

Holton woman arrested in elder abuse case

An investigation into an elder abuse case in Nemaha County has resulted in the arrest of a Holton woman, it has been reported.

Jennifer S. Taliaferro, 40, was arrested Monday on a Nemaha County warrant on four charges of mistreatment of a dependent adult, a level 8 person felony, and four counts of misdemeanor theft, according to the Nemaha County Sheriff's Office.

The charges against Taliaferro stemmed from the alleged theft on May 26 of prescription medications belonging to four

residents at a Sabetha nursing home where she reportedly worked.

A criminal complaint in the case, based on a Sabetha Police Department investigation, charged Taliaferro of depriving the residents of the use or benefit of those medications.

The complaint was filed against Taliaferro on July 8, with a warrant for her arrest issued that same day. She was arrested on Monday and booked into the Nemaha County Jail, where she remains on a \$25,000 bond, it was reported.

Lesser prairie chicken removed from endangered species list

The lesser prairie chicken will not be listed as a threatened or endangered species, Kansas Attorney General Kris Kobach announced on Friday.

A U.S. District Court judge in the Western District of Texas ruled on Aug. 12 that a Biden-era U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service decision to list the lesser prairie chicken as a threatened or endangered species was unlawful.

"During the campaign of 2022, after the Biden Administration announced the proposed listing of the lesser prairie chicken, I promised that I would fight it if elected as attorney general," Kobach said. "Shortly after taking office, in March of 2023, I teamed up with my colleagues in Texas and Oklahoma to file this lawsuit. This court decision delivers our final victory in the case."

"This is a huge win for Kansas ranchers and energy producers," Kobach said. "The listing of the species as threatened or endangered would have crippled oil

and wind energy production and would have limited where and when Kansas ranchers could graze cattle on their own property. And it was based on manipulated numbers dividing the species into subgroups to create the impression the species was threatened—when in fact drought had simply caused populations in some areas to drop, while in other areas the numbers were stable. I'm grateful that the court saw it our way."

Kobach, Oklahoma Attorney General Gentner Drummond and Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton filed the lawsuit opposing the proposed listing in the U.S. District Court in the Western District of Texas in March 2023. Judge David Counts issued the decision vacating the listing.

In 2014, under the Obama Administration, USFWS proposed listing the lesser prairie chicken as a threatened species. The same court struck down that listing in 2015.



During the jazz benefit concert last Saturday at the Holton Community Theatre, Holton native Jim Seeley (shown above second from left) performed with The Roger Wilder Trio group from Kansas City, which included Roger Wilder (at left), Gerald Spaits (third from left) and Sam Wisman (at right). More than 150 people attended the event, it was reported.

Photo by Ali Holcomb

■ City Commission...

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Commissioners suggested that it might be a good idea to have a "backyard machine" on hand for future utility pole emergencies, and Commissioner Tim Schlodder later suggested a clarification in city codes for fence height requirements that would make it easier for city crews to replace poles.

In other business on Monday, commissioners approved the purchase of a set of catalysts for city power generators at a cost of \$19,632 from Metalcor/DCL America of Oak Ridge North, Texas, that Electrical Production Superintendent Craig Figge can have on hand when to replace other catalysts at the power plant.

Riley said that a set of catalysts — used to reduce the emission of harmful pollutants from generators, such as carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons — that had been installed earlier this year at the power plant had to be put on a generator when the catalysts failed inspection, and another set of catalysts "barely passed inspection" in recent days and would need to be replaced before the next inspection period.

Figge noted that catalysts are tested every three years, adding that catalysts must provide at least a 70-percent reduction in emissions to pass inspection. Two of the catalysts at the power plant are providing emissions at 77.9 percent and 75.5 percent, he said, noting that the catalysts to be purchased may be used to replace those two.

He provided commissioners with a schedule of catalyst testing on the six generators at the power plant, adding that

another set of catalysts may need to be replaced within two years and that the normal life expectancy of a catalyst is 10 to 12 years.

Commissioners also:

- Held a public hearing on the city's budget for fiscal year 2026. After hearing no comments on the budget, commissioners voted unanimously to approve the budget.
- Approved minutes from their Aug. 4 meeting.
- Approved \$378,275.83 in budget appropriations.
- Approved a cereal malt beverage license for Gastrip 4, located at 917 W. Fourth St. Riley said the convenience store, known as Snak Atak, is changing its name, which requires a new license for the store.

- Approved a letter of support for Beck Bookman Library, which would like to compete for the Jerry Kline Community Impact Prize that would assist the library with grant funds for its expansion project.
- Approved two ordinances regarding the interconnection of consumer-owned, electric distributed energy systems, such as windmills and solar panels. The first of the two ordinances, Riley said, covers "interconnection standards" that limits customer-generated electricity to a percentage of the city's peak demand; the second prevents owners of distributed energy systems from "oversizing" those systems so that energy produced by those systems is prevented from being sold back to the city.
- Approved an updated agreement with Giant Communications that allows

Giant to operate and maintain a communications system within Holton's public rights-of-way. Riley said the new agreement replaces one that had expired and is good for 15 years.

- Received a proposal from Harmony Housing Affordable Development of Raleigh, N.C., for the acquisition and upgrades at Apple Valley Apartments in Holton. Commissioners said that while they were in favor of the proposal, they wanted City Attorney Dennis White to review the proposal before taking action.

- Heard a report from Riley that the city is slated to receive about \$10,000 from the Duane and Doris I. Winters Family Trust to be used for park improvements. Doris Winters was a native of Holton who died in May, it was reported.
- Heard a comment from Commissioner Marilyn Watkins that the city "really dropped the ball a little bit" in opting not to advertise the city and its departments in The Holton Recorder's recent "Meet The People" section.
- Adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m. All five commissioners were present.

NEK-CAP, Inc. Board Election & Vote

NEK-CAP, Inc. is asking the community re-elect the Low-Income Director whose position is currently open. Following verification of other potential nominees, there is only one current nominee for this opening.

Voting can be completed through various options and is open to anyone whose household income falls within the CSBG income guideline, at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guideline.

- Voting will be open Monday, Aug. 18-Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2025.
- Vote online using the link or QR code, found on the agency's website www.nekcap.org, their Facebook page or at <https://forms.office.com/r/yM4HQ3fXQe>.
- Paper ballots are also available by request by calling the office at 785-742-2222. If voting via paper ballots, those can be mailed to PO Box 380, Hiawatha KS 66434, or a scanned copy can be emailed to cclark@nekcap.org. Paper ballots must be emailed or postmarked by Sept. 2.

NEK-CAP, Inc. supports 16 NEK and NCK Counties including Atchison, Brown, Doniphan, Jackson, Jefferson, Jewell, Leavenworth, Marshall, Mitchell, Nemaha, Osborne, Pottawatomie, Republic, Riley, Smith and Washington counties.



Thank You!

On behalf of the Jackson County Sheriff's Office and the Holton Police Department, we would like to thank everyone who came out and enjoyed our National Night Out event. We would also like to thank the following businesses and entities for helping to make the event a success:

Jackson County Emergency Management	Zwonitzer Propane
Kansas Highway Patrol	O'Reilly Auto Parts
Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks	The Farmers State Bank
Jackson County Amateur Radio Club	Denison State Bank
Jackson County EMS	GNBank
Holton Fire Department	Mercer BBQ
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Fire Department	John's Repair
Hoyt Fire Department	Trails Cafe
Mayetta Fire Department	More Than Lemons
Soldier Fire Department	Schlaegel's Popcorn
Hoyt Police Department	The New York Hair Affair
Jackson County Clerk's Office	Heartland Veterinary Health Center
Jackson County Health Department	Holton Livestock Exchange
NEK-CAP	Holton Meat Processing
Charitable Vending	Jackson County Courthouse Custodial Staff
R & R Entertainment LLC	Stone & Story/Sara Fox Team
The Holton Recorder	Johnsonville/Banner Creek LLC
The Gossip and Uptown Treasures	Foster Ford Inc.
	Cecil K's



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Thank You!

Thank you to the following for helping sponsor the benefit jazz Concert for the Beck Bookman Library's Building Fund, Holton Community Theatre and Jackson County Kiwanis.

Jackson County Kiwanis	Diamonds By Design Jewelry Store
Denison State Bank (member FDIC)	
Dennis & Joni White (White Law Office)	KNZA/MSC radio group
Roger & Cindy Hower (Kellerman Real Estate)	The Holton Recorder

From Dan and Marcia Brenner

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The Holton Recorder's FOOTBALL PICK'EM CONTEST!

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THE HOLTON RECORDER

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16th Annual JACKSON COUNTY RANCH RODEO

Presented by Jackson County Fair Association and Ranch Rodeo Committee

Saturday, Sept. 20, 2025 • 6 p.m. (Gates open at 4 p.m.)
Northeast Kansas Heritage Complex
U.S. Highway 75 & 214th Road • Holton, KS
Free-Will Donation at Gate

• Sorting • Branding • Mugging • Trailer Loading

~ Concessions Available ~

Rain Date:
Sunday, Sept. 28, 2025

For team information, contact
Deb Dillner: 785-250-4230



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Jackson County Ranch Rodeo

