

# SENTINEL-TIMES

Where Rooks County Comes Together

Stockton Sentinel, LLC dba Sentinel-Times

ROOKS COUNTY, KANSAS

COMING TO YOU FROM THE HEARTLAND OF AMERICA

16 PAGES

## Newsline



### HE IS RISEN!

## Sacred Heart third graders bring Easter spirit to Sentinel-Times pages

Continuing a Rooks County tradition of showcasing local students' artwork in holiday greeting ads, the third-grade class at Sacred Heart Grade School in Plainville has added a special touch to this week's Sentinel-Times.

The nine students in Traci Johnson's third-grade class—Julian Akoh, Katy Austin, Hallee Becker, Isabella Deutscher, Hudson Hageman, Jack Hillard, Wes Pfannenstiel, Starzyn Sharp, and Sunday Willis—created the Easter-themed drawings featured throughout this week's edition. Each student's artwork, along with their individual picture, appear in the greeting ads, helping spread a message of joy and celebration for the Easter season.

These festive creations were made possible through the support of local businesses, who

SEE SACRED HEART, 5A

## Rooks County Churches Open Their Doors for Holy Week and Easter

By VIRGI LASKA  
*Sentinel-Times*

As Easter approaches, Rooks County congregations are throwing open their doors to welcome worshippers, neighbors, and visitors alike. From candlelit Good Friday vigils to joyful sunrise services, there is something meaningful for everyone this Holy Week. All are warmly invited to join in at any of the following services:

River Valley Church in

Stockton invites the community to its Easter Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome.

**Stockton Baptist Church** offers a full slate of Holy Week worship. Join them for Good Friday Services at 7:00 p.m., then greet Easter morning at a Sunrise Service held at the Mike Reed residence at 7:00 a.m. The celebration continues back at the church with Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. and a

SEE EASTER, 5A

## Plainville man charged with Aggravated Kidnapping, Robbery

### Already faces 2024 Attempted Murder charge

A Plainville man already facing a charge of Attempted Murder in the Second Degree from a 2024 case is being held in the Rooks County Jail on a \$50,000 bond



Jeremiah Kerr

after his arrest on Saturday, March 14, by the Plainville Police Department.

Six charges—five of them felonies—were filed on Wednesday,

March 25, 2026, in Rooks County District Court after a police report against Jeremiah M. Kerr, 31, of Plainville.

The charges are: Aggravated Kidnapping; Aggravated Robbery; Aggravated Domestic Battery (twice); Criminal Threat; and Domestic Battery.

According to court documents, on Saturday, March 14, 2026, Kerr allegedly confined a family member by force. He physically pulled the victim back inside the residence after she tried to escape. He then restrained her within the residence and limited her movements. Kerr prevented her from leaving while committing acts of violence and strangulation that caused bodily harm. The incident happened at a residence at 306 Main Street in Plainville.

Kerr is also alleged to have taken a cellular phone from the victim. This occurred while he physically assaulted and restrained her. During this conduct, he inflicted bodily harm.

During an altercation within a bedroom, the defendant allegedly forced the victim onto her back. He straddled her abdomen and applied pressure to her neck with both hands. This significantly impeded her breathing and caused a loss of consciousness.

After throwing the victim to the floor, Kerr also positioned himself on top of the victim by straddling

SEE CHARGES, 4A

### WEEKEND WEATHER

FRIDAY	Partly cloudy with winds from the N at 20 m.p.h.	HIGH: 59 LOW: 33
SATURDAY	Mostly sunny with winds from the NW at 23 m.p.h.	HIGH: 61 LOW: 31
SUNDAY	Sunny with winds from the WSW at 12 m.p.h.	HIGH: 72 LOW: 42

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### Venmo & PayPal are accepted HERE!

### SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

He is not here, but is risen.  
— Luke 24:6 —



## FINALLY! The 2026 New Year's Baby Has Arrived!

The New Year's Baby of 2026 has officially arrived! The first baby of the year has made its grand entrance into the world, and we couldn't be more thrilled to celebrate this joyful milestone. Stay tuned — details about this special arrival and the festivities surrounding it will be featured in our next issue.

*(Please note that this year's contest was limited to the area specified in the rules, as the timing and distribution of the Plainville Times at the start of the year basically made it impossible to extend the contest to the entire county.)*

## SHS and PHS Spring Concerts are Thurs., April 9th

Get ready to attend the Stockton High School Spring Concert or the Plainville High School Spring Concert next Thursday, April 9th, at 7:00 p.m. at their respective schools. Enjoy the vocal and instrumental selections of the students. Hope to see you all there!

## CASA of the High Plains announces April Coloring Contest for Child Abuse Awareness Month

Contest being held at Plainville Memorial Library now through April 17th

CASA of the High Plains is inviting local youth to participate in a community-wide coloring contest this April in recognition of Child Abuse Awareness Month. The contest will be hosted at the Plainville Memorial Library and is designed to raise awareness while celebrating the creativity of children and teens in the community.

SEE CASA, 5A

## Kansas Sunflower State Spelling Bee Held

### Veidyn Holmes of Plainville represented Rooks County

By VIRGI LASKA  
*Sentinel-Times*

Ninety-three spellers from across Kansas gathered to showcase their hard work and dedication at the Sunflower State Spelling Bee on Saturday, March 21st. Each student had earned their place by finishing first in their county contest. To prepare, competitors studied "Words of the Champions," a 4,000-word list



Veidyn Holmes

provided by the Scripps National Spelling Bee — though they also had to be ready for any word found in the Merriam-Webster Dictionary.

The competition took place at Kansas Wesleyan University, where Dr. Barbara Brown, assistant professor of English at KWU, served as pronouncer. Judges Linn Exline, Gary Demuth, and Jean Kozubowski were respon-

SEE SPELLING BEE, 11A

## EASTER EGG HUNTS



### Stockton

## Sigma Phi ESA Easter Egg Hunt set for this Saturday!

It's going to be a hopping good time at the Sigma Phi ESA Easter Egg Hunt in Stockton on Saturday, April 4th! Grab your baskets and be ready to collect lots of eggs and goodies at the Solomon Valley Manor at 1:00 p.m. for children ages 1-4! Then head on down to the Lower City Park for the 1:30 p.m. Hunt for the boys and girls ages 5 through 10!  
*(Look for the ad in this week's issue on Page 16A.)*

### Zurich

## Easter Egg Hunt in Zurich this Saturday!

The Easter Bunny is working overtime and has delivered dozens of colorful eggs and plenty of candy for an Easter Egg Hunt at the Zurich School Yard this Saturday, April 4th, at 10:30 a.m. Please bring your own basket to collect all the goodies you will find!  
*(Look for the ad in this week's issue on Page 16A.)*

## Annual Solomon Valley Pheasants Forever Banquet is Sat., April 11th

The annual Solomon Valley Pheasants Forever Banquet will be held on Saturday, April 11th at the St. Thomas Parish Center (804 Main Street) in Stockton.

The doors open at 4:00 p.m. for the Social Hour, with Raffle Sales starting at 5:00 p.m. The evening will feature numerous raffles, games, and both live and silent auctions following Dinner.

Seating is limited for this evening of fun, so advanced registration is recommended. To register or for more information, please get in touch with Staci Ketelsen at 785-425-8328 or Troy Hixon at 785-434-6506. You can also visit [www.PheasantsForever.org](http://www.PheasantsForever.org).  
*(Look for the ad in this week's edition on Page 12A.)*