

# OPINION

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Stephanie Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email sjump@kconline.com



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Our County Commissioners will soon vote on the industrial solar regulations proposed by the zoning board. This is a defining moment for the future of our rural Kingman County.

This issue is critical for our citizens, ranchers, and farmers. We are protected by Kansas state statutes that define land as agricultural, yet we are being pressured to allow industrial-scale complexes on thousands of acres. We were here long before these developers set their sights on our part of the state. Why is there such a massive, frantic rush to push these projects through? Almost every rural county in the Midwest is raising these exact same concerns.

At the public hearing on March 12, the sentiment was clear. Out of the approximately 90 citizens in attendance, only two spoke in favor of industrializing our county. I am not against industry, but I am against the encroachment on the rights of residents, ranchers and other

citizens to enjoy their property. Once high-quality farmland is converted to industrial use, it is gone forever. I have yet to see a single instance where that land was successfully returned to agricultural production. I would bet you cannot find one either. Why is there no soil testing requirement?

Some claim these projects are protected by ultimate property rights, but in Kansas, that is simply false. We have strict regulations for everything from the placement of hog farms — which require a 1,000-foot setback from a neighbor's property line — to the placement of a garage, a fence, a pool, or easements for utility lines. Why are these basic rules waived for massive industrial solar and wind projects?

Other counties have already taken action to protect their residents with much larger setbacks:

- Butler County: 1,000 ft setback.
- Coffey County: 1,320 ft set-

- back.
- Anderson County: 1,320 ft setback.
- Barton County: Utilizes property line setbacks of 1000 ft.

My concerns with the current proposal are many, here are the two biggest. First, the power purchase agreement is completely backward. Developers want to build these complexes without having a power purchase agreement in place. What is the point of building an industrial complex if there is no guaranteed buyer for the power? If a developer declares bankruptcy or fails to secure a contract, the county is left to deal with the aftermath. I encourage everyone to search online for the long list of similar cases across the country.

Second, there are no limits on the amount of farmland these projects can consume. We are roughly 90% agricultural, yet we lack the caps other counties have implemented to protect their land:

- Linn County (pop. 9,400): 10-acre limit in industrial zones.
- Anderson County: 160-acre limit.
- Douglas County: 1,000-acre limit.
- Sedgwick County: 1,500-acre limit.
- Pottawatomie: 16 acres

In addition Harvey County finds industrial wind and solar are not suitable for their Co due to population density and their aquifer. Kingman Co. is mostly over the High Plains aquifer.

I urge you to contact our County Commissioners. Request they implement stricter setbacks, require a signed Power Purchase Agreement before any permits are issued, and establish a firm cap on the total acreage of agricultural land that can be converted to industrial solar.

Our land is our legacy. Do not let it be traded away to corporate interests just for money..

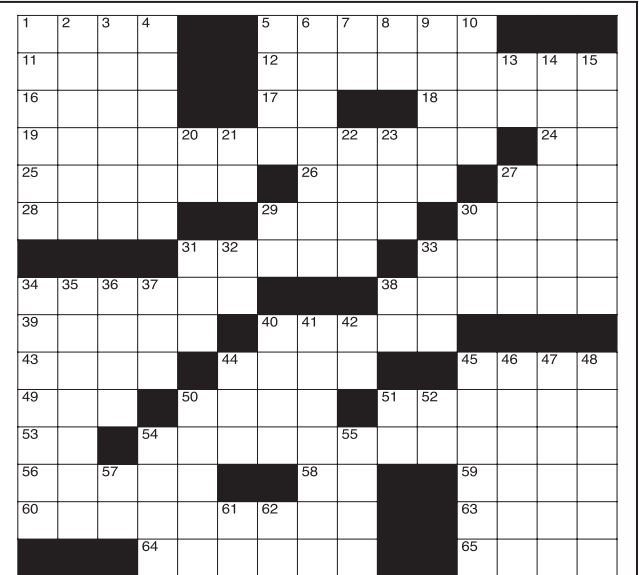
Sincerely,  
Trish DeDamos  
Kingman County  
Resident

## PUZZLE SPONSOR



**Chris Huhman**  
Financial Advisor  
240 N Main St  
Kingman, KS 67068  
620-532-1190

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

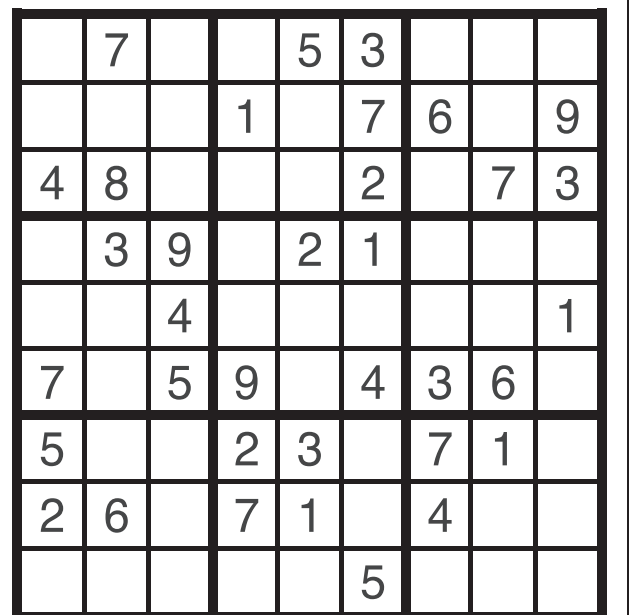


### CLUES ACROSS

- Narrow piece of wood
- African desert
- Waxy covering on birds' beaks
- Sour
- Infrequent
- Former AL MVP Vaughn
- Policemen wear one
- Out of the question
- Used to chop
- Symptoms
- Not moving
- Folk singer DiFranco
- Comedian Armissen
- Quantitative fact
- Incline from vertical
- Scottish musician
- Rooney and Kate are two
- Positioned
- A very short time
- Tropical American shrubs
- Yemen capital
- Spanish municipality
- Medical professionals
- Fibrous material
- Confined condition (abbr.)
- Without covering
- "Mad Men" honcho Don
- Hockey position
- Taste property
- Fertile spots in a desert
- They precede C
- "Requiem for a Dream" actor Jared
- Try a criminal case
- Liberal rights organization
- Spoke
- Insect repellent

### CLUES DOWN

- Unshaven facial hair
- More thin
- Show up
- Seethed
- Ancient Greek city
- Poisonous plant
- Hello
- College sports official
- Monetary unit of Russia
- Wings
- Take too much of a substance
- A citizen of Uganda
- Most appealing
- Atomic #18
- Global investment bank (abbr.)
- Jewish calendar month
- Popular sandwich
- Swiss river
- Incorrect letters
- Popular entree
- Foot (Latin)
- A driver's license is one form
- Extinct flightless bird
- Appetizer
- After battles
- It neutralizes alkalis
- Beverage container
- Partner to "Pa"
- Gray American rail
- Salt of acetic acid
- Canadian province
- Dish made with lentils
- Narrative poem of popular origin
- For each one
- Come to terms
- Test
- More dishonorable
- Unit of loudness
- The Ocean State
- Monetary unit in Mexico
- Lying down
- Thus
- Where LA is located
- Western State



P N W N H R W W U G N I T X E T C C S J  
 F W Y F K U T X T Y T E N P H H F F R O  
 E G L W R A G T H P X O X K R C T U O U  
 K F S A L D Y H W X I S M L R G E W V C  
 J R S K R A Y O Y T K M O A R D R G Y V  
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 G F D J W Y A R P D Y K K X R N C C N P  
 S N K G M M Y S P Y P A P G C N D A T H

### DISTRACTED WORD SEARCH

ACTIVITY, ATTENTION, COGNITIVE, CRASH, DANGEROUS, DISTRACTED, DRIVER, DROWSY, EATING, HIGHWAY, INJURY, MANUAL, NOISY, PASSENGER, RADIO, READING, SAFETY, SPEED, TALKING, TEXTING, VEHICLE, VISUAL

# Church Directory

Service time and information for churches in Kingman County

<p><b>CUNNINGHAM</b> Cunningham Christian Church 125 W. 1st St., 620-298-3201 Church: 10:45 a.m. Minister: Mike McGovney</p> <p>Cunningham &amp; Penalosa United Methodist Church Sunday Services: Cunningham-10:45 a.m. Penalosa-9:15 a.m. Church: 620-298-2090 Parish: 620-298-2245</p> <p>Sacred Heart Catholic Church 404 E. 1st St., 620-298-2601 Saturday: 4 p.m. Father Daryl Befort</p> <p><b>KINGMAN</b> Kingman Methodist Church 133 E. D Ave., 620-532-3381 www.kingmanumc.org Sunday Service: 10:30 am Rev. Brad Kirk</p> <p>Christ Church Episcopal 332 N. Spruce, 620-532-2488 Sunday Service: 10 a.m. Rev. Charles Kerschen</p> <p>Church of Christ 133 W. Washington, 620-532-2315 Sunday Bible Class: 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. Wed. Bible Class: 7 p.m. Minister Darrell Decker</p> <p>Covenant Assembly of God 400 Coronado, 620-532-2115</p>	<p>Sunday: 10 a.m. Wednesday: 7 p.m. Pastor Raymond Baseleous</p> <p>Kingman Christian Church 501 N. Main, 620-532-2331 Sunday School: 9 a.m. Sunday Service: 10 a.m. Pastor Kelly Jayne</p> <p>First Baptist Church 200 E. C Ave., 620-532-3797 kingmanchurch.org Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service: 10:30 a.m. Pastor Michael Stephens</p> <p>Cornerstone Fellowship Church 1620 S. Main, 620-532-5990 www.kingmanmennonite.org Sunday Service: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School: 11 a.m. Youth Group: 6:30 p.m. Pastor David Roth</p> <p>First Presbyterian Church 201 E. D Ave., 620-532-2491 Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m. Rev. Dawn Flippin</p> <p>New Beginnings Fellowship 323 N Main Sunday Service 10:30 am Pastor Rick Moore</p> <p>St. Patrick Catholic Church 638 W. D Ave., 620-532-5440 www.stpatskingman.org Saturday Mass: 5 p.m. Sunday Masses, 8 a.m. &amp; 10 a.m. Father Andrew Walsh</p>	<p><b>MURDOCK</b> United Methodist Church 2455 SE Murdock Ave., 6 20-680-1686 Services: 9:15 a.m. Rev. Angela DeVore</p> <p><b>MT. VERNON</b> St. Rose Catholic Church 4813 NE 150th Ave. Saturday Mass: 4:30 p.m. Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m. Father Dan Duling</p> <p><b>NASHVILLE</b> St. John Lutheran Church 515 S Gregory St., 620-246-5220 Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Divine Services, 8:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>NORWICH</b> Norwich Christian Church 339 S. Main, 620-478-2677 Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Pastor Eric Taylor</p> <p>Church of Christ 106 Fairfield, 620-478-2819 Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Church: 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>First Baptist Church 243 Briarwood, 620-478-2258 Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship Service, 11 a.m. Pastor Eric Taylor</p> <p>Norwich Methodist Church 623 E. Burns, 620-478-2322 Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Worship: 9:05 a.m. Pastor Cathy Holley</p>	<p><b>PENALOSA</b> Church of Christ 112 S. Spruce, Penalosa 620-532-2684</p> <p>Methodist Church (620) 532-2334 Service: 9:15 a.m.</p> <p><b>ST. LEO</b> St. Leo Catholic Church 8035 SW 160th Ave., 620-246-5370 Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Father Daryl Befort</p> <p><b>WATERLOO</b> St. Louis Catholic Church 9800 NE 20 St. Sunday Mass: 8:30 a.m. Father Dan Duling</p> <p><b>WILLOWDALE</b> St. Peter Catholic Church P. O. Box 86 620-243-5451 Saturday: 8:30 a.m. Father Daryl Befort</p> <p><b>ZENDA</b> St. John Catholic Church 109 N. Ada, 620-243-5451 Sunday: 10 a.m. Father Daryl Befort</p> <p>Zenda Methodist Church 101 N. Main, Zenda, KS Sunday Worship 9 a.m. Sunday School: Children: 8:30 a.m./Adult: 10 a.m. Lay Pastor J. L. Nichols 620-243-6953</p>
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These Sponsors Encourage you to Attend the Church of your Choice.

Kingman Drug Store, 211 N. Main, 532-5113  
 M3 Publishing 140 N. Main, 532-3151  
 Kingman Real Estate, 146 N. Main, 532-3581  
 Mollie's Attic, 213 N. Main, 532-5561

Dixon's Hardware, 325 N. Main, 532-2631  
 White's Foodliner, 858 E. D Ave., 532-3851  
 Jason and Stephanie Jump Family  
 Main Street Golf, 140 N. Main, 491-0547