Olsburg Community PRIDE

DECEMBER/JANUARY 2023

Please join us immediately following Santa visit (approx. 2:45pm) for the official

GRAND WALK

Of the new Park to Park Walking Trail.

We will meet at City Park Pavilion and walk to Greenwood Park and back.

We would love to have you join us to see the newest Pride project and see the lovely trail that has been built.

All are welcome (Even Santa)

Santa Claus is coming to town!

SANTA CLAUS

(Along with Special Friends)
IS COMING TO TOWN

Saturday, December 9th
1-2:30pm
Olsburg American Legion Hall

Please come and visit Santa for a special treat and of course, Christmas Memories...

And don't forget to bring your letter to Santa!
Make sure and put a return address so he knows where to write back ☺

Olsburg Lutheran Church

SWEDISH SUPPER

Saturday, December 2, 2023

Serving 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Tickets - $20.00

TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED BY NOVEMBER 27

NO WALK-INS

For Tickets Contact: Luellen Kasselman

Telephone - 785.565.1240

Or

woodyk@twinvalley.net

Tickets also available at:
Traditions – Olsburg – 468-3344
The Farmhouse - Olsburg – 468-3511
Union State Bank - Olsburg - 468-3341
Sheryl Toburen – Manhattan – 565-3742
Union State Bank - Randolph – 293-5516
Linda's 1st St Salon – Olsburg – 313-1371
Justin Ricketts – Glavan Ford – Clay Center – 770-7473

Tack så mycket Varsågod

Last month's question... What remnants are still visible today of the LK&W Railroad that came through Olsburg. Where are they? ** Please see the following page for all the wonderful info provided. Too much to fit in a small space!

Here is your new question... What remnants are still visible today of the LK&W Railroad that came through Olsburg. Where are they?

This was a fun one! There were a lot of responses talking about where the LK&W railroad used to run and what is visible now. Many thanks to Kevin Williams, Alan Hubbard and Byron Jones who wrote,

"The remnants of the railroad are readily seen on Google Maps in satellite mode. It is best to go to Google Maps so you can zoom in and zoom out to see it better. The roadbed is readily evident starting about one mile west of Olsburg and cuts diagonally right through the middle of Olsburg, west to east. Some of the property lines on the east side of Olsburg still align with the roadbed. On the west side of Olsburg, remains disappear after about a mile but, what I think is the roadbed, can be seen again between Otoe Rd and Dry Creek Rd. Further west it is hard to find evidence of the roadbed. However, about a mile north of Leonardville, there is an east-west road called LK&W Road so I expect that is more or less the route it took west of the river. According to our research, the line ended in Miltonvale. East of Olsburg, the roadbed is readily detected on Google maps and more or less follows Swede Rd to Oak Grove Road by meanders back and forth a lot. From there, the remnants are intermittent but bits and pieces can be seen going through Fostoria, Blaine, Wheaton and Onaga, and presumably points further east. West of Onaga, there is another road called LK & W Rd.

The LK&W was built in the late 1800's and operated until 1935. Dad (Lowell Jones), who was born in 1922, could just barely remember it operating. My grandmother (Alice Webster), who was born in 1897, could clearly remember it and once told be about the big adventure she and her sister had as children when they road it from Olsburg to Wheaton by themselves to visit relatives. The official name of the railroad was the Leavenworth, Kansas and Western Railroad. Dad said he always heard it referred to as the Leave Kansas and Walk railroad. Evidently, it was popular to poke fun at the LK&W as our research tuned up a number of other comical names for it including:"

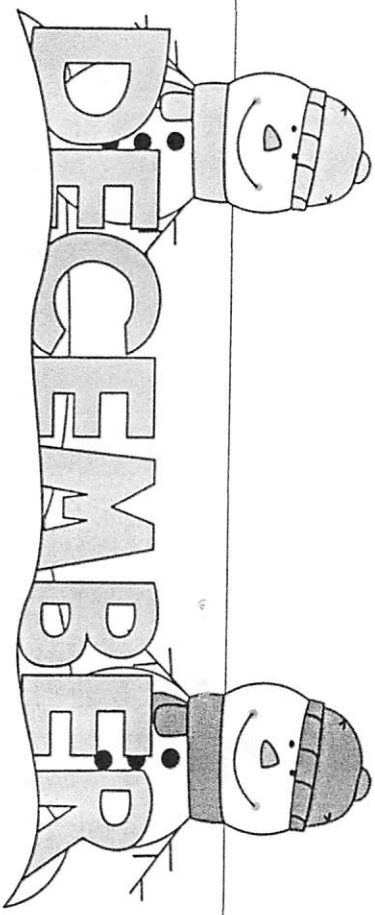
Lord Knows When
Little Kansas Wiggler
Look, Kuss & Wait
Lean, Klank & Wander
Lazy, Krooked & Wandering

VARNEY
& ASSOCIATES, CPAs, LLC

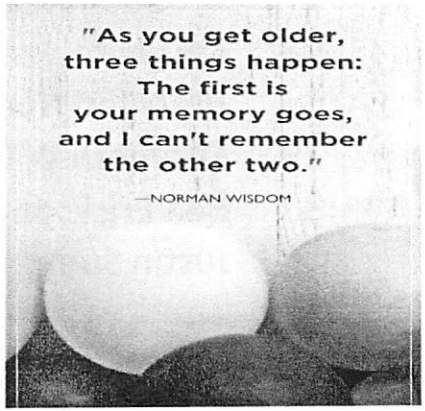
15 – Justin & Kathy Ricketts
21 – Jacob & Amber Speicher
31 – Chip & Nikki Helget

Want to be added to the birthday or anniversary list? Please email jtnowland@twinvalleynet or text or call Tami @ 785-556-3557

Happy Birthday



1	Pam Johnson
	Grant Jones
	Marcus Bryant
	Buffy Snyder
2	Aric Cassel
3	Willa Erickson
	Cullen Withroder
	Blake Fronce
4	Ella Cassel
5	Brayden Weeks
	Kaiden Weeks
9	Nikki Helget
11	Breanna Williams
12	Heather Sump
14	Lee Penner
	Barbara Laflin
	Chuck Johnson
16	Myles Rolph
18	Jennifer King
	Kim Staub
	Grady Kasselman
19	Gus Laflin
	Colt Laflin
20	Zach Rootring
	Cindy Dougherty
	Brian Monser
22	Tom Nelson
	Summit Roberts
23	Cyndi Stewart
24	Michelle Powers
25	Maggie Bryant
	Stephen Corkill
	Mattie Nuckols
26	Heather Nelson
27	Tate Laflin
	Ellie Laflin
28	Rick Johnson
	Kent Nelson
	Jodee Webster
29	Michaela Palmer
30	Martha Turner
	Maribeth Shafer
31	Patti Johnson



JANUARY

VARNEY
& ASSOCIATES, CPAs, LLC

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

1	Skyler Zoeller
	Landry Zoeller
	Clayton Budenbender
3	Darnell Vargo
	Macy Gibbs
6	Gary Holt
	Deb Williams
7	Campbell Cassel
8	Larry Anderson
9	Mike Mayer
10	Dale Larson
	Trace Sump
12	Sam Williams
13	Wyatt Simon
15	Jeremiah Brenner
17	Caden Gutsch
	Nash Roberts
	Jacob Byarlay
18	Chase Gibbs
19	Curtis Gutsch
20	Elinor Youngman
	Colt Kasselman
24	Landon Schreiber
25	Bailee Roberts
27	Brandon Nelson
28	KaLyn Powers
	Braelynn Nuckols
29	Elizabeth Williams
30	Bea Erickson
	Justin Sump

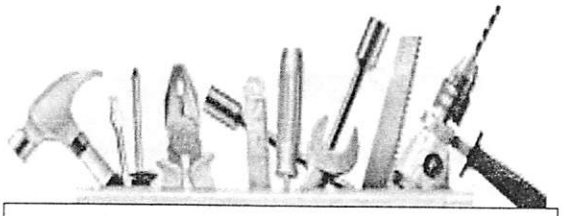
Happy Anniversary

25 – Rich & Kristin Powers

Want to be added to the birthday or anniversary list? Please email jthowland@twinvalley.net or text or call Tami @ 785-556-3557

124 3rd Street
Olsburg KS 66520
785-564-3607

- General Maintenance
- Engine/Transmission repair or replacement
- Brake Work
- Front-End Work
- Engine Performance Diagnostics
- A/C Work



Blue Valley Electric
& Building Supply Co.

300 4th Street
Olsburg KS 785-468-3570

DEEP WELL VETERINARY SERVICE
Large and Small Animal Care

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Dr. Kotie White, DVM
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Olsburg KS 66520
785-457-2128

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8-5
Saturday
12-4 pm
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Linda Kasselman, Owner/Stylist

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785-313-1371 or 785-468-2001

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(By Appointment Only)
Cash, Check and Credit Cards Accepted
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diamonds@djeweler.com

Fall Election Results to be Posted on CityofOlsburg.com & City Facebook Page

As we are preparing for this issue of the Olsburg Community Newsletter to be published, we have no certified election results.

Certification will take place on Thursday, November 16th in Topeka. Once certified and we get the official results, we will post those on the City's website https://www.cityofolsburg.com/ and Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/OlsburgCity.

For more information, please contact Jeannie at the Olsburg City Hall, 785-468-3209.

Reminder: Pay your utility bills online!

Access to pay utility bills online or in person is easier than ever!

Avoid late utility bill payments! Scan the QR code – it will take you directly to the KanPay (NICUSA) website. Enter your information (remember to include your account number!), click Submit and you're done!

A 2.5% convenience fee for using this service online and $1.50 for in person payments will be applied.

Please remember it takes 3-5 days for your payment to process through the system and credited to your account!

Text Messaging Service For Olsburg Residents

The City offers a text messaging service for resident subscribers. The text message service will give the City flexibility to notify residents when the water tower is closed for maintenance, reminders of changes in the trash pickup schedule, notify of community emergencies, etc. Text messages are limited to 160 characters including spaces. Messages are out going only. No responses are received.

The City Hall phone number (785-468-3209) will be displayed in your caller ID.

Please complete the form below and return it to City Hall or drop it off in the bill payment dropbox.

Opt in for the City of Olsburg text messaging service! Date _____

Name (Please print): _____

Cell Phone Number to receive text messages: _____

Address: _____

Subscriber Signature: _____

By submitting this form, you agree to opt in for the City of Olsburg text messaging service and agree to the terms and conditions of the text message service. If you have questions, please call City Hall 785-468-3209

Welcome to Olsburg!!

Help us welcome two new families to Olsburg this month!

Joseph and Bri Johnson have recently moved to town. Joseph grew up in rural Olsburg. He and Bri have chosen to make our community home!

Charles and Patricia Price join us from Perry, KS. The Price's have family living in the Olsburg area and wanted to be closer to their children and grandchildren.

Please be sure to make these new residents feel welcome!

City of Olsburg
Regular Meeting Summary, November 7, 2023, 7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Olsburg City Council was called to order by Council President Mike Krause at 7:01 pm.

Present were Council Members Mike Mayer, Cindy Pfaff and Karl Kasselman. Also present were City Treasurer Gregg Gibson and City Clerk Jeannie Johnson. Absent were Mayor Aric Cassel and Council Member David Gibson.

Marcelino and Ruby Albuerne inquiring about available properties in the city.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

City Treasurer Gibson gave the Treasurer's Report and presented bills to be paid. The Treasurer's report was approved.

Council Member Reports: There were no updates.

Old Business:
City Property on Main Street – Tabled to the December meeting so additional information can be gathered.

New Business:
a. The Farmhouse CMB Off-Premises License Renewal – Renewal was approved.
b. Review Governing Body Handbook –
c. Change of Regular Meeting Day –The Council directed the Clerk to prepare an ordinance changing the regular meeting day of the City Council to the first Wednesday after the first Monday of each month to be presented at the next meeting.
d. City Property at 409 N. 1st Street – Demolition of the property will be sometime in the next few months.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 pm.

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&
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LuAnn 785.293.4424

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T-Th: 9-6
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Randolph, KS 66554

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&
Bittersweet Lane
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Cards, Candles, Jewelry and Gift Items

Open Tuesday Through Saturday
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JOHNSON EXCAVATION

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FLINT HILLS COWBOY CHURCH
10465 ELIZAS RD., ST. GEORGE, KS 66535
SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 A.M.
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 6:30 P.M.
PASTOR CHUCK ASBURY
785-844-0859

BUY LOCAL

Sports Pub, Pizza & Grill
Carry-Out 785-468-3517
Tues – Sat 3pm - Close
Kitchen hours 3 - 9 pm

Appetizers, Specialty Pizza & Gourmet Burgers!

Reservations for parties of 8 or more are appreciated!

Call Darren to schedule future events and large party orders

Join "The Bricks" Team

Bartenders, Cooks, Kitchen Staff and Servers needed!

Thanks for all your support!!

Follow us on FB for Daily Specials or www.thebricksks.com
Due to increasing costs menu prices are subject to change.

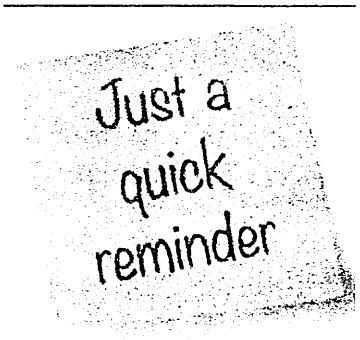
City of Olsburg
Christmas Decorating Contest – 2023

String up the lights, hang the Christmas wreaths, and get ready for the Christmas Decorating Contest!

The judges will be out the evening of December 2nd, so be sure to have your decorations up and lit early so they don't miss your house! The Swedish Supper brings lots of people to Olsburg and one thing they enjoy while they are here is seeing your beautiful creations!!

- Cash awards: $50.00 for 3rd place, $75.00 for 2nd place and $100.00 for the 1st place!
- Winners will be announced at Second Saturday Santa on December 9th and cash prizes will be awarded.
  - As in years past, the winners from the previous year are not eligible to win this year.
  - The judges are from outside the Olsburg city limits.
  - Last year's winners were: Matt and Railyn Williams, John and Deb Lowry and Mike and Amber Krause
  - Be creative! Whether your style is lighting your house to be seen from the space station or if you take a less is more approach, every decorated home will be considered!

Wondering what to do with tree limbs???



Please remember, if you are clearing brush or trimming trees on your property, you are responsible to remove the debris.

The City is not required to pick up debris created during regular property maintenance. The exception to this is when a storm comes through town and creates significant tree damage. During those times residents will be encouraged to pile limbs streetside for City pick up with a few days of the storm.

We have a City dump where debris can be taken. You can stop by City Hall to pick up a key or contact one of the City Council members for a key.

Note: ***This is for tree debris only.*** The dump is monitored according to State requirements which says nothing with nails, no appliances, no metal of any kind can be unloaded in our dump site. *In short if it isn't a tree, please don't take it to the city dump.*

The dump is for use by the residents of the City of Olsburg only.

This time of year is truly a time for giving thanks and for appreciating those who do their best to make our lives better... Many don't understand the impact our Pride program has on the community and just how much is accomplished. We compiled a list of projects within the last 5 years and wanted to share with all of you. It is our hope that you will join us... the same dedicated few need input and ideas as well as extra hands to get the work done. Please, please consider joining us as we try to continue to Empower our Community to be a better place.

- Community of Excellence status with the Kansas Community Empowerment program for 2017-2019, (did we receive for 2020-2022), 2023-2025
- Increased reserve funding over the past 5 years by over $45,000
- Monthly Community newsletter reaching over 500 people per month providing information to keep everyone informed and engaged in Community
- Hwy 16/13 Sign updates – repainting of the structure and updated display signs
- Olsburg Dala Signs on both ends of town updated welcoming traffic into Olsburg
- Dala Horse Project – Beautification added by talented local artists for all to enjoy.
- Park to Park Walking Trail to provide safe path for all community members to enjoy the physical, mental and social benefits from connecting with nature.
- Website Enhancements – promoting organizations, businesses, events and more
- Assisted with the free kids' meals during summer for several years
- Community Freezer Meal Program with Olsburg Boosters 4-H Club for several years to provide meals to community members that needed a little extra help
- Annual Santa bags for community children
- Annual Easter Egg Hunt for community children
- Annual Festival for Community Gathering & Enjoyment
- Assisted with revamp of the American Legion Signage
- Joint forces with Randolph PRIDE on We Care Program which receives anonymous requests to support the needs of youth of Blue Valley Randolph 384 School District
- Welcome Committee Program – Welcoming new residents to town and sharing info and gifts from our local businesses.
- Annual Utfard Fundraiser that brings in outside support from various states to our Community has raised over $77,000 over the past 5 years
- Olsburg Swimming Pool – A true labor of love for all to enjoy.
- Hosted Community Shred Day
- Hosted the Dirty Dala Offroad Bicycle Race
- Published Updated History Book in color print
- Designed Community T-Shirts
- Created Guide to Olsburg featuring all the Barn Quilts and Dala Horses
- Beautification Committee supplied flowers and watering to both Parks
- Donations paid out exceeding $14,000 in the last 5 years to support various organizations of the Community –
- Formal Volunteer Hour Tracking Program in place which aids in applying for Grants

Possible Projects for the Future

- Splash pad for younger kids – could be part of the Pool or outside of pool area as well
- Updated playground equipment & area maintenance at both parks
- Expand items on walking trail – ideas could be plant various KS trees with signs for a Earth Day project perhaps (FFA/School involvement), pollinator attractor flower areas (Master Gardeners group has done this in various places for their community service projects could also involve 4-H), bird watching signs by benches, couple fitness stops.

PRIDE - Nov. 8, 2023. Call Meeting to Order
PRESENT: Tami Howland, Tammy and Marcus Bryant, Cindy and Gary Jeffrey, Martha Turner, Brandi Innes

Approval of Minutes

Financial Report - Tammy Bryant
Gary J. moved to approve, Brandi I. seconded - **PASSED**

Program/Committee Reports
*Pool/We Care - Tami Howland
Closed and winterized.
We Care (see below under New Business)
*Festival - Brandi Innes –all went well
*Utfard - Marcus Bryant – Beautiful day, Letter from Pott. Co. Sheriff saying no complaints and thanked us for well-organized event.
* Marketing/Social Media -
Facebook -Marcus Bryant all up to date.
Website – Cindy Jeffrey – request photos of Spooky Supper and any upcoming events.
Tammy B. suggest we scan all newsletters and have an archive of them on our website.
Tami H. has them, and Tammy B. volunteered to scan. Cindy will set up location on website.
NOTE: this will take some time.
* Welcome Committee - Brandi Innes – Two new residents have been welcomed.
* Walking Trail - Tammy Bryant/Cindy Jeffrey
Trail now has benches, surface is getting packed, and being used!
Signs – $85 for two signs (30x15). Tammy B. moved to approve $85, and Brandi seconded. **PASSED**. Cindy will check with Thomas signs for recommendations for the best way to install.

Old Business

New Business
* Santa on 2nd Saturday Tami reported that the Swimmin' women will be filling the bags, and Santa will be back in his chair at the Legion building. (The grinch will again be helping outside). Tammy B. moved to pay for the goodies for the bags up to $250, Brandi I. seconded **PASSED.**
* Donation request from McCormick Elementary for Christmas Store
Brandi I. reported that the Christmas Store allows students to purchase gifts for their parents and siblings. They earn points by reading. There are 109 students and we want to make sure each can get a gift. She has received monetary donations but needs more. Cindy J. moved we donate $200, Gary J. seconded. **PASSED**. This is being matched by a local donor.

Approval of Bills

Other action or agenda items.
There was a discussion about a **"succession strategy"** for PRIDE. We would like the public to realize it is not a "we" and "them" for our community. It is all of us. When the same people are doing most of the work we risk "burnout" and then lose our ability to continue making our community so vibrant. It was suggested we list all the things PRIDE has done over the years and write about what it has meant to our community. This would go in the Thanksgiving issue of the newsletter, and maybe Facebook and our Website. Hopefully this will inspire more people to get involved. FEEDBACK is more effective when it comes from someone involved.

BLUE VALLEY
Big Blue Dream
Baseball/Softball Complex

brings you another

Community CHALLENGE

Community Challengers

Herb and Chris Loveless

challenge the BV Community to raise $5,000!

Herb and Chris will match it dollar for dollar!

Help us rise to the challenge!

All proceeds from the Community Giving Challenge will be used for the renovation cost of the baseball/softball fields in Randolph.

Donate online!

HOW TO DONATE

Donate online or in Randolph or Olsburg at Union State Bank!
Make checks payable to Big Blue Dream Fund

Olsburg Boosters 4-H Club

4-H NEWS

Our last meeting was on November 5, 2023 at the Olsburg American Legion.

Members colored Christmas pictures for the residents of Wellsprings of Westmorland to be delivered at a later date.

We also had a guest speaker, Sydney Pine our new Pottawatomie County Extension Agent

REMINDERS

- Our next meeting will be on December 2, 2023 and will start at 9:00 A.M. at the Olsburg American Legion
- Following the meeting we will be Christmas caroling around town

TO DO

- 4-H enrollment at v2.4honline.com
- Sign up for commitees, project talks and refreshments

EVENTS

November 15

4-H Camp sessions open for registration www.rockspringsranch4hcamp.org

November 27

4-H Council meeting 7p.m. Sunflower Room at Extension Office

FCCLA

Parents Day Out

Winter DAY CLINIC

ACTIVITIES

Crafts Decorating cookies Games

MEAL

Pizza Snacks

MOVIE

A movie will be provided when
you pick up your children

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER

PREK - 5TH GRADE

DECEMBER 9TH 10:00AM - 3:00PM

BLUE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

10$ PER KID (PAY AT DOOR)

REGISTER BY DECEMBER 2ND
HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/NMAYE9HZGW2US6AN9

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66549

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Westmoreland

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Salad bar available Monday through Friday 11am - 6pm

Featuring Yoder Meats, Bowser Meats, Beachy's Produce

HOURS:
Monday- Friday, 10am-7pm
Saturday, 8am-6pm / Sunday, 10am-4pm

314 MAIN
WESTMORELAND KANSAS
785-457-0101

Old Fashion Christmas in Westmoreland

Downtown Westmoreland

Saturday, December 2, 4-6pm

Visit Mr and Mrs Claus, Carriage Rides, Holiday Wreath Silent Auction, Festive Bingo, Chili Contest, Mystery Baskets Drawing, Holiday Gift Give-away for all Ages, Big Raffle Item, Enjoy shopping with our local downtown stores and vendors, Hot Chocolate and Hot Coffee and so much more!

More details at www.westmorelandks.com

OLD MIND DESIGNS GALLERY

(Because most of my art comes from my old mind!)

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Westmoreland, Ks. 66549

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Tues-Fri 10-5, Sat 10-4

Linda Ross Asbury

www.facebook.com/oldminddesigns

www.oldminddesigns.net

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- Life Enhancing Activities
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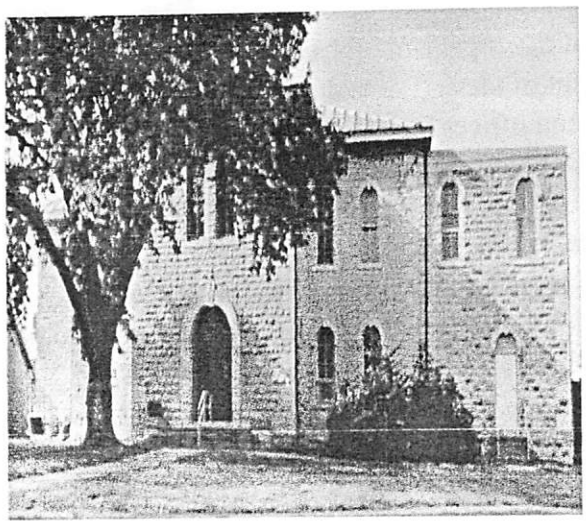
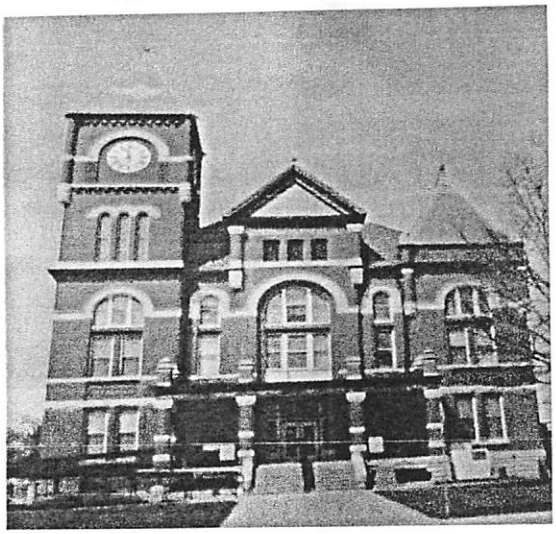
Contact Michelle Rifford, Administrator, for more details • 785-457-2801

Merry Christmas

A TALE OF TWO COURTHOUSES



Pottawatomie County Courthouse



Miami County Courthouse

A TALE OF TWO COURTHOUSES
PART 2

County residents need to know that a 3-phase study by professionals in the field of preservation has been completed and presented to the county commissioners. This study was funded by a $30,000 grant from the Flint Hills Regional Council at the request of Commissioner, Dee McKee. The study was carried out by Brownfields Technical Group through Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7. Phase I was an asbestos and lead paint abatement study; Phase 2 a site and revitalization plan; and Phase 3 a structural integrity study. Each of these phases have been completed and the official reports submitted to county commissioners.

The public can access these reports on the county website.
https://www.pottcounty.org/documentcenter/view/6254,
https://www.pottcounty.org/documentcenter/view/6253
https://www.pottcounty.org/documentcenter/view/2992
These links are provided for you, the viewer, to access the reports and come to your own opinions regarding future plans for the courthouse building..

County Commissioners have repeatedly stated for the past 6 years: 1) no new space is needed for conducting county business; 2) costs to upgrade or renovate the courthouse are prohibitive and: 3) no one really cares.

Let's take a closer look at these positions:

1. **No new space is needed.** When members of our organization have discussed this issue with county employees we get a different point of view. For example, County Health is in desperate need of additional space, Extension offices are so small and crowded that materials needed for outreach activities and storage space is limited. Preparing materials for distribution leaves them with stacks of boxes and limits productivity. There are other county needs on the horizon, one being mental health services. Another being the possibility that more judicial services will be placed on counties throughout the state which may require additional space. Technology may have reduced the need for space in some cases but also requires more space in others.

2. **Costs are prohibitive.** A review of the above-referenced studies, indicates that costs, calculated by experts in the field, show renovations are affordable.. A couple of things commissioners are hesitant to share with you, the taxpayer are this. A listing in the Register of Kansas Historic Places provides a source of grant funding from the Heritage Trust Fund up to $90,000 per year for maintenance, upgrades and renovation to historic buildings. Indeed, nearby counties in Kansas have received funding for their courthouses from this opportunity. This organization has volunteered to assist with grant funding proposals but the county commissioners have declined our assistance.

   Because of its listing in the Register of Kansas Historic Places, maintenance and improvements or total renovation to our courthouse is now eligible for the state's Rehabilitation Tax Credits totaling 40% of qualified rehab costs. These credits are typically sold and the proceeds put toward paying for the rehab project. Commissioners have also shown no interest in taking advantage of these sources of funding.

3. **No one cares.** CCC has a membership of approximately 80 members throughout the county who do care. Customers in Westmoreland businesses express interest and concern about what is to become of the courthouse and whether or not we are making progress in making sure it continues to stand and serves a useful purpose. We encourage your help to let your commissioner know that you do care.

Surrounding communities in Pottawatomie County and other nearby counties have demonstrated their appreciation of historic stone buildings by renovating and updating them for continued use.

We encourage you to get on board and let our county commissioners know preserving and using our courthouse is an important part of strategic planning for the county.

Commissioners:

Dee McKee, District 1	Phone: 785-565-1026
Pat Weixelman, District 2	Phone: 785-556-7073
Greg Riat, District 3	Phone: 785-456-4911

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of Clay Center Ford

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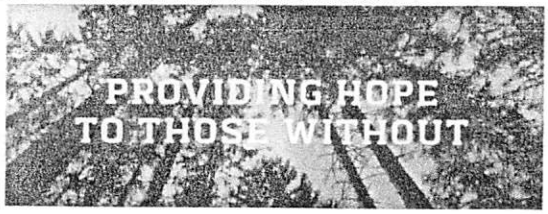
director@fhftc.org Olsburg, KS 66520
FHFTC is proud to partner with Living Water Ranch to host and support our events and camps.



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- Tami