

Linn County News

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Commissioners hear from County Attorney, Sheriff on legal issues

BY BARBARA PROFFITT
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During the meeting on Monday, March 30, Commissioner Alison Hamilton told Linn County Attorney Justin Meeks and Linn County Sheriff James Akes that they had received a letter and Meeks noted the letter itself could not be discussed in public due to active, ongoing cases and insurance. He then noted he had another issue he would like to discuss while in executive session that has bearing on what he and the Sheriff would like to speak about that deals with the same type of litigation.

The commissioners then entered into a seven-minute executive session with the commissioners, Meeks, Akes and County Counselor Jacklyn Paletta to discuss matters pertaining to attorney client privilege.

Following the executive session Meeks spoke to commissioners noting that a letter was received from the Prairie View School District regarding some truancy issues and possible criminal things that had happened. He added

that he has a meeting set with all of the parties for Tuesday, March 31. He then spoke on a program that works on truanics to help work through those issues.

Sheriff Akes then spoke, stating that his department had received a call last week from the board president at Tanglewood Lakes stating he had seen on Facebook where some individuals had threatened to “tear down” the gates once they go back up.

Akes noted the president had asked for some advice and he had told him to take a soft approach, and had advised that the lake community should send out letters notifying residents of its intent to re-establish the gate system and when they go up, and active, a board member should be on hand to ensure all cards are working and to assist in a seamless re-establishment.

“As far as threats,” Akes added, “right now we don’t see any perceived threat... so if we end up with a situation like we did last time... I mean, at this time, they are not restricting access so if we do, it is destruction of property.”

In other matters, the
SEE LEGAL ISSUES, A2

Mapleton woman killed in 1-car crash

BY JACKIE TAYLOR
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The Kansas Highway Patrol responded to a one-vehicle crash that resulted in a fatality one-half mile north of Ridge Road on 125th Street in Bourbon County Thursday, March 26 at 9:15 a.m.

The 1996 Ford Explorer driven by Kellie J. (Allen) Harvey, 57, Mapleton, was northbound on 125th Street when, according to the Kansas Highway Patrol Crash Log, it left the roadway to the right, came back onto the roadway, then went back off the roadway to the right. The vehicle overcorrected coming back onto the roadway causing the vehicle to overturn multiple times before coming to rest facing southbound in the southbound ditch of 125th Street.

The report states she was not wearing safety restraints.

Harvey was taken to Cheney Witt Funeral Chapel.

Locally produced film premiered



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of the AMRC present signed photos as a token of their gratitude for the film’s support of their mission. Left to right: AMRC President Shane Ruzinsky, AMRC member Christine Stewart, film director Sue Vicory, executive producer Ginny Campbell, and AMRC member Peter Coffin.

Local film crew premieres new film in Albuquerque, plans Kansas City Release

BY ANGELA K. HOLT
LINN COUNTY NEWS

Heartland Film Productions, based out of Linn County, premiered its latest film in Albuquerque, N.M. on March 21. The film features individuals and events in both Kansas and New Mexico.

Titled “A Beautiful Place,” the film looks at how individuals react to tragedies and how they work through the grief process. While several stories are included, the experience of Ginny Campbell’s was the premise for the

film. Campbell, of Leawood, was only 21 months old in 1955 when she lost her maternal grandparents and her father in the crash of TWA Flight 260. The crash occurred on Feb. 19 shortly after departing Albuquerque Airport, and killed all three crew members and 13 passengers. Campbell has spent her life working through the grief and loss she experienced with the tragedy. Others interviewed for the film also tell their stories of grief and moving forward through tragedy.

The crash that took Campbell’s family members saw the creation of the Albuquerque Mountain Rescue Council, and filled the area’s need for a search and rescue group, which is an all-volunteer team. AMRC specializes in technical rope rescue, winter mountaineering, rock climbing, avalanche rescue, wilderness medicine and other skills. The March 21 film premiere, held at the historical TWA Terminal at the Albuquerque Sunport, donated all profits to the AMRC.
SEE FILM, A2

See countywide Easter events on Pg. A7

Board adopts changes to the JCAC interrogations policy

BY BRIAN KING

The USD 362 Board met Tuesday, March 24 where financial reports and treasurer reports were approved unanimously. A resolution of commendation was approved by the board for several students for state wrestling qualifiers and state placements.

A presentation on IXL was given. IXL is a comprehensive, personalized online learning platform

with interactive skills. USD 362 uses K-12, math provided by the state, and purchases reading for K-8 and social studies and science for 6-8. The presentation given by Mollie Goertzen, Michelle Haupt and Ashton Scholtz, focused on how in-class use of IXL allows the students to work at their own level and allows the teacher to work individually with students, if necessary, while still allowing them

to monitor the rest of the students. Teachers can grade and give feedback to students in real time. Students can track their own progress, as well. There is an interventionist who works with students who have missing skills from prior grade levels, allowing them to be able to begin doing grade level work.

The maintenance report included two bids for mowing due to the resignation of Gary Pemberton.

The bids were from Mairs Lawn and Landscape LLC and Dreamscape Innovations Inc. Also included in the maintenance report were several projects that Maintenance Director Aaron Rice will be requesting bids for. These projects include sidewalk installation, repairs and the addition of handicap ramps, cutouts for wheelchairs and additional handicap accessible parking near
SEE JCAC, A3

Hippity hopping happy



BRIAN KING | LINN COUNTY NEWS

Isla Riley poses with an Easter egg after the annual egg hunt in Parker on Saturday, March 28. Isla, 11 months, is the daughter of Leah Riley.

► Henbit is more than a purple weed seen this time of year. It is commonly used for its medicinal properties - for fevers, reducing inflammation and more.

Henbit



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DEATHS

Naomi (Skip) Childress
Julie Pearl (Ginger) Gardner
Kellie Jo Harvey

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