

Guest Editorial

“Simon Peter said to him, ‘Lord, where are you going?’” John 13:36  
In a previous editorial we cited John 21:19 where Jesus says to Peter “Follow me.” In the verses immediately preceding that exchange, and over a charcoal fire breakfast, Jesus asks of Peter three times, “Do you love me?” Peter’s repeated response to Jesus serves in part to provide a clean slate with regard to his previous failings. Yet even as Peter here experiences forgiveness; it probably causes him to recall those repeated denials of Jesus around another charcoal fire and then to really take stock of his faith and devotion to his risen Lord.

In the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter of John’s Gospel, Jesus identifies for the disciples the marks of authentic discipleship and what will be required to truly follow him. Those include first, a desire to glorify God (vs. 31-32) and second, a willingness to love one another as Jesus has loved us (vs. 34-35)

Now while both of those provisions lend richly with regard to instruction in true discipleship, I want to focus here of what Jesus speaks throughout this passage (vs. 31-38), the essential of following him just as he intends. Thus, if one mark of true discipleship is a desire to glorify God, and a second is an unfailing love for one another; then the all-encompassing mark identified here is an unwavering resolve to follow Jesus. “Peter said to him, ‘Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.’” (v.37). As Peter would sadly discover, there is a great difference between proclaiming loyalty and practicing loyalty.

It is not without purpose that Luke’s Gospel notes that as the soldiers took Jesus out of the Garden “Peter was following at a distance,” (22:54 ) and it was right about there that Peter’s real problems began. We might then assume this lesson would serve well the generations to follow; but we’d be wrong. To the contrary, following at a distance seems to be pretty much the order of the day for the apostate church as they increasingly ignore the mandates of God’s Word, opting instead for the transient approval of worldly wisdom.

I sometimes wonder if they realize how patently absurd is the proposition of defining for God that which is offensive to God. Yet in more recent times the apostate church has seemed to abandon even the pretense of scriptural authority. Of late they seem invested only in political absurdities, aberrant sexuality, and a spirituality that embraces almost any cause or concern that is diametrically opposed to the authority of the Scriptures.

And all of that got me to wondering why the change? Why now? Why not just go on pretending to honor the Scriptures while continuing to distort or ignore whatever would threaten their tenuous credibility. I believe the heart of the issue centers on their inability to control that which they cannot change.

In the final analysis, perhaps their problem with Scripture is the same difficulty Satan faced with Scripture as cited by Jesus in the wilderness temptations. Simply put; Satan has no power over and can exercise no authority over the Word of God, period! Not then: Not now: Not ever!

As with the responses of Jesus, “It is written” means the words are inviolate, they cannot be altered, ignored, distorted or infringed on by any power above or below! Satan can however, exercise authority over people; any of those, all of those, who choose to “follow at a distance” or perhaps follow not at all. Christian, beware of any such following at a distance; else be prepared to be swallowed up by the world:

If anyone would endeavor to understand the mind of God with regard to abortion; it is in the Book; unmistakably, unequivocally, in the Book. If anyone would endeavor to understand the mind of God with regard to human sexuality; it is in the Book; clearly and graphically delineated in the Book. Anyone aspiring to understand the mind of God as regards glorifying, loving or following Jesus; it’s in the Book; graciously, patiently in the Book. Jesus followed the Scriptures without exception; and yes folks, that’s also in the Book.

When we consent to follow Jesus, but then only at a distance we run the risk of ending up with the wrong crowd. And indeed, that is exactly what happened to Peter. He ended up in the High Priest’s courtyard with those who started asking him, “You’re one of his followers, aren’t you?” Three times he was asked; three times he denied even knowing Jesus. Apparently, Peter found it easier to proclaim loyalty than to practice it!

Are we following in the footsteps of Jesus? Is your life a life that brings glory to God? Is your life one of unwavering resolve to closely follow Jesus? Not only were those appropriate questions for Peter; they are also appropriate questions for us. As in compassionate grace Jesus called out to Peter, “Follow me,” so also to each of us does he call, “Follow me.” To God be the Glory, Amen and Amen.

Pr. Bud Elliott, Zion Lutheran, Everest

Muscotah News

By Susan Higley

Summer is definitely here with temperatures reaching the 90’s every day and strong hot winds. Looks like most of this week will continue hot and dry. It sure makes good hay weather.

Cancer Support Bingo drew a big crowd on Saturday. We even got to see a lady from Topeka that we hadn’t seen in several years. She came the way she always does through Arrington and then up Bourbon Road. She got a surprise when she found out that the south part of Bourbon Road is closed for work. She said I had to drive on a rock road and go over a wooden bridge.

Thursday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, Renee George, Deanna Higley and myself from the Muscotah Cancer Support Group met with several ladies from a cancer support group in Atchison. We discussed how we help local cancer patients. We enjoyed the visit and hope to do it again soon.

The sale bills are out for an auction on Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup> at the Muscotah City Building for Janiece and the late Terry Huntley. It will be a gun and gun equipment auction to begin at 10:30. The auction bill can be seen by looking on Chew Auction website. Outreach will be serving breakfast and lunch.

District Court—

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misdeemeanor.

Preliminary hearing on Crystal Lea Manlove, Horton, KS., was held and has been continued to July 16. She is charged with possession of methamphetamine, a drug severity level 5 felony and possession of marijuana, a class B nonperson misdemeanor; and possession of drug paraphernalia, a class B nonperson misdemeanor.

Preliminary hearing on Theresa Jean Gutierrez, Horton, KS., was held and has been continued to July 30. She is charged with possession of methamphetamine, a drug severity level 5 felony and possession of drug paraphernalia, a class B nonperson misdemeanor.

Status Conference on Rachel Ann McCulloh, Kansas City, MO., has been scheduled for July 30. She is charged with traffic in contraband in a correctional institution, a level 6 nonperson felony, possession of methamphetamine, a drug severity level 5 felony; and possession of drugs paraphernalia, a class B nonperson misdemeanor.

Arraignment on Adriel Paredes, Omaha, NE., was held and has been continued to July 16. He has been scheduled for possession of marijuana, a class B nonperson misdemeanor, possession of drug paraphernalia, a class B nonperson misdemeanor, and transporting an open container of alcohol, an unclassified misdemeanor.

Arraignment on Colin Albert Roberson, Horton, KS., has been scheduled for July 16. He is charged with possession of marijuana, a class B nonperson misdemeanor and possession of drug paraphernalia, a class B nonperson misdemeanor.

Arraignment on Sara Marie Drury, Horton, KS., was held and has been scheduled for July 25. She is charged with possession of marijuana, a class B nonperson misdemeanor and possession of drug paraphernalia, a class B nonperson misdemeanor.

Status hearing on Travis Lee Ohrmann, Horton, KS., has been scheduled for June 18. He is charged with possession of marijuana, a class B nonperson misdemeanor and possession of drug paraphernalia, a class B nonperson misdemeanor.

Status hearing on Skyla Shianne Knoxsah has been scheduled for 06/25/2025. She is charged with possession of marijuana, a class B nonperson misdemeanor and possession of drug paraphernalia, a class B nonperson misdemeanor.

Status hearing on Christi Hilner has been scheduled for July 2. She is charged with possession of marijuana, a class B nonperson misdemeanor and possession of drug paraphernalia, a class B nonperson misdemeanor.

Status hearing on Matthew Yost has been scheduled for July 2. He is charged with possession of marijuana, a class B nonperson misdemeanor and possession of drug paraphernalia, a class B nonperson misdemeanor.

Status hearing on Kenzie A. Lawrence has been scheduled for July 2. She is charged with possession of marijuana, a class B nonperson misdemeanor and possession of drug paraphernalia, a class B nonperson misdemeanor.

Arraignment hearing on Sam R. Noble has been scheduled for June 25.

He is charged with possession of marijuana, a class B nonperson misdemeanor and possession of drug paraphernalia, a class B nonperson misdemeanor.

Arraignment on Cady Lee Cole has been scheduled for June 30. She is charged with possession of marijuana, a class B nonperson misdemeanor and possession of drug paraphernalia, a class B nonperson misdemeanor.

Arraignment on Joshua Adam Heideman, Coming, KS., has been scheduled for Sept. 15. He is charged with interference with law enforcement, a level 9 nonperson felony.

Preliminary hearing on Richard Mark Swimm, Jr., Hiawatha, KS., has been scheduled for July 23. He is scheduled for possession of marijuana, a drug level 5 felony and possession of drug paraphernalia, a class B nonperson misdemeanor.

Arraignment on Randel Lynn McFeeters, Jr., St. Joseph, MO., he has been scheduled for June 30. He is charged with two counts of failure to register as sex offender, a severity level 6 person felony.

LIMITED  
A case was filed by Amberwell Health Hiawatha, plaintiff, against Richard Retherford, defendant.

A case was filed by Amberwell Health Hiawatha, plaintiff, against Dena J. Edwards, defendant.

A case was filed by Amberwell Health Hiawatha, plaintiff, against Marcia L. Speer, defendant.

A case has been filed by Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC., plaintiff, against Dayja D. Martinez, defendant.

A case has been filed by Amberwell Health Hiawatha, plaintiff, against Vineet Bariar, defendant.

A case has been filed by Amberwell Health Hiawatha, plaintiff, against Cameron R. Broyles, defendant.

A case has been filed by Amberwell Health Hiawatha, plaintiff, against Melissa S. Brassfield, et al., defendant.

A case has been filed by First National Bank of Omaha, plaintiff, against Steven Korthanke, defendant.

SMALL CLAIMS  
A case has been filed by Kaitlyn Adams, plaintiff, against Steven Unruh, defendant.

A case has been filed by Horizon Therapy Associates, plaintiff, against Jennifer Sage Provo, defendant.

A case has been filed by Old Cedar Properties, plaintiff, against Jessica LeAnne Smith, defendant.

PROBATE  
A petition for issue letters of administration under the Kansas Simplified Estates Act has been filed by Jerald L. Schecher and Laura M. Cowart, petitioners, in the matter of the estate of Michael J. Schecher, decedent.

A petition for determination of descent has been filed by Denise G. Olsen, petitioner, in the matter of Keith Craig Olsen, decedent.

A petition to admit will to probate and for issuance of letters testamentary has been filed by Martin W. Mishler, petitioner, in the matter of Mary Ann Elsenbise, decedent.

A affidavit pursuant to K.S.A. 59-618a has been filed by Wanda Arlene Moore, petitioner, has been filed by Larry Ray Moore, petitioner, in the matter of Larry Ray Moore, decedent.

Commissioners

meeting—

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165 ACC 2,048.95  
167 JJA CORE 2,105.17  
Book V Page 50201 Services for Elderly 154.96  
211 Solid Waste 6,584.82  
TOTAL: \$101,031.54

PONY EXPRESS RESOLUTION  
The commission was presented with a resolution to designate a section of K-20 Highway and U.S. Highway 75 through Brown County as part of the Pony Express Historic Byway. The resolution will be tabled until next regular meeting.

DISTRICT 2 TRUCK BIDS  
The commission discussed the two sealed bids that were received for a new Road and Bridge District 2 dump truck. Commissioner Heinen expressed interest in exploring used equipment options through equipment locating companies.

MONTH END REPORTS  
The commission was presented with May end of month reports for review.

Motion by Richard Lehmkuhl to adjourn. Seconded by William Pollock. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

WORK SESSION  
The Brown County Commissioners convened at 10:48 a.m. at the Brown County Courthouse for a work session with Chairman Heinen, Commissioner Lehmkuhl and Commissioner Pollock present, along with County Clerk Nicole Lee and Brown County resident, Richard Tesoriero. Topics discussed were: management consulting, county structure, companies that locate equipment and defining objectives. No action was taken. The work session adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Rita Thurn

Rita Mae (Enzbrenner) Thurn, 91, of Atchison, KS, died Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at the Atchison Medicalodge.

Rita was born February 20, 1934 in Atchison, KS to the late Benedict and Emma (Fuhrman) Enzbrenner.

After graduating in 1952 from Huron High School, she attended Sisters of St. Joseph School of Nursing in St. Joseph, MO where she earned a degree as a Registered Nurse. For many years she was an OB nurse at Atchison hospital before retiring from Atchison Home Health.

Rita married the late Donald Thurn on November 22, 1955. In 1997, after retirement, the couple moved to Benton, KS to be near family. While living in Benton, she was a member of St. Vincent DePaul Catholic Church in Andover, KS and the Benton Lions Club.

Rita’s favorite things to do were carp fishing, going to casinos both locally and in Las Vegas, and especially attending the grandchildren’s sporting events.

Survivors include son Ben (Beth) Thurn, daughter Kathy (Herb) Pello, grandchildren: Brad Licavoli, Brian Thurn, Jennifer Thurn, AJ Pello, Mike Pello, Matt Pello; and nine great-grandchildren.

The Missouri/Kansas Memorial Honor Guard will hold a Nightingale Tribute at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 25, 2025, for nurses in the area at the Becker-Dyer-Stanton Funeral Home with a parish rosary to follow at 7:30 p.m. with visitation ending at 8:30 p.m.

The Mass for Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 a.m., Thursday, June 26, 2025, at St. Louis Church, Good Intent with Fr. Roopesh Govindu as Celebrant. Burial will follow at the St. Louis Cemetery. Memorial contributions are suggested to St. Croix Hospice or St. Louis Cemetery and may be sent in care of Becker-Dyer-Stanton Funeral Home.

www.beckerdyer.com.

Senior Moments

By Mary Patterson

The Horton Senior Center had their monthly carry in dinner on June 17th with 25 members and guests attending. We have a wonderful time eating all the great food that everyone has provided and hearing about all the activities we have been involved in the past week or so. We also welcomed 4 new members to our group!

Thank you to Steve Cappleman who arrived to entertain us before the meal with songs and a spiritual message. We thank him for sharing his time with us.

Thank you to those members who brought in home made cookies for the South Brown County Community Fund Match Days" meet and greet" in preparation for Match Days on July 15 - 17th.

SUPPORT & in your time of sorrow GUIDANCE



We provide complete funerals, cremations and memorial services, helping you handle all the details of your loved one’s final arrangements with the utmost care and dignity.

DISHON-MAPLE-CHANEY MORTUARY

Horton, Kansas 66439

(785) 486-3811

www.dishon-maple-chaney.com

(First published in the Horton Headlight, June 26, 2025)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of  
City of Muscotah  
will meet on July 14, 2025 at 7:00 PM at City Hall, 604 Kansas for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at City Hall and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of Current Year Estimate for 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

FUND	Prior Year Actual for 2024		Current Year Estimate for 2025		Proposed Budget for 2026		
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Estimate Tax Rate*
General	22,948	16.226	63,900	15.142	123,743	10,669	14.266
Special Highway	2,717		3,000		21,819		
Water	48,889		60,070		80,790		
Sewer	24,406		34,850		61,221		
Electric	154,817		215,250		261,549		
Reserves ARPA							
Totals	253,777	16.226	377,070	15.142	549,122	10,669	14.266
					Revenue Neutral Rate** 14.267		

Less: Transfers	0	0	0
Net Expenditure	253,777	377,070	549,122
Total Tax Levied	10,669	10,669	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Assessed Valuation	657,533	704,626	747,863

Outstanding Indebtedness.			
January 1,	2023	2024	2025
G.O. Bonds	198,000	194,000	189,000
Lease Purchase Principal	0	0	0
Total	198,000	194,000	189,000

\*Tax rates are expressed in mills  
\*\* Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

Debbie Liggatt  
City Official Title: Clerk

(First published in the Horton Headlight, June 26, 2025)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of  
City of Pawhattan  
will meet on August 4, 2025 at 7:00 PM at American Legion Hall, 106 N Commercial for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at 104 N Commercial and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of Current Year Estimate for 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

FUND	Prior Year Actual for 2024		Current Year Estimate for 2025		Proposed Budget for 2026		
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Estimate Tax Rate*
General	23,480	12.370	76,587	11.483	119,415	6,500	10.614
Special Highway			1,950		5,616		
Water	27,636		43,000		80,986		
Parks and Recreation			1,742		500		
Grants—Non-Budgeted							
Totals	51,116	12.370	123,279	11.483	206,517	6,500	10.614
					Revenue Neutral Rate** 10.614		

Less: Transfers	0	0	0
Net Expenditure	51,116	123,279	206,517
Total Tax Levied	6,500	6,500	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Assessed Valuation	525,466	566,062	612,391

\*Tax rates are expressed in mills  
\*\* Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

Norwood Foster  
City Official Title: Mayor