including Dralinn Burk's



Watson Yoder, the youngest to ever be named Chili Champ, is awarded the trophy for the Parkview Chili Cook-off on Sunday, October 18. *Submitted*

"Heartwarming Chili" (2024) and Carla Renyer's "Bow Chili Wow-wow" (2025).
Yoder raised the trophy high and received the glory and accolades that come from such victory. But success and achievement is meant to be shared among friends and readers of this drama, and you can find the exact recipe used by Yoder to create your own "Oh Deer This Chili Is Good" soup on Page 6B of *The Sabetha Herald*.
As the darkness increased its pursuit of the sun in the western skies, the neighbors enjoyed lingering a bit longer, relishing the company and full bellies as the curtain closed on another chili challenge. The End.

Had me pain-free in minutes. I was suffering from lower left back pain for three days. Dr. Lukert did his thing, and I was back to normal with instant relief. Not only did he correct my pain issue, but he noticed a few other things and corrected them, as well. I walked out feeling brand new.

— D.F.

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Nemaha County Community Health Services

WALK-IN FLU AND COVID SHOT CLINIC

Sabetha:
Every Wednesday in October 12:00-5:30pm
at the NCCHS Office, 1004 Main Street, Sabetha

Seneca:
Every Tuesday in October 12:00-4:00pm
at the NCCHS Office, 402 Main Street, Seneca

Bern:
Monday, October 12th 11:00am-1:00pm
at the Bern Community Building

Billing submitted to Medicare, KanCare and most insurance companies. **It is necessary to bring your card.** Flu and COVID shots are also available through the Vaccines for Children Program for those who qualify.

Scan the QR code or go to www.ncchsk.org to print a copy of the Influenza/COVID Vaccine Consent Form.

Regular, Flublok and High Dose flu vaccines available. Moderna COVID vaccine available.

If you have questions ahead of time, please call 785-284-2152.

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Motorists encouraged to be on the lookout for deer

Submitted
While deer can be spotted near roadways any time of the year, motorists should be especially vigilant in the fall for deer crossing roadways due to the "rut," or mating season, a time when deer are frequently on the move.
"When a deer enters the roadway, drivers may be tempted to swerve. That can lead to a loss of control, leaving the roadway or a collision with oncoming traffic," said Kansas Highway Patrol Lt. Chad Crittenden. "Drivers are often safer when they brake firmly and stay in their lane."

That's why the Kansas Department of Transportation, Kansas Highway Patrol, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks and AAA Kansas are working together to raise awareness and help drivers avoid collisions with deer.
"Deer are focused on mating and not paying attention to hazards like vehicles," said Levi Jaster, KDWP Big Game Coordinator. "Bucks are looking for does, and with crops out of the fields and leaves off the trees, deer have fewer places to stay concealed. That means motorists are more likely to encounter deer on or near roadways, especially at dawn and dusk."
One person was killed and 692 people were injured in the 10,742 deer-vehicle crashes on Kansas roadways in 2025. Across the state, 40 percent of all single-vehicle crashes in 2025 involved a collision with a deer.
Andrew Booth, Kansas Turnpike Authority Safety Coordinator, encourages motorists to stay focused, reduce distractions and drive at a safe speed to increase safety when deer are near the roadway.
"In the event a driver hits a deer,

help is available by dialing *KTA [*582] when traveling on the turnpike or *47 to reach the Kansas Highway Patrol," Booth said.
Shawn Steward, Public Affairs Manager for AAA Kansas, said that besides the inconvenience of your vehicle damage, the cost of repairs may put a serious dent in your wallet.
"AAA insurance statistics show the average claim in Kansas for an animal strike in 2025 was almost \$7,900 — up 42 percent in the past five years," Steward said. "This is largely due to advanced vehicle technology such as cameras and sensors."
Roadway safety officials suggest drivers:
• Be watchful at dawn and dusk; deer are more active and seldom travel alone.
• Reduce speeds near wooded areas and water sources.
• Always wear a seat belt and use appropriate child safety seats.
• Use bright headlights when there is no oncoming traffic. The deer's eyes often reflect.
• Do not swerve. This can cause motorists to veer into oncoming traffic, run off the road, hit objects or overturn.
• If you strike a deer, move the vehicle to the roadway's shoulder and call law enforcement: KHP dispatch at *47, turnpike users at *582 or local law enforcement at 911.
• Contact your insurance company to report damage.
NOTE: visit https://www.ks-dot.gov/home/showdocument?id=16066&t=639264673309224074&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery, to view the statewide vehicle-deer statistics compiled by KDOT for the past five years followed by county stats.

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Sheriff Richard Vernon

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2026
1:00 - 3:00 PM

MEADOWLARK EXTENSION OFFICE
1615 BRANCH ST.
SENECA, KS 66538

GOVERNING BODY

Brown County Commission

*Submitted by Nicole Lee
County Clerk*

The Board of Brown County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, Oct. 5, with the following members present: Chairman Lucas Heinen, Commissioner Richard Tesoriero and Commissioner William Pollock. Also present was Brown County Clerk Nicole Lee. Chairman Heinen opened the meeting at 1 p.m. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a prayer led by Commissioner Tesoriero.

Department Reports

Emergency Management Coordinator Brandon Roberts discussed replacing the Rescue Squad boat, possible medical release policy, and needed repairs to the County-owned Rescue Squad building. Quotes for the Rescue Squad boat were as follows: All Hands Fire Equipment

LLC, a Whaly Boat 435R for \$9,950; Inmar Marine Group an inflatable boat with SOLAS panels for \$8,480.19; and Grainger, a transom-style rescue boat without motor for \$9,279.77. The board accepted the quote from Inmar Marine Group in the amount of \$8,480.19 for the purchase of an inflatable rescue boat, with payment from the Capital Improvement Fund, and to submit the expense for reimbursement related to the June disaster.

Chris Denner and Vicki Hubin with Community Corrections presented the commission with the following revisions to the Salary and Wage Scale:

Director/Co-Director: \$54,580-\$108,367.09
Office Manager: \$23.58-\$38.20
ISO: \$23.63-\$46
ISO II: \$27.11-\$54.21
The commissioners approved

the revisions to the Community Corrections Salary and Wage Scale effective immediately.

The commission discussed consolidating Road and Bridge employee classifications and establishing wage ranges. The board approved the following revisions to the Road and Bridge Wage Scale, effective immediately.

Crewman: \$18.50-\$25
Assistant Foreman: \$25-\$27
Foreman: \$26.50-\$28.50
Superintendent: \$30-\$32
Also at the meeting:

The commissioners discussed Brightspeed property tax recovery charge, Jeschke, reinterviewing applicants, and the comment period for the Highway 75 expansion study.

The commissioners recessed into a 10-minute executive session for the purpose of discussing compensation of non-elected personnel, to protect the privacy interests of the employee. Interim Appraiser Kerri Koch and Lee remained present. The meeting returned to regular session with

no action taken by the board following the executive session.

The commission agreed to extend the executive session for an additional 10 minutes The meeting returned to regular session with no action taken by the board following the executive session.

The board agreed to amend the compensation of Interim Appraiser Koch to \$29.49 per hour until a County Appraiser District can be formed by resolution between Nemaha County and Brown County.

The board approved the Sept. 30 meeting minutes as presented.

Hiawatha Chamber of Commerce requested use of Courthouse Square and electricity for the annual Halloween Frolic on Oct. 31. The board approved the use of the Courthouse Square and electricity for the annual Halloween Frolic on Saturday, Oct. 31.

The commissioners agreed to reappoint Jim Scherer to the 2027 NEK-CAP Multi-Board of Directors.

The commission recessed into

a 10-minute executive session for the purpose of discussing the qualifications and compensation of non-elected personnel, to protect the privacy interests of the applicants. Road and Bridge Secretary Tami Lehmkuhl and Lee remained present. The meeting returned to regular session with no action taken by the board following the executive session.

The commissioners agreed to extend the executive session for an additional 10 minutes The meeting returned to regular session with no action taken by the board following the executive session.

Commissioner Tesoriero proposed a Purple Heart mural project in Hiawatha at Sixth Street and Oregon Street. The board agreed to proceed with the Purple Heart mural project.

The board recessed into a five-minute executive session for the purpose of discussing the performance and compensation of non-elected personnel, to protect the privacy interests of the employees. Lee remained present. The meet-

ing returned to regular session with no action taken by the board following the executive session.

The next regular meeting was held on Monday, Oct. 12. These minutes were not available at The Herald's press time.

Work Session

The Brown County Commissioners convened at 1 p.m. at the Brown County Courthouse for a work session with Chairman Heinen, Commissioner Tesoriero and Commissioner Pollock present, along with County Clerk Lee. The following topics were discussed: upcoming interview schedule, plan for noxious weed spraying, hot patch, chip and seal process, misuse of sick leave, possible Tribal Council meetings, applying for grants for road reclamation, Courthouse lawn maintenance, HFED/RHID project, employee benefits, 2029 Highway 246 project, and Road and Bridge structure. No action was taken. The work session adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

ORGANIZATION NEWS

Brown County Genealogical Society

*Submitted by Sandy Carter
Acting Secretary*

The Oct. 15 Brown County Genealogical Society meeting was opened by President Ray Thieme, with 19 members and guests present.

Wendall Ganstrom presented a program on "The Story of Wolf River." He started with the Glacier period and guided us through to present time. He told us about the tribes, Lewis and Clark explorers and others who followed Wolf River, including the German American painter, Albert Bierstadt. He shared with us the many floods of the river in Robinson and other surrounding towns. He explained how part of the river was straightened and showed us where they had to stop.

After the presentation, we enjoyed refreshments furnished by

Jeri Thompson, Sandy Carter and Doug and Brenda Meyer.

Then, we started our business meeting at 8:30 p.m. The minutes of the August meeting were read by Carter, acting secretary, and approved. The treasurer's report was given by Carter, treasurer. The treasurer's report was approved.

In new business, Carter reported that as per our bylaws, we would be electing new officers for the year 2027 in November at our annual meeting. She also told the members about a donation of pictures that used to be in the Cozy Café in Fairview. A notebook will be created for these pictures and indexed.

Meeting adjourned.

Our next meeting will be at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19, at our Library with a program by Sharon Pontious.

Nemaha County Commission

*Submitted by
Mary Kay Schulteans
County Clerk*

The Board of Nemaha County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, Oct. 12, in the Commissioner's Room of the Nemaha County Courthouse. The meeting was called to order with Chairman Ben Glace leading the flag salute. Present also were Commissioner Joe Dalinghaus, County Counselor/County Administrator Austin Parker and County Clerk Mary Kay Schulteans recording the minutes. Commissioner Jason Koch was absent from the meeting. Glace led those present in an opening prayer to begin the meeting.

The board set the agenda for the meeting. The commission approved the agenda for Oct. 12 as presented.

Chairman Glace called for Open Public Forum to begin at 9:12 a.m. No one came before the board to speak during the forum.

Glace ended the public forum at 9:19 a.m.

Department Reports

Road and Bridge/Solid Waste Supervisor Adam Kuckelman submitted a written report advising the board that:

- The truck drivers have finished rocking between Highway 62 and Highway 63 on the Lillis Road.
- They are now rocking on the Long Chain Road.
- The bridge crew is working on Bridge 0-51 south of Kelly.
- Kathy and Kristina are working on pulling information for the FEMA claim sites.
- The Solid Waste roll off truck's EGR cooler ruptured and is going to be out of commission for a week.

Human Resources Manager Mary Gatza came before the board to give the commissioners an overview of what she has been working on over the past few weeks.

GOVERNING BODY

Nancy Gafford with Rural Development Association of Northeast Kansas came before the board to update the commissioners regarding the most recent annual review of the 2024 Nemaha-Brown Solid Waste Management and Disposal Plan. The commission approved the annual review as presented.

Appraiser Kerri Koch came before the board to speak to the commissioners about also serving as the interim Brown County Appraiser. The commissioners approved allowing K. Koch to retain her benefits at a reduced per parcel rate and to allow Brown County time to prepare a formal Memorandum of Understanding before the end of the year.

Also at the meeting:

The board approved the minutes from the Oct. 5 meeting as amended.

Seneca City Administrator Steve Brooks came before the board to have a discussion with the commissioners concerning an exchange of property between the City of Seneca and Nemaha County. The property exchange would involve approximately nine acres of property located near the horse arena at the fairgrounds and

the Nemaha County Community Building. The city would still allow the Seneca Nutrition Center and the Nemaha County Fair to utilize the Community Building. The city and the county will continue to have discussions concerning this issue and hope to have a final decision by the end of the year.

The board held a 10-minute executive session to discuss the pay and performance of non-elected personnel. Present for the executive session were the Board of Commissioners, Parker and Gatza. The meeting returned to open session with no action taken by the board following the executive session.

The board approved the Nemaha County Quarterly Financial Statement for the quarter ending Sept. 30 for publication. Chairman Glace signed the statement as presented.

The commissioners reviewed vouchers submitted by the different departments to be paid. The board approved the AP warrants to be paid on Oct. 13 as presented.

The next regularly scheduled meeting was held on Monday, Oct. 19. These minutes were not available at The Herald's press time.

ORGANIZATION NEWS

Nemaha County Republican Women

*Submitted by Kay Frey
Secretary*

The Nemaha County Republican Women held their regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, Oct. 8. The meeting was held in the High Rise Apartment Complex meeting room in Sabetha.

President Anne Moser welcomed the 24 members and guests in attendance and the group recited the Pledge Allegiance to Our Flag in unison.

Member Mary Ryan introduced our speaker for the morning, Laurie Duran.

Duran is the house manager for "My Sister's House" located in Sabetha. She related in depth her personal journey and how the organization of "My Sister's House" came into being. The talk was very informative and was followed by a question and answer period. Small personal gifts were presented to Duran to be used in the house at her choosing. The gifts were donated by the attending members and guests.

A short business meeting was conducted with Secretary Kay Frey reading the minutes of our previous meeting and Treasurer Ann Kent giving her report. Frey offered prayer preceding the bountiful pot-luck luncheon prepared by the members.

The November meeting will be held in Wetmore, where we will be touring the Military Museum and celebrating our Veterans.

LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Nemaha County Sheriff

JAIL BOOKING/RELEASE

Benjamin Preston, 51, of Kelly was arrested on Oct. 3 by the Nemaha County Sheriff's Office (NMSO) for the offense of domestic battery. He was released on Oct. 4 on a \$2,000 bond with a court date of Oct. 27 at 9:30 a.m.

Kyle Morey, 35, of Fairview was arrested on Oct. 10 by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks on charges of boating under the influence. Morey was released on the same day on a \$1,000 bond.

Court is set for Nov. 10 at 9:30 a.m.

Christopher Whitaker, 23, of Washington was arrested on Oct. 11 by NMSO on charge of possession of hallucinogenic drug and possess paraphernalia. He was released on the same day on a \$1,500 bond. Court is set for Nov. 10 at 9:30 a.m.

CRASH REPORTS

At 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19, Eric Breeding, 45, of Centralia was traveling southbound on W Road, 1/2 mile south of 84th Road, when he struck a deer. Breeding was driving a 2013 Chevrolet Silverado. More than \$1,000 in damage was estimated.

At 8:20 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 4, Blake Feldkamp, 16, of Centralia was traveling westbound on Kansas Highway 9, 0.7 mile west of Q Road, when he lost control of his vehicle, causing it to leave the roadway. Feldkamp was driving 1991 Chevrolet S10. More than \$1,000 in damage was estimated.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Sabetha Fire Department

At 1:56 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 13, the Sabetha Fire Department (SFD) was called out to a possible combine fire at 176th and V Road. Upon arrival, the SFD found that there was a little bit of smoldering on a combine. The SFD extinguished the smoldering portion of the combine. All trucks were back at the station at 2:46 p.m. There was no loss and no damage.



Published in The Sabetha Herald on Wednesday, October 21, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

TREASURER'S QUARTERLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT
City of Sabetha, Kansas
For a Period From July 1, 2026 thru September 30, 2026

FUNDS	1 Old balances (last report)	2 Receipts	3 Disbursements (warrants paid)	4 New balances (1 plus 2 minus 3)
General Operating	\$1,472,746.37	\$455,725.85	\$962,787.04	\$965,685.18
Airport	\$159,905.36	\$38,306.23	\$8,955.50	\$189,256.09
Library	\$55,213.81	\$1,359.65	\$55,213.81	\$1,359.65
Aquatic Center	\$1,078,809.37	\$82,957.10	\$190,225.00	\$971,541.49
Prairie View Sidewalk	\$29,221.51	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$29,221.51
Bond & Interest	\$392,545.02	\$2,051.99	\$358,682.50	\$35,914.51
Special Parks & Recreation	\$4,165.41	\$1,779.49	\$0.00	\$5,944.90
Special Highway	\$33,086.92	\$17,548.18	\$0.00	\$50,635.10
Electric	\$3,086,794.53	\$1,514,896.55	\$1,328,453.94	\$3,273,237.14
Water	\$280,031.48	\$230,366.93	\$325,374.30	\$185,024.11
Sewer	\$215,761.21	\$285,082.95	\$306,685.95	\$194,158.21
Tax	\$29,683.87	\$97,541.00	\$99,186.62	\$28,038.25
Special City Tax	\$0.00	\$217,640.92	\$217,640.92	\$0.00
Payroll	\$0.00	\$767,963.59	\$767,963.59	\$0.00
TOTALS	\$6,837,964.86	\$3,713,220.43	\$4,621,169.17	\$5,930,016.14
INDEBTEDNESS:				
KDHE Water Revolving Loan	\$1,487,096.29			
GO Ref. Series 2020A	\$1,615,000.00			
GO Series 2016A	\$1,855,000.00			
KDHE Sewer Revolving Loan	\$773,418.63			
GO Series 2018A	\$575,000.00			
KDHE Sewer Revolving Loan	\$1,430,530.90			
TOTAL	\$7,736,045.82			

I, Steve Campo, certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the above statement is correct.

Published in The Sabetha Herald on Wednesday, October 21, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

County Of Nemaha Financial Statement Quarter Ending September 30, 2026				
Fund	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Expenditures	Ending Balance
General	1,819,670.81	566,771.22	874,471.02	1,511,971.01
Law Enforcement	972,253.48	170,829.18	603,764.10	539,318.56
Road & Bridge	1,840,291.53	308,635.69	1,249,733.20	899,194.02
Noxious Weed	139,384.64	50,910.32	83,940.65	106,354.31
Emp. Benefits	1,212,583.18	127,088.47	549,729.32	789,942.33
Election	103,221.15	4,875.82	67,780.26	40,316.71
Mental Health	27,121.03	3,310.28	22,024.53	8,406.78
Conservation	18,221.63	2,266.41	15,000.36	5,487.68
Sp.Mach.	451,009.23	0.00	0.00	451,009.23
Historical	6,361.37	770.87	5,166.78	1,965.46
Ambulance	477,613.73	41,459.29	215,591.68	303,481.34
Abandon Cerne.	5,642.02	283.08	2,400.04	3,525.06
Int/Dev Disabilities	44,700.00	5,477.62	36,667.54	13,510.08
Parks & Rec.	24,687.91	1,803.53	0.00	26,491.44
Alcohol Fund	-2,307.04	3,449.92	5,750.00	-4,607.12
Fair Fund	3,112.12	350.09	2,266.72	1,195.49
Transp. for Aging	206,810.73	78,349.40	83,032.42	202,127.71
Sheltered Wrkshp.	35,198.54	845.82	0.00	36,044.36
III-C-1	65,479.06	10,411.95	13,168.22	62,722.79
III-C-2	213,086.85	59,763.10	47,907.70	224,942.25
Econ.Devel.	4,474.45	2,991.40	0.48	7,465.37
ROD Tech. Fund	66,998.45	3,502.00	505.96	69,994.49
Treas. Tech. Fund	17,513.10	875.50	3,662.20	14,726.40
Clerk Tech. Fund	22,044.11	875.50	0.00	22,919.61
Capitol Outlay	2,026,083.53	6,380.00	14,535.00	2,017,928.53
Solid Waste	114,252.90	57,370.50	46,788.45	124,834.95
Enhanced 911-Phone	120,621.42	20,969.52	3,507.64	138,083.30
TOTALS	10,036,129.93	1,530,616.48	3,947,394.27	7,619,352.14
A Detailed Statement is available at the County Clerks Office.				
Attest:				
<u>Mary Kay Schulteans</u> Mary Kay Schulteans Nemaha County Clerk	<u>Ben Glace</u> Chairman, Board of Commissioners			

MANUFACTURING DAY

Students share their hopes for fifth annual event



Matt Miller, Senior
Axtell High School

Do you know anything about any of the manufacturers today? If so, what are you most excited to learn about?
"Definitely, about CW Mill and I hoping to learn about how the mill operates." — Matt Miller



Alea Anliker, Karen Stoller, Marlys Strahm and Carla Strahm
Juniors
Prairie Meadows Private School

What are you most excited to learn about today?
"Just everything. We don't know much about manufacturing, but learning what businesses do and what opportunities are available."
— Alea Anliker, Karen Stoller, Marlys Strahm and Carla Strahm



Ike Tramp, Senior
Sabetha High School

What are you most excited to learn about from the manufacturers today?
"I'm just excited about their product, what they focus on, and how they build it and develop it."
— Ike Tramp



Jethro Steiner, Junior
Nemaha Central

Do you know anything about any of the manufacturers today? If so, what are you most excited to learn about?
"I know about NorthWind, because my dad works there, but I don't really know what I'm excited to learn about. I'll just walk around and see what interests me."
— Jethro Steiner



Sir Peek, Senior
Jackson Heights

What are you most excited to learn about during Manufacturing Day?
"I'm really excited to learn about future jobs."
— Sir Peek



Stormi Goudie, Junior
Holton High School

What are you most interested in learning during Manufacturing Day?
"Just to learn about how different manufacturing companies work. I've never been to one, so it will be interesting to really see all the stuff that goes on inside of it."
— Stormi Goudie



Alex Taylor, Freshman
Cornerstone Classical Academy

Do you know anything about any of the manufacturers today? If so, what are you most excited to learn about from them?
"I don't really know that much about them, but I am just excited to see everything work."
— Alex Taylor



Abigail Porter, Junior
Sabetha High School

What are you most interested in learning during Manufacturing Day?
"I want to learn more about the manufacturing industries and the kind of stuff that they make because I honestly don't know much about it."
— Abigail Porter



Logan Ploeger, Senior
Sabetha High School

What made you decide to come back to Manufacturing Day again this year?
"I'm interested to learn about the new developments these companies are making. AI and robotics have improved a lot since last year, and just to see how the companies are changing to fit the newer industry."
— Logan Ploeger



Emma Kroeger, Junior
Axtell High School

What are you most interested in learning during Manufacturing Day?
"Well I want to be a vet, but I don't know if there's much here for that, but just to learn more about manufacturing plants, I guess."
— Emma Kroeger



Brody Browning, Senior
Jackson Heights

What part of Manufacturing Day are you most looking forward to?
"I don't really know what's here, to be honest, but I think probably the tours."
— Brody Browning



Ciara Atwood, Senior
Sabetha High School

What made you decide to come back to Manufacturing Day again this year?
"I still have an interest in manufacturing, and I think getting to know the companies again helps. And seeing if they have updated anything or if they have any new materials that I haven't learned about yet, and then going and actually seeing that and hearing them talk about it again really helps."
— Ciara Atwood



Trevor McNeely, Senior
Auburn High School

What are you most excited to learn about from the manufacturers today?
"I'm really excited to check out the welding company that is here, and to see what the work area is like."
— Trevor McNeely



Jennifer Mellies, Senior
Jackson Heights

Do you know anything about the manufacturers today and what are you hoping to learn from them?
"I don't know any in particular. They look a little familiar. Really just to learn how they run their business, what they do in their business and the different parts of each one. I'm really looking for the ag business ones. That will go into my future."
— Jennifer Mellies

MANUFACTURING DAY

Local businesses share their hopes for fifth annual event

Horizon Systems



Harold Schmelzle

What do you hope the students get out of Manufacturing Day today?

"Just understanding that there are a lot of different opportunities within a company like ours. There's anything from engineering to accounting to shop floor to field service. There's just a lot of opportunities and it's not just a shop floor job. That is the message I would like to get across. It's not just a welding job or an assembly job. There are a lot of opportunities."

— Harold Schmelzle

Coperion



Josh Burger, Dalton Schmelzle and Ryan Stapleton

What do you hope the students get out of Manufacturing Day today?

"I would say that in manufacturing, there are just a lot of different opportunities. Depending on what you want to study, we've got stuff in accounting and finance, sales, engineering. When you're talking about more skilled trades, we've got welding, fabrication, painting, assembly. There is something for everybody in manufacturing. It's just figuring out what you want to do and applying it."

— Josh Burger

NorthWind Technical Services



Komari Aberle

What do you hope the students get out of Manufacturing Day today?

"Really, what Manufacturing Day is about is just getting the students exposed to careers in the manufacturing field. And that could be as a machinist, as an engineer, software development, project management, but there's also a lot of careers in just the support of manufacturing. So HR, which is my role, then accounting, marketing, just extra services, just all of those support roles. So there's a lot of different opportunities for them."

— Komari Aberle

CW Mill Equipment



Cullen Bergman

What do you hope the students get out of Manufacturing Day today?

"I expect and hope the students would be able to come away realizing the career opportunities that can be had locally in the manufacturing field...the variety of careers, there's not just machining and welding, there's other opportunities as well."

— Cullen Bergman

Triple C/HydraBed



Kerry Broxterman and Terra Ferris

What do you hope the students get out of Manufacturing Day today?

"I think there is so much opportunity for students to explore there secondary path, other than just a four-year college. This town has a lot to offer as far as manufacturing. It's just a different way of life. There's other options. To keep debt less when they are entering adulthood and still make a very honorable and respectful nice living."

— Terra Ferris

KSi



Todd Strahm

What do you hope the students get out of Manufacturing Day today?

"I hope it peaks their interest in everything that is local and just gives them the opportunity to think about a career that is close to home and supporting the community. They don't have to go a long ways away to find a lot of interesting stuff."

— Todd Strahm



FREE Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, November 26
Dine-In from Noon - 1:30 p.m.

The Main Event | 16 Main Street | Sabetha

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SHS TENNIS

Eleonora Cola, Lanie Menold go 2-2 at State

ERIN HERRMANN

On Friday, Oct. 16, and Saturday, Oct. 17, juniors Lanie Menold and Eleonora Cola competed for the Sabetha Bluejays as a doubles team at the KSHSAA Class 3-1A Girls' Tennis State Championship, located at the Kossover Tennis Center in Topeka. Twenty-two teams were present, and the top three schools placing were Ellsworth, first, 45 total points; Central Plains, second, 27 points; and Conway Springs, third, 26.

Menold and Cola went 2-2 at the double elimination tournament, but unfortunately did not place in the top 12 doubles teams.

The duo won their first match-up against Wabaunsee, 6-3 and 7-5, and were later matched up against Central Plains. Cola and Menold lost in that match, 5-7 and 2-6, which sent them to compete on the consolation side of the bracket.

On the other side of the bracket, the Lady Jays were paired up against Ellinwood and came away with another win, 8-0. Cola and Menold advanced and then played against Osborne. The duo received a loss to Osborne, 3-8, which unfortunately ended the Bluejays' tennis season for 2026.

Congratulations to Cola and Menold for being state qualifiers this year!



Juniors **Lanie Menold** and **Eleonora Cola** go 2-2 at the KSHSAA Class 3-1A Girls' Tennis State Championship on Friday, October 16, at the Kossover Tennis Center in Topeka. **Erin Herrmann | Herald**



Junior **Eleonora Cola** hits the ball back to her Wabaunsee opponents during the KSHSAA Class 3-1A Girls' Tennis State Championship on Friday, October 16, at the Kossover Tennis Center in Topeka. **Erin Herrmann | Herald**



Junior **Lanie Menold** lunges forward to hit the ball during the KSHSAA Class 3-1A Girls' Tennis State Championship on Friday, October 16, at the Kossover Tennis Center in Topeka. **Erin Herrmann | Herald**



Junior **Eleonora Cola** hits the ball underhand during the KSHSAA Class 3-1A Girls' Tennis State Championship on Friday, October 16, at the Kossover Tennis Center in Topeka. **Erin Herrmann | Herald**



Junior **Lanie Menold** keeps her eye on the ball during the KSHSAA Class 3-1A Girls' Tennis State Championship on Friday, October 16, at the Kossover Tennis Center in Topeka. **Erin Herrmann | Herald**



Junior **Eleonora Cola** jumps to serve the ball during the KSHSAA Class 3-1A Girls' Tennis State Championship on Friday, October 16, at the Kossover Tennis Center in Topeka. **Erin Herrmann | Herald**

SHS FOOTBALL

Sabetha trounces Royal Valley to take districts



The Sabetha Bluejay football team earns the District Title on Friday, October 16.

Sydney Shafer | Contributor

REED TOEDMAN

On Friday, Oct. 16, the Sabetha Bluejays took on the Royal Valley Panthers in a match-up in which the winner would claim the district title.

The opening coin toss was won by the Bluejays, who elected to defer their decision to the second half, giving the Panthers the first opportunity with the ball. On the Panthers' seventh play from scrimmage, senior Curtis Fitzgerald laid out a ferocious hit that jarred the ball out. Junior Collin Montgomery was able to fall on the ball, giving Sabetha's offense the ball on their own 32-yard line.

It didn't take long for Sabetha to make something happen, as senior Lincoln Menold took the hand-off and somehow wiggled out of what appeared to be a sure tackle, breaking through the defense for a 68-yard touchdown run. After a pre-snap penalty from Royal Valley, Sabetha elected to go for the two-point conversion, with a handoff to Menold pushing the score to 8-0 as he found the end zone.

Royal Valley's ensuing drive found themselves in no-man's-land as they had a fourth and 11 that they had to go for. As some pressure came in from senior Ian Deters, the quarterback was

forced to throw and his pass ended up falling incomplete. This gave the Bluejays the ball on their own 37-yard line.

The Bluejays took their time on their next drive, running the ball every single play. The longest play of the drive was a 14-yard rush as senior quarterback Micah Lang bounced outside and picked up a first down on a crucial third down. After getting down to the one-yard line, Lang took the snap and followed Deters right into the end zone. With the extra point, the score was 15-0.

Neither team got much offense going the rest of the half, as both teams had to punt just before half-

time arrived.

Sabetha's offense came out firing in the second half, as Lang quickly found sophomore Hudson Scoby for a 30-yard gain down the seam. That play eventually led the Bluejays to the one-yard line once more, with Lang taking the snap from under center and punching in another touchdown, pushing the score to 22-0.

The Bluejays' defense quickly got another stop, giving the ball back to their offense. Lang quickly took advantage of the Royal Valley defense, breaking away for a 25-yard touchdown run as the score moved to 29-0.

As the time in the game dwin-

dled away, Lang found himself faced with yet another goal-to-go situation. As he took the shotgun snap, he headed straight behind the offensive line, finding the back of the end zone one final time. Just before the game ended, Royal Valley was able to find the end zone as a run broke for about 30 yards, getting the Panthers on the board as the final score was 36-8.

The leaders for the Bluejays were Lang and Menold. Lang finished with 91 yards on the ground that included four touchdowns. Menold ended the game with 176 yards and a touchdown, with the touchdown coming off of a 68-yard rush. Menold also tallied

SHS Football

vs. Royal Valley, 10.16.2026

	TKL	SKS	INT	FUM RCY	# REC	REC YDS	# RU	RU YDS
G. Hall	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
C. Montgomery	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
H. Scoby	5	0	0	0	1	30	0	0
E. Stahl	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M. Lang	3	0	0	0	0	0	18	91
I. Tramp	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
C. Scott	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
J. Frazee	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
D. Garber	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
E. Kroll	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
J. Jacobs	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
G. Wedel	3	0	0	0	1	2	0	0
C. Mitchell	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
T. Detweiler	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
N. Menold	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	5
L. Menold	9	0	0	0	0	0	17	176
C. Fitzgerald	7	0	0	0	0	0	4	26
H. Edelman	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
J. Meyer	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
I. Deters	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M. Strahm	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
R. Smith	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B. Hinton	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
C. Wittwer	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
K. Wertenberger	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

PASSING STATS			
COMP - ATT	YDS	TD	INT
2-6	32	0	0
TEAM TOTALS			
SHS		RV	
FIRST DOWNS	15	13	
3RD DOWN CONV.	9-11	5-11	
4TH DOWN CONV.	0-1	1-2	
# OF RUSHES	43	45	
RUSHING YARDS	303	220	
AVG. RUSHING YARDS	7.0	4.8	
PASSING YARDS	32	15	
# COMPLETIONS	2	2	
# PASSES	6	4	
# INTERCEPTIONS	0	0	
AVG. PUNTING YARDS	0	0	
FUMBLE/LOST	0	1	
PENALTIES/LOST YARDS	3-14	5-35	
TOTAL OFFENSE	335	235	



SHS VOLLEYBALL

Lady Jays take on Nemaha Central, Perry-Leocompton

REED TOEDMAN

Sabetha hit the road on Tuesday, Oct. 13, to take on Big East competitors, the Nemaha Central Thunder and the Perry-Leocompton Kaws in their final regular-season matches. The Sabetha Lady Jays kicked off their night with a match against the Thunder and finished the night with a match against the Kaws.

NEMAHA CENTRAL

As the first set opened, the Thunder took an early lead of 8-5. Nemaha Central eventually led, 15-12, as the Lady Jays refused to give up. Unfortunately, Nemaha Central took firm control of the set over the last 10 points, winning the first set 25-17.

As the second set started, Sabetha came out quickly, and took an early lead as they looked to force the match to a third set. The Lady Jays held the lead for a lengthy part of the set, but as the set neared its close, the Thunder stormed back and shrank the lead down, which set up a tense finish

to the set. Despite the Lady Jays' best efforts, Nemaha Central was able to pull out the victory by a second set score of 25-23.

Key players were seniors Macey Drahota and Sidney Schubarth. Drahota finished with six kills, while Schubarth finished with seven kills of her own.

PERRY-LECOMPTON

Coming off of the loss to Nemaha Central, the Lady Jays looked to split their night with a win over the Perry-Leocompton Kaws. Sabetha started out perfectly if they wanted to get a win on the night, as senior Sophia Haverkamp started out the match with an ace. However, the strong start was short-lived as the Kaws took a 9-5 lead over the Lady Jays. As the first set reached its end, Sabetha found themselves back in the match as they had reduced the deficit to 17-18.

Eventually, the two teams found themselves knotted up at 24-24, meaning there would need to be a 26th point in order to take the set. It proved that a team needed 27 points, as the Kaws were able

to pull away, taking the first set by an extremely narrow, 27-25 score.

After a riveting first set, the Lady Jays looked to bounce back in the second set to preserve the match. Sabetha opened the second set with back-to-back points, but eventually found themselves even with Perry-Leocompton by a score of 7-7. The Kaws caught fire soon after, scoring four of the next five points to make the score 12-8 in favor of Perry-Leocompton.

As the match seemed lost, the Lady Jays attempted to fight their way back from a 20-10 deficit, scoring the next three points, but the Kaws quickly responded with two of their own. Sabetha still fought back to make it 17-22, but eventually fell to the Kaws, as the final score was 25-17.

Players that led the Lady Jays were Drahota and junior Haidyn Jackman. Drahota finished with eight kills and a block, while Jackman ended the match with seven digs along with a kill.

The Lady Jays' next matches were at Regional competition, which took place on Monday, Oct. 19, at Maranatha Christian

Academy in Shawnee. These results were not available at The Herald's press time.

SHS Volleyball

vs. Perry-Leocompton, 10.13.2026

	GD	HIT	KILL	ASSIST	GD	SRV	DIG	SRV	RECV	S	BLK	AST	BLK
Sophia Haverkamp	1	0	19	7	2	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Emerson Strahm	0	0	0	5	1	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sidney Schubarth	16	5	0	10	0	3	14	0	0	0	0	0	0
Haidyn Jackman	4	1	0	8	1	7	16	1	0	0	0	0	0
Paxton Michael	0	0	0	7	0	5	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
Macey Drahota	14	8	0	4	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Tanith Montgomery	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Raelynn Lanter	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lydia Bradbury	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	47	20	19	41	4	28	43	3	0	0	0	0	0

SHS Volleyball

vs. Nemaha Central, 10.13.2026

	GD	HIT	KILL	ASSIST	GD	SRV	DIG	SRV	RECV	S	BLK	AST	BLK
Sophia Haverkamp	1	0	18	9	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paxton Michael	0	0	1	5	0	6	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sidney Schubarth	19	7	0	8	0	9	13	0	0	0	0	0	0
Haidyn Jackman	3	2	0	6	0	7	14	0	0	0	0	0	0
Raelynn Lanter	9	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Emerson Strahm	0	0	0	6	0	5	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
Macey Drahota	10	6	0	5	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tanith Montgomery	12	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	54	21	19	39	1	33	48	1	0	0	0	0	0

SMS FOOTBALL

Junior Jays take win against Perry-Leocompton



Eighth graders **Huck Lowdermilk** and **Garrett Shewey** combine for this tackle during the Sabetha Middle School combined game against Perry-Leocompton on Thursday, October 15, in Sabetha.
Sydney Shafer | Contributor



The right half of the kickoff team — comprised of (L-R) eighth graders **Daxtyn Wasinger**, **Kendon Kaeb**, **Malachi Maas** and **Sam Renyer**, and seventh grader **Beckett Lang** — wait for eighth grader **Abel Rudin** to kick off during the Sabetha Middle School combined game against Perry-Leocompton on Thursday, October 15, in Sabetha.
Sydney Shafer | Contributor



Eighth grader **Tyler Herrmann** cuts off of the blocks — eighth graders **Landry Strahm** and **Kasyn Winkler** — during the Sabetha Middle School combined game against Perry-Leocompton on Thursday, October 15, in Sabetha.
Sydney Shafer | Contributor



Seventh grader **Henry Enneking** evades these defenders during the Sabetha Middle School combined game against Perry-Leocompton on Thursday, October 15, in Sabetha.
Sydney Shafer | Contributor



Eighth grader **Abel Rudin** heads downfield during the Sabetha Middle School combined game against Perry-Leocompton on Thursday, October 15, in Sabetha.
Sydney Shafer | Contributor



Eighth grader **Henry Keim** hands the ball off to eighth grader **Huck Lowdermilk** during the Sabetha Middle School combined game against Perry-Leocompton on Thursday, October 15, in Sabetha.
Sydney Shafer | Contributor

To see more photos of Sabetha Middle School football, visit SabethaHerald.com.

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1

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CONTACT US DURING OUR OFFICE HOURS

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Fax 785-284-2320

WEEKDAYS: 8 am to 3 pm

SABETHA YOUTH BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

SYBA to offer fall basketball skills sessions

Submitted
The Sabetha Youth Basketball Association will offer fall basketball skills sessions from 5 to 7 p.m. on Nov. 1, 8, 15 and 22. The sessions are open to boys in first through eighth grades

and girls in first through sixth grades. Gym assignments will be announced during the last week of October.

For questions, contact Jenna Swinger at 785-285-8051 or jennaswinger@gmail.com.

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The Sabetha Herald's
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OF THE WEEK

Layton Rettele

CROSS COUNTRY
SABETHA HIGH SCHOOL

Freshman Layton Rettele has been a consistent top performer for the Bluejays, leading the boys team in five of six meets during his first cross country season. On Thursday, October 15, Rettele capped off another strong performance earning Big East All-League honors with an 11th-place finish in Seneca, clocking a time of 18 minutes, 39.2 seconds.

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SHS CROSS COUNTRY

Four harriers earn league medals

JULIE SHAFER

The Sabetha Bluejays traveled to Seneca for the Big East League cross country meet hosted by Nemaha Central on Thursday, Oct. 15. Under cloudy skies, brisk winds and temperatures in the mid-50s, the runners faced much cooler conditions than the team's last meet in Sabetha where the temperatures were in the upper 80s.

"Our runners performed at the best level during the league meet," said Head Cox Trenton Cox. "We had several personal and seasonal best times this week and showed we are peaking at the right time in the season. We look forward to a new course in Norton, Kan., for regionals and are looking for more PRs this week."

GIRLS

Three Lady Jays earned Big East All-League honors — freshman Myra Stoller with a 14th-place finish, followed by sophomore Lucy Metzger, who placed 17th with a season best, and junior Sophie Leman finishing in 20th place, just making the cut to earn All-League recognition and also running a personal best.

Senior Trinity Meyer placed 30th with a season best run, freshman Ava Coughlin finished 51st, sophomore Sofia Gutknecht placed 55th and a season best with sophomore Zoë Coughlin right behind her in 56th.

SHS Girls' Cross Country

Big East League, 10.15.2026

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS			
RUNNER	PLACE	TIME	
Myra Stoller	14	22:36.4	
Lucy Metzger	17	22:39.3	
Sophie Leman	20	23:11.1	
Trinity Meyer	30	23:46.2	
Ava Coughlin	51	26:56.5	
Sofia Gutknecht	55	29:04.7	
Zoë Coughlin	56	30:24.8	

TEAM RESULTS			
TEAM	SCORE	TOTAL TIME	AVG TIME
Hiawatha	53	1:50:34.3	22:06.9
Riley County	64	1:51:46.5	22:21.3
Nemaha Central	77	1:53:01.5	22:36.3
Silver Lake	110	1:59:24.1	23:52.9
Royal Valley	115	1:59:06.2	23:49.3
Sabetha	121	1:59:09.4	23:49.9
Holton	137	2:00:09.5	24:01.9
Perry-Leocompton	211	9:12:17.5	26:27.5

SHS JV Cross Country

Big East League, 10.15.2026

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS			
RUNNER	PLACE	TIME	
Mary Wagner	18	33:41.6	
Grant Stapleton	9	21:46.1	
Jayce Rebant	10	22:01.6	
Kaeb Coughlin	13	22:16.0	
Caleb Heiniger	22	23:54.2	
Eli Rebant	40	27:37.3	

The Sabetha girls finished sixth in the team standings out of eight teams participating. Hiawatha won the team title, followed by Riley County, Nemaha Central, Silver Lake, Royal Valley, Holton and Perry-Leocompton.

The girls advancing to regionals are Stoller, Metzger, Leman, Meyer, A. Coughlin, Gutknecht and Z. Coughlin. Senior Mary Wagner will serve as an alternate. Manager is sophomore Larae Roke and sophomore harrier Bryn Sinning will assist the team due to injury.

BOYS

Freshman Layton Rettele was the lone boy earning a Big East All-League medal at the meet, placing 11th. Sophomore Kurt Baumgartner placed 22nd with a personal best, just missing a medal by two placings. Senior Xavier Deters placed 30th with a season best run, freshman Silas Aberle placed 40th with a personal best and senior James Sallman placed 42nd with a season best, freshman Alden Deters placed 52nd, and senior Isaac Schmid closed out his season in 58th with a season best.

The boys' team placed fifth overall, out of 10 teams qualifying. Riley County took first place, followed by Nemaha Central, Royal Valley, Silver Lake, Holton, Rossvalley, Hiawatha, Jefferson West and Perry-Leocompton.

The boys advancing to regionals are Rettele, Baumgartner, X. Deters, Sallman, Aberle, A. Deters and Grant Stapleton. Alternates are Schmid, senior Jayce Rebant and junior Kaeb Coughlin.

The Bluejays will travel to Norton on Saturday, Oct. 24, for regional competition.

Good luck, Bluejays!

SHS Boys' Cross Country

Big East League, 10.15.2026

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS			
RUNNER	PLACE	TIME	
Layton Rettele	11	18:39.2	
Kurt Baumgartner	22	19:23.1	
Xavier Deters	30	19:41.2	
Silas Aberle	40	20:13.8	
James Sallman	42	20:22.3	
Alden Deters	52	21:04.9	
Isaac Schmid	58	21:58.1	

TEAM RESULTS			
PLACE	SCORE	TOTAL TIME	AVG TIME
Riley County	33	1:28:45.4	17:45.1
Nemaha Central	38	1:29:58.5	17:59.7
Royal Valley	105	1:36:30.3	19:18.1
Silver Lake	136	1:38:16.7	19:39.4
Sabetha	141	1:38:19.3	19:39.9
Holton	168	1:39:54.8	19:39.9
Rossville	198	1:42:26.5	20:29.3
Hiawatha	203	1:43:47.8	20:45.6
Jefferson West	226	1:45:15.0	21:03.0
Perry-Leocompton	233	1:44:42.4	20:56.5

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BLUEJAYS



GOOD LUCK, JAYS!



Members of the 2026 Sabetha High School cross country team are FRONT ROW (L-R) Isaac Schmid, Jayce Rebant, Mary Wagner, Trinity Meyer, James Sallman and Xavier Deters; MIDDLE ROW (L-R) Kurt Baumgartner, Caleb Heiniger, Sofia Gutknecht, Bryn Sinning, Kaeb Coughlin, Sophie Leman, Lucy Metzger, Zoë Coughlin and Grant Stapleton; BACK ROW (L-R) Alden Deters, Layton Rettele, Eli Rebant, Silas Aberle, Myra Stoller and Ava Coughlin.
Heather Stewart | Herald

REGIONAL CROSS COUNTRY

Saturday, October 24

Host: Norton Community High School

Norton-Prairie Dog Golf Course

Boys’ race at 10:30 a.m. | Girls’ race at 11:05 a.m.

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HONOR ROLL

SABETHA MIDDLE SCHOOL

The following students were named to the honor roll for the first quarter of the 2026-27 academic year.

Superintendent Honor Roll (4.0 GPA)

Eighth Grade: Keston Davis, Lily Hann, Lydia Hartter, Emma Heiman, Brooklyn Johnson, Emery Kellenberger, Lillian Kramer, Autumn Lang, Malachi Maas, Lillie Otto, Faith Renyer, Abel Rudin, Clara Swinger, Mackinley Votruba and Frankie Yoder;
Seventh Grade: Deacon Boldra, Karli Deters, Henry Enneking, Reagan Hertz, Brystel Jensen, Elena Keim, Beckett Lang, Caden Leman, Kolbra McClain, Emery Mooney, Raelie Niehues, Alexis Ploeger, Colby Renyer, Mckenzie Romines, Owen Scoby, Landry Smith and Ellsy Swinger;
Sixth Grade: Sloane Davis, Addyson Edelman, Charli Enneking, Drew Fahey, Madelyn Glick, Alton Hartter, Will Hartter, Jackson Heiniger, Lettie Kaeb, Fenton Keim, Claire Leman, Carson Lierz, Lanae Metzger, Charlee Ploeger, Cash Rebant, Morgan Rebant, Charlotte Schmid, Melanie Schremmer, Henley Strahm, Charlotte Suther and Max Wedel.

Bluejay Honor Roll (3.5-3.9 GPA)

Eighth Grade: Kendyl Bunc, Jaden Clock, Tyler Herrmann, Kendon Kaeb, William Menold, Bianca Ojendis, Elsie Ploeger, Owen Rebant, Sam Renyer, Garrett Shewey, Hadden Strahm, Daxtyn Wasinger and Emma Wikle;
Seventh Grade: Brynnon Burks, Liam Carlson, Aahleiya Cooper, Liliana Curl, JJ Glace, Gabriel Hurts, Harper Jackman, Kayla Johnson, Annie Menold, Gunner Meyer, Kaedyn Meyer, Elliott Richardson, Benjamin Schultejans, Chandler Schroeder, Sofie Sperline and Eleanor Weldin;
Sixth Grade: Vanessa Bailey, Delaney Boldra, Jounrie Bowers, Klaira Dempewolf, Alyssia Donahou, Eve Georg, Solomon Gutknecht, Kellen Heiman, Hannah Kroll, Wesley Madden, Liliana Mann, Gio Martin, Ellie Otto, Olivia Ross, Harmony Rudin, Avery Schmitz, Graclynn Tangeman, Oliver Thomason, Adaysi Torres, Serenity Ward and Maddox Wilson.

Scholastic Honor Roll (3.0-3.49 GPA)

Eighth Grade: Stratton Boldra, Aliyah Dalinghaus, Dean Farwell, Claire Kaeb, Henry Keim, Cali Koch, Zachary Loper, Braden Meyer, Landry Strahm, Sophia Tyler and Kasyn Winkler;
Seventh Grade: Harper Dettwyler, Abram Schuette and Isabella Tangeman;
Sixth Grade: Nevaeh Chavez, Ava Clements, Ruger Clements, Joslyn Fitzgerald, Benit McClain, Grant Rettele, Charlie Shaw, Adalyn Sunnenberg, Sunshine Thompson and Gib Yoder.

GOVERNING BODY

Prairie Hills USD No. 113 Board of Education

HEATHER STEWART

The Prairie Hills USD No. 113 Board of Education (BOE) met at 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 12, at Axtell Public School. Board members present were Leslie Scoby, Kathy Lippert, Jim Scoby, Ann Shaughnessy, Tim Aberle, Todd Grimes and Stan Keim via phone. Also present was Superintendent Rob McKim, Board Clerk Kaitlin Shafer, Director of Learning and Teaching Curtis Hamilton, and Building Administrators Nate Bauman, Andrew Lillie and Whitney McGinnis. Three guests were present. Not present was Sabetha Middle School Principal Matt Garber.

The board adopted the agenda as presented.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, Rhonda Hasenkamp of Axtell thanked the board for allowing Axtell schools to co-op with Sabetha for softball. Rhonda Hasenkamp said her daughter — Regan Hasenkamp — has been enjoying playing with the team for the past two years.

Regan Hasenkamp, Axtell Student Council President, gave the board an update on their projects that they have been working on this year, such as Eagle Pals, Homecoming and more. Regan Hasenkamp also thanked the board for allowing Axtell to co-op with Sabetha softball.

Administrative Reports

The board received written reports from building administrators Nathan Bauman, Andrew Lillie, Matt Garber and Whitney McGinnis, as well as Director of Learning and Teaching Curtis Hamilton.

Axtell Public School: McGinnis' written report highlighted a donation made by the Eagle Booster Club; Manhattan Technical College brings its Career Lab to Axtell; the K-2 field trip to Rokeyroad Creamery and Sycamore Springs; Eagles Pals kicking off on Sept. 30; the new security cameras; and upcoming events.

Sabetha High School: Bauman's written report highlighted a look into six different classrooms, including Mr. McCoy (Science and Woods), Mrs. Smith (Art), Mr. Edelman (Fin. Literacy & FACS), Mrs. Stallbaumer (Math), Mr. Ackley (English) and Mrs. Evans (School Counseling); seniors participating in Apply Kansas activities; juniors taking the Work-Keys exam; freshmen taking the PreACT exam; sophomores participated in various community service activities; three foreign exchange students who are attending SHS; sports accomplishments; assessment scores; and upcoming events.

Sabetha Middle School: Garber's written report highlighted Grandparents Day with approximately 247 adults attending during the three-day event; sports teams are wrapping up their fall seasons; Red Ribbon Week; United 4 Youth tailgate party; parent teacher conferences; the SMS Auditorium Sound System; and the SMS Facebook Page.

Sabetha Elementary School: Lillie's written report highlighted FastBridge screening has finished; Fire Safety Day; parent-teacher conferences; the character trait of the month for September was "respect;" and upcoming events.

Director of Teaching and Learning: Hamilton's written report highlighted that they had completed their second share out on High-Impact Instructional Prac-

tices in the classroom; building administrator walkthroughs; the MTSS Conference in Wichita; the completion of the SAEBRS and mySAEBRS assessments; completing the Local Consolidated Programs application; Title funding; professional development day; and the new state reporting system, KEDS, which also links for PowerSchool.

FastBridge Screeners

Hamilton gave a report to the board on the fall FastBridge Screener and told the board they were working "diligently" on the at-risk plan that is due in October.

Hamilton said the FastBridge screeners are looking for "basic foundational learning" and as the students progress through school they should begin to see more of that foundational knowledge.

Hamilton explained that pre-kindergarten through first grade take the earlyReading screener, while second through 12th grade take the aReading screener. Hamilton said that in both earlyReading and aReading, they want to see low-risk scores around 80 percent. Currently, the fall screener is showing 62 percent in low-risk for earlyReading and 65 percent (college pathway and low-risk) for aReading. Hamilton said these lower scores are more than likely due to "summer slide."

Hamilton said that as students get older, those foundational skills are there and that is why the baseline will begin to shift.

Then, Hamilton discussed the math screening results, which they still want to be scoring at 80 percent low-risk. In earlyMath (pre-kindergarten through first grade), 82 percent of students scored in the low-risk category. In aMath (second through 12th grade) 74 percent scored in the low-risk/college pathway categories.

Hamilton said that in order to support students in their education, teachers use: sub-tests and screeners that allow the staff to breakdown necessary foundational skills; whole class instructional needs; tiered interventions; progress monitoring; and testing three times per year.

Aberle asked if these screeners were in addition to the state assessments, which Hamilton said they were and that state assessments are only given once per year.

Lippert questioned how these screening results are communicated to parents.

"Every building does it a little differently," Hamilton said. "Communication is a little different, but everybody communicates in one way or the other. Like Sabetha Elementary, for instance, they send out letters saying exactly what tier and what intervention they're going to be working on. Then, the second part of that comes more during parent-teacher conferences."

Hamilton said the screening results are shared with the state.

"This is also the beginning year of our at-risk accountability plan, where we have to show the state what how we are spending our at-risk money to help at-risk students in our district, which was really set up by our screening and interventions, because that really is where we spend a lot of our at-risk money and time on helping our at-risk kids," Hamilton said.

Hamilton said there are 12 different factors that determine if a student is considered "at-risk."

"If a student meets any of these, they are considered at-risk in Kansas," Hamilton said.

Those factors are as follows:

- is not working on academic grade level;
- is not meeting the requirements necessary for promotion to the next grade or is failing subjects or courses of study;
- is not meeting the requirements necessary for graduation from high school or has the potential to drop out of school;
- has insufficient mastery of skills or is not meeting state standards;
- has been retained;
- has a high rate of absenteeism;
- has repeated suspensions or expulsions from school;
- is homeless or migrant;
- is identified as an English language learner;
- has social-emotional needs that cause the student to be unsuccessful in school;
- is identified as a student with dyslexia or characteristics of dyslexia;
- is a foster care student or otherwise in the custody of the secretary for children and families.

"So our largest indicator is this right here [not working at academic grade level]," Hamilton said. "As we screen, we notice that a kid is off the grade level and on the FastBridge screener, and we mark that in what we give the state in our data, and it shows that student is being at risk."

Hamilton said the district is usually around 30 students who are considered "at-risk." He also confirmed when asked by Grimes, that those students who are considered "at-risk" are identified by student number in the report given to the state.

Then, Hamilton went over the district's at-risk accountability plan — new this year — which contains two cohorts — first and fourth grade. The district also selected math as the subject they would be analyzing. The district's goal is to increase level threes and fours.

These two grades will be followed for four years each to evaluate if the district is trying to help those students who are identified as "at-risk." The identified cohorts will be initially tested on year one. During years one through three, the district will work with the at-risk students to increase scores. Then, according to Hamilton, in year four, the students will be tested again and if scores haven't improved they will have another year to try and increase those scores.

Hamilton emphasized that knowing where students are academically is where state assessments and FastBridge screeners come into play.

Aberle asked how the schools are incentivizing the students to do their best on these tests, since tests and screeners are given so frequently — one state assessment per year and three FastBridge screeners per year — and students tend to get bored with multiple tests that are outside of the normal curriculum.

Hamilton said it is different at every building, but they do have certain things to encourage students to do their best on the assessments.

Superintendent's Report

Enrollment: McKim went over the unaudited enrollment information — headcount and full-time equivalency (FTE) — with the board. McKim said for headcount the district is down about 10 students, but FTE was down 16.3 students. FTE represents whether a student is full-time or part-time based on standard scheduled hours. Other factors that feed into FTE funding are transportation, free and reduced lunch, low enrollment weightings, CTE (career and tech ed pathway classes, etc.).

See a full story on Prairie Hills USD No. 113 enrollment data on the front page of the Wednesday, Oct. 14, issue of The Sabetha Herald.

Technology Committee: McKim said that the technology committee met again, along with him and three board members. McKim said that all teachers entered their information into a spreadsheet and sorted it out into a multi-page report. McKim said they are reviewing that report and working through it and hoping to bring it back to the board in November. McKim said they hope to have more information back from the State Board of Education by then as well.

McKim said he also wanted the committee to think about and discuss the use of AI (artificial intelligence) and identify what they believe the district's students should know about AI.

"The State Board of Education is going to provide some guidance for us, but we still might be a little different than Hiawatha or Seneca

or Topeka, and we want to make it so that Axtell and Sabetha have the AI box that most benefits our kids," McKim said.

Preliminary Superintendent Evaluation Information: McKim said it was time for an evaluation for him again. He encouraged the board to change up the goals a "little bit." L. Scoby said McKim's evaluation had to be completed in November and April. She asked the board to take the evaluation with them and do it on their own. Then, the board will get together and compile the notes to give to McKim.

Also at the meeting:

The board approved the consent agenda as presented, including the following: minutes from the September special board meetings RNR Hearing, September special board meeting, Budget Hearing, and September regular meeting; Financial Reports from APS, SHS, SMS, SES and USD No. 113; September bills for the amount of \$920,267.46; September payroll for the amount of \$636,027.96; donations from Lukert Chiropractic & Wellness in the amount of \$900 for SHS Athletics, from Lukert Chiropractic & Wellness in the amount of \$600 for SMS Athletics, from the Brad and Pam Wenger Family in the amount of \$300 for SHS Football, from Saylor Insurance, Saylor Farm and Land Holdings, World Giving Foundation in the amount of \$11,458.79 for the SMS scoreboard replacement, and from the Eagle Booster Club in the amount of \$213 for APS; resignations of Daniel Sines as APS Custodian and Carol Hothaus as APS Kitchen Staff; contracts with Corey Meyer as SMS Assistant Boys' Wrestling; Facility Use Form for Sabetha Youth Tackle Football at SHS; a field trip on Oct. 20 for Axtell third, fourth and fifth grade to Atchison, Kan.; the purchase of a replacement receiver for an Ashly Protea Digital Matrix System Processor and installation at SMS for \$6,295 from Sound Products by TSI Global; and replacing the SHS south gym bleacher rollers by Lee French bleacher repair at a cost of \$17,600.

McKim told the board that Marysville has formally applied to become a member of the Big East League. McKim said if approved by Big East member schools, the change would take place beginning with the 2028-29 season. McKim said he didn't need approval by the board, but the board said they were in favor of Marysville joining the league.

The board unanimously approved cooperative agreements for Axtell and Sabetha for high school softball and baseball for 2026-27, as well as Axtell and Onaga Middle School football for 2027-28.

During the board business portion of the meeting, the board thanked Rhonda Hasenkamp for coming in and speaking to them. The board also thanked those who had donated to the schools in the past month.

Aberle said that one positive thing he saw in the district was the sophomore class service project, which was cleaning up outside at the schools, nursing homes and city parks.

L. Scoby commented on the Sabetha senior class working on their professional materials, such as employment materials or information for college, etc.

Lippert said she thought the SES fourth grade chicken program was a good program.

Lastly, L. Scoby said the SES Watchdog Program was a great thing, despite it not kicking off quite yet.

Board members went into a 10-minute executive session using the exception related to action impacting or affecting a student under KOMA (Kansas Open Meetings Act) for 10 minutes. Present for the executive session were the board members and McKim. No action was taken following the executive session.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 9, at the district office in Sabetha.

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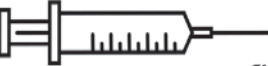
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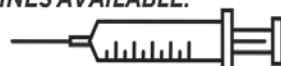
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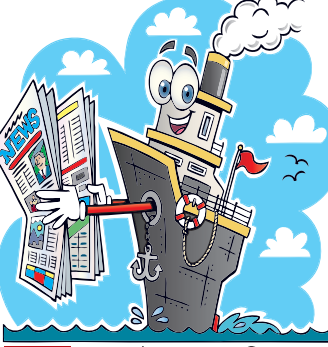
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NEW LISTING!

1418 State Hwy 71, Bern, KS

\$460,000



Discover the charm and practicality of this spacious 2-bed, 2-bath earth-contact home. Offering a unique design, low-maintenance living, and the tranquility of the countryside, this property is an excellent opportunity for anyone looking for a comfortable home. 3+ acres, a detached shop, and a spacious layout.

GREAT NEW PRICE!

1468 St. Hwy 71, Bern

\$345,000



Enjoy the peace and charm of rural living. This well-maintained 3-bedroom, 1.5-bathroom home sits on approximately 3 acres, offering the perfect blend of farm-house character and modern updates. Open skies each evening with breathtaking views. Multiple outbuildings. New kitchen appliances, as well as washer and dryer, are included. New HVAC (2025), sewer line (2026), and remodeled bathroom shower/tub.

NEW PRICE!

112 N. 13th Street, Sabetha

\$165,000



Welcome home to this spacious 4-bedroom, 2 full-bath property located in a peaceful neighborhood just a couple of blocks from downtown. This well-maintained home offers plenty of room for family, guests, or a home office setup. Recent updates include new windows and low-maintenance vinyl siding, providing improved energy efficiency and curb appeal. Inside, you'll find the convenience of all appliances being included, making your move even easier.

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If you have a photo, we would love to use it!

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ACTIVE LISTINGS

524 S 11th St, Sabetha

3 Bedroom, 1.5 Bath, Hardwood Floors, Appliances Included, in Sabetha



1430 Timberlane, Sabetha

Spacious, 5 bed, 3 bath Colonial-style home in Sabetha

NEW PRICE!



114 N 11th Street, Sabetha

Multi-Use 6,650 SF Brick Commercial Space - Downtown Sabetha

123 N Washington, Sabetha

Two-story commercial property, corner lot a half block north of Main St., rare combination of office and shop and/or warehouse space.

1305 S US Old Hwy 75, Sabetha

Car wash - includes four bays, two vacuum stations, a change machine and vending machines. Seller willing to mentor a buyer to continue operation. PRICE REDUCED!

Highway 75 Frontage Lots

Two commercial lots, per lot price starting at \$22,500, near All Star.

Prairie View Heights Subdivision Lots

Available on south Third Street, Sabetha

717 Dakota St, Sabetha

Spacious two-story with 4 bedrooms and detached garage



343 E 11th St, Horton

Renovated Ranch - 2 Bed, 1 Bath w/ Detached Garage

PRICE REDUCED!



126 Main St, Sabetha - accepting backup offers

307 Main St, Sabetha

SOLD

1430 Oregon St, Sabetha

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WEEKLY RECIPE



Oh Deer This Chili Is Good

from the kitchen of Watson Yoder,
the winner of the Parkview Neighborhood
Chili Cook-Off

INGREDIENTS

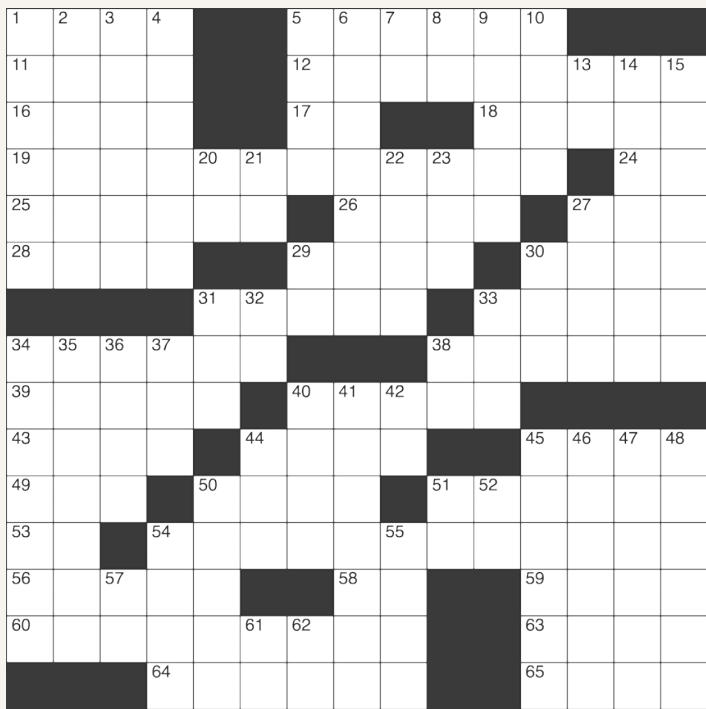
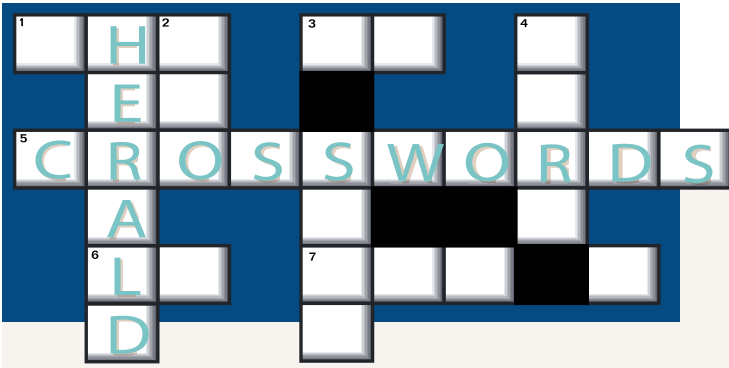
- 1/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons vegetable oil, divided
- 1-2 pounds ground venison
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 3 large poblano chiles, stemmed and diced
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 6 cloves garlic, thinly sliced
- 2 tablespoons regular or ancho chile powder, or to taste
- 1-1/2 tablespoons ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 3 (14.5-ounce) cans whole tomatoes, preferably in tomato puree
- 1-3 tablespoons minced chipotle chiles in adobo
- 2 (15-ounce) cans kidney beans or pinto beans, rinsed and drained
- 3 cups Blonde Game Stock or chicken broth

INSTRUCTIONS

Brown the venison. Heat a large Dutch oven or other wide, heavy saucepan over medium-high heat. Add 2 tablespoons of the oil. Sprinkle the venison generously with salt and pepper. Working in batches, crumble the venison into the pot in large chunks and sear until browned, six to eight minutes per batch, transferring each batch to a large bowl as it is done and adding more oil as needed. Cook the vegetables. Reduce the heat to medium. Add the remaining 2 tablespoons oil, the poblanos and the onion, scraping up the browned bits at the bottom of the pot. Raise the heat to medium-high and cook, stirring often, until softened, eight to 10 minutes.

Add the seasonings. Stir in the garlic, ancho chile powder, cumin, and oregano and cook, stirring constantly for one minute. Simmer the chili. Add the tomatoes, crushing them with your hands or mashing them with a potato masher. Add the chipotles, half of the beans, the stock and the venison with any juices that have accumulated in the bowl. Stir to combine, then bring to a simmer. Cook, partially covered, stirring occasionally, until the venison is tender, about two hours. Finish and season. Add the remaining beans and warm through. Taste and adjust the seasonings.

Serve. Serve the chili with corn chips or cornbread, cheese, sour cream, onions or scallions, and chiles. Also works with: this recipe is flexible – use any ground meat. Serves eight.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Nocturnal rodent
- 5. Requesting
- 11. Give temporarily
- 12. Frivolousness
- 16. Military arm
- 17. "Westworld" actor Harris
- 18. Persian Gulf port city
- 19. Air hostesses
- 24. Partner to "Pa"
- 25. Percussion instrument
- 26. Raincoats
- 27. Lower the light
- 28. Asian mountain range
- 29. Every one of two or more
- 30. Lack of difficulty
- 31. A public announcement of a proposed marriage
- 33. Reduces in size
- 34. Make an impact
- 38. Serviceman
- 39. A French river
- 40. Prehistoric people
- 43. Messenger ribonucleic acid
- 44. "Layla" singer Clapton
- 45. Ancient Greek sophist
- 49. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
- 50. "Top Gun: Maverick" actor Powell
- 51. A way to disentangle
- 53. Atomic #93
- 54. Manifesting approval
- 56. Indigo bush
- 58. Larry and Curly's pal
- 59. Off-Broadway theater award
- 60. Fencers
- 63. Masses of fish eggs
- 64. Passerine birds
- 65. Arrange systematically

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Colorless part of blood
- 2. Of a main artery
- 3. Photog's tool
- 4. Blues Traveler hit "But ___"
- 5. Grew older
- 6. Not the leader
- 7. ___ Lang: country singer
- 8. A driver's license is one
- 9. Nests of pheasants
- 10. Antelopes
- 13. One quintillion bytes
- 14. Japanese lute
- 15. A type of cat
- 20. It cools your home
- 21. Dorm official
- 22. Pouches
- 23. German trigraph
- 27. Form of Persian
- 29. ___ route
- 30. Upper body part
- 31. Bridge building degree
- 32. Indicates position
- 33. Political action committee
- 34. Edible nuts
- 35. Front part of a quadruped
- 36. Locate
- 37. Geological time
- 38. Of I
- 40. Northern Utah city
- 41. They work in the trenches
- 42. Hammer is one
- 44. Tall deciduous tree
- 45. Performers
- 46. Slang for mistake
- 47. More open
- 48. Most slick
- 50. Provokes
- 51. Home of the NCAA's Flyers
- 52. Sodium
- 54. Large fish of the mackerel family
- 55. Not one
- 57. ___ and behold
- 61. Atomic #21
- 62. "The Great Lakes State"

Sudoku

Fun By The Numbers
Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the number will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle.

	2		7	8			1	
	9	1			5			
6		8	2		1			
1			8		9	5		
5	7	9		3	6	1		8
3		2		5	7			9
			5		2			4
			3	1	8			2
							7	

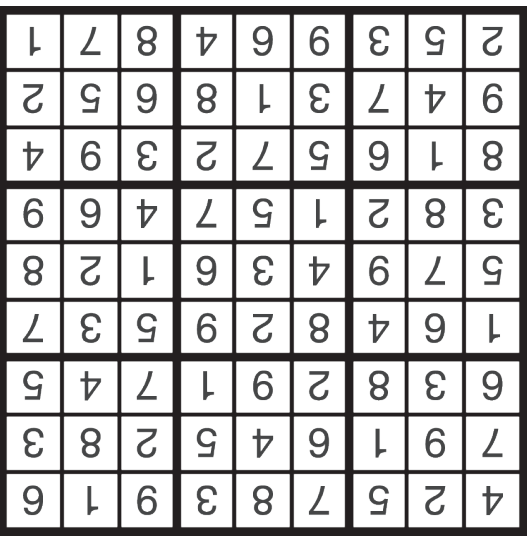
Level: Beginner

SMALL BUSINESS WORD SEARCH

R Y T I U Q E H Y T I L I B A L A C S G
L M B V A H G I E U N E V E R P S P Y I
L N E O B U B S W N O E L N I C H E E F
O C S P O S U Y R O T N E V N I S C C P
R B F L I T G R P L N R Q O S F P H N G
Y D V E P V S C N U E N B C R R Y V A F
A N P A M O O T O N L N I N L L T B I H
P B I W C Y O T R E E H N L R H I R L C
Q D H V P Q U V D A P U O U T S L L P A
N Y S W G U O P A P Y C S F Q I M M P
O C R B F G M I R E P P C F Q R B A O T
F N O F R C L G S F S I I U S I A R C I
U W T Q P A O D Y I T I S N L P I G I A
B O E C C M N U W S T G H P G R L I R L
D L I A E Q F D I R R I O C O P O N Y V
G F R D Q F N G O W P E O H N M E A D B
C H P T L E O D N Q D U D N C A D C B P
H S O N S L N B N T Y F L G D H R S F L
D A R A Q E N O I T N E T E R W T F H U
S C P O V E C G S V D A E H R E V O U Y

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

- ACQUISITION
- BOOTSTRAPPING
- BRAND
- CAPITAL
- CASHFLOW
- COMPLIANCE
- DEMOGRAPHICS
- EQUITY
- FRANCHISE
- FUNNEL
- INVENTORY
- LIABILITY
- LOGISTICS
- MARGIN
- MODEL
- NICHE
- OVERHEAD
- PAYROLL
- PIVOT
- PROPRIETORSHIP
- RETENTION
- REVENUE
- SCALABILITY
- VENDOR



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