

1/5/22

CONCORDIA'S 1ST CITY HALL

At first, the City of Concordia rented office space in business buildings. While James Hagaman was mayor, he would allow the city to stay in his building rent free. By 1875 some of the residents decided they needed to provide funding to build a city hall. It took a number of years before voters agreed to fund the building. It was erected in 1881 at 630 Washington Street. The fire department was on the ground floor with the jail behind. The city offices and courtroom were on the second floor. Prisoners complained when they were housed in the same area as the fire department's horses. As the years progressed, additions and improvements were made on the building.



Early day Concordia fire laddies were all dressed up to have their picture taken. The doughty firemen had decked their hose carts with bunting and decorated the city hall/fire department building which then stood on the site now occupied by the post office. Photo taken July 4, 1899.

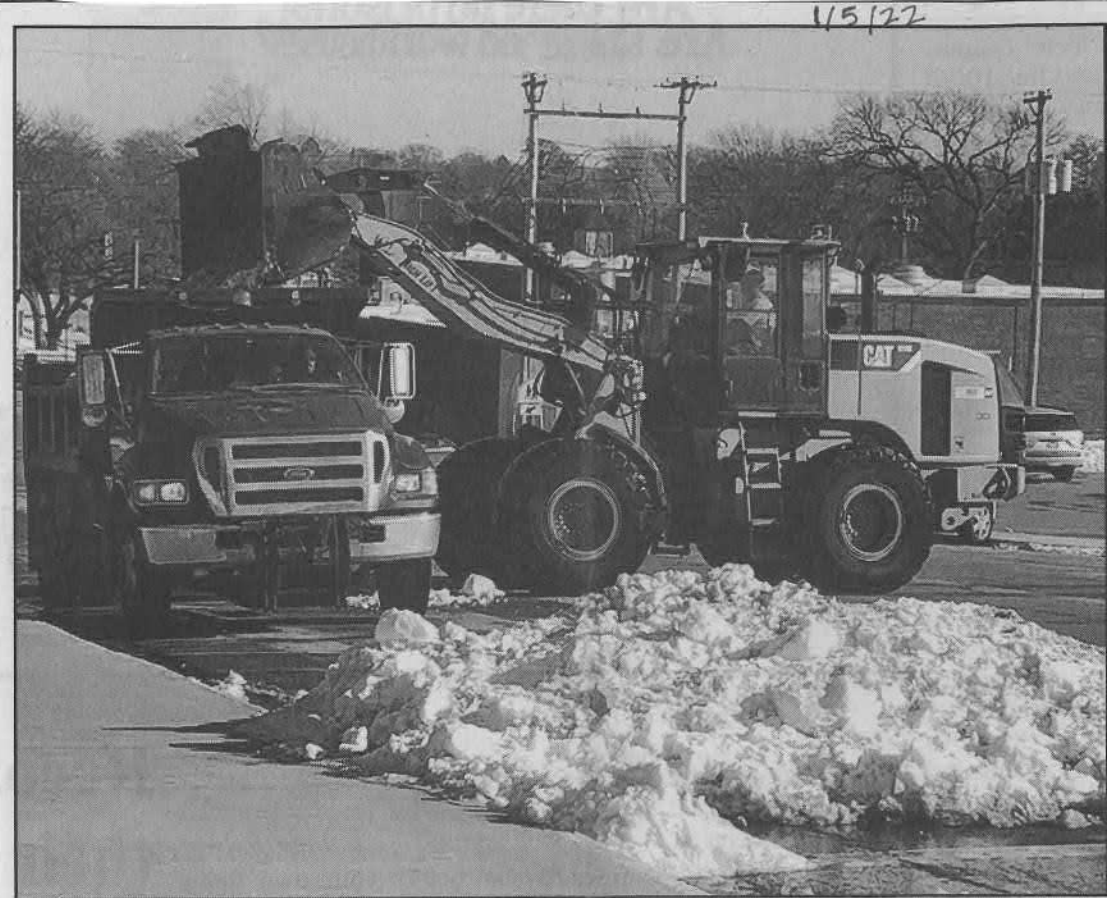
An interior stairway was moved to the exterior of the building to provide more space. An expansion covered the hand dug well. The night marshal experienced a harrowing ordeal when he fell through the floor. Luckily he was able to catch himself on the floor joists. As he spent

the rest of the night suspended, he worried about falling into the well beneath him. Some early morning risers finally heard him hollering for help. Much to his chagrin, the light revealed that the well had been filled and that his feet were just inches from the ground.

Around 1901 residents started complaining that the city hall was an embarrassment to the community. This also occurred during the time the federal government was searching for a location to build a federal post office. It was decided to sell the land for the amount of

\$2,000 to the government and seek a location for a new city hall. Of course this led to numerous rows between the citizens on different sides of the town. Each side wanted the fire department closer to their homes. The city paid \$400 to rent the McDonald building for a year. Part of the rental agreement included the city paying for improvements to adapt the building to their needs. This building was located across the street from the Blade on Washington Street.

Finally the decision for the location of the new city hall was made. In 1913, it would be built upon three lots at the corner of Sixth & Lincoln which cost the city \$4,000 to purchase. The Scott Brothers won the contract to build the city hall for \$19,516.81. This did not include the added expense of the plumbing, wiring and heating system. The construction of the city hall wouldn't be complete without its disputes and financial issues. The history of Concordia's second city hall will be continued.



Snow removal

City of Concordia employees clean off what is left of the snow, that fell last week, off of West 11th Street Wednesday morning. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)

BIDS WANTED

The City of Concordia is accepting bids for their 1989 Gomaco GT 6200 Commander curb and gutter slip form paving machine, 3,900 hours. Mules, stakes, string and other components will be sold with the machine. All equipment sold as-is. Buyer must haul machine and components from the City Shop by February 28, 2022.

Bids will be accepted at City Hall until 2:00PM on Thursday, January 13, 2022. Equipment may be viewed by appointment only. Call City Hall (785) 243-2670 to schedule an appointment.

Bids must be submitted in writing to the City Clerk, City Hall, 701 Washington, PO Box 603, Concordia, KS 66901, and placed in a sealed envelope marked Curb Machine Bid. Envelopes received thereafter will be returned to the sender, unopened. Bids will be opened for administrative review at 2 PM on January 13, 2022, and considered by the City Commission at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, January 19, 2022.

The City of Concordia reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason.

Commission approves change order, COLA

A change order for the now completed downtown alley project and a resolution authorizing a cost of living adjustment in the amount of 3.2 percent for all eligible classified and non-classified city employees were among the action items approved by the Concordia city commission during its regular meeting Wednesday night at City Hall.

The commission approved the fourth change order, in the amount of \$57,397.54 for the downtown alley project construction contract with Orr Wyatt Streetscapes, to cover the cost of additional work that was necessary in the west block of the alleys between Sixth and Seventh streets.

According to a report from

Don Dean, project engineer for Campbell & Johnson Engineers PA, the items covered in the change order were extra work due to existing unknown factors discovered during the construction of the project. It included the replacement of a sanitary sewer system that was over 110 years old, with a street pavement system over 85 years of age, and numerous pavement and utility repairs that were not visible prior to the project.

City manager Amy Lange informed the commissioners that the city has requested that the Community Development Block Grant fund its fair portion of the change order.

"What we are also pleased to report is that, because of the

favorable bid to this project, even with change order four, we are still \$80,000 under the original budget amount. So we are very pleased to hear that," Lange said.

Total allocation for the project, including the \$571,600 from the Community Development Block Grant, was \$1,032,686.

The total project expense, to date, is \$950,659.04.

The project included the replacement of six-inch sanitary sewer line, the replacement of the 18-inch storm sewer line and the regrading of the pavement in the alleys from Lincoln Street to State Street.

Lange said that she does expect a construction inspection fee increase with Campbell & Johnson as a result of the delays

in the project.

"They really did a great job in making sure the work that was being done was very quality work," Lange said of Campbell & Johnson.

With an original completion date of September 1 for project, the contract with Orr Wyatt Streetscapes was extended by 106 calendar days because of rain delays, extra work due to substandard soil conditions and delays caused by private utility contractors.

"When I look back at it now, I don't know how you could have anticipated anything. Everything that was discovered was buried," Ken Johnson, Campbell & Johnson, said.

(see Commission on page 10)

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COLA Increase

Also during the meeting the commission approved the resolution authorizing the cost of living adjustment (COLA) increase.

During the fiscal year 2022 budget study session, a 1.2 percent COLA was recommended for eligible city employees based on the year-end 2020 12-month average consumer price index (CPI) for all cities.

Lange informed the commission that by May 2021, inflationary pressure pushed the 2021 CPI above five percent, and it has continued to increase since.

The commission approved a resolution in November 2021 authorizing a 1.2 percent COLA for fiscal year 2022.

As city staff continued to monitor and experience increased inflationary pressure for basic living necessities, it was determined that an additional COLA for fiscal year 2022 may provide some interim relief for city staff and may aid in retention efforts. It may also provide stability by avoiding a sharp spike for fiscal year 2023, where a 4.7 percent CPI increase from 2020 is expected.

It was reported to the commission that an additional COLA in the amount of two percent can be absorbed by the general fund without a budget amendment, but will require use of reserves for fiscal year 2022.

Heritage Trail Signage

In other action taken during the meeting, the commission approved the purchase of signage for Heritage Trail from Wildside Creative in the amount of \$13,578.31, with \$10,000 funded by private donors and grant funds and the remainder funded by the city's capital improvement projects fund.

Following a public contest, Heritage Trail was selected by the commission in May 2018 for the name of the walking trail around the South Development.

The commission discussed how trail signage could be used to promote the rich heritage of Concordia, especially those national events or movements with a direct connection to the city.

Since the time of that discussion, the Pros of Con, a young professionals group and subcommittee of the Concordia Chamber of Commerce, decided to raise funds for the signage project, and \$10,000 was raised.

The city had allocated \$3,000 for the signage project.



CMC award presentation

Concordia city clerk Stacey Smith, right, presents Megan Murdock with an award for earning her Certified Municipal Clerk designation during the Concordia city commission meeting on Wednesday night.

City staff engaged with Wildside Creative to design durable and attractive signage for the trail, that coordinated with the existing benches and light poles.

The final design by Wildside Creative includes black steel posts set at angles with green steel arches. A welcome sign located at the trailhead will include a green canopy providing shade and information about the his-

tory of the trail and a view of the trail map.

A three-sided wayfinding sign will be located at the intersection of the one-mile loop and the trail leg leading to Broadway Street. There will be two-sided wayfinding signs located at the other two trail entrances, at 20th and Broadway and 21st and Lincoln. Four smaller two-sided distance-tracking signs will be located along the loop so trail users can walk clockwise or counterclockwise along the trail. Each sign will include a historical snippet about Concordia.

Installation of the signage will be done by the city's public works staff.

The goal is to complete installation of the signage by the spring of 2022.

Accepting Property Deed

The commission approved accepting the deed to the property located at 330 West Sixth St. from the Concordia Land Bank.

The city acquired the property in 2015, and in 2016 it was placed in the land bank.

In August 2020, the city commission approved the use of Tax Increment Financing funds to demolish the dilapidated houses at 326 and 330 West Sixth St. and the subsequent construction of a public parking lot, at an estimated cost of \$265,000.

The city is currently in the process of acquiring the property at 326 West Sixth St. through the eminent domain process.

"We are just about complete on that. Just waiting on the judge's order and then we will have possession of that property," Lange said.

Appointment

Appointing Troy Hardacre to the Planning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals was approved by the commission.

Murdock Honored

City employee Megan Murdock was honored during the meeting for receiving her Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation, that is awarded by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC), an organization of over 14,000 clerks from around the world.

Murdock attended the four-year IIMC-sponsored institute, held annually at Wichita State University, and graduated in 2018.

To obtain CMC status, one must attain at least 60 education points and 50 experience points.

There are only 138 certified clerks in Kansas.

Executive Sessions

The commission met in executive session for the purpose of discussing confidential business data with Lange, city attorney Justin Ferrell, Cloud County Health Center administrator David Garnas and Cloud County Health Center board of trustees president Phil Gilliland.

The commission then met in executive session with Lange and Ferrell for the attorney-client privilege.



Burning the pile

The large pile of trees and tree limbs that have been dropped off at the city yards at the north end of Concordia is burned on Monday morning. (Blade photo Jay Lowell)

1/10/22

THANK YOU

Thank You to All who Attended my Retirement Party and Sent Cards after my 37 years with the City of Concordia.

Your Thoughts and Well Wishes are Truly Appreciated.

Ron Copple

Commission approves action items

An increase in EMS fees, additional construction inspection fees paid to Campbell & Johnston PA, and the sale of the City's 1989 Gomaco GT 6200 Commander curb and gutter slip form paving machine, were three of the Action Items discussed and approved during the regular meeting of the Concordia City Commission on Wednesday, January 19.

As a result of project delays by private utilities and additional work reflected in Change Orders No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Downtown Alley Project, Campbell & Johnson incurred additional costs for construction inspection services. Ken Johnson of Campbell & Johnson and city manager Amy Lange discussed the additional costs and agreed on an additional fee of \$24,000.

Lange reported that even with the inclusion of the additional expense, the overall project remains under budget: the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) of \$561,660.00 (54.39% of cost), and the Local Match of \$471,025.00 (45.61%) is \$1,032,686.00. The Total Project Expense to date is: \$974,659.04

The City's 1989 Gomaco GT 6200 Commander curb and gutter slip form paving machine has

sat idle for over ten years. Lange reported that most of the curb and gutter work performed by City staff is of small enough scope to be done by hand. Larger projects are contracted out, which keeps City staff available and focused on other necessary maintenance work. It was determined that the equipment is no longer needed by the City.

Bids were solicited on January 5, 2022 via advertisement in the Concordia Blade-Empire. Sealed bids were opened at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 13, 2022. The commission accepted the bid of \$4,400 from ProCon Construction, LLC for the City's curb and gutter machine. The equipment and associated components must be hauled away by February 28, 2022.

In other action taken, the Concordia Fire Department will increase EMS fees for the purpose of keeping up with the increase in EMS supplies. In the past several years the cost of EMS supplies has increased, and supplies are harder to come by. Lange stated that the City needs to keep up with this increase to continue to give the best EMS service to citizens. On EMS runs, the supplies and personal hours are factored into the cost of the run. The mileage is to cover the

fuel and service for the trucks. The fee schedule shows an increase in all the levels to help offset the cost of replacing supplies.

For example: the Base Rate Basic Life Support Non-Emergency fee will increase to \$700; the Base Rate Emergency fee will increase to \$750; the Base Rate Advance Life Support Emergency fee will be \$850; Rescue Truck per call \$400.

A notable change is the standby time. The current Standby Service, ambulance, is \$35 per hour; the current Standby Service, rescue truck, is \$20 per hour. The per hour charge will stay the same, but there is now a Contract Standby fee that would be used at the school and race track, as well as other locations and events. The Contract would be set at \$350 for 5 events. The average event lasts about 3 hours, so there could be a savings to those groups of about \$125.

The city commission approved the appointment of Mark Paul to another term on the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). Paul has served on the BZA for the better part of 20 years and is the current chairperson.

The Board of Zoning Appeals is responsible for hearing and

deciding on appeals, variances and exceptions to the zoning and subdivision regulations, as well as floodplain development. The Board of Zoning Appeal's decision is final and any appeal to their decision must be filed in District Court within 30 days of their decision.

The City Commission also voted to approve the request to lift development requirements for Lot 3B, Block A, College Drive Park.

On December 19, 2018, the City entered into a development agreement with Ridge Investment Group for the sale of Lot 3, Block A, College Drive Park. At that point in time, the developer had plans to develop half the property immediately. Thus the development agreement included a reversion clause if no development occurred within 18 months. It also contained a reversion clause if the remainder of the property was not developed within five years. The College Drive Park Land Pricing Policy established by the City Commission via Resolution No. 2017-2057 and effective June 7, 2017 was used to determine the sale price of this property from the City to Ridge Investment Group, which was ultimately \$0.
(See commission on page 9)

Commission

(continued from page 1)

Ridge Investment Group proceeded to split Lot 3 into Lot 3A and Lot 3B, following the established process. A building was constructed on Lot 3A which is now occupied by Dollar Tree. Lot 3B remains vacant, with the reversion clause deadline on December 19, 2023.

Ridge Investment Group recently sold Lot 3B to Cloud County Health Center (CCHC). The development agreement allows Ridge Investment Group to sell or assign the property without the City's consent, and the agreement is binding to all heirs, legal representative,

successors, and assigns. Therefore, the reversion clause for lack of development of the original development agreement between the City and Ridge Investment Group is binding to CCHC.

CCHC is currently developing Lots 5 and 6 nearby, only separated by Lot 4 which is a permanent drainage easement. CCHC does not have definite plans to develop Lot 3B at this point in time, and requested that the City Commission lift the requirement for development of Lot 3B by December 19, 2023 or risk reversion of property ownership back to the City.



Smoothings things out

A city of Concordia employee uses a motor grader to smooth things out in the 1500 block of Spruce Street on Monday morning. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)

1/24

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES WE WANT YOU!!!



PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Essential functions: Administrative and supervisory tasks in planning, directing and participating in the maintenance and improvement of city paved and unpaved streets, alleys, storm drains, traffic control systems, snow removal, airport improvement projects, city-owned fueling stations, and all equipment. Pay \$53,000-\$60,000 depending on experience.

MUNICIPAL MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

Responsible for the major and minor service of diesel/gasoline motors and electrical systems of a variety of passenger vehicles, heavy equipment and apparatus, lawn mowers and other small engines, including regular service and minor repairs.

MUNICIPAL SERVICE WORKER/OPERATOR - UTILITIES DIVISION

Responsible for routine operation and maintenance of the Water Production, Water Distribution and Wastewater Collection Systems within the City of Concordia. Operates equipment as needed, including but not limited to backhoe, dump truck, jackhammer, and tractor.

MUNICIPAL SERVICE WORKER/OPERATOR - PUBLIC WORKS

Assist in the maintenance or construction of streets, alleys, storm sewers and traffic control devices, operate dump trucks and snow plow equipment, perform manual labor on projects and maintenance duties, may assist maintenance technician on repairs to department vehicles and equipment. Operates other equipment as needed.

DISPATCHER

Provide two-way radio communications for public safety departments, 911 and administrative telephone services for Cloud County residents and first responders. Maintain Concordia Police Department records.

Applications will be accepted until positions are filled. Utilities and Public works positions must possess or be able to obtain a valid Class B Commercial Drivers License within one (1) year, and have an established personal driving history that is acceptable for coverage by the City's insurance carrier. Physical agility and drug screening test will follow all conditional offers of employment for all positions.

Apply at City Clerk's office, 701 Washington. 785-243-2670. Job descriptions at www.concordiakans.org. Reasonable accommodations are available for persons needing assistance. Requests for accommodations should be made at the time of application. EOE.

CONCORDIA
— K A N S A S —
We Build Community!

CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS
TREASURER'S QUARTERLY REPORT
 FOR THE PERIOD FROM October 1, 2021 THROUGH December 31, 2021

1/28/22

FUNDS	3rd Quarter			4th Quarter
	Ending Cash Balances	Receipts	Expenditures	Ending Cash Balances
100 General Fund	\$ 1,191,275.39	\$ 1,575,271.88	\$ 2,119,471.20	\$ 647,076.07
203 Industrial Development	31,102.63	1,084.53	30,000.00	2,187.16
205 Special Highway	173,934.62	34,923.72	33,186.95	175,671.39
206 D.A.R.E. Grant	4,170.40	550.00	-	4,720.40
208 Cyber Crimes	442.10	-	-	442.10
214 Animal Shelter	43,397.80	3,182.66	4,263.64	42,316.82
217 Special Park and Recreation	24,773.56	3,264.46	-	28,038.02
221 Computer Equipment/Replacement	19,129.08	-	1,384.98	17,744.10
222 Vehicle Equipment Reserve Acct.	646,717.00	-	4,916.94	641,800.06
230 Judges Training Fund	2,125.15	2,569.50	2,148.65	2,546.00
244 911 PSAP	53,007.89	21,631.50	6,549.94	68,089.45
250 Fire Dept. Grants & Donations	8,926.78	100.00	1,046.54	7,980.24
255 Police Dept Grants & Donations	6,426.59	-	-	6,426.59
260 Animal Trust Fund	30,475.24	22.69	-	30,497.93
270 Cemetery Endowment	41,456.85	-	-	41,456.85
290 Recreation Grants & Donations	7,451.94	-	-	7,451.94
301 Bond and Interest	2,115.42	7,227.48	-	9,342.90
303 Tax Increment Bond Fund	2,574.55	2,657.52	5,232.07	-
444 TIF Projects	356,867.93	6,071.03	105,357.40	257,581.56
450 Capital Improvement Projects	212,560.12	269,944.00	309,476.84	173,027.28
451 Wastewater Treatment Facility	4,413,265.72	89,000.88	292,025.71	4,210,240.89
454 American Rescue Plan	378,280.42	2,250.50	101,741.70	278,789.22
550 Central Garage Fund	-	40,479.16	31,634.74	8,844.42
601 Water/Sewer General	993,264.65	395,796.63	252,469.59	1,136,591.69
650 Gas Fund	24,240.83	8,798.26	6,618.86	26,420.23
710 Post Fire Debris Removal Fund	9,937.50	-	-	9,937.50
725 COC Cafeteria Plan	13,012.57	5,357.64	6,112.39	12,257.82
735 Library Fund	(0.00)	4,034.61	2,215.55	1,819.06
736 Library Employee Benefit	0.00	1,335.01	540.77	794.24
750 Continuing Econ. Development Grant	308,588.81	3,315.03	-	311,903.84
780 Cloud County Landfill	850.80	44,473.86	4,931.59	40,393.07
790 NCKRTC Trauma Council	14,911.47	2,250.00	2,250.00	14,911.47
802 Water Protection Fund	1,144.80	1,432.18	1,156.12	1,420.86
TOTALS	\$ 9,016,428.61	\$ 2,527,024.73	\$ 3,324,732.17	\$ 8,218,721.17

LIABILITIES:

General Obligation Bonds	6,915,000.00
TIF General Obligation Bonds	-
Capital Leases	689.58
TOTAL	\$ 6,915,689.58

CASH AVAILABLE:

Cash on Hand	1,031.33
Checking Accounts	5,331,503.86
Money Markets & Savings Accounts	802,314.04
Certificates of Deposit	2,083,871.94
Reconciling Items per Bank Rec	-
TOTAL CASH & INVESTMENTS	\$ 8,218,721.17

Amber Farha
 Amber Farha, City Treasurer

I, Amber Farha, do hereby certify that the above statement is correct.

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WE WANT YOU!!!



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Friday, February 4, 2022

City commission has public hearing on DBE program

An updated Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program, design and construction services for development of a box hangar at Blosser Municipal Airport, and a 2021 report on the Broadway Plaza were among the action items and presentations at the Concordia city commission's regular meeting on Wednesday.

The city of Concordia, owner of Blosser Municipal Airport, has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26.

The city of Concordia has received federal financial assistance from DOT, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, the city of Concordia has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26.

The city of Concordia is required to have a current DBE program for all Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)-funded contracts and agreements, and it must be updated every three years. The multi-year DBE program, including participation goals, must include an opportunity for public input prior to FAA approval of updates.

The commission held a public hearing to obtain information relevant to the goal-setting process. The proposed DBE participation

goal for federal fiscal years 2022 through 2024 is 3.85%. The last two goals were 4.24% (2019-2021) and 5.15% (2016-2018).

Among the requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 are record keeping requirements in which the city of Concordia will provide data about its DBE Program to DOT. The city will also create and maintain a bidders list. The purpose of the list is to provide as accurate data as possible about the universe of DBE and non-DBE contractors and subcontractors who seek to work on the city of Concordia's DOT-assisted contracts, for use in helping to set overall goals.

The city of Concordia will also maintain records documenting a firm's compliance with the requirements, and will keep a complete application package for each certified firm and all affidavits of no-change, change notices, and on-site reviews.

The city of Concordia has signed assurances applicable to all DOT-assisted contracts and their administration, including assurances that the city of Concordia shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the award and performance of any DOT-assisted contract or in the administration of its DBE program or the requirements of 49 CFR Part 26.

(see City on page 4)

City

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After discussion on another action item, the city commission authorized city manager Amy Lange to sign a consulting services agreement with Benesch for the 80'x80' box hangar project at Blosser Municipal Airport in the lump sum amount of \$140,480.00, plus a time and material fee not to exceed \$29,385.00, to be paid from the city's capital improvement program (CIP) funds with a 90% reimbursement from the FAA ACIP program expected.

Development of additional hangar space is listed on the 2013 Update to the Airport Master Plan. Development of additional hangar space to house larger airplanes at the airport is a direct and desired impact of constructing the recently completed longer and wider runway.

The project will be done in two phases, the first of which

will be design in FFY22 (Federal Fiscal Year 2022), and then construction will occur in FFY23, pending funding availability & FAA concurrence of award.

Funding for this project would be through a combination of FAA entitlement funds and CIP funds. Each year, the city receives \$150,000 from the FAA to accomplish projects listed on the ACIP. The funds can accumulate up to four years, then must be spent with a minimum 10% local match based on the project estimate.

Consultant selection for this project was performed in accordance with Advisory Circular 150/5100-14E. Requests for Proposals were sent to five firms and advertised on the city's website and in *The Concordia Blade-Empire*.

Benesch and Campbell and Olsson were the only

proposals received. The selection committee used a rubric for the selection criteria described in Section 2.8.2, and weighted averages for each criterion were then determined. The result was the selection of Benesch as the consultant for all projects to be completed within the next five years.

The fees proposed by Benesch for the design, bidding, construction administration and project closeout services are in line with the estimates submitted as part of the grant application.

In other action taken, the city commission authorized Lange to sign a contract with iSi Industrial Services to remove asbestos-containing material identified in their report for the structures at 326 and 330 W. Sixth Street. The City intends to demolish the structures as a precursor to construction of a public parking lot at this same location.

On Wednesday, January 19, iSi Industrial Services performed an asbestos inspection of both properties and found asbestos was present in thermal systems insulation, window glazing, and transite siding. This material must be removed

and disposed according to OSHA, EPA and KDHE regulations prior to demolition of the structures. Following removal of the asbestos-containing materials, bids will be solicited for demolition of these properties.

The city commission heard an update from Nikki Reed on the Broadway Plaza. There were 132 events held at the Plaza in 2021. At least 3,759 people were on the property for those events, including approximately 2,100 people just in the month of September. Events that drew over 200 guests were the Mother's Day Vendor Fair, the CES Reward Party, the Celebrate Freedom Church Service, the Concordia Art Walk, the CHS Homecoming Presentation, stunt comedian Wacky Chad, and the All-Class Reunion featuring the popular band Vandelyn Kross.

After a 50-minute executive session, the commission then held a study session with several members of the Airport Advisory Board regarding development of airport-owned land, for both commercial and airport-related usage, including a discussion about creating an aircraft maintenance facility.

City awarded funds for ladder truck

The city of Concordia is one step closer toward being able to purchase a new ladder truck for the Fire Department following the announcement by Kansas Governor Laura Kelly that 40 rural Kansas Communities will receive Community Development Block Grants (CDGB) totaling more than \$17.6 million to help support critical community development projects.

Included in the block grants awarded is \$560,000 to the city of Concordia for the purchase of a new ladder truck.

"These grants will help our communities improve public safety, revitalize vital infrastructure and maximize economic opportunity for our Kansas families," Kelly said. "It's further proof that investments like this are critical to positively impact lives of Kansans living in rural parts of the state."

Purchased in 2001, the Concordia Fire Department's current ladder truck is a 1999 model.

The estimated cost of a new ladder truck, which would be similar in functionality to the current one with a 500-gallon water tank and 1,500-gpm water pump, is \$1,120,000.

"The replacement ladder truck will be a single-axle truck, resulting in improved maneuverability on our narrower streets, which allows us to make it our first-out truck," Concordia Fire Chief Eric Voss said in a statement.

During a meeting back in October 2021, the Concordia city commission approved six action items connected to the effort to secure grant funding for the purchase of a new ladder truck.

During the meeting, the commissioners were informed that when a ladder truck reaches an age of 25 years it is no longer counted as a ladder truck for the purpose of the community's Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating.

The ISO rating determines the property insurance premium rate paid by property owners and is based on the assigned fire agency's ability to respond to a fire emergency with respect to staffing, training, tactical operations and equipment.

Included in the items approved during that October meeting was a resolution affirming the city's legal authority to apply for a CDBG.

The city of Concordia received a \$30,000 grant from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation to help in the purchase of the ladder truck and has also applied for United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development grant funding for a lease-purchase agreement to cover the remaining cost of the truck.

"We continue to work to stretch our local dollars further with each grant application. We believe the grant awarding agencies are confident we will use the money well and that our community is worth the investment. And we sincerely appreciate their investment," Concordia city manager Amy Lange said.

The North Central Regional Planning Commission is coordinating all funding applications for the ladder truck and will be the grant administrator.

"We are grateful for the grant assistance the North Central Regional Planning Commission has provided us. Their expertise in grant writing and administration and willingness to partner with us allows city staff to focus labor resources on daily operations and planning for other areas of the city," Lange said.

In Cloud County, the city of

Glasco and the city of Miltonvale also have been awarded CDBG funds.

Glasco will receive \$323,530 for improvements to the lift station and sanitary sewer system and Miltonvale will receive \$383,000 for the wastewater collection system and facility improvements.

The awards are administered through the Kansas Department of Commerce and granted from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Small Cities CDBG program.

Eligible CDBG public investment projects help fund water and wastewater projects, housing rehabilitation and other community facilities and services.

"Community Development Block Grants strike at the core of what we all want to achieve in Kansas: strong communities, healthy families and a high quality of life," Kansas lieutenant governor and Commerce secretary David Toland said. "The investments announced today will create better living conditions in Kansas, which in turn drives new economic opportunities and promotes new growth across our state."

Today in History ^{2/16}

50 Years Ago

February 16, 1972

The Concordia office of the Kansas Employment Security Division, 123 East Sixth Street, had been renamed The Concordia Job Opportunity Center... 1954 Concordia High School graduate Glen A. Shaffer was promoted to major in the U. S. Air Force... candidates for CHS basketball and wrestling homecoming king and queen were: Melinda Melhus, Cindy Balthazor, Ann Collins, Susan Bauer, Nancy Townsend, Clark Coco, Mark Swiercinsky, Steve Davis and Mike Charbonneau... Oriental Love Lamps were on sale for \$1.88 at Banner 5-10 Crazy Days sale.

25 Years Ago

February 16, 1997

Introduction to engineering students at Cloud County Community College were to build a Multiple Egg Landing Vehicle, with the objective being to construct a vehicle, carrying two eggs, which would descend 25 feet and land without breaking the eggs... winners in the Concordia Junior High spelling bee, Brea Prindaville, Lacy Jensen, Eric Thiessen, Katie Baldwin, Misty Chestnut, Katherine McFall (winner), Chris McKenna (alternate), earned the right to participate in the county meet... Randy and Tisha Mendenhall announced the birth of their daughter, Abigail Nicole.

10 Years Ago

February 16, 2012

The Concordia City Commission decided that chickens would not be allowed within city limits... Alstom Power Inc., Air Preheater Co. announced the promotion of Jay T. Reynolds to deputy factory director... Amber and Chuck Lambertz announced the birth of their

daughter, Norah Kathleen... Danielle Bergstrom, daughter of Jan Bergstrom and Larry and Gloria Bergstrom, all of Concordia and Lancyio Haskett, son of James and Norma Haskett, Clyde, announced their engagement and upcoming wedding... wheat was selling at \$6.60, corn was \$6.10, and milo was \$5.92 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago

February 16, 2017

Winners in the Conservation District Poster Contest were Ambriana Snavely, Anna Widen, Caden Stein, Noah Demars, Kaycee Waite, Kent Farmer, Daegen DeGraff, Julia Salquero-Bontempo, Ayden Williams, Jessica Handy, Jasmine Manderscheid and Braya Darnall... Concordia High School music students Maddelyn Meyer, Lydia Knapp, Addison Johnson, Elijah Steffen and Paul Frost were selected though an individual audition process to participate in the KMEA All State Honor Choir in Wichita... wheat was selling at \$3.67, corn was \$3.23, and milo was \$2.93 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago

February 16, 2021

A few of the words of wisdom regarding love from residents at Marquis Place: "Have fun," "Just say I love you," "Just know what you're doing," "Make every day a good day," "Be kind to others," "Husbands and wives need to work together," "Always take time to do things together," "Bite your tongue," and "Get a shot of whiskey"... VIP Majestic 4 manager Michael Allen was recognized by VIP Cinemas, Inc. for his efforts during a discount promotion... wheat was selling at \$5.89, corn was \$5.06, and milo was \$6.66 per bushel on local markets.

City approves extending demolition contract

Authorizing the extension of the contract for planned demolition of dilapidated structures and resolutions amending the city's demolition program policy and personnel handbook were approved by the Concordia commission during its regular meeting Wednesday night.

The commission approved authorizing mayor Ashley Hutchinson to sign an extension of 35 business days on the contract with Western Sales, Inc. for the demolition of dilapidated/dangerous properties in the city. The new completion date is April 4 at 5 p.m.

On February 15, 2021, the city of Concordia was awarded a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the Kansas Department of Commerce (KDOC) for demolition of dangerous structures in Concordia.

Funding for the grant is provided in part by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) via CDBG (\$48,975), and in part through the city of Concordia Demolition Program (\$48,975) via its capital improvement plan (CIP).

Structures in a non-occupied and dilapidated/dangerous condition were targeted for this program. Property owners were invited to participate on a voluntary basis prior to application, as properties had to be identified prior to the city's grant application submittal to the KDOC.

At this point, the city has properties on a wait list. HUD requires no development of the property for five years following demolition of the structure, which could be a deterrent to program participation. There is no cost to the property owner to participate in this program.

The North Central Regional Planning Commission (NCRPC) is serving as the grant administrator for the city of Concordia on this grant.

On November 17, 2021, seven sealed bids were opened at 3:01 p.m. at City Hall. On December 1, 2021, the demolition contract was awarded to Western Sales, Inc. in the amount of \$69,700.

Western Sales, Inc. pulled the contract on December 14, 2021, to allow for the asbestos contractors to properly remove all asbestos and not delay the project.

The current extension is due to unforeseen circumstances outside of the contractor's control.

The commission also approved the resolution that amends the city's demolition program. The amended policy disqualifies structures damaged by fire or other means in excess of 75 percent of the appraised value of the structure in which the city received 15 percent of the insurance proceeds.

Bruno Rehbein, city inspector, reported to the board that one of the unintended consequences of the city's demolition program, that was established in 2007, is the qualifying of a recently damaged structure in which the city received insurance proceeds to hold for leverage against damaged property.

Rehbein informed the commission that a few times the circumstance has arisen that the property owner received a rebate from the demolition program and their insurance holdings back once the property is safe again.

Amending the demolition program policy takes care of the issue.

Also during the meeting the commission approved a resolution amending changes to the personnel handbook.

Regarding the city's employee handbook, further discussion among department heads since the last handbook update in November generated more suggestions for changes.

(see City on page 10)

City

2/18

(continued from page 1)

Upon city manager Amy Lange's recommendation that it was in the best interest of the city, the commission voted for several new policies to be activated immediately rather than waiting until November when the handbook is normally updated.

Among the changes added to the handbook: commissioners voted to require background checks on all of the city's full-time new hires, and changes were made regarding the use of sick leave and vacation days.

New employees in their first six months of employment have needed time off in order to quarantine from COVID-19 sickness or exposure, or even to attend to ill children.

The city staff believed it would be in the city's best interests if employees were allowed to use sick leave as they accrued it, regardless of how long they have been employed. Also, some em-

ployees who had reached the maximum level of accrued vacation hours were not being able to use the vacation before they lose it because of short-staffing issues. By allowing payment of hours when being denied the time off, the employee can still receive compensation.

During her city manager's report, Lange informed the commissioners that the city had received several applications for the director of public works position that was left vacant when Ron Copple retired back in December.

Lange said that she does anticipate working through a formal hiring process that will be a public process that is currently scheduled for March 3.

The board met in executive session for 15 minutes with Lange and city attorney Justin Ferrell for the purpose of discussing confidential business data. No action was taken following the session.



Tipped over

A trailer that was being pulled by a pickup that was fleeing law enforcement officers is tipped on its side after the pursuit ended with an accident in the 900 block of Lincoln Street on Wednesday. (Blade photo by Jim Lowell)

Two arrested after police chase ends in accident

Two suspects were arrested following a police chase, during which shots were fired, that ended with an accident in the 900 block of Lincoln Street on Wednesday afternoon.

Jacob D. Lyman, Bennet, Neb., was arrested for aggravated assault, fleeing and eluding, possession of stolen property and multiple drug and weapons charges.

Valerie N. Sanchez, Temple Bell, Texas, was arrested on multiple drug charges.

It was reported by the Concordia Police Department that at approximately 4:34 p.m. Wednesday, officers conducted a traffic stop at 14th and Archer on a Dodge Ram pickup pulling a trailer.

When the officers began investigating suspicious activity, the vehicle fled the scene.

A chase ensued, and officers pursued the vehicle out of the city limits going east on K-9 Highway. The vehicle turned off of

the highway about two miles east of Concordia and the pursuit continued going south.

Cloud County Sheriff's Office joined the pursuit. At this time the suspect pointed a gun out of the window of the vehicle and shot at the pursuing officers and a Concordia Police Department officer returned fire.

The chase continued back to K-9 Highway and then west towards Concordia.

The pickup headed south on Lincoln Street and in the 900 block the suspect lost control of the vehicle and came to a stop after it was surrounded by pursuing patrol units.

Lyman and Sanchez surrendered without incident.

There were no injuries reported and the investigation is ongoing.

The officer who returned fire is being placed on routine administrative leave pending an investigation.

Today in History

50 Years Ago

February 18, 1972

Miss Linda Lindeman of Vermillion, freshman at Cloud County Community College, re-established a Brownie Scout Troop in Concordia after Girl Scouting had lapsed for several years... the Concordia FFA chapter took first place in the North Central District Meats contest at Boogaart's Meat Products plant in Concordia: Jerry Istas, first place; Terry LeDuc, second; Don Garlow, third; Jim Lervold, fourth; Dean Morgan, tie for fifth; John May, eleventh... the V.F.W. held its third annual Uniform Party Dinner-Dance... two gallon jugs of Staley Sta-Puf were selling for \$1.69 at Boogaart's.

25 Years Ago

February 18, 1997

"Jukebox Saturday Night" was the theme for the 17th annual Unique Auction to benefit Cloud County Community College and a 1967 Rockola jukebox was one item to be auctioned off... John Chavey was named the Bill Summer Ford-Mercury Employee of the Year for 1996... Michelle Taddicken, daughter of Lisa Doyle and Bill Valcoure, had been selected as Concordia High School Student of the Month for February... Monica Detrixhe placed first in dramatic interpretation for Concordia at the Great Bend High School Forensic Tournament.

10 Years Ago

February 18, 2012

A reunion of former Concordia basketball coach John Tacha and members of the 1968 through 1974 Panther basketball teams brought about The Back-

boards For Success fundraiser, and \$3,300 was raised for new backboards in the junior-senior high school gymnasium in memory of former Panther player Brice Leon.... Concordia Middle School "Paws"itive Counts winners for February were Trevor McDaniel, sixth grade, and Addy Townsdin, fifth grade... wheat was selling at \$6.73, corn was \$6.19, and milo was \$6.01 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago

February 18, 2017

The statue of Orphan Train Rider Roberta "Happy" Slifer, sponsored by the Concordia Rotary Club, was unveiled at Cloud Village in City Park... Piper Ferrell, Isobel Chrisco and Teagan Breault were selected as Students of the Month for February at Concordia Elementary School... Sunset Home celebrated Valentine's Day by crowing a king, Bob Nelson, and queen, Avis Cory... wheat was selling at \$3.64, corn was \$3.20, and milo was \$2.90 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago

February 18, 2021

Local businesses and individuals donated Valentine's Day cards and candy to the card shower organized by the Concordia Chamber of Commerce, and the cards and candy were then delivered to residents at Mount Joseph Senior Village, Sunset Home and Marquis Place... Cole Stahlman had been selected as the Concordia High School Student of the Month for February... wheat was selling at \$5.92, corn was \$5.11, and milo was 6.71 per bushel on local markets.

SALVAGE ITEMS FROM CITY PROPERTY 326 & 330 W. 6th Street, Concordia, KS

The City intends to demolish the structures at 326 and 330 W. 6th Street, and construct a public parking lot. The public is invited to bid on items from these structures for salvage.

The exterior of 326 W. 6th and the interior and exterior of 330 W. 6th will be open for public viewing on Friday, February 25 from 4:00PM-6:30PM only. Sealed bids for desired items are due at that time.

Bids will be opened Monday, February 28. Successful bidders will be notified that day. Successful bidders must pay for their items at City Hall by 12:00PM Friday, March 4.

Successful bidders may remove their items only on Friday, March 4 between 4:00PM and 6:30PM. Bidders failing to remove their items during this time frame will forfeit their payment.

All proceeds from this salvage sale will go toward construction of the public parking lot.

Please contact City Hall with any questions.

(785) 243-2670.

2/21

MANAGER'S MINUTE

Amy L. Lange, City Manager, City of Concordia

February 2022

Punxsutawney Phil predicted another six weeks of winter, but I am setting my sights on spring and all the good things in store...lots of outside activities, spring flowers, and some much-needed rain! As you take your favorite four-legged family member on walks around town or to one of our parks, please remember to keep their rabies vaccination current to protect your family and our community. Occasionally, your pet may get loose, and a current dog registration will help our animal control officer quickly reunite them with you. During the month of March, dog tags are free of charge and can be obtained at City Hall during regular business hours. For more information about the City's animal control ordinance, visit www.concordiaaks.org.

While it may seem early to think about summer, the City is accepting applications now for summer seasonal positions in anticipation of interviewing candidates during the week of March 14. If you know someone who enjoys working outdoors and making a difference in our community, please encourage them to apply. Applications are available on the City's website.

Phase 2 improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant are underway. The City Commission approved the bid of Walters-Morgan Construction, Inc. in December 2020. Procurement of equipment began immediately, but physical work did not begin at the plant until October 2021. This phase includes electrical upgrades and a replacement generator, replacement influent pumps, and the installation of a reactor to complete the biosolids handling process. Once complete, the plant is prepared to operate for up to 72 hours during a power outage. It will be the first wastewater treatment plant in Kansas to produce Class A soil using a biosolids reactor to heat solids, lime, and sulfamic acid to sterilize pathogens, leaving only clean fertilizer for use on agriculture production fields as well as commercial or residential landscaping sites. The City intends to make this fertilizer available to the public free of charge, in bulk, with the recipient hauling it away from the Wastewater Treatment Plant site. Work is expected to be complete in Summer 2022. This project is being funded by a \$3/month/meter charge that began for water customers in January 2021 following the removal of the \$2/month/meter charge for swimming pool improvements.

The City partnered with the North Central Regional Planning Commission for the third consecutive year to apply for and administer a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) through the Kansas Department of Commerce. This \$560,000 grant award will assist the City with the purchase of a replacement ladder truck for the Fire Department, and helps stretch local tax dollars further for the anticipated \$1.2M purchase. Additional funding sources include \$30,000 from Dane G. Hansen Foundation and a potential grant from USDA Rural Development with the intent to enter into a lease-purchase agreement with USDA for the remainder of needed funds.

Eligibility for CDBG funds is based on population and resident income. The City's population determines the maximum award amount. A metric called Low-Moderate Income (LMI) rating is used to determine eligibility, and has a threshold of 51%. If a community has a census-based LMI rating of over 51%, the entire community qualifies to receive CDBG funds. If a community has an LMI rating less than 51%, income surveys of residents in targeted geographic areas must be collected and analyzed to determine eligibility. Grant awards are limited for use within that geographic region. The LMI rating is useful until the next census numbers are released, so the City's 53% rating qualified the City for CDBG grant funding for projects impacting the entire community. Recall the City received CDBG funding for the downtown alley / sewer project in 2020, the demolition of twelve unsafe and dangerous structures in 2021, and now the ladder truck in 2022. The new LMI ratings will be published in April 2022.

The Concordia Fire Department's ladder truck is a 1999 model. It has been well-maintained and has served our community since 2001, and may provide another community increased capability after being offered publicly for sale. The ladder maneuverability allows firefighters to access high-rise buildings as well as further reach for firefighting tactics for large single-story buildings. Communities with ladder trucks have a better opportunity to save lives and property, thus the ladder truck allows insurance companies to rate communities better, resulting in lower insurance premiums. However, the insurance rating agency only recognizes ladder trucks less than 25 years old. Older trucks do not count as ladder trucks, resulting in the potential for increased property insurance premiums for home and business owners. This insurance rating (ISO) is also impacted by staff training and policies. Therefore, the Concordia Fire Department continues to work toward highly trained staff and to implement policies that will favorably impact our community.

Each February, we celebrate our love for others through gifts and extra acts of kindness meant to show others we care for them. Love and gratitude are related, evoking similar emotional responses from us toward other people. I am grateful for all those who came before me, who set the stage for the successes we are experiencing in Concordia. I am grateful for all those with whom I work, who make our work possible and enjoyable. I am hopeful our residents recognize the gifts of caring provided through City services and operations each day as we continue to build community through good policy, projects, and partnerships.

Today in History ^{2/23}

50 Years Ago February 23, 1972

Edward Yoxall had joined Richard Kalivoda in the purchase of the Wright-Brady Travelers Insurance agency... Concordia High School senior Susan Harris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Delmer Harris Jr., advanced from semi-finalist to finalist in the 1972 National Merit Scholarship program... The Heart Fund was \$79.80 richer as a result of a bowling tournament at Hillcrest Lanes where Mary Jane Gallagher, with a 619 series, won first place in the women's division and Darrell Lesperance, with a 680 series, finished first in the men's division.

25 Years Ago February 23, 1997

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment was testing for possible ground water pollution near the Cloud County Historical Museum... Concordia Middle School students participating in the Kansas Association of Teachers of Mathematics Contest included Rans Lowell, Cody Moulton, Christina McFall, Shelby Prindaville, Bill Wheeler, Adam Taylor, Emily Bartz and Blake Vignery... Cloud County Community College vocal students Amy DeGraff and Shandie McCluskey, both of Concordia, and Mike Kruse, Beloit, provided the entertainment at the Lions Club Dinner.

10 Years Ago February 23, 2012

Susan Cantine-Maxson, executive director of the Brown Grand Theatre,

had been chosen to be the critic at the Outstanding Performance Festival for Large Group Speech events in Ames, Iowa... Jack and Joann Krager, who would be married 45 years on June 15, were honored at a reception at Sunset Home that celebrated love... Tiraa Davis, a senior on the Concordia High School basketball team, was chosen to be the CHS Athlete of the Week... wheat was selling at \$6.80, corn was \$6.25, and milo was \$6.07 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago February 23, 2017

The NJCAA Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) announced that its 2017 Hall of Fame class included Cloud County Community College coach Brett Erkenbrack as one of three inductees... four CCCC students were among 55 community college scholars named to the 2017 Kansas All-State Academic Team... wheat was selling at \$3.57, corn was \$3.16, and milo was \$2.86 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago February 23, 2021

The National Orphan Train (NOTC) honored Gertrude Breault for her years of service to NOTC with a lifetime appointment to the board... Concordia High School wrestlers Hunter Schroeder and Keyan Miller qualified for the Class 4A state tournament... wheat was selling at \$6.21, corn was \$5.13, and milo was \$6.73 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History ^{2/25}

50 Years Ago February 25, 1972

Concordia High School delegates and alternates to Sunflower Girls' State were: delegates, Daryl Koehn and Alice Thornton; alternates, Melanie Hanson and Sherry Vickel; and junior boys selected as delegates or alternates to Boy's State included: delegates, Kirk Gray, Robert "Bob" Garlow, and William "Bill" Garlow; and alternates, Mike Fuller, Lawrence "Larry" Metro and Richard Lesperance... Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Naillieux, Concordia, announced the approaching marriage of their daughter, Cynthia, to James Fellows, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Fellows of Concordia.

25 Years Ago February 25, 1997

A lawsuit had been filed against Cloud County Community College by a former student who claimed he was injured when the seat in front of a potter's wheel collapsed... shortly after selling Bobbie and Dots restaurant, Bobbie Paulsen became a part of Uniglobe Knowles Travel, working alongside Linda Houser... Eldon and Anita Wisdom were honored at a dinner to celebrate his 30 years of service to At&T... Vince and Jan Bombardier, Concordia, announced the engagement of their daughter, Stephanie, to Bill Barnes, son of Walter and Jane Barnes, Alma.

10 Years Ago February 25, 2012

Guests at the annual Employee Gratitude Dinner were entertained by members of the Sisters of St. Joseph Leadership Council, singing a Dixieland/rap song for the "Mardi Gras Abundance" occasion at the Motherhouse... pancakes were being sold

during the Cloud County Community College basketball games as a fundraiser for breast cancer research... "Birds of North American" was the program presented by Peggy Nelson to Athenium Club members... wheat was selling at \$6.75, corn was \$6.21, and milo was \$6.03 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago February 25, 2017

A 10-year, 100 percent tax exemption was unanimously approved for Concordia Technologies LLC by the Concordia City Commission... the eighth statue in the National Orphan Train Complex's statue program, representing Father Paul Fangman, was unveiled at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church... Autumn Zimmerman of Concordia was among the Kansas Wesleyan University debaters to place at the 26th annual Sweetheart Swing hosted by the University of Oklahoma and Texas A&M... wheat was selling at \$3.56, corn was \$3.11 and milo was \$2.81 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago February 25, 2021

Cloud County Health Center launched the Avera eCARE Emergency services system, allowing local physicians and emergency room staff immediate, virtual access to a team of physicians and nurses who specialize in emergency medicine... Concordia Elementary School Students of the Month for February were: kindergarten, Wyatt Seward; 1st grade, Zachary Urban; 2nd grade, Maddox Newville; 3rd grade, Ellie Abitz; 4th grade, Wyatt Mendenhall... wheat was selling at \$6.31, corn was \$5.22, and milo was \$6.82 per bushel on local markets.

Commission approves bid for demolition of structures

The demolition of structures on West Sixth Street next to the Brown Grand Theatre, the release of insurance proceeds on a fire-damaged structure on East First Street, and a contract to access Community Development Block Grant (CBDG) funds for a new ladder truck, were among the action items discussed and approved by the city commission during its regularly scheduled meeting on the evening of March 2.

Campbell & Johnson, PA, announced that two bids had been received for the demolition of homes at 326 West Sixth Street and 330 West Sixth Street. The city commission approved a bid of \$18,900 from Smith Construction Services of Scottsville. The demolition is to be completed by April 4.

In August 2020, the city commission authorized using Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds to build a public parking lot where the properties at 326 West Sixth St. and 330 West Sixth St. are located. Established in 2000, the Concordia Redevelopment District, known as the TIF District, is designed to address blight and improve public infrastructure to support economic development. The Sixth Street parking lot project was added to the city's capital improvement plan in 2018. The scope of the work includes property acquisition, site clearance, and construction of a hard surface lot and amenities including lighting, sidewalk, landscaping, and related improvements.

City manager Amy Lange advised the commission that the properties on Sixth Street are owned by the city, and there is no public access. Anyone trespassing on the properties will be prosecuted.

On November 25, 2020, the city of Concordia received insurance proceeds in the amount of \$9,937.50 on a fire-damaged structure at 103 East First Street. The premise has been made safe and secure and there is no further need to require the city to retain possession of the insurance proceeds.

The city commission authorized Mayor Ashley Hutchinson to sign a contract releasing the insurance proceeds.

In other action taken, the city commission authorized Hutchinson to sign the Department of Commerce Grant Agreement for CBDG funds in the amount of \$560,000 for a new ladder truck, projected to cost \$1.2 million. Bids can now be accepted toward the purchase of the truck.

Today in History ^{3/4}

50 Years Ago March 4, 1972

A hoax bomb call at the high school was the third such call at the school and one such call was received by a business firm; all were made on extremely cold days... Concordia FFA freshman mechanics team, David May, Greg Girard, Dean Morgan, Ron LeDuc, Raymond Cote, Larry Trost, Daniel Seitz and Owen Barleen, placed first in the Abilene meet... CHS basketball player Richard Lesperance, a 6-1 junior, made a free throw in overtime which was the deciding point in the Panthers' 61-60 semifinal victory in the Clay Center regional.

25 Years Ago March 4, 1997

Cloud Ceramics had invested over \$600,000 in its plant to make it more energy efficient and to help assure its profitability into the next century... Jessica Johnson, Concordia, was one of three Kansas State University students participating in a semester student exchange with the Norwich School of Art and Design in Norwich, England... Bethany College sophomore and Concordia High School graduate Jerica Jones had been named first team All-KCAC in women's tennis for the second consecutive year.

10 Years Ago March 4, 2012

Roger Demanette, Concordia, received a Latham service award for his commitment to the National Wild Turkey Federation's mission of the conservation of the wild turkey and the preservation of our hunting heritage... Concordia High School wrestlers Taelor Mendenhall, Skyler Hittle,

Jordan Brown and Brad Hake collected state medals and the Concordia Panthers finished seventh in the Class 4A Wrestling Tournament... Josh and Tara Koch announced the birth of their daughter, Kiersyn Taylor... wheat was selling at \$6.99, corn was \$6.38, and milo was \$6.18 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago March 4, 2017

Three Concordia firefighters, Levi Whitley, Derek Champlin and Johnnie Mastin, and one guest participant, Jace Champlin, raised \$663 for the American Lung Association when they took the 39-story Fight for Air Climb in Kansas City... the Concordia High School Chamber Choir, under the direction of Kevin Johnson and accompanied by Sheri Johnson and Quentin Breese, performed at the KMES State Convention in Wichita... wheat was selling at \$3.63, corn was \$3.17, and milo was \$2.84 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago March 4, 2021

Cloud County rescinded the mask mandate, put in place on November 16 in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19 in the county, but people were urged to continue to wear masks... Students of the Month for March at the Concordia Middle School were Kinzee Motes, sixth grade and Bridgett Blochliger, fifth grade... Cub Scout Pack 38 collected over 1,300 items during a drive to help the Cloud County Resource Center... wheat was selling at \$6.15, corn was \$5.20, and milo was \$6.80 per bushel on local markets.

Marshall addresses issues ^{3/7} during town hall meeting

Senator Roger Marshall made a stop in Concordia for a town hall meeting on Friday evening. His day started in Salina in the morning, where he greeted a convoy of truck drivers on their way to Washington, D.C. He also visited Fort Riley before arriving at the Cloud County Co-op at 5 p.m.

During a question and answer session in front of a crowd of about 80 people, Marshall delivered sometimes fiery rhetoric often directed at President Joe Biden and his policies.

Marshall began by asking the crowd if they were concerned about the price of fertilizer, gasoline, and the cost of groceries. He talked about being at President Biden's State of the Union address, and said: "The state of the union that the President described is not the state of the union I've been hearing from Kansans about."

Marshall referenced a now-famous comment from former President Ronald Reagan and said: "Ask yourself: is your family safer than it was one year ago? Is the world safer today than it was a year ago? Is your paycheck going as far today as it was a year ago?"

In response to a question from the crowd, Marshall said that he introduced legislation on the Senate floor to stop America from importing Russian oil.

"But there's one person who hasn't decided it's the right thing to do yet, and that's Joe Biden," Marshall said. "He does not think it's the right thing to do. I disagree with him." A few minutes later Marshall went on to say, "We had such a great strategic advantage which included energy independence. And we gave that card to Joe Biden and really Iran, as well, and they're able to hold it over our heads. Joe Biden opened the door and, uh, Vladimir Putin walked through the door and now we're funding his war for all practical purposes."

Later on in the Q & A, Marshall was asked if he was going to vote for Biden's Supreme Court nominee. His answer was succinct and emphatic: "No. Hell no."

Marshall went on to say, "Certainly, of all the judges he could have picked from, this is probably the most I would describe as liberal; the person who most wants to legislate from the bench; the person who wants to pay the least attention to the constitution itself."

Before the town hall meeting ended, Marshall put in a plug for current Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt, the presumed Republican nominee for governor who will run against current Governor Laura Kelly, a Democrat, in November.

50 Years Ago March 7, 1972

Art and Mary Schmitt, and John Schmitt, who represented a third generation, welcomed friends to an open house at Schmitt's Clothing store, which was starting its 66th year on the Concordia business scene... Cloud County Community College students from Cloud County whose names appeared in the 1972 "Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges" included Greg Bryant and Alan Luecke, both of Concordia; Marion McMillan, James-town; Carroll Couture, Clyde; Alphonse Gagnon, Glasco... Daylight Clothing Co. was advertising men's Lee Lean Flares.

25 Years Ago March 7, 1997

Cloud County Community College president Dr. James Ihrig resigned after serving as the institution's president for the past 21 years... Lynnette Doty, a two-time all-state pitcher who owned six state records in Nebraska, had signed to play softball for CCCC... Alyson Fuchs and Kendra Krier, representing the Concordia Gymnastics Center, competed in the Tulsa Invitational Co-ed Classic... the Concordia Country Club Annual Men's Golf Meeting featured a fried chicken buffet at 6 p.m. and mountain oysters at 7:30 p.m.

10 Years Ago March 7, 2012

The Federal Aviation Administration determined Cloud County Community

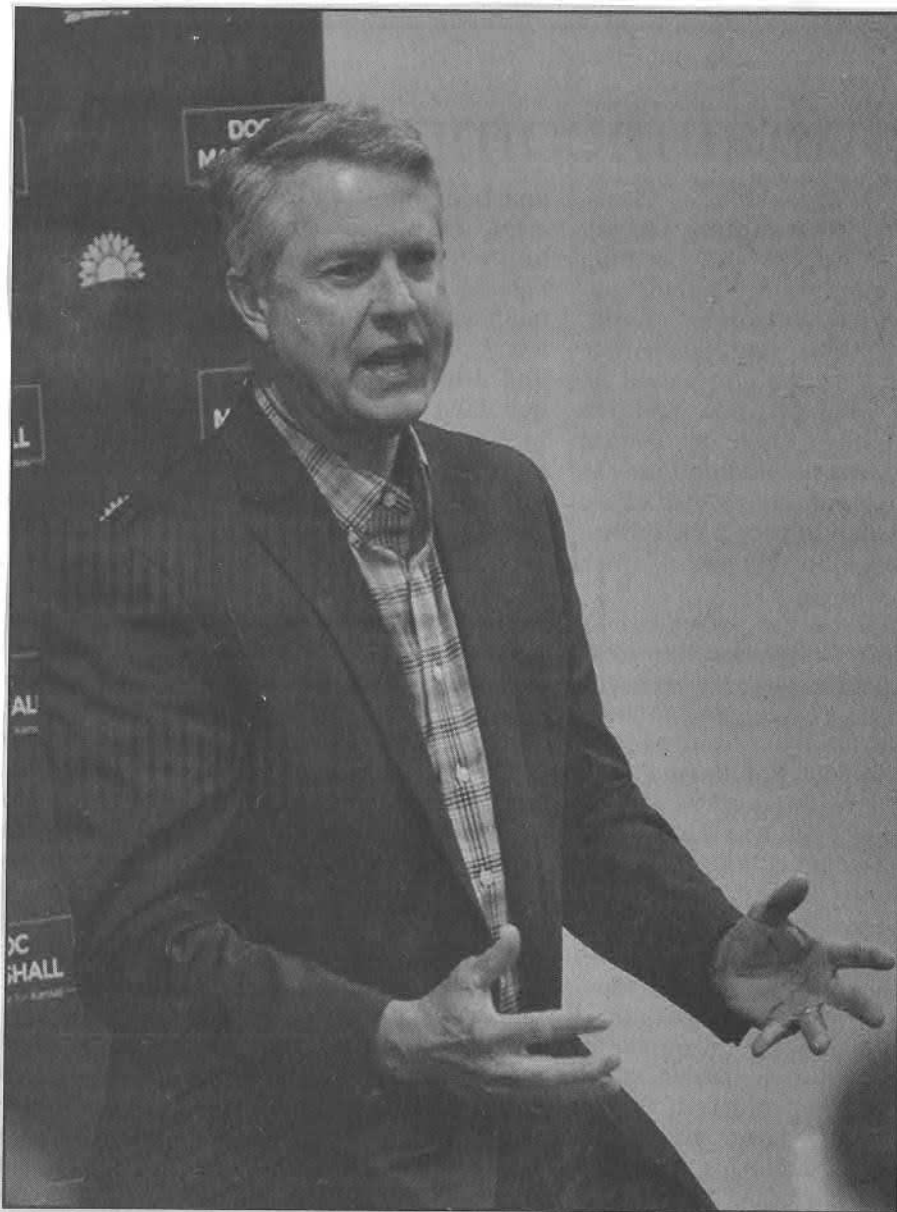
College's three wind turbines were a hazard because they were too tall... Connie (Haskins) Butts had been named Employee of the Month at Pawnee Mental Health Services... Concordia High School Drama Department performed "Unfrozen Caveman Prom Date," written by CHS drama director Chris Stiles... wheat was selling at \$7.11, corn was \$6.35, and milo was \$6.15 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago March 7, 2017

Concordia High School art instructor Gena Kearn had her colored pencil drawing collection, Enduring Roots, on display at the Sternberg Museum in Hays... "Paws"itive Counts winners for February at Concordia Middle School were Braeden Primeaux, fifth grade, and Daniel Vines, sixth grade... bridge winners in the Women's Card Marathon for February were Carol Ruud and Norlene Letourneau... wheat was selling at \$3.66, corn was \$3.17, and milo was \$2.84 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago March 7, 2021

Cloud County Resource Center announced that it was adding a pet food pantry to the list of services provided by the Food Bank... the Concordia High School boys' basketball season ended with a sub-state loss to Abilene... wheat was selling at \$6.03, corn was \$5.23, and milo was \$6.83 per bushel on local markets.



Town hall meeting

U.S. Senator Roger Marshall meets with area residents Friday at the Cloud County Co-op Distribution Center. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)

Bates hired as Concordia's ^{3/9} new director of public works

Fuller Bates has been hired as the new director of public works for the city of Concordia.

Bates steps into his new role with the city on March 21. He will be responsible for a variety of professional, administrative and supervisory tasks in planning, directing and participating in the maintenance and improvement of city paved and unpaved streets, alleys, storm drains, traffic control systems, airport operations and improvements, city-owned fueling stations and all city fleet vehicles and equipment.

"We are pleased to promote Fuller to the position of director of public works. He brings to this position a strong desire to build on his skills and experience to serve the city of Concordia well," city manager Amy Lange said.

Bates, originally from Prosper, Texas, moved to Concordia in 2018 and worked for the city

Parks Department.

After attending Abilene Christian University, Bates worked construction for several years. He spent a year as a foreman for Tolunay-Wong Engineers and was a superintendent with Hicks Lighting Protection from 2015-2018.

"I just felt I had a lot of experience doing a variety of things, and felt there was a lot more I could offer the city and the community. I'm looking forward to continuing to help this community grow and being part of that as public works director," Bates said.

Bates and his wife, Koral, have two children and a third on the way.

"I loved growing up in a small community. I think small town living is the best living and I am excited to start my family and raise them in Concordia," Bates said.

Today in History

50 Years Ago March 9, 1972

Cloud County students at Kansas University who earned places on the fall semester honor rolls of the seven undergraduate schools were: Concordia—Ann Lorine Beckman, junior in fine arts; Dennis Demanett, junior in education; Debra Musick, senior in education; Deanna Perry, junior in education; Phillip Swenson, sophomore in pharmacy; Clyde—Marc Bowman, freshman in arts and sciences... Mr. and Mrs. Stanton Perry of Reykjavik, Iceland, announced the birth of their son, Tjorvi Ellert, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Leland Perry of Concordia... bath towels were on sale for \$1.48 at JCPenney.

25 Years Ago March 9, 1997

The Concordia American Legion Post 76 celebrated the American Legion's 78th birthday with a dinner and dance... Concordia's celebration of Cloud County Stained Glass Month included stained glass tours of homes including Brownstone Hall, 719 W. Sixth; Randy & Joni Regnier, 522 W. Ninth; Crystle's Bed & Breakfast, 508 W. Seventh; Don & Marcia Callaway, 513 W. Fifth, and the Concordia Elementary School... first grade students in Barbara Petersen's classroom at Concordia Elementary School were writing and illustrating their own books.

10 Years Ago March 9, 2012

The Cloud County Health Center had celebrated Dr. Sues Day by greeting young patients with a "Cat in the Hat" look... Concordia High School senior Brittany Noel,

daughter of Nels and Sherry Noel, planned to major in chemistry and had accepted a Hays City Silver Academic Award and an Academic Opportunity Award in chemistry... Mildred Vanek, Concordia, celebrated her 104th birthday on March 8... Hanna Acree was a bat girl during the Cloud County Spring Classic tournament... wheat was selling at \$7.08, corn was \$6.41, and milo was \$6.21 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago March 9, 2017

Cloud County board of commissioners approved hiring Brandi Bray as Cloud County Health Administrator to replace Diana Gering who was retiring April 30... Concordia High School students Adam Budreau, Allayna Hanson and Alex Wilcox were the third overall Job Interview team at the North Central District Kansas FFA Speech Contest in Clay Center... Marlys LaBarge was celebrating her 80th birthday... wheat was selling at \$3.63, corn was \$3.15, and milo was \$2.82 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago March 9, 2021

The USD 333 Board of Education announced that Keaton Snavelly, a former Concordia city commissioner, had been hired as the junior-senior high school woods instructor...for the second consecutive season, the Cloud County Community College volleyball team knocked off a Johnson County Community College team ranked third in the country... wheat was selling at \$6.07, corn was \$5.21, and milo was \$6.76 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago

March 11, 1972

The Mobile Art Gallery was returning to Concordia, this time with an exhibition honoring the 90th birthday of Pablo Picasso... Robert Hagen untangled a 36-foot root from around the pipe leading to the well on his property south of Concordia... firemen were called to a home at 610 West Sixth Street for a dust explosion caused when someone was cleaning in the basement and sweeping the dust and dirt into an old cistern and then stopped to light a pipe... Bob Wood, chalk art artist, presented a program at The Talk of the Month club... Nancy Johnson was Suzuki "Chick of the Month" at C & I Cycle Sales.

25 Years Ago

March 11, 1997

For the twelfth year, Concordia High School was invited to participate in the Close Up Washington program and students selected to take part were Garrett Miller, Seth Retter, Amy Hubert, Ryan Kueker, Jonathan Haritatos, Jacob Letourneau, Summer Weaver and Darrell Zimmerman... Navy Seaman Recruit Jack P. Graves, a 1996 graduate of Concordia High School, completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.... Teri Coash announced that she was running for the USD 333 board of education as a write-in candidate.

10 Years Ago

March 11, 2012

Sen. Bob Marshall and State Rep. Elaine Bowers (R-Concordia) were legislators who helped honor the Kansas Armed Forces at a Military Appreciation Day in Topeka... the monthly display

at the Cloud County Historical Society Museum featured Kansas birds and their habitats... Concordia High School senior Slater Champlin, son of David and Trisha Champlin, had been selected as the CHS Student of the Month for March... wheat was selling at \$6.96, corn was \$6.19, and milo was \$5.99 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago

March 11, 2017

Bruce Graham of Cloud County Community College's Wind Energy Department told Cloud County commissioners that CCCC was the only college in the United States with a training substation and the only school to teach blade repair... Zoe Britt, fifth grade, and Lindsey Thomas, sixth grade, were selected as the February Students of the Month at Concordia Middle School... Concordia High School sophomore Dylan Reed had been selected to the All-North Central Kansas League basketball team... wheat was selling at \$3.53, corn was \$3.04, and milo was \$2.71 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago

March 11, 2021

A grass fire driven by winds gusting over 50 miles per hour burned an estimated 900 acres in and around the Jamestown Wildlife Area in northwest Cloud County... Delton Hatesohl celebrated his 89th birthday... Concordia Kids Wrestling Club wrestlers placing first in the district tournament were Kaleb Kieswetter, Drake Blochlinger, and Christian Belden... wheat was selling at \$5.96, corn was \$5.10, and milo was \$6.65 per bushel on local markets.



Plowing

A city of Concordia truck plows the snow off of the streets Thursday morning. Concordia received approximately eight inches of snow. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)



Fire damage

A Concordia firefighter prepares to pump water onto a fire in an apartment building at 534 West Sixth St. on Friday. The fire caused extensive damage to the entire building. (Blade photo by Jim Lowell)

3/14

Fire damages apartment building

A fire caused extensive damage to an apartment building in the 500 block of West Sixth Street on Friday.

At 5:16 p.m., the Concordia Fire Department was called to a fire in a house, that has four apartment units, at 534 West Sixth Street.

The fire was contained to one apartment unit, but all four units received extensive smoke and heat damage.

With manpower assistance from Rural Fire District #4, the Fire Department had the fire under control by 6:12 p.m. The scene was cleared at 7:45 p.m.

Concordia Fire Chief Eric Voss reported Monday morning that the origin and cause of the fire are still under investigation.

Voss reported that all four apartment units in the building had working smoke detectors.

Today in History

50 Years Ago March 16, 1972

Thirty-one students from Cloud County Community College, all members of Student National Education Assoc., were aiding teachers in the Concordia public school system for one semester... Navy Airman James Newton, son of A. W. Newton, completed five months on the frozen continent of Antarctica with the U.S. Navy's only aerial support squadron for Operation Deep Freeze, Antarctic Development Squadron Six... Mr. and Mrs. Lorence Shuler announced the engagement of their daughter, Linda Ann, to Ernest Ray Haist, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Haist of Miltonvale.

25 Years Ago March 16, 1997

Larry Nelson, USD 333 superintendent of schools for the past 10 years, announced that the 1997-98 school year would be his last... a local barn located on the Arnold and Donna Barleen farm near Rice was featured in "This Old Barn," a new nationally distributed book that featured hundreds of personal stories about barns across America... former school board member Jackie Wheeler announced that she was a write-in candidate for election to USD 333 board of education... Charlotte Wilcox-Dockins celebrated her 80th birthday with an open house at the Senior Citizens Center.

10 Years Ago March 16, 2012

The USD 333 board of education approved the hiring of Krystal Breese as the principal at the Concordia Elementary School... Sally Brooks celebrated her 92nd birthday... Charles and Vir-

ginia Leckberg, Concordia, celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary with an open house... Katherine Budke received a certificate for graduating from Pink Hat to Red Hat when the Lady Bracknell Chapter of the Concordia Red Hat Club met... wheat was selling at \$6.96, corn was \$6.38, and milo was \$6.11 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago March 16, 2017

A daylong retreat at the Nazareth Motherhouse offered seniors from Salina's Sacred Heart High School advice on how to handle upcoming challenges... Concordia High School junior Blade Leiszler received the Outstanding Wrestler Award at the wrestling banquet, while senior Tracer Workman was selected the recipient of the Doug Moore Wrestling Scholarship... Concordia firefighters had battled their second house fire in two days... wheat was selling at \$3.45, corn was \$3.03, and milo was \$2.73 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago March 16, 2021

The city of Concordia kicked off its sesquicentennial celebration with a program from Sue Sutton highlighting an infamous day in the town's history: the July 26, 1932, robbery of the Cloud County bank by members of the notorious Ma Barker gang... Concordia Kids Wrestling Club members Drake Blochlinger, Kaleb Keiswetter, Christian Belden, Tracer Murdock, Koby Tyler and Daniel Vines placed at the USAWKS State Championships... wheat was selling at \$5.86, corn was \$5.24, and milo was \$6.69 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History ^{3/18}

50 Years Ago March 18, 1972

Kayleen Lewis, Bob Champlin, Dennis Johnson, Bob Garlow, Bill Garlow and Don Garlow, Concordia FFA members, were part of the first-place team in the North Central Kansas Livestock judging team at Manhattan... Concordia Junior High School wrestlers Jeff Hamilton, Kent Smith, Dino Brichalli, Roc Harrington and Scott Nicholson earned championships in their respective weight divisions at a wrestling tournament in Chapman... Palmquist Drug Store had a 2/\$1.00 sale on Mi31 and Klenzo.

25 Years Ago March 18, 1997

The Frank Carlson Library was holding a silent auction of surplus materials including VCRs, printers, computer equipment, an electric typewriter, and a child-size table and chairs... Navy Airman Brad Lobdell, a 1993 graduate of Concordia High School, was halfway through a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea with Strike Fighter Squadron 105 (VFA 105), aboard the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt... Cloud County Mother-to-Mother Ministry hosted a quilting bee... "Empire Strikes Back" was showing at the Apollo Theater.

10 Years Ago March 18, 2012

The Heartland Chorus, a group composed of musicians from several North Central Kansas and Nebraska communities and directed by retired music teacher Mike Linden, gave a concert at Cloud County Community College, with a special

performance by the clarinet quartet, "Licorice Stix," with members Mike Linden, Dr. Paul Nelson, Sarah Harvey and Renata Knox... the American Legion in Concordia held a retirement party for Judy Jameson's 30-plus years of service to the American Legion... wheat was selling at \$6.88, corn was \$6.40, and milo was \$6.12 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago March 18, 2017

International Day of Happiness was celebrated with activities at the Broadway Plaza, and the goal of having 500 or more people attend was met... Concordia High School students inducted into the National Honor Society were Bethany Craig, Allison Poore, Madelyn Meyer, Deklyn Payeur, Lauren Wheeler, Victoria Reynolds, Britney Gilkeson, Lake Winter, Elijah Steffen, Corben Monzon, Beau Bonebrake and Alex Bonebrake... wheat was selling at \$3.45, corn was \$3.03, and milo was \$2.73 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago March 18, 2021

Janet Pierce, RN, nursing services; Renda Hatesohl, pharmacy tech; and Danny McReynolds, RN, infection control/UR, were each recognized for 40 years of service to Cloud County Health Center... Kevin and Sheri Johnson, Concordia, announced the engagement and approaching wedding of their daughter, Addison Johnson, to Daniel Lopez, Bartlesville, Okla... wheat was selling at \$5.88, corn was \$5.29, and milo was \$6.69 per bushel on local markets.

City commission sets hearing date for condemnations

The condemnation of two damaged structures, the purchase of a new police vehicle, and two new appointments to the Frank Carlson Library board were among the action items discussed and approved during the regular city commission meeting on Wednesday.

Based on the recommendation of Bruno Rehbein, city building inspector and designated enforcing officer, the city commission approved resolutions setting a public hearing date to begin the process for the condemnation of the structures at 717 Olive St. and 429 West Eighth St.

The structures' owners, owner's agents, any lienholders of record, and any occupants of structures may appear at City Hall on May 4, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. and show just cause why such structures should not be condemned and order repaired or demolished.

In other action, the city commission approved the purchase of a 2022 Ford Police Interceptor Explorer from Farm Country Ford in the amount of \$47,154.22.

Concordia Chief of Police Ric Fredrickson stated that the police department is in need of a replacement patrol vehicle for car #33 - a 2014 Chevrolet Impala that currently has 78,808 miles of usage. The Impala has had radiator, air conditioning, power steering, and electrical issues. The vehicle is no longer being used on patrol because of its undependability.

Fredrickson stated that he reached out to Farm Country Ford, Concordia Chevrolet/Buick, and Superior Emergency Response Vehicles (SERV) in Andover, Kansas, for quotes on a police package SUV.

Concordia Chevrolet/Buick could not submit a bid because their fleet vehicles are not available right now.

SERV specializes in purchasing new police packaged vehicles and outfitting them for first responder use. They submitted a bid for a 2022 Ford Police Interceptor Explorer, fully outfitted and

ready for patrol use for \$47,406.90.

Farm Country Ford submitted a winning bid of \$47,154.22 for a 2022 Ford Police Interceptor Explorer. The warranty for this vehicle is a 3-year, 36,000 mile bumper-to-bumper, and a 5-year, 60,000 mile engine, powertrain, and transmission warranty. The equipment installation would be warranted for a year. The vehicle has to be ordered and would arrive in about six months.

The city intends to dispose of the 2014 Impala through public auction.

Upon the recommendation of Denise de Rochefort-Reynolds, director of the Frank Carlson Library, the city commission approved the appointments of Lori Lowell and Alisha Sipe to four-year terms on the Frank Carlson Library board of trustees. Lowell and Sipe will assume their duties effective May 1.

Brown Grand Theatre director Melissa Swenson presented a yearly review of the theatre to city commissioners.

Swenson stated that interior windows have been restored, painted, and weatherproofed. New sidewalks, curbs, and parking stalls were completed in front of the theatre. The boiler and exterior drains were repaired, and shrubs removed.

Additionally, restoration was completed on the historic replica of the Napoleon curtain in September 2021. New exterior security lighting was added to the east breezeway and alley.

Swenson said that the theatre generated over \$15,500 in ticket sales in 2021-22. The show 'The Nutcracker' brought in over 300 audience members. Over 550 visitors toured the Theatre, and the facility was rented 15 times by outside organizations or vendors.

The Brown Grand Theatre received 11 grants totaling \$48,500, and raised nearly \$29,000 for underwriting the 2021-22 season.

The city commission met in three executive sessions before adjourning.

Today in History

50 Years Ago March 23, 1972

Concordia High School student Dana Erickson won first place in the merchandising mathematics competition, while CHS student Bonnie Brownell placed third in the specialty store merchandising division at the spring leadership conference of the Distributive Education Clubs of Kansas... Steve Davis, CHS's leading rebounder (225 rebounds) and scorer (333 points) during the 1971-72 basketball season, was on honorable mention lists of both the Topeka Capital and Wichita Eagle all-state 3A selections... a Hoover man was at Gibson's to sharpen scissors: 25 cents or 30 cents for pinking shears.

25 Years Ago March 23, 1997

Maxine, a red tail boa constrictor, was one of several animals the Sunset Traveling Zoo had on display at Concordia Elementary School during a Girl Scout recruiting function... Stan Alderson shot a one-under par 67 and Brian Donovan and Jeff Backstrom each shot 68 to finish first, second and third, respectively, in the Concordia Country Club Men's Golf Association's one-person scramble... Heather Workman, secretary/receptionist, had been named the Bill Summers Ford Mercury Employee of the Month for March.

10 Years Ago March 23, 2012

Ronalda Copple, Data Processing, was honored for 55 years of service to Cloud County Health Center... Central National Bank an-

nounced that Janet Lowell was the new Regional Retail Manager and Cindy Thompson was the new Retail Office Supervisor for the Concordia branch... Chapter EV of P.E.O. had a BIL (Brothers-in-law) pie party, with members Debi Jensen, Connie Bentz, Marjorie Cruzen, Anne Severance, Judy Keil and Amy Gerber furnishing pies... wheat was selling at \$6.95, corn was \$6.42, and milo was \$6.04 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago March 23, 2017

The \$11-million expansion project to add four new concrete bins at Concordia Terminal LLC was running ahead of schedule... Marge Nicholson celebrated her 85th birthday... members of the Concordia High School girls' basketball team were honored at a banquet where Jordan Eshbaugh received the Paul Koehn Outstanding Senior Girl's Basketball Player Award and senior Jennifer Garcia was the recipient of the Leadership Award... wheat was selling at \$3.40, corn was \$3.02, and milo was \$2.77 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago March 23, 2021

The Cloud County board of commissioners approved a State of Disaster declaration after a grass fire burned 925 acres in the Jamestown Wildlife Area... Connie Bentz celebrated her birthday... despite chilly temperatures, daffodils were blooming, offering a glimpse of spring... wheat was selling at \$5.67, corn was \$5.22, and milo was \$6.57 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago March 25, 1972

The Francis Marcotte family was selected as winner in the Cloud-Republic-Ottawa Farmers Home Administration Farm Family of the Year program... Ronald Goodwin, Yeoman Third Class, had been awarded the Navy Achievement Medal and citation... Army Private Gerald Diers completed eight weeks of advanced individual training as an armor crewman with the 1st Infantry Division at Ft. Riley... Concordia High school student Alice Thornton earned a spot on the All-State Festival chorus... McDaniel Memorials held an open house at its new location at 1903 East Seventh Street.

25 Years Ago March 25, 1997

Warren Regnier, Concordia's friendly downtown mail carrier, said goodbye to a 30-year career with the United States Postal Service... Dickie James, one of two Concordia wrestlers to place third in the Class 4A State Tournament, was named the recipient of the Outstanding Wrestler Award during the Panther awards banquet... Spencer Farha, competing in the 14-year-old division at state, placed second in the Hoop Challenge USA State finals at Barton County Community College... Jesse Owen and Jesse Jean Morgan, Concordia, announced the birth of their daughter, Marissa Nicole Ashland-Morgan.

10 Years Ago March 25, 2012

Technicians trained to provide bone density tests on Cloud County Health Center's new densitometer

were Curtis Walter, Theresa Stensaas and Jennifer Eitzmann... Marvin and Eudora Petersen received a Length of Service Award from the National Weather Service for 50 years of service to the Weather Observer Program... with the arrival of spring bringing thoughts of preparing the soil for planting, the Cloud County Historical Society Museum had a plow display as a reminder of how it once was done... wheat was selling at \$6.95, corn was \$6.42, and milo was \$6.04 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago March 25, 2017

CTI (Concordia Tractor, Inc.) was celebrating 50 years of service to the Concordia market area... Kansas State University student Stormie Hittle, Concordia, was initiated into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society... Matthew James was presented the Outstanding Senior Player Award during the banquet to honor the Concordia High School boys' basketball team... wheat was selling at \$3.46, corn was \$3.05, and milo was \$2.80 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago March 25, 2021

A 1996 graduate of Concordia High School, Dr. Melanie (Thoman) Pearce Smith spoke to CHS students as part of the "Pause Paws" career exploration program... Donna Barleen was the February Joke of the Month winner... wheat was selling at \$5.57, corn was \$5.25, and milo was \$6.55 per bushel on local markets.



Street repairs

City of Concordia employees patch the street on Monday morning. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)

3/21/22

Today in History

50 Years Ago

March 28, 1972

The American Host Program was looking for Concordia area families to entertain English-speaking European teachers in their homes for one or two weeks during the summer... Concordia High School senior Anne Foster, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Charles Foster, had been awarded the Concordia DAR Chapter's Good Citizenship award for the year... the Spring Bash at Cloud County Community College offered students all-you-can-eat barbecued chicken for fifty cents, followed by a dance... a spool of barbed wire was selling for \$5.99 at Montgomery Ward.

25 Years Ago

March 28, 1997

During her spring break, Shandie McCluskey, Concordia Middle School fifth grader, presented a short program at the Senior Citizens Center, singing some of her favorite country songs... Donna Lau, foreign exchange student from Hong Kong who was living with the Alan Maish family, was one of a record number of high school students from across Kansas who attended the sixth annual Capitol Experience in Topeka... Dane Devlin would be selling real estate as a sales representative through Concordia Realty and Auction... Karen Eubanks celebrated her 40th birthday.

10 Years Ago

March 28, 2012

Cloud County Farm Bureau was host for a Marketing Contest for area FFA

and College Farm Bureau members, and winning team members were Kristie Blochlinger, Colton Martin, and Derick Nordell... Dustin and Dr. Dorothy Breault announced the birth of their daughter, McKenzie Charlyze... Concordia High School senior Dylan Moore was named the recipient of the Doug Moore Wrestling Scholarship... wheat was selling at \$6.84, corn was \$6.26, and milo was \$5.86 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago

March 28, 2017

World Down Syndrome Day was observed in Concordia with a number of events including The Incredible Road Rally, for which the family of Isaac Thoman was host, and Lane's Pit Stop, a freewill soup supper for which the family of Lane Vanous was host... high school students attending Aggie Days at Cloud County Community College participated in judging cows... wheat was selling at \$3.27, corn was \$2.96, and milo was \$2.71 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago

March 28, 2021

The Concordia Wesleyan Church sponsored the Community Easter Egg Hunt... Concordia High School forensics team members Moyra Barnes, Conner Thrash and Justice Alexander qualified for the National Catholic Forensic League Grad National Tournament... Jo Wiesner celebrated her 90th birthday... wheat was selling at \$5.62, corn was \$5.26, and milo was \$6.56 per bushel on local markets.

Police Dept. reports rise in burglaries ^{3/30}

The Concordia Police Department has issued a warning to residents that burglaries and thefts are on the rise

A news release from the police department states that, with the arrival of nicer weather it appears that burglaries and thefts are starting to increase.

"Please be sure to secure your valuables and check your garages and outbuildings to ensure no entry has been made. Please report any suspicious activity as it is happening. We greatly appreciate and value your assistance to keep our city

safe and secure."

The latest police department report included two burglaries.

At approximately 2:50 p.m. Monday, March 28, officers received a report of a burglary in the 800 block of Broadway in which a BB gun and a Marlin rifle were taken. The investigation continues.

At approximately 11:23 a.m. Tuesday, March 29, officers received a report of a burglary in the 500 block of West Sixth Street in which household electronics and a chair were taken. The investigation continues.

Wednesday, March 30, 2022

Citywide Cleanup set for April 9-10

The city of Concordia has scheduled the annual citywide cleanup, Refresh Concordia 2022, for April 9-10.

Concordia residents are encouraged to use the weekend to remove unwanted, eligible items from their yards, homes or garages and set them by the curb for free pickup and disposal by city employees.

Crews will begin picking up the items on April 11.

Items must be sorted and placed at the curb by 7 a.m. to guarantee pickup. Eligible items include tree branches less than four inches in diameter, furniture, appliances and passenger car and truck tires.

Items that are not eligible for pickup include large tree branches/limbs, tree stumps, grass or leaves, construction debris (wood/lumber, drywall,

brick, concrete, paint cans, insulation, etc.), plumbing fixtures (toilets, sinks, bathtubs, etc.), large truck or tractor tires and trash.

Residents are responsible for the removal of those items on their own.

Items left by the curb after April 18 will be treated as a nuisance. Property owners will receive a hand-delivered letter notifying them of the items that need to be cleaned up. If property owners do not remove the items within 10 days or receipt of the notification, a \$300 clean up fee will be charged for items removed by city staff.

The city staff appreciates the partnership of the residents to complete the project in a timely manner and for the respect of the policies set in place to operate the cleanup program efficiently.

GET INVOLVED ^{3/30} IN YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Concordia City Commission intends to involve as many qualified citizens as possible in the governing process. To that end, the Commission announces that vacancies do now or will soon exist on the following citizen board:

AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD

DEADLINE: MAY 2, 2022

All members of boards, commissions and committees serve without pay – out of a concern for the public good.

If you are interested in serving the community, you are asked to fill out a short Expression of Interest Form. Forms and more information are available in the City Clerk's Office, 701 Washington Street.

If you have questions, please call at 243-2670.

Today in History

50 Years Ago April 1, 1972

A new Explorer Scout Post was being formed under the sponsorship of St. Joseph hospital and would stress the medical field and aspects of running a hospital... Andrew Carrier had been hired as principal of Concordia High School... Gene Johnson had been elected new president of the Concordia Lions Club... Capt. and Mrs. Theodore Collins, Alaska, announced the birth of a daughter, Heather, on Easter Sunday... Miss Mary Mock, girls' track coach at CHS, announced that returning letter-girls were Mary Stangel, Carole Rivers, Debbie Predmore and Melissa Melhus.

25 Years Ago April 1, 1997

Larry Blochlinger, president of the Concordia Area Chamber of Commerce for the past 13 years, had resigned after accepting a position with Shelter Insurance... William and Wesley Mason, sons of Mr. and Mrs. William Mason, rural Concordia, won positions in summer science and math seminars for upward bound students... Ben Smith and Ryan Kueker were co-recipients of the Concordia High School's Outstanding Senior Basketball Player Award... Mark and Connie Boley, Concordia, announced the birth of their daughter, Jennifer Jo.

10 Years Ago April 1, 2012

The Brown Grand Theatre decided to stop all live performances until necessary repairs could be made to the stage area... The

Nashville Songwriters Association International Chapter of North Central Kansas, located in Manhattan, selected Angie LeDuc and her band members Kenny Johnston, Tim Halfhide and Ken Jones to perform at Country Stampede 2012... Irene Saulnier celebrated her 100th birthday with an open house... wheat was selling at \$7.02, corn was \$6.16, and milo was \$5.78 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago April 1, 2017

The Cloud County Community College board of Trustees approved the bid from Budreau Construction for completion of the T-Bird Bookstore's new addition... John and Linda Pounds Culley were celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary... Cole Larsen pitched a six inning no-hitter and the Concordia Panthers scored nine times in the bottom of the sixth to beat the Beloit Trojans 10-0 in both teams' season opener... wheat was selling at \$3.27, corn was \$2.99, and milo was \$2.74 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago April 1, 2021

Mayra Brooks, APRN-C, had joined the staff at the Family Care Center as a family nurse practitioner, having previously served as the trauma manager and emergency room coordinator at Cloud County Health Center... Concordia High School student Cole Stahlman was operating his own hay and cattle business, Stahlman Squares... wheat was selling at \$5.50, corn was \$5.27, and milo was \$6.37 per bushel on local markets.

Legals 4/1

FINAL PERFORMANCE PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

(Published in the *Concordia Blade-Empire* on Friday, April 1, 2022.)

The City of Concordia will hold a public hearing on Wed., April 20th at 5:30 p.m. at the Concordia City Hall at 701 Washington St., Concordia, KS, for the purpose of evaluating the performance of Grant No. 20-PF-022 which proposed improvements to a portion of the sanitary and storm sewer in the downtown commercial district of Concordia.

Proposed improvements included: replacing 1,625 LF of 8" PVC sewer pipe and 580 LF of 4" PVC sewer pipe, 4 new manholes with connections, 20 LF of manhole extension, 58 connections to existing service lines, and rehabbing 2 existing manholes to the sanitary sewer. Storm sewer improvements proposed replacing 872 LF of storm sewer pipe with 18" to 24" pipe and 8 storm sewer inlets. The existing alley surface was to be cut and repaired, and replaced with 6" concrete pavement. Additional activities were to include rock excavation, and sub-grade modifications.

Actual improvements included: replacing 1365 LF of 8" PVC sewer pipe and 429 LF of 4" PVC sewer pipe, 5 new manholes with connections, 23 VF manhole extensions, 55 connections to existing service lines, and rehabbing 3 existing manholes to the sanitary sewer. Storm sewer improvements included replacing 872 LF of storm sewer pipe with 12" to 15" pipe and 6 storm sewer inlets and 2 storm sewer concrete manholes. The existing alley surface was cut and replaced with 6" concrete pavement. Additional activities included rock excavation, trench stabilization and backfill, sewer main inspection and sub-grade preparation and modifications.

This grant was funded, all or in part, from the Kansas Department of Commerce, Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. All aspects of the grant can be discussed and oral and written comments will be recorded and become a part of the City of Concordia's CDBG Citizen Participation Plan.

Reasonable accommodations will be made available to persons with disabilities. Requests for accommodations should be submitted to the City Clerk at the Concordia City Hall, Mon. to Fri. 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by April 19th at noon.

Program helping address blight in Concordia

In a process that began 15 years ago, the city of Concordia is making a concentrated effort to remove rundown or blighted properties along the city's streets. Since 2008, over 90 structures have been removed or rehabilitated.

"I do believe that these demolition programs address the problem of blight in the community," said city manager Amy Lange.

The project was initiated in 2007, under former city manager Larry Uri. "The program was crafted by Larry Uri, based on state laws," said Bruno Rehbein, the city's building inspector. Rehbein's other responsibilities include planning and zoning, zoning enforcement, nuisance abatement, contractor licensing, and subdivision regulations.

The ongoing program has been helped in part by a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the Kansas Department of Commerce (KDOC) for the demolition of dangerous structures.

Funding for the grant is provided in part by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

"We have structures in the community that do start to fall apart if not maintained properly," said Lange. "Having a couple options for our residents to help

them demolish the structures is good."

Structures in a non-occupied and dilapidated/dangerous condition were targeted for this program. Property owners were invited to participate on a voluntary basis prior to application, as properties had to be identified prior to the city's grant application submittal to the KDOC.

"If a city removes a house, it's subject to much stricter regulations compared to a property owner taking down his own house," Rehbein said. "People have actually purchased homes for the purpose of demoing it because they're tired of looking at it."

Everyone who wishes to remove a structure must fill out an application for a Demolition Permit. Among the requirements for demoing include erecting barriers such as a snow fence or barricades around the site to protect the public. Additionally, all foundation material and debris has to be removed from the site - it cannot be used for back-fill. Other materials unsuitable for backfill are trees, brush, large rocks, or a detrimental amount of biodegradable material.

"Tearing down something is never profitable, so our local demolition program allows us to partner with a local resident that

allows us to assist them in getting those structures down," Lange said. "We would love to see them rebuild back on those properties. We were fortunate to get the CDBG grants which also helped homeowners take down their properties that were dilapidated or not fit to be living in. I think one of the barriers for people tearing down their properties is that they don't have the financial resources."

"If we get it (a property) in the demo program, then the cost is shared," said Rehbein. "The taxpayer cost is half. If we have to condemn a building, taxpayers end up with the total cost."

On February 15, 2021, the city of Concordia was awarded a CDBG from KDOC for the demolition of dangerous structures in Concordia. Funding for the grant is provided in part by HUD via CDBG (\$48,975), and in part through the city of Concordia Demolition Program (\$48,975) via its capital improvement plan (CIP).

The North Central Regional Planning Commission (NCRPC) is serving as the grant administrator for the city of Concordia on this grant.

HUD requires no development of the property for five years following the demolition of the structure, which could be a

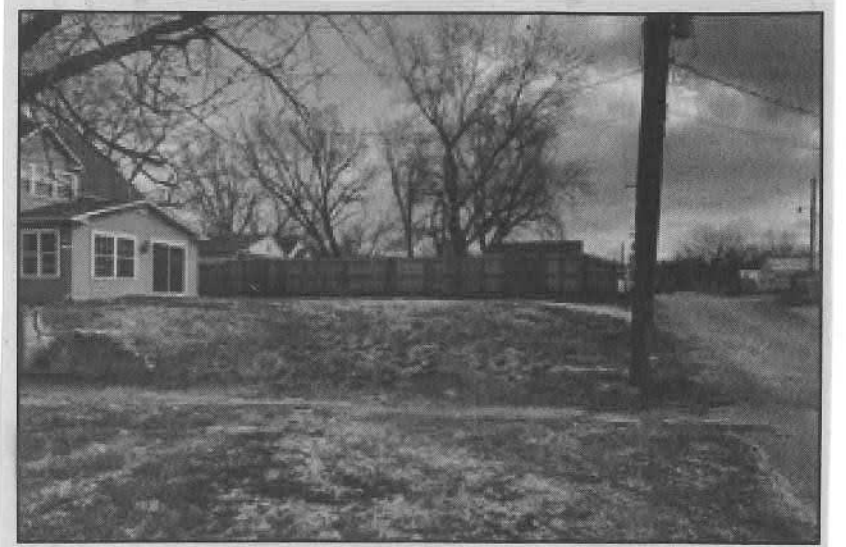
deterrent to program participation.

"Our whole goal is to get those properties back on the tax roll and get a structure back on those properties," said Lange. "The money that funds the CDBG program in the state rolls down from the federal government through Housing and Urban Development. One of the government's rules is that you can't build back on the property for five years after you tear something down using those CDBG dollars. That's probably the biggest drawback that I see. For some homeowners that's fine; they may not build for five years. They will keep the property well-maintained, and when the five years are up they will build on that property."

Tearing down a dilapidated structure removes blight, improves curb appeal and the overall look of the neighborhood, even if a structure is not built back on that property right away.

Since 2008, 94 structures have been removed or rehabilitated at a total cost of \$238,032.79. That is an average cost to the city of approximately \$2,532.36 per structure.

"It's been a very successful program," Rehbein said. "It's one of the most positive feedbacks that I get."



Before and after

Pictured above left is a non-occupied structure located at 1019 Washington Street before demolition. Above right is the vacant lot after the structure was demolished.

4/10



Donate Life Month proclamation

4/8

The Concordia city commission authorized Mayor Ashley Hutchinson, left, to sign a proclamation that designates April as Donate Life Month during its meeting on Wednesday. Also pictured, from left, are commissioners Chuck Lambert, Christy Hasch, Marsha Wentz and Ragna Belden, Cloud County Health Center administrative assistant Pam Campbell and Cloud County Health Center administrator David Garnas. (Blade photo by Russell Gagnon)

City commission proclaims April as Donate Life Month

A proclamation making April 2022 the Donate Life Month in Concordia, the letting of bids to shorten crosswind Runway 12/30 at Blosser Municipal Airport, and an amendment to the city code were among the action items discussed and approved by the city commission during its regular meeting on Wednesday evening, April 6.

The commission authorized Mayor Ashley Hutchinson to sign a proclamation naming the month of April 2022 as Donate Life Month in Concordia. The proclamation honors all those who have made the decision to donate life, focuses attention on the critical need for donation, and encourages all Kansas residents to register as organ, eye, and tissue donors.

In other action, the commission approved accepting bids for shortening crosswind Runway 12/30 at Blosser Municipal Airport. City manager Amy Lange reported that there is interest in developing Lots 1 and 2, Block A, College Drive Park, and that it would be in the city's best interest to proceed with shortening of the crosswind Runway 12/30 now.

One barrier to development of Lots 1 and 2, Block A, College Drive Park is the overlay of the Runway Protection Zone (RPZ) of crosswind Runway 12/30 overlaid on these lots. The presence of the RPZ on these lots prevents vertical construction, rendering these prime commercial sites non-developable. The solution to allow development on Lots 1 and 2 is to shorten crosswind Runway 12/30 by approximately 200 feet, which would move the RPZ east and off of these lots.

Design modeling has already been completed. This work is estimated at \$30,000 if performed as a change order to the Runway 18/36 project, and payment is 100% the responsibility of the city. Lange said that proceeding now with the project would allow completion of the Airport Layout Plan (ALP) reflecting the

shortened crosswind Runway 12/30 as part of the grant closeout documents. A revised ALP must be submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration.

Lange also stated that two other barriers exist to development of these lots that must also be worked out with the developer. These include the need to extend a water main to provide service to these lots, and the need to perform a traffic study if widening and/or relocation of the existing curb cut is desired by the developer. Additionally, completion of the intended west leg of Heritage Trail must also be resolved.

In further action that night, the commission authorized an amendment to the city code that includes requiring an insurance company to pay the city a portion of the proceeds of a damaged property to hold until the property owner makes the structure safe or removes the structure. If the property owner does not make the property safe or remove the structure, the city will use the money held to remove the structure in the interest of the health and safety of the general public.

Section 2-503 of the Concordia City Code authorizes the City to utilize the procedures set forth in K.S.A. 40-3901 et seq. to ensure extensively damaged structures are removed or made safe in a timely manner.

The commission also approved a license agreement allowing Cloud County Health Center (CCHC) to proceed with the construction of a sloped retaining wall.

CCHC is constructing a new medical facility on Lots 5 and 6, Block A, College Drive Park, newly addressed as 155 W. College Drive. An access road is required around the perimeter of the site for deliveries and fire department access. The plans called for a vertical retaining wall along the northern/western edge of the property to ensure adequate structural support for this perimeter access road.

(see Commission on page 10)

Commission 4/8

(continued from page 1)

As construction progressed, value engineering options were presented, including an option for a sloped retaining wall in lieu of the vertical retaining wall. The sloped retaining wall option will require a portion of the wall to be constructed on adjacent city property in Lot 1, Block B, College Drive Park, which is within the flood control basin. CCHC requested the city's permission to build this portion of the sloped retaining wall on city property.

The Kansas Division of Water Resources has reviewed this proposed structure and has determined that a permit is not required because the fill amount proposed is minimal compared to the basin capacity.

CCHC has agreed to maintain the slope of the surface of this sloped retaining wall so as not to cause a nuisance.

Fire Chief Eric Voss reported that his department's SCBA compressor threw a piston on March 11, 2022, after the fire at 534 West Sixth Street. The air compressor was bought in 2000. The compressor was rebuilt once, and Voss stated that there is no fixing the compressor again because of the

amount of damage it has.

The department received three quotes from vendors to replace the air compressor: eDarley of Itasca, Illinois - \$7,716.95; Weis Fire & Safety Equipment, LLC - \$18,520.43; and Municipal Emergency Services (MES) - \$32,924.63.

The commission approved the purchase from eDarley in the amount of \$7,716.95, to be paid from the Equipment Reserve Fund.

In other action, the commission approved a contract extension for Western Sales Company for the demolition of structures. Due to very muddy conditions the week of March 21, the demolition activity was delayed a week. The new completion deadline has been extended to April 19, 2022.

The commission also approved a nine-day extension for Smith Construction Services for the demolition of structures as 326 West Sixth Street and 330 West Sixth Street. The extension was granted because of circumstances outside the scope of the project. The new completion deadline is April 13.

The commission also approved naming Darren Hill to a term on the Planning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Today in History

50 Years Ago April 8, 1972

Mrs. Warren Ostrom and Mrs. Ross Doyen were named County Buck Night "Coaches" of Cloud County... the engagement of Loretta Beth Dorman and Carl Wayne Meats, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Meats, Concordia, was announced by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Dorman, Concordia... Cloud County Community College posted its first team tennis victory in the two-year history of the sport at the college by downing St. John's 5-4... Peter Fonda starred in "The Hired Hand," showing at the Grand Theater.

25 Years Ago April 8, 1997

Three recently retired Concordia physicians, Dr. Foxhall Thornton, Dr. Wayne Fowler and Dr. Marvin Lawton, were honored during the Doctors' Appreciation Dinner at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall... two Century 21 GHC Associates, Inc. agents, Theresa Bonebrake and Kim Wiesner, associate brokers from Concordia, had been inducted into the Masters Club for sales totaling over one million dollars... Coppoc Sports and Awards completed an expansion project and also added Danielle Istas to the sales staff.

10 Years Ago April 8, 2012

As part of the Alcohol and Drug Information 101 Series sponsored by the Cloud County Chemical Dependency Committee, a video, "Everyone's a little broken," by Cloud County Community College student Saman-

tha Dean, which focused on body image awareness and starred 25 men and women from across the campus, was the highlight of a free presentation... Christa De-neault was the Concordia High School Student of the Month for April... wheat was selling at \$6.65, corn was \$6.36, and milo was \$5.98 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago April 8, 2017

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia organized a volunteer day to help people in Concordia who needed assistance with yard work, light housework and removal of bagged trash... Rope Dorman, Luke Blochlinger, Scott Blochlinger and Braden Brownell served as pages in the Kansas Senate... "Paws"itive Counts Students for March at Concordia Middle School were Lewis VanMeter, grade five, and Jaida Koester, grade six... Darlene Lewis celebrated her 85th birthday... wheat was selling at \$3.30, corn was \$3.06, and milo was \$2.81 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago April 8, 2021

Drs. Curt and Christie Brungardt, co-founders of Jana's Campaign, shared their message of hope over despair, courage over fear, love over hate, and peace over violence, during a program at Cloud County Community College... Wyatt Trost was selected as Concordia High School's Student of the Month for April... wheat was selling at \$5.48, corn was \$5.31, and milo was \$5.34 per bushel on local markets.

Concordia residents asked to fill out housing survey

A housing study funded by the city of Concordia and CloudCorp is currently underway.

City of Concordia residents and stakeholders are invited and encouraged to provide input on the community's current housing needs by completing the study.

The housing study, being conducted by FIVE RULE Rural Planning, Kearney, Neb., can be completed by visiting HousingConcordia.com. Paper copies of the survey can be picked up at City Hall, the CloudCorp Office, the Cloud County Courthouse, the Concordia Chamber of Commerce Office or the Concordia Senior Center.

The Concordia city commission approved authorizing FIVE RULE to proceed with a housing study and market analysis to address apparent issues related to housing stock in the city during a meeting last November.

The city of Concordia set aside \$15,000 for the study and the CloudCorp board of directors committed \$10,000.

The purpose of the study is to help the city commission and CloudCorp identify the housing issues that are limiting the city's ability to grow and determine what actions can be taken to assist with addressing the issues. Actions could include local policy changes, the creation of local housing development programs or the acquisition of funding.

The FIVE RULE consultant team began work on the study in January, meeting with Concordia city manager Amy Lange and former CloudCorp executive director Kim Reynolds to review the scope of work and collect preliminary data.

In February, local housing stakeholders and advocates were invited to a study kickoff luncheon to explain the study's purpose and process and to request community involvement.

The consultant team facilitated a series of small group conversations in March geared toward identifying the most pressing housing issues in Concordia.

Now the entire community is being asked to participate in the study by completing the survey. The input received through the survey will help validate the housing concerns identified through other data inputs.

In addition to a community survey, the consultant team will complete street-by-street assessment of all of Concordia's existing housing stock.

Results of the survey and assessment will be presented back to local housing stakeholders and advocates in June with the full study being presented to the city commission and CloudCorp board later this summer.

FIVE RULE Rural Planning, established in 2018 by Bobbi Pettit, is a rapidly expanding planning agency focusing on smaller rural communities in Kansas and Nebraska.

(Published in the Concordia Blade-Empire on April 13, 2022)

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

ISSUING OFFICE FOR BIDDING DOCUMENTS

North Central Regional
Planning Commission
P.O. Box 565, 109 N. Mill St.
Beloit, KS 67420
Telephone (785) 738-2218
Mon-Fri 8:00 AM-5:00 PM

OWNER

City of Concordia, Kansas
Demolition Only Project

PROJECT

City of Concordia Demolition
Only 21 PF 004
701 Washington St. P.O. Box 603,
Concordia, KS 66901

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

City of Concordia, Concordia, Kansas, will receive sealed bids on a Demolition Contract for the referenced project as described below:

The proposed project will consist of demolition of the following structures:

316 E. 1st St.
310 E. 1st St.

OWNER will receive bids until 3:00 P.M. CST, May 9th, 2022, at Concordia City Hall, 701 Washington St., Concordia, Kansas 66901. Bids received after this time will not be accepted. All interested parties are invited to attend. Bids will be opened publicly and read aloud.

BIDDING DOCUMENTS

Pictures and specifications will be available electronically April 13, 2022 through Keegan Bailey at North Central Regional Planning Commission, 785-738-2218, housing@ncrpc.org. Please provide email and fax if available. Full sets of documents can be printed through North Central Regional Planning Commission. Bid documents may also be obtained from the City of Concordia. Demolition contractors will be required to remove the dilapidated structures, dispose of the demolition materials and backfill the excavated sites as outlined in the bid specifications.

Project is funded in part by the Kansas Department of Commerce CDBG program and is project 21-PF-004. Attention of bidders is particularly called to the requirements as to conditions as applicable to this project as required by the funding agency above; Bidders should be familiar with the Labor provisions, bonding requirements and Equal Employment Opportunity. The contractor and their subcontractors on this project will be required to comply with all federal, state and local laws and ordinances applicable to the work paid for in part or in whole with CDBG funds; to include but not limited to the Section 109 of the 1984 Housing and Community Development Act; Civil Rights Act of 1964; Executive order 11246; Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act; and the Contractor work Hours and Safety Standards Act and Fair Labor Standard Act.

Bidder qualifications may be required in accordance with Instructions to Bidders. Contract time will be set in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders and Agreement. OWNER reserves the right to reject any and all Bids and to waive irregularities in bidding.

CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS
Ashley Hutchinson, Mayor



Cleaning up the city

City of Concordia employees pick up items Wednesday morning that were set by the curb during the citywide cleanup that is going on this week. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)

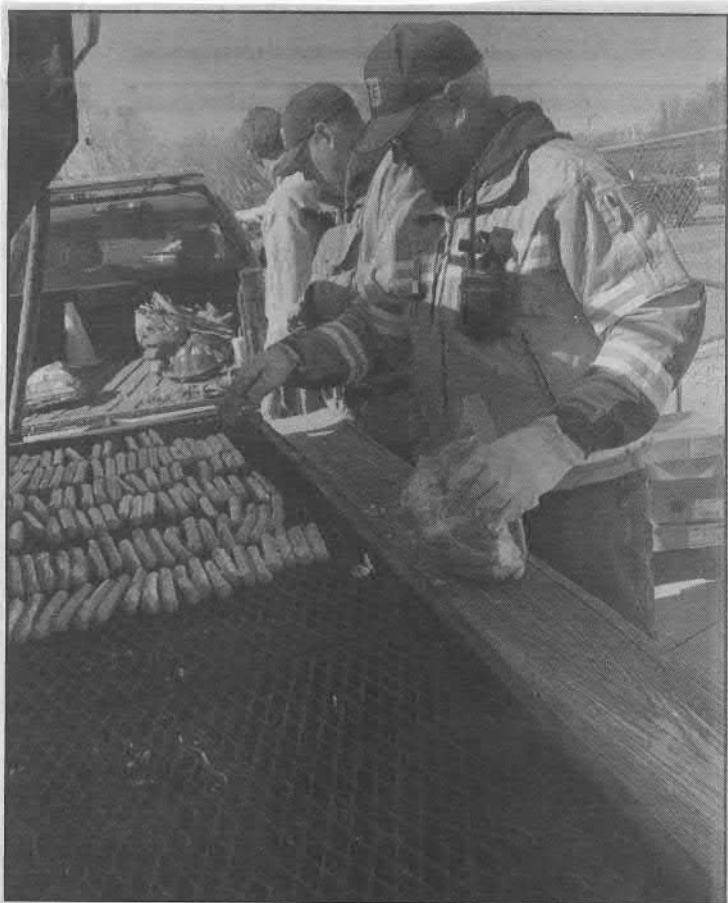
4/13

We unexpectedly stopped in your city due to the severe high winds. We are very thankful for the support. We truly enjoyed this city - the Orphan Train history, Gittis, Bratt's, Gambini's and more! Concordia is a wonderful place with very kind and good people!

You deserve
a bouquet
of
thanks!

Be blessed,
Larry & Nadine
Gehrig

Oh, thank you...you are so good to me!
RUTH 2:13 TLB



Grilling dogs

Concordia Fire Chief Eric Voss loads up the grill as the firefighters did the cooking for the Concordia Elementary School Spring Barbecue on Thursday. (Photo by Kelsy Demanett)

4/15

Today in History

50 Years Ago April 15, 1972

A fire in the Mayfield Electric building, 317 West Fifth Street, caused considerable smoke damage to the interior of the building and burned some wiring... ladies at St. Ann's Home participating in craft classes were making yoyo dolls... for the seventh consecutive year, the Concordia High School track squad won the Concordia Relays crown... Mr. and Mrs. Dale Tholstrup of Concordia announced the engagement of their daughter, Betty Ann, to Randy Roberts of Dodge City, son of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Roberts of Concordia... Dairy Queen was offering a Tiffany glass filled with Pepsi for 25 cents.

25 Years Ago April 15, 1997

Nicole Ringer, senior at Concordia High School, had been named as one of the five national finalists by the Kansas Elks Association in the 1997 "Most Valuable Student" scholarship contest... Rodney and Vonda Mosher announced the birth of their triplets, Brandon Frederic, Brayden Eugene and Brett Michael... CHS freshman distance runner Sara Schuler won both the 800-meter run and the 3,200 at a freshman-sophomore track meet at Abilene... The Concordia Music Club awarded Adam J. McDaniel, son of Jim and Diana McDaniel, the Alice Cory Music Scholarship for the 1997-98 academic year.

10 Years Ago April 15, 2012

A mannequin held an "Almost Ready" sign in the window of Threads for Him, which was scheduled to open soon in the former Dreiling's Department Store in downtown Concordia... Spencer and Rio Brown, Concordia, announced the birth

of their son, Maklen Spencer Brown... the Concordia Kids Wrestling Club had five competitors place in the top five at Midwest Classic Nationals Tournament: Shelby Giersch, Tracer Workman, Hunter Schroeder, Cameron Miller, and Zachary Strait... wheat was selling at \$6.46, corn was \$6.07, and milo was \$5.69 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago April 15, 2017

NCK CASA sponsored a three-hour women's self-defense training where women learned the physical defense of an attack along with educational awareness... Brennan Acree, a three-time state qualifier for the Concordia High School golf team, signed a national letter-of-intent with Southeast (Neb.) Community College... the Majestic 4 Theatre was packed when children and their guardians attended the free Smurfs movie, sponsored by CASA, shown to commemorate Child Abuse Awareness... wheat was selling at \$3.37, corn was \$3.16, and milo was \$2.96 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago April 15, 2021

Unified School District 333 food service employees received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Kansas Department of Education... renovations at Concordia Golf & Wellness included a new Decoder control irrigation system... Tre Hamiel, sixth grade, and Alexander McMillan, fifth grade, were chosen as Concordia Middle School Students of the Month for April... Concordia High School senior Sierra Gropp signed for cheerleading at Cloud County Community College... wheat was selling at \$5.95, corn was \$5.74, and milo was \$5.67 per bushel on local markets.

CITY OF CONCORDIA OPEN POSITIONS – APPLY TODAY! MUNICIPAL SERVICE WORKER - PARKS

Responsible for variety of tasks in municipal parks, cemetery, sports complex and other public grounds. Operates small tractors and mowers, and other equipment as needed. Numerous other tasks pertaining to keep the city attractive. Starting pay \$15.06.

DISPATCHER

Provide two-way radio communications for public safety departments, 911 and administrative telephone services for Cloud County residents and first responders. Maintain Concordia Police Department records. Starting pay \$15.73.

All full time positions have excellent benefits. Applications will be accepted until positions are filled. Utilities and Public works applicant must possess or be able to obtain a valid Class B Commercial Driver's License within one (1) year, and have an established personal driving history that is acceptable for coverage by the City's insurance carrier. Physical agility and drug screening test will follow all conditional offers of employment for all positions.

Apply at City Clerk's office, 701 Washington. 785-243-2670. Job descriptions at www.concordiaks.org. Reasonable accommodations are available for persons needing assistance. Requests for accommodations should be made at the time of application. EOE.

4/18

Today in History

50 Years Ago
April 18, 1972

Kathy Gieswein, Pam Johnson, Daryl Koehn, Jim McDaniel, Sondra Cottingham, Melinda Melhus and Mara Rasure, members of the Concordia Forensics Squad, qualified to compete in the State tournament at Washburn University... Mark Swiercinsky threw the shot 47 feet and 11 inches and was the only Concordia gold medal winner at the Beloit Relays... fifty cents gained one admission to the Junior Class '73 Tollies held at the Concordia High School auditorium... the Suzuki "Chick of the Month" at C & I Cycle Sales was Christine Justyna... a 42-ounce can of Spry was 88 cents at Boogaart's.

25 Years Ago
April 18, 1997

Easter memorial funds of Concordia's First United Methodist Church provided for a new stained glass panel featuring a dove, crafted from opalescent spectrum glass... Concordia Elementary School third graders sang about being drug, alcohol and tobacco free during their Forever Free musical review, directed by Heidi Richert... Aaron and Stephanie Hake announced the birth of their daughter, Brianna Michelle... Brianna Marie Blazek, daughter of Jeff and Dawn Blazek, was baptized on Easter Sunday wearing a baptismal gown first worn in 1941 by her great-aunt, Patricia Brunell Letourneau.

10 Years Ago
April 18, 2012

Charles Johnson was sworn in to serve another three-year term on the Concordia City Commission and Lyle Pounds was named

mayor... Concordia High School seniors Shannon Wallace, Jordan Pounds, Heather Letourneau, and Angelica Mares were selected by the Concordia American Legion Auxiliary to attend Sunflower Girls State in Lawrence... John and Michelle Bray, Concordia, announced the birth of their son, Logan John... wheat was selling at \$6.36, corn was \$5.94, and milo was \$5.56 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago
April 18, 2017

Chuck Robbins took on a "just for fun" project and made a cactus, slightly taller than his garage door, using 1,500 toothpicks... the Concordia High School Chamber Choir earned a Superior rating for the 15th consecutive year at the KSHSAA State Large Group contest... Norman Cleveland, rural Concordia, celebrated his 90th birthday... wheat was selling at \$3.21, corn was \$3.04, and milo was \$2.84 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago
April 18, 2021

Chad Kenworthy was hired as the assistant principal of instruction for USD 333, a newly created position, and former Cloud County Community College men's basketball coach Chad Eshbaugh was hired as the Concordia Junior-Senior High School and Concordia Middle School assistant principal and director of athletics... Pat Paris celebrated her 80th birthday... Terry and Theresa (Denault) Cibolski celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary... wheat was selling at \$6.02, corn was \$5.69, and milo was \$5.62 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago
April 20, 1972

Dillon Companies, Inc., Hutchinson, announced the purchase of the tract of land east of the Nazareth Convent and that they definitely would build a supermarket on the property... the Co-operative Service Association sold 4000 rose bushes at a small price with each gasoline fill-up; it was considered such a success that 15,000 pounds of potatoes had been brought in and were being sold to customers on a similar deal... Don Garlow received the Chapter Star Farmer and DeKalb awards from the Concordia Future Farmers of America chapter... Jane Jewell presented a vocal solo when Musical Minors met.

25 Years Ago
April 20, 1997

Fiber optic cable was being installed at the Concordia High School... Dana Rasure, daughter of Bob and Darline Rasure and 1970 graduate of CHS, was appointed to the Federal Court as United States Bankruptcy Judge of the Northern District of Oklahoma... sixteen-year-old Marcus Deaver, son of Leon and Loleta Deaver, earned his Eagle Scout award... CHS senior Ryan Kueker signed a basketball letter-of-intent with Garden City Community College... Tammy and Curtis Mansfield announced the birth of their daughter, Miranda Lynn.

10 Years Ago
April 20, 2012

The Concordia Community Garden of Hope was one of 24 projects in the state to be awarded a \$2,150 grant through the Kansas Community Gardens Project, a joint initiative of the Kansas Health Foundation and K-State Research Research

and Extension... Mark Morgan was celebrating his 80th birthday... Concordia High School seniors Drew Knapp and Audrey Stiles were recipients of Concordia Music Club Scholarships... wheat was selling at \$6.26, corn was \$5.75, and milo was \$5.37 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago
April 20, 2017

A Gerard Tank & Steel customer had 34 Traeger wood pellet grills delivered to the plant in Concordia as gifts for the employees, to thank them for their hard work and dedication... Concordia High School junior Jessica Williams broke her own meet record and established a season best by clearing 11-10 to win the pole vault at the Phillipsburg Invitation track meet, where the CHS finished second as a team... CHS graduate Stormie Hittle became a new member of Phi Kappa Phi at Kansas State University... wheat was selling at \$3.24, corn was \$3.12, and milo was \$2.92 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago
April 20, 2021

Don Lambert, a 1970 graduate of Cloud County Community College, had donated three pieces of artwork to the college's library, all which focused on diversity... Abby Donovan, one of three four-time state placers in the history of the Concordia High School girls' golf program, had signed to play golf at Kansas Wesleyan University... CHS seniors Easton Atwood and Dylan Thoman had both signed to play football at Kansas Wesleyan University... wheat was selling at \$6.03, corn was \$5.66, and milo was \$5.59 per bushel on local markets.

Moran announces grant funds for police

U.S. Senator Jerry Moran (R-Kan) made a stop in Concordia on Monday to announce the new federal investments for the Concordia Police Department.

The lead Republican on the Senate appropriations subcommittee on commerce, justice and science, Last month, Moran announced \$11,540,000 in funding for Kansas law enforcement in the fiscal year 2022.

There were 28 agencies in Kansas selected to receive grant funds as a result of the appropriations.

The Concordia Police Department was awarded \$310,000 to help cover the cost of the upgrades to the law enforcement, fire department, and EMS and emergency management communications system which include a switch to a digital system to provide better coverage.

"One of the successes we have had was in designating \$310,000 to Concordia's police department for purposes of improving the communications system. This gives the city a chance to enhance the program with some dollars coming from federal taxpayers," Moran said during a visit to the Concordia Police Department. "My theory is that if the money is going to be spent, and this money clearly would be spent someplace, we ought to help places that will struggle to have the kind of resources to do the things that we want done or that need to be

done."

Members of Congress are now eligible to designate some spending, and Moran said that he focused a significant part of his attention on law enforcement.

"A lot of what we are trying to do is make sure that local, state and federal law enforcement agencies work together."

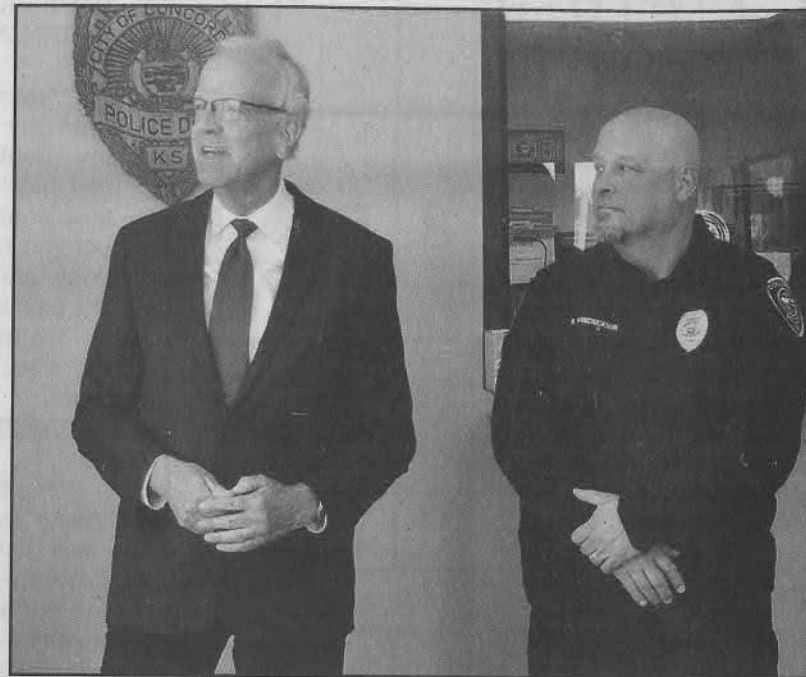
Concordia Police Chief Ric Fredrickson said that entities in Cloud County had been working on the communications upgrades for about a year and a half and that the grant funds will be used to purchase two new generators, including one for the Police Department building.

"We are very much appreciative and pleasantly surprised," Fredrickson said. "That is a very nice gift that we will certainly utilize. It will really enhance what we have been working on."

Moran said that all of the institutions that make up Cloud County really seem to be pulling in the same direction and that the community is really on the rise.

"I have represented this community for 26 years and there is a new feel here in Concordia over the past six, seven, eight, nine, 10 years. Some really good things are happening," Moran said.

During his visit to Concordia, Moran also toured the new \$40.35-million hospital that Cloud County Health Center is



A visit to the Police Department

4/20

U.S. Senator Jerry Moran, left, stands with Concordia Police Chief Ric Fredrickson during an announcement of a federal investment in law enforcement that includes \$310,000 to go towards the upgrade in the communications system in Cloud County. (Blade photo by Jim Lowell)

constructing.

"A lot of what I am about in representing Kansas is trying to make sure there is a future for rural communities. And one of the things you learn early on is the access to quality health care. A health care infrastructure in the town, in many ways, determines whether or not the town has a future," Moran said. "Concordia has had a long desire to figure out how to improve access to quality health care locally, and this project is one that is really important to

accomplishing that goal. It will make it easier to retain medical professionals, to recruit, and patients will be more pleased to be in a place with the kind of quality this building represents.

Moran said he was invited to take the tour to encourage and congratulate and make sure the community knows that the asset is really important to them.

"This is a long-term investment in the future of Concordia and Cloud County and north central Kansas," Moran said.

City commission discusses ^{4/22} creating deannexation policy

Creating a policy for deannexation within the city, installing synthetic turf at Doyen Field, and an appointment to the Housing Authority board were among the discussion items and action items at the regular meeting of the city commission on Wednesday evening, April 20.

City Attorney Justin Ferrell reported to the commission on a proposal to create a policy of deannexation within the city. Deannexation is taking of a piece of land once in the city and putting it into the county. The policy would establish criteria by which deannexation requests can be evaluated on a uniform basis, consistent with sound planning principles and the orderly development of the city.

Ferrell reported that the deannexation process is rare, and entails a lot of time and labor. The commission will consider adopting a deannexation policy for the city at its next meeting.

The commission also listened to a presentation from Cloud County Community College (CCCC) head baseball coach Eric Gilliland about installing synthetic turf on the infield of Doyen Field at the Concordia Sports Complex. CCCC president Amber Knoettgen and City Parks & Recreation Department director Chris Atkins also spoke in favor of the proposal.

This turf infield project is considered Phase 1 of a multiple phase plan of improvements at the sports complex, including but not limited to reconstruc-

tion of the press box/concessions/restrooms building, equipment and machinery storage, increased seating capacity, and accessibility improvements.

The goal is to complete the turf installation this fall so the field is ready for play during the Spring 2023 season. The target project amount is \$500,000. Multiple funding sources are being used to complete this project. A \$25,000 gift from a Cloud County Baseball alumnus was the catalyst for this project. Collaborative efforts by CCCC, the City of Concordia, and USD 333 will raise funds for this project. Private donors and grant opportunities are being sought in addition to contributions from each partnering entity.

Doyen Field is currently the home to Concordia American Legion Baseball, and the CCCC and Concordia High School baseball teams. The field is owned by the city of Concordia. Much of the maintenance is shared between the city and the CCCC baseball staff and team, with CCCC baseball staff and players providing over 75 labor hours each month in addition to field maintenance labor provided by the city's full-time and seasonal staff. Over the years the city, CCCC, and the USD 333 have collaborated to continually upgrade the ballpark with improvements including fencing, bleachers, concrete, locker room, scoreboards.

(see Commission on page 10)

Commission ^{4/22}

(continued from page 1)

CCCC hosts over 40 games and 80 practices annually at Doyen Field. CHS hosts over 10 games and 40 practices annually. The City of Concordia hosts roughly 20 K-18 and American Legion baseball games and 40 practices annually. The field has also been host to K-18 and American Legion postseason tournaments.

It is estimated that installing synthetic turf will create a 15% reduction in expenses related to watering, fuel for mowing, and fertilizer at the field, and a reduction of over 50% in expenses in fill dirt/clay and chalk/paint. A synthetic turf would also reduce rainouts and the need to search for neutral site games.

A synthetic turf would also increase the potential for High School and American Legion postseason playoff games, and aid in recruitment at CCCC. Half of all the Kansas Jayhawk Conference community colleges have synthetic turf baseball infields.

City staff proposes the city's contribution to the infield project come from the

Special Parks and Recreation Fund (\$25,000) and CIP (\$25,000).

In other action, the city commission voted to reject the sole bid received for the CCLIP Surface Preservation Project on K9 Highway from Cloud St. to the east city limits. The project was to be started October 1st, 2022, and be finished by November 25th, 2022.

Hal Brothers Inc. submitted the only bid of \$347,724.60, which was \$55,389.10 higher than the project estimate by Campbell & Johnson Engineers. The bid came in higher than expected presumably with the cost of oil and gas prices that have risen over the past few months.

Based on staff recommendations, the commission voted to reject the bid and propose rebidding the project in the spring of 2023.

The commission approved the appointment of Devon Davis to the Housing Authority board, to complete the term of Ryan Cairns, who resigned. Davis will serve an unexpired term until December of 2022.

Today in History

50 Years Ago April 27, 1972

Fred Modlin, a route driver for Pepsi-Cola and former member of the Concordia police force, had been named by Sheriff Carl Clintsman to the Cloud County undersheriff post, vacant since the resignation of Gene Garner... 1962 Concordia High School graduate L. M. "Jack" Jackson, director of photography at Fort Hays State College, won five ribbons and his students picked up several more at Salon XIV, the fourteenth annual Southwestern Intercollegiate Photo Salon, held at Texas A&M... Mr. and Mrs. Larry Lagasse were the parents of a baby girl, Lacie Jo.

25 Years Ago April 27, 1997

District 12 of the Kansas State Nurses Association selected Cloud County Health Center director of nursing Virginia Bachand, BSN, RN, as the District 12 Nurse of the Year for 1997... employees of Morton Buildings, Inc. were putting up the new commercial exhibit building at the Cloud County Fairgrounds... Richard Bell, Jason Demars, Darren Grant, Jay Smith and Tony Vignery, all of Concordia, were performing as current members of Great Society at the Great Society Singers of Cloud County Community College performance of their "Concert at Home" at the Brown Grand Theatre.

10 Years Ago April 27, 2012

Jay T. Reynolds had been appointed factory director of the Concordia Alstom Power Air Preheater offices... 18 children and 16 adults participated in the Cloud Coun-

ty Historical Society Museum Marbles Event... Tiffany Detterline and James Wichman, Concordia, announced the birth of their daughter, Haven Rayanne... Mary Frances and Josh Duvall, Concordia, announced the birth of their son, Christopher Duvall... wheat was selling at \$6.27, corn was \$6.17, and milo was \$5.74 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago April 27, 2017

Cloud County Health Center board of trustees approved moving forward with fundraising for a new stat care clinic in Concordia... Students of the Month for April/May at Concordia Elementary School were Zoie Luecke and Sophia Fraley... Chad Eshbaugh, men's basketball coach at Cloud County Community College, had resigned to accept an assistant coaching job at Jacksonville University... wheat was selling at \$3.79, corn was \$3.18, and milo was \$3.08 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago April 27, 2021

With the city of Concordia celebrating its 150th anniversary of the organization of the city this year, the public was asked to submit items to be placed in a time capsule... the 40th annual Cloud County Community College Foundation Scholarship auction raised more than \$67,000... led by three top-ten places from Hayden Dvorak, Lewis VanMeter and Braxton Kindel, the Concordia High School golf team won the Concordia Invitational... wheat was selling at \$6.94, corn was \$6.49, and milo was \$6.42 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago April 29, 1972

Gina Rasure and Randy Lagasse, members of the Concordia High School band, had been chosen to be members of the Lions State band at the Lions state convention in June... Donald Richard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Richard, and student at Cloud County Community College, had passed his examination for the American Medical Technology Registry... Sgt. and Mrs. Randy Cossel were the parents of a son, Robert Lloyd... Jim Pearson shot a 72 for medalist honors as coach John Tacha's team took all three team titles in the Concordia Invitational Golf meet at the Country Club course.

25 Years Ago April 29, 1997

Bill Risko, district manager of Concordia JCPenney, which opened in 1925, announced that the department store in Concordia would be closed permanently by the end of August... Concordia High School junior Justin Sallman captured first place in poetry interpretation in the Class 4A KSHSAA State Speech Championships... Greg and Kristy Stensaas, Concordia, announced the birth of their daughter, Lesley Dawn.

10 Years Ago April 29, 2012

Kaelyn Ade, Emily Barrington, Mariah Blazek, Olivia Nelson, Zoe Brichalli, Lynsey Garret and Marie Brewer, students from the Dance Company of Concordia, attended Dancers for Pediatric Cancer, an event that benefits children with

cancer... Norman and Mary Margaret Tholstrup celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary... Holly Boley, daughter of Mark and Connie Boley, had signed a letter of intent to cheer for Cloud County Community College... wheat was selling at \$6.24, corn was \$6.09, and milo was \$5.66 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago April 29, 2017

Vice president for academic affairs Brenda Edleston informed the Cloud County Community College board of trustees that she would be retiring at the end of June... POW Camp Concordia held its Victory Day Celebration... Concordia seventh-graders Keyan Miller and Aidan Poore got first-place finishes at the Republic County Invitational when Miller won the shot put with a toss of 34-9 1/4 and Poore cleared 9-0 to win the pole vault... wheat was selling at \$3.43, corn was \$3.02, and milo was \$2.92 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago April 29, 2021

The Cloud County Community College Board of Trustees unanimously approved the hiring of Caesar Wood as the new vice president of administrative services at the college... the Concordia High School tennis team (Joshua Wood, Billy Wahlmeier, Taryn Roush, Isaac Bombardier, Tyson Roush and Ismael Perez) won the Hoisington Varsity Tennis Tournament... wheat was selling at \$7.06, corn was \$6.50, and milo was \$6.40 per bushel on local markets.

Hello **SUMMER** 2022 Concordia Summer Recreation ^{4/29}



Summer Playground ^{4/29}

June 1- June 30

Summer Playground Directors:

Leslie Girard & Melissa Stiles

Contact: Chris Atkins, 785-243-2670

\$25 PER CHILD

FUN AND GAMES

In case of inclement weather, listen to KNCK
1390 or 98.3 (FM)
or sign up for text alerts at
www.concordiaks.org.
Click on Concordia in the Know

Location: East Shelterhouse at the City Park

Time: 8 a.m.-11:45 a.m. Mon.-Fri.

Children need to be dropped off no earlier than
7:45 a.m., and must be picked up no later than
11:45 a.m.

Activities will include Sports, Arts & Crafts,
Movies

Ages: 4-12 (must turn 4 before June 2)

Registration: concordiaks.recdesk.com

Swim Team ^{4/29}

Practice: Begins May 31

Schedule: Age 8 & under M-W-F, 10:45-11:45
Age 9 & above Mon.-Fri., 10:45-11:45

Registration Fee: \$45 per swimmer plus gear
Registrations accepted through May 31

Location: City Pool

Meets: Held on Saturdays - June 4 - Beatrice, Nebraska

June 11 - Concordia

June 18 - Fairbury, Nebraska

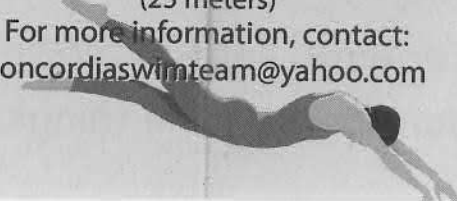
June 25 - Clay Center

July 9 - Concordia

Registration Night: May 9, 5-7 p.m. at City Hall

Prerequisite: Must be able to swim the length of the pool
(25 meters)

For more information, contact:
concordiaswimteam@yahoo.com



Swimming Pool ^{4/29}

Manager: Josh Brown

Assistant Manager: Jordan Gilkeson

Saturday, May 28 - August 6

Daily Admission: \$2.00

4 & under & seniors over 65 - Free

Punch Cards - 10 punches \$17.00

20 punches \$30.00, 30 punches \$40.00

Family Passes: \$100 up to 4 people

\$10 each additional person up to 7 total

All Sales at concordiaks.recdesk.com

Adult Swim: Noon to 12:50 p.m.

Night Swims every Tuesday 8-10 p.m.

SWIMMING LESSONS - \$35

Contact Josh Brown after May 28

785-243-1150

Friday, April 29, 2022

City to test, flush fire hydrants

The city of Concordia water department will be testing and flushing fire hydrants on Monday through Friday.

The annual flushing program serves two purposes: to flush and conduct a maintenance check on all fire hydrants in the community and to force an excessive flow of water through the mains, which enables the water department to get rid of mineral deposits in the mains.

Minerals are naturally present in drinking water. Low water usage in the winter months contributes to the deposit buildup.

During the testing, residents may experience water discoloration. It is not a public health problem but may be an inconvenience.

Prior to doing laundry, residents are urged to inspect the color of the tap water. If discoloration is present, do not use the washing machine. The water should clear up in a day or so.

Flushing will begin at 6 a.m. Monday and Tuesday and 7 a.m. the rest of the week.

The city staff apologizes for any inconvenience the flushing may cause and thanks residents for their cooperation.

Anyone with questions can call City Hall at 785-243-2670.

The flushing schedule is as follows:

Monday - Strain Street through Fifth Street.

Tuesday - Sixth Street through Seventh Street.

Wednesday - Eighth Street through 10th Street.

Thursday - 11th Street through 16th Street east of Lincoln Street and 11th Street through 13th Street West of Lincoln Street.

Friday - 16th Street through Blosser Municipal Airport east of Lincoln Street and 14th Street through the south city limits west of Lincoln Street.

Concordia Sports Complex

1500 East 7th Street

4/29

All Registration: concordiaks.recdesk.com

Baseball Division K-18

Concordia Teams: Citizens National Bank & F&A Food Sales, Inc.

Days Played: Tuesdays & Fridays

PEE WEE BASEBALL

Concordia Teams: Chevy/Buick, Lions Club, Knights of Columbus

Days Played: Mondays & Wednesdays

AMERICAN LEGION

Contacts: Nigel Primeaux, Damon Sterrett

Softball Division

GIRLS SOFTBALL

4/29

Concordia Teams: Funk Pharmacy, Subway, American Legion, Cloud County Co-op

Days Played: Tuesdays & Thursdays

MEN'S SLOW PITCH & CO-ED SOFTBALL

Days Played: Tuesdays & Thursdays

T-BALL

Concordia Teams: Gambino's Pizza, F&A Food Sales, Cloud County Health Center, Wentz Eye Care, Mike's Rent to Own, Fleming Construction,

Days Played: Wednesdays



GROUND'S CREW

Maintenance Supervisor ~ Jared LeDuc
Skyler Hittle, Nathan Brown



Tennis

\$20.00 per child
Ages 7-14

Monday-Friday

2 Sessions

8:30 - 10:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Come for one session, or stay for both.

Registration:

concordiaks.recdesk.com

Today in History

50 Years Ago May 2, 1972

Gordon Huggert, president of First National Bank for 52 years, was given a fishing pole and reel at his retirement party... Bryan Berner, Joanna McCollom, Lynnette Johnson, Rebecca Seward, Steven Lawton, Eric Christensen, John Rasure, Kimberly Johnson, Shelly Christensen, Nancy Olson, Janet Lawton, Melinda Roberts, Marsha Jo Bryant, and Kim Olson, piano students of Mrs. Wilbur Naylor, presented a recital... Mr. and Mrs. Vic Bulleigh were honored for their 25th wedding anniversary with a basket dinner... "Dirty Harry," starring Clint Eastwood, was showing at the Grand Theater.

25 Years Ago May 2, 1997

VFW Post #588 and Ladies Auxiliary were selling Buddy Poppies celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Buddy Poppy Program... JoDee LeDuc, business office clerk at Cloud County Community College, received the College Service Award for demonstrating outstanding or exemplary service to the college... Rans Lowell, Concordia fifth grader, placed sixth in problem solving at the Kansas Association of Teachers of Math Awards Celebration Day in Emporia.

10 Years Ago May 2, 2012

Concordia Elementary School fourth-graders visited the Nazareth Motherhouse for a tour... Concordia High School graduate Cassie Lowell had been unanimously selected as the Mid-America

Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA) Women's Golf Player of the Year... Courtney Lanoue, daughter of Don and Cheryl Lanoue, signed a letter of intent to dance for Cloud County Community College... wheat was selling at \$6.17, corn was \$6.14, and milo was \$5.69 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago May 2, 2017

Abu Gafar M. L. Hosision, PhD., was hired to be the new chemistry instructor at Cloud County Community College... Concordia FFA graduating senior class members included Tristan Kearn, Ben Peltier, Allayna Hanson, Alex Wilcox and Davin Strait... Billy Lee Jackson had celebrated his 93rd birthday... auditions for the summer production of "Faith County" were held at the Brown Grand Theatre... wheat was selling at \$3.43, corn was \$3.02, and milo was \$2.92 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago May 2, 2021

Blade-Empire staff writer Russell Gagnon won three Kansas Press Association (KPA) awards... Lyle Pounds, Motherhouse organic gardener, was readying succulents and hanging baskets to be featured at the upcoming plant sale... Concordia High School junior Tyler Hobrock placed in four events at the Smokey Vally Invitational: discus, javelin, shot put and high jump... wheat was selling at \$6.80, corn was \$6.81, and milo was \$6.56 per bushel on local markets.

NOTICE OF HEARING BY THE CONCORDIA PLANNING COMMISSION

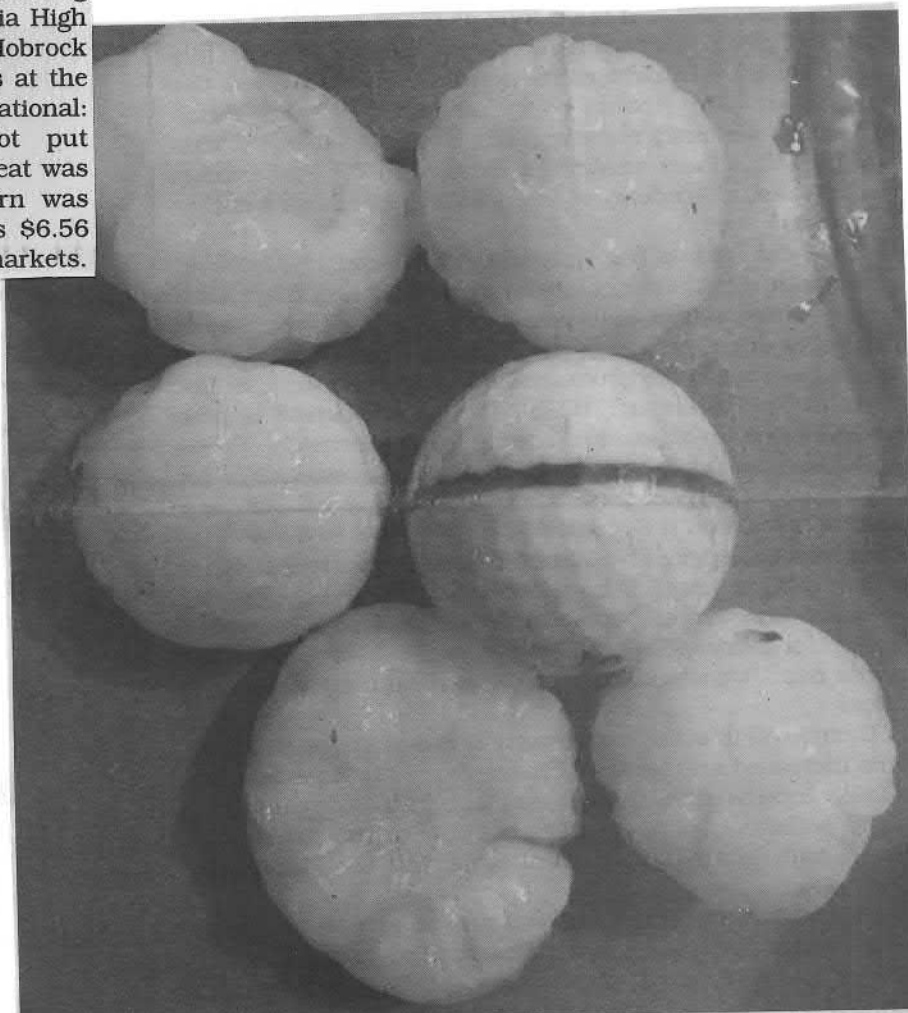
5/2

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Concordia Planning Commission to consider a street vacation. A petition has been filed in the office of the City Clerk praying for vacation of the West half (W½) of North Archer Street from the North right-of-way line of 1st Street Northward to the line adjacent to the North property lines of Blocks Two Hundred Three (203) and Two Hundred Four (204), in the City of Concordia, Cloud County, Kansas, according to the recorded Plat thereof.

The public hearing will be held in the City Commission Room, City Hall, 701 Washington, Concordia, Kansas on **Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.** All persons desiring to be heard on the proposed vacation shall have the opportunity to be heard.

Reasonable accommodations are available for persons needing assistance. Requests for accommodations should be submitted to Director of Community Development, 785-243-2672 (TDD 785-243-2336) by 5:00 p.m., Friday, May 20, 2022.

Bruno Rehbein
Planning Commission Secretary



Golf ball sized hail

A thunderstorm that rumbled through Concordia Friday evening produced hail as big as a golf ball.

5/2/22

Today in History

50 Years Ago

May 4, 1972

Candidates for positions on the Concordia Chamber of Commerce board of directors were James Ganson, Robert Wilson, Gerald Arnold, Roland Kalivoda, Dr. R. L. Boardman, Lorraine Lewis, and Art Slaughter... Coach Devine Montoya's varsity players Tracy White, Brad Bryant and Bob Tracy won singles matches against Chapman opponents, but the Concordia netmen were blanked in the doubles competition. Mr. and Mrs. Gary Ashland were parents of a daughter, Terri Lynn... a surprise birthday party and housewarming honored Mrs. Rosalie Allen.

25 Years Ago

May 4, 1997

The Cloud County Museum had an open house and hobby show with displays including a bell collection, vest making, whittling, rock polishing, sphere making, a pitcher collection, a doll collection and lap quilting... Ruth Fowler was growing a deep rose amaryllis that was 38 inches tall with five blooms measuring eight inches in diameter... Erick and Nicole Mendenhall, Concordia, announced the birth of their daughter, Tara Marie.

10 Years Ago

May 4, 2012

At the Cloud County Community College Employee Recognition Dinner, Karl deRocheFort-Reynolds was honored for twenty-five years of service... Concordia High School had three players, Micah Fabarez, Connor Lamm and Grant Holmes, finish in the top 10 individually on its way to winning the six-man title and finishing just one stroke out of

first place in the four-man competition at the Marysville Invitational golf tournament... David Strait was selected as CHS Student of the Month for May... wheat was selling at \$5.93, corn was \$6.00, and milo was \$5.55 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago

May 4, 2017

Dr. David Simmonds, stepson of Native American artist Blackbear Bosin, whose most famous work is The Keeper of the Plains, the large sculpture along the Arkansas River in Wichita, presented the program "The Native American Art of Blackbear Bosin" at the Cook Theatre at Cloud County Community College as part of the Cook Lecture Series... Concordia Elementary fourth graders visited the traveling exhibit Body Venture and learned about healthy lifestyles... wheat was selling at \$3.79, corn was \$3.18, and milo was \$3.08 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago

May 4, 2021

Concordia Elementary School student Bennett Metcalf was the winner of the fourth grade spelling bee, held at the Broadway Plaza, with Daniel Kemling finishing second and Katarina Howell, third... Concordia High School senior Terin Rundus was recognized by Kansas Governor Laura Kelly as a 2021 Kansas Governor's Scholar... Chloe Nelson, daughter of Anthony and Jasmine Nelson, had been selected as the CHS Student of the Month for May... wheat was selling at \$6.89, corn was \$6.97, and milo was \$6.67 per bushel on local markets.

(Published in the Concordia Blade-Empire on May 6, 2022)

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-2134

BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the City of Concordia, Kansas:

WHEREAS, the enforcing officer pursuant to K.S.A. 12-1750 et seq., as provided by Section 6-101 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Concordia, Kansas, has informed the governing body that in his opinion the following structure, is unsafe and dangerous:

The residential structures on the premises located at 429 West 8th Street, Concordia, Kansas, and more completely described as:

The East 8 feet of Lot 29, and all of Lot 30, Block 129, Concordia Original Town Site,

All in the City of Concordia, Cloud County, Kansas.

WHEREAS, the enforcing officer has determined that the structure should be condemned and ordered repaired or demolished, all pursuant to K.S.A. 12-1752.

WHEREAS, on the 16th day of March, 2022, the Governing Body of the City of Concordia, Kansas, adopted Resolution No. 2022-2133 resolving that on May 4, 2022, at 5:30 o'clock p.m., the owner, the owner's agent, any lien holders of record and any occupant of such structure may appear and show cause why such structure should not be condemned and ordered repaired or demolished, and that notice shall be given by the City Clerk as required by K.S.A. 12-1752.

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 2022-2133 of the Governing Body of the City of Concordia, Kansas, was published in the Concordia Blade Empire on March 18th and March 25th, 2022, in accordance with K.S.A. 12-1752.

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2022, in accordance with K. S. A. 12-1752, a copy of Resolution No. 2022-2133 of the Governing Body of the City of Concordia, Kansas, was mailed, within three days after its first publication, by the City Clerk by certified mail, marked "deliver to addressee only," to each of the following:

Robert S. and Kelli B. Vandenbroeder
2924 N 72nd St.
Kansas City, KS 66109

The same being all of the owners, the owners' agents, any lien holders of record and any occupants of such structure whose names and addresses the City Clerk has been able to determine after diligent inquiry

WHEREAS, at least 30 days have elapsed between the last publication of Resolution No. 2022-2133 and the date set for hearing.

WHEREAS, on the date and time set for hearing or any adjournment thereof, the Governing Body heard all evidence submitted by the owners, the owners' agents, any lien holders of record and any occupants of such structure as well as evidence submitted by the enforcing officer who filed the statement finding that the structure is unsafe and dangerous.

AND WHEREAS, the Governing Body thereupon determined that the structure is unsafe or dangerous.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS, that the residential structure on the premises located at 429 West 8th Street, Concordia, Kansas, and more completely described as:

The East 8 feet of Lot 29, and all of Lot 30, Block 129, Concordia Original Town Site,

All in the City of Concordia, Cloud County, Kansas.

shall be repaired or removed, with repairs or removal to commence within 30 days from the date of this Resolution, and with the premises to be made safe and secure within a reasonable time.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS, that if the owner of such structure fails to commence the repair or removal of such structure within the time stated or fails to diligently prosecute the same until the work is completed, the Governing Body will cause the structure to be repaired or razed and removed without further notice to any owner, the owner's agent, any lien holders of record and any occupant of such structure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS, that in accordance with K. S. A. 12-1752, a copy of this Resolution shall be mailed, within three days after its publication, by the City Clerk by certified mail, marked "deliver to addressee only," to each of the owners, the owners' agents, any lien holders of record and any occupants of such structure.

PASSED by the Governing Body and signed by the mayor this 4th day of May, 2022.

Ashley Hutchinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

(Seal)

Stacey Smith, City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-2135

BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the City of Concordia, Kansas:

WHEREAS, the enforcing officer pursuant to K.S.A. 12-1750 et seq., as provided by Section 6-101 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Concordia, Kansas, has informed the governing body that in his opinion the following structure is unsafe and dangerous:

The house and accessory structure located at 717 Olive Street, Concordia, Kansas, and more completely described as:

The North 48 Feet of Lots 19 and 20, Block 122, Concordia Original Town Site,

All in the City of Concordia, Cloud County, Kansas.

WHEREAS, the enforcing officer has determined that the structure should be condemned and ordered repaired or demolished, all pursuant to K.S.A. 12-1752.

WHEREAS, on the 16th day of March, 2022, the Governing Body of the City of Concordia, Kansas, adopted Resolution No. 2022-2132 resolving that on May 4, 2022, at 5:30 o'clock p.m., the owner, the owner's agent, any lien holders of record and any occupant of such structure may appear and show cause why such structure should not be condemned and ordered repaired or demolished, and that notice shall be given by the City Clerk as required by K.S.A. 12-1752.

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 2022-2132 of the Governing Body of the City of Concordia, Kansas, was published in the Concordia Blade Empire on March 18 and March 25, 2022, in accordance with K.S.A. 12-1752.

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2022, in accordance with K. S. A. 12-1752, a copy of Resolution No. 2022-2132 of the Governing Body of the City of Concordia, Kansas, was mailed, within three days after its first publication, by the City Clerk by certified mail, marked "deliver to addressee only," to each of the following:

Vanlew Properties LLC
PO Box 624
Clay Center, KS 67432-0624

The same being all of the owners, the owners' agents, any lien holders of record and any occupants of such structure whose names and addresses the City Clerk has been able to determine after diligent inquiry

WHEREAS, at least 30 days have elapsed between the last publication of Resolution No. 2022-2132 and the date set for hearing.

WHEREAS, on the date and time set for hearing or any adjournment thereof, the Governing Body heard all evidence submitted by the owners, the owners' agents, any lien holders of record and any occupants of such structure as well as evidence submitted by the enforcing officer who filed the statement finding that the structure is unsafe and dangerous.

AND WHEREAS, the Governing Body thereupon determined that the structure is unsafe or dangerous.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS that the residential structure on the premises located at 717 Olive Street, Concordia, Kansas, and more completely described as:

The North 48 Feet of Lots 19 and 20, Block 122, Concordia Original Town Site,

All in the City of Concordia, Cloud County, Kansas.

shall be repaired or removed, with repairs or removal to commence within 30 days from the date of this Resolution, and with the premises to be made safe and secure within a reasonable time.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS, that if the owner of such structure fails to commence the repair or removal of such structure within the time stated or fails to diligently prosecute the same until the work is completed, the Governing Body will cause the structure to be repaired or razed and removed without further notice to any owner, the owner's agent, any lien holders of record and any occupant of such structure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS, that in accordance with K. S. A. 12-1752, a copy of this Resolution shall be mailed, within three days after its publication, by the City Clerk by certified mail, marked "deliver to addressee only," to each of the owners, the owners' agents, any lien holders of record and any occupants of such structure.

PASSED by the Governing Body and signed by the mayor this 4th day of May, 2022.

Ashley Hutchinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

(Seal)

Stacey Smith, City Clerk

Today in History

50 Years Ago May 6, 1972

About 90 soldiers from Fort Riley camped near the river bridge with plans to launch boats for a journey down the Republican to the fort as a training expedition... Capt. Theodore Collins of Anchorage, Alaska, received his discharge from the U.S. Army... Shelly Showalter rolled a 267 at Hillcrest Lanes to establish a record high for local women bowlers; Mrs. Judy Danielson had the previous high game of 256... Frills "n" Fabrics was presenting a two hour William Cramer Pattern Clinic for \$3.00... Olive Ritter entertained her brother Elias Ritter for his 90th birthday with a dinner at Skyliner Steak House.

25 Years Ago May 6, 1997

The Tulip Tea (Mother's Day Tea) was being revived at the Brown Grand Theatre as a fundraiser for the Brown Grand Players... Mount Joseph Senior Community was one of 36 nursing facilities receiving an Award of Recognition at the Spring conference of the Kansas Association of Home and Services for the Aging... Brandi Dickson had joined the staff at the Cloud County Health Center as an occupational therapist.

10 Years Ago May 6, 2012

Instead of regular Sunday morning services, Concordia First United Methodist Church was cleaning up and painting the playground equipment at three local parks as a "Change the World" project... candles were given to the youngest

and oldest mother, Chelsey Kindel and Pearl Townsend, at the Women of the Concordia Lutheran Church annual mother-daughter potluck dinner... a peony tree planted by Maryjo Stortz several years ago was blooming for the first time with double blooms of yellow and pink... wheat was selling at \$5.87, corn was \$6.05, and milo was \$5.60 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago May 6, 2017

The 1st Infantry Division Band Spring Concert Series was presented at the Brown Grand Theatre... Cloud County Community College employees and students participated in Campus Beautification Day... Students of the Month for April at Concordia Middle School were Abbigale Peterson, fifth grade, and Moyra Barnes, sixth grade... wheat was selling at \$3.79, corn was \$3.14, and milo was \$3.09 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago May 6, 2021

USD 333 board of education accepted the resignation, for personal reasons, of Chad Kenworthy, who had just been hired as principal on April 12... Concordia High School senior Conner Thrash finished second in extemporaneous speaking at the Kansas State High School Activities Association Class 4A State Forensics Tournament... Kenny and Rosie Skeels celebrated their 62nd anniversary... wheat was selling at \$7.07, corn was \$7.07, and milo was \$6.77 per bushel on local markets.

Commission ads new policy to City code

Adding a de-annexation policy to the City code, leasing farmland near the airport, and the condemnation of two structures were some of the items discussed and acted upon during the regular meeting of the Concordia city commission on Wednesday evening, May 4.

Mayor Ashley Hutchinson signed a proclamation naming May 2022 as World Hunger Awareness Month in Concordia. It is estimated that 15% of Cloud County residents live in food insecure conditions.

Mayor Hutchinson also signed a proclamation making May 28, 2022, National Poppy Day in Concordia. The Friday before Memorial Day is chosen every year nationally, and citizens wear a red poppy to honor the fallen and support the living who have worn our nation's uniform.

City finance director Amber Farha reported that the sales tax for the first quarter of this year was \$530,779.50, which is an increase of \$74,031.29 from the first quarter of 2021. The City budget for sales tax for the 2022 year is \$1,773,000.

City manager Amy Lange briefed commissioners on plans to build a public parking lot on the site where the houses at 326 and 330 W. 6th Street once stood, located immediately west of the existing Brown Grand Theatre parking lot. This new parking lot will address blight and improve public infrastruc-

ture to support economic development within the established boundaries of the Concordia Redevelopment District 2000, commonly known as the "TIF District."

The project will provide additional off-street parking for local nearby businesses, the adjacent entertainment venue, and two nearby churches as well as for large public events held downtown.

The new parking lot will be paved with concrete, and the sidewalk and drive approaches along W. 6th Street adjacent to this site will be replaced. Six new light fixtures will illuminate the 30 new parking spaces. The light fixtures will coordinate with the time period at which the Brown Grand Theatre was constructed, and will feature brick bases with a capstone. Additionally, conduit to serve a future electric vehicle charging station will be installed. No parking blocks will be installed to facilitate more efficient snow removal. A curb and gutter on the west edge of the lot is being considered to minimize stormwater runoff from the adjacent gravel lot.

Bids will be solicited in May with construction to begin after June 1. The goal is to have this parking lot ready to receive traffic by late September, in time for Fall Fest.

A public hearing was held as part of the condemnation process for two structures located

at 717 Olive Street and 429 West 8th Street. After the hearing, the city commission voted to adopt Resolutions ordering both structures to be repaired or removed, with repairs or removal to commence within 30 days from the date of the Resolutions, and with the premises to be made safe and secure within a reasonable time.

In other action, the city commission voted to adopt an Exclusion of Property (De-Annexation) Resolution for the City. This establishes a basic policy position regarding de-annexation and establishes criteria by which de-annexation requests can be evaluated on a uniform basis, consistent with sound planning principles and the orderly development of the city. This policy will also describe the procedures for evaluating requests for de-annexation.

Section 4 of the new policy describes the De-Annexation Fee Structure. The petitioner shall be liable for all costs of proceedings, which shall be the greater of the amounts of the following items:

Non-Refundable Filing Fee with City Clerk (Petition) \$1,000 or \$100/acre.

Non-Refundable Publication Fee (Notice of Hearing, Ordinance) \$300 or Cost +10%.

Filing Fee with County Register of Deeds \$150 or Cost +10%.

City Limit Boundary Update (Legal Description & Map) \$500 or Cost +10%.

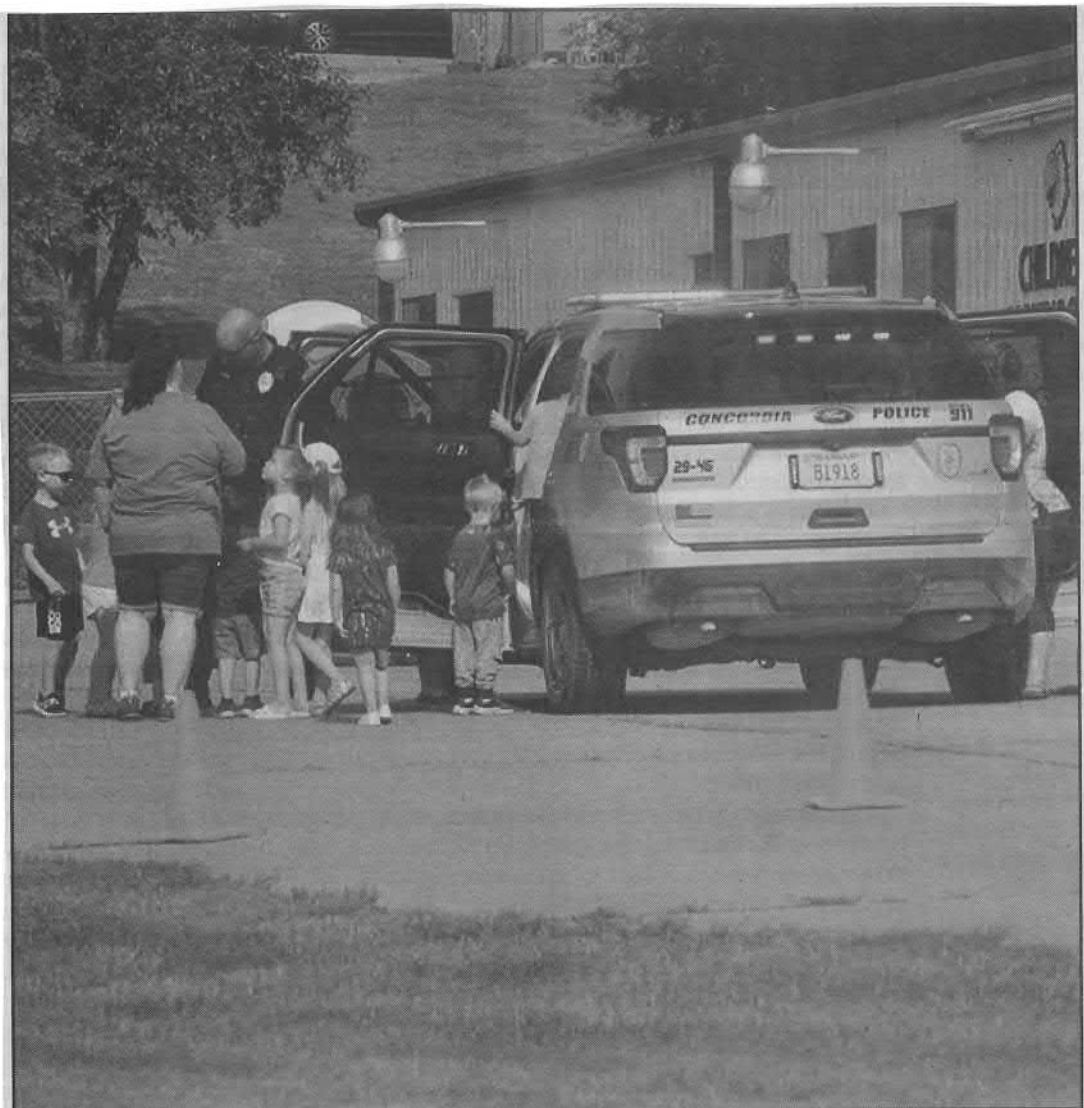
"The reason why the de-annexation policy has been implemented is that we actually don't have any policy on the books," said city attorney Justin Ferrell. "It's a very rare procedure, but it's something we need to have."

The city commission also voted to enter into farm leasing agreements with Keaton Lambert and Swenson Jeardoe, LLC for land adjacent to the airport.

Both leases are for a period of three years, beginning March 1, 2022, and ending February 28, 2025. After that, the leases will automatically renew for one-year periods beginning on March 1 of each year and ending on February 28 of the following year, unless, at least thirty days before March 1 of any year, either party gives written notice to the other that this lease is terminated.

If the City desires to use any part of the leasehold for airport purposes, the City may acquire any such acreage at any time by notifying the tenant. In that event, the tenant shall be paid the fair market value of any crops growing on the acreage taken for airport purposes. The crops and any income from the crops shall be the sole property of the tenant.

Concordia Police Chief Ric Fredrickson reported that almost 60 pounds of unused or unwanted drugs were turned in by local residents during National Drug Take-Back Day on April 30th.



Checking out the police car

A Concordia Police Department officer made a visit to the Cloud County Community College Children's Center on Wednesday morning and the children had an opportunity to check out his vehicle. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)

5/13

FIVE RULE completing housing study in Concordia

5/18



will be driving a silver Chevrolet Suburban with Nebraska "4" county plates with a FIVE RULE decal on the vehicle.

Any questions about the housing inventory specifically or housing in general should be directed to City Hall or FIVE RULE Rural Planning at 308-455-3528.

On behalf of the city of Concordia, CloudCorp and FIVE RURAL Rural Planning, we thank residents for their continued participation and cooperation in this important housing study.

Earlier this year, the city of Concordia and CloudCorp partnered with FIVE RULE Rural Planning, Kearney, Neb., to complete a housing study that will assist with identifying their roles in helping to identify and address the perceived housing shortage in Concordia.

The FIVE RULE consultant team has collected community input through the facilitation of small group conversations and the distribution of a community-wide survey that was recently completed by 333 residents.

The next step in the process is completion of an onsite housing inventory assessment.

Starting last Monday and continuing over the next two weeks, team members from FIVE RULE will be driving up and down every street in Concordia completing a housing inventory.

The FIVE RULE team member

(Published in the Concordia Blade-Empire on Friday, May 20, 2022)

Ordinance No. 2022-3187

On May 18, 2022, the City of Concordia adopted Ordinance No. 2022-3187, amending Concordia Code Section 11-219 by amending the cost of a special event liquor license. A reproduction of this ordinance will be available for not less than one week following the publication of this summary of the ordinance at the website address of the City of Concordia, <http://www.concordiakso.org>. This summary is certified by the city attorney to be legally accurate and sufficient.

11

50 Years Ago May 20, 1972

In observance of National Hospital Week, these employees at St. Joseph Hospital received special recognition for their years of service: Mary Frances Cailteux, 15, laboratory; Gladys Hewitt, 10, ward clerk third floor; Elma Trost, 10, nurse aide third floor; Wilma Swenson, 10, registered nurse nights; Wilma Henry, 20, office; Dorothy Lefort, 20, nurse aide second floor; Dora Morrill, 10, central service; and Mabel Bisnette, 20, housekeeping... Scott Baumann was the winner of the 40-yard dash at the Washington School kindergarten-first grade Play Day.

25 Years Ago May 20, 1997

Marci Penner, director of the Kansas Sampler Foundation, was the featured speaker at the 17th Annual Tourism Recognition Ceremony... Heather Hodgins, daughter of John and Donna Hodgins, had been selected to participate in a national food and nutrition career exploration program sponsored by Kraft and the national 4-H Council... Karla Taylor, bartender at Concordia's VFW Home, was staying on the roof of the building until she raised \$200 or more as part of the UGLY (Understanding, Generous, Love-able You) Bartender Challenge to raise money for Multiple Sclerosis.

10 Years Ago May 20, 2012

Randy Heatherly, vice president of Kansas KAMSA, presented Derek Holmes, Concordia Middle School principal, with a certificate

of award for high performing schools and outstanding middle school efforts... at the invitation of Kansas Governor Sam Brownback, Christa Deneault of Concordia High School was selected to attend the 29th Annual Governor's Scholars Awards Program in Topeka... a dance helped Steve and Sherri Biery celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary... wheat was selling at \$5.86, corn was \$5.92, and milo was \$5.32 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago May 20, 2017

Jim Dunning, a 1978 graduate of Cloud County Community College, received the CCCC Distinguished Alumnus Award during the college's commencement ceremony... receiving scholarships from Concordia Rotary Club were: Jordan Eshbaugh, \$1,000; Lydia Knapp, \$500; and Olivia Nelson, \$300... Allan and Anna Jackson announced the birth of their son, Beckett Allan... wheat was selling at \$3.54, corn was \$3.14, and milo was \$3.09 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago May 20, 2021

Diplomas had been presented to 66 Concordia High School seniors during commencement exercises, with Chloe Conway, valedictorian and Terin Rundus, salutatorian... Braxton Kindel, a junior on the Concordia High School golf team, had been selected as the CHS Athlete of the Week... wheat was selling at \$6.53, corn was \$6.73, and milo was \$6.40 per bushel on local markets.

Brown Grand to host Block Party

The Brown Grand Theatre will be capping off its 2021-2022 season by hosting a Block Party in the west parking lot from 12-9 p.m. Saturday at 310 West Sixth St.

With several entities involved, the Block Party will include music by three bands from the area, a corn hole tournament and other games, a food truck, a beer garden and a world hunger awareness mural.

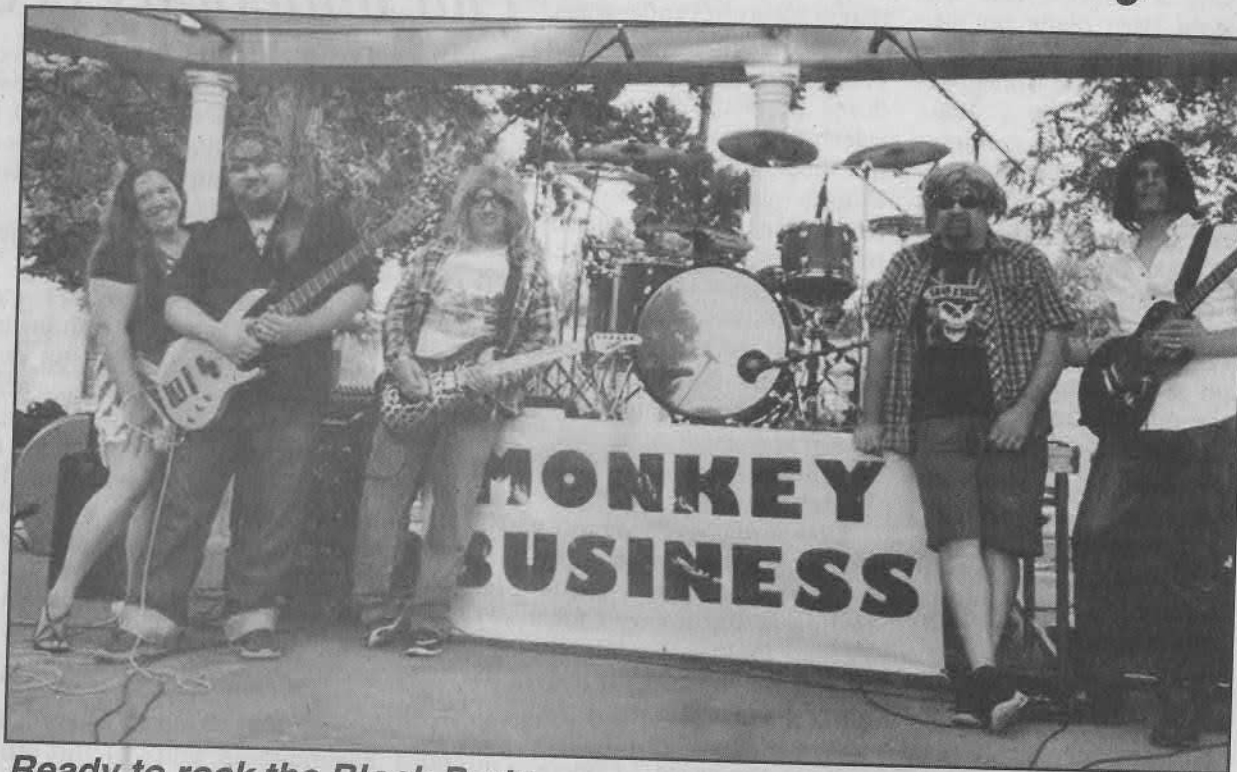
"It is a big collaborative effort and we are really excited," Brown Grand Theatre director Melissa Swenson said.

Performing at the Block Party will be Monkey Business at 1 p.m., The Box Turtles at 4 p.m. and Derek Calvin and the All Nighters at 7 p.m.

Monkey Business, which includes members from central Kansas, has been covering rock hits from the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s since 2001.

The Box Turtles, from Manhattan, offer soul-curdling soft jams and heart-knocking/ear-rockin' slams.

Derek Calvin and the all Nighters will play red dirt Texas country, 1990s country and southern rock.



Ready to rock the Block Party

Monkey Business is one of the three bands that will play at the Brown Grand Theatre Block Party on Saturday. 5/23

The Cloud County Community College admissions team will be hosting the corn hole during the event.

Paradise Eats will have food available for purchase.

There will be a beer garden provided by Rick Simpson.

Saturday is World Hunger Awareness Day and the Cloud

County Resource Center and Food Bank will have a world hunger awareness mural that all of those attending will have an opportunity to be a part of.

The Resource Center will have games going on throughout the day and executive director Tonya Merrill will be speaking about world hunger

during the performances by the bands.

Those attending can get half off the ticket price with the donation of two canned or dry goods food items that will go to the Resource Center.

"It will be a way to relax and enjoy some music," Swenson said of the event.

Wentz files ^{5/23} for re-election to commission

Marsha Wentz has filed for re-election to the Concordia city commission.

Elected to the commission in 2019, Wentz is currently in her final year of a three-year term.

Wentz previously served two terms on the commission from 2010-2016.

There are two seats on the city commission up for election this year, the one held by Wentz and the one held by Christy Hasch.

The deadline for candidates to file for election is June 1 at noon.

Today in History

50 Years Ago May 25, 1972

Everett Miller, vocal music instructor at Cloud County Community College, had been selected for Outstanding Educators of America for 1972... Miss Susan Harris was announced at Concordia High School as valedictorian of the 1972 graduating class and Miss Nancy Townsend was salutatorian... Alc Della Lovseth was promoted to the rank of Sgt. E-4 in the U.S. Air Force... four young men, Mike Montoya, Doug Montoya, John Horkman and Mike Hattan, were attempting to run the 20-mile course designated for the "Walk for Humanity"... "The Andromeda Strain" was showing at the Grand Theater.

25 Years Ago May 25, 1997

For the second year in a row, Concordia High School would recognize five valedictorians: Lori Akers, Crystal Campbell, Monica Detrixhe, Amy Hubert and Nicole Ringer, with Andra Brosius named salutatorian... Lori Halfhide presented a program on the Spillman Creek Massacres when Cloud County Genealogical Society met... Dennis Krier and former Concordian Larry Wright finished in 28th place in the Shriners 16th Annual Bass Tournament at Truman Lake, MO... students in Dennis Williams' exploration and technology class learned about space flight by launching model rockets.

10 Years Ago May 25, 2012

Christa Deneault was valedictorian for the Class of 2012 at Concordia High

School and John Uri was salutatorian... Kevin Muff, head men's basketball coach at Cloud County Community College, was recognized during commencement as the 2012 CCCC alumnus of the year... Concordia Middle School students celebrated Kite Day by attempting to launch a large kite into the air... Gayle Edwards, Out-patient Therapist for Pawnee Mental Health Services, was named the 2011 Pawnee Employee of the Year... wheat was selling at \$6.37, corn was \$6.25, and milo was \$5.65 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago May 25, 2017

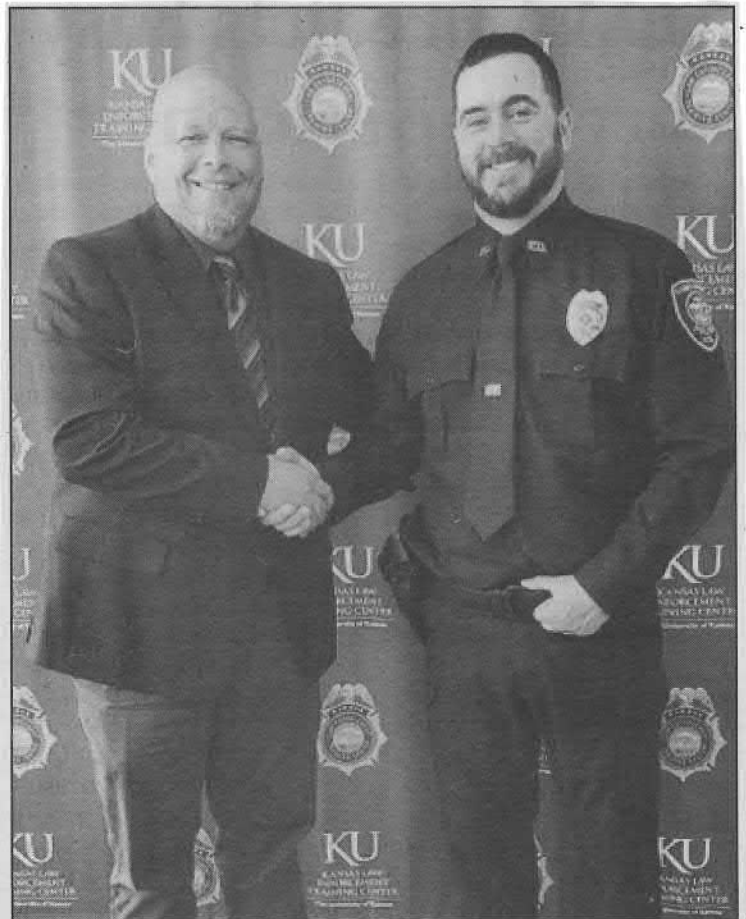
Diplomas were presented to 63 Concordia High School seniors during the 2017 commencement exercises... at the annual employee recognition luncheon at Cloud County Community College, Daniel Cyre, Brenda Edleston, Krista Bryant, and Pattie Detrixhe were presented gifts to commemorate their retirements from CCCC... Ted and Arvilla (Huber) Hanson were celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary... wheat was selling at \$3.68, corn was \$3.22, and milo was \$3.17 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago May 25, 2021

Cloud County Community College was beginning to ease its COVID-19 restrictions and masks would no longer be required to enter campus buildings... Kendall Reynolds received the Concordia High School Outstanding Senior Softball Player Award... wheat was selling at \$6.20, corn was \$6.68, and milo was \$6.35 per bushel on local markets.

The City of Concordia is accepting sealed bids for two vehicles, a midsize pickup and 4x4 half ton pickup. Specs are available at City Hall. Bids are due on May 27 by 10:30 a.m.

5/25



Police Chief Ric Fredrickson (left) congratulates Officer Samuel Caito after graduating from the KLETC. 5/25

Caito graduates from KLETC

HUTCHINSON — Samuel Caito, an officer with the Concordia Police Department, graduated from the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center in a ceremony on May 20 at the KLETC Integrity Auditorium.

Graduates receive certificates of course completion from KLETC and Kansas law enforcement certification from the Kansas Commission on Peace Officers' Standards and Training, the state's law enforcement licensing authority.

The training course fulfills the state requirement for law enforcement training. Classroom lectures and hands-on applications help train officers to solve the increasingly complex problems they face in the line of duty.

Established by the Kansas Legislature in 1968, KLETC trains the majority

of municipal, county, and state law enforcement officers in Kansas and oversees the training of the remaining officers at seven authorized and certified academy programs operated by local law enforcement agencies and the Kansas Highway Patrol.

About 300 officers enroll annually in KLETC 14-week basic training programs. KLETC offers continuing education and specialized training to over 10,000 Kansas officers each year. KLETC is located one mile west and one mile south of Yoder, near Hutchinson, and is a division of the University of Kansas Lifelong & Professional Education.

The graduates, who began their training in February 2022, represented multiple municipal, county, and state law enforcement agencies from across Kansas.

Today in History

50 Years Ago May 27, 1972

Law enforcement agencies had been notified that all motor vehicles must have electric turn signal lamps equipped on them... Dale Demars was introduced as the new petroleum and refined fuels salesman for the Cooperative Service Association in the Concordia area... Navy Airman Apprentice Robert Alexander took part in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's operation "Dawn Patrol" aboard the aircraft carrier USS John F. Kennedy in the Mediterranean... Patrick and Bill Martin brought a cecropia moth to the Blade office for help with identification.

25 Years Ago May 27, 1997

The new business and industry coordinator position at Cloud County Community College had been filled by Kara Revell of Miltonvale... T. Jay Kalthoff, seventh grader at Concordia Junior High School, received his Eagle Scout pin at an Eagle Court of Honor at the Concordia Lutheran Church... the United States Achievement Academy at Lexington, Ky., announced that Jonathan Haritatos had been named a United States National Award Winner in history and government... Jackie and John Staley announced the birth of their son, JonHenry Ray.

10 Years Ago May 27, 2012

Staff Sergeant Joseph Sheets, who had returned to the U.S. following a year's tour in Afghanistan, was welcomed home by the American Legion Riders... Dana Nelson was retiring after 35 years of teaching...

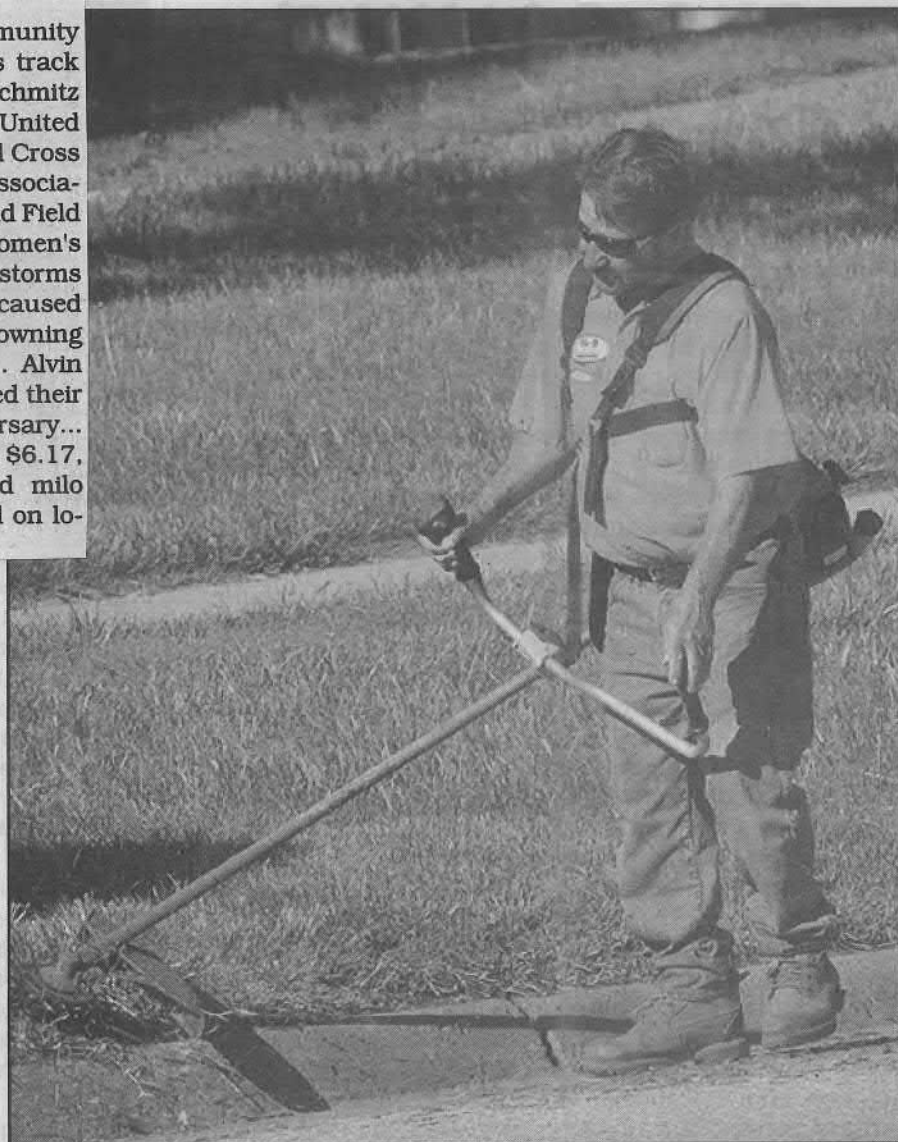
the Concordia City Commission recognized the Optimist Club for the completion of Rasure Field... Sam Dorman celebrated his 80th birthday... defending champion, St. James Academy Thunder, rumbled past Concordia High School 17-0 in the title game of the Class 4A state baseball tournament... wheat was selling at \$6.68, corn was \$6.36, and milo was \$5.76 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago May 27, 2017

Longtime Cloud County Community College track and field coach Harry Kitchener was inducted into the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Track and Field Coaches Association Hall of Fame... Jordan Altman had accepted the position as the men's basketball coach at CCCC... Mark Matthew had joined Gary Jeardoe Jr. as candidate for a position on the Concordia city commission... wheat was selling at \$3.68, corn was \$3.22, and milo was \$3.17 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago May 27, 2021

Cloud County Community College head women's track and field coach Ted Schmitz had been named the United States Track and Field Cross Country Coaches Association Outdoor Track and Field Central Region Women's Coach of the Year... storms packing high winds caused damage in the area, downing plenty of tree limbs... Alvin and Jo Cook celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary... wheat was selling at \$6.17, corn was \$6.62, and milo was \$6.29 per bushel on local markets.



Back at it

After three days of rain halted many outdoor activities, city of Concordia employee Jim Metro is trimming along a curb on the 11th Street side of City Park Friday morning. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)

5/27

Today in History

50 Years Ago

June 1, 1972

The Gotland School District, organized on June 3, 1872, by settlers of the community, many of whom came from Sweden or the Island of Gotland, celebrated 100 years with a reunion... class instructors in driver education were John Tacha, Larry Hartshorn, Gary Lapo and Devine Montoya... Dan Haist was the winning pitcher, Ron Regnier, was the winning catcher, and Will Geisler made a two-run homer when the Moose Peewee ball team defeated Clyde 15-10... Jacqueline Susann's "The Love Machine" was showing at Cloud 9 Theater... a Wic-Wac set was selling for 66 cents at Gibson's.

25 Years Ago

June 1, 1997

An early morning fire at The Perfect Touch, 118 West Sixth Street, caused considerable damage... Concordia High School horticulture students constructed a patio on the north side of Concordia Elementary School as a class project... winners of prizes during the Cloud County Health Department and Cloud County Stained Glass Committee sponsored walking tour were Mike Hitchcock, piece of stained glass art; Trina Loeffler, plant in a mug; and Wanda Lane, handcrafted coasters... CHS student Darrell Zimmerman earned a fourth-place finish at the state track meet in the discus.

10 Years Ago

June 1, 2012

As part of the North Central Kansas Honor Flight Program to Washington, D.C., World War II and Korean War veterans, Dave Jones, Lee Doyen, Francis Lyne and Dee Eckart laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier... Logan

Whitney attended the 52nd annual Government in Action Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.... Daisy Freeby was honored at NCK Laundry for her 50 years of service to the laundry industry... Jim Menard and daughter, Madison, caught a 39 lb. blue cat in the Republican River... wheat was selling at \$6.37, corn was \$5.63, and milo was \$5.08 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago

June 1, 2017

Chairs decorated by people from around the state were sold during the Chairity Auction at the Broadway Plaza, as part of the 2017 Annual National Orphan Train Complex Celebration, with proceeds to go toward the custom statue of Anna Laura Hill... Ken Harman, a 1956 graduate of Concordia High School, who played tennis and basketball for the Panthers, was a member of the 2016 United States Tennis 65 and Older National Invitation Tournament championship team... wheat was selling at \$3.61, corn was \$3.17, and milo was \$3.07 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago

June 1, 2021

The Unified School District 333 board of education approved the hiring of Kale Katt as the new Concordia Junior Senior High School principal... the Cloud County Community College board of trustees approved extending the contract of president Amber Knoettgen... Concordia High School junior Hayden Dvorak finished in a tie for 26th place in the Class 4A state golf tournament played at Mariah Hills Golf Course in Dodge City... wheat was selling at \$5.95, corn was \$6.23, and milo was \$5.90 per bushel on local markets.

Two file for city commission ^{u/1}

There will be three candidates vying for two seats on the Concordia city commission in the November election.

J. Troy Hardacre and Amy Jackson filed with the Cloud County Clerk's Office for election to the city commission.

Marsha Wentz previously filed for reelection to the commission.

The other seat up for election is held by Christy Hasch.

Hasch, who is serving a third term, did not file for re-election.

The deadline for filing for office was noon today.



Honoring those who served ^{u/1}

Flags fly along the Avenue of Flags in Pleasant Hill Cemetery on Memorial Day to honor those who served. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)

Manager's Minutes

Amy L. Lange, City Manager, City of Concordia
May 2022

My, how time flies when we are having fun! The last few weeks of the school year always bring a flurry of activity to our community, culminating with the graduation ceremonies for both Concordia High School and Cloud County Community College. We wish our local graduates all the best as they begin their next adventures. We also remember our soldiers who gave the ultimate sacrifice so that we can enjoy the freedom to gather together, to speak freely, and to worship as we please. This Memorial Day weekend the Avenue of Flags will wave, proudly honoring these brave soldiers.

The summer has begun, bringing life back to the ballfields, parks, and swimming pool. Baseball and softball games will be held nearly daily at the Concordia Sports Complex. Summer Playground will be held at City Park each weekday morning in June. The Concordia Municipal Pool opens Saturday, May 28 with a slight reduction in hours due to low staffing. More information may be found at <https://concordia.ks.recdesk.com>, or by calling City Hall at (785) 243-2670 or the pool at (785) 243-1150. Information will also be posted on the City, Concordia Wellness and Recreation, and Concordia Municipal Pool Facebook pages. We encourage all those involved in Concordia Recreation programming to sign up for TextCaster to ensure you receive weather-related delays and closure information in a timely manner.

Did you know the City is partnering with Cloud County Community College and USD 333 on a project to install synthetic turf at Doyen Field? This project was catalyzed this year by a donation of \$25,000 from a Cloud Baseball alumnus. The goal of this project will be to increase playable time on the field, allowing more games, practices, and camps to be held in Concordia, and to decrease field maintenance supply and labor costs. This project will bring more revenue to our local economy through patronization of local businesses by those attending games, and would save expenses by our local public entities. This field is primary used by Cloud Baseball, who hosts over 40 games each year. Concordia High School, K-18 and American Legion teams host another 30+ games each year. This past year, Cloud Baseball camps and tournaments attracted over 200 kids and their families from 23 different communities to Concordia! So far, \$280,000 of the \$500,000 targeted has been committed by the Cloud County Community College Board of Trustees and Foundation, the Concordia City Commission, the Cloud County Commission via Wind Farm Grant, the USD 333 Board of Education, the Community Foundation for Cloud County, and the Cloud alumni private donation. We are currently waiting to hear from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation regarding a grant request for this project, and a Cloud Baseball alumni campaign will be held to complete the fundraising goal. We are hopeful to begin work on the project this fall, and complete it before the Spring 2023 baseball season.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the public housing study survey in April. Over 350 responses were received! The stakeholder group will meet again on June 2 to review the survey results and provide Five Rule Rural Planning their final input before the housing study report and market analysis is prepared. You may have noticed a suburban driving down every city street in May with a Five Rule logo on the side. Primary data on the condition of every home and vacant property was being collected to inform the housing study report. This data is being cross-referenced with local building permit data, water meter data, and demolition program data to net the most accurate information possible. We hope to receive a draft report within the next month, with the final report to be presented to the City Commission and CloudCorp Board of Directors later this summer. This report will help these elected officials and staff determine where to focus our limited resources and spur private investment to address housing needs in our community.

We are thankful you chose to make your home in Concordia. There are many benefits to living in a great neighborhood in a small, rural community. One of those benefits is the opportunity to build relationships with your neighbors. Whether you invite your neighbors for a glass of lemonade on the front porch, a leisurely walk to the park, or they care for your pet and watch your house while you are on vacation, or they check on you when you are sick, good neighbors make life better. So how can you be a good neighbor? First, we can introduce ourselves to our neighbors, and get to know something about them. Second, we can show them respect by keeping our own yards and home exteriors tidy and well-maintained. We can also show respect by keeping our pets within our own yards and picking up after them. And we can respect our neighbor's privacy by allowing them some quiet time without interruption, and by keeping our noise levels down at night. Finally, we can be good neighbors by offering help to our neighbors in need. Perhaps they need help carrying a heavy load, or help picking up limbs after a storm, or maybe they need a cup of sugar to complete special recipe.

Mister Rogers' Neighborhood television series was a must-watch when I was a kid, and he taught some valuable lessons about valuing people, being kind to others, and generally being a good neighbor. Mr. Rogers shared with us, "All of us, at some time or other, need help. Whether we're giving or receiving help, each one of us has something valuable to bring to this world. That's one of the things that connects us as neighbors - in our own way, each one of us is a giver and a receiver." Our community is full of good neighbors! As you gather with your family, friends and neighbors this summer, be it at the ballfields, your backyard, the park, or your front porch, I encourage you to give thanks for the time and the freedom we have to gather and have fun together. Through good policy, projects and partnerships, the City of Concordia will continue our efforts to provide you these opportunities.

City commission receives 2023 budget requests

Budget requests from the Concordia Housing Authority, the Cloud County Community Resource Council, and CloudCorp; a city ordinance vacating a portion of the North Archer Street right-of-way; and the purchase of a new vehicle for the Parks and Recreation Department were among the presentations and action items during the city commission meeting on Wednesday.

The City of Concordia Housing Authority requested funding in the amount of \$7,200.00 for the 2023 budget year. The Housing Authority was established in June of 1970 as an agent of the city of Concordia. The Cloud Village Apartment complex was then established December 14, 1978, under the supervision of the Housing Authority in order to provide low income, Equal Housing Opportunity for the elderly (62 years of age or older), and handicapped and/or disabled citizens in the community.

A 50-year note was formed with USDA Rural Development on January 14, 1979, for the amount of \$540,000.00 with an 8.75% interest rate. The note agreement expiration is to be December 2028. The current balance as of December 31, 2021, was \$92,402.16.

The Cloud Village Apartment complex, under the supervision of The City of Concordia Housing Authority, consists of 32 low income apartments - 24 one-bedroom and eight two-bedroom apartments - for elderly (persons age 62+), and handicapped or disabled persons.

The Cloud County Community Resources Council requested \$20,000 for their budget. In 2021, the Resource Center served 880 people, with 50% of those people being individuals over the age of 55 and children under the age of 12. In the first three months of 2022, the Resource Center has already served 365 patrons. The Resource Center also provided 238 school bags, 210 Thanksgiving baskets, 35 Christmas baskets, 160 toy baskets with the aid of the ABATE toy run and the Girl Scouts, assisted with three bicycle rodeos by providing accessories and new bicycles, and assisted 339 individuals with utility bill pay assistance.

CloudCorp requested a fiscal year 2023 city budget appropriation of \$55,000 to help fund the general operations and related project development of CloudCorp, and an additional \$3,000 earmarked for small business development.

In action items, the city accepted the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approved Ordinance 2022-3188 vacating a portion of the North Archer Street right-of-way between First Street and the north property line of Blocks 203 and 204.

The city commission also approved the purchase of a 2022 Chevy Colorado work truck from Concordia Chevrolet/Buick. The vehicle replaces an older model Dodge minivan. Concordia Chevrolet/Buick was the only bid submitted, in the amount of \$31,126.60. The vehicle is currently in stock at the dealership, and will be paid for from the equipment reserve fund.

In other action, the commission voted to approve signing a request in the Federal Fund Exchange program to exchange \$72,157.38, and to apply for reimbursement of \$64,941.64 using the Ninth Street overlay project completed in 2021. Exchanging these funds would allow the city to be more flexible with the way the city uses the funds.

Today in History

50 Years Ago June 3, 1972

Three boys from the Concordia Neighborhood Youth Corps: Steve McGee, Kenny Baltazor and Fred Hale, and their supervisor, Mike Marcotte, toured the Blade-Empire office, shop and press room... a twirling clinic was held at Cloud County Community College... Steve Culbertson won the singles matches in Concordia's first annual Memorial Day tennis tournament, edging Devine Montoya in the finals 3-6, 7-5, 7-5, while Terry White defeated Craig Saindon 6-3, 7-6 for third place.

25 Years Ago June 3, 1997

Ground had been broken in Concordia for a new Casey's General Store... Gary Padgett, chairman and CEO of The Citizens National Bank, was honored as the Financial Services Advocate of the Year for Region VII by the Small Business Association... Lori Halfhide presented a program on the Spillman Creek Massacres when the Cloud County Genealogical Society met... Marcus Deaver had been selected to attend the High O'Brian Youth Foundation (HOBY) Kansas Leadership Seminar North at Kansas State University.

10 Years Ago June 3, 2012

"Project Flowerpot," the brainchild of Tammy Britt, Marsha Wentz and Linda Houser, led to flower-filled pots on Main Street... Ashlyn Lambert, a member of the Concordia High School 4x800 relay team that established a school record and placed second in the state meet, received the Out-

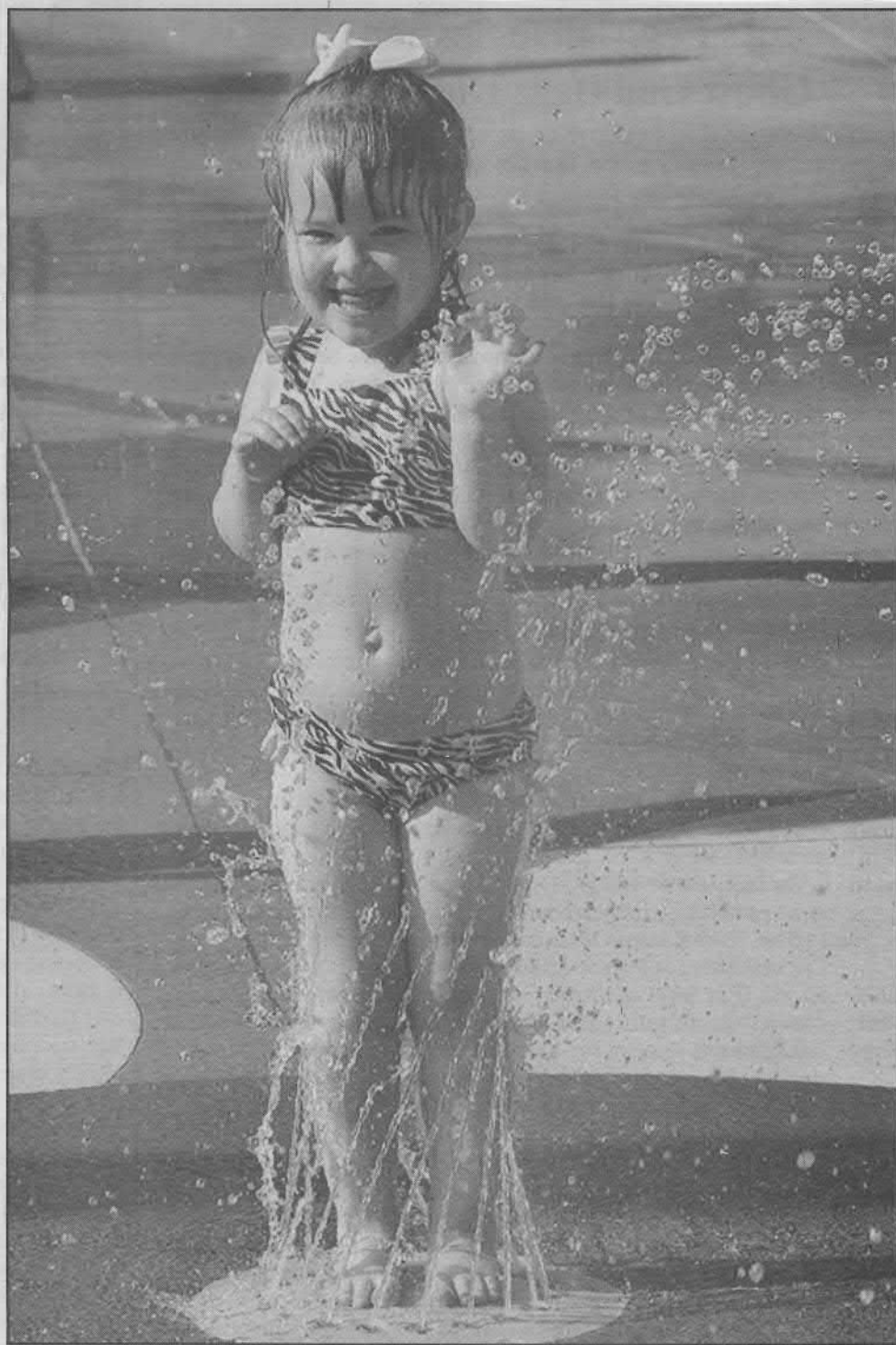
standing Senior Girl Track and Field Athlete Award... the Tornado Intercept Vehicle 2, with members of the TIV Team in search of tornadoes to obtain footage for Imax films, made a stop in Concordia... wheat was selling at \$6.13, corn was \$5.61, and milo was \$5.06 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago June 3, 2017

A Concordia Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting ceremony for the Train Car Station, housing the train car, The Legend, was held at the National Orphan Train Complex... Eli and Andrew Henderson were new members joining the Republican Valley 4-H Club... Hadley Thyfault received the Concordia High School Outstanding Senior Softball Player Award and Cole Larson received the CHS Outstanding Senior Baseball Player Award... wheat was selling at \$3.61, corn was \$3.20, and milo was \$3.10 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago June 3, 2021

State librarian Eric Norris had selected "Farmers Unite! Planting a Protest for Fair Prices," written by Concordia's Lindsay Metcalf, to the list of Kansas Notable Books for 2021... Cloud County Community College athletic director Matt Bechard announced the hiring of Julian Smith as the school's third wrestling coach in the program's five-year history... the band Undercover kicked off the 2021 Broadway Plaza Summer Concert Series... wheat was selling at \$5.90, corn was \$6.30, and milo was \$5.97 per bushel on local markets.



Splashing good time

Playing in the splash pad at the Broadway Plaza brings a smile to the face of Charlee McGuire, a student at Cozy Corner Preschool. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)

6/3

(Published in the Concordia Blade Empire on Friday, June 3, 2022.)

Ordinance No. 2022-3188

On June 1, 2022, the City of Concordia adopted Ordinance No. 2022-3188, vacating the West ½ of North Archer Street from the North right-of-way line of 1st Street Northward to the line adjacent to the North Property line of Block 203 and 204 in the city of Concordia. A reproduction of this ordinance will be available for not less than one week following the publication of this summary of the ordinance at the website address of the City of Concordia, <http://www.concordiaks.org>. This summary is certified by the city attorney to be legally accurate and sufficient.

Today in History

50 Years Ago June 6, 1972

With an Original Heidelberg Press, an original Heidelberg Platem Letter Press, and now the addition of an American Type Founders Chief 17 Offset Press, the Blade-Empire was the most modern and best -equipped job printing shop in North Central Kansas... Thunderbird Cadets from Cloud County Community College attended the Kansas State University President's Review at Fort Riley, Kansas... David Gieber threw 84-3 to take first place in the softball throw at the Lions track meet.

25 Years Ago June 6, 1997

Concordia was the host for the 1997 Mid-West Conference of Women in Chambers of Commerce, beginning Friday evening with a meal and then attending the play, "Nunsense," at the Brown Grand Theatre; Saturday morning meetings, lunch at the Country Club with a program by Susie and the Lu Wondas, a stained glass bus tour, a banquet and program by Kelly Woestman as "Eleanor Roosevelt," and ending with Sunday brunch with a program of inspirational music by Shawn Hood... Larry Starr had been promoted to dairy regulatory and plant specialist for the Kansas Department of Agriculture.

10 Years Ago June 6, 2012

Undersheriff Mason Johnson was presented with a plaque for his years of service, having resigned because his family was moving out of state... carrying out the theme of "Saturday Night Fever," the Cloud County Community Foundation Annual Scholarship Auction raised \$20,210 for student

scholarships... Garrett Lawrence's home run gave the Knights of Columbus a 12-11 win over the American Legion in Peewee Baseball play... wheat was selling at \$6.20, corn was \$5.70, and milo was \$5.18 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago June 6, 2017

Mary Ellen Johnson, founder of the Orphan Train Heritage Society of American, spoke at the National Orphan Train Complex during the 2017 Annual Orphan Train Riders Celebration—the 10th anniversary of the Orphan Train Museum, the 30th anniversary of the Orphan Train Heritage Society and the 100th anniversary of the Union Pacific Depot that houses the museum... Zaide Thoman had been chosen by Unit #76 of Concordia to attend the 75th annual session of Sunflower Girls State... wheat was selling at \$3.61, corn was \$3.20, and milo was \$3.10 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago June 6, 2021

As the first tour given by Cloud County Tourism in 2021, members of the 1st Christian Church, Wichita, toured the Brown Grand Theatre, POW Camp and the Orphan Train Museum... Sunset Home honored its veteran residents: Larry McLaughlin (Army), Lowell Stukeley (Army), Dean Hardaway (Army), Carl "Bill" Forshee (Army), Troy Anderson (Army), Gene Ganstrom (National Guard), Robert St. Pierre (Air Force), Arthur McKinley (Air Force), Les Hemphill (Army), James Ramsey (Marines)... wheat was selling at \$6.16, corn was \$6.65, and milo was \$6.35 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago June 8, 1972

Sister Kathleen Flood had been appointed director of retirement for the congregation of Sisters of St. Joseph... U.S. Air Force Captain Richard Greene, an A-7D pilot, had been assigned to a unit of the Tactical Air Command at Myrtle Beach AFB, S.C., after having previously served at Udorn Royal Thai AFB in Thailand... Roxann Lovseth, Concordia, and Lowell Thoman and John Carter, both of Jamestown, had returned home after attending the annual Co-op Youth Leadership camp at William Jewell College in Liberty Mo.... a bottle of Lemon Up shampoo was 76 cents at Duckwall's.

25 Years Ago June 8, 1997

Workers were installing a new scoreboard, donated by Coca-Cola, on Doyen Field at the Concordia Sports Complex... Nancy Reynolds' Victorian doll, Elise, won the people's choice award with 19 votes at the Frank Carlson Library 's three-day event, Festival of Dolls, in which a total of 166 dolls had been entered—Claire, an American Girl Doll given to and made especially for Claire deRochefort-Reynolds, took the award for the cutest doll, and Claire might also have taken an award for the best informed doll, as she carried her own library card.

10 Years Ago June 8, 2012

Concordia firefighters removed the flag pole atop Wentz Eye Care and installed a weather camera to replace the pole, and weather con-

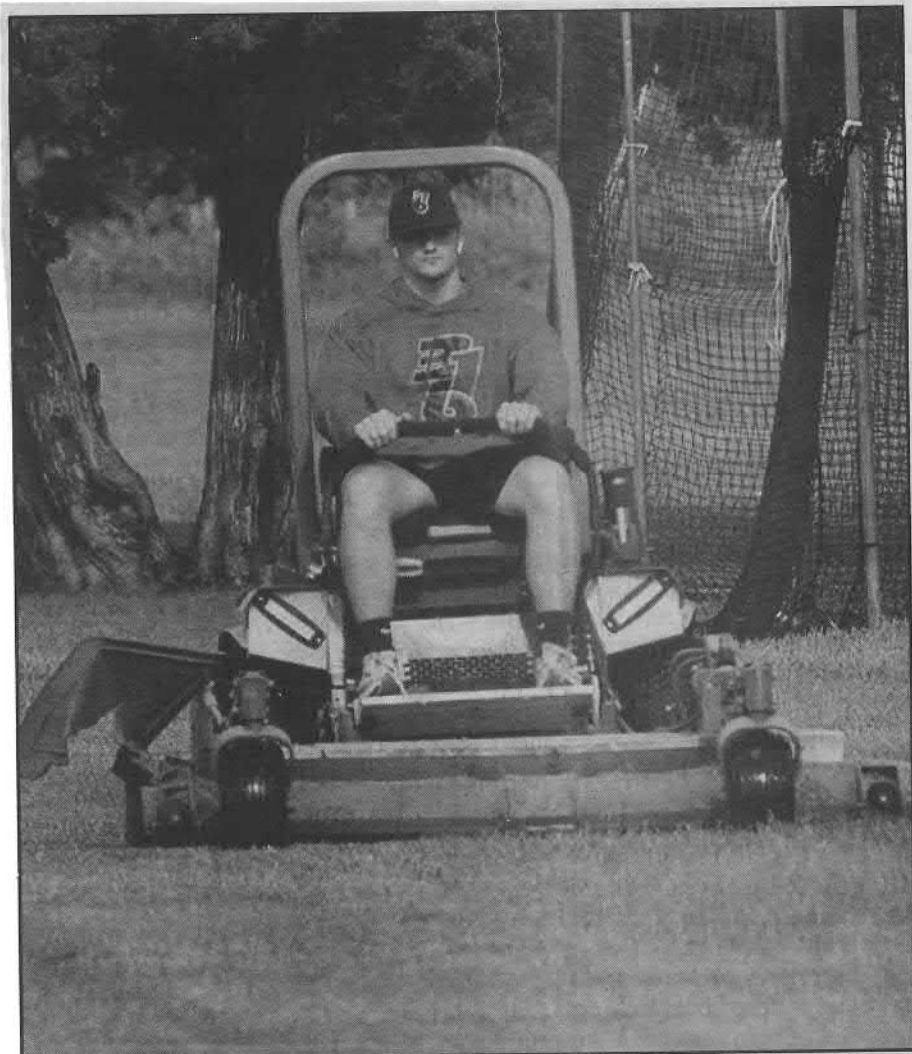
ditions could be checked at WeatherBug.com... Richard and Roberta Lowrey observed their 40th wedding anniversary with a family dinner... Quentin and Krystal Breese provided a musical mini-concert at the Christian Women's Outreach... Fabric Essentials was one of 12 quilt stores participating in the Kansas Prairie Shop Hop... wheat was selling at \$6.07, corn was \$5.73, and milo was \$5.18 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago June 8, 2017

Chapter EV of P.E.O. celebrated its 75th diamond jubilee anniversary of the group, having been organized on May 25, 1942, with 15 charter members... as part of their Educational Tour, members of the Republican Valley 4-H Club learned about the robotic milking process during a visit to Benfer's Dairy Farm.. the Orphan Train Rider statue of Thelma Taylor was unveiled in front of Monique & Co. Salon and Day Spa... wheat was selling at \$3.68, corn was \$3.28, and milo was \$3.13 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago June 8, 2021

The Frank Carlson Library held a sidewalk sale during the Concordia citywide garage sales... Concordia High School track and field team members Chloe Conway and Tyler Hobrock both captured medals for the high jump in the Class 4A State Outdoor Championships... wheat was selling at \$6.28, corn was \$6.84, and milo was \$6.59 per bushel on local markets.



Grounds crew

Nathan Brown, a member of the grounds crew at the Concordia Sports Complex, mows the grass on Wednesday morning. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)

6/8

Blosser Municipal Airport receives funds for hangar

6/10

Blosser Municipal Airport in Concordia is one of two Kansas airports to be awarded funds through the Federal Aviation Administration Airport (FAA) Improvement Program.

It was announced by the Federal Aviation Administration that Blosser Municipal Airport will be awarded \$600,000 for the construction of a new 80x80 box hangar.

Concordia city manager Amy Lange said that the hangar will have the door height, door width and clearance space to house the larger aircraft that the Runway Project 18/36 project was done to accommodate.

Blosser Municipal Airport is eligible for \$150,000 per year in entitlement funds. The FAA funds can accumulate for up to four years and then must be spent with a minimum 10 percent local match based on the project estimate.

Development of the additional hangar space was listed on the 2013 update of the Airport Master Plan.

Lange said that when the runway was lengthened, the city had inquiries about constructing a hangar to house larger aircraft.

The Concordia city commission approved authorizing Lange to sign a consulting services agreement with Benesch for the hangar project in the lump sum amount of \$140,480, plus a time and material fee not to exceed \$29,385.

Benesch is working on the design of the hangar. Construction is planned for 2023.

Construction of the hangar is expected to exceed the \$600,000 that was awarded by the FAA. The remainder will come from the city's capital improvement program funds.

Lange said that the construction of the hangar is another tool that can be used by the city in economic development.

When the hangar is completed, the city will lease it to a business.

Today in History

50 Years Ago June 10, 1972

During "Lucky License Week," Gary Cook and Bob Wilson were seen "shooting" licenses on cars parked on Concordia streets; participating merchants would display one of the pictures on their store windows during the week and the owner of the pictured tag could claim a gift from that store... Lynn Nelson graduated as a second lieutenant in the National Guard at Salina... sculptures welded from scraps by Rolf Carlson of Bertrand, Neb., were on display in a show at the Cloud County Bank downtown... Sophia Loren and Marcello Mastroianni were starring in "The Priest's Wife" at Cloud 9.

25 Years Ago June 10, 1997

Retiring school board member Dannie Kearn reported that 50 trees had been planted at the new elementary school, thanks to a number of volunteers from the school and community who turned out to help plant the trees... Martin J. Molter, 13, son of Marty and Nancy Molter, was the 61st Scout of Troop 31 to receive his Eagle Award... a 1957 graduate of Concordia High School, David Young ended a successful career of teaching high school band, and next year would be teaching beginning band at three elementary schools in Bellevue, Neb.

10 Years Ago June 10, 2012

Pauline Fees Riley, Edith Berk Krasny, Bill Jackson, Georgina Ames Rosproy, Ruth Beden Alkire, Ray Doyen, John Schlup, Ruth Ann Wilson Schwartz, Anna Itzen Maish, Nona Ames

Hedstrom, Pauline Fredrickson Hall, Adetha Lawson Wiltse, Ila Holding Johnson and Carl Lentz, members of the Concordia High School Class of 1942 and currently living in Concordia, attended their 70-year reunion... CHS graduate Page Reed signed to run track and cross country at Cloud County Community College... wheat was selling at \$6.36, corn was \$6.03, and milo was \$5.43 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago June 10, 2017

Valerie Hanson from the Milford Nature Center visited the interactive and educational program during the "Build a Better World" Summer Reading Program at the Frank Carlson Library and explained how animals inspire building... Cloud County Health Center held its Annual Benefit Golf Tournament... Fred and Nancy DeArmond celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary... wheat was selling at \$3.84, corn was \$3.38, and milo was \$3.23 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago June 10, 2021

Marilyn and Bruce Johnston unveiled the Orphan Train Rider Statue, located at Sunset Home, honoring the William James family and the CAS Family Emigration Program—sponsored in loving memory of Dean Johnston... Concordia High School senior right-handed pitcher Chase Parker had been named Class 4A first team All-State by the Kansas Association of Baseball Coaches (KABC)... wheat was selling at \$6.22, corn was \$6.67, and milo was \$6.42 per bushel on local markets.

NOTICE TO BID 6/10

The City of Concordia is accepting bids for the clearing of the lot at **429 West 8th Street**. This scope of work shall include the demolition and removal of the residential structures, house and garage and all foundations, retaining walls, sidewalk and driveway concrete slabs as designated, shrubs and trees as designated, or their encroaching branches. All tree stumps shall be removed or ground to 6 inches below finish grade.

All bidders must meet the City's demolition requirements and have a demolition permit before work may be commenced. **Over digging foundations will be required for top soil.** All materials brought to the Cloud County Transfer Station construction debris site shall be separated and disposed of as per their requirements. Cloud County construction debris disposal receipts shall be provided to the City as proof of proper disposal per KSA 12-1750. Bids or bid inquires shall be submitted to the office of the City Clerk, 701 Washington, Concordia, Kansas 66901.

For detailed information on this project contact Bruno Rehbein at City Hall, (785) 243-2672.

All bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"Demolition Bid-(429 West 8th)."**

Bids must be submitted no later than **3:00 P.M. June 22, 2022**. Proof of general liability insurance must be provided with bids. Bids received after the 3:00 P.M. deadline will be returned to the bidder unopened.

Fax bids will not be accepted.

The City of Concordia is an equal opportunity employer.

6/2022

I cannot express how grateful I am for this campspot. My 2½ year old daughter and I traveled in our Airstream to visit her father. We were in an unsafe home where her father was violent, we got a protection order but were fearful of staying nearby. We pulled into Wal-Mart for the night ^{Concordia} and it felt odd with no other RV's, I got on Google to find an RV park and found this spot.

I have felt safer here than any other camp we have ever stayed at. My daughter loves riding her balance bike down the hills by the stone bridge and playing with the local kids that frequent the play area. One night a 1940's beautiful silver US Navy plane landed on the Strip because a storm was coming through, we met the pilot, it was like a work of art. We loved playing on the tanks and watching the dogs at the Dog Park. This will forever be a wonderful memory of a vacation for us.

Kate + Charlotte Cross

Today in History

50 Years Ago June 13, 1972

The public was invited to the dedication of the beautiful new 24-bed Sunset Home Nursing Center, replacing the old Concordia hospital which had been the Sunset Home nursing center for many years... winners in the "pitch, hit, and throw" contest held in Concordia were nine-year-old Mike Baumann; 10-year-old John Geisler; 11-year-old Kelly English; and 12-year-old Charley Mitchell... Eugene Marcotte showed off some small tomatoes which were growing on his potato plants, with some plants having as many as 11 little tomatoes... three dozen eggs were selling for \$1 at Bob's IGA.

25 Years Ago June 13, 1997

Mary Kuhn, a summer intern for the Blade-Empire, traveled to Denver to attend the punishment phase of the trial for Timothy McVeigh, the Oklahoma City bomber... Louis Frohardt, Susan Sutton and Galen Weick, instructors at Cloud County Community College, were honored with National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development Excellence Awards during the NISOD International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence... Dorothy Campbell and family were hosts for the 86th Campbell-McKenzie family reunion.

10 Years Ago June 13, 2012

Steve Lindsay, representing Peoples Insurance, was recognized as a top-producing agent in sales of new farm insurance policies

during 2011 at the Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Company national sales conference... Olivia Nelson and Courtney Mansfield were pitchers for the Cloud County Co-op Pee-Wee Softball team... wheat was selling at \$6.27, corn was \$6.02, and milo was \$5.42 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago June 13, 2017

The Frank Carlson Library and Gambino's Pizza teamed up to offer Trivia Night as part of the library's Summer Reading Program... Florence (Flossie) Wilkes had celebrated her 95th birthday on June 11... David (Bo) and Martha Tatum had celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on June 11... Jonah Hardacre beat out seven opponents to win the Magic the Gathering Game Day at Easy G Sports Grill... wheat was selling at \$3.77, corn was \$3.29, and milo was \$3.14 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago June 13, 2021

Daegan DeGraff and Easton Behymer were among the winners in the 15th annual Youth Fishing Tournament sponsored by the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, with support from Kansas Wildscape, at Waconda Lake... John and Janet (Larsen) Cunningham celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary... Concordia High School graduate Cole Stahlman was a recipient of the Built Ford Tough Scholarships award... wheat was selling at \$6.18, corn was \$6.67, and milo was \$6.37 per bushel on local markets.

NOTICE TO BID

6/14

The City of Concordia is accepting bids for the clearing of the lot at **429 West 8th Street**. This scope of work shall include the demolition and removal of the residential structures, house and garage and all foundations, retaining walls, sidewalk and driveway concrete slabs as designated, shrubs and trees as designated, or their encroaching branches. All tree stumps shall be removed or ground to 6 inches below finish grade.

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City commission awards bid ^{6/17} for parking lot

The approval of a construction bid on the Sixth Street parking lot project, the approval of an agreement to install synthetic turf at Doyen Field, and adding a property to the demolition program were among the action items at the regular meeting of the Concordia city commission on Wednesday.

During the recognitions and presentations portion of the meeting, Concordia Fire Chief Eric Voss presented a \$1,000 scholarship to Taley Murdock from the Kansas State Firefighters Auxiliary.

The commission also heard a budget request from the Frank Carlson Library in the amount of \$186,644. Library director Denise deRocheport-Reynolds presented the request.

DeRocheport-Reynolds, who was appointed the director in 1983, will be retiring in August after nearly 40 years of service to the community.

Regarding the concrete parking lot and overhead lighting project on Sixth Street, next to the Brown Grand Theatre, two bids were publicly opened on June 10, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. ProCon Construction LLC of Hutchinson submitted a bid of \$273,125 base bid with alternate #1. Orr Wyatt Streetscapes of Raytown, Mo., submitted a bid of \$210,670 base bid with alternate #1.

Alternate #1 is the construction of a two-foot-wide gutter along the west side of the concrete parking lot to help control the drainage runoff from the Baptist Church's gravel/rock parking lot.

Upon the recommendation of city manager Amy Lange and Campbell & Johnson Engineers, P.A., the city commission voted to accept the bid of Orr Wyatt Streetscapes. This company was the contractor that completed the three blocks of alley and sewer construction through the Community Development Block Grant program in Concordia in 2021.

Campbell & Johnson are the construction inspectors for the parking lot project, and their hope is that the facility is completed in time for the Fall Fest celebration in September.

The city received three bids for the construction of the Doyen Field synthetic turf project: Mid-America Sports Construction of Lee's Summit, Mo. - \$367,896; SprinTurf of Daniel Island, S.C. - \$366,900; and Mammoth Sports Construction of Meriden, Kan. - \$586,987.

Upon the recommendation of Chris Atkins, the Parks and Recreation director, the city commission voted to approve the bid of Mid-America Sports Construction, contingent on additional sources of funding being raised for the project, such as a grant from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation. \$280,000 has already been raised through grants, USD 333, and the Cloud County Community College. The city's commitment to the project would be \$50,000.

In other action, the city commission held a lengthy debate on terminating the existing Broadway Plaza management agreement with CloudCorp, and entering into a new agreement.

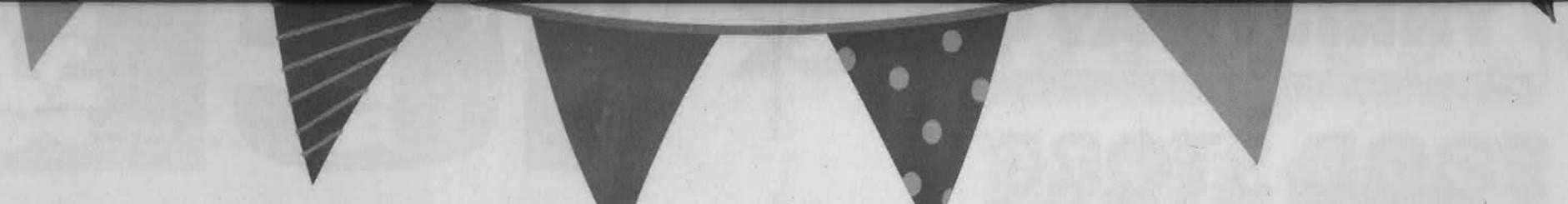
The new agreement would provide necessary updates to the non-discrimination clause and modify the assignment clause for clarity. But the new agreement would also have amended the term of the contract from annual to monthly. Nicole Reed, the executive director of CloudCorp, reported that the CloudCorp board was opposed to the agreement switching to a monthly term, and wished to retain the contract on an annual basis.

Commissioner Chuck Lambertz made a motion to terminate the existing contract, but the motion was not seconded by another commissioner and therefore failed. No further action was taken during the meeting.

The commission voted to accept an application from Casselrock Inc. for adding a building at 502 West 2nd Street into the Demolition Program. The lowest bid of \$5,250.00 was accepted from Snyder Dozing.

Brian Donovan and R. Michael Owens were appointed to the Airport Advisory Board. Mike Holmes retired from the board after serving 30 years.

Luke Hood and James Reynolds were appointed to the Board of Building Trades for additional three-year terms.



Happy 120th Birthday

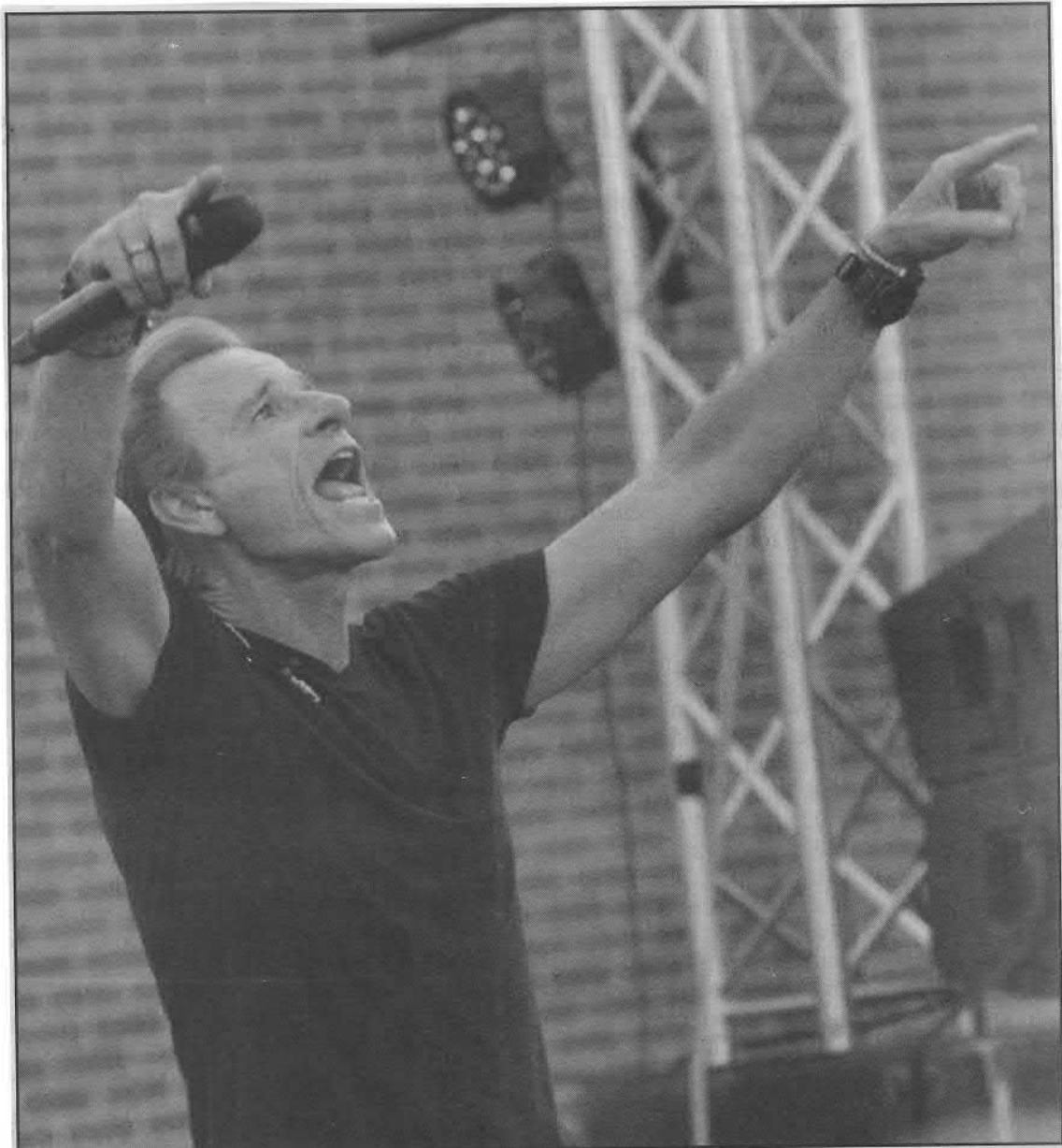
BLADE-EMPIRE

Congratulations for being the longest running business in

 **CONCORDIA**

— K A N S A S —

We Build Community!



Paramount performance

Eddie Light, the lead singer for Paramount, sings an 80s classic during a performance by the band Saturday night that was part of the Broadway Plaza Summer Concert Series. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)

U/20

Today in History

50 Years Ago June 22, 1972

A restraining ordinance passed by the Concordia city commission would require all dogs to be under restraint at all times... Loren Boll announced the sale of the A & W Drive-In to Ron Williams and Clyde Ford, who would be the manager... Leon Gennette, executive vice president of the Concordia Chamber of Commerce, reported that more than 300 people turned out for the open house at the chamber's new quarters... Kevin Burt and Kraig Smith returned from Indianapolis, Ind., where they attended the International Championship motorcycle races.

25 Years Ago June 22, 1997

Koch Excavating was demolishing houses on the east side of Lincoln Street, which were being removed as part of the U.S. Highway 81 expansion project... a rare case of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (RMSF) had been confirmed in Cloud County, in a three-year-old Glasco girl... the Friendship Club celebrated its fifth birthday in Concordia... Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Leiszler announced the birth of their daughter, Tristen Nicole... Larry Blochlinger, Shelter Insurance agent in Concordia, completed an insurance fundamentals school in Columbia, Mo.

10 Years Ago June 22, 2012

Cody Schmidt was painting a mural on a wall of what was the Huckleberry Tea House, recently purchased by Marla Jorgensen, and expected to open in the

near future as Marla's Joy Tea House... Robert and Roberta (Sewart) Champlin celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with a family reunion and open house... Jeremy and Danielle Casey announced the birth of their daughter, JeraLee Marie... wheat was selling at \$6.57, corn was \$6.20, and milo was \$5.65 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago June 22, 2017

Della Strait had taken over duties as the new Director of Nursing for Cloud County Health Center, having served as the interim director since December 2016... the Wayne and Alberta Neel Scholarship Fund had awarded \$1,000 scholarships to four students from Concordia: Jennifer Boley, Gage Canfield, Zachary Kyle and Grant Holmes... Craig and Diana (Lowers) Marcotte had celebrated 35 years of marriage... wheat was selling at \$4.03, corn was \$3.20, and milo was \$3.05 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago June 22, 2021

Snavelly Excavating demolished T-Bird Village Building #8 at Cloud County Community College... the city of Concordia hosted a gospel sing-along at the Broadway Plaza... Maddox Frey pitched a three-inning no-hitter as Citizens National Bank won the battle of the Concordia K-18 Baseball NCK League teams with a 13-0 victory over F&A Food Sales... wheat was selling at \$5.98, corn was \$6.22, and milo was \$5.97 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago June 24, 1972

Gay Gibson, Inc., planned to open a factory fabrics outlet in Concordia, and would be located in the building formerly occupied by J's Fashion Barn... Mary Owensby was cast in lead roles in two forthcoming productions at the Mule Barn Theatre in Tarkio, Mo., where she is in residence for the summer... Mr. and Mrs. Duane Snyder announced the birth of a baby boy, Jon Claude... weekly special at Mill's Recreation, 115 East Sixth St. - buy a Tony's Pizza for \$1.00 and get a free glass of beer... Mrs. Arle Ann Willis was listed on the dean's honor roll at Brown-Mackie business college in Salina.

25 Years Ago June 24, 1997

Kim Crabtree, Erick Sallman, Marsha Strang, Della Strait, and Kimberly Brownell graduated from the Practical Nursing Program at the North Central Kansas Technical College in Beloit... Susie the Dummy got turned upside down in a roll-over demonstration by the Kansas Highway Patrol showing students in a driver's education class at Concordia High School what happens to an unrestrained motorist even when traveling at just 20 mph... Dawn Dee Havel, a 1996 graduate of Concordia High School, was first runner-up in the 1997 Miss Missouri Teenager Pageant.

10 Years Ago June 24, 2012

The construction and demolition pit at the Cloud County Transfer Station was struck by lightning during a storm and caught on fire... Davin Benfer placed first in

the boys' six-and-under 25 backstroke and 25 freestyle when the Concordia Swim Team hosted a meet... Bob and Sheri LeDuc, Clyde, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary... Margo Hosie, Connie Bentz, Amy Gerber, Peg Loveland and Penny Larsen attended the 110th Annual Convention of the P.E.O. Sisterhood in Wichita... wheat was selling at \$6.08, corn was \$5.93, and milo was \$5.33 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago June 24, 2017

The Frank Carlson Library hosted "Let's Go Geocaching," a program for teens and adults that combined the thrill of a treasure hunt with GPS technology... Connie Walenta was awarded a certificate marking more than twenty-five years of participation in the Certified Insurance Counselors (CIC) program, a continuing education program for insurance professionals... wheat was selling at \$4.03, corn was \$3.14, and milo was \$2.99 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago June 24, 2021

The Cloud County Community College baseball and volleyball teams were the winners of the 2020-2021 Burnell Ukens Academic Teams of the Year Awards, given to the men's and women's T-Bird athletic teams that finish the year with the highest overall team GPA... Jessica Olp from Rolling Hills Zoo showed students a Flemish Giant rabbit during the Zoo to You program at the Concordia Elementary School... wheat was selling at \$5.83, corn was \$6.16, and milo was \$5.71 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago June 27, 1972

A new baseball program, known as T ball, was introduced by the Concordia Optimist Club and the Recreational Commission... Michael John L'Ecuyer, 1972 graduate of Concordia High School, had enlisted for three years of service in the U.S. Army... "Hubert's Hair Raising Adventures" and "The Wingdingdilly," by Bill Peet, were the featured books at the Lincoln library story time... Janet Souchek placed first and Janet Henry placed second in the 14-and-older age class in the Summer Recreational program's Sand Castle contest, attended by more than 50 young people, held at the Recreation Park.

25 Years Ago June 27, 1997

Concordians Angela Bell, Dustin, Bronson, and Ann Sandell took part in a portion of the re-enactment of the Mormons' historic 1300-mile trek from Iowa to Utah... Army Cadet Corey Brunkow had graduated from the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y., and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army... Richard and Duana Tatro announced the birth of their first child, a daughter, Ambyr Nicole... Stan and June Hinman had recently returned from their missionary outreach to the city of Vitebsk, located in the north-eastern part of Belarus.

10 Years Ago June 27, 2012

The Little Dresses for Africa, made by local women at Neighbor to Neighbor, would soon be headed to Africa, packed in the luggage of Chelsey Horkman,

a Concordia resident who would serve as a missionary in Burkina Faso for the next three years... seven-year-old Moyra Barnes was the winner of the "My Dad is Special because..." contest at Threads for Him and received a \$50 gift card... Sabrina Stolzenburg, Ames, and Shiloh Studt, Glasco, were 2012 NCK Saddle Club Rodeo Queen contestants... wheat was selling at \$7.08, corn was \$6.41, and milo was \$5.86 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago June 27, 2017

Cloud County Health Center donated obstetrical equipment to the Cloud County Community College nursing department... Elk State Bank of Concordia marked its 10th anniversary... Jennifer Boley, Gage Canfield, Zachary Kyle and Grant Holmes all were recipients of Wayne and Alberta Neel Scholarship Fund scholarships... wheat was selling at \$3.90, corn was \$3.09, and milo was \$2.94 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago June 27, 2021

The Cloud County Community College board of trustees accepted the gift of a new agriculture facility from the Cloud County Community College Foundation... the Concordia Lutheran Church Youth Club presented Tonya Merrill, director of the Concordia Resource Center, with eight Birthday Kits containing a cake mix, oil, frosting, disposable pan, a card, napkins, plates and candles... wheat was selling at \$5.91, corn was \$5.99, and milo was \$5.91 per bushel on local markets.

NOTICE OF HEARING BY THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OFFICIAL NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING FOR VARIANCE REQUEST

To Whom It May Concern and to all persons interested: Notice is hereby given that at **7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 19, 2022**, the City of Concordia Board of Zoning Appeals, in the City Commission meeting room at City Hall, 701 Washington Street, Concordia, Kansas, will consider a request from Prairie Land Electric Cooperative for a variance of 10 feet to Section 15-4 Height and Yard Requirements of the Concordia zoning regulations, 15-401b.1. Said variance request relates to the minimum 60 feet setback requirement from the centerline of the street to the building line in the I-1 Light Industrial Zoning District.

The property to which the application applies is legally described and generally located as follows:
Lots 6-20, Block 156, Concordia Original Townsite,
Cloud County, Kansas.
The site will be identified and more commonly known as
405 State Street.

As provided in the Concordia Zoning Regulations the above variance will be discussed and considered by the City of Concordia Board of Zoning Appeals, and all persons interested in said matter will be heard at this time concerning their views and wishes.

Reasonable accommodations are available for persons needing assistance. Requests for accommodations should be submitted to Director of Community Development (785-243-2670) (TDD 785-243-2336) by 5:00 p.m., Friday, July 15, 2022.

Bruno Rehbein
Zoning Administrator

6/27

Fredrickson to retire as police chief

Concordia Police Chief Ric Fredrickson has announced that he will retire after 34 years in the law enforcement profession.

Fredrickson's final day as police chief will be Thursday.

"It is with mixed emotion that I announce my retirement," Fredrickson said. "My 34-year tenure in law enforcement has provided a multitude of opportunities for learning, growth, support and leadership, both personally and professionally. Working for the Concordia Police Department for 27 years, and serving as chief for the final four, has been a lifelong goal of mine. I am incredibly proud to have served this community, work-



Chief Ric Fredrickson

ing with other professionals who have not only been fellow employees, but extended family members.

Fredrickson was promoted

to the position of police chief in September 2018. He had previously served as a patrol officer, school resource officer, animal control officer, sergeant, detective and lieutenant with the Concordia Police Department and was a deputy for the Cloud County Sheriff's Office for seven years.

"As I complete my service as a member of the local law enforcement community, I plan to continue residing in Cloud County, enjoying more free time with my family. I wish continued success to the leaders and citizens of the city of Concordia and I look forward to seeing future growth of our community," Fredrickson said.

Concordia Fire Chief/EMS

Director Eric Voss will serve as interim police chief until a replacement for Fredrickson is selected. A timeline for the search had not yet been determined.

The city will honor Fredrickson's service to Concordia during the city commission meeting on July 6.

"We appreciate Chief Fredrickson's dedication to this community. His willingness to serve the people of Concordia, to make our town better in a way that showed respect for everyone, is commendable," Concordia city manager Amy Lange said. "We will certainly miss Ric, and we wish him all the best in his retirement."

Today in History

50 Years Ago June 29, 1972

Dyna Sherwood, Concordia, had accepted a teaching position with the Department of Education, New South Wales, Sydney, Australia, as a physical education instructor... Darryl Appleby placed first and Bruce Johnston took second in the Men's Novice division of the Concordia Tennis club tournament, while Mary Mock took the championship and Regina Martin placed second in the Women's Competition... Karla Stangel, assisted by Ann Pearson, Debra Jones, Tina Paris, Betsy Peck and Susan Bauer, led the Summer Recreation Arts and Crafts classes.

25 Years Ago June 29, 1997

Tony Foster, business instructor at Cloud County Community College, received the college's Faculty Cooperative Education Adviser of the Year award... wind and rain had knocked down much of the wheat crop in Cloud County, but farmers were still hoping to be able to harvest most of the crop... pre-school children in the Frank Carlson Library's summer reading program were creating Tommy Tomatoes, using red balloons and green paper for stems and imagination for drawing on faces... Mark Lauer received the Math and Physical Science Faculty Award from Cloud County Community College.

10 Years Ago June 29, 2012

The O'Connor Animal Shelter and NCK PAWS partnered together to hold the third Annual Adopt a Pet in the Park Fundraiser in Concordia City Park... University of Kansas junior Heather Bergmann, a Concordia High School gradu-

ate, had been named to the 2011-12 Capital One Academic All-American women's track and field second team... receiving gold gallon pins for their continued participation in Red Cross blood drives were Gearld Bachamp, 18 gallons, 144 units; Connie Walenta, nine gallons, 72 units; Lyle Pounds, six gallons, 48 units; and Rosella Hubert, four gallons, 32 units... wheat was selling at \$7.12, corn was \$6.56, and milo was \$6.01 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago June 29, 2017

Concordia City Manager and City Attorney Larry Uri gave the city commission notice that he would resign from both positions effective August 23... judged on memory, technique, showmanship and overall presentation by the camp staff, Roylynn Madden, Concordia High School dancer, was selected as All American at the Universal Dance Association Camp at Kansas Wesleyan University... wheat was selling at \$3.98, corn was \$3.08, and milo was \$2.93 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago June 29, 2021

Greg Hattan carried the "Flame of Hope" during the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Kansas... Cloud County commissioners approved a classification change for Hans Hanson from road sergeant/investigator with the Sheriff's Office to deputy... the American Legion defeated Cloud County Co-op 15-8 in the championship game of the Concordia Recreation Girls' Softball A-Team Tournament... wheat was selling at \$6.04, corn was \$6.09, and milo was \$6.04 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago July 1, 1972

Gene Johnson, Cloud County chapter chairman of the Red Cross, had received thirty donations totaling \$700 to assist victims of floods at Rapid City, S.D., and in states hit by tropical storm Agnes... Miss Sonja Hutchinson, graduate student in applied education at University of Colorado, received a 4-point grade average for the year and was one of the few students chosen to sing in the Herman Reutter (famous pianist and composer in Germany) concert during the second semester... "The Anderson Tapes," starring Sean Connery, was showing at Cloud 9.

25 Years Ago July 1, 1997

Darlene Lewis Herrick and Aleta McDaniel Gile, former members of Girl Scout Troop 4, formed in Concordia in 1944, presented a birthday cake with the Girl Scout emblem on it to the troop's leader, Ruth Doak, on her 95th birthday... as part of the Kansas Press Association convention awards, Blade-Empire People Page editor Sharon Coy received an honorable mention in the Daily Division I feature story category for her story on Trask Breault adopting a grandfather for Christmas... Dan, Van and the Man provided entertainment at the Cloud County Health Care Auxiliary volunteer recognition picnic.

10 Years Ago July 1, 2012

The Concordia Municipal Pool held a Picasso at the Pool painting contest, with participants using acrylic paint to create summertime

scenes in a two-hour period... Heather Bergmann, a University of Kansas junior, finished 19th overall with a toss of 154-5 in the javelin preliminaries at the USA Track and Field Olympic Trials... Sierra Gropp, gymnast from the Concordia Gymnastics Center, won the Level 4 all-around at the 2012 AAU National Gymnastics Meet in Wisconsin... wheat was selling at \$7.11, corn was \$6.50, and milo was \$6.02 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago July 1, 2017

Longtime friends Grant Garst and Ryan Kirkpatrick, 2002 graduates of Concordia High School, had hiked Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest freestanding mountain in the world, in Tanzania, Africa... Mount Joseph Senior Village resident Vern Dallen enjoyed a pleasant surprise when Gearld Bachamp drove a 1950 John Deere tractor he had once owned to the nursing home to surprise him... wheat was selling at \$4.21, corn was \$3.10, and milo was \$2.95 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago July 1, 2021

Cloud County Community College had been placed on probation by the High Learning Commission (HLC) effective June 24, 2021... a two-run home run by Ayden Krier in the top of the eighth inning gave the American Legion a 7-5 victory over Concordia Chevrolet/Buick in the championship game of the Peewee Baseball A-Team Tournament... wheat was selling at \$6.30, corn was \$6.49, and milo was \$6.44 per bushel on local markets.

Commission honors retiring chief of police

A salute to retired Police Chief Ric Fredrickson, the authorization of a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant for a new box hangar at Blosser Municipal Airport-CNK, and bids for the Concordia Demo Program were some of the proclamations, recognitions, and action items at the regular meeting of the city commission on Wednesday evening, June 6.

The commission honored former Police Chief Ric Fredrickson for his 27 years of service to the Concordia Police Department, including serving as Police Chief for four years.

Fredrickson retired June 30 after a law enforcement career that spanned 34 years. "First off all, it's definitely family first for me," Fredrickson said. "The first person I've got to thank is my wife. It was early in my career, you get those middle of the night call outs, and she'd be up out of bed helping me put my gear on... and the girls, got to thank them. Of course they didn't have to put up with too much ridicule and stuff for having a father as a law enforcement officer."

Fredrickson thanked city manager Amy Lange for giving him the opportunity to be Police Chief for Concordia, and the city commissioners, past and present, for being supportive of law enforcement. He also thanked the city's department heads and his staff at the police department.

"I've always been surrounded by good people," Fredrickson said. "And I also need to thank the media, last but not least. You guys have been awesome to work with. Whenever we had a situation happen, I mean, you guys always allowed me time to get the information to you, not badgering me. And also checking back with me to make sure the information is accurate before it went out. I appreciate that."

The city also recognized recently-hired police officer Sam Caito.

Treil Grinter, Director of Transportation for OCCK, Inc., submitted a funding request of \$25,000 for the fiscal year. Grinter said that since they began operating GoConcordia one year ago, they have given almost 8,000 rides to passengers for employment purposes, medical appointments, shopping, library visits, and much more. Because of rising costs such as fuel, Grinter said they are considering raising the price of a ride from \$1 to \$2.

In action items, the commission authorized Mayor Ashley Hutchinson to sign an FAA Grant Agreement for an 80'x80' box hangar at Blosser Municipal Airport-CNK. The hangar will be designed with sufficient clear space for B-II aircraft, which the airport can now accommodate with the completion of Runway 18/36.

On February 2, 2022, the commission approved a consulting services agreement with Benesch, which initiated design work for the Box Hangar project, in the lump sum amount of \$140,480.00 plus a time and material fee not to exceed \$29,385.00.

The Box Hangar project will be funded 90% through the FFY 22 FAA Airports Capital Improvement Plan (ACIP), with the remaining 10% funded by City CIP. Any overages are the responsibility of the City at 100%.

In other action, the city commission voted to approve Resolution 2022-2138, closing out the condemnation process on the structures at 717 Olive Street. The house was damaged by fire in January 2022, and the City received insurance proceeds of \$6,645. The structures have since been demolished according to city requirements and the property made safe. The insurance proceeds can now be released to the owner.

The city commission also voted to enter the property at 521 East 9th Street into the demo program. Under the demolition reimbursement program, the city does not solicit sealed bids. The owner is required to bring in two bids from two different contractors and city policy pays the reimbursement based on the lowest of the two bids. The commission authorized city manager Amy Lange to sign a contract with Snyder Dozing in the

amount of \$7,700 for the demolition of the property.

Following a public hearing held on May 4, 2022, regarding a property at 429 West 8th Street, Resolution 2022-2134 condemned the property. The Resolution gave the property owner 30 days to have a plan in place and start the process to either fix or remove the structure. Bids were solicited for demolition of the house, accessory structures, and cleaning up the lot. The scope of work also includes disposal of demolished materials and filling the void of the structure's basement upon completion of the demolition.

Two sealed bids were received and opened on Wednesday, June 22nd at 3:00 p.m.: Diehl Enterprises Inc. \$8,550.00, and Dalton Dirt Works/Dalton Snyder \$11,280.00. On the recommendation of City building inspector Bruno Rehbein, the commission approved the bid of Diehl Enterprises of Salina, Kansas in the amount of \$8,550.00 for demolition of the structures and clearing the lot at 429 West 8th Street.

The project costs will be funded with CIP demo money. Immediately following payment of all invoices, all of the project costs will then be assessed to the property owner, who has 30 days to pay the bill. If after 30 days the bill is not paid, the project costs will be assessed to the property. No cost-sharing is planned because the owner did not initiate such a proposal prior to the condemnation ordinance deadline.

Following adjournment of the city commission meeting, the commissioners, city manager Amy Lange, and city attorney Justin Ferrell then held a study session to update and clarify supplemental Section 19-109 of the Concordia City Code to allow the operation of golf carts and utility vehicles on city streets.



Key to the City

During a ceremony held at City Hall, city manager Amy Lange (left) presented retired Police Chief Ric Fredrickson with a plaque and keys to the city.

7/8



Plaque presentation

Carleen Nordell, left, presents a plaque to Amy Lange for her outstanding service and leadership for the Concordia Rotary Club.

7/11

Lange recognized by Concordia Rotary Club

Amy Lange was recently recognized by the Concordia Rotary Club for her outstanding leadership and service as the president for the last year.

During Lange's time as the president, the Rotary Club completed several service projects and supported the community in a number of ways.

The list of accomplishments includes:

- Awarded \$1,800 in scholarships to Concordia High School graduates attending Kansas post-secondary schools.

- Gave \$500 worth of library books to the Concordia Elementary School library to support youth literacy.

- Started a Youth Entrepreneurship

Challenge in cooperation with Unified School District 333 and CloudCorp.

- Increased club meeting attendance by 10 percent.

- Assisted with six Red Cross blood drives by volunteering to set up, tear down and register donors.

- Had a successful Grocery Grab.

- Re-started the Purple Pinky Project at Concordia Elementary School raising nearly \$300 for Polio Plus.

- Continued giving to the Rotary Foundation.

- Said goodbye to two of the club's outstanding Rotarians in Dr. Paul Nelson and Quentin Smith.

Today in History

50 Years Ago July 11, 1972

According to a report from the Concordia Post office, many towns in this area could now get overnight delivery of First Class Mail from Concordia ... Sgt. James Demanett had been transferred to Lakenheath, England, for a four-year tour of duty with the United States Air Force... Mr. and Mrs. Charles Streeter announced the birth of a son, Derek Allen... during Men's Golf night, George Meyer fired a five under par 29 to tie the Country Club course record, now sharing the grass green record with Floyd Day, Jim Drury and Brad Lowell... "Diamonds are Forever" was showing at Cloud 9.

25 Years Ago July 11, 1997

Glenn Edward Black, a former Concordian, was working in Cambodia as part of the United Nations de-mining commission, a multi-national team set up to remove land mines and unexploded devices left behind by the Communists and the Americans during the Viet Nam War... a party and reception honored Joan Barleen and Ruth Hicks as they celebrated their retirement at Beverly Health and Rehab, formerly the Concordia Rest Home... Chandra Blochlinger had been selected as the employee of the month at Sunset Home.

10 Years Ago July 11, 2012

The USD 333 Board of Education accepted the resignation of Cory Isbell, athletic director and assistant principal at Concordia Junior/Senior High, after

he accepted the position of dean of instruction at North Central Kansas Technical College in Beloit... Dean and Gary Holbert used their welding skills and a combination of farm tools and hardware to create Leonard, the long-horned bull... Cloud County Historical Museum's ceramics demo day gave people a chance to "play in the mud"... wheat was selling at \$7.91, corn was \$7.14, and milo was \$6.59 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago July 11, 2017

White Communications became the new owner of the KNCK AM/FM radio station in Concordia... the Concordia VFW Auxiliary had disbanded... Ron Gosselin received a certification of completion from the Kansas Department of Children and Families verifying his completion of Career Counseling... Kenton LeBlanc had been installed as the 2017-18 president of the Concordia Rotary Club... wheat was selling at \$4.72, corn was \$3.42, and milo was \$3.27 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago July 11, 2021

A tile sign for Palmquist Drug Store was discovered beneath the metal sign that was removed from the building at 135 West Sixth Street in Concordia... Maddox Frey pitched the first five innings when Citizens National Bank knocked off Clay Center 8-2 in the championship game of the K-18 Baseball NCK league Tournament... wheat was selling at \$5.72, corn was \$5.97, and milo was \$5.89 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago July 13, 1972

Nearly 40 boys and girls went on a "bike hike" as part of the activities of the Summer Recreation program... Charles Kerr, recently graduated from the University of Kansas, had been hired as vocational agriculture instructor and Future Farmers of America advisor at Concordia High School... Navy Airman Apprentice Robert Alexander visited Malaga, Spain, aboard the aircraft carrier USS John F. Kennedy, marking the first time an aircraft carrier had visited there... Pat Owensby and Barb Boyd were instructors in the Jr. Life-saving course being taught at the Municipal Swimming Pool.

25 Years Ago July 13, 1997

The Concordia Public and Catholic High School classes of 1952 met for a 45-year class reunion, and Evelyn Thompson, Donald Kaufmann, and Allen and Lucille Van Kooten, former teachers attending, received a Kansas wheat weaving... Marine Lance Cpl. James D. Kearns completed a month-long U.S.-Jordan military exercise while attached to the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) while on a six-month deployment to the Western Pacific Ocean... Katie Baldwin and T. Jay Kalthoff were honored by Duke University's Talent Identification Program for their math performance on the ACT or SAT test.

10 Years Ago
July 13, 2012
Author Philip Warburg having visited Meridian

Way Wind Farm and Cloud County twice, was coming back to the "birthplace" to celebrate the publication of his book, "Harvest the Wind" ... Elaine Bowers, Republican candidate for the Kansas Senate, announced that former Kansas Sen. Ross Doyen would be her campaign chairman... with the popcorn popper having a missing part, the Concordia American Legion Auxiliary was having to resort to serving microwave popcorn at bingo... wheat was selling at \$8.13, corn was \$7.47, and milo was \$6.97 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago July 13, 2017

The Concordia City Commission approved a contract designating Justin Ferrell as city attorney to replace Larry Uri... thirteen junior golfers from Concordia earned medals in league competition, led by six individual champions: Xavier Christensen, Hayden Dvorak, Braxton Kindel, Abby Donovan, Peyton Retter and Mya Niehues... wheat was selling at \$4.28, corn was \$3.15, and milo was \$3.00 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago July 13, 2021

Cloud County board of commissioners appointed Joan Fraser to fill the unexpired position on the Cloud County Convention and Tourism Committee, which was held by Ellen Anderson... an open house helped Neva Demanett celebrate her 90th birthday... wheat was selling at \$5.78, corn was \$5.79, and milo was \$5.71 per bushel on local markets.



Passing the gavel

Outgoing Concordia Rotary Club president Amy Lange, right, passes the gavel to newly appointed president Carleen Nordell.

7/13

Nordell appointed president of Concordia Rotary Club

Carleen Nordell has been appointed to serve a two-year term as president of the Concordia Rotary Club.

A member of the Rotary Club since 2019, Nordell is the director of community and alumni relations for Cloud County Community College.

Nordell has been employed at Cloud County Community College for 30 years this September. While attending Cloud, she met her husband Mark and they raised their four children, Derick, Trevor, Ian, and Jara, here in Concordia.

"We asked Carleen to be our next Rotary Club president because of her passion for our community. Having worked with her for several years, I know Carleen's planning abilities are excellent and that she will work hard to propel us forward. Carleen has a goal to grow the Concordia Rotary Club, and I believe she has the tenacity to achieve this goal and to make all current and new members

glad they chose Rotary as their civic club. Thank you, Carleen, for accepting this opportunity. We are excited to support you in this new leadership role," Amy Lange, Concordia Rotary past-president, said.

Rotary International is a humanitarian service organization that brings together business and professional leaders to provide community service, promote integrity, and advance goodwill, peace, and understanding in the world. It is a non-political and non-religious organization.

One of Nordell's goals is to increase the membership of the Concordia Rotary Club. It currently has 32 members.

If interested in becoming a member of Rotary you can contact Nordell at cnordell@cloud.edu or call her at 785-243-1435, ext. 344. Meetings are on the first and third Thursday of every month at noon at Cloud County Community College.

Today in History

50 Years Ago July 15, 1972

William (Buzz) Miller received a certificate of commendation for 32 years of service as a postal employee, as well as a watch from fellow postal employees as a token of appreciation for his service to the Concordia Post Office... Dana Erickson, Concordia, a student at the Brown-Mackie School of Business, Salina, was initiated into NTE, a national social sorority, at a formal dinner and candlelight initiation ceremony at the Howard Johnson restaurant in Salina... Mr. and Mrs. Art Miller announced the birth of a son, Anthony Marley... Montgomery Ward was holding its annual White Sale.

25 Years Ago July 15, 1997

Mrs. Marian Chaput of Concordia traveled to Rome to watch her son, Archbishop Charles Chaput, former Concordian, receive a sacred pallium from Pope John Paul II... Joseph C. Freeborn was promoted from Ensign to Lt. J.g. in the U.S. Navy... a Summer Recreation arts and crafts show was held in the Concordia High School gymnasium... Roy and Tracy Hill announced the birth of their daughter, Shelby Lynn... Nicholaus Sprague, Keaton Goedert and Ryan Sorell were in the summertime business of selling sports cards and cold drinks at a neighborhood stand.

10 Years Ago July 15, 2012

The Brown Grand Theatre received a big boost in its fundraising drive after the Concordia City Commission approved giving \$100,000 from the Tax Increment Fi-

nancing (TIF) fund to the cause... Michael and Jamie Biery announced the birth of their daughter, Brayleigh Kay... Mike and Lisa Snaveley, Concordia, announced the engagement of their daughter, Cortney, Tampa, Fla., to Micah Stupka, also of Tampa, son of Valerie Stupka and the late Edwin Stupka Jr. of Concordia... wheat was selling at \$8.55, corn was \$7.80, and milo was \$7.30 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago July 15, 2017

Tori Ehlers, speech language pathologist at Cloud County Health Center, became certified to provide VitalStim therapy for patients suffering with difficulty in swallowing or dysphagia... Cloud County Community College had selected Jolie Kasper to be the next head coach of the Thunderbolts dance team for the 2017-18 school year... the Concordia American Legion placed first in the Peewee Baseball District 3 Tournament by defeating the Beloit Cyclones, 8-1... wheat was selling at \$4.21, corn was \$3.18, and milo was \$3.01 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago July 15, 2021

Representatives of the Fire, Police and Sheriff's Departments were introduced to Keren, a Lutheran Church Charities (LCC) K-9 Comfort Dog based out of Ellsworth... future young basketball players learned the basics of the game at the Concordia Youth Boys Basketball Camp... wheat was selling at \$5.97, corn was \$6.01, and milo was \$5.86 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago July 18, 1972

Bob Baumann, track coach at Concordia Junior-Senior High School, had been selected by the American Athletic Union of the United States to participate in the first annual Track Coaching Technique clinic at Sacramento, California... Mrs. John Richards won a Necchi sewing machine during the open house for Fabrics Center... Mrs. Joe Kuchera baked a two-tiered wedding cake for the 25th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Dyson... Mr. and Mrs. Alva Parker, Belpre, announced the engagement of their daughter, Jolene, to Steve Clark, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Clark of Concordia.

25 Years Ago July 18, 1997

Cloud County commissioners were continuing a discussion of the proposed fountain at the Cloud County Courthouse for which the late Marion Ellet left the county \$20,000... Sarah Folkerts was named the new Cloud County Junior Miss at the Junior Miss program at the Brown Grand Theatre... Lucas Deal crossed home plate with the winning run for Boogaarts in the championship game of the Pee Wee Baseball City Tournament... Adeline Chizek and Vicki Roberts of Concordia and Nellie Kurtz of Salina attended the La Marche of the 8&40 at Lawrence.

10 Years Ago July 18, 2012

Franciscan theologian Sister Ilija Delio lectured on "Evolutionary Christianity: Hope for the Future"

in an educational forum at the Nazareth Motherhouse auditorium... Jim Bourne was the winner in a game of marbles he played with Austin Kaufmann at the Cloud County Historical Society Museum's Knuckle Down Marble Contest... Kelsey Kearn, Allayna Hanson, Alex Wilcox, Olivia Nelson, Erin Meyer, MaKayla Kindel and Shawna Mendenhall were selected as Concordia Recreation Junior Softball All-Stars... wheat was selling at \$9.03, corn was \$8.25, and milo was \$7.75 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago July 18, 2017

Bryan and Michelle Bombardier opened Panther Pride Pharmacy in downtown Concordia... Morgan Berk, daughter of Brad and Kay Berk, Concordia, and Casey Henderson, Goodland, announced their engagement... during a clinic at Concordia Golf and Wellness, junior golfers got some pointers from Tyler Wright, an assistant professional at Lake Shawnee Golf Course in Topeka... wheat was selling at \$4.22, corn was \$3.17, and milo was \$3.02 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago July 18, 2021

Concordia artist Gena Kearn was one of 120 artists from across the globe to have a piece of art juried into the 29th Annual Colored Pencil Society of American International Exhibition... Dan and Tina Huff celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 17... wheat was selling at \$6.12, corn was \$6.20, and milo was \$6.05 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago July 20, 1972

The last entry in the parade that was part of the Town & Country Day festivities was a young man riding a Brahma while the rest of the participants rode horses... Lyle Pounds had been awarded a summer fellowship by Emporia State Teachers college and Osawatomie State Hospital to train emotionally disturbed children and adolescents at Osawatomie... Patty Morgan, Hollis Hustlers 4-H, ranked first in the final home economics judging school, having been judged on cooking spaghetti, Vitamin C, darts, choosing pillows, bedroom color, wallpaper, biscuit making, and pattern selection.

25 Years Ago July 20, 1997

Marine Master Sgt. Derald Price, 1974 graduate of Concordia High School, retired from active duty after 20 years of service, most recently having served at Marine Corps Communications Electronics School in Twentynine Palms, Calif. ... Ann Beckman, originally from Concordia, attended a reception and party honoring Hillary Clinton, hosted by the U.S. Ambassador to Austria and held at the Mirabell Palace in Salzburg, Austria... Teri Istas, Hill and Dale, was the Senior (14) Reserve Champion in the 4-H Fashion Revue-Construction category... "Men in Black" was showing at the Apollo Theater.

10 Years Ago July 20, 2012

Due to continued dry conditions where water levels in city wells had fallen to five feet below normal, city officials declared a water watch

for Concordia... "Summer on 6th" was going on in downtown Concordia, with activities such as hayrack rides, hamburger fry, street dance and beer garden... illusionist David Lee Wolfe was the special guest at the Teens for Christ Rally, with Tyler Breneman providing music... F & A Food Sales would be competing in the K-18 Baseball State Tournament... wheat was selling at \$9.03, corn was \$8.25, and milo was \$7.75 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago July 20, 2017

Cloud County Community College became the first college in Kansas to adopt the Unmanned Safety Institute's (USI) drone curriculum... Concordia High School graduate and Fort Hays sophomore Grant Holmes had been named to the National Association of Basketball Coaches Honors Court for 2016-17 in recognition of student-athletes who excelled in academics... wheat was selling at \$4.17, corn was \$3.34, and milo was \$3.14 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago July 20, 2021

Two massive sections of a railroad bridge being towed from Kansas City to Houston passed through Concordia... Cloud County Health Center confirmed the first case of the highly contagious COVID-19 Delta variant in Cloud County... with a win over Waconda, Chevrolet/Buick advanced to the semifinals of the Kansas State Pee Wee Baseball Tournament in Hanover... wheat was selling at \$6.40, corn was \$6.22, and milo was \$6.11 per bushel on local markets.

THE CITY OF CONCORDIA

7/20
is seeking to fill the following positions:

Municipal Service Worker - Public Works Division

Please see the website for complete job description, www.concordiakso.org. Excellent benefits, competitive pay.

Apply online, or at 701 Washington St. EOE.

Today in History

50 Years Ago July 22, 1972

Bill Roenne, Nolan Buckley, Eldon Trost, Gerald Merrill, Mike Hager, Larry Knox, Dennis Motes, Larry Anderson, Terry Uhrick, Richard Bieker and John Fellows, members of Company A, Concordia National Guard, all received promotions... Dennis Southwich, Concordia, received first place in the second annual Concordia Painting competition, while second prize went to Michael Goodwin, also of Concordia... Tom Pearson finished second in the 12-year-old division of the Kansas State Junior golf tournament at the Sim Park golf course in Wichita... "Black Beauty" was showing at the Grand Theater.

25 Years Ago July 22, 1997

"Volunteers" working at the Cloud County Health Center were Concordia High School students Julie Isaacson, Lindsay Hanson, Skyler Gartin, Clint Franey, Beth Parker, Starla Gartin, Jason Solt, Cayleen Greenberg, Jennifer Hattan, Emily Hubert and Brea Prindaville... five-year-old Cole Hower, son of Doug Hower and Rachel Hower, was currently ranked as one of the best Peewee motorcross racers in the state... Martin Molter and Aaron Bombardier attended Level 1 of the Future Astronaut Training at the Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center in Hutchinson.

10 Years Ago July 22, 2012

Kaylee Mosher of Hollis Hustlers, and Clay Boley of Hopewell Corners, were crowned the 2012 4-H Fair Royalty... newest members of the community, born at Cloud County Health Center between May 17 and July

18 included Johnathan Alton Reddick, Charlotte Ruth Laughlin, Greysen Drake, Molly May Wesylyk, Korbyn Kelise Ramirez and Trey Eugene Trost... the latest performance of 'Sundays at the Grand' featured the HD broadcast of Lang Lang playing Mendelssohn, conducted by Riccardo Chailly... wheat was selling at \$8.76, corn was \$8.14, and milo was \$7.64 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago July 22, 2017

Cloud County Fair 4-H judging of baked good and arts and crafts creations was underway at the American Legion... Deanna and Larry Metro were celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary with an Alaskan cruise... Mr. and Mrs. Pete Beaumont announced the engagement of their daughter, Ashley Ann, to Shelby Lee Hagen, all of Concordia... the Concordia American Legion won the Peewee Baseball State Tournament for the second year in a row by defeating Washington, 5-4... wheat was selling at \$4.01, corn was \$3.21, and milo was \$3.01 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago July 22, 2021

Kansas Commissioner of Education Dr. Randy Watson and deputy commissioner Dr. Brad Neunswander stopped in Concordia, one of the 50 locations where they were to conduct community conversations on the future of Kansas education... area youth worked with artists from Lovewell Institute to create an original musical, "Unscripted—A Super Powered Musical"... wheat was selling at \$6.34, corn was \$6.15, and milo was \$6.06 per bushel on local markets.



Finishing touches

Workers paint the lettering on the city of Concordia water tower on the east side of town Friday morning. The city contracted Suez Utility Services Co. Inc., Eudora, for the painting of the water tower that includes the city logo. (Blade photo by Jim Lowell)

7/22

Commission approves water main extension

A plan to extend the water main in the South Development, and modifying a city ordinance that would allow golf carts and utility vehicles to drive on city streets, were some of the discussion and action items at the regular meeting of the city commission on Wednesday.

City manager Amy Lange presented a proposal for extending the water main in the South Development to the city commission.

When the flood control project was designed and constructed (2011-2016), several lots were graded to ensure they were at or above the height of the 21st Street dam, and utilities were extended in anticipation of future commercial development in the area. This area was dubbed "South Development."

However, four tracts adjacent to US Highway 81/ Lincoln Street were not served with water. Pizza Hut is connected to the water main on the east side of US Highway 81/Lincoln Street. Taco John's ultimately connected to the former Shady Lake Motel's service line after several unsuccessful attempts to bore under US Highway 81/ Lincoln Street. The three tracts between Taco John's and Col-

lege Drive are not currently served.

Lange said that recent conversations with the owner of the tract immediately south of Taco John's revealed development of this tract is imminent; therefore, there is an urgent need to provide water to this site. She said that, based on experience with the Taco John's development, the city does not believe that boring under US Highway 81/ Lincoln Street would be successful. The solution is to extend an 8-inch water main from 21st Street to College Drive.

The current estimated cost of this water main extension is \$240,170 and includes design and construction observation valued at \$26,000. The property owner's pro-rated share is estimated at \$55,000. The remaining cost would be borne by the city, with a pro-rated portion to be recovered at the time Lots 1 and 2 are developed. The city's share of funding would be \$65,170 from the capital improvement plan (CIP) and \$120,000 from the water fund.

The next steps include entering into a design contract with an engineering firm, completing the design work, obtaining design

review and approval from the Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE), bidding the work, and constructing the water main extension. This work may need to be done simultaneously with the private development construction on this site in order to meet the targeted business opening date.

After a brief discussion, the commission approved entering into a professional services agreement with Campbell & Johnson Engineering to begin design work on this project immediately.

In other action, the city commission voted to approve amending Ordinance No. 2022-3189 to allow the operation of work-site utility vehicles, golf carts, and micro-utility trucks on city streets.

The commission had requested that city staff consider updating this ordinance to allow golf carts on city streets for those who drive their golf carts from their homes to the golf course. Additionally, with the recent and significant increase in fuel prices, there is increased use of work-site utility vehicles, micro trucks, and golf carts on city streets.

The city commission reviewed a draft ordinance dur-

ing a study session on July 6, 2022, and requested the addition of an annual registration requirement, including a \$25 registration fee to cover administrative expenses and supplies.

During the registration process, the requirements of verification of vehicle ownership, insurance, and driver's license will be verified, and a registration sticker and numbered orange flag will be issued with the expectation they will be affixed to the vehicle. Owners will be responsible to ensure their vehicle is properly equipped and insured to operate on the road per the ordinance.

The commission specifically excluded lawn mowers from this ordinance, choosing instead to rely on the standard traffic ordinance for enforcement of the use of lawn mowers on city streets.

During the information session, the city commission reviewed updates and bids on replacing the Christmas tree for the Broadway Plaza. The current 14-foot-tall tree, purchased in 2017, suffered significant damage during the windstorm last year.

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of 7/22
City of Concordia


will meet on August 3, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at Commission Chambers of Concordia City Hall 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, 701 Washington and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2023 Expenditures and Amount of 2022 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2023 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

FUND	Prior Year Actual for 2021		Current Year Estimate for 2022		Proposed Budget Year for 2023		
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate *	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate *	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2022 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate *
General	9,200,453	37.116	5,142,928	44.636	6,165,480	1,202,699	38.091
Debt Service	920,383	11.251	623,761	3.530	641,536	186,762	5.915
Library	182,976	5.497	182,344	5.494	186,644	167,131	5.293
Library Employee Benefit	64,669	1.987	67,351	2.074	62,375	54,110	1.714
Economic Development	58,000	1.457	58,000	1.516	58,000	41,175	1.304
Special Highway	109,763		74,267		372,366		
TIF	5,232						
Special Parks & Rec			25,000		32,673		
911 PSAP	63,531		60,000		132,543		
Water & Sewer Utility	1,402,132		1,403,307		2,707,300		
Gas Utility	67,977		28,760		62,175		
Non-Budgeted Funds-A	120,557						
Non-Budgeted Funds-B	1,266,473						
Non-Budgeted Funds-C	2,185,535						
Totals	15,647,681	57.308	7,665,718	57.250	10,421,092	1,651,877	52.317
					<i>Revenue Neutral Rate**</i>		52.317
Less: Transfers	1,146,195		1,109,128		1,306,575		
Net Expenditure	14,501,486		6,556,590		9,114,517		
Total Tax Levied Assessed	1,651,566		1,651,721		XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX		
Valuation	28,820,359		28,852,307		31,574,604		
Outstanding Indebtedness, January 1,	2020		2021		2022		
G.O. Bonds	4,870,800		7,635,000		6,915,000		
Revenue Bonds	0		0		0		
Other	0		0		0		
Lease Purchase Principal	5,639		3,285		689		
Total	4,876,439		7,638,285		6,915,689		

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


City Official Title: City Manager

Today in History

50 Years Ago July 27, 1972

Concordia High School graduate Dirk Hanson was invited to participate in the Kansas State University honors program... CHS cheerleaders Julie Chubbuck, Sherry Nelson, Elaine Strait, Janice Budreau, Ann Jackson, Sherry Nickel, Rita Moe, Chris Reimer, Lylie Liggett, Jeanne Hood and GERALYN Metro attended a week-long clinic at the University of Kansas... Lowell Thoman entered the grand champion sheep at the Cloud County Fair... Gina Rasure placed fifth in the Kansas Junior Girls Golf Tournament in Kansas City... burgers, french fries, or shakes were 19 cents at Dairy Queen Brazier.

25 Years Ago July 27, 1997

The Blade-Empire and Tri-County National Bank sponsored a free watermelon feed at the Cloud County Fair... people were invited to take their favorite teddy bears to the library for the Frank Carlson Library's Teddy Bear Reunion and Teddy Bear Picnic... Dennis and Brenda Johnson, Concordia, announced the birth of their daughter, Keri Ann... Tony Budke's rabbit, Black Jack, won a blue ribbon at the Cloud County Fair... Concordia swept the boys' 14-year-old division in Junior Golf play, with Matt Hawkins taking first place, Richard Kueker, second, and Josh Koch, third.

10 Years Ago July 27, 2012

Due to continuing dry conditions in the area, the

city of Concordia's water watch had been upgraded to a warning... Aline Luke gave Les Dethloff's Boy Scout Troop 38, family and friends a tour of the Cloud County Historical Museum... Sabrina Stolenzburg was crowned the 2012 NCK Saddle Club Rodeo Queen at the Cloud County Fair... wheat was selling at \$8.68, corn was \$7.84, and milo was \$7.49 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago July 27, 2017

With a \$30,300 grant from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation, the new precision agriculture production program at Cloud County Community College was able to purchase a 2017 John Deere 5055E utility tractor from Concordia Tractor Inc. ... Cole Stahlman, ninth-grader at Concordia High School and member of Hopewell Corners 4-H, won Grand Champion in Poultry at the Cloud County Fair... wheat was selling at \$3.97, corn was \$3.21, and milo was \$3.01 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago July 27, 2021

Mark Headrick, Wildside Creative, designed, manufactured and installed a new wall mural at the new location of the Concordia Chamber of Commerce... Moody Hue Studio was offering a free paint kit for children to take home... wheat was selling at \$6.27, corn was \$5.99, and milo was \$5.90 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago July 29, 1972

Miss Melanie Hanson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Hanson, was crowned queen of the 1972 Cloud County Fair at Glasco... Navy Ensign Marion Alcorn, 1963 graduate of Concordia High School, was commissioned in his present rank upon graduation from Naval Officer Candidate School at Newport, R.I... Dr. Phillip Erwin, recent graduate from Kansas State University planning to practice veterinary medicine in Concordia, moved his family to a home on the old POW site north of Concordia... Kayleen Lewis won the grand champion blue ribbon for her beef entry in the Cloud County Fair.

25 Years Ago July 29, 1997

Darrell Lambert, who worked for Boogaarts Food Stores for 35 years, most recently as meat market manager in Concordia, had retired... three Concordia High School graduates, Andra Brosius, Crystal Campbell and Brad Henry, all studying engineering at Kansas State University, had been chosen to participate in the KSU engineering honors program... Cote Hower, Ryan McDaniel and Jarrod Johnston captured second-place finishes in their respective classes in the motorcross races at the Cloud County Fair.

10 Years Ago July 29, 2012

A grant from the Kansas Health Foundation was the start of the Reading with Leaders storytelling time at

Neighbor to Neighbor... Sterling College sophomore and Concordia High School graduate, Zach Beims, had been selected to the preseason All-KCAC Football Team by the Conference coaches, the only sophomore to receive preseason honors... the musical group, Celtic Spring, performed Irish jigs, Irish fiddling and Irish fun at Cook Theatre at Cloud County Community College... wheat was selling at \$8.46, corn was \$7.77, and milo was \$7.46 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago July 29, 2017

The Orphan Train Rider statue of the Clement brothers was unveiled at Citizens National Bank... Concordia Lutheran Church confirms Treyton Marsh, Abby Donovan, Teresa Barnes, Abby Fredrickson, Noah Thoman, Dillon Provost, with Pastor Janai Robinson-Markarov, attended Confirmation Camp at Camp Tomah Shinga... wheat was selling at \$3.982, corn was \$3, and milo was \$3.02 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago July 29, 2021

The Nazareth Motherhouse was getting a new roof... John Kelly had been hired as the new head softball coach at Cloud County Community College... Concordia Citizens National Bank edged Clay Center in the championship game of the 70th Annual K-18 Baseball State Tournament... wheat was selling at \$6.22, corn was \$5.99, and milo was \$5.91 per bushel on local markets.



Striping it

City of Concordia employee Hayden Mapes repaints the stripes on Sixth Street in the downtown area on Friday morning. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)

7/29

Published in the Blade-Empire on Friday, July 29, 2022

CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS
TREASURER'S QUARTERLY REPORT
 FOR THE PERIOD FROM April 1, 2022 THROUGH June 30, 2022

FUNDS	1st Quarter Ending Cash Balances	Receipts	Expenditures	2nd Quarter Ending Cash Balances
100 General Fund	\$ 1,850,800.36	\$ 1,502,700.33	\$ 1,166,703.81	\$ 2,186,796.88
203 Industrial Development	29,040.05	18,067.16	28,000.00	19,107.21
205 Special Highway	199,581.41	31,457.19	5,845.51	225,193.09
206 D.A.R.E. Grant	5,020.40	145.00	-	5,165.40
208 Cyber Crimes	442.10	-	-	442.10
214 Animal Shelter	44,161.17	5,656.50	407.75	49,409.92
217 Special Park and Recreation	32,150.07	3,778.06	-	35,928.13
221 Computer Equipment/Replacement	15,952.13	-	5,605.25	10,346.88
222 Vehicle Equipment Reserve Acct.	662,577.88	4,764.61	49,344.03	617,998.46
230 Judges Training Fund	1,799.51	3,684.74	2,096.51	3,387.74
244 911 PSAP	38,653.60	15,443.34	4,191.74	49,905.20
250 Fire Dept. Grants & Donations	9,574.98	650.00	1,313.09	8,911.89
255 Police Dept Grants & Donations	6,426.59	-	-	6,426.59
260 Animal Trust Fund	30,520.62	3,021.95	-	33,542.57
270 Cemetery Endowment	41,483.94	-	-	41,483.94
290 Recreation Grants & Donations	11,946.94	513.00	-	12,459.94
301 Bond and Interest	365,738.03	52,788.15	-	418,526.18
303 Tax Increment Bond Fund	4.83	-	4.83	-
444 TIF Projects	243,932.64	2,612.08	41,247.50	205,297.22
450 Capital Improvement Projects	231,938.81	78,229.00	137,615.35	172,552.46
451 Wastewater Treatment Facility	3,151,898.76	88,199.93	566,325.78	2,673,772.91
454 American Rescue Plan	144,273.89	380,530.92	-	524,804.81
550 Central Garage Fund	408.07	44,522.69	43,409.26	1,521.50
601 Water/Sewer General	1,227,557.03	368,438.74	378,740.72	1,217,255.05
650 Gas Fund	24,887.12	6,878.70	6,132.68	25,633.14
710 Post Fire Debris Removal Fund	6,645.00	18,000.00	-	24,645.00
725 COC Cafeteria Plan	10,602.98	4,982.64	4,899.28	10,686.34
735 Library Fund	-	65,712.13	65,712.13	-
736 Library Employee Benefit	-	24,616.87	24,616.87	-
750 Continuing Econ. Development Grant	316,861.88	4,958.71	-	321,820.59
780 Cloud County Landfill	38,946.25	94,903.84	94,768.32	39,081.77
790 NCKRTC Trauma Council	23,125.22	-	-	23,125.22
802 Water Protection Fund	730.59	1,268.31	1,094.84	904.06
TOTALS	\$ 8,767,682.85	\$ 2,826,524.59	\$ 2,628,075.25	\$ 8,966,132.19

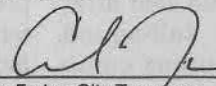
LIABILITIES:

General Obligation Bonds	6,915,000.00
TIF General Obligation Bonds	-
Capital Leases	-
TOTAL	\$ 6,915,000.00

CASH AVAILABLE:

Cash on Hand	1,031.33
Checking Accounts	6,070,372.68
Money Markets & Savings Accounts	810,801.36
Certificates of Deposit	2,083,926.82
TOTAL CASH & INVESTMENTS	\$ 8,966,132.19

I, Amber Farha, do hereby certify that the above statement is correct.


 Amber Farha, City Treasurer

Today in History

50 Years Ago August 1, 1972

Mrs. Robert Bruner Jr., the former Karen Lowell, graduate of Concordia High School, had been appointed administrative assistant of the Harry S. Truman Children's Neurological Center in Kansas City... Boy Scouts Troop 31 members John Lagemann and Jay Lowell were initiated into the Order of the Arrow while attending Brown Camp, and merit badges were received by Ronnie Branson, Kent Doyen, John Lagemann, Jay Lowell, Jim Lowell, Tom Pearson, Steve Roberts and Steve Tyler... Mr. and Mrs. Gary Sallman announced the birth of a son, Alan Kyle.

25 Years Ago August 1, 1997

Pam Huber was a member of a Uniglobe Knowles tour to New York escorted by Susan Sutton, where the group watched a broadcast of a show in which Glen Campbell was a guest, and they also had the privilege of meeting Katie Couric, NBC Today Show co-anchor... Josh Petersen was the starting pitcher for the Concordia Blues in the opening game of the Kansas State American Legion Class AA Championship Tournament... Robert Dean and Betty Stortz were honored on their 50th wedding anniversary with an open house.

10 Years Ago August 1, 2012

Elaine Bowers, Concordia, and Kyle Abbott, a 20-year-old Kansas State University student from Smith Center, were vying for the Republi-

can nomination for the open seat in the newly drawn 36th Senate District in the upcoming primary election... Brian Callaway was hired as the head women's and men's cross country coach and assistant men's and women's track coach at Cloud County Community College... TFI Family Services was collecting suitcases to be used by children in the foster care system... wheat was selling at \$8.58, corn was \$7.73, and milo was \$7.73 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago August 1, 2017

Women from Kansas, Nebraska, and Iowa attended a quilting retreat at the Manna House of Prayer, unique because all the women were deaf... Sarah Chavey, owner of Moody Hue Studios, hosted "Open Paint" at the Cloud County Fair, allowing fairgoers of all ages to try their hand at painting... Kylie and Tyler Snavely announced the birth of their daughter, Falyn Elise... wheat was selling at \$3.87, corn was \$3.15, and milo was \$2.97 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago August 1, 2021

Tammy Maher, co-owner of Full of Scrap Quilts, was creating a quilt from old t-shirts, to be given away at Concordia Fall Fest in September... CrossFit North Cloud hosted the 2021 NCK Throwdown competition... Bill and Shirley Gropp celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary... wheat was selling at \$6.85, corn was \$6.08, and milo was \$5.93 per bushel on local markets.

Concordia city commission 8/1 has budget hearing scheduled

The Concordia city commission has a public hearing on the proposed 2023 fiscal year budget scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Wednesday in the commission chambers at City Hall.

With an increase in assessed valuation of the city of Concordia of nearly \$3 million, the city commission is proposing a 2023 budget with an estimated tax rate of 52.317 mills. That is nearly five mills below the actual tax rate for 2022 of 57.250.

The assessed valuation of the city

increased from \$28,852,307 in 2022 to \$31,574,604 for 2023.

The actual tax rate for 2021 was 57.308 mills.

The proposed 2023 budget calls for authority for expenditures totaling \$10,421,092, compared to expenditures of \$7,665,718 for 2022.

General fund expenditures totaling \$6,165,480, with a tax rate of 38.091 mills, have been proposed. Actual general fund expenditures for 2022 totaled \$5,142,928 with a tax rate of 44.636 mills.

The adoption of the 2023 city budget, and a housing study and market analysis by Five Rule Rural Planning were among the presentation and action items at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Concordia city commission on Wednesday.

Following a budget hearing, the commission approved the 2023 budget which calls for budget authority for expenditures totaling \$10,421,092 with an estimated tax rate of 52.317 mills. That is a decrease of 4.933 mills from the actual tax rate of 57.250 mills in 2022.

The actual tax rate for 2021 was 57.308 mills.

The assessed valuation of the city rose from \$28,852,307 in 2022 to \$31,574,604.

City finance director Amber Farha reported that the budget includes a cost-of-living increase of 4.7 percent for all employees.

The longevity pay increases, of approximately \$12,894.44, remain in place with the budget improved.

According to the information provided by Farha, there is an estimated nine percent increase in health insurance and a four percent increase in dental costs for 2023.

The budget shows a nine percent increase in both employee and employer rates for health insurance costs and dental rates remain the same as in 2022.

The guaranteed general fund reserve at the end of 2023 shown in the budget is \$460,950. That is an increase from the \$350,097 shown in the 2022 budget.

The estimated reserves at the end of 2023 is around \$800,000.

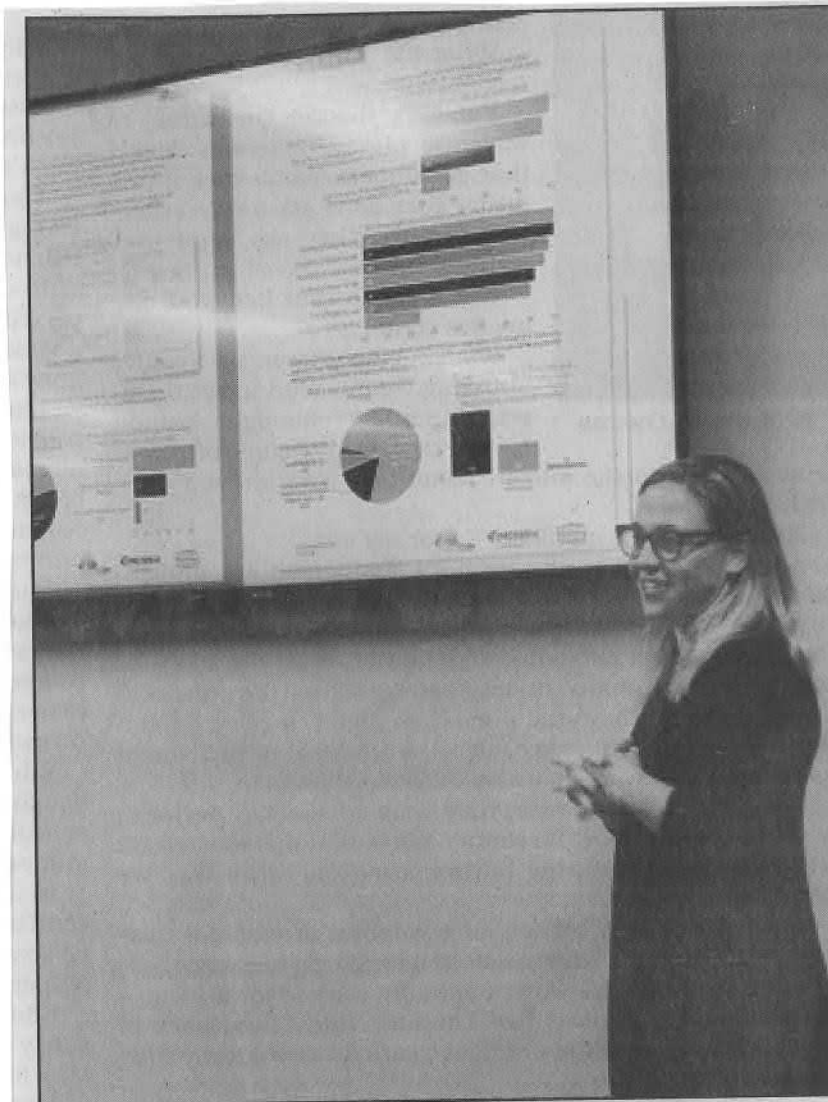
Upon the recommendation of city attorney Justin Ferrell, the commission approved ordi-

nances 2022-3190 and 2022-3191 which updated the Uniform Public Offense Code (UPOC) and Standard Traffic Offenses (STO). These updates are done on an annual basis to conform city ordinances to state law, with certain exceptions as stated in the ordinance.

The UPOC is designed to provide a comprehensive public offense ordinance for Kansas cities. It does not take effect in a city until the governing body has passed and published an ordinance incorporating it by reference under the authority of and by the procedure prescribed by Kansas Statutes Annotated (K.S.A.).

In other action, the commission approved a change order for the Sixth Street Parking Lot project in the amount of \$2,328.16. During the process of cutting the ground down to grade as well as Hood Heating & Air's trenching in the lines for the light poles, the crews ran into big chunks of concrete that were either left over from the demo process or unknowingly there. The Orr Wyatt crew ended up having to use more crushed rock to level up the pad for the parking lot. Hood's were not able to use their trencher as planned and had to use a mini excavator instead.

The commission also approved a professional services agreement with Campbell & Johnson Engineers, P.A., in the amount of \$7,250. Jeremy Arnold, the city utilities director, reported that Concordia intends to replace a broken water main located under Highway 81 at 19th Street and Lincoln. In December 2021, a water leak was reported at that location and it was discovered that the leak



Housing report

Bobbi Pettit, Five Rule Rural Planning, presented the Concordia city commission with the results of a housing study and market assessment. (Blade photo by Russell Gagnon)

was under the highway. The crews shut off two valves on each side of the road to isolate the leak. This created an undesirable dead end and needs to be remedied.

Bobbi Pettit of Five Rule Rural Planning presented the commission and members of the Cloud-

Corp board the results of the company's housing study and market assessment. Five Rule assessed existing housing stocks, community engagement tasks, and data analysis and 215 residents participated in the survey.

(see Commission on page 10)

(continued from page 1)

The study reported that 50 supervisors/employers cited rental housing and homes for sale as a factor that was limiting their ability to hire employees.

A total of 2,212 residential structures were counted, and more than 94% of housing units classified as single-family residences. Only 12 of the residential structures were mobile homes. There were 35 residences counted as NEDU (no evidence of daily use) and 119 residences were counted as vacant-idle utilities and have been unoccupied for more than six months.

Thirteen units were determined to be dilapidated. Many of the structures are on the north edge of town on parcels determined to be located in the 100-year flood zone. The study said, "the dilapidated units in the flood zone should be demolished, with replacement units located elsewhere in the city."

According to the U.S. Census American Community Survey (ACS), almost half of Concordia's residential structures were built before 1940. Based on the number of housing units counted, roughly 1,100 structures will be over 100 years old in the next 20 years.

The study noted that the city should consider replacing one percent of its housing stock yearly to maintain its population. Based on that formula, the city would need to replace 140 units by 2030.

The need for affordable

housing is crucial to Concordia's future. The ACS estimated that 23% of the town's households have a total household income of \$25,000.

The study's affordability analysis estimated that the city has a surplus of homes valued at \$50,000-\$100,000 or a surplus of households earning \$25,001-\$49,999. The city has a shortage of units valued at less than \$50,000 and homes valued at more than \$100,000.

The study's observations and recommendations determined that there was a need for housing now. The study said that numerous shorter-term opportunities for redevelopment exist within the city's boundary. Among them is the soon to be former site of the hospital. Once the new North Central Kansas Medical Center opens, the former site is roughly six acres that could become the location of approximately 36 new renter or owner-occupied units, based on a medium density standard of six units per acre.

Other possible opportunities are a former nursing home, existing vacancies, the industrial development site on the east edge of the city, and vacant lots.

The study concluded with a strategic plan that provided recommendations for the city commission and CloudCorp. The purpose of the plan is to serve as a place to start to help ensure that CloudCorp and the city commission continue taking steps to positively impact the housing situation in Concordia.

Manager's Minutes

Amy L. Lange, City Manager, City of Concordia
July 2022 8/5

Summer is quickly winding down, and the heat is on!... both literally and figuratively. Please stay safe in the extreme heat: stay hydrated, work outside in the early morning or late evening hours, rest and find shade during the brutal afternoon heat. The city pool will be open through August 6 to help keep you cool.

Please also continue to pray for much-needed rain. I'm not sure how mosquitos and weeds continue to thrive on humidity alone, but they are certainly resilient! City Parks crews have been diligent about mosquito fogging throughout this summer. They fog various areas of town each week, usually in the early morning or late evening hours. You can help by eliminating standing water on your property, whether in extra buckets or tires in your yard, or by grading your yard to ensure positive drainage to the storm sewer system.

The City Commission held two budget study sessions this month to review details and staff recommendations for the 2023 budget. We are pleased to report the City's mill levy will decrease by 4.933 mills, and revenue collections from property tax will remain neutral. Even with the impacts of inflation on City operations, we are not asking you to pay more in property taxes. This decision is due to the recent increase in assessed valuation, and is supported by the past two years of sales tax revenue increase and large infusions of grant funding to support operational and project needs, as well as continued sound stewardship of the funds with which we are entrusted. The City of Concordia's primary revenue streams include sales tax, property tax, franchise fees, and fees for service. Approximately half the general fund budget is spent on public safety (24/7 police, fire and EMS protection). And approximately one-third of the general fund budget is spent on maintenance of streets and parks, including the sports complex and swimming pool. These expenses include replacement of major equipment and capital projects, some of which are also supplemented with grants and cost-sharing partnerships with other entities. Water and wastewater are separate from the general fund, and are supported solely by fees for service. Our annual public budget hearing was held on August 3 in conjunction with a regular City Commission meeting. Our budget for the next fiscal year is required by law to be finalized, approved by the Commission, and submitted to the State by August 25 each year.

As mentioned above, your tax dollars support maintenance of our local parks. The cost of park maintenance due to disrespectful treatment and vandalism continues to increase. This summer, we have experienced significant vandalism at Second Street Park and City Park, resulting in multiple closures of restroom facilities and frustrated users of our park shelters. Graffiti takes time to remove, and repainting may be necessary. Trash and debris must be removed, and many times power washing and disinfection of shelters and restrooms is needed. Parts must be ordered to repair plumbing fixtures and doors. It is nearly impossible to keep soap and paper towels stocked and in operable condition due to vandalism. Additional cameras will be installed at parks in the near future to help us locate and prosecute vandals. If you see something, say something. And please encourage people to respect public property. The cleanliness and availability of amenities at your local parks depend on it.

When they were learning to read, one of my kids' favorite books was "Go, Dogs, Go!" by P.D. Eastman. In this book, dogs are the main characters, and their travels by various modes of transportation are described. "Go by bus, by train. Go by foot or go by car. Go, dogs, go! It's not that far!" What is your preferred mode of transportation? We have noticed an increase in the usage of side-by-side utility vehicles and golf carts on public streets in our community, especially with the recent spike in fuel prices. These smaller vehicles are a fuel-efficient choice for short trips, especially if multiple people and cargo must be hauled. In July, the City Commission considered and approved an ordinance change to make it legal to drive golf carts and micro utility trucks on city streets in addition to the already-legal side-by-side utility vehicle. Ordinance No. 2022-3189 has been published and is now in effect. It will require drivers of these vehicles to possess a valid driver's license and to carry insurance the same as a traditional passenger motor vehicle. These vehicles are required to have headlights, taillights, brake lights, and a mirror just as motorcycles are required per K.S.A. 8-1801 et seq. Turn signals are not required. They may be operated on city streets with a speed limit of 30 miles per hour or less. While they are allowed to cross state and U.S. highways, they may not be driven on these roads. A local registration requirement is included in the ordinance. For a \$25 annual fee, owners of these vehicles will be given a sticker and a numbered flag to affix to the rear of the vehicle. This information will be supplied to the Police Department Dispatch to help identify the legal owner in the event of a traffic violation.

Classes will begin again mid-August for our local school district and community college. City Streets crews are busy refreshing crosswalks, on-street parking stalls, and loading zone curb painting around our schools, parks, and downtown. Pedestrian, bicycle, and school bus traffic will increase. Traveling and crossing 11th Street will take more time. Speed limits through school zones will be enforced. Please slow down and drive attentively for your safety and the safety of our workers and students.

Even when the heat is on, good policy, projects and partnerships continue to make Concordia a great place to live, work and play. Thanks for spending your summer with us!

(Published in The Concordia Blade-Empire, Friday, August 5, 2022)

Ordinance No. 2022-3189

On July 20, 2022, the City of Concordia adopted Ordinance No. 2022-3189, authorizing the operation of work-site utility vehicles, golf carts, and micro utility trucks on city streets. A reproduction of this ordinance will be available for not less than one week following the publication of this summary of the ordinance at the website address of the City of Concordia, <http://www.concordiaaks.org>. This summary is certified by the city attorney to be legally accurate and sufficient.

Today in History

50 Years Ago August 8, 1972

President Dean Morgan; vice president Bob Garlow; secretary Kayleen Lewis; treasurer Ron LeDuc; reporter Bill Garlow; sentinel Larry Trost; and chapter advisor Charles Kerr, Concordia Future Farmers of America officers, participated in the State FFA Leadership camp at Rock Springs Ranch near Junction City... Carol, Richard and Larry Hubert brought a pretty little green, ivory, gray and black lizard to the Blade office to show to the staff... Mrs. Kale Bonebrake, Mrs. Lyle Bonebrake and Connie Bonebrake were hostesses for a baby shower honoring Mrs. Larry Johnson and Bradley Dean.

25 Years Ago August 8, 1997

Shoppers may have been shopped by a larger-than-life cow standing in Rod's Food Store parking lot, part of a promotion by Roberts Dairy... vying for the title of queen of the 1997 NCK Rodeo were Crystal Payeur, Clyde; Susan Schlaefli, Mankato; Jessica Haskett, Glasco; Jami Istas, Aurora; and Katie Revell, Jamestown... Jason and Kelly Adams announced the birth of their daughter, Molly Amelia... during the monthly meeting of the Jolly-J-Hawks 4-H Club, Ashley McMillan played a solo on the piano for her talent program.

10 Years Ago August 8, 2012

Celebrating his ninth birthday at the Concordia Municipal Pool, Noah Thoman, son of Jeff and Shella Thoman and grandson of Boyd and Linda Thoman,

all of Concordia, asked family and friends that in lieu of gifts, they give money to Big Brothers Big Sisters, which raised \$280... Lauren Forshée was named the recipient of the Concordia High School Outstanding Senior Softball Player Award... due to an upcoming move, Phyllis Koster resigned as Sergeant of Arms for the American Legion Auxiliary ... wheat was selling at \$8.77, corn was \$7.93, and milo was \$7.69 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago August 8, 2017

The Cloud County Community College and the T-Bird Booster Club held their Rack 'Em & Back 'Em event at the Broadway Plaza... employees of Geisler Roofing gave the First United Methodist Church's steeple a fresh coat of paint... Nina Sheely was the first-place winner when the Booster card club met at the Concordia Senior Center... wheat was selling at \$3.70, corn was \$3.21, and milo was \$3.01 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago August 8, 2021

The Cloud County Health Department had a mobile vaccine unit on the Campus of Cloud County Community College to administer free COVID-19 vaccines... the American Legion Post #76 awarded the American Legion Family 2021 Scholarships to area students Isaac Bombardier, Dylan Thoman, Ivan Owen and Wyatt Barleen... wheat was selling at \$6.78, corn was \$6.00, and milo was \$5.78 per bushel on local markets.

(Published in The Concordia Blade-Empire on Monday, August 8, 2022)

Ordinance No. 2022-3190

On August 3, 2022, the City of Concordia adopted Ordinance No. 2022-3190, amending the Concordia Code Section to adopt the 2022 edition of the Uniform Public Offense Code for Kansas cities. This ordinance is updated annually to conform city criminal ordinances to state law, with certain exceptions as stated in the ordinance. The complete text of this ordinance may be obtained and viewed free of charge at the office of the city clerk. A reproduction of this ordinance will be available for not less than one week following the publication of this ordinance at the website address of the City of Concordia, <http://www.concordiaaks.org>. This summary is certified by the city attorney to be legally accurate and sufficient.

1m

(Published in The Concordia Blade-Empire on Monday, August 8, 2022)

Ordinance No. 2022-3191

On August 3, 2022, the City of Concordia adopted Ordinance No. 2022-3191, amending the Concordia Code to adopt the 2022 edition of the Standard Traffic Ordinance for Kansas cities. This ordinance is updated annually to conform city traffic rules to state law, with certain exceptions and additions as stated in the ordinance. The complete text of this ordinance may be obtained and viewed free of charge at the office of the city clerk. A reproduction of this ordinance will be available for not less than one week following the publication of this ordinance at the website address of the City of Concordia, <http://www.concordiaaks.org>. This summary is certified by the city attorney to be legally accurate and sufficient.

(First Published in the Concordia Blade-Empire on Wednesday, August 10, 2022)

City of Concordia Notice of Unclaimed Funds

Notice is hereby given that the City of Concordia has been holding funds for the following persons for three years or more. If said funds have not been claimed by October 17, 2022 (60 days after the final publication date), these funds will become property of the City of Concordia. These funds may be released to the depositor, their heir, beneficiary, or duly appointed representative provided a claim form has been completed and filed by the date herein with the necessary information establishing entitlement to the funds.

An Unclaimed Money Claim form is available at the City of Concordia, 701 Washington, Concordia, KS 66901 or on our website at www.concordiaaks.org. The required claim information includes name, address, phone number, tax identification/social security number, amount of claim, and grounds on which claim is founded. Once a claim is submitted, the Finance Director will determine what, if any, additional information is necessary. Proof of identity such as a copy of a driver's license, social security card or birth certificate must be provided before funds will be released.

Persons with utility funds on deposit with the City of Concordia for three years or more:

NAME	AMOUNT	NAME	AMOUNT
Shenna Carter	\$35.24	Michelle Smith	\$41.99
Leonardo Sosa Perez	\$50.57	Mitchell Clark	\$89.37
Cheyenne Trout	\$21.00	Larry Crum	\$101.16
Harlin Jensen	\$100.38	Samantha Sicard	\$55.20
Joshua Lamphier	\$134.52	Kevin Anderson	\$46.91
Melanie Mann	\$100.39	Brendan Pfizenmaier	\$90.41
Brooke Trost	\$11.63	Mercades Garrett	\$102.10
Hector Acosta	\$39.30	Chancy Gibbs	\$55.93
Bryan Robbins	\$8.15	Neal Chaput	\$102.27
Braden Bruntzel	\$13.04	Chas Justice	\$16.19
Caiten Shamburg	\$8.72	Sabrina Stolzenburg	\$7.77
Derek Kraushaar	\$87.48	Chase Mcgatin	\$104.76
Camila Crespo Martini	\$55.15	Wysdom Zerba	\$50.86
Jenna Johnson	\$4.20	Ricardos Mexican Restaurant	\$102.41
Russell Roberg	\$88.03		

Today in History

50 Years Ago August 10, 1972

Winners in the Concordia Summer Recreation tennis tournament were Dale Moon, beginner's champion; Chris Cox, fourth in boys' singles; Kyle Schmidt, doubles; Jim Floe, singles champion; Mike Sinkule, doubles and second place singles; Jon Culbertson, third place singles; Bruno Rehbein, fifth place, singles; Shelly Cl. Stensen, girls' singles champion... Army Private First Class David Darby completed advanced individual training as an armor intelligence specialist with the 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry of the 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley... Clint Eastwood starred in "Dirty Harry" at Cloud 9.

25 Years Ago August 10, 1997

Justin Hatt, son of Dr. Greg and Janice Hatt, had been interning for the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee in Washington during the summer... Sarah Cairns, Frank Carlson library aide, created a display, "An Art Collage," in and around the library's main showcase, using her own artwork, handmade pottery and photography, as well as mini art puzzles belonging to Diana Nickels, library page... Dottie Cash was running the New York Marathon in honor of her friend Alice Davis, who had battled leukemia for 21 years... Disney's "George of the Jungle" was showing at the Apollo Theater.

10 Years Ago August 10, 2012

In the six-year-old division of the Cloud County Farm Bureau pedal pull held at the Cloud County Fair, Justice Trost was the first-place winner and Hat-

tie Blackwood took second... Greg Biery, Lee Biery, Michael Biery, Marie Biery and infant Brayleigh Biery gathered for a five-generation photo... Lori Jean Womak and Cary Eugene Duvall of Concordia announced their engagement and upcoming marriage... wheat was selling at \$8.55, corn was \$7.80, and milo was \$7.54 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago August 10, 2017

New staff members at USD 333 included: Amber Hanson, Morgan Trost, Emily Erkenbrack, Rowe Hinkle, Gail Whitley, David Goodwin, Arlene Ediger, Rachel McVean and Jody Bures-Helton... Cloud County Community College restarted the women's soccer program after it was suspended in 2013... Concordia Wellness and Recreation Director Chris Curtis informed the city he would resign from his position effective September 15... wheat was selling at \$3.70, corn was \$3.21, and milo was \$3.01 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago August 10, 2021

USD 333 welcomed new staff members for the upcoming school year: Kale Katt, Chad Eshbaugh, Curtis Noon, Amy Applebee, Rachel Lord, Anna Sassman, Trey Kuhlman, Alyssa Breen, Lylie Williams, Robin Daniels, Shawn Hood, Tina Lesslie, Jordan Champlin, Dan Hyman, Brad Wildeman and Mariah Blazek... Frank Carlson Library was awarded a grant which would be used to replace aging equipment as well as to improve the library's wireless access point... wheat was selling at \$6.94, corn was \$5.99, and milo was \$5.78 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago August 17, 2017

With Larry Uri making his final appearance as city manager, the Concordia city commission appointed Stacey Smith and Amber Farha to fill in for him... Sharon Coy was celebrating her 80th birthday... Tasha Bowen had been hired as the new pharmacist at Cloud County Health Center... wheat was selling at \$3.28, corn was \$3.06, and milo was \$2.96 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago August 12, 1972

Concordia High School Student Council officers Richard Lesperance, president; vice-president Larry Metro; secretary Alice Thornton; treasurer Randy Lagasse; and StuCo sponsor Henry Baxa, attended a one-week leadership conference at the Kansas State Teachers' College in Emporia... Robert Girard was advanced to Personnelman Third Class at the Naval Air Reserve Unit, Alameda, Calif. ... Mark Coco, Sr. made a hole-in-one of the 126-yard par three eighth hole at the Concordia Country Club... Boogaart's shoppers had the choice of either white paste or mucilage, both on sale for 15 cents.

25 Years Ago August 12, 1997

Speaking to a gathering of community leaders and college staff, Charles Hein, interim president of Cloud County Community College, saw a bright future for the college, "Cloud County is lean. No frills, no over-staffing. In many cases, faculty and staff are taking on extraordinary workloads and doing so willingly and with a high level of dedication and ability"... approximately 20 people and their teddy bears attended the Teddy Bear Picnic on the Frank Carlson Library lawn, while more than 100 people signed the guest book at the Teddy Bear Reunion in the Carlson Room.

10 Years Ago August 12, 2012

Several local families were hosts to Japanese youth as part of a 4-H cultural exchange program... forty-two men, women and youth took

part in the cultural educational bus trip sponsored by K-State and Research and Extension River Valley District... Carol Arts presented the program "Bootleggers, Booze and Prohibition" when the Atheneum Club met... members of the Concordia Music Club donated \$500 to the Save Our Stage Restoration-Act II fund for the Brown Grand Theatre... wheat was selling at \$8.17, corn was \$7.60, and milo was \$7.34 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago August 12, 2017

New faculty and staff members at Cloud County Community College included: Lacy Hargitt-Pelkey, Dr. Abu Gafar M. Hossion, Sara Beikman, Michael "Kit" Thompson, Andrew Clark, Carmen Brady, Andy Myers, Danielle Arganbright, Chris Freije, Jordan Altman and Sarah Bernard-Stevens... American Legion Family Scholarships were awarded to Davin Strait, Tracer Workman, Alexia Charbonneau, Ethan Sicard, Samanthah Sicard, Trevor Lowell, and Cassidy Brown... wheat was selling at \$3.70, corn was \$3.21, and milo was \$3.01 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago August 12, 2021

It was the first day of classes for USD #333 students in grades 1-12... Cloud County Community College recognized DeeDee Coppoc and Shelly Farha for 30 years of service, while Annette Starr, Deb Taylor, and Beth Whisler were recognized for 20 years of service... wheat was selling at \$6.90, corn was \$6.06, and milo was \$5.83 per bushel on local markets.

City commission votes to proceed with housing efforts

8/19

A recognition for retiring Frank Carlson Library director Denise de Rochefort-Reynolds, approval of repairs to the Broadway Plaza video screen, and an impassioned comment from commissioner Chuck Lambertz was part of the agenda at the regularly scheduled meeting of the city commission on Wednesday evening, August 17.

During an emotional speech, de Rochefort-Reynolds thanked the city commissioners, her staff, the library patrons and library board, and the community for their support of the library during her nearly 40-year tenure. "I'm here to thank you for your constant support of the Frank Carlson Library during the entire time I have been the library director. It has been a source of inspiration and pleasure for me."

After ending her speech, de Rochefort-Reynolds received an ovation from the commissioners.

During the action item portion of the meeting, the commission voted to authorize city staff to proceed with conversations with property owners regarding property acquisition requests and to proceed with preparations necessary to secure funding for infrastructure development, including the Moderate Income Housing (MIH) grant application.

Over the past year, city staff and CloudCorp have participated in conference calls and webinars, have visited with local realtors, contractors, and employers, and have researched what other communities have done to address housing needs. The 2021 Statewide Housing Needs Assessment performed by RDG was published, and data for the north central Kansas region supports similar findings to the 2022 Con-

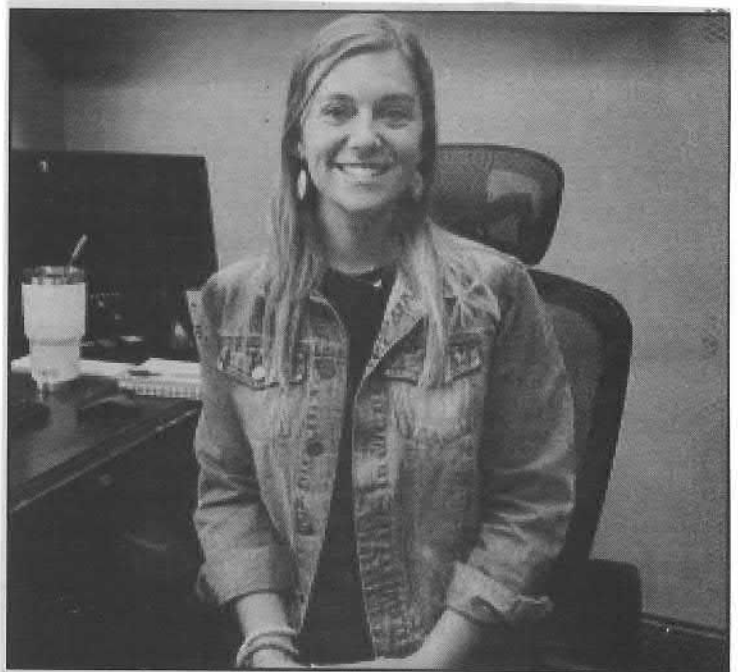
cordia Housing Study and Market Analysis performed by Five Rule Rural Planning.

The state of Kansas recently announced an infusion of \$62 million to address housing needs in Kansas over the next several years, including a higher level of funding in the MIH program.

Additional consideration is given to applications who choose to combine the use of a Rural Housing Incentive District (RHID) with the MIH grant, for which additional steps are required. The MIH grant application is due September 30, 2022.

In other action, the commission voted to approve repairing 26 modules of the Broadway Plaza video screen that were damaged during the hail storm on April 29. Apple One Media will repair the screen for a cost of \$10,692. The city expects to recoup most of the cost through insurance, minus a \$2,500 deductible.

During the mayor/commissioners comments segment of the meeting, commissioner Chuck Lambertz said, "I want to take a moment to thank my fellow commissioners I currently serve with, as well as those with whom I have served in the past, for managing ourselves in a respectful and professional manner. I think it reflects well on our city that this governing body serves with the professionalism this position warrants. I would further invite and go so far as to challenge the other governing bodies in our community (and everywhere, honestly) to hold themselves accountable, as well their fellow members who were chosen to lead this community, to serve in their capacity with the high standards of respect and professionalism our citizens deserve."



New coordinator

8/19

Mckenzie Carlgren is now on the job as the Broadway Plaza event coordinator.

Carlgren takes over as Plaza coordinator

Mckenzie (Brungardt) Carlgren is the new Broadway Plaza event coordinator and administrative assistant at CloudCorp.

"I am excited to move back to Kansas and start the new adventure of living in north central Kansas with my new hubby Dawson and our two dogs," said Carlgren.

Originally from Lawrence, Carlgren attended Fort Hays State University, and graduated in 2020 with a bachelor's degree in

construction management. She had been working as an assistant project manager for Hampton Construction in Lincoln, Nebraska.

"I love family, my friends, and my faith," Carlgren said. "In my free time I love to do outdoor things like hunt, fish, and hang out with my dog Paisley. I can't wait to meet you all and make lifelong relationships."

Carlgren began her duties on Monday, August 15.



Making the rounds

8/19

Concordia resident Chuck Lambertz, right, welcomes Mingo Maturey to Concordia Golf & Wellness. Maturey is playing golf courses across Kansas as a way to cope with the death of his wife.



On the edge

8/19

City of Concordia employee Aaron Hake edges along a sidewalk on College Drive Friday morning. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)

Today in History

50 Years Ago

August 22, 1972

New faces in Unified School District 333 included: Mrs. Joyce Menzies; Mr. Lonnie E. Miner; Mrs. Juanita Buckland; Mr. Andrew Carrier; Mrs. Wendy Morton; Mr. Ernest Mikesell; Mrs. Mary Ann Lagemann; Mr. Dennis Sadler; Mrs. Terry Cox; Mr. Charles McMillan; Miss Carol Janke; Mrs. Sandra Graves; Mrs. Nadine Southwick; Mr. Richard Lowery; Mr. John McDonald; Mrs. Delores Erickson; and Mrs. Charles Kerr... the season's final concert by the Concordia City Band featured a flute trio of Shelly Wiegand, Janet Wilson and Janet Goodwin and pieces by Mrs. Robert Wiegand on the marimba.

25 Years Ago

August 22, 1997

The Cloud County Health Center Board of Trustees voted to re-open labor and delivery services at the health center, having been closed in 1993 because there were no family practitioners who would do obstetrics... the Concordia High School Dance Squad, with members Elizabeth Anderson, Jamie Snyder, Lori Rittel, Cressie Simoneau, Erin Trost, Jenny Strecker, April Girard, Jeni Rittel, Becky Derousseau, Lindsey Pounds, Jennifer Lowell and Jenny Smith, took honors at Universal Dance Camp at Bethany College, Lindsborg... Jami Istas was crowned 1997 North Central Kansas Rodeo queen.

10 Years Ago

August 22, 2012

A Concordia Area Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting marked the grand opening of Marla's Joy Tea House... Jennifer and Christopher Rupert announced the birth of their son, Tren-

ton Lane... contestants in the CASA fundraiser "Men in Tights" were: Wynonna Hot-house (Bruce Brown); Treena Turner (Shane Kisby); Ember Flame (Jim Menard); Janita Varant (Jon Strowig); Ida B. Da'chief' (Chris Edin); and Amenda Boo Boo (Ed Dodge)... wheat was selling at \$8.47, corn was \$7.99, and milo was \$7.57 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago

August 22, 2017

Thousands of travelers who were heading north on U.S. Highway 81 to view the solar eclipse had traffic backed up in Concordia from Sixth Street to south of Walmart, and Susie Haver at the Cloud County Convention & Tourism office counted 452 cars passing by in a span of five minutes.... Concordia Elementary School third-grader Isaac Schneider described the solar eclipse as looking like "a pumpkin smiling"... wheat was selling at \$3.23, corn was \$3.03, and milo was \$2.93 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago

August 22, 2021

A request to apply for an American Rescue Plan Act Economic Adjustment Assistance grant provided by the Economic Development Administration to assist in the construction of a new technical educational facility was approved by the Cloud County Community College board of trustees... John and Mary Schmitt celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a luncheon and public reception... Ina Garrison celebrated her 85th birthday with an open house at the Clyde Senior Center... wheat was selling at \$6.78, corn was \$5.73, and milo was \$5.41 per bushel on local markets.

City receives \$500,000 ^{8/24} grant for ladder truck

The city of Concordia will be receiving a \$500,000 grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to be used to help purchase a ladder truck for the Fire Department.

USDA Kansas director for rural development Christy Davis announced on Wednesday the investment of \$639,854 in emergency preparedness and clean energy in rural Kansas.

Among the grant recipients is the city of Concordia.

The Concordia city commission was informed in October 2021 that the city was going to apply for funding for the purchase of a replacement ladder truck.

The current ladder truck is a 1999 model and was purchased by the city in 2001.

It was reported to the commissioners that when a ladder truck reaches an age of 25 years it is no longer counted as a ladder truck for the purchase of the community's Insurance Services Office rating, which determines the property insurance premium rate paid by property owners based on the assigned fire agency's ability to respond to a fire emergency with respect to staffing, training, tactical operations and equipment.

When combined with modifications and response protocols, the purchase of a new ladder truck has the potential to reduce property insurance premiums for homes and businesses.

The estimated cost of the replacement ladder truck, which will be similar in functionality to the current truck with a 500-gallon water tank and a 1,500 gallon-per-minute water pump, was placed at \$1,120,000.

The North Central Regional Planning Commission has worked on the city's behalf to secure funding to purchase the replacement ladder truck.

In February of this year, the city of Concordia was awarded a \$560,000 Community Development Block Grant for the purchase of the ladder truck.

The city also received a \$30,000 grant from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation.

City manager Amy Lange reported that because of the grant awards, the city's local match obligation is only \$30,000.

Bids for the ladder truck will be solicited later this month.

Action by the city commission on the purchase of the truck is expected in October.

Because of the long lead time on that type of equipment, the city expects the truck to arrive in late 2023 or early 2024.

Today in History

5 Years Ago
August 24, 2017

Chris Atkins had been hired as the city of Concordia Wellness and Recreation director to replace Chris Curtis... Michael and Leah Loring announced the birth of their daughter, Ensley Marie... winners in the Blade-Empire coloring contest were: first place, Megan Esser; second place, Gwydotta Ukens; third place, Rocky Zachary, Mary Blochlinger, Myrna Campbell, Tari Kadel, Phyllis Ostrom and James Whitesell... wheat was selling at \$3.14, corn was \$3.01, and milo was \$2.91 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago
August 26, 1972

Concordia had been selected as the location for one of six regional headquarter offices of the Forestry, Fish and Game Commission... Fidelity Bank's Pony League ball team, with members Mike Sinkule, John Nuss, Larry Hamel, Corey Cook, Andy Carrier, John Bisnette, Jim Metro, John Rasure, Mike Jager, Terry Smith, Jimmy Floe, Tony Meyer, Richard Castonguay, Mike Predmore, and Coach Wilson Floe, was winner of the Northern Division of the Tri-County Pony League and second-place winner of the Tri-County Pony League tournament... satin coiffure pillows were selling for \$1.16 at Gibson's.

25 Years Ago
August 26, 1997

Tower Productions of Chicago, producing a documentary on the life of Ma Barker, was in Concordia filming the moving mechanism of the vault at The Citizens National Bank (formerly Cloud County Bank), as the 1932 robbery of the Concordia bank would be part of the story... Gene Gannstrom donated his 120th unit of blood to the Red Cross Bloodmobile, making him a 15 gallon donor... Concordian Natalie Post, and Randy Lagasse, formerly of Concordia, would be singing at the Farm Bureau Arena in Hutchinson during the Kansas State Fair.

10 Years Ago
August 26, 2012

State Rep. Elaine Bowers (R-Concordia) joined members of the military community to induct a Concor-

dia native, Col. Cliff Silsby (Ret.), into the Kansas National Guard Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame... Dorothy Revell celebrated her 80th birthday... the Concordia Fire Department held their Muscular Dystrophy Boot Drive at the intersection of 11th and Lincoln streets... wheat was selling at \$8.41, corn was \$7.92, and milo was \$7.49 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago
August 26, 2017

Members of Boy Scout Troop 38 and their families kicked off the new school year with a Camping Jamboree at Ottawa State Fishing Lake... River Valley District-Concordia 4-H junior leaders who traveled to Albuquerque for sightseeing and learning included Rachelle Anderson, Macy McMillan, Jenna Fredrickson, Abby Fredrickson, Gunner Boden, Lane Martin, Emily Daniels, Cole Stahlman, Teresa Barnes, Jessica Dethloff and Hali Buckley... wheat was selling at \$3.13, corn was \$2.97, and milo was \$2.87 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago
August 26, 2021

In the adult division at the Cloud County Fair, Danny McReynolds won two purple, one grand champion, one best of fair, and two blue ribbons for his quilts... in the 18-and-under youth class at the Cloud County Fair, Deagan DeGraff won best of fair in the crafts and hobbies division... wheat was selling at \$6.84, corn was \$5.75, and milo was \$5.50 per bushel on local markets.

50 Years Ago
August 29, 1972

A Sunday afternoon Eagle Court of Honor honored Curtis Wilson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Wilson, as he joined the ranks of Eagle Scouts... SN Kent Thoman, who was stationed in Hawaii, was in Concordia to attend the wedding of Janice Hamel and John Strait, and while in town, visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Delmer Thoman... a family picnic was held at Bennington Lake honoring the birthdays of Jim, Tom and Tony Bieker, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Omer Bieker... Sylvania p-14 Flash Cubes were selling for 69 cents at Boogaart's.

25 Years Ago
August 29, 1997

Dr. Cheri Peterson, a family practitioner, joined the physicians at Cloud County Medical Surgical Associates, LLC... Tim Halfhide sang "The Star Spangled Banner" at the 1997 Relay for Life... Master Sgt. Tim and DeNetta Ingram and sons, Connor and Jerret, stopped at the home of DeNetta's father, Meo Brichalli, while en route from Holloman AFB, New Mexico, to Germany... volunteers who helped Cloud County Community College with the "Scholarship Roundup" included Kent Buer, Joe Goedert, Larry Henry, Judy Kircher, Paul Nordell, Bobbie Paulsen, Dru Richard and Joe Strecker.

10 Years Ago
August 29, 2012

Due to a hazard placed on Cloud County Community College's wind turbines by the Federal Aviation Administration, the college board of

trustees approved lowering two of its wind turbines... Janita Varant (Jon Strowig) was crowned Miss NCK CASA 2012 during Men in Tights Take IX... Linda Kindel, Concordia, announced the engagement of her daughter, Chelsey Kindel, to Levi Simon of Quinter... wheat was selling at \$8.38, corn was \$7.80, and milo was \$7.41 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago
August 29, 2017

The National Orphan Train Complex unveiled the statue of Orphan Train Rider Anna Fuchs in front of the Majestic Theatre... red dirt country music wrapped up the Broadway Plaza's 2017 Concert Season with a performance by Mountain Deer Revival... Morgan Berk and Casey Henderson invited family and friends to their wedding dance at the Cloud County Fairgrounds... wheat was selling at \$3.20, corn was \$2.94, and milo was \$2.84 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago
August 29, 2021

The thousands of people who attended the 35th Annual Historical Construction Equipment Association International Convention and Old Equipment Exposition, "The Big Dig," had an opportunity to see all kinds of equipment, some of it more than 100 years old, at work at Kurt Kocher's farm, located south of Concordia... Mike Gennette celebrated his 80th birthday... wheat was selling at \$6.84, corn was \$5.75, and milo was \$5.50 per bushel on local markets.

(Published in the Concordia Blade-Empire on Friday, August 26, 2022)

NOTICE TO BID

The City of Concordia is accepting bids for a Heavy Duty Aerial Ladder Truck. This truck shall include a minimum 100' ladder, minimum 1,500 gpm pump, and minimum 750-gallon water tank. Information for Bidders, Bid Schedule Form, Contract, Technical Specifications, Bid Bond Forms, and other contract documents are available via email only from Eric Voss (Concordia Fire Chief) firechief@concordiakks.org or Amanda Horn (Project Administrator, NCRPC) communitydevelopment@ncrpc.org.

Sealed bids shall be submitted to the Fire Department, 701 Washington, Concordia, Kansas 66901. All bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Fire Truck Bid". Bids must be submitted no later than **2:00 P.M. Monday, October 10, 2022**. All bids must be made on the official "Bid Schedule" form supplied in the Contract Documents. Bids received after the 2:00 P.M. deadline will be returned to the bidder un-opened. Fax bids will not be accepted. The City of Concordia is an equal opportunity employer.

COME WORK FOR THE CITY OF CONCORDIA!

Be a part of a winning team. Excellent benefits, great pay.

8/30

We're seeking to fill the following positions:

MUNICIPAL SERVICE/OPERATOR – STREETS

Assist in the maintenance or construction of streets, alleys, storm sewers and traffic control devices, operate dump trucks and snow plow equipment, perform manual labor on projects and maintenance duties, may assist maintenance technician on repairs to department vehicles and equipment. Operates other equipment as needed.

DISPATCHER

Provide two-way radio communications for public safety departments, 911 and administrative telephone services for Cloud County residents and first responders. Maintain Concordia Police Department records.

POLICE OFFICER

Perform general duty police work consisting of patrol work on an assigned shift, preliminary investigation, and miscellaneous duties. Must be at least 21 years old.

All positions have excellent benefits, including 100% paid health insurance for the employee. Physical agility and drug screening tests will follow all conditional offers of employment. Complete job description and applications are available online at: www.concordiakansas.org, or contact:

City Clerk's Office, 701 Washington, 785-243-2670.

Reasonable accommodations are available for persons needing assistance.

Positions will be open until filled. EOE



Today in History

50 Years Ago August 31, 1972

Peter Jewett, lecturer and counselor in the field of extrasensory perception (ESP), was the speaker at an introductory meeting of the Inner Peace Movement, an educational, nonprofit organization whose purpose was to help man identify and balance the mental, spiritual and physical forces in his life... Alice Thornton of Concordia was participating in the Kansas FFA Sweet-heart contest, formerly the Kansas Dairy Princess contest, at the State Fair, with the crowning taking place preceding the Variety Show, featuring Pat Boone... STP was 67 cents at Gibson's.

25 Years Ago August 31, 1997

Dennis Knapp, employed at Sunset Home for 28 years, was chosen Employee of the Month for September... the Cloud County Community College men's soccer team had five different players score as they opened their season with a 5-0 victory over Manhattan Christian College... E.J. and Katrina Workman announced the birth of their son, Edwin Louis Workman III (Trey)... the movie "Kull the Conqueror" was showing at the Apollo Theater.

10 Years Ago August 31, 2012

R. P. Smith, fourth generation rancher and cowboy poet from Broken Bow, Neb., entertained Cloud County Farm Bureau Association members at their 97th Annual Meeting... Gino Brichalli planted 10 hills of sweet potatoes and

was surprised to find, in the second hill he dug, one large potato weighing 22 pounds, 20 inches in circumference and nearly a foot long, with 11 regular-sized potatoes attached... wheat was selling at \$8.51, corn was \$7.93, and milo was \$7.45 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago August 31, 2017

The Moose Lodge donated \$1,000 to the Concordia Elementary School for the purchase of school supplies, raising the funds by sponsoring the "Dennis The Menace" movie at the Broadway Plaza, and offering a free meal to anyone in exchange for a donation to the school... George and Nancy (Paul) Champlin celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary... rattling off five straight wins without dropping a set, the Concordia High School volleyball team placed first in the Marysville Invitation... wheat was selling at \$3.10, corn was \$2.91, and milo was \$2.86 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago August 31, 2021

Concordia city attorney Justin Ferrell spoke to Concordia High School students in grades 9-12 about the law and how it relates to social media, texting and other forms of communications... Rio Brown, having served as assistant coach for two years and head coach from 2011 to 2018, returned to coach the 2021 Panther volleyball team... wheat was selling at \$6.94, corn was \$5.38, and milo was \$5.58 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago September 2, 1972

Mrs. Quentin Nault, chairman of the membership drive for the St. Joseph Hospital Auxiliary, and her workers secured 500 memberships for the year just ending and hope to have a membership of 500 next year... the Concordia American Legion softball team, with LeRoy Tholstrup pitching, Jim James and Roger Garlow catching, and other members, Joe Anderson, Gary Bogart, Mick Bourne, Eldon Wisdom, Norman Hayden, Dale Garlow, Sheldon Hiatt, Terry Dale, Larry Elniff and Rich Linton, captured first place in the first American Legion State softball tournament at McPherson.

25 Years Ago September 2, 1997

Work was continuing on the new Casey's convenience store being constructed in the 1300 block of Lincoln Street... after a year of training, Schendel Services owner Tom Zugelder and employees Mike Lambert and Martin Newlin had been approved by DowElanco to apply the new Sentricon colony elimination system, a new approach to termite treatment... weighing in at 101 ½ pounds, Maynard Rott's watermelon was the largest at the 1997 Clyde Watermelon Festival... Wendell and Carolyn Urban celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary.

10 Years Ago September 2, 2012

Alex Kaufmann, Christian Hanson and Angel Hale were, respectively, the first, second and third-place winners in the Farm Bureau 4-H photo contest... Court-

ney Monzon, Katie Lambert and Katie Thompson recorded top 10 finishes to lead the Concordia Panthers to the team title in the cross country invitational they hosted at the Concordia American Legion Golf Course... wheat was selling at \$8.51, corn was \$7.93, and milo was \$7.45 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago September 2, 2017

Dirt work was beginning on the Kansas Department of Transportation pedestrian and bicycle path in Concordia's South Development... Crunch for a Cause at Taco John's raised \$105 dollars for Boy Scouts Troop 38's fundraising efforts to buy a couple of kayaks for troop use... winning its own tournament, Concordia High School had Abby Donovan, Katie Donovan and Lauren Trecek place first, second and third, respectively, in the team's first tournament of the season... wheat was selling at \$3.12, corn was \$2.99, and milo was \$2.89 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago September 2, 2021

Moody Hue celebrated its fifth anniversary with an open house... the Kansas Department of Transportation and Kansas Department of Agriculture hosted a workshop in Concordia for agriculture producers to learn about a pilot program, Heartland Opportunities, Markets and Environment, that would provide high-speed internet access to farms located along routes on U.S. Highway 81... wheat was selling at \$6.84, corn was \$5.20, and milo was \$5.45 per bushel on local markets.

CCHC to donate land to city for housing

9/2
The Cloud County Health Center board of trustees, by a unanimous vote, approved the gift of the land where the existing hospital is located to the city of Concordia land bank for the purpose of developing moderate to high income housing.

Cloud County Health Center will be opening its new hospital, under the new name North Central Kansas Medical Center, on College Drive later this fall. The existing hospital building will be razed, creating useable acreage, at the end of the year and into early 2023.

The city of Concordia, in

partnership with CloudCorp, released a study that was completed by FIVE RULE Rural Planning, Kearney, Neb., in August.

Bobbi Pettit, founder of FIVE RULE Rural Planning, informed the members of the Concordia city commission that the study revealed a deficit in moderate income and higher income housing.

The state of Kansas and federal definition of moderate income within the community, for a family of four, is a household income range of approximately \$52,500 to \$130,000.

High income housing is defined as houses that are valued at over \$200,000.

Earlier this year, the Kansas legislature allocated funding for rural moderate incoming housing. The applications to utilize the funds are due September 30.

In order to qualify for the grant fund, the city of Concordia must identify land to build a subdivision on or provide existing lots to us for infill in neighborhood.

Grant candidates must also demonstrate local partnerships and local resources available to

supplement the grant funds.

"It is our hope to use the land in way that could benefit the entire community," Cloud County Health Center board of trustees president Phil Gilliland, said, "Housing isn't just a need for the hospital, but a need for every employer in the county. We have a golden opportunity to grow our community and our tax base in a way that we haven't in decades. The board of trustees are pleased to take that first step and encourage all of our partners to find a way to contribute to this worthy project."

NOTICE - THE CITY TREE DUMP IS NOT FOR PUBLIC USE. 9/10

Non-City personnel are not allowed through the gate at the City shop.

Please be aware that to enter will be considered trespassing.

We understand that this dump has been used for several years by our residents, but due to safety and insurance reasons we cannot allow the practice to continue.

Please use the county landfill on Noble Road if you have limbs, leaves, or grass to dispose of.

City commission reject bids to shorten runway

Shortening the crosswind runway at Blosser Municipal Airport, and the appointment of two delegates to the League of Kansas Municipalities (LKM) Annual Conference were two of the action items discussed and voted on during the city commission meeting held Wednesday.

Fuller Bates, the director of public works, announced that a bid letting had been held on August 29 for the shortening of the crosswind runway at Blosser Municipal Airport. Five companies bid for the project, with a wide range of pricing. Cheney Construction of Manhattan bid \$296,516, and Benesch Co. bid \$30,000.

Bates stated that all the bids were much higher than expected, which he attributed to hauling the soil to a location the city uses to stockpile dirt.

Upon the recommendation of Bates, the city commission voted to reject all bids and look into alternative possibilities for shortening the crosswind runway.

In other action, the commission voted to appoint mayor pro tem Ragenia Belden and city manager Amy Lange as voting delegates during the 2022 LKM Annual Conference.

Each year the city of Concordia appoints voting delegates to vote on matters of the membership of the LKM. Specifically, votes of the LKM member cities are required for changes to the LKM Statement of Municipal Policy (SMP) which guides lobbying action for the upcoming legislative session. Votes are also required for any proposed changes to the LKM by-laws.

Votes are typically held during the LKM Annual Conference held each October. Based on its current population, the City of Concordia is allowed two votes and may name one alternate. These voting delegates may be commissioners or city staff members, but voting delegates must attend the LKM Conference; no proxy votes are permitted.

Today in History

50 Years Ago September 12, 1972

Miss Gladys Hatfield, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Hatfield, Concordia, was sworn into the Army and would be trained in the administration and personnel management field... Mr. and Mrs. Delmer Vignery had selected the name Christopher Michael for their son... Doug Herman, Concordia sophomore, paced the Cloud County Community College T-Bird's with four goals, tying the single game scoring record, as the Thunderbird soccer team opened the season with an 8-0 victory over Kansas Technical Institute... Silly Putty was selling for 53 cents at Duck-wall's.

25 Years Ago September 12, 1997

The top three luminary sales persons for the Second Annual Cloud County Relay for Life were Shirley Nelson, Julie Cory and Ann Lanoue... Concordian Matt Reif, Kansas State graduate student in mechanical engineering, helped steer K-State into a national solar car contest... Joel Laas, a 6-2, 180-pound senior offensive and defensive end on the football team, had been chosen as the Bill Summers Concordia High School Player of the Week.

10 Years Ago September 12, 2012

Fernando the chinchilla was a special guest at the Reading with Leaders when Anita Butler, reader and a staff member of Rolling Hills Wildlife, brought Fernando for the children to meet and greet... Bob Largent was

celebrating his 80th birthday... Michael Owen was a guest of the POW Camp Concordia Preservation Society and gave a presentation on ships in bottles, displaying eight examples, some of which were made by German POWs... wheat was selling at \$8.73, corn was \$7.70, and milo was \$7.45 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago September 12, 2017

The first Strategic Doing county-wide meeting had 62 people in attendance at the Nazareth Motherhouse, where leader Betty Johnson had those in attendance identify the county's strengths, weaknesses, dangers and opportunities of success... an effort by Cloud County Health Center to construct a stat care clinic in Concordia suffered a setback when an application from CCHC was not among the nonprofits awarded the Community Service Tax Credits by the Department of Commerce... wheat was selling at \$3.41, corn was \$3.08, and milo was \$3.03 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago September 12, 2021

Easy G Sports Grill celebrated its fifth anniversary and the public was invited to the party, including a golf tournament, mountain oyster eating contest, karaoke, and prizes... Cloud County Community College's contents of the 1971 Centennial time capsule were on display in the college's library... wheat was selling at \$6.89, corn was \$4.93, and milo was \$5.13 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago September 14, 1972

After a week of tryouts, Donald Ohlsen, Concordia High School director of vocal music, announced the members of the Girls' Ensemble: Tammy Bemis, Debbie Adams, Shelby Wiegand, Jan Blackburn, Pam Johnson, Lynne Pettygrove, Jean Darby, Mara Rasure and Diane Brewer... Miss Marilyn Martin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Martin, was sworn into the U. S. Army... Mrs. Lonnie Bachand, the former Jean Wiesner, successfully passed her State Board licensing examination in nursing at Topeka and was employed at St. Joseph Hospital... a sample size of Alurex was 19 cents at Palmquist's.

25 Years Ago September 14, 1997

The Sisters and employees who participated in the Motherhouse "Stride with Pride" walking challenge included Bev Caron, first place; Carlene Olsson, second place; and Susan LeDuc, third place... Sheriff Larry Bergstrom gave Boy Scout Troop 31 members Matthew Deaver, Aaron Bombardier, Justin Walker, Clinton Fraser, Jessie Wetzel, Austin Christensen, Matthew Nelson, Spencer Olson, John Christensen, Trevor Herrman, T. Jay Kalthoff, Martin Molter, Dustin Thomas, Brandon Brundridge, Blake Brewer, Luke Collins and Marc Collins a tour of the Cloud County jail facilities.

10 Years Ago September 14, 2012

The Concordia animal control officer faced an unusual task when she got a call that a large snapping turtle had parked itself in

the street at the intersection of Eighth and State streets... homecoming activities at Cloud County Community College included a concert by "Six Appeal," an a cappella singing group singing classic oldies, popular songs and catchy original tunes... wheat was selling at \$8.54, corn was \$7.48, and milo was \$7.23 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago September 14, 2017

Concordia firefighters walked the steps at Harold M. Clark Stadium on September 11 to honor those first responders who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001... the Concordia High School volleyball team was the winning team in the Southeast Invitational... Katie Donovan, a sophomore on the CHS golf team, was selected as the CHS Athlete of the Week... wheat was selling at \$3.41, corn was \$3.08, and milo was \$3.03 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago September 14, 2021

Dr. Dorothy Breault, a family practice physician at the Family Care Center, had been elected as the District 5 director to the board of directors of the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians... local artists displayed their work during the first official Concordia Art Walk, held at the Broadway Plaza... with three runners placing in the top 10, the Cloud County Community College men's cross country team opened its season by winning the Terry Masterson Twilight Classic run in Hutchinson... wheat was selling at \$6.75, corn was \$4.91, and milo was \$5.11 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago September 16, 1972

As predicted, official word came that the Concordia sectional center and the detached mail unit would be closed and combined with the Salina Sectional Center... blue ribbon winners in sewing from Cloud County at Mid-America Fair in Topeka included Sherri Coy and Beth Morrison, who displayed articles made with straight stitching; Nancy Kady, Teresa Henderson, Debra Lynn Turner, Tami Morgan, simple blouses, skirts, jumpers, vests; Judy Sisler, two-piece outfit for school; Roxann Lovseth, Mary Ann Hart, garment for a child; Sheila McKain, article made with pattern stitch.

25 Years Ago September 16, 1997

American Legion Auxiliary members Gwen Trost and Laura Christensen attended the National Convention in Orlando, Fla., where Bob Dole was a guest speaker, also receiving the Legion Distinguished Service Award... teaming up for the first time, Concordia High School's Amy Link and Peggy Lervold captured first place in number two doubles at the Belleville Tennis Quadrangular... Chris Burns, Elmo St. Pierre and Theresa Metro were the hole-in-one winners, winning a golf glove, in a competition at the Rolling Hills Driving Range.

10 Years Ago September 16, 2012

Dr. Randall Hobrock of Tallgrass Veterinary Hospital made a donation to the Concordia FFA for the Chapter's upcoming trip to Indianapolis for the FFA Na-

tional Convention... Justus Trost won the six-year-old division of the State Pedal Tractor Pull at the Hutchinson State Fair and would move on to compete in the National Pedal Pull in South Dakota... Rachele Anderson, Vaughn Stull and Ava Stull were among youth from 91 counties who entered animals in the 80th Kansas Junior Livestock Show... wheat was selling at \$8.63, corn was \$7.40, and milo was \$7.15 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago September 16, 2017

Superintendent of schools Quentin Breese presented the USD 333 board of education with information and cost estimates on replacing the existing track and installing a synthetic turf football field... Autumn Rose Sicard and Gage Dakota Cress announced their engagement and plans to marry on October 7 at Airport Park in Concordia... with Kira Kearn leading the team with 17 service points, the Concordia eighth grade volleyball team defeated Republic County... wheat was selling at \$3.39, corn was \$2.99, and milo was \$2.94 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago September 16, 2021

Marquis Place announced the upcoming construction of a new Memory Care addition which would provide the latest technology in dementia care... Kevin Rule had been hired as assistant softball coach at Cloud County Community College... wheat was selling at \$6.53, corn was \$4.90, and milo was \$5.10 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago September 19, 1972

The Concordia High School band, under the direction of Robert S. Ensign, was one of 68 Kansas high school bands participating in Kansas State University's annual Band Day activities, with approximately 4800 band members, twirlers and directors... James Mosher enlisted in the U. S. Army for diesel mechanic school and Dale Revell enlisted in the U. S. Army for engineer heavy equipment operator... Margaret Letourneau defeated Pete Danenbarger to win the Concordia Women's Golf association tournament... "Joe Kidd," starring Clint Eastwood, was showing at the Grand Theater.

25 Years Ago September 19, 1997

Concordia city officials included: Greg Hattan, mayor; LaVern Robbins, city commissioner; Isadore Bombardier, city commissioner; Dave Retter, acting city manager/city attorney; Cheryl Lanoue, city clerk; Burl Maley, police chief; Bob Burns, acting fire chief; Judith McKee, director of public grounds; Tom Fisher, director of public works; Larry Remmenga, director of utilities... Mike and Margie Higgins observed their 25th wedding anniversary... Lori Rittel, daughter of Kevin and Debbie Honeycutt, had been selected as Concordia High School Student of the Month.

10 Years Ago September 19, 2012

Concordia Talk of the Town Club hosted a presentation, "From Fatherland to Farmland: German POWs in the Great Plains," with Matthew Thompson, registrar at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Museum in Abilene... Richard and

Jennifer Ramsey celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary with a dinner for the immediate family and an open house... 15th Annual Fall Days at Grassland Gardens included a lunch served by Lazy S Farms... wheat was selling at \$8.73, corn was \$7.44, and milo was \$7.19 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago September 19, 2017

Carlee Baumann returned to her roots to take over as manager at AuBurn Pharmacy... the Brosseau Family Trust presented a check of \$100,500 to the Community Foundation for Cloud County (CFCC) for the benefit of the Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish... Jenna Bloomer placed first in number one singles to lead the Concordia High School girl's tennis team to a second-place finish in the Phillipsburg Quadrangular... wheat was selling at \$3.44, corn was \$3.02, and milo was \$2.97 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago September 19, 2021

Lowell May and his wife Janice towed the POW Camp Concordia Museum's SEEP to Sheridan, Montana, where it would undergo a complete restoration, predicated to take two years... Shanna Sulanka recorded one win in number two singles for the Concordia High School junior varsity girls' tennis team in the Marysville quadrangular... Drake Blochlinger and Grayson Stephens combined for five touchdowns to lead the Concordia eighth grade football team to a 36-0 victory over Clay Center... wheat was selling at \$6.56, corn was \$5.00, and milo was \$5.20 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago September 21, 1972

Army Private James Lervold, 18, recently completed eight weeks of basic training at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo... members of the Concordia High School football team were Bob Tracy, Jerry Johnston, Bob Strait, Roger Culbertson, Larry Walton, Gary Moore, Larry Metro, Mike McMenomey, Bill Garlow, Bill Istas, Richard Lesperance, Richard Hattan, Bob Champlin, Kevin Cailteux, Brad Turner, David Lesperance, Mark Runge, Mike O'Connor, Tom Istas, Bill Ross, Fred Foster, Bruce Nobert, Linden Tracy, Peter Hish, David Martin, Scott Cailteux, Joel Davenport, Bryan Deal.

25 Years Ago September 21, 1997

As part of the Brown Grand Theatre's 90th birthday celebration, "Concordia Moviehome News," filmed from 1939-41, was shown, with some of the eighty sequences including a tour of the recently built Cloud County Jail, kids at the new swimming pool, parades, speeches at the City Bandshell, scenes at the Burge Cafe, Martin's Drug Store, high school activities, Ban Johnson baseball, the Gillan Bakery bowling team and a Lions Club beauty contest at the Brown Grand... Matt Bartz placed first in the boy's 14-15 division of the local NFL Gatorade Punt, Pass and Kick contest.

10 Years Ago September 21, 2012

Cloud County commissioners Gary Caspers, Johnita Crawford and Gail Engle, along with Sheriff Brian Marks, broke ground for construction of a new law enforcement center

and jail... top spellers at Concordia Middle School, who would compete in the Cloud County Spelling Bee in Miltonvale included Janessa Ade (champion), Tim Peltier (runner-up), Kaitlynn Miller, Kaitlen Riley, Heather Murphy (alternate), Desiree Hemenway and Nathan Lawrence... wheat was selling at \$8.44, corn was \$7.10, and milo was \$6.85 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago September 21, 2017

Painted Lady butterflies were swarming over much of the area as part of their annual migration, the largest migration in thirty to thirty-five years, according to Chip Taylor, Professor Emeritus at the University of Kansas... Concordia Elementary Students of the Month for August/September were Baylen Arnold, Keri Farmer and Addison Forshee... Rusty and Nancy Greenwood grew a 2.5 pound sweet potato in their garden... wheat was selling at \$3.40, corn was \$2.98, and milo was \$2.93 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago September 21, 2021

Homecoming royalty candidates for Concordia High School were Juana Ayala, Ashley Bartlett, Tessa Christensen, Maddie Schlyer, McKenzie Widen, Keyan Miller, Aidan Poore, Cav Carlgren, Dalton Owen, Taye Retter; Juana Ayala and Keyan Miller were crowned king and queen... winning all three matches, CHS senior Riley McMillan placed first in number one singles in the Phillipsburg Quadrangular... wheat was selling at \$6.72, corn was \$5.05, and milo was \$5.20 per bushel on local markets.

City approves agreement with CCHC

A development agreement with the Cloud County Health Center, and an ordinance closing a portion of Broadway Street for Fall Fest activities were two of the action items discussed and approved by the city commission during its regular meeting Wednesday.

Mayor Ashley Hutchinson signed a proclamation declaring the week of September 17-23 as Constitution Week in Concordia.

During the action item portion of the meeting, the commission voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2022-2139 which adopts the Concordia Housing Study and Market Analysis prepared by FIVE Rule Rural Planning as guidance for future housing development in Concordia.

In another action, the commission voted to approve a development agreement with the Cloud County Health Center, Inc. for the donation of



Constitution Week

Fourth grade students from the Concordia Elementary School recited the Preamble to the Constitution to open the city commission meeting on Wednesday evening. The week of September 17-23 is Constitution Week in Concordia.

property for the purpose of a new housing development in Concordia.

The 2022 Housing Study and Market Analysis revealed a shortage of 245 moderate-income homes and 12 high-income homes in Concordia. This study also included a rec-

ommendation for the potential re-purposing of property owned by Cloud County Health Center, Inc. for housing to address this need.

On August 26, 2022, city and CloudCorp staff offered a proposal for housing on this property that included 11

Through the activation of the Community Resources Committee of CloudCorp, local expertise and interest in housing development in Concordia have been channeled toward this project. As a result, CloudCorp will be listed as the developer with the city providing a supporting role within this MIH grant proposal. If awarded, a portion of the grant funds will be used to pay for construction materials costs, thereby minimizing financing costs and risk of local contractors building new moderate-income homes in

both the anticipated new subdivision and infill lots throughout the community. A portion of the grant funds will also be used for property acquisition costs (infill lots) and down payment assistance for homebuyers (new subdivision and infill lots) in an effort to keep these new homes affordable for moderate-income earners.

Specifically, the target mortgage for these new MIH homes will be \$200,000 or less depending on homebuyer qualifications and available equity.

moderate-income single-family homes and three-to-four high-income single-family homes. The Cloud County Health Center board of trustees desired a viable reuse of the current hospital property in a manner that improves the community, and responded favorably, voting to donate approximately eight acres to the Concordia Land Bank for the purpose of a new housing development in Concordia.

The current hospital site commonly known as 1100 Highland Drive and Lots 1-7 of Lost Creek Hills Addition will be donated. The city will have eighteen months to commence construction and proceed with due diligence, or the hospital may reacquire the property at no cost. The city bears responsibility for the costs of the project; the hospital has no financial obligation.

(see City on page 10)

The MIH grant proposal is being written for 15 new MIH homes to be built over the course of six years. The new homebuyers will be required to prove their income falls within the moderate-income range for Cloud County, and if they choose to sell the home within five years, they will be required to repay a pro-rated portion of the MIH grants funds used to construct their home.

In other action, the commission approved Ordinance 2022-3192 authorizing the sale and consumption of alcohol on Broadway Street between Sixth Street and

the alley between 2 p.m. Saturday, September 24, 2022 and 12:00 a.m. Sunday, September 25, 2022, as an extension of the All-Class Reunion.

Authorization for a special event on a public street was requested to expand the boundaries of the All-Class Reunion held at Broadway Plaza as part of Concordia's Fall Fest celebration. Specifically, the request is to close Broadway Street to vehicular traffic between Sixth Street and the alley and allow the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages.

City Code Section 3-203 permits the consumption of alcoholic beverages within Broadway Plaza, as determined by the executive director of CloudCorp per the Broadway Plaza management agreement, paragraph 5.

Street closure requests for special events are authorized by the city public works director following consultation with the police and fire chiefs. State and U.S. Highways are not closed as a general practice.

If alcohol will be possessed or consumed in a street that has been closed for a special event, the City Commission must approve an ordinance specifically authorizing the special event. Then a temporary permit must be approved

by the ABC. Additionally, the organization or business providing or selling the alcohol within the special event boundary must be properly licensed by the ABC. In this case, the vendor has a catering license that covers special events, and no other permit is required.

The city's liability is limited to premise liability, such as slips and falls, if the city is not selling alcohol. The vendor selling alcohol are liable for 1) selling to minors, 2) knowingly allowing over-consumption of alcohol by a patron, 3) and other violations of liquor laws.

In its final action of the evening, the commission approved the 2022 cereal malt beverage license for the Country Honk Tonk, located at 418 Broadway Street.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-2141

A RESOLUTION MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS AS TO THE NEED FOR HOUSING WITHIN THE CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS AND SETTING FORTH THE LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF REAL PROPERTY PROPOSED TO BE DESIGNATED AS A RURAL HOUSING INCENTIVE DISTRICT WITHIN THE CITY.

WHEREAS, K.S.A. 12-5241 *et seq.*, as amended (the "Act") authorizes any city incorporated in accordance with the laws of the state of Kansas (the "State") with a population of less than 60,000 to designate rural housing incentive districts within such city; and

WHEREAS, prior to such designation the governing body of such city shall conduct a housing needs analysis to determine what, if any, housing needs exist within its community; and

WHEREAS, after conducting such analysis, the governing body of such city may adopt a resolution making certain findings regarding the establishment of a rural housing incentive district and providing the legal description of property to be contained therein; and

WHEREAS, after publishing such resolution, the governing body of such city shall send a copy thereof to the Secretary of Commerce of the State (the "Secretary") requesting that the Secretary agree with the finding contained in such resolution; and

WHEREAS, if the Secretary agrees with such findings, such city may proceed with the establishment of a rural housing incentive district within such city and adopt a plan for the development or redevelopment of housing and public facilities in the proposed district; and

WHEREAS, the City of Concordia, Kansas (the "City") has an estimated population of 5,005 and therefore constitutes a city as said term is defined in the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City has performed a Housing Needs Analysis dated September 2022 (the "Needs Analysis"), a copy of which is on file in the office of the City Clerk; and

WHEREAS, based on the Needs Analysis, the Governing Body of the City proposes to commence proceedings necessary to create a Rural Housing Incentive District, in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Governing Body hereby adopts and incorporates by this reference as part of this Resolution the Needs Analysis, a copy of which is on file in the office of the City Clerk, and based on a review of said Needs Analysis makes the following findings and determinations.

Section 2. The Governing Body hereby finds and determines that there is a shortage of quality housing of various price ranges in the City despite the best efforts of public and private housing developers.

Section 3. The Governing Body hereby finds and determines that the shortage of quality housing can be expected to persist and that additional financial incentives are necessary in order to encourage the private sector to construct or renovate housing in the City.

Section 4. The Governing Body hereby finds and determines that the shortage of quality housing is a substantial deterrent to the future economic growth and development of the City.

Section 5. The Governing Body hereby finds and determines that the future economic well-being of the City depends on the Governing Body providing additional incentives for the construction or renovation of quality housing in the City.

Section 6. Based on the findings and determinations contained in Sections 2 through 5 of this Resolution, the Governing Body proposes to establish a Rural Housing Incentive District pursuant to the Act, within boundaries of the real estate legally described in Exhibit A attached hereto, and shown on the maps depicting the existing parcels of land attached hereto as Exhibit B (the "District").

Section 7. The City Clerk is hereby directed to publish this Resolution one time in the official City newspaper, and to send a certified copy of this Resolution to the Secretary for the Secretary's review and approval.

Section 8. The Mayor, City Manager, City Clerk, other City officials and Gilmore & Bell, P.C. are hereby further authorized and directed to take such other actions as may be appropriate or desirable to accomplish the purposes of this Resolution.

Section 9. This Resolution shall take effect after its adoption and publication once in the official City newspaper.

ADOPTED by the Governing Body of the City of Concordia, Kansas, on September 21, 2022.

EXHIBIT A

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED RURAL HOUSING INCENTIVE DISTRICT

A tract of land in the West Half of the Northeast Quarter (W ½ NE ¼) of Section Five (5), Township Six (6) South, Range Three (3) west of the 6th P.M., in Cloud County, Kansas, more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a Point 1891.1 feet West and 78.3 feet South of the Northeast Corner of said Section Five (5), said point being on the South boundary line of the extension of Eleventh Street Westward from the City of Concordia; thence East along the extension of the South boundary line of said Eleventh Street, a distance of 281.2 feet; thence on a deflection of 101 degrees 39 minutes (101° 39') Right a distance of 56.6 feet; thence on a deflection of 7 degrees 29 minutes (7° 29') Left a distance of 100.2 feet; thence on a deflection of 10 degrees 33 minutes (10° 33') Left a distance of 100.7 feet; thence on a deflection of 11 degrees 8 minutes (11° 8') Right a distance of 100.3 feet; thence on a deflection of 12 degrees 40 minutes (12° 40') Right a distance of 21 degrees 18 minutes (21° 18') Right a distance of 16 degrees 27 minutes (16° 27') Right a distance of 119.8 feet; thence on a deflection of 23 degrees 9 minutes (23° 9') Right a distance of 102.3 feet; thence on a deflection of 36 degrees of 16.1 feet; thence on a deflection of 23 degrees 9 minutes (23° 9') Right a distance of 102.3 feet; thence on a deflection of 36 degrees 36 minutes (36° 36') Right a distance of 109.9 feet; thence on a deflection of 5 degrees 32 minutes (5° 32') Right a distance of 230.9 feet; thence on a deflection of 2 degrees 35 minutes (2° 35') Left a distance of 179.1 feet to the Southeast Corner of Block One (1) of Lost Creek Hills Addition to the City of Concordia; thence on a deflection of 85 degrees 2 minutes (85° 2') Right a distance of 230.63 feet; thence on a deflection of 93 degrees 18 minutes (93° 18') Right a distance of 166.9 feet; thence on a deflection of 71 degrees 2 minutes (71° 2') Left a distance of 150.6 feet; thence on a deflection of 13 degrees 42 minutes (13° 42') Left a distance of 108.7 feet to the point of beginning;

Lots One (1), Two (2), Three (3), Four (4), Five (5), Six (6) and Seven (7), in Block Two (2) of the Lost Creek Hills addition to the City of Concordia, Cloud County, Kansas, according to the recorded Plat thereof,

EXHIBIT B

MAP OF PROPOSED RURAL HOUSING INCENTIVE DISTRICT



Today in History

50 Years Ago September 23, 1972

During National Constitution Week, the big United States Flag flying at the Cloud County courthouse was the same one that flew over the Capitol building in Washington, D.C. during Concordia's Centennial in 1971... Annette Gieber, wearing a formal gown of satin and organza with lace accents, made by her mother, became the bride of Robin P. Hood in a ceremony at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Clifton... Kim Swearingen and Clark Coco paced the T-Birds with scores of 79 when the Cloud County Community College golf team swamped the Central of McPherson team 14-1 in a dual meet.

25 Years Ago September 23, 1997

Dr. Joe Fakler installed Marty Molter as Scoutmaster of BSA Troop 31, Concordia, in a moonlight Court of Honor at the Olson pond near Aurora... a much-needed 2.32 inches of rain had fallen in Concordia over a span of 24 hours... during National Health Care Environmental Services Week, Sunset Home recognized employees who had worked there for more than 10 years: Ann Chapin, laundry, 25 years; Dennis Knapp, maintenance, 28 years; Drenna Tatro and Pat Ashland, housekeeping, 16 and 11 years respectively.

10 Years Ago September 23, 2012

The newest members of the community, born at Cloud County Health Center between August 1 and September 13 included Noah LeClair, Nayela Griffing, Macie Romo, Isabella Strait, Robert Niehues and Brynn Anderson... Jenna Fredrickson, eighth grader, won the school champion-

ship in the Concordia Junior High School Spelling Bee and would compete with the other top six spellers, Aaron Elwood, Jackson Figgs, Kiara Huff, Bryan Berglund and Mariah Lott, in the Cloud County contest... wheat was selling at \$8.65, corn was \$7.27, and milo was \$7.02 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago September 23, 2017

Game warden Todd Robinson was part of a 14-member team that traveled to Texas to assist with search and rescue efforts in the wake of Hurricane Harvey... members of the Wichita chapter of the Model A's Motor Club made Concordia the destination for their September tour... Jenna Bloomer placed first in number one singles to lead the Concordia High School girls' tennis team to a second-place finish in the Phillipsburg Quadrangular... wheat was selling at \$3.52, corn was \$3.01, and milo was \$3.01 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago September 23, 2021

Phillip Shirkey, a senior at Concordia High school, was among the approximately 16,000 semifinalists in the 67th National Merit Scholarship Program... with its top five runners (Hannah Bridwell, Mya Niehues, Ashlyn James, Marlee VanMeter and Ava Metro) all finishing in the top 12, the Concordia seventh grade girls' cross country team won the Clay Center Middle School Invitational... CHS senior Juana Ayala had been selected as the CHS Student of the Month for September... wheat was selling at \$6.74, corn was \$5.06, and milo was \$5.21 per bushel on local markets.

(Published in the Concordia Blade-Empire on Friday, September 23, 2022)

Ordinance No. 2022-3192

On September 21, 2022, the City of Concordia adopted Ordinance No. 2022-3192, providing that Broadway Street from 6th Street to the alley between 6th & 7th Streets, and the adjacent public sidewalk, shall be closed to vehicular traffic with suitable barricades for a special event consisting of an all-class reunion coordinated by the Class of 1980, and providing that alcoholic beverages shall be permitted to be sold and consumed within the closed areas of said street and the adjoining sidewalk from 2:00 p.m. on September 24, 2022 to 12:00 a.m. on September 25, 2022. A reproduction of this ordinance will be available for not less than one week following the publication of this summary of the ordinance at the website address of the City of Concordia, <http://www.concordiaaks.org>. This summary is certified by the city attorney to be legally accurate and sufficient.

Today in History

50 Years Ago September 26, 1972

Bernard Ukens, athletic director at Cloud County Community College, signed a contract which would bring the Australian National basketball team to Concordia for a game with the CCC Thunderbirds... Navy Airman Apprentice Howard B. Battishill had completed the Aviation Structural Mechanic school at Memphis... Cloud County Community College soccer players from Cloud County included: Bryan Collins, Concordia; Dennis Barba, Concordia; Jim Tracy, Concordia; Doug Herman, Concordia; Bob Wiesner, Concordia; Keith Fuller, Jamestown; Robbie Thompson, Glasco; and Jerry Link, Glasco.

25 Years Ago September 26, 1997

Phillip Kloster of Newton had been hired by the Concordia city commission to fill the city manager position... a new Stage department store was set to open at 229 W. Sixth Street in Concordia... Army Lt. Col. Dennis L. Barba, a 1971 graduate of Concordia High School, retired after 22 years on active duty... Willis Higgins visited Mrs. Ruud's sixth grade class and demonstrated the techniques of panning for gold... Amanda Slate, fifth grader at Concordia Middle School, placed first in the Regional Barrel Horse Association Show in Belleville.

10 Years Ago September 26, 2012

Fall Fest grand marshal Joe Fakler, the 2012 Veterinarian of the Year, rode Leonard the bull, built by Dean Holbert out of scrap metal and tools, during the parade... members of Girl Scout Troop 6, formed in Concordia in 1943, had stayed in touch for nearly

70 years and held a reunion at Marla's Joy Teahouse, with their assistant leader, Gerna Johnson, also attending the celebration... Pat and Stacy Letourneau announced the birth of their son, Beau James... wheat was selling at \$8.71, corn was \$7.15, and milo was \$6.90 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago September 26, 2017

Rick Larson discovered several business record books for W.C. Whipp & Co. in the original location of the offices at 117 1/2 W. Sixth Street, where the business was located from the late 1870s until around 1918, and then donated them to the museum... "Elba Deep," better known as Brad Robert, a veterinarian at Tallgrass Veterinary Hospital, was crowned the 2017 Men in Tights winner... Morgan Trost and Nathan Trost were the winners of the 2017 Farm Bureau Medallion Hunt at Fall Fest... wheat was selling at \$3.56, corn was \$3.04, and milo was \$3.04 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago September 26, 2021

Four daring pilots took to the skies above Blosser Municipal Airport as the city of Concordia and the Airport Advisory Board officially dedicated the new Runway 18/36 with an airshow... Concordia Elementary School students of the Month for August and September: kindergarten, Albin Wolf; first grade, Evan Francis; second grade, Emma Gilsdorf; third grade, Emiljo Esteban; fourth grade, Norah Lambertz... wheat was selling at \$6.95, corn was \$5.14, and milo was \$5.39 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago September 28, 1972

Miss Nancy Johnson and Miss Christine Justyna arrived in Poznan, Poland, and were touring and visiting Miss Justyna's relatives in Katowice and with her paternal grandmother in Piotrkow... Charles Wright, 1972 graduate of Concordia High School, had enlisted in the U.S. Army for three years and would be assigned to the First Infantry Division at Fort Riley as a motor transport operator... Steve Wilson was a member of the 1972-73 marching band at Kansas State Teachers College in Emporia... Tom Fisher rolled a 290 to establish a new record high game for men at Hillcrest Lanes.

25 Years Ago September 28, 1997

Bicycle races held at the Cloud County Fairgrounds Motorcross track was a new event at Concordia's 15th Annual Fall Fest... students from Cloud County completing requirements for graduation during the 1997 summer session at Kansas State University were Nancy Letourneau, bachelor of arts; Carol McKenna, master of science; Christina Slogett, bachelor of science; and Janice A. Swenson, master of science... Mr. and Mrs. Dean Townsden celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary... Roy and Charlotte Lawrence announced the birth of their daughter, Sarah Marie.

10 Years Ago September 28, 2012

Eric Voss had been hired as the new fire chief/emergency director for Concordia... Air Force Airman Nicole Copple, daughter of Ronda Copple, had graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas...

Madison Brockman, Allissa Kearn, Shelby Fraser, Jordan Pounds, Katie Lambert, Logan Whitney, Blane Payeur, Gabe Bergmann, Trevor Nordell and Alan Garcia were royalty candidates for the Concordia High School Homecoming... wheat was selling at \$8.57, corn was \$6.95, and milo was \$6.70 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago September 28, 2017

Retired Cloud County Community College employees, and their spouses, Amy Gerber, Dan Gerber, Marlene Miller, Everett Miller, Gordon Morrison, Gwydotta Ukens, Anne Severance, Harold Severance, Sue Regan, Jim Douglass, Marilyn Douglass, Everett Ford and Glorianna Ford, gathered for a fall reunion... Students of the Month for August/September at the Concordia Middle School were Hattie Blackwood, sixth grade and Daegen DeGraff, fifth grade... wheat was selling at \$3.54, corn was \$3.03, and milo was \$3.03 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago September 28, 2021

Sister Jean Rosemarynovski, Sister Mary Jo Thummel and the Sisters of St. Joseph served as the grand marshals for the 2021 Fall Fest parade... the band Vandelyn Kross, with Todd Pettygrove, a 1983 graduate of Concordia High School, as lead singer and keyboard player, performed at the All-Class Reunion at the Broadway Plaza... to help celebrate the fifth birthday of the Broadway Plaza, stunt comedian Wacky Chad had three performances during the day... wheat was selling at \$6.93, corn was \$5.13, and milo was \$5.38 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago September 30, 1972

Governor Robert Docking cut the ribbon to officially open the new Kansas Manufacturing Division plant in Concordia, located in the Nor'East Industrial Park... Father Flanagan's All-American Boys Town Choir performed at Cloud County Community College... L.Cpl. Richard G. Weaver, United States Marine Corps, was assigned to the USS New Orleans, LPH and was serving aboard ship in Vietnam waters... Lawrence Coker, sophomore at Bethel College, won first place in the Kansas State Junior Chess tournament... "The Last Rebel," starring Joe Namath, was showing at Cloud 9.

25 Years Ago September 30, 1997

Concordia High School student Amanda Kindel was a peer tutor in Mrs. Erkenbrack's morning class at Lincoln Elementary... during the program talks during the meeting of the Republican Valley 4-H Club, Ryan Swenson gave a talk on his ceramic project, Nicole Barleen talked about her flowers, and Angela Sharp gave a demonstration on stenciling... recording singles victories for the Cloud County men's tennis team in a match against Buhler County were Andres Gomez, No. 1; Steve Mitchell, No. 2; Bryan Bombardier, No. 3; Jason Tiekling, No. 4; and Kevin Sloan, No. 5.

10 Years Ago September 30, 2012

Concordia High School seniors Romy Rohovit, Katie Lambert, Anthony May, Heather Letourneau, Ricky Kretter, Johana Garcia and Rachel Blochlinger were awarded scholarships from the Blosser Foundation to be

used for college dual credit classes during the semester... Dean Larson, Jr. was the first-place winner at marbles in the VFW Marble and Jacks Tournament Reunion held at Fall Fest... Lindsey Widen, a senior on the CHS volleyball team, had 16 kills in a pair of wins over Chapman... wheat was selling at \$8.90, corn was \$7.28, and milo was \$7.01 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago September 30, 2017

Filmgoers in Concordia united with over 100,000 film lovers from around the world when they attended the 20th Annual Manhattan Short Film Festival screening at the Brown Grand Theatre... August/September Paws-itive Counts winners at Concordia Middle School were Emma Herman, sixth grade and Madison McCall, fifth grade... for the eighth year, the Concordia Lions Club would be planting trees and shrubs at Pleasant Hill Cemetery... wheat was selling at \$3.54, corn was \$3.03, and milo was \$3.03 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago September 30, 2021

Approximately 50 pilots participating in the 2021 Fly Kansas Air Tour made a stop at Blosser Municipal Airport-CNK... winners in the City of Concordia Sesquicentennial beard contest were Brandon Birdsall, overall winner; Michael Peterson, longest beard; Tyler Knox, most artistic; Charlie Hansen best groomed... the Brown Grand Theatre held a Matinee Ghost Tour, led by resident ghost hunter Tonya Merrill... wheat was selling at \$6.96, corn was \$5.24, and milo was \$5.49 per bushel on local markets.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**THE CONCORDIA
PLANNING COMMISSION**

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Concordia Planning Commission to consider rezoning of property as follows:

Applicant; The City of Concordia representing Cloud County Health Center seeks to rezone the following described Tract from "C-2" (Restricted Commercial District) to "R-1" (Low Density Residential District).

Said tract of land is located at the Southwest corner of the intersection of 11th Street and Highland Drive. Addressed 1100 Highland Drive, Concordia, Cloud County, Kansas. This tract of land is the current location of the Cloud County Health Center and more particularly described as follows:

A tract of land in the West Half of the Northeast Quarter (W ½ NE ¼) of Section Five (5), Township Six (6) South, Range Three (3) west of the 6th P.M., in Cloud County, Kansas, more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a Point 1891.1 feet West and 78.3 feet South of the Northeast Corner of said Section Five (5), said point being on the South boundary line of the extension of Eleventh Street Westward from the City of Concordia; thence East along the extension of the South boundary line of said Eleventh Street, a distance of 281.2 feet; thence on a deflection of 101 degrees 39 minutes (101° 39') Right a distance of 56.6 feet; thence on a deflection of 7 degrees 29 minutes (7° 29') Left a distance of 100.2 feet; thence on a deflection of 10 degrees 33 minutes (10° 33') Left a distance of 100.7 feet; thence on a deflection of 11 degrees 8 minutes (11° 8') Right a distance of 100.3 feet; thence on a deflection of 12 degrees 40 minutes (12° 40') Right a distance of 104.5 feet; thence on a deflection of 16 degrees 27 minutes (16° 27') Right a distance of 119.8 feet; thence on a deflection of 21 degrees 18 minutes (21° 18') Right a distance of 16.1 feet; thence on a deflection of 23 degrees 9 minutes (23° 9') Right a distance of 102.3 feet; thence on a deflection of 36 degrees 36 minutes (36° 36') Right a distance of 109.9 feet; thence on a deflection of 5 degrees 32 minutes (5° 32') Right a distance of 230.9 feet; thence on a deflection of 2 degrees 35 minutes (2° 35') Left a distance of 179.1 feet to the Southeast Corner of Block One (1) of Lost Creek Hills Addition to the City of Concordia; thence on a deflection of 85 degrees 2 minutes (85° 2') Right a distance of 230.63 feet; thence on a deflection of 93 degrees 18 minutes (93° 18') Right a distance of 166.9 feet; thence on a deflection of 14 degrees 2 minutes (14° 2') Left a distance of 150.6 feet; thence on a deflection of 13 degrees 42 minutes (13° 42') Left a distance of 108.7 feet to the point of beginning;

The public hearing on the above-described tract will be held in the City Commission Room, City Hall, 701 Washington St., Concordia, KS. on October 25, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

All persons desiring to be heard on this request regarding the above-described properties shall have the opportunity to be heard at this time.

Reasonable accommodations are available for persons needing assistance. Requests for accommodations should be submitted to Director of Community Development (785-243-2670) (TDD 785-243-2336) by 5:00 p.m., Friday, October 21, 2012.

Bruno Rehbein /Zoning Administrator

Today in History

50 Years Ago October 3, 1972

Donald L. Kindel was promoted to Private E2 after completing his basic training with the U. S. Army... a dinner at the Skyliner Steak House honoring the 25th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Carlgren was given by their daughter, Beth, and by Mr. Carlgren's parents... Glenda Gerard, Concordia, was the winner of the Powder Puff class of the one hour Hare Scramble at the Concordia motocross track, and Delores Gerard, also of Concordia, was the second-place winner... Barbara Striesand and Ryan O'Neal starred in "What's Up, Doc," showing at the Grand Theater.

25 Years Ago October 3, 1997

Bill Summers Ford-Mercury was offering a two-year lease on a new 1997 Ford Ranger for a lucky contestant that could kick three consecutive field goals during halftime of the Concordia-Belleville football game... Concordia High School homecoming king and queen candidates were: Jacob Letourneau, Josh Petersen, Darrell Zimmermann, Garrett Miller, Justin Sallman, Lori Rittel, Jana Williams, Cressie Simoneau, Jamie Snyder and Genae Lagasse... Concordia's John Hake scored a 51-yard touchdown in the CHS junior varsity football game against Marysville.

10 Years Ago October 3, 2012

A proposal to close the Concordia Middle School and move the fifth and sixth grade students to the junior-senior high school in an effort to cut costs was presented by Unified School District 333 superintendent

of schools Beverly Mortimer during a public meeting... Katie Lambert and Gabe Bergmann were crowned the Concordia High School Homecoming queen and king... Annette Starr was the winner of the "Win This Window" drawing... wheat was selling at \$8.54, corn was \$7.30, and milo was \$7.03 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago October 3, 2017

Bev Caron's brother, Jim Odgers, was a guest at the Sasnak Study Club meeting and talked about Monarch butterflies and how they depend on the common milkweed, then giving the members seeds to plant... Robert and Dolores (Johnson) St. Pierre, Clyde, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary... Sreya Kemling, a first-year player for the Concordia High School girls' golf team, placed second in the Thomas More Prep-Marian Invitational... wheat was selling at \$3.47, corn was \$3.00, and milo was \$3.15 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago October 3, 2021

The city of Concordia capped off the Sesquicentennial Celebration with the burying of a time capsule at the base of the war hero statue in City Park... Bernard Keter, former Cloud County Community College track and field standout who competed for the United States in the 3,000-meter steeplechase at the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, ran the school marathon with Concordia Elementary School students during a visit to Concordia... wheat was selling at \$6.86, corn was \$5.25, and milo was \$5.50 per bushel on local markets.

Fly Kansas Air Tour to land in Concordia

10/3

Pilots participating in the Fly Kansas Air Tour will be making a stop at Blosser Municipal Airport in Concordia on Saturday.

The Kansas Department of Transportation's Division of Aviation is partnering with the Kansas Commission of Aerospace Education to host the Fly Kansas Air Tour Thursday through Saturday.

The stop in Concordia is sched-

uled for 9:30 a.m. until noon. Participants will then fly to Junction City for the final stop of the tour, from 1-3 p.m.

The annual flying celebration promotes aviation and economic growth. Over 30 pilots have signed up to participate in the tour, as of September 22. They will visit nine communities across the state.

"The Fly Kansas Air Tour brings airplanes and exciting

career opportunities within reach of over 1,000 children across the state — an experience we hope many will look back on as their first step into aviation," Bob Brock, Kansas Department of Transportation director of aviation, said.

The tour focuses on STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education. Highlights this year will include opportunities for

students to learn from pilots attend community events and view participating aircraft.

The schedule for the tour is as follows:

October 6: Wellington, 8:30-9:30 a.m.; Pittsburg, 11 a.m.-p.m.; Ottawa, 2:00-3:45 p.m.; El Dorado, 5-8 p.m.

October 7: Augusta, 10:00-11:45 a.m.; Rooks County, 1:30-3:00 p.m.; Hays, 4-8 p.m.

Today in History

50 Years Ago

October 5, 1972

Cloud County Community College students, Susan Cailteux, Mrs. Jack Paulsen and Cynthia Reimann, Concordia; Nanetta Ross, Clyde; and Norlene Bulleigh, Miltonvale, were serving as teacher aides in the Concordia elementary and secondary schools for the semester... Army 2/Lt. Bernard Marcotte completed a nine week Ordnance Officer Basic course at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md... David Everitt, Concordia, junior in industrial engineering at Kansas State University, had been assigned to work at Caterpillar Tractor Co. in Peoria, Ill., as part of the Engineering Co-op Program at KSU.

25 Years Ago

October 5, 1997

Jean Hamel provided sweet sounds on her flute for the residents of Mount Joseph during the nursing home's celebration of its two-year affiliation with Via Christi... Robert J. Strait and James A. Bourne submitted resumes for the job of highway administrator... the Frank Carlson Library estimated that it sold approximately 1,000 books at the Fall Fest book sale... Michelle Toogood and Jeff Nuss announced the birth of their son, Jerod Steven Toogood.

10 Years Ago

October 5, 2012

Cloud County Health Center Radiology Department hosted a Party in Pink open house celebrating Breast Cancer Awareness

Month, where Amy DeGraff was the winner of a gift basket... Neighbor to Neighbor won the title of Favorite Chili at the Chili for Charity fundraiser, with Helping Hands taking second place and Big Brothers Big Sisters, third... wheat was selling at \$8.49, corn was \$7.29, and milo was \$7.02 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago

October 5, 2017

Concordia Elementary School and Concordia Middle School students participated in a change drive to help bring a positive change for families impacted by Hurricane Harvey, partnering with the Mark Twain School, led by Brenda (Huff) Vincent, a 1977 graduate of Concordia High School, and the Alvin, Texas, school district... freshman Emma Losh paced the Concordia High School girls in the Ellsworth Invitation cross country meet... wheat was selling at \$3.43, corn was \$2.99, and milo was \$3.14 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago

October 5, 2021

Macy McMillan, a sophomore at K-State Salina currently working on her commercial pilot's license, had been selected as the third recipient of the Blosser Flight Training Scholarship... Callie Parker, a sophomore on the Concordia High School volleyball team, was selected as the CHS Athlete of the Week... wheat was selling at \$7.33, corn was \$5.27, and milo was \$5.45 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago

October 7, 1972

Busboom and Rauh, Salina, was the successful bidder for the general construction of the new Library-Media Center and food preparation area at the Concordia Junior-Senior High School... Edward Barnhart, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Barnhart of Concordia, had enlisted in the U. S. Army for three years... Coach Larry Nelson tabbed Larry Rittle, Jim Davis, David Lesperance and Bill Ross as his top defensive hands after the CHS JV team dropped the Belleville JV football team 21-0... Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Haist, Aurora, selected the name Tina Rae for their newborn daughter.

25 Years Ago

October 7, 1997

The Westside Kitchen Band of Clay Center entertained Sunset Home residents... Sgt. Verlyn White was promoted to Staff Sergeant E-6 for his work as a Kansas National Guardsman in the 995th Maintenance Company, Phillipsburg... Phyllis Cottingham had been named the Sunset Home employee of the month for October... Amy Hubert, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ron Hubert was one of 90 newly named National Merit scholars at the University of Kansas... Jason and Kelli Hennes announced the birth of their daughter, MaKinlie Jade.

10 Years Ago

October 7, 2012

Sparky the Fire Dog accompanied Senior Fire Captain Jimmy Menard when he read "The Firefighters" to children in a storytelling

session in the Reading with Leaders program at Neighbor to Neighbor... James and Debra Mosher, Concordia, announced the engagement of their daughter, Heather, to James Harrod Jr., Wichita... the Oktoberfest in Jamestown included brats, beer, an oompah band, dancing, and Oktoberfest girls... wheat was selling at \$8.48, corn was \$7.20, and milo was \$6.97 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago

October 7, 2017

Homecoming royalty candidates for Homecoming at Concordia High School were: Nicole Timme, Jessica Williams, Cydney Bergmann, Peyton Reynolds, Carlie Barleen, Rope Dorman, Trevor McDaniel, Billy Bechard, Tyler Stupka and Brent Beaumont... CHS's bid for a first North Central Kansas League championship in 18 years got thwarted by a 14-12 loss to the Wamego Red Raiders... wheat was selling at \$3.40, corn was \$3.00, and milo was \$3.15 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago

October 7, 2021

The Brown Grand Theatre was holding auditions for "Mrs. Claus and the Chili Cook-off Caper," written by Kristina Frost and directed by Whitney Jones... Aidan Poore was the Concordia High School Student of the Month for October... the CHS football team improved its record to 5-0 with a 50-0 win over the Clay Center Tigers... wheat was selling at \$7.30, corn was \$5.26, and milo was \$5.46 per bushel on local markets.



Visiting the fire station

10/7

Firefighter Johnnie Mastin shows kindergartners from the Concordia Elementary School equipment used by the department during their visit to the fire station on Thursday. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)

The City of Concordia is looking to purchase a 2021 or newer sport utility vehicle for the admin dept. Sealed bids are due November 4, 2022 Contact the City Clerk for more information. 10/7 785-243-2670

(Published in the Concordia Blade Empire October 7, 2022)

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
THE CONCORDIA PLANNING COMMISSION**

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Concordia Planning Commission to consider rezoning of property as follows:

Applicant; Tom Fredrickson representing Nelson Family Enterprises seeks to rezone the following described Tract from "C-3" (General Commercial District) to "I-1" (Light Industrial District).

Said tract of land is located in the North development South of Union Road between the Cloud County Law Enforcement Center and the Kansas State Highway Maintenance Facility. This tract of land will be addressed 1478 Union Road, and is more particularly described as follows:

Lot C Block 2, Concordia North Development Business and Industrial Park, an addition to Concordia, Cloud County Kansas.

The public hearing on the above-described tract will be held in the City Commission Room, City Hall, 701 Washington St., Concordia, KS. on Tuesday, November 1, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

All persons desiring to be heard on this request regarding the above-described properties shall have the opportunity to be heard at this time.

Reasonable accommodations are available for persons needing assistance. Requests for accommodations should be submitted to Director of Community Development (785-243-2670) (TDD 785-243-2336) by 5:00 p.m., Friday, October 28, 2022.

Bruno Rehbein /Zoning Administrator

Commission

10/7

approves updating purchasing policy

The Concordia city commission approved Resolution No. 2022-2142 updating the city's purchasing policy, and heard staff reports on various projects around town, during its regular meeting on Wednesday.

City Clerk Stacey Smith reported that Linda Hunsicker of the Kansas Department of Commerce (KDC) and Keegan Bailey of the North Central Regional Planning Commission (NCRPC) had finalized the paperwork for the demolition grant, and closed out the project. It was noted that the city's purchasing policy wasn't quite in line with their requirements, and Hunsicker recommended removing all of Section 7, which dealt with the procurement procedures for grants received under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

Hunsicker stated that their policy would be used and it was unnecessary for the city of Concordia to have it. Hunsicker also suggested adding "non-competitive negotiations" (now contained in Section 5. F.).

Resolution 2022-2142 would establish purchasing policies that govern the purchase of goods and/or services by the City of Concordia. It would serve as an informational document to be given to local vendors so they are informed as to the City's purchasing guidelines.

All purchases made on behalf of the City of Concordia are to be made in accordance with the following objectives:

1. Provide for local purchasing when economically feasible;
2. Provide for effective

expenditure of City funds;

3. Provide for best protection of City residents;

4. Provide for accurate accounting documentation;

5. Provide for equal opportunity, fairness and competitiveness with vendors;

6. Provide for compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

The city commission voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2022-2142.

Concordia Fire Chief and interim Police Chief Eric Voss reported that DOJ grant funding in the amount of \$310,000 for the city of Concordia police and emergency services had been approved to purchase updated communications equipment. The bidding process for the equipment would begin immediately, as Voss stated that being able to acquire something like new radios would be a nine to ten months process.

Concordia Wellness & Recreation director Chris Atkins informed commissioners that the Doyen Field project was beginning ahead of schedule. Workers had expected to start on the project by October 15, but the equipment had been delivered and work would begin by Friday, October 7. The completion date for the project, including installing synthetic turf on the infield, is still scheduled for mid-January, weather permitting.

Director of Utilities director Jeremy Arnold reported that, after the completion of testing, Brian Peterson had been named the Concordia Wastewater Treatment Plant facility manager.

Touching Down in Concordia

Fly Kansas Air Tour participants make a stop at Blosser Municipal Airport



Taking the tour

Christine Toevs with her Titanium Explorer gyroplane at Blosser Municipal Airport-CNK. Toevs was one of dozens of pilots who landed at the airport as part of the 2022 Fly Kansas Air Tour.

10/10

Dozens of pilots touched down at Blosser Municipal Airport-CNK on Saturday as part of the Fly Kansas Air Tour.

"We have 40 pilots participating this year," said Rachel Adkins, the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) program manager for the Fly Kansas Air Tour. "One pilot will be flying in from Iowa, and another one from Nebraska. All the other pilots are from Kansas."

The Fly Kansas Air Tour was hosted by the KDOT Division of Aviation and the Kansas Commission on Aerospace Education (KCAE).

"The Fly Kansas Air Tour brings airplanes and exciting career opportunities within reach for over 1,000 children across the state - an experience we hope many will look back on as their first step into aviation," said Bob Brock, KDOT director of aviation.

Brock served 22 years in the Air Force flying combat helicopters and achieving the rank of Lt. Colonel. He's been with KDOT since 2016, and flew his own plane to Blosser Airport. "The Fly Kansas Air Tour actually began in 1929 as a way to tell communities what was going on at their airport. We've now incorporated meeting with K-12 students in these communities to show them as much as we can and talk about aviation. Hopefully it will be a first step towards a career. There are a lot of job opportunities in aviation."

The air tour focused on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education.

George Laliberte of Topeka flew his Cessna in for the show. "This is my eighth year," he said. "I just love the freedom of flying. You're up in the sky and wide open spaces. You don't have to worry about somebody not paying attention and crossing over the center line on the highway. I feel much safer in the air."

Christine Toevs flew her autogyro - also known as a gyroplane or gyrocopter - on the tour. A native of Australia, she met and married her American husband almost 30 years ago and lived in Whitewater, Kansas.

"This is really a bucket list thing for me," she said, her voice tinged with an Australian accent. "My husband passed away, and this is a way for me to remember him. I started taking gyro lessons in 2011 at the age of 55. I got my private license in October of 2014."

Toevs built her gyrocopter - the Titanium Explorer - herself from a kit. "It's an Australian model and was the first one in the United States. It has a top speed of about 90 knots."

Toevs described flying the gyrocopter as a bit like riding a dirt bike in the sky. "It's very agile. You get a little rock and roll with the thermals, but you don't get banged around like you do in a fixed wing aircraft because a gyroplane will cut through the chop. It's very hard to get airsick in one of these."

After flying to Wellington, Pittsburg, Ottawa, and El Dorado on Thursday, October 6, pilots then flew to Augusta, Rooks County, and Hays on Friday, October 7. Concordia and Junction City on Saturday, October 8, were the final two stops on the tour.

Today in History

50 Years Ago October 17, 1972

St. John's Lodge No. 113, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, had been in Concordia for 100 years... Tori Allen, Becky Bates, Wida Butz, Charlene Burch, Gail Christensen, Guyetta Davis, Kim Frahm, Susie Eaton, Jeni Fisher, Karen Fraser, Lisa Hopkins, Kathy Laing, Cindy Loeffler, Julie Metro, Julia Pitner, Michelle Girard and Janet Sorell, Camp Fire Group 15, had a picnic-hike to Airport Park where they played games; going home, the girls picked up litter along the roadside... the Concordia High School cross country team won the NCKL title as Doug Montoya and John Horkman ran first and second.

25 Years Ago October 17, 1997

Doug Waddington, Orlan Cook, Wilford Doud, Wendell Wilson, Lew Gordon, Ed Pick, J.G. Lassey, George Johnson, Wilbur Naylor, Arlan Campbell and Terry Gordon, amateur radio operators, were honored at a reception in Cuba for having been FCC licensed for more than 40 years... a weightlifting and fitness club had been formed at Cloud County Community College, and faculty, students and staff could become part of the program, receiving a t-shirt after logging at least 35 workouts... "I Know What You Did Last Summer" was showing at the Apollo Theater.

10 Years Ago October 17, 2012

Roy Reif and Steve Womack Sr., retiring members of the Cloud County Health Center board of directors, were given engraved clocks in appreciation for their

service... Cloud County Community College, reigning Division 1 men's soccer champion, did not have an opportunity to defend its title after the NJCAA ruled the Thunderbirds would have to forfeit 10 wins this season, due to matches played with an ineligible student-athlete... wheat was selling at \$8.78, corn was \$7.41, and milo was \$7.21 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago October 17, 2017

The search for a new Concordia city manager, which started back in July, came to a conclusion with the city commission unanimously approving a motion to offer the job to Amy Lange, currently the vice president of administrative services at Cloud County Community College... Maxine Kelly, Glasco, celebrated her 90th birthday... wheat was selling at \$3.37, corn was \$3.00, and milo was \$3.15 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago October 17, 2021

The Concordia Rotary Club, in celebrating the 100th anniversary of its founding, invited members of service groups in the community and the public to join them for World Polio Day, and this year's recognition of the Rotary PolioPlus program would be in honor of Dr. Paul and Peggy Nelson, both recently deceased long-time Concordia residents... Cloud County Health Center honored Danny McReynolds and Cheryl Glenn with a retirement gift as they joined the ranks of retirees... wheat was selling at \$7.27, corn was \$5.18, and milo was \$5.38 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago October 19, 1972

Two punchboards were found by the FBI during a liquor violation check at the American Legion, resulting in charges of possession of gambling devices filed in county court... Lawrence Bieker and Craig Havel, both of Concordia, recently enlisted in the U. S. Army... Denice Barba, Janice Budreau, Deanna Holbert, Sherry Nickel and Christine Reimer were queen candidates for the 1972 Concordia High School 1972... Dean Winter was the winner of the Kelvinator Disposal given away at the Demanette Appliance fourth anniversary celebration... Schmitt's was selling Snug Bug stadium bags.

25 Years Ago October 19, 1997

A Frankenstein monster made of hay bales was a hair-raising sight for those passing by Stage, 228 West Sixth St., an entry in the Mystery in the Moonlight hay bale decorating contest sponsored by UMB Bank, Citizens National Bank and Tri-County National Bank... Briar Gardens Pumpkin Patch was offering pick-your-own pumpkins, three for six dollars... Doug and Donna Hubert, Concordia, announced the birth of their daughter, Lacie Lanae.

10 Years Ago October 19, 2012

Concordia High School students and Concordia FFA members received a generous donation of fine woodworking and project materials from the Owen Brewer family, while the Cloud County Historical Society Museum was the recipient of the wood turn-

ing lathe Brewer made while a student at CHS in the 1930s... "Paws"itive Counts winners at Concordia Middle School for October were Oakley Champlin, sixth grade; and Caden Romo, fifth grade... wheat was selling at \$8.81, corn was \$7.43, and milo was \$7.23 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago October 19, 2017

Two Concordia High School graduates, Zachary Kyle and Autumn Zimmerman, were among the Kansas Wesleyan University students selected to serve as Presidential Ambassadors for the 2017-18 academic year... Adam Budreau showed off a vase of blooms from his grandmother Eva Budreau's lilac bushes, which have bloomed in the fall for the first time in over 60 years... Taylor Stupka, a senior on the Concordia High School football team, had been selected as the CHS Athlete of the Week... wheat was selling at \$3.34, corn was \$2.99, and milo was \$3.14 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago October 19, 2021

The Nathan Edson Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution recognized the Day of Service by presenting Marvin and Eudora Peterson, Concordia, with the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution Community Service Award... Tonya Merrill, Concordia, was one of the qualifiers for the Annual Kansas Tall Tales Competition at the Storytelling Festival... wheat was selling at \$7.28, corn was \$5.15, and milo was \$5.35 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago

October 21, 1972

Kansas State University student Alan Luecke from Concordia appeared on nationwide television when the K-State Pride of Wildcat Land Marching Band performed for the Kansas City Chiefs-Oakland Raiders game... Concordians David Fazel, Ronald Blochlinger and Dan Cejeka graduated from basic training with the United States Marine Corps... Sugarloaf, famous recording artists, and the Beast have been selected by the Student Senate at Cloud County Community College to perform in concert in Bryant Gymnasium... Stanley Kubrick's "Clockwork Orange" was showing at Sigma I.

25 Years Ago

October 21, 1997

The following students were winners in the "Mona Lisa Turns Gritchy" art contest for second graders at Concordia Elementary: Brendalyn Looper, Whitney Dykes, Jordan Cyphers, Hannah Coash, Nathan Trost, Taylor Fahey, Alexa Stromberg, Witney Sorell, Aaron Mendenhall, Julie Hartsel, Jake Morrisette, Levi Whitley, Shalana Mendenhall, Justin Andre and Whitney Sjolander... by overpowering Abilene 31-6, the Concordia High School football team locked up the Class 4A District 10 championship and earned a trip to the state playoffs.

10 Years Ago

October 21, 2012

With a presentation by Doyle Scott, the Cloud County Historical Society Museum held an open house showcasing a new ham radio dis-

play... Bob Steimel received a gold watch in honor of serving 10 years as executive director of the Community Foundation for Cloud County... Nikole Ottens and Jordan Underwood announced the birth of their son, Connor Clyde Underwood... Trevor Nordell, a senior on the Concordia High School football team, was the CHS Athlete of the Week... wheat was selling at \$8.81, corn was \$7.43, and milo was \$7.23 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago

October 21, 2017

American Legion Post #76, Concordia, honored the Boys and Girls State delegates, Rope Dorman, Lake Winter and Zaide Thoman, at its Membership Dinner... the Charles and Amber Lambertz family sponsored the National Orphan Train Complex's 17th Orphan Train Rider statue at the Farm Bureau Services and Fresh Perspectives Counseling and Consultation Services building at 821 Broadway... wheat was selling at \$3.41, corn was \$3.00, and milo was \$3.15 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago

October 21, 2021

Marquis Place held a ground breaking ceremony for its new Memory Care wing... Concordia native Nelsen Petersen discussed his travels in Africa in conjunction with his new book "Selfies with Livingstone...I Presume!" as part of the Cook Series event sponsored by Cloud County Community College... wheat was selling at \$7.28, corn was \$5.37, and milo was \$5.17 per bushel on local markets.

FINAL PERFORMANCE PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The City of Concordia will hold a public hearing on November 2, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Concordia City Hall located at 701 Washington St., Concordia, Kansas for the purpose of evaluating the performance of Grant No. 21-PF-004, which was for the demolition of an estimated 10 houses and 3 garages/sheds of dilapidated unoccupied units all within the City Limits of Concordia, Kansas. The Grant achieved the demolition of 13 houses and 3 sheds/garages of dilapidated residential structures all within the Concordia City limits. Additional activities included administration, inspection and asbestos removal.

This grant was funded, all or in part, from the Kansas Department of Commerce, Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. All aspects of the grant will be discussed and oral and written comments will be recorded and become a part of the City of Concordia Citizen Participation Plan.

Reasonable accommodations will be made available to persons with disabilities. Requests for such accommodations should be submitted to the Concordia City Clerk by 12 noon on October 31, 2022.

Concordia to receive CCLIP funds for street project

Concordia is among the 34 cities across Kansas that have been selected to receive a total of \$28.65-million for improvements to the state highway system located within city boundaries.

The funds awarded will be directed to preserve and improve pavement, add turn lanes and modify intersections along essential roadways in both rural and urban areas throughout the state.

Concordia will be awarded \$400,000 for the construction and construction engineering for a mill and overlay project on K-9 Highway from Archer Street to Cloud Street. The city will be responsible for paying a minimum of five percent of the cost of the project plus any amount that is over \$400,000.

The grants are administered through the Kansas Department of Transportation's City Connecting Link Improvement Program (CCLIP). The program is an important component of the state's bipartisan transportation program, IKE, passed under Governor Laura Kelly's administration.

"By making this investment, we're improving the safety and accessibility of Kansas roadways that are local centers of community life," Kelly said. "Through these grants, we're delivering economic opportunities throughout rural and urban Kansas."

KDOT was able to increase CCLIP funding level for this selection cycle by more than \$10 million over previous years due to additional federal funds coming to Kansas as part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Legislation (BIL). Both federal and state funds are designated for the CCLIP program and local matching funds are required based on city population.

"With the Connecting Link program, KDOT partners with communities to find solutions to support local transportation priorities," Transportation Secretary Julie Lorenz said. "I very much appreciate the power of the state and communities pooling funds to make improvements."

A City Connecting Link is defined as any routing of the State Highway System located within the corporate limits of a city, not including the Interstate System. For this CCLIP cycle applying to state fiscal years 2024-2025, KDOT received 54 applications requesting \$38 million.

City moves forward with ladder truck purchase

Approval for the purchase of a new ladder truck for the fire department, a contract to shorten crosswind runway 12-30 at Blosser Municipal Airport-CNK, and adding a structure to the city's demolition program were some of the action items at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Concordia city commission on Wednesday.

The meeting began with a proclamation designating October 24 as World Polio Day in Concordia. The proclamation encourages all citizens to join the Concordia Rotary Club and Rotary International in the fight for a polio-free world.

The city intends to replace its ladder truck, and over the past year, was successful in obtaining grant funding toward this purchase.

The city's current ladder truck is a 1999 model, and when a ladder truck reaches 25 years of age it is no longer counted favorably toward a community's Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating, which then may negatively impact property insurance premiums for residential and business owners within the community.

A \$30,000 grant was awarded from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation for the new truck, a \$560,000 grant was awarded from the Community Development Block Grant, and \$500,000 was awarded from the United States Department of Agriculture. The remaining pur-



World Polio Day proclamation

Mayor Ashley Hutchinson (left) and Dana Brewer hold the proclamation declaring October 24 as World Polio Day in Concordia.

chase cost would be paid from the city equipment reserve fund.

A bid letting was held on October 10 at 2:00 p.m. Five bids were received and opened. Upon the recommendation of Fire Chief Eric Voss, the city commissioners approved moving ahead with the process of purchasing a new ladder truck from Rosenbauer, the world's largest manufacturer of fire trucks and equipment, in the amount of \$1,099,123.00.

A bid letting was also held on

October 10 for a project to shorten the crosswind runway 12-30 at Blosser Municipal Airport-CNK in order to develop the lots to the west across Highway 81. The project is not eligible for funding through the Federal Aviation Administration, and would be paid with funds from the city's capital improvement plan.

Five contractors participated in this bid letting. Upon the recommendation of Fuller Bates, the city's director of public

works, the commission voted to approve a contract with Esfeld Construction for \$42,200.

Bates also reported that the city had been approved for funding of \$400,000 from the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) for a mill and overlay project on K9 from Archer Street east to Cloud Street. The city will be responsible for paying a minimum of five percent as well as any amount that is over the allocated \$400,000.

For KDOT to program the project, they must receive a completed 1302 Form before November 30, 2022.

The commissioners approved authorizing city manager Amy Lange to sign the 1302 and submit it to KDOT.

In other action, commissioners voted to write off \$5,578.36 in utility bill accounts that have been deemed uncollectible.

City commissioners also approved Resolution 2022-2143, which opens a deferred compensation plan with KPERS. The intent is to give city employees another avenue of saving toward retirement.

By unanimous vote, the city commission approved adding a structure at 515 West 11th Street into the city's demo program, and authorized city manager Amy Lange to sign a contract with the owner based on the lowest bid of \$9,800 from Dalton Snyder of Snyder Dozing.

(see City on page 6)

City

(continued from page 1)

Under the demolition reimbursement program, the city does not solicit sealed bids. The owner is required to bring in two bids from two different contractors and city policy pays the reimbursement based on the lowest of the two bids.

After the city commission meeting was officially adjourned, a study session was held to discuss a proposed community activity center. Brenda Gilliland, executive director of the Community Foundation for Cloud County, and Carmen Johnson presented an idea for a community center, and proposed Rasure Field as a possible site.

The center would include basketball and volleyball courts, a walking track, a pickleball court, a multipurpose meeting room, kitchen/concessions areas, and the ancillary spaces that normally accompany a space of this type. This facility would also include an indoor "tot lot" jungle gym for young children, and could include an activity area geared toward pre-teens with ping pong, corn hole, bowling, etc. Ideally, the facility would be open to the public seven days a week from approximately 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Cloud County Community College president Amber Knoettgen and Concordia Unified School District 333 superintendent of schools Quentin Breese participat-

ed in the study session and voiced their support for a facility that would alleviate the scheduling issues with the facilities currently in use at their schools.

The Cloud County Community College indoor facility is heavily used by the basketball, volleyball, and track programs, which leaves little available time and space for members of the public to walk during inclement or cold weather.

There is also a need for an indoor pickleball court.

Pickleball is the fastest-growing sport in America and has gained significant momentum in Concordia as a desirable way to stay active. The local pickleball group has used the Old Middle School gym, but with the building re-opening next fall to serve USD 333 fifth and sixth grades, gym availability for public daytime use will be limited.

A formal cost estimate has not yet been obtained for a facility. Funds will be needed for initial construction as well as ongoing operations. The volunteer group anticipates raising a portion of the funds for initial construction through private donations and grants. The group asked the city commission to consider a special sales tax to assist with fundraising for this project. The city would assume ownership and operational responsibility of the facility once it was completed.

10/21

10/21

Three candidates vying for commission seats

Three candidates will be vying for two positions on the Concordia city commission in the November 8 general election.

Marsha Wentz is seeking re-election to the commission.

Also seeking seats on the commission are Troy Hardacre and Amy Jackson.

Current commissioner Christy Hasch is not seeking another term on the commission.

Wentz had served two terms on the commission from 2010-2016.

Making the decision to run again, Wentz was elected to a third term in 2019.

"I had the time, and to me, it takes some time if you do it right," Wentz said.

Wentz had originally decided not to seek re-election this year because her husband Mike was experiencing health issues.

Mike passed away earlier this year, and as the filing deadline approached, Wentz made the decision to run again.

"Since Mike had passed, I decided that I had the time and I enjoy it. I like trying to do what is right for Concordia," Wentz said.

Wentz points to housing as one of the key issues the commission is currently working on.

The city is moving forward with a plan to create a housing subdivision where 11 to 12 moderate income homes would be built.

Wentz believes that infrastructure is also an issue the commission will continue to address.

"Alleys and streets and what is underneath," Wentz said. "It is hard for people to understand that you have to spend money on what is underground," Wentz said.



10/24 Marsha Wentz

Hardacre is the owner of Hardacre Crop Insurance Services in Concordia.

Growing up on a farm in Smith County, Hardacre attended high school in Kensington.

Hardacre's wife, Michelle, is originally from Concordia, and they have lived in the area since 2015. They purchased the crop insurance agency in 2015.

Hardacre said he has always been interested in getting involved in community and that running for city commission was one way to do so.

"I think, in some form or fashion, everybody should get involved. If nothing else, it will be a learning experience, learning how things operate," Hardacre said. "I don't pretend to know how it operates, but I would like to learn. That is part of why I want to get involved."

Hardacre sees the role of the commission as looking out for the best interest of the city as a whole.

"I think you definitely need to be willing to listen to various points and opinions. I think, as a commissioner, you need to do your homework, and I am sure most do or all do. I don't think it is just a meeting job. I think it extends to spending time digging into things on your own. If nothing else, I learned that from my dad," Hardacre said.

Hardacre sees housing as

one issue that needs to be addressed by the city.

"I know it may sound cliché, but you can't grow if you don't have those things available. You need young families and affordable housing, and those things go hand in hand," Hardacre said.



Troy Hardacre

Jackson, like Hardacre, believes it is important to participate.

"I feel like it is important to be involved in your community. If you do want to see change you have to be involved to make those things happen. Or if you want programs to continue to flourish you have to have people who are willing to step up into different roles," Jackson said.

Jackson has been involved as a volunteer with several organizations in the community including Parents in Education, the Unified School District 333 Mentor Program and the Catholic Church.

"I am raising my kids in this community so I want it to be a safe place, a good place and a fun place for us to live," Jackson said.

Jackson and her husband, Nick, moved to Concordia in 2011. They took ownership of Republican Valley Landscape in 2015.

When making decisions, Jackson believes the city commission needs to determine how it will impact all of the citizens.

"When decisions are made, I think it is pretty important to see how it affects everyone who lives here. Not just from a business owner perspective, but also from a farm perspective and also from a parents with children perspective, the single family homes. All of the perspectives of how this is going to help or hurt people when you make decisions," Jackson said.

Jackson said that she has seen good growth in the community since she has lived in Concordia, and used the Broadway Plaza as an example, mentioning there was some pushback on its construction.

"But that is a beautiful space. It is utilized, I think, pretty frequently for a variety of things. I think for outsiders and visitors coming to our community it is a nice gathering space. And when you compare yourself to other communities, there are similar features to that in thriving downtowns," Jackson said.



Amy Jackson

(Published in the Concordia Blade-Empire on Monday, October 24, 2022)

**NOTICE OF HEARING
BY THE BOARD OF
ZONING APPEALS
OFFICIAL NOTICE
Public Hearing for Variance
Request**

To Whom It May Concern and to all persons interested:

Notice is hereby given that at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 15, 2022 the City of Concordia Board of Zoning Appeals, in the City Commission meeting room at City Hall, 701 Washington Street, Concordia, Kansas, will consider a request from Jason Gordon for a variance from the Concordia zoning regulations, ARTICLE 9, Section 9-4 Intensity of Use 9-401a. A variance of 1422 square feet for a minimum size commercial tract. Said variance request relates to the minimum required 10,000 square feet commercial parcel. Proposed parcel size is 8578 Square feet.

The property to which the application applies is legally described and generally located as follows:

Lots 4, Block 5 Concordia Original Town Site, Cloud County, Kansas. The site is more commonly known as 1909 Lincoln Street.

As provided in the Concordia Zoning Regulations the above variance will be discussed and considered by the City of Concordia Board of Zoning Appeals, and all persons interested in said matter will be heard at this time concerning their views and wishes.

Reasonable accommodations are available for persons needing assistance. Requests for accommodations should be submitted to Director of Community Development (785-243-2670) (TDD 785-243-2336) by 5:00 p.m., Friday, November 11, 2022.

Bruno Rehbein
Zoning Administrator

Today in History

50 Years Ago October 28, 1972

Stanton Friedman, nuclear physicist, gave an illustrated lecture, "Flying Saucers are Real," at Cloud County Community College... an old timer phoned the Blade to tell staff that she predicted a cold snowy winter, based on the fact that the sprouts in her persimmon seeds were shaped like a spoon, meaning lots of snow to shovel... the Cleophas Study Club observed its 50th anniversary with festivities in the Presbyterian Church... just in time for Halloween, Edgar Allen Poe's "Murders in the Rue Morgue" was showing at the Grand Theatre... 20 boiled shrimp were \$3.75 at the Elks dining room.

25 Years Ago October 28, 1997

While much of Kansas received heavy snowfall over the weekend, just one inch of snow fell in the Concordia area... Doug Rogers and his daughters, Erin, 10, and Amber, 8, gave a musical program for the residents at Sunset Home... Purdue University Registrar Marlesa Roney, 1976 Concordia High School graduate, accepted additional responsibilities as senior project manager of a student-retention initiative... Wilson and Izzy Bombardier were auctioneers for the white elephant auction when Martin LeSage VFW #588 Ladies Auxiliary met, raising funds for VA hospitals and cancer research.

10 Years Ago October 28, 2012

Identical twins Sister Miriam Vaughan and Sister Louise Vaughan graduated from Concordia Catholic High

School as co-valedictorians, left Marymount to enter the convent together in February 1948, and after retiring from active ministry, they moved, first to the Nazareth Motherhouse and in 2011 to Mount Joseph Senior Village, together again in Concordia... Concordia High School cross country runners Garet Koesler, Courtney Monzon and Katie Lambert qualified for state for the third consecutive year... wheat was selling at \$8.87, corn was \$7.22, and milo was \$7.02 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago October 28, 2017

The North Central Kansas Concert Band performed its first concert under the direction of Sarah Bernard-Stevens, the first-year director of bands at Cloud County Community College... Concordia Elementary Students of the Month for October were Sekoia Whitmer, Olivia Eitzmann and Vivian Owen... a second win over Hutchinson Community College gave the newly re-established Cloud County Community College women's soccer team its first Jayhawk Conference West Division title... wheat was selling at \$3.42, corn was \$3.02, and milo was \$3.22 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago October 28, 2021

The Hill and Dale 4-H Club participated in the Kansas 48 Hours service challenge and club members passed out drinks and snacks to drivers in the harvest line at the Concordia Terminal... wheat was selling at \$7.62, corn was \$5.42, and milo was \$5.62 per bushel on local markets.

Fall is finally here! Leaves are changing to beautiful shades of gold and red, and there is a crispness to the morning air. Sunrises and sunsets are filled with bright hues of pink, purple, and orange. Harvest and football are in full swing. Pumpkins and mums line front porches, and the flavors of apple and caramel have made their seasonal appearance. Heather Stilfusen summed it up perfectly with her statement, "Autumn, the season that teaches us change can be beautiful." Let us all be grateful for the opportunities change can provide.

Have you driven down West 11th Street recently, through the tunnel of colorful mature trees? If you were mesmerized by this view, you may have not noticed the snow fence in the parking lot of the East Shelter House at City Park. The leaf dump station is now open, ready to welcome unbagged leaves only. Please do not dump trash, branches, grass clippings, or bags of leaves in this pile. This temporary leaf dump station is open through November 30 for your convenience. Thank you for helping to keep leaves from clogging the storm sewer system by raking and removing them from your yard.

In just a few weeks, the North Central Kansas Medical Center will open at 155 W. College Drive. Some may find it difficult to say goodbye to the St. Joseph Hospital / Cloud County Health Center facility, which has been a strong pillar of our community for over 70 years. Others will embrace the change of scenery with excitement. The beauty of this change is two-fold: 1) this new facility will greatly improve the patient experience with all patient services provided on one floor; and 2) demolition of the old facility will provide an opportunity for new homes to be constructed in Concordia for the first time in nearly 10 years. We are grateful for the vision of the hospital board and administration, and for their efforts to make this vision a reality for the purpose of better serving our community.

As mentioned above, new homes are anticipated to be built on the old hospital grounds. The City partnered with CloudCorp to hire a consultant to prepare a housing study and market analysis. FIVE RULE Rural Planning of Kearney, Nebraska, completed this study during the spring/summer, and presented the results to the City Commission and CloudCorp Board of Directors on August 3

Following several months of data collection, meetings with stakeholders, and a windshield assessment of every property in the city, the study found there was a shortage of 245 moderate income homes and 12 high income homes in Concordia. The results of this study meshed well with the results of the 2021 Statewide Housing Needs Assessment completed by the Kansas Housing Resource Commission (KHRC), and the timing was perfect to capitalize on new and expanded funding assistance programs available through KHRC and the Department of Commerce (Commerce).

The Community Resources Committee of CloudCorp developed a plan to address these housing needs, and it was presented to the City Commission because the Commission would be heavily involved in the approvals for the available funding programs. The City Commission then authorized staff to engage in conversations with property owners regarding acquisition of their property for the purpose of housing development and to apply for funding. In late August, the Cloud County Health Center Board of Trustees voted to donate the old hospital property to the Concordia Land Bank to support housing development in Concordia. On September 6, the plan to address housing needs was presented to representatives of all governing bodies in Concordia during an intergovernmental meeting. This plan includes the use of a Rural Housing Incentive District (RHID) and a Moderate Income Housing (MIH) grant from Commerce through KHRC. The application and supporting documents were submitted to Commerce before the September 30 deadline. Commerce agreed with the City's findings related to housing, so the City Commission is expected to continue their work in November to establish the RHID. Grant award announcements for the MIH grant are expected in November.

Specifically, the plan is for the City to issue bonds to construct public streets, water and sewer infrastructure for the new housing development on the old hospital property. The RHID will establish a funding stream used to repay these bonds over 25 years, which is the eligible portion of property taxes from the new homes built within this new housing development. This method is being used in lieu of special assessments for the purpose of keeping these new homes affordable

to moderate income earners. Most of the lots within this new housing development will be earmarked for moderate income speculative homes. A small number of lots will be reserved for high income custom-built homes. This plan fits best with the existing surrounding neighborhood and directly correlates with the needs specified in the 2022 Concordia Housing Study and Market Analysis.

Additionally, vacant lots in established neighborhoods throughout the city will be selected for new home construction for moderate income earners with support of the MIH grant award. This approach allows new home construction to begin sooner because the streets and utilities are already in place. It aligns with findings and recommendation of the 2022 Concordia Housing Study and Market Analysis.

MIH grant funds will be used to reduce costs of building the new homes to keep these new homes affordable to moderate income earners. First, a portion of the funds will be used to purchase building materials for the first homes. Then after the first homes are sold, these funds will be re-infused for purchase of materials for the next homes, and so on until all homes are built. Next, a portion of the funds will be used for down payment assistance. Third, a portion of the funds are allocated for property acquisition of infill lots if we are unsuccessful with donation of properties. Finally, we propose to use the remainder of funds at the completion of the project to establish a local revolving loan fund to assist with future housing projects in Concordia. CloudCorp will administer the MIH grant fund through the Community Resources Committee.

This complex and unique approach allows us to best meet the current housing needs of our community and optimize the use of local goods and service providers. It reduces risk for all those involved, and optimizes the use of available state funds for rural housing development. We are grateful for this partnership with CloudCorp and the participation of all those who are helping to solve housing needs in Concordia.

Change can be beautiful, just like colorful autumn leaves and sunsets. Good policy, projects and partnerships may require us to think or act differently, but ultimately make Concordia a great place to live, work and play.

Happy Fall, Y'all!

Manager's Minutes

Amy L. Lange, City Manager, City of Concordia
October 2022

10/28

CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS
 TREASURER'S QUARTERLY REPORT
 FOR THE PERIOD FROM July 1, 2022 THROUGH September 30, 2022

FUNDS	2nd Quarter			3rd Quarter
	Ending Cash Balances	Receipts	Expenditures	Ending Cash Balances
100 General Fund	\$ 2,186,796.88	\$ 1,338,268.22	\$ 1,820,799.79	\$ 1,704,265.31
203 Industrial Development	19,107.21	12,763.92	-	31,871.13
205 Special Highway	225,193.09	34,804.23	59,950.99	200,046.33
206 D.A.R.E. Grant	5,165.40	50.00	-	5,215.40
208 Cyber Crimes	442.10	-	-	442.10
214 Animal Shelter	49,409.92	5,215.00	891.50	53,733.42
217 Special Park and Recreation	35,928.13	3,994.24	-	39,922.37
221 Computer Equipment/Replacement	10,346.88	10,000.00	-	20,346.88
222 Vehicle Equipment Reserve Acct.	617,998.46	311,595.20	4,344.05	925,249.61
230 Judges Training Fund	3,387.74	3,012.00	5,506.74	893.00
244 911 PSAP	49,905.20	15,524.52	5,309.12	60,120.60
250 Fire Dept. Grants & Donations	8,911.89	730.00	4,648.04	4,993.85
255 Police Dept Grants & Donations	6,426.59	1,205.63	-	7,632.22
260 Animal Trust Fund	33,542.57	22.69	3,500.00	30,065.26
270 Cemetery Endowment	41,483.94	26.66	-	41,510.60
290 Recreation Grants & Donations	12,459.94	-	-	12,459.94
301 Bond and Interest	418,526.18	122,947.63	536,880.00	4,593.81
444 TIF Projects	205,297.22	-	178,662.90	26,634.32
450 Capital Improvement Projects	172,552.46	519,741.64	91,169.35	601,124.75
451 Wastewater Treatment Facility	2,673,772.91	97,448.42	227,813.03	2,543,408.30
454 American Rescue Plan	524,804.81	-	131,900.54	392,904.27
550 Central Garage Fund	1,521.50	44,892.72	46,332.29	81.93
601 Water/Sewer General	1,217,255.05	471,747.07	430,101.71	1,258,900.41
650 Gas Fund	25,633.14	6,959.58	5,684.69	26,908.03
710 Post Fire Debris Removal Fund	24,645.00	-	6,645.00	18,000.00
725 COC Cafeteria Plan	10,686.34	4,087.62	4,398.43	10,375.53
735 Library Fund	-	13,942.10	13,942.10	-
736 Library Employee Benefit	-	5,140.58	5,140.58	-
750 Continuing Econ. Development Grant	321,820.59	2,405.85	-	324,226.44
760 Cloud County Landfill	39,081.77	105,100.62	132,040.61	12,141.78
790 NCKRTC Trauma Council	23,125.22	-	950.00	22,175.22
802 Water Protection Fund	904.06	1,907.62	1,312.69	1,498.99
TOTALS	\$ 8,966,132.19	\$ 3,133,533.76	\$ 3,717,924.15	\$ 8,381,741.80

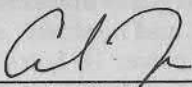
LIABILITIES:

General Obligation Bonds	6,465,000.00
TIF General Obligation Bonds	-
Capital Leases	-
TOTAL	\$ 6,465,000.00

CASH AVAILABLE:

Cash on Hand	1,031.33
Checking Accounts	5,481,776.50
Money Markets & Savings Accounts	814,979.65
Certificates of Deposit	2,083,954.32
TOTAL CASH & INVESTMENTS	\$ 8,381,741.80

I, Amber Farha, do hereby certify that the above statement is correct.


 Amber Farha, City Treasurer

CONCORDIA
 KANSAS
We Build Community!
LAB TECH
Wastewater Treatment Plant 10/31

The City of Concordia Utility Department is seeking to fill the position of full-time Lab Tech. Some essential duties of this challenging position include operating and maintaining equipment at the treatment plant and collecting wastewater and biosolids samples for daily lab reports and analysis.

Minimum requirements:
 Possess, or be able to obtain a valid Class C Kansas Driver's License and valid Commercial Driver's License; the ability to possess KDHE Wastewater Treatment Facility Operator Certification at the Class III Level required within two (2) years of employment.

The City offers excellent benefits with fully paid health insurance for the employee, retirement with the state KPERS retirement system, and more. Starting base pay is \$15.73 an hour. Complete job description and application are available at City Hall or www.concordiaks.org. Applications accepted until the position is filled.

Return to City Clerk's Office, 701 Washington, P.O. Box 603, Concordia, KS 66901, 785-243-2670. Reasonable accommodations are available for persons needing assistance upon request.

EOE

Today in History

50 Years Ago

October 31, 1972

City police confiscated 16 dozen eggs, beer, whiskey, and fireworks from youths who had been observing Halloween by egging cars, houses, and individuals... Pvt. Michael Huber recently graduated at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., from basic training and would be stationed at Ft. Bliss for Nike Hercules training... John Whitney, who had been the Concordia city treasurer since 1961, announced his resignation... the cartoons of Don Musick were featured in a showing in the lobby of the Cloud County Bank... Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Pick and Miss Edith Berk visited the Edwin Pick and Robert Hill families in St. Louis, and reported the fall foliage was beautiful.

25 Years Ago

October 31, 1997

Nora E. Larsen, Concordia, and her daughter, Lt. Col. Penny Larsen, McPherson, traveled to Washington, D.C., to attend the dedication of the Women in Military Service for American Memorial... Annie Bergmann of Annie's, dressed as Raggedy Ann, Verletta Moon of Image Apparel, dressed as Elvis and Pauline Mason of Bicycle Barn, dressed as Motorcycle Mama, won, respectively, first, second and third place in the Moonlight Madness costume contest... Dave Wall, San Francisco, showed an audience at Cloud County Community College that physics and magic were related.

10 Years Ago

October 31, 2012

Culture at Cook series began with a film of the popular Broadway musical, "Phantom of the Opera"...

Brittany Randall, daughter of Robert and Kimberly Randall, Concordia, portrayed the worldly sheep in the Southwestern Oklahoma State University players' production of the musical, "Charlotte's Web"... Cameron Collins and Joran Eshbaugh combined for 28 points to lead the Concordia eighth grade girls' basketball team to a 43-17 win over Chapman in its season opener... wheat was selling at \$8.82, corn was \$7.25, and milo was \$7.05 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago

October 31, 2017

Cloud County had only one contest in the general election: former Cloud County sheriff Larry Bergstrom wanted to hold the office again and incumbent Sheriff Brian Marks wanted to remain in office for four more years... Concordia Senior Citizens had a special guest at their Halloween dinner with a one-hour presentation by "Elvis," aka J. R. Parks... wheat was selling at \$8.82, corn was \$7.36, and milo was \$7.16 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago

October 31, 2021

A proposed \$48.5-million bond issue to fund improvements to Concordia Unified School District 333 facilities was soundly defeated by voters in the city/school general election... children from the Cloud County Community College Children's Learning Center learned about the varieties of the 15 trees that were planted on campus from Shane Kisby, Republican Valley Landscape... wheat was selling at \$7.83, corn was \$5.61, and milo was \$5.86 per bushel on local markets.

CONCORDIA
KANSAS
We Build Community!

FULL-TIME COMMUNICATIONS SUPERVISOR

The Concordia Police Department is seeking to fill the position of full-time Communications Supervisor. This position supervises the Cloud County dispatch department by providing two way radio communication for public safety departments, 911 emergencies and administrative telephone service for citizens in the City of Concordia and maintains agency records.

Minimum requirements:
Be at least 18 years of age. Equivalent of a high school diploma. No criminal convictions. Good typing and communication skills; Computer experience a plus. Must pass an extensive background check.

The position is paid hourly. Base starting salary is \$18.03/hr. Excellent benefits including paid health insurance for the employee. **Complete job description and application are available at City Hall or www.concordiaaks.org.** Applications accepted until position is filled.

Return to City Clerk's Office, 701 Washington, P.O. Box 603, Concordia, KS 66901, 785-243-2670. Reasonable accommodations are available for persons needing assistance upon request. EOE.

City commission closes out demolition grant

Closeout of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Demolition Grant, a license

agreement with Cloud County Community College (CCCC) for a private utility in a public right-of-way, and the replacement of police department body cameras were among the action items voted on during the regular meeting of the Concordia city commission Wednesday.

By unanimous vote, the city commission voted to authorize Mayor Ashley Hutchinson to sign the closeout paperwork for CDBG Demolition Grant 21 PF 004.

Through two rounds of demolition, the city achieved the demolition of 13 houses and three sheds/garages of dilapidated residential structures, all within the Concordia city limits.

After an extended debate, the city commission voted 3-2 to authorize city manager Amy Lange to sign a five-year contract with Axon Enterprise for new body cameras for the police department, with battery updates midterm. The total price

will be \$54,726.74, or \$10,945.35 annually for five years.

Mayor Ashley Hutchinson, and commissioners Marsha Wentz and S. Christy Hasch voted for the action item; commissioners Ragenia Belden and Chuck Lambertz voted against.

Both Belden and Lambertz recognized the need for the updated equipment, but wanted to see alternative cost estimates from other companies.

Body cameras are essential in today's world for law enforcement to help in the documentation of incidents. Axon Enterprise is a Scottsdale, Arizona-based company that develops technology and weapons products for the military, law enforcement, and civilians. Its initial product and former namesake is the Taser.

Axon is the only company offering a product where the video will turn on automatically with the Taser activation. Axon Enterprise equipment is currently being used by the Concordia police department.

In other action, the city commission also voted to approve a

license agreement that will allow CCCC to install a private fiber optic line in the public right-of-way of College Drive.

CCCC intends to install the line crossing under College Drive, a public street, as part of its ongoing IT Infrastructure project. The college will bore under College Drive to make a fiber connection from the main campus to Tech West.

CCCC will install two hand-holes for access to the fiber location and to allow access to the city of Concordia as required. The college will be responsible for the maintenance of this private fiber connection and will comply with city officials regarding this right-of-way agreement.

The college Board of Trustees approved the agreement at their October 25, 2022 meeting. In order for the agreement to take effect, the city commission needed to approve it as the grant-in-gentility.

Amber Farha, the city's finance director, reported that quarterly sales tax receipts for the third quarter of 2022 were \$1,689,774.40, which is

\$255,444.46 more than the same quarter of 2021.

Before adjourning, the city commission voted to approve Susie Tuggle and Steve Connor for another term on the Planning Commission.

After the commission meeting was officially adjourned, a study session was held with Fire Chief Eric Voss regarding the replacement of fire equipment over the next two years. Vehicle builds include: Medic 3, a 1998 vehicle that needs to be replaced at the cost of about \$200,000; Engine 2, which is a 2002 vehicle and needs to be replaced as an ENG at a cost of about \$380,000; and extrication equipment from 1983 that would cost about \$25,000 to replace.

Voss also reported that the EMS cot and load system is at its end of life and needs to be replaced at a cost of \$35,000; and Truck 1, a 2002 model, has engine issues and needs to be replaced at an estimated cost of \$50,000.

The total replacement cost of all the equipment is approximately \$690,000.

BIDS WANTED

The City of Concordia is accepting sealed bids for replacement of the flat and shingle roof areas of the historic Brown Grand Theatre in Concordia, Kansas. Bids will be accepted until 2:00 P.M. Tuesday, November 29, 2022. Full project details may be found at www.concordiaks.org. Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope, marked "Brown Grand Roof Replacement". Envelopes received after 2:00 P.M. on November 29 will be returned to the sender, unopened. Bids will be considered by the City Commission at 5:30 P.M. on December 7, 2022 by the City Commission at City Hall, 701 Washington Street, Concordia, Kansas. All bids must be submitted in writing to the City Clerk, City Hall, 701 Washington, PO Box 603, Concordia, KS 66901. Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive informalities and irregularities.

Today in History

50 Years Ago November 7, 1972

Cloud County voters gave approval to Democrat Governor Docking's fourth term in office... Mrs. Kay Tomlinson, English instructor at Cloud County Community College, was selling POW-MIA bracelets to students who wished to show their concern for men who were either prisoners of war or missing in action... Michael George Yaksich, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Yaksich, had been promoted to the rank of sergeant in the U. S. Air Force... Concordia High School Football players on the NCKL All-League Team roster were Gary Moore, Mark Runge, Bob Tracy, Mike McMenemy and Larry Walton.

25 Years Ago November 7, 1997

The Artist Series at the Brown Grand Theater presented Mid-Illinois Ballet performing "A Tribute to Disney" and classical excerpts... Chuck and Lisa Knapp announced the birth of their son, Jared James... Kate Renner and Dusty Hodgins were named the recipients of the Concordia cross country team #1 Runner Awards, while Panther boys receiving varsity letters included Hodgins, Stephan Smith, Spencer Farha, Russell Herman, Bo Ringer, Ken Keil, Dustin Ringer and Simon Hugelmeyer... Jean Leon was the leader for exercise sessions at the Senior Citizens Center.

10 Years Ago November 7, 2012

Chuck Knapp, 1985 graduate and four-year letter winner in football at Con-

cordia High School, was the featured speaker at the Concordia Lions Club Annual Football Banquet to honor the CHS football team... Heather Letourneau played Annie and Logan Whitney played Daddy Warbucks in the Concordia High School Theater Department's production of "Annie"... wheat was selling at \$9.15, corn was \$7.26, and milo was \$7.08 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago November 7, 2017

November would see Concordia Tractor Inc. celebrating the 50th anniversary as the John Deere dealership... year one of the Cloud County Community College women's soccer program was proving a success, as the Thunderbirds shut out Coffeyville Community College in the championship game of the Region 6 playoffs... wheat was selling at \$3.38, corn was \$2.98, and milo was \$3.18 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago November 7, 2021

Getting a second shot at unbeaten Riley County just weeks after being handed their first loss of the season, the Concordia Panthers football team avenged the loss by defeating Riley County 30-14, and would host unbeaten, two-time state defending champion Andale in the 3A sectional... Janet Rettele Eubanks and Larry Eubanks celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary... wheat was selling at \$7.66, corn was \$5.49, and milo was \$5.74 per bushel on local markets.



The City of Concordia Utility Department is seeking to fill the position of full-time Lab Tech. Some essential duties of this challenging position include operating and maintaining equipment at the treatment plant and collecting wastewater and biosolids samples for daily lab reports and analysis.

Minimum requirements: Possess, or be able to obtain a valid Class C Kansas Driver's License and valid Commercial Driver's License; the ability to possess KDHE Wastewater Treatment Facility Operator Certification at the Class III Level required within two (2) years of employment.

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EOE



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Jackson and Wentz win commission seats

11/9

Cloud County residents went to the polls Tuesday and cast their votes for local, state, and national leaders. Of the 5,888 registered voters in the county, 3,180 - 54.1% - cast ballots. 1,018 residents voted in advance of Tuesday's election.

Locally, incumbent city commissioner Marsha Wentz retained her seat with 773 votes. The top vote-getter in the election was Amy Jackson, with 988 votes. J. Troy Hardacre finished with 557 votes.

Jackson will join Wentz, Chuck Lambert, Ashley Hutchinson, and Regena Belden on the city commission. Incumbent city commissioner S. Christy Hasch chose not to run for another term.

In Cloud County, voters overwhelmingly cast their ballots for Republican candidates in the state elections. In the race for Governor, 2,072 votes - 65.51% of the total votes - were cast for Republican challenger Derek Schmidt and his Lt. Governor candidate Katie Sawyer. Incumbent Democratic Governor Laura Kelly and her Lt. Governor David Toland received 999 votes in Cloud County.

With 2,537 votes, US Senator Jerry Moran outpaced his Democratic rival Mark R. Holland's 520 votes. Libertarian Party candidate David C. Graham received 103 votes. Statewide, with 98% of precincts reporting in, Moran has been declared the winner of the US Senate race.

Tracey Mann, the incumbent Republican US Representative for the 1st District, received 2,550 votes in Cloud County. His Democratic challenger James "Jimmy" Beard received 586 votes. Statewide, national news outlets are declaring Mann the winner of his reelection bid.

In the tight statewide race for Attorney General, Republican Kris Kobach received 2,215 votes in Cloud County over his Democratic rival Chris Mann's 918 votes.

Republican Scott Schwab earned 2,449 votes in the race for Secretary of State. Democrat Jeanna Repass received 597 votes, and Libertarian Party candidate Culene Lang received 77 votes.

2,356 Cloud County voters cast their ballot for Republican Steven Johnson in the race for State Treasurer. Current State Treasurer Lynn Rogers, a Democrat, received 682 votes.

In the race for Commissioner of Insurance, incumbent Republican Vicki Schmidt received 2,535 votes to the 576 votes of her Democratic challenger Kiel Corkran.

State Representative Susan Concannon ran unopposed in her bid for reelection and collected 1,957 votes, or 97.61% of the total ballots cast.

Republican Mark Matthew ran unopposed for his seat on the Cloud County commission and received 961 votes - 98.67% of the total ballots cast.

Constitutional Amendment 1, which would allow the legislature to establish procedures to revoke or suspend rules and regulations that are adopted by state executive branch agencies and officials that have the force and effect of law, received 1,679 Yes votes in Cloud County, and 1,264 No votes. Statewide, as of press time, the ballot initiative was still too close call.

In Cloud County, Constitutional Amendment 2 received 2,062 Yes votes and 919 No votes. The Amendment would preserve the right of citizens of each county that elected a county sheriff as of January 11, 2022, to continue electing the county sheriff via popular vote. The Amendment would also direct that a county sheriff only may be involuntarily removed from office pursuant to either a recall election or a writ of quo warranto initiated by the attorney general. Statewide, national news services have declared that the Amendment passed.



11/9

CHIEF OF POLICE

The City of Concordia seeks an experienced law enforcement officer with a proven record of successful crime prevention and community-oriented policing strategies, effective leadership, teamwork, and public relations abilities to lead the Police Department in a vibrant and growing rural community. Candidates must possess a minimum ten (10) years law enforcement experience, including a minimum five (5) years experience in a responsible command, supervisory or administrative capacity.

Under direction of the City Manager, and governing laws, the Chief of Police plans, organizes, directs, and manages all operations of the Concordia Police Department, including Dispatch and the Animal Shelter, through subordinate officers who oversee daily operations assuring all law enforcement and emergency communications services are available 24 hours a day.

Chief of Police must reside within six (6) miles of the intersection of 11th and Lincoln Streets in Concordia within six (6) months of employment.

Salary \$55,000 - \$70,000 depending on experience and qualifications.

Successful candidate will become a member of the Kansas Police and Fire (KP&F) retirement program. Excellent benefits including paid health insurance for the employee. Complete job description and application are available at City Hall or www.concordiaks.org.

Applications accepted until the position is filled. Submit letter of interest and completed city application form and supporting documentation to City of Concordia City Clerk's Office, PO Box 603, 701 Washington, Concordia, KS 66901. Reasonable accommodations are available for persons needing assistance upon request.

EOE

VETERAN SPOTLIGHT – ERIC VOSS

Concordia Fire Chief Eric Voss is a military veteran who is honored to have served his country. "I was proud to have served. It's a tradition in my family. It's helped me become who I am today," Voss said.

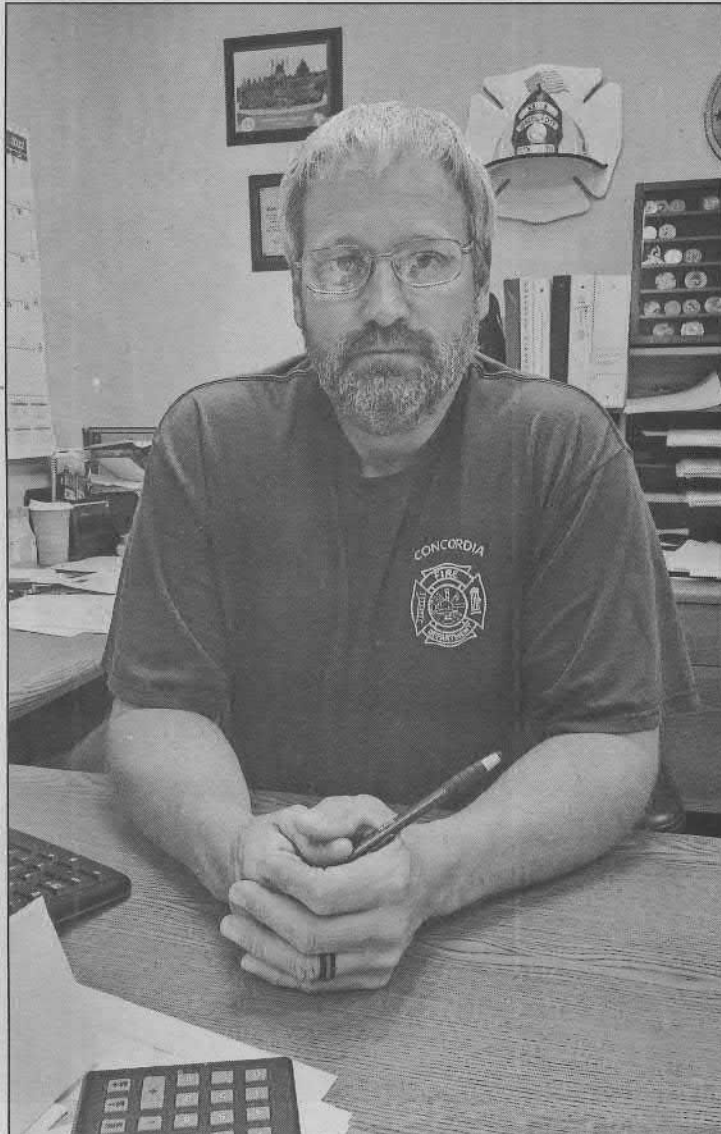
Born in Scottsbluff, Nebraska, Voss grew up in western Kansas and the panhandle of Texas. He joined the Army Reserves in 1995 when he was still a junior in high school.

Voss smiled at the memory of his enlistment. "It turned out I saw and did way more than I ever thought I would at the time."

In 1999, Voss's unit was deployed to the Balkans during what is now termed the Yugoslav Wars. The strife was a series of separate but related ethnic conflicts, wars of independence, and insurgencies that took place in the former country of Yugoslavia from 1991 to 2001. The conflicts killed an estimated 100,000 people and caused the displacement of over two million people from their homes. The US military and NATO became heavily involved in the conflict, which had been called "Europe's deadliest armed conflict since World War II."

Voss was part of a Quick Response Team (QRT) that operated in the Balkans. "We were a rescue response team, going after downed

"I'd do it all over again, in a heartbeat," Voss said. "I loved every minute of it."



**Eric Voss,
Concordia Fire Chief**

11/11

aircraft," Voss said. "We were also responsible for fire protection of the base."

Voss injured his leg during a rescue mission and was awarded his first Purple Heart. He served in the Balkan combat zone for one year.

In February 2003, Voss was again deployed to a combat zone, this time in the Middle East during the Iraq War. "Our QRT was with the 101st Airborne," Voss said. "We pushed up from Kuwait City, all the way to Mosul (a distance of almost 600 miles). We went from one end of Iraq to the other. It was nonstop."

Voss was awarded a second Purple Heart when he broke his hand during a rescue mission. "We worked helicopter crashes and IEDs (improvised explosive devices). I saw a lot and was hurt a lot. When we reached Mosul we slept in tents right on the flight line at Mosul International Airport."

Mosul is the second largest city in Iraq, and a hotbed for Iraqi insurgent and terrorist activity.

Voss's deployment in Iraq ended in November of 2003. After serving for 10 years and in two different combat arenas, Voss left the Army Reserves in 2005 as an E5 Sergeant. "I'd do it all over again, in a heartbeat," Voss said. "I loved every minute of it."



Raising the flags

Concordia students and community members were out early this morning putting up the flags for the "Avenue of Flags" at the Pleasant Hill Cemetery. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)

11/11

Today in History

50 Years Ago

November 11, 1972

Because of a Kansas Supreme Court ruling regarding gambling, County Attorney William J. Walsh mailed letters to the Knights of Columbus, VFW, Moose, Elks and American Legion Club and other local organizations which were possibly operating bingo games, warning them that they had to discontinue bingo or else be on the wrong side of the law... the board of education of USD 333 made final arrangements to acquire the area just east of the Middle School for a playground area, which would eliminate traffic hazards created by the necessity of crossing the highway to reach the playground located north of the street... more than 4000 people attended the Cloud County annual 4-H Achievement banquet.

25 Years Ago

November 11, 1997

Judy Zimmerman, Concordia High School Social Studies instructor, was awarded the Kansas Council for the Social Studies 1997-98 Excellence in Teaching Award... Army Pvt. Jamie A. Wheeler graduated from the heavywheel vehicle mechanic course at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C... Paige Nachtigal and Charlene and Gene Hansen presented spiritual music programs at Sunset Home... Brenda Clark, daughter of Levi and Dolores Deneault, graduated from the Academy of Hair Design in Salina... Sharon Bates, Rite-Way Laundry Cleaners, earned the title "Certified Environmental Drycleaner."

10 Years Ago

November 11, 2012

Unified School District 333 board of education made the decision to sell the nature trail at an auction... Logan Whitney, Concordia High School senior, was the winner of VFW #588 and

Auxiliary's Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen essay contest... Lindsey Widen, who led the Concordia High School volleyball team in kills and blocks, was a unanimous selection to the All-North Central Kansas League volleyball team... wheat was selling at \$8.68, corn was \$7.11, and milo was \$6.91 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago

November 11, 2017

The Concordia High School Drama Department and the Camp Concordia Preservation Society joined forces on Veterans Day at the performance of the drama department's fall play "The Orange Hotel," where members of the Camp Concordia Preservation Society brought artifacts from the museum, and proceeds from that night's performance would be donated to the museum... Ann Sorensen, Jara Roush, Sarah Chavey, Jenny Parker, Amber Lambertz, Molly Skocny and Carrie Williams made up the Concordia Recreation women's volleyball league championship team... wheat was selling at \$3.40, corn was \$3.01, and milo was \$3.21 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago

November 11, 2021

Sunset Home honored their veterans during a ceremony on Veterans Day, organized by Janel Koons, and veterans in attendance were Bill Forshee, Marge Higgins, Gene Ganstrom, Ron Davis, Larry McLaughlin, Troy Anderson, Lowell Stuckey and Health Trost... soldiers of the 997th Brigade Support Battalion provided a color guard for the Cloud County Veterans Day Appreciation ceremony at Cloud County Community College... Marshall Charbonneau celebrated his 85th birthday... wheat was selling at \$7.74, corn was \$5.50, and milo was \$5.75 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago

November 14, 1972

Cloud County Community College held an open house for the public to tour the facilities... Concordia Rotary Club was sponsoring a Turkey Shoot at the Concordia Gun Club facility... technical sergeant Jerry Morrill, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Morrill, was a member of an Air Training Command organization at Sheppard AFB, Texas, which earned the U.S. Air Force Outstanding Unit Award... Mr. and Mrs. William Erhardt announced the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Sherrie, to Sp. 4 Richard Radcliffe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Radcliffe, all of Concordia.

25 Years Ago

November 14, 1997

The Cloud County Genealogical Society was celebrating its 20th anniversary... preparing a recipe for Maple Glazed Ribs, Glenna Heald, Concordia, won the grand prize in the Second Annual Holiday Recipe Contest sponsored by Coast to Coast and The Blade-Empire... Josephine Rodgers Appleby, Clyde; Carl Swenson and wife Maryln, Lorene Perry Huscher, Joyce Price Bourne, all of Concordia; Sigrid Sjogren Phishny, Waterville; and Belva Doyen Morgan, Norway, members of the Concordia High School Class of 1933, met for lunch at the Thunderbird Restaurant.

10 Years Ago

November 14, 2012

Larry Uri, city attorney for Concordia, gave the Talk of the Month presentation regarding the South

Concordia Flood Control Project... Mike and Sharon (Cibolski) Bates of Concordia celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary... VFW Auxiliary #588 members gathered to decorate snowmen gift bags to send to veterans at Leavenworth Hospital for Christmas... VFW Auxiliary #588 member Verona Perret was selling raffle tickets for a blue quilt she made for Cancer Aid and Research... wheat was selling at \$8.68, corn was \$7.11, and milo was \$6.91 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago

November 14, 2017

The Concordia Police Department Emergency Communications Center, in conjunction with the Kansas 911 Coordinating Council, announced the availability of Text-to-911 during an emergency for those who cannot safely make a call to 911... Jessica Williams, daughter of Francis and Carrie Williams, had been selected as Concordia High School's Student of the Month for November... wheat was selling at \$3.58, corn was \$2.92, and milo was \$3.12 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago

November 14, 2021

Former city commissioner and mayor Mark Matthew officially won a seat on the Cloud County Community College Board of Trustees... the Concordia Panthers had their season end with a playoff loss to the Andale Indians... wheat was selling at \$8.13, corn was \$5.70, and milo was \$5.95 per bushel on local markets.



CHIEF OF POLICE

11/15

The City of Concordia seeks an experienced law enforcement officer with a proven record of successful crime prevention and community-oriented policing strategies, effective leadership, teamwork, and public relations abilities to lead the Police Department in a vibrant and growing rural community. Candidates must possess a minimum ten (10) years law enforcement experience, including a minimum five (5) years' experience in a responsible command, supervisory or administrative capacity.

Under direction of the City Manager, and governing laws, the Chief of Police plans, organizes, directs, and manages all operations of the Concordia Police Department, including Dispatch and the Animal Shelter, through subordinate officers who oversee daily operations assuring all law enforcement and emergency communications services are available 24 hours a day.

Chief of Police must reside within six (6) miles of the intersection of 11th and Lincoln Streets in Concordia within six (6) months of employment.

Salary \$55,000 - \$70,000 depending on experience and qualifications.

Successful candidate will become a member of the Kansas Police and Fire (KP&F) retirement program. Excellent benefits including paid health insurance for the employee. Complete job description and application are available at City Hall or www.concordiaks.org.

Applications accepted until the position is filled.

Submit letter of interest and completed city application form and supporting documentation to City of Concordia City Clerk's Office, PO Box 603, 701 Washington, Concordia, KS 66901. Reasonable accommodations are available for persons needing assistance upon request.

EOE



CHIEF OF POLICE

11/10

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Submit letter of interest and completed city application form and supporting documentation to City of Concordia City Clerk's Office, PO Box 603, 701 Washington, Concordia, KS 66901. Reasonable accommodations are available for persons needing assistance upon request.

EOE

Today in History

50 Years Ago November 16, 1972

After 54 years of operation, one of Concordia's oldest and most successful business firms, the Bowman Seed Company, had closed and was in the process of liquidation... a new ALCO Discount Center opened in Concordia... Curley Culp, veteran defensive tackle for the Kansas City Chiefs, had been secured as the speaker for the annual Concordia Lions Club Football Banquet... the Concordia High School Kayettes held a talent show to raise money for an orphan the club had adopted... Sandy Duncan and Tony Roberts starred in "Star Spangled Girl," showing at the Grand Theatre.

25 Years Ago November 16, 1997

Kim Wiesner had purchased Century 21 GHS Associates, Inc. from Rachelle Hower... Jamie Snyder and Cressie Simoneau, Concordia High School seniors and co-captains of the CHS Dance Squad, joined 498 other dancers from throughout the United States to perform as the Mike Miller Dance Team and Universal Dance Association in the 71st annual Macy's parade... Janice Norlin used the Concordia Area Chamber of Commerce Scissors of Success to cut the ribbon at the grand opening of her law office at 607 Broadway.

10 Years Ago November 16, 2012

Concordia High School students Marie Brewer, Heather Letourneau, Olivia Leif, Carly Magidson, Katie Koerber, Autumn Zimmerman, Amanda Lawrence, Leyli Beims, Logan Whitney, Daniel Longfellow, Tristin Morgan, Gabe Bergmann and Cody Schmitz were selected to the 2012 KMEA

District Honor Choir... Deklyn Payeur, sixth grade, and Lyle Palmquist and Vaughn Stull, fifth grade, were the top sellers in the Concordia Middle School gas giveaway fundraiser... wheat was selling at \$8.54, corn was \$7.12, and milo was \$6.92 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago November 16, 2017

A semi carrying a section of a wind turbine got hung up on the Highway 81 viaduct, rolling several of its trailer wheels up on to the bridge railing... Concordian Louisa Dowling received a \$50,000 check from Kansas Lottery that she won playing playing Super Red Hot Crossword... Elizabeth Nobbert, a sophomore middle hitter from Clyde, was one of two members of the Cloud County Community College volleyball team who received All-Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference honors... wheat was selling at \$3.53, corn was \$2.92, and milo was \$3.12 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago November 16, 2021

Employees of the Concordia location of Prairieland Partners took part in the seventh annual "No Shave November Food Drive" collection of food items for the Cloud County Resource Center, delivering 977 items and a monetary donation of \$45 to the resource center... individual champions Deekon Holbert, Rush LeDuc, Kale Schroeder, Drake Blochlinger and Max Johnson led the Concordia Junior High School wrestling team to a second-place finish in its own tournament... wheat was selling at \$8.01, corn was \$5.66, and milo was \$5.91 per bushel on local markets.

(Published in the Concordia Blade-Empire on Wednesday, November 16, 2022)

NOTICE OF HEARING BY

**THE CONCORDIA
PLANNING COMMISSION**

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Concordia Planning Commission to consider a Preliminary Plat of the Cloud County CC Tech Center Addition

Cloud County Community College seeks to plat a tract of land west of Highway 81/Lincoln Street and south west of College Drive, and is more particularly described as follows:

S09, T06, R03, ACRES 5.37, TR BEG NW COR OF LOT 2, BLOCK D, BLOSSER SKYLINE ADD; TH E 459.9', NELY 164.79' TO ROW OF COLLEGE DR, NWLY ALG ROW OF COLLEGE DR TO A PT, SWLY 704.66' TO POB EXC TR BEG 802.33' SWLY OF NE COR OF NW4 TO A PT ON S BOUNDARY OF COLLEGE DR; TH SWLY 161.24', NELY 67.08', NELY 100.07', SELY TO POB

The public hearing on the above-described tract will be held in the City Commission Room, City Hall, 701 Washington Street, Concordia, KS, on the 8th Day of December, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

All persons desiring to be heard on this request regarding the above-described properties shall have the opportunity to be heard at this time.

Reasonable accommodations are available for persons needing assistance. Requests for accommodations should be submitted to the Director of Community Development (785-243-2670) (TDD 785-243-2336) by 5:00 p.m., Friday, December 2, 2022.

Bruno Rehbein
Planning and Zoning

(Published in the Concordia Blade-Empire on Friday, November 18, 2022)

Ordinance No. 2022-3194

On November 16, the City of Concordia adopted Ordinance No. 2022-3194 for the purpose of rezoning a tract located at 1478 Union Road in the City of Concordia. A reproduction of this ordinance will be available for not less than one week following the publication of this summary of the ordinance at the website address of the City of Concordia, <http://www.concordiak.org>. This summary is certified by the city attorney to be legally accurate and sufficient.

(Published in the Concordia Blade-Empire on Friday, November 18, 2022)

Ordinance No. 2022-3193

On November 16, the City of Concordia adopted Ordinance No. 2022-3193 for the purpose of rezoning a tract located at 1100 Highland Drive in the City of Concordia. A reproduction of this ordinance will be available for not less than one week following the publication of this summary of the ordinance at the website address of the City of Concordia, <http://www.concordiak.org>. This summary is certified by the city attorney to be legally accurate and sufficient.

(Published in The Concordia Blade-Empire on Friday, November 18 and November 25, 2022)

CHARTER ORDINANCE NO. 28

A CHARTER ORDINANCE EXEMPTING THE CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS, FROM THE PROVISIONS OF K.S.A. 14-570 AND K.S.A. 14-571 AND PROVIDING SUBSTITUTE AND ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS ON THE SAME SUBJECT RELATING TO PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING FOR SAID IMPROVEMENTS.

WHEREAS, Article 12, Section 5 of the Constitution of the State of Kansas (the "Act"), provides that cities may exercise certain home rule powers, including passing charter ordinances which exempt such cities from non-uniform enactments of the Kansas Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the City of Concordia, Kansas (the "City") is a city, as defined in the Act, duly created and organized, under the laws of the State of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, K.S.A. 14-570 and K.S.A. 14-571 are part of an enactment of the Kansas Legislature (K.S.A. 14-570 et seq.) relating to public improvements and the issuance of bonds for such purposes, which enactment is applicable to the City, but is not uniformly applicable to all cities within the State of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the City (the "Governing Body") desires, by charter ordinance, to exempt the City from the provisions of K.S.A. 14-570 and K.S.A. 14-571, and to provide substitute and additional provisions therefor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS:

Section 1. Exemption. The City, by virtue of the powers vested in it by the Act, hereby elects to exempt itself from and make inapplicable to it the provisions of K.S.A. 14-570 and K.S.A. 14571, and shall be governed by the following substitute and additional provisions contained herein.

Section 2. Plan for Public Improvements. Whenever the Governing Body has approved a capital improvements plan or program (the "Plan") for the physical development, maintenance, and protection of the City within the boundaries of the City, including the acquisition of necessary land and the acquisition of equipment, vehicles or other personal property to be used in relation thereto, and which may provide for assumption and payment of benefit district indebtedness heretofore created for public improvements and may require a number of years to execute, the City is hereby authorized to issue its general obligation bonds (the "Bonds") in an amount sufficient to carry out such Plan or portion thereof and associated costs.

Section 3. Procedure for Issuance of Bonds. Before any Bonds are authorized or issued pursuant to this Charter Ordinance, the City shall adopt a resolution specifying the amount of such Bonds and the purpose of the issuance thereof. Such resolution may contain, but is not required to contain, a provision that the issuance of the bonds be subject to: (a) publication of such resolution one time in the official City newspaper, and if within 30 days after the date of publication of the resolution, a petition in opposition to the issuance of the bonds, signed by not less than 10% of the qualified electors of the City, is filed with the City Clerk, the City shall not have the authority to issue the bonds until such question is submitted to the electors of the City at a special election called for that purpose or at the next general election and approved by a majority of the electors of the City voting at such election; or (b) approval by a majority of the electors of the City voting on such question at a special election called for that purpose or at the next general election. If such resolution does not contain a provision described in the foregoing subsection (a) or subsection (b), or if such resolution does contain a provision described in the foregoing subsection (a), but no protest is filed as described in subsection (a), the City may proceed to issue the bonds. Any election required by this section shall be conducted in the manner set forth in K.S.A. 10-120 by the election officer of Cloud County. General obligation bonds authorized by this section shall be issued, sold, delivered and retired in accordance with the provisions of the general bond law except as herein otherwise expressly provided.

Section 4. Severability. If any provision or section of this Charter Ordinance is deemed or ruled unconstitutional or otherwise illegal or invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this Charter Ordinance. In such instance, this Charter Ordinance shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had not been contained herein.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Charter Ordinance shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in the official City newspaper, and shall take effect sixty (60) days after final publication, unless a petition signed by a number of electors of the City equal to not less than ten percent (10%) of the number of electors who voted at the last preceding regular City election shall be filed in the office of the City Clerk demanding that this Charter Ordinance be submitted to a vote of the electors, in which event this Charter Ordinance shall take effect when approved by a majority of the electors voting at an election held for such purpose.

PASSED with at least a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire governing body of the City of Concordia, Kansas, on November 16, 2022 and **SIGNED** by the Mayor.

(SEAL)

Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk

Today in History

50 Years Ago November 18, 1972

Department heads at the new ALCO Discount Store included Dennis Smith, manager; Alice Edwards, lingerie and hosiery; Geraldine Gagna, shoes; Deidra Blackwell, men's wear; Roberta Lowrey, notions and piece goods; Shirley Decker, ladies' wear; Mitzi Green, infants' wear; Ramona Wade, games; Debbie Walker, candy and head checker; Shirley Girard, housewares; Blanche Roberts, stationery; Mary Saunders, toys; Ilene Reed, service counter; Junior Herring, garden center; Clarence Geisler, sporting goods; Bernadine Leclair, domestics; Naomi Smith, hardware; Lila Patterson, health and beauty; Karla Stangel, advertising and personnel, and Janet Shrader, counting room.

25 Years Ago November 18, 1997

Students at Concordia Elementary School made table toppers for Burger King encouraging customers not to smoke for the Great American Smokeout... as a thank you to the taxpayers of the Concordia school district, USD 333 was offering computer training to the adult community... Concordians Matt Bartz, Zach Balthazor and Bryan Hartsel had qualified to compete in the Kansas City Chief's Punt, Pass and Kick Team Championship... RadioShack was holding a seminar on how to operate Camcorders.

10 Years Ago November 18, 2012

Concordia chess players hosted a tournament and won the elementary division, and top individual placers in the division were Ivon Owen, first; Levi Sieben, second;

Jacob Williams, third; and Vaughn Stull, fourth... Addie Townsden, sixth-grader, and Maddie Johnson, fifth-grader, were the "Paws"itive Counts winners at Concordia Middle School... Nancy Collins gave the program when Chapter AO of P.E.O. met, reporting on the volunteer work she and her husband Ted did at the Iona Abbey on the Isle of Iona, Scotland... wheat was selling at \$8.56, corn was \$7.28, and milo was \$7.08 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago November 18, 2017

The USD 333 school board heard discussion on the addition of trap shooting to the school's club list... Norman and Sharlene "Sherry" (Smith) Johnson celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary, celebrating with a Smoky Mountain Fall tour with the Friendship Club... Concordia High School senior volleyball players Cydney Bergmann, Jessica Williams and Laken Shroeder had been named to the All-NCKL team... wheat was selling at \$3.63, corn was \$2.92, and milo was \$3.12 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago November 18, 2021

Citing COVID-19 illnesses and quarantines, USD 333 Administration announced that classes would be canceled for one week... Concordia High School junior Moyra Barnes was the recipient of the Brent Newton Award, given to the cross country runner(s) that inspire hard work, desire, spirit and heart in the teammates by working hard every meet... wheat was selling at \$8.13, corn was \$5.72, and milo was \$5.97 per bushel on local markets.

(Published in The Concordia Blade-Empire on Friday, November 18 and November 25, 2022)

CHARTER ORDINANCE NO. 29

A CHARTER ORDINANCE EXEMPTING THE CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS, FROM THE PROVISIONS OF K.S.A. 12-104a RELATING TO FILLING VACANCIES OF THE GOVERNING BODY.

WHEREAS, Article 12, Section 5 of the Constitution of the State of Kansas (the "Act"), provides that cities may exercise certain home rule powers, including passing charter ordinances which exempt such cities from non-uniform enactments of the Kansas Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the City of Concordia, Kansas (the "City") is a city, as defined in the Act, duly created and organized, under the laws of the State of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, K.S.A. 12-104a is part of an enactment of the Kansas Legislature relating to governing bodies of municipalities that is applicable to the City, but is not uniformly applicable to all cities within the State of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the City desires, by charter ordinance, to exempt the City from the provisions of K.S.A. 12-104a, and to provide substitute and additional provisions therefore by ordinary ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the governing body of the City of Concordia, Kansas:

Section 1. The City of Concordia, by the power vested in the city by Article 12, Section 5, of the Constitution of the State of Kansas, hereby elects to exempt itself from and make inapplicable to it those parts of K.S.A. 12-104a, relating to the filling of governing body vacancies.

Section 2. All vacancies occurring in the office of city commissioner for the City of Concordia, Kansas, whether such vacancies occur by reason of the removal of a commissioner by death, resignation, the failure of a commissioner to qualify for office, or the disqualification of a commissioner for the holding of such office shall be filled by an election held among the remaining members of the city commission of said city, and such election must be held at the next regular meeting of the governing body of said city or at a special meeting called thereto for the purpose of filling such vacancy or at an adjournment or continuance of such regular or special meeting. Any successor in office elected by the governing body to fill such vacancy must be elected by a majority of the remaining commissioners of said city, and should the remaining commission of said city fail to elect a successor in office for the vacancy in office of commissioner within sixty (60) days of the vacancy, the mayor of said city shall appoint a qualified person in which said vacancy exists to fill such expired term. In the event that any person so elected by the remaining members of the city commission or appointed by the mayor in the manner set forth above should refuse, fail or neglect to qualify for such office by taking or subscribing to his oath for a period of thirty (30) days following such election or appointment, then and in that event the mayor of said city shall appoint another qualified person to fill such vacancy.

Section 3. That nothing herein shall be construed as rendering invalid any act of the governing body of said city, or during the period of time between the appointment or election of a commissioner to fill an unexpired term and prior to his qualification by his taking and subscribing the oath within the time herein above specified.

Section 4. All city commissioners elected or appointed under the provisions of this ordinance shall take and subscribe to oath for the faithful performance of their duties within thirty (30) days after such appointment or election.

Section 5. This Charter Ordinance shall be published once each week for two consecutive weeks in the official city newspaper, and shall take effect sixty-one days after its final publication unless a valid petition requiring submittal of this ordinance to a referendum is filed according to law.

PASSED by a two-thirds vote of the governing body and signed by the mayor this 16th day of November, 2022.

Rezoning for housing subdivision approved

Rezoning the site of the old hospital, a development agreement, a cost-of-living increase for hourly and salaried city employees, and the purchase of a new vehicle were among the action items voted on during the regularly scheduled meeting of the city commission on Wednesday.

The city commission meeting began with the recognition of city employees who have reached employment milestones. Those recognized were Gary Strait, 30 years; Jeremy Arnold, 25 years; James Buller, 25 years; Aaron Hake, 15 years; Eric Voss, 10 years; Derek Champlin, 10

years; and Paul McGuire, 10 years.

By unanimous vote, the commission approved Ordinance 2022-3193 that would rezone 1100 Highland Drive, the site of the old hospital. The ordinance changes the site from a C-2 Restricted Commercial District to R-1 Low-Density Residential District. The change was made in anticipation of a new housing subdivision being built on the site once the old hospital is razed.

The commission then voted unanimously to approve Charter Ordinance No. 29 which exempts

the City of Concordia from the provisions of K.S.A. 14-570 and K.S.A. 14-571 and provides substitute and additional provisions on the same subject relating to public improvements and the issuance of bonds to pay for said improvements.

The city intends to develop a new housing subdivision on the land donated by the Cloud County Health Center to the Concordia Land Bank. The city allocated funding toward this new residential subdivision within its capital improvement program (CIP) for the fiscal year 2023 (FY 2023). However, the

cost of constructing the public infrastructure to serve this new residential subdivision will require the issuance of bonds and an associated benefit district is planned to be used to repay those bonds.

The city has applied for a Moderate Income Housing (MIH) grant from the Kansas Department of Commerce to facilitate the construction of new homes within the new residential subdivision. If awarded, the grant requires work to be completed within a certain time period, or show significant progress made (see Rezoning on page 10)

Rezoning ^{11/18}

(continued from page 1)

The awarding of the first round of MIH grants is expected to be announced in November 2022, and the second round in January 2023. In an effort to ensure the use of the Rural Housing Incentive District (RHID) to repay bonds issued to construct public infrastructure and to comply with potential MIH grant assurances related to the timing of this housing project, a Charter Ordinance related to K.S.A. 14-570 and K.S.A. 14-571 was necessary.

Following a 20-minute executive session for the purpose of discussing confidential business data, that included city manager Amy Lange, city attorney Justin Ferrell and CloudCorp executive director Nicole Reed, the commission approved a development agreement with 1909 Lincoln Street, LLC.

1909 Lincoln Street, LLC plans to install a pull-through car wash at 1909 Lincoln St., where Thunder Strikez Bowling Alley was before it was destroyed by fire.

The development agreement states that Jason and Christi Gordon, Parker, Colo., intend to start business operations by December 31, 2023.

1909 Lincoln Street, LLC plans to provide employment for a minimum of two full-time equivalent employees.

As part of the agreement, the city has agreed to provide and construct a paved extension of 20th Street with curb and gutter to a point just beyond the proposed site entry, to be completed no later than July 1, 2023.

The estimated total contribution of city cash payments is \$56,31.50 for the development.

In other action, the city commission approved Ordinance 2022-3194 that would rezone 1478 Union Road from C-3 general commercial district to I-1 light industrial district.

Tom Fredrickson, representing Nelson Family Enterprises, sought to have the property, now identified as Lot C, Block 2 of the Concordia North-Development Business and Industrial Park, rezoned in order to develop the lot for a food distribution warehouse. Warehouses are not an allowed use in the C-3 General Commercial District.

The city commission also approved Resolution 2022-2144 that amended the city pay scale to reflect a 4.7% cost of living increase for 2023 for all hourly and salaried employees.

During the action item portion of the meeting, the commission approved the purchase of a 2023 Ford Edge from Farm Country Ford for \$38,914, to be paid from the vehicle replacement fund.

On October 7, an ad was published in the Blade-Empire seeking sealed bids for a 2021 or newer vehicle to be used for training and out-of-town travel. Bid specs were mailed to local Concordia dealers, Beloit Buick GMC, and all new vehicle dealers in Salina.

On November 4, the five received bids were opened. The only vehicle meeting all the required specs was the 2023 Ford Edge submitted by Farm Country Ford. The vehicle will need to be ordered and will take approximately six months to arrive.

The vehicle currently used for the above-noted purposes is a 2015 Chevy Equinox with a little over 50,000 miles. City staff recommended that this vehicle be transferred to the building inspector, and the 2012 Chevy Impala currently being used by the building inspector would be based at the Blosser Municipal Airport-CNK as a rental car. The current rental car is a 1983 Lincoln Town Car that has recently needed numerous repairs.

The city commission also voted to transfer ownership of a small parcel of city-owned land to Cloud County Community College (CCCC).

The college intends to construct a new technical education building on property owned by the CCCC along College Drive between Walmart and the CCCC main campus building. CCCC is currently developing the preliminary plat and site plan, and the parcel of land is within their desired development.

The parcel of land includes a concrete flume inlet and storm sewer pipe that funnels stormwater runoff from the south into the 21st Street Dam and flood control area. The proposed site plan removes the concrete flume inlet but incorporates the storm sewer pipe into an enclosed storm sewer system design. The proposed site plan also includes a paved parking area that covers a portion of the City's parcel.

City staff recommended donating the parcel of land to CCCC to facilitate efficient and fully functional traffic flow on the site.

Staff also proposed the dedication of a permanent public drainage easement to protect this public storm sewer infrastructure that feeds the 21st Street Dam flood control area. Dedication of the permanent public drainage easement can occur as part of the platting process, but the transfer of land ownership should occur first so accurate property ownership is shown on the preliminary plat.



Hanging the snowflakes

City of Concordia employees hang the snowflake Christmas decorations downtown. (Blade photo by Jim Lowell)

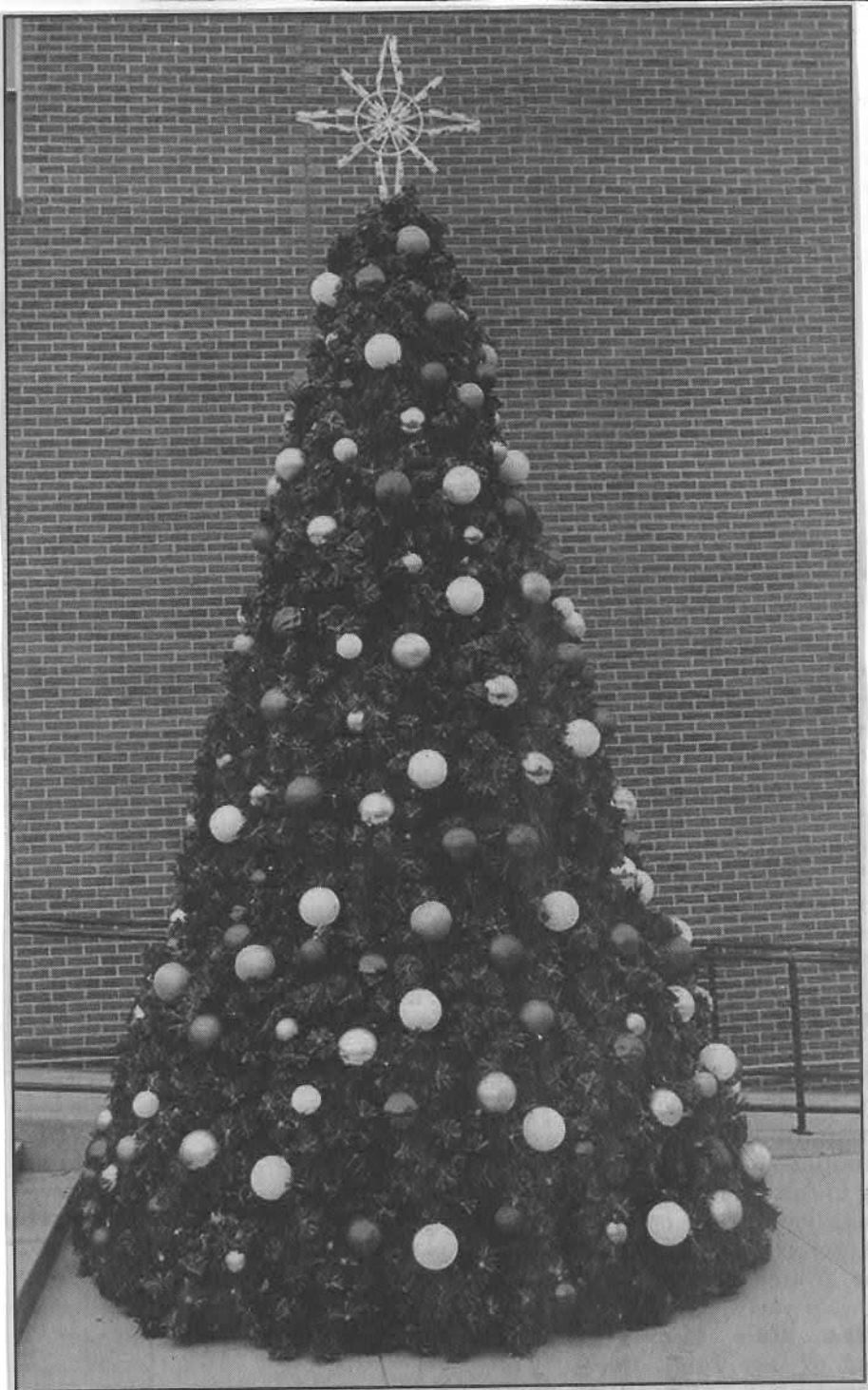
11/18



Decorating downtown

City of Concordia employees string Christmas lights across Sixth Street on Monday morning. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)

11/21



Ready for Santa

The Christmas tree at the Broadway Plaza is decorated and ready for Santa Claus to turn on the lights during Hometown Holidays on Friday. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)

11/23

Today in History

50 Years Ago November 23, 1972

Six angels had been added to this year's downtown Christmas decorations... SP5 Nolan Buckley and SP4 Walter St. Pierre each received the Kansas National Guard Service Medal for five years of excellent service with Company A, 891st Engineer Battalion... The Orange Owl, featuring women's clothes and specialty items, opened at 105 West Sixth Street... Coach Tacha's "Big Seven," the Concordia High School players expected to be the backbone of the Panther squad in the forthcoming basketball season were Larry Walton, Bill Garlow, Gary Moore, Richard Lesperance, David Lesperance, Dennis Yoxall and Larry Metro.

25 Years Ago November 23, 1997

The Cloud County Health Center board of directors announced that Dr. Allison Christie was expected to join Medico Associates on December 1... White Christmas Tree Farm, owned by Donis and Jim White, was offering choose & cut Austrian and Scotch pines for \$25... parents who volunteered to set up the Accelerated Reader Store and to make Book Bucks at the Concordia Elementary School were Florence Girard, Tracie Collins, Angie Fahey, Rhonda Wilson, Carrie Parker, Lisa Snavelly, Kelly Wright, Lori Crum, Joni Bergstrom, Verna Ferguson and Diane Bieker.

10 Years Ago November 23, 2012

The Cloud "Kicks" Jazz Band teamed up with The Heartland Chorus to provide an evening of Big Band

Jazz and Broadway favorites at Cook Theatre... Mike and Missy Loeffler, Concordia, announced the engagement of their daughter, Bailey Lou-Ann, to Tad Miller, son of Debbie Miller and Lynn Miller of Stockton... Jordan Eshbaugh made 17 points and Cameron Collins made seven when the Concordia eighth grade girls' basketball team took third place in the Turkey Shootout held in Salina... wheat was selling at \$8.62, corn was \$7.35, and milo was \$7.15 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago November 23, 2017

Concordia Elementary School Students of the Month for November were Braytin Hake, Bella Haskett and Kinzee Motes... Rope Dorman was presented the Trevor Gennette Most Outstanding Offensive Player Award and Brent Beaumont was awarded the Keith Christensen Outstanding Senior Lineman Award during the Lions Club Football Banquet... wheat was selling at \$3.60, corn was \$2.95, and milo was \$3.20 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago November 23, 2021

During the month of December, Cloud County Historical Society Museum would have an exhibition of photography by former Blade-Empire staff photographer Chris Black... members of the Concordia High School basketball team taught fundamentals of the game to 35 students in grades 1-6 during a clinic at the Concordia Elementary School... wheat was selling at \$8.13, corn was \$5.65, and milo was \$5.90 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago November 25, 1972

Sheriff Fred Modlin appointed Bradley Runyan, 20 years old, unmarried and a Concordia High School graduate and present Jamestown city marshal, as Cloud County undersheriff... Clay Center High School became a member of the North Central Kansas league when the league of five schools approved the Clay Center application by unanimous vote... the Chequers Club, Ltd. from Cloud County Bank sponsored a ski trip to Vail, with a cost of \$49.95 covering transportation on "Chequer's Special" bus and two nights lodging at Talisman Lodge, although meals and ski lift tickets were not included... "Butterflies are Free," starring Goldie Hawn and Edward Albert, was showing at the Grand Theatre.

25 Years Ago November 25, 1997

Children attending the Children's Center at Cloud County Community College celebrated Thanksgiving by serving their parents homemade bread at a Thanksgiving tea... Jean Hamel presented an inspirational music program on her flute for the residents at Sunset Home... Karoline Stoevesandt was celebrating her 17th birthday... Gail Letourneau earned a jacket in recognition of her five years of service to Coast to Coast.

10 Years Ago November 25, 2012

The staff at Frank Carlson Library was preparing for a new e-book service that would be offered to patrons by the end of the year... pre-Thanksgiving dinner guests of Nina Sheely and Midgie were Vaughn and Rose Holton, Russell, and Ruth Holton,

McPherson; Kerry and Holly Jackson, Meriden; Steven and Sherry Kisby, Clifton; Seth and Haley Kisby, Clifton; Shane and Nedra Kisby, Aurora; SHERA and Evan James, Linn; Scott and Julie Sheely, Minneapolis; Andrew and Anthony Sheely and Ashley Thoman, Concordia... wheat was selling at \$8.62, corn was \$7.35, and milo was \$7.15 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago November 25, 2017

Students from Concordia High School who competed in the Fort Hays State University Math Relays where CHS placed sixth were Nicole Timme, Victoria Reynolds, Jessica Williams, Allison Poore, Madelyn Meyer, Cydney Bergmann, Gwen Stiles, Lake Winter, Corben Monzon, Paul Rundus, Alex Bonebrake, Beau Bonebrake and Rope Dorman... Unified School District 333 students in first through sixth grade were treated to a concert by the Derik Nelson & Family, held at the Brown Grand Theatre... wheat was selling at \$3.52, corn was \$2.95, and milo was \$3.15 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago November 25, 2021

Members of Concordia United First Methodist Church completed their annual Layette Set project... Nina Sheely was celebrating her 80th birthday... nine members of the Concordia High School football team received All-North Central Kansas League recognition: Keyan Miller, Dalton Owen, Keegun Beims, Cav Carlgren, Shelby Giersch, Tyler Hobrock, Stryker Hake, Cameron Cleveland and Aidan Poore... wheat was selling at \$8.44, corn was \$5.72, and milo was \$5.97 per bushel on local markets.

11/25

A CHARTER ORDINANCE EXEMPTING THE CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS, FROM THE PROVISIONS OF K.S.A. 14-570 AND K.S.A. 14-571 AND PROVIDING SUBSTITUTE AND ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS ON THE SAME SUBJECT RELATING TO PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING FOR SAID IMPROVEMENTS.

WHEREAS, Article 12, Section 5 of the Constitution of the State of Kansas (the "Act"), provides that cities may exercise certain home rule powers, including passing charter ordinances which exempt such cities from non-uniform enactments of the Kansas Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the City of Concordia, Kansas (the "City") is a city, as defined in the Act, duly created and organized, under the laws of the State of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, K.S.A. 14-570 and K.S.A. 14-571 are part of an enactment of the Kansas Legislature (K.S.A. 14-570 et seq.) relating to public improvements and the issuance of bonds for such purposes, which enactment is applicable to the City, but is not uniformly applicable to all cities within the State of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the City (the "Governing Body") desires, by charter ordinance, to exempt the City from the provisions of K.S.A. 14-570 and K.S.A. 14-571, and to provide substitute and additional provisions therefor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS:

Section 1. Exemption. The City, by virtue of the powers vested in it by the Act, hereby elects to exempt itself from and make inapplicable to it the provisions of K.S.A. 14-570 and K.S.A. 14571, and shall be governed by the following substitute and additional provisions contained herein.

Section 2. Plan for Public Improvements. Whenever the Governing Body has approved a capital improvements plan or program (the "Plan") for the physical development, maintenance, and protection of the City within the boundaries of the City, including the acquisition of necessary land and the acquisition of equipment, vehicles or other personal property to be used in relation thereto, and which may provide for assumption and payment of benefit district indebtedness heretofore created for public improvements and may require a number of years to execute, the City is hereby authorized to issue its general obligation bonds (the "Bonds") in an amount sufficient to carry out such Plan or portion thereof and associated costs.

Section 3. Procedure for Issuance of Bonds. Before any Bonds are authorized or issued pursuant to this Charter Ordinance, the City shall adopt a resolution specifying the amount of such Bonds and the purpose of the issuance thereof. Such resolution may contain, but is not required to contain, a provision that the issuance of the bonds be subject to: (a) publication of such resolution one time in the official City newspaper, and if within 30 days after the date of publication of the resolution, a petition in opposition to the issuance of the bonds, signed by not less than 10% of the qualified electors of the City, is filed with the City Clerk, the City shall not have the authority to issue the bonds until such question is submitted to the electors of the City at a special election called for that purpose or at the next general election and approved by a majority of the electors of the City voting at such election; or (b) approval by a majority of the electors of the City voting on such question at a special election called for that purpose or at the next general election. If such resolution does not contain a provision described in the foregoing subsection (a) or subsection (b), or if such resolution does contain a provision described in the foregoing subsection (a), but no protest is filed as described in subsection (a), the City may proceed to issue the bonds. Any election required by this section shall be conducted in the manner set forth in K.S.A. 10-120 by the election officer of Cloud County. General obligation bonds authorized by this section shall be issued, sold, delivered and retired in accordance with the provisions of the general bond law except as herein otherwise expressly provided.

Section 4. Severability. If any provision or section of this Charter Ordinance is deemed or ruled unconstitutional or otherwise illegal or invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this Charter Ordinance. In such instance, this Charter Ordinance shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had not been contained herein.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Charter Ordinance shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in the official City newspaper, and shall take effect sixty (60) days after final publication, unless a petition signed by a number of electors of the City equal to not less than ten percent (10%) of the number of electors who voted at the last preceding regular City election shall be filed in the office of the City Clerk demanding that this Charter Ordinance be submitted to a vote of the electors, in which event this Charter Ordinance shall take effect when approved by a majority of the electors voting at an election held for such purpose.

PASSED with at least a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire governing body of the City of Concordia, Kansas, on November 16, 2022 and **SIGNED** by the Mayor.

11/25

A CHARTER ORDINANCE EXEMPTING THE CITY OF CONCORDIA, KANSAS, FROM THE PROVISIONS OF K.S.A. 12-104a RELATING TO FILLING VACANCIES OF THE GOVERNING BODY.

WHEREAS, Article 12, Section 5 of the Constitution of the State of Kansas (the "Act"), provides that cities may exercise certain home rule powers, including passing charter ordinances which exempt such cities from non-uniform enactments of the Kansas Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the City of Concordia, Kansas (the "City") is a city, as defined in the Act, duly created and organized, under the laws of the State of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, K.S.A. 12-104a is part of an enactment of the Kansas Legislature relating to governing bodies of municipalities that is applicable to the City, but is not uniformly applicable to all cities within the State of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the City desires, by charter ordinance, to exempt the City from the provisions of K.S.A. 12-104a, and to provide substitute and additional provisions therefor by ordinary ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the governing body of the City of Concordia, Kansas:

Section 1. The City of Concordia, by the power vested in the city by Article 12, Section 5, of the Constitution of the State of Kansas, hereby elects to exempt itself from and make inapplicable to it those parts of K.S.A. 12-104a, relating to the filling of governing body vacancies.

Section 2. All vacancies occurring in the officer of city commissioner for the City of Concordia, Kansas, whether such vacancies occur by reason of the removal of a commissioner by death, resignation, or the disqualification of a commissioner for the holding of such office shall be filled by an election held among the remaining members of the city commission of said city, and such election must be held at the next regular meeting of the governing body of said city or at a special meeting called thereto for the purpose of filling such vacancy or at an adjournment or continuance of such regular or special meeting. Any successor in office elected by the governing body to fill such vacancy must be elected by a majority of the remaining commissioners of said city, and should the remaining commission of said city fail to elect a successor in office for the vacancy in office of commissioner within sixty (60) days of the vacancy, the mayor of said city shall appoint a qualified person in which said vacancy exists to fill such expired term. In the event that any person so elected by the remaining members of the city commission or appointed by the mayor in the manner set forth above should refuse, fail or neglect to qualify for such office by taking or subscribing to his oath for a period of thirty (30) days following such election or appointment, then and in that event the mayor said city shall appoint another qualified person to fill such vacancy.

Section 3. That nothing herein shall be construed as rendering invalid any act of the governing body of said city, or during the period of time between the appointment or election of a commissioner to fill an unexpired term and prior to his qualification by his taking and subscribing the oath within the time herein above specified.

Section 4. All city commissioners elected or appointed under the provisions of this ordinance shall take and subscribe to oath for the faithful performance of their duties within thirty (30) days after such appointment or election.

Section 5. This Charter Ordinance shall be published once each week for two consecutive weeks in the official city newspaper, and shall take effect sixty-one days after its final publication unless a valid petition requiring submittal of this ordinance to a referendum is filed according to law.

PASSED by a two-thirds vote of the governing body and signed by the mayor this 16th day of November, 2022.

Concordia is dry over final 16 days of November ^{11/30}

The month of November comes to a close with Concordia having received no measurable precipitation over the final 16 days.

Concordia has received .80 inches of moisture in November with .75 inches of that falling on November 4.

The only other day with recorded precipitation in Concordia during the month was .05 inches on November 14.

There have been four days in November that Concordia received a trace of precipitation.

Concordia has not received any measurable snowfall during the month. The average is 2.2 inches. The record high is 11.5 inches in 1957.

The average amount of precipitation for November is 1.16 inches. The record for the month is 4.88 inches in 1971 and the low is a trace in 1989.

For the year, Concordia has received 20.99 inches of precipitation, more than six

inches below the average of 27.34. The record amount is 43.68 inches in 1993 and the record low is 12.73 inches in 1956.

Temperatures have hovered around normal during November.

The average high temperature has been 53.9, just slightly higher than a normal of 53.

The average low temperature has been 30.8, just below the normal of 31.3.

Through the first 11 months of the year, the average high has been 71.7. Normal is 67.6. The high is 73.9 in 1885 and the low is 62.2 in 1993.

The month of December is forecast to get off to a dry start with above average temperatures.

The National Weather Service Office has forecast a high of 54 on Thursday with a low of 39.

Temperatures are forecast to climb to 70 degrees on Friday, before falling to 23 on Friday night.

Today in History

50 Years Ago

December 2, 1972

The Abilene High School debate coach praised the Concordia High School debate team of Pam Johnson and Daryl Koehn who finished ninth in a field of sixty teams, saying he had never seen a team hold up so well under such stiff competition... Brent Shivers, a 1971 graduate of CHS, enlisted in the U.S. Army for field radio mechanic... CHS wrestlers Mark Breault and Ron Collette each won by fall in the season's opening dual meet, but the team still fell short to Beloit... Walt Disney's "Bedknobs and Broomsticks" was showing at the Grand Theatre.

25 Years Ago

December 2, 1997

Mary Frances Gregory, Kristina Taylor and Steven Mitchell, members of the Kansas State FFA floriculture team, received a silver emblem at an awards breakfast in Kansas City, having received assistance from Joy Hardesty of Changing Seasons and Phyllis Reizneider of the Flower Gallery... the Jason Zoeliner family presented a plaque to Grant LacKamp, a neighbor of the Zoeliners, for alerting them to a possible fire in their home... Jan and Larry Blochlinger, Concordia, announced the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer, to James Buller, son of Karen and Darrel Dennett, Newton.

10 Years Ago

December 2, 2012

Danny McReynolds, who spent more than 25 years as an adult 4-H volunteer, received the Cloud County 4-H Council of the KSU River Valley Extension Dis-

trict 4-H Volunteer Award... Christian Widen was a pistachio nut, Madison Starr, a pecan, and Terin Jordan, a fox, when the second graders at Concordia Elementary School performed a mini musical, "Nuts"... Betty Miller and Mae LeDuc both celebrated their 90th birthdays... wheat was selling at \$8.78, corn was \$7.36, and milo was \$7.18 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago

December 2, 2017

Taking a step toward expanding Cloud County Community College's presence in the field of renewable energy, the board of trustees approved an application to the Kansas Board of Regents to establish a solar energy technology program... Mariah Blazek, Concordia, and Rayden Resco, Clyde, were inducted as new members of the Upsilon Tau Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society at Cloud County Community College... Lisa Brewer, owner of Monique & Co. Salon & Day Spa in Concordia, announced the transfer of ownership to Mackenzie Parker, Concordia... wheat was selling at \$3.50, corn was \$2.86, and milo was \$3.11 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago

December 2, 2021

Legendary Kansas State University football coach Bill Snyder was the first speaker during the Concordia High School Pause Paws Speaker Series... Stephan Hemenway and Brittany Fafard, Concordia, announced the birth of their daughter, Emmy Raylee... wheat was selling at \$8.32, corn was \$5.71, and milo was \$5.96 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago December 5, 1972

Samuel Schleiber, Concordia High School junior who had made a study of ancient and modern Judaism, spoke on the subject at the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany... Coterie members Mrs. Keith Palmquist and Mrs. Brad Lowell were winners at bridge... Raquel Welch and Burt Reynolds starred in "Fuzz," showing at the Grand Theatre... a nine-ounce tub of Hipolite was selling for 25 cents at Boogaarts.

25 Years Ago December 5, 1997

A Concordia man, O.D. Wilson, was featured in a hunting article in the Dallas Morning News, telling how Wilson, 81, had made the 560-mile drive to hunt quail in the Rolling Plains of Texas with Tosh Brown's Sporting Charters outfitting operation... Wilbur and Annamary Naylor were awarded lifetime memberships in the Cloud County Genealogical Society in recognition of their past and present contributions... Bryan Hartsel, Concordia, captured first place in the boys' 8-9 division of the Kansas City Chiefs Punt, Pass & Kick Team Championships... Denora Chaput celebrated her 95th birthday.

10 Years Ago December 5, 2012

The "Gift of the Magi" tree, decorated by Helping Hands members, received the top bid of \$340 at the Christmas Tree Lane benefit celebration held at the Nazareth Motherhouse, where musical entertainment was

provided by Michael Owens, pianist, The Licorice Sticks, a clarinet quartet, and the Conchords... Marvin and Ila (Holding) Johnson celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary... Hattie and Cody Odette, Concordia, announced the birth of their son, Brantley Clark... wheat was selling at \$8.73, corn was \$7.37, and milo was \$7.19 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago December 5, 2017

Concordia High School students Alex Bonebrake and Keegan Grogan went 5-0 at the Salina South Debate Tournament... Krystin Sothers, Concordia, and Jeremy Will, Gypsum, announced their engagement and plans for a May wedding... Rope Dorman, son of Brian Dorman and Michelle Gallagher, was the Concordia High School Student of the Month for December... wheat was selling at \$3.56, corn was \$2.88, and milo was \$3.13 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago December 5, 2021

Concordia Elementary School Students of the Month for November were as follows: Kindergarten, Boaz Blain; 1st grade, Krysta Pense; 2nd grade, Keithen Fraley; 3rd grade, Brinley Jackson; 4th grade, Easton Seward... the Concordia High School boys' basketball team opened its season on the road with a 74-67 come-from-behind win over the Beloit Trojans... wheat was selling at \$8.19, corn was \$5.72, and milo was \$5.97 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago December 7, 1972

Postmaster Don Campbell announced that the second annual Commemorative Stamp folders had arrived at the Concordia post office in time for Christmas giving, and anyone desiring to purchase these fine folders and stamps could do so for three dollars... Melanie Hanson, seventeen-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hanson, had been selected as a Kansas delegate to the 11th annual U.S. Senate Youth Program in Washington, D.C... Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Bieker announced the birth of a son, Christopher Daniel... gum-chewing Concordia junior high student John Culbertson had mastered the art of blowing a bubble within a bubble.

25 Years Ago December 7, 1997

Luke Collins, a fifth grader working on a Boy Scout citizenship project, wrote a letter to the Concordia city commissioners, encouraging the city to repair the skateboard track at Hood Park... instrumental numbers at the 1997 Christmas Vesper Service were a cello duet by Annamary Naylor and Beth Carlgren; flute solo by Jean Hamel accompanied by Mari Detrixhe; piano solo by Soo Kyoung Shin, Korea, student and choir accompanist at Cloud County Community College, with vocal numbers performed by Steven Nelson, Keri and Keith Sommers, Melody Sommers, Jaqueline Smith and Adam McDaniel.

10 Years Ago December 7, 2012

Club 81 was holding

Breakfast with Santa, featuring Santa and Mrs. Claus and the world-famous Chris Cakes of Wichita... Jolie Kasper's The Dance Company from Concordia and Clay Center completed a fundraiser which raised \$556 for the Brown Grand to help the Theatre with its Save Our Stage Project-Restoration Act II... Concordia High School senior Emily Brown signed to play volleyball at Cloud County Community College... wheat was selling at \$8.76, corn was \$7.43, and milo was \$7.23 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago December 7, 2017

Two-time state qualifier for the Panthers and an assistant wrestling coach from 2011-2016, Josh Brown had been hired to the position of head wrestling coach at Concordia High School... a peach pie made by Cathy Forshee brought \$140 at the Alpha Sigma Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International fundraising auction for Grant-in-Aid money for recipients from Cloud County Community College planning on going into education... wheat was selling at \$3.78, corn was \$2.94, and milo was \$3.19 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago December 7, 2021

Concordia city manager Amy Lange received the 2021 Early Career Excellence Award from the League of Kansas Municipalities... the Concordia Wesleyan Church presented a live nativity at the Broadway Plaza... wheat was selling at \$7.99, corn was \$5.79, and milo was \$6.04 per bushel on local markets.

City commission approves extending water main to serve future businesses 12/9

Extending the water main from College Drive, multiple professional service agreements with Campbell and Johnson Engineers, PA, and replacing the roof of the Brown Grand Theatre were among the action items voted on during a busy meeting of the city commission on Wednesday.

The city of Concordia intends to extend the water main from College Drive north to 21st Street. This will serve future businesses on the west side of U.S. Highway 81 and correct service connection issues for an existing business. An initial cost estimate obtained from Campbell and Johnson Engineers, PA was \$240,170 for this extension.

Also, the city intends to replace a broken water main located under Highway 81 at 19th and Lincoln that was discovered in December 2021. The only way to remedy the problem is to horizontal bore a new line from the east to the west side of the highway, which requires specialized equipment.

A bid opening was held for both projects on November 29th at 10 a.m., with three bidders: MiddleCreek Corp. of Peabody, bid \$362,242.00; Nowak Construction of Goddard: \$370,794.50; and Orr Wyatt Streetscapes of Raytown, Mo., the low bidder at \$258,308.25

Upon the recommendation of Jeremy Arnold, utilities director, and Campbell and Johnson Engineers, PA, the city commission voted to authorize city manager Amy Lange to sign a contract with Orr Wyatt Streetscapes in the amount of \$258,308.25. The start date for the project is January 9, 2023, with a completion date of June 9, 2023, weather permitting.

The city wants to develop a new residential subdivision on land recently donated to the Concordia Land Bank and located near the intersection of West 11th Street and Highland Drive, the former site of the hospital.

Establishment of this new residential subdivision was included in the FY2023 capital improvement program (CIP).

The city applied for a Moderate Income Housing (MIH) grant from the State Department of Commerce in an effort to address a shortage of moderate-income homes in Concordia, which also included the use of Rural Housing Incentive District (RHID) to pay for anticipated bonds to be issued to construct the public infrastructure to serve these new homes.

During its November 16 meeting, the city commission directed staff to proceed with platting and infrastructure design. The property must be replatted into lots appropriately sized for residential development. Additionally, the lots donated to the Concordia Land Bank south of Sunflower Drive should be replatted to clearly accommodate four homes.

The platting process includes a boundary and topographic survey, as well as the establishment of street rights-of-way and utility easements. Work will be coordinated with the demolition of the old hospital building.

The city commission voted to authorize Lange to sign the agreement for surveying services with Campbell & Johnson Engineers, PA to plat St. Joseph Subdivision and replat Lots 1-7, Block 2, Lost Creek Hills Addition in the amount of \$9,950.00, to be paid from city CIP funds

(see City on page 7)

POSITION AVAILABLE 12/9

The City of Concordia is seeking a part-time (approx 20hrs/wk)

Downtown Events Staff & Groundskeeper

Possible seasonal opportunity.

Some Duties: Groundskeeping, maintenance of downtown Concordia & Broadway Plaza.

Set-up & clean-up of special events.

Requires flexible availability, that includes weekends & holidays.

Applications taken until position filled.

Apply at the City Clerk's Office, 701 Washington. Application & complete job description is available online www.concordiaks.org.

Accommodations are available upon request for persons needing assistance. EOE.

(continued from page 1)

After the platting of the property is complete, the public infrastructure required to support new home construction must be designed and built. This infrastructure includes streets, utilities, and stormwater management. This work will take 9-12 months to complete. Completion of private utility extensions will be the responsibility of each utility, and will require coordination during the design and construction of the public infrastructure.

By unanimous vote, the city authorized city manager Lange to sign an agreement with Campbell & Johnson Engineers, PA for engineering services to develop public infrastructure to serve St. Joseph Subdivision and Lots 1-7, Block 2, Lost Creek Hills Addition, in the amount of \$206,853.00, to be paid from American Rescue Plant Act (ARPA) funds.

In further action, the city commission also voted to authorize a professional services agreement with Campbell & Johnson, Engineers PA for the design and construction observation of Project ST-2023-K-9, which will be tied to Project ST-2022-K-9 - Mill & Overlay.

Campbell & Johnson, Engineers PA will be providing design for the alignment, quantities, and construction of an asphalt mill and overlay of K-9 Highway from the west side of Archer Street to the west side of Cloud Street, as well as construction staking as needed and construction inspection for the construction portion of the project. The total cost of the services agreement is \$30,000.00.

Upon the recommendation of Fuller Bates, the director of public works, the city commission voted to enter into a consulting services agreement with the Benesch Company of Manhattan to add the additional work that was done relocating the box hangar to a new location north of the existing apron at Blosser Municipal Airport-CNK.

Benesch is responsible for revising and updating the engineer's design report to reflect changes to the project location, revise and update the plans and specifications to reflect changes to the project location, and having additional coordination with sub-consultants to ensure the project is designed correctly for the new location. The total cost of the consulting services agreement is \$9,745.

The Brown Grand Theatre has had ongoing and significant problems with its roof. The historic building is owned by the city and managed by the Brown Grand Opera House, Inc. Per the management agreement, the city is responsible to insure the building, paying the utilities, maintaining the building envelope, and for repairs to the mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire alarm systems.

Several roof leaks were discovered and repaired over the last few years, but new leaks continue with each rain. The roof also sustained hail damage during a storm in April.

Insurance will pay the replacement cost value of \$58,854.21 upon completion of the project. Replacement of the roof was added to the CIP list for FY 2023 with an allocation of \$48,768 based on a March 2022 estimate.

On November 4, bid solicitations were sent to Bill's Roofing and Exterior, BPR Commercial & Residential, Eco Solutions Inc., Erickson Contracting Inc., Geisler Roofing & Home Improvement, Little Apple Roofing LLC, Mares Roofing & Restoration, McGee Roofing, and Wray Roofing Inc.

Bid submissions were also advertised on the city's website and in *The Blade-Empire* newspaper.

A bid letting was held on November 29, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. By unanimous vote, the commission approved the bid from Eco Solutions, Inc. for \$150,315 to replace the roof.

The city will continue its audit services with Jarred, Gilmore & Phillips for the year-end December 31, 2022, audit. By unanimous vote, the commission authorized Mayor Ashley Hutchinson to sign an audit engagement letter with Jarred, Gilmore & Phillips for the year ending December 31, 2022, in the amount of \$13,000 for regular audit services, and \$2,100 for the federal single audit.

The following businesses were approved for cereal malt beverage licenses: Wood Oil #27; Rod's Thriftway; Short Stop #4 and #10; Walmart; Gambino's Pizza; Pizza Hut; Casey's General Store; Dollar General #6503; Country Honky Tonk; and 4 Kids Fuel & More.

Upon the recommendation of Fire Chief Eric Voss, the city commission voted to approve funding to have the ladder of the new ladder truck galvanized dipped and painted by Rosenbauer Firefighter Technology for the amount of \$10,538, to be paid from the Equipment Replacement Fund.

The Concordia Fire Department intends to use the new ladder truck for the next 25 years. Having the ladder galvanized ensures the structure of the ladder for that time period and prevents rusting. The base section will also be painted since it is subject to the elements and the galvanizing will darken with time.

The commissioners also recognized Kim Weisner for serving over 30 years on the Housing Board.

The commissioners then met twice in executive session. No further action was taken, and the meeting was adjourned.

Today in History

50 Years Ago December 12, 1972

The Concordia eighth grade chorus, under direction of Donald Ohlsen, sang Christmas numbers at the meeting of Musical Minors, accompanied on the piano by Jan Blackburn, and Shelly Weigand on flute. The program also included carols with Jo Bryant accompanying, and a piano solo by Sherri Coy... Paul and Janyth Jay (the former Janyth Lee Joler of Concordia) of Pittsburg, Pa., announced their adoption of a six-month-old daughter, Andrea Louise... the Retail Division of the Chamber of Commerce invited all children of the trade territory to watch a free showing of the color cartoon, "One Thousand and One Arabian Nights."

25 Years Ago December 12, 1997

Amy Blochlinger, 1992 graduate of Concordia High School, was the Student Senate representative from the nursing program at the North Central Kansas Technical College in Beloit... J.C. Penney retired associates had their annual Christmas dinner at the Moose home and those attending from Concordia were Alvin and Willa Bellows, Irma Mosburg, Alan Wise, Robin Avery, Bob and Vera Stensaas, Dave and Becky Stevenson, Vicki Roberts, Arlan and Barb Campbell, Rick and Alice Faye Hanson, Lawrence and Helen Watkins and Jerome and Joan Johnson.

10 Years Ago December 12, 2012

Zach Kyle, Erin Hansen, Nikki Blankenberry, Tristen Leiszler, Makayla Baetz, Colton Martin, Zach Hibbs, Brentin Hake, Nathan Gieber, Christian Wet-

ter, Madeline Hoard, Peter Tyler, Lynnea Marihugh, Gunner Acridge and Michael Malcuit, students in Kathy Roberts' Family and Consumer Science class at Concordia High School, earned ServSafe Employee Certification after completing a one week unit using the ServSafe Food Handler Guide of the National Restaurant Association... Jack and Kimberly Reed announced the birth of their daughter, Ryleigh Noel Reed... wheat was selling at \$8.78, corn was \$7.22, and milo was \$7.02 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago December 12, 2017

Concordia Tractor Inc. (CTI) announced that Ryan Anderson had been named the branch manager of the Concordia Stores... Santa and Mrs. Claus made an appearance at the second Christmas Open House at the Nazareth Motherhouse... freshmen Wyatt Trost and Chas Carlgren scored 32 points combined to lead the Concordia junior varsity boys' basketball team to a 55-48 win over Republic County... wheat was selling at \$3.74, corn was \$2.94, and milo was \$3.19 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago December 12, 2021

Prairieland honored Kelvin Hohner, who was retiring after 50 years as a John Deere Parts Specialist... Charlize Cash and Rylie Jesup combined for 28 points to lead the Concordia eighth grade girls' basketball team to a 30-16 victory over Republic County in the final game of the regular season... wheat was selling at \$7.74, corn was \$5.87, and milo was \$6.17 per bushel on local markets.

Today in History

50 Years Ago December 14, 1972

Boogaart's food store in the Alco Plaza on East Sixth Street, managed by Arlan Lowe, was open for business... Cloud County Community College students Jim Balthazor and Debbie Andrews, both of Concordia, were soloists when the CCCC choir performed the Mozart Mass in C Major during the annual Christmas concert at the college... Concordia High School wrestlers Bob Champion, 138 lbs., and Tom Ista, 167 lbs., were undefeated for the season... for the holidays, Palmquist's Drug Store was advertising Pangburn's chocolates, Christmas candy, dietetic candy and Beaver's mints... Gambles was selling Tammy Tears dolls for \$5.95.

25 Years Ago December 14, 1997

Sunset Home recognized dietary staff members Bertha Fraser, Mildred Andrewson, Sheryl Shuler, Jeanie Fees, Lisa Buss, Teresa Coda, Linda Metro, Carol Noyes, Tom Snyder, Mary E. Smith, Mary Snavelly, Julia McGinnis, Maryln Swenson, Loretta Persinger and Stephanie Kearn, during "Making It Happen Pride in Food Service Week"... Specialist Jeff Slate, Concordia, was promoted to Buck Sergeant (E-5) for his work as Kansas National Guardsman in the 995th Maintenance Company, Smith Center... Taby Robbins, April Avery and Missy Forshee scored 10 points each for the Panthers to lead the Concordia JV girls' basketball team to a 52-40 victory over Smith Center in their season opener.

10 Years Ago December 14, 2012

Bob Huber, Dustin Peterson and Sr. Jean Rosemarynoski were first time

donors when the American Legion was host to the American Red Cross Bloodmobile drive at the Kansas National Guard Armory in Concordia... led by individual champions Blake Leiszler, Zach Strait, Tracer Workman and Blaze Payeur, the Concordia Junior High School wrestling team placed fourth in the North Central Kansas League tournament... wheat was selling at \$8.71, corn was \$7.15, and milo was \$6.95 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago December 14, 2017

Concordia Junior-Senior High School principal Bryce Wachs presented the Unified School District 333 board of education with proposed guidelines for the establishment of a school sponsored trap shooting club... Dyelan Reed, a junior on the Concordia High School boys' basketball team, scored a total 40 points in the Panthers' two wins this season, and was selected as the CHS Athlete of the Week... seventeen members of the Lady Bracknell Red Hat Club held their Christmas luncheon at the Pizza Hut... wheat was selling at \$3.67, corn was \$2.93, and milo was \$3.18 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago December 14, 2021

Led by individual champions Christian Belden, Daniel Vines, Easton Swihart and Nathan Brown, Concordia High School wrestlers captured the team title in the Jeff Giles Memorial Tournament... winners at pitch at the Concordia Senior Center were Bonnie Bray, first place; Edna Hamel, Richard Hubert, Lorene Phipps, second; Debra Hubert and Karen Wilson, third... wheat was selling at \$7.92, corn was \$5.81, and milo was \$6.11 per bushel on local markets.

12/13 POSITION AVAILABLE

The City of Concordia is seeking a part-time
(approx 20hrs/wk)

Downtown Events Staff & Groundskeeper

Possible seasonal opportunity.

Some Duties: Groundskeeping, maintenance of
downtown Concordia & Broadway Plaza.

Set-up & clean-up of special events.

Requires flexible availability, that includes
weekends & holidays.

Applications taken until position filled.

Apply at the City Clerk's Office, 701 Washington.
Application & complete job description is available
online www.concordiak.org.

Accommodations are available for persons needing assistance upon request. EOE.

Three candidates with local ties vying for job of police chief

Three candidates are vying for the job of Concordia Police Chief, and all three have strong ties to the community.

Brad Swihart has been in law enforcement for 21 years, and 17 of those years have been with the Concordia Police Department. As police chief, one of his main goals would be to build a solid relationship between the department and the Concordia community. "I'd like to have a department that has a lot of integrity, and that the community can feel comfortable approaching us and know that we're going to work hard to solve their crimes," Swihart said.

Under Swihart's leadership, direct involvement with the community would be a main focus for police officers. "There's a saying: 'See Something, Say Something,' and so if we can get the people to do that we can solve a lot more crimes."

All three candidates cited the ongoing drug problems that plague rural communities as one of their main challenges as police chief.

"Drugs are a top priority, because everything feeds off of that: thefts, burglaries..." Swihart said.

James Belden is another experienced law enforcement officer. He worked with the Concordia Police Department from 2006-2016, and has been with the Cloud County Sheriff's Department for the past four years.

Belden said that building trust with the community would be extremely important for a police department under his command. "Solving crimes is so much easier when you get help from the public," Belden said. "If you can get the kids trusting you and able to talk to you, that trust can go into adulthood."

Belden also noted the need to hire more officers for the Concordia Police Department, and retain them. "I think we're down four or five officers right now, so that's a needed priority for the department."

Brent Gering has 22 years experience as a law enforcement officer. He began his career in Concordia, and then



Police chief candidates

The three candidates for the job of Concordia Police Chief, from left, are Brent Gering, James Belden and Brad Swihart. (Blade photo by Russell Gagnon)

spent 19 years with the Dickinson County Sheriff's Department in a variety of roles. "I've done K-9 handling to drug investigations to criminal investigations, to being a supervisor on patrol. I was in charge of the vehicle fleet, all the way from the builds to the issuance of them to the officers. I think I would bring a lot of value to the department."

Engagement with the community would be one of Gering's main goals as police chief. "We need to get out in the community, be visible. We need to be talking to business

owners, governments, the media... and letting them know what our mission is. We're out here to serve and we want to work together as a team to resolve crime."

Former Police Chief Ric Fredrickson retired in June 2022, and Fire Chief Eric Voss has been serving as interim police chief while the candidate search was under way. City manager Amy Lange said that she greatly appreciated all the feedback from the community, and plans to make a decision on hiring a new police chief before Christmas.

12/14

Gering hired as Concordia Police Chief

Brent Gering has been hired as the new Concordia Chief of Police.

Gering was one of three candidates to be interviewed for the police chief position earlier this week. He will replace Ric Fredrickson, who retired from the position in June.

Concordia Fire Chief /EMS Director Eric Voss had been serving as the interim police chief.

"We are pleased to have Brent join our team as chief of police. He brings to this position a strong desire to build relationships with residents and businesses, and to provide a safe environment for all those who live in, work in and visit," Concordia city manager Amy Lange said.



Brent Gering 12/16

Gering began his law enforcement career with the Concordia Police Department as a patrolman. He advanced his career with the Chapman

Police Department and the Dickinson County Sheriff's Department and served briefly as the Cloud County Emergency Management director.

A desire to return to the family farm and serve his home town brought Gering back to Concordia. He is currently working in field sales for Central Valley Ag.

Gering will take over as chief of police on January 16.

"Throughout my career my goal has been to return to the law enforcement department where I began and lead the officers and employees as their chief. As the chief of the Concordia Police Department, I want to build trust and accountability of the department to the citizens of the community," Gering said.

A graduate of Concordia High School, Gering earned an associate of applied science degree in HVAC from Manhattan Area Technical College. He currently serves on the Cloud County Fair Board and is a volunteer firefighter for Cloud County Rural Fire District #4.

As chief of police, Gering will be responsible to plan, organize, direct and manage all operations of the police department including the animal shelter and dispatch services for all of Cloud County. A primary focus will be recruitment and retention of highly qualified officers and staff to fill current vacancies.

Gering is the son of Bob and Diana Gering, Concordia, and has a 13-year-old daughter, Rylee.

Today in History

50 Years Ago

December 16, 1972

Concordia High School students Bob Garlow, Daryl Koehn and Sandy Trost were the winners in the annual Voice of Democracy speaking contest sponsored in Concordia by the V.F.W. Post 588 and Auxiliary... a full page color picture of the northeast window at the home of the Rev. and Mrs. Wilfred Hotaling was featured in the Christmas edition of Kansas magazine... Mr. and Mrs. James Burchfiel announced their adoption of a baby daughter who had been named Tina Marie... the choir of the Baptist Church presented the cantata, "The Wonder of Christmas," with soloists Debbie Andrews, Hanalesa Roney, Rosemary Butzine, Pat Eagleson and George Andrews.

25 Years Ago

December 16, 1997

Nine nativity scenes, arranged by library assistant Nancy Reynolds, were on display at the Frank Carlson Library... Brian Vignery, 1988 graduate of Concordia High School, was the drummer for the group West Heart, a singing group which was touring schools throughout the country, encouraging kids through positive music and discussion sessions... Scott Thyfault, drafting instructor at Cloud County Community College, received an American Association of Certified Engineering Technicians sponsor's award... "Mortal Kombat" was showing at the Apollo Theater.

10 Years Ago

December 16, 2012

"First Mondays at Man-

na" were set to begin in January with an elegant sit-down dinner featuring French cuisine, in recognition of the Sisters of St. Joseph's roots in 16th century France... the Nashville musical couple of Kyle and Lisa Cooper were the special guests at the Teens for Christ meeting... NCK Commercial Laundry had tablecloths and napkins available to rent for holiday gatherings and parties... wheat was selling at \$8.50, corn was \$7.13, and milo was \$6.93 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago

December 16, 2017

An open house celebrated the fact that Dana Brewer had been practicing law for 40 years and that The Law Firm Building was 100 years old... Mary Blochlinger celebrated her 85th birthday... Joe Stensaas received a \$20 gift certificate to Easy G's after being declared the winner of the November Joke of the Month... winners in the final weekly Football Contest were Marvin K. Lawton, Kevin Johnson, and Randy Sorell... wheat was selling at \$3.59, corn was \$2.91, and milo was \$3.21 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago

December 16, 2021

Outgoing school board member Mary Beth Smith was presented a plaque in honor of her many years of service... Dick Switzer, Mary LaBarge and Nicole Collins were the winners in the final week of the 2021 Football Contest... wheat was selling at \$7.89, corn was \$5.80, and milo was \$6.15 per bushel on local markets.

12/16 POSITION AVAILABLE

The City of Concordia is seeking a part-time
(approx 20hrs/wk)
Downtown Events Staff & Groundskeeper
Possible seasonal opportunity.
Some Duties: Groundskeeping, maintenance of
downtown Concordia & Broadway Plaza.
Set-up & clean-up of special events.
Requires flexible availability, that includes
weekends & holidays.
Applications taken until position filled.

Apply at the City Clerk's Office, 701 Washington.
Application & complete job description is available
online www.concordiakso.org.

Accommodations are available upon request for persons needing assistance. EOE.

City of Concordia awarded MIH funds

An effort by the city of Concordia and CloudCorp to address a moderate income housing shortage has received a boost with an announcement made by the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation.

Concordia was one of 11 Kansas communities to be awarded Moderate Income Housing (MIH) funds through the state of Kansas program, and will receive \$650,000 to help fund the construction of 15 single-family homes.

MIH funds are awarded to cities and counties to develop multi-family rental units and single-family homes for purchase in communities with populations fewer than 60,000.

It was also announced that CloudCorp has been awarded \$480,000 in Kansas Housing Investor Tax Credits (KHITC) for the housing development plan.

A total of \$4,998,936 in MIH funds and \$7,593,000 in KHITC were awarded.

Combined with the amount leveraged by each community to support proposed initiatives, the awards represent a total investment of \$33,845,101 and a net gain of 175 affordable, quality housing units.

A study done by FIVE RULE Rural Planning, Kearney, Neb., revealed a shortage of moderate and high income housing.

Based on the findings of the housing study, the CloudCorp

community resources committee recommended that the city proceed with the establishment of new housing subdivisions within the city limits to create up to 30 new housing units.

During an intergovernmental meeting in September, the city commission and administration discussed the possible establishment of a Rural Housing Incentive District and applying for the MIH funds to help in the development of the housing subdivisions.

It was announced in September that the Cloud County Health Center board of trustees had approved gifting the ground at 1100 Highland Drive where the old hospital current-

ly stands to the city of Concordia Land Bank for the purpose of developing moderate to high income housing.

During its meeting on September 21, the city commission approved a development agreement with Cloud County Health Center for the donation of the property.

The development agreement states that the city will have 18 months to commence construction and proceed with due diligence, or the hospital may reacquire the property at no cost.

During that same meeting, the commission authorized the city to proceed with the competitive MIH grant proposal.

12/19



Salt in the streets 12/19

With light snow falling Monday morning, the city of Concordia employees were putting salt on the streets. (Blade photo by Jay Lowell)

Blast of frigid air to hit Concordia area

12/19

Bitter cold weather will hit the Concordia and Cloud County area this week – the coldest weather for late December in decades.

It doesn't really matter which weather map or app you follow, all the weather models agree that blasts of frigid air will blanket the Plains and Midwest in the days leading up to Christmas. In the Northern Plains, temperatures are not predicted to rise above zero for days. In the Midwest – including Concordia and Cloud County – the windchill factor will create harmful and potentially deadly risks for anyone outdoors.

This week's massive arctic outbreak will encompass all of the states east of the Rockies. Places in northern Nebraska, South Dakota, and North Dakota will see 'high' temperatures during the day between -15 to -30.

Last year on December 22, it was 58 degrees in Concordia. The normal temperature for this time of year is 39 degrees. This year, AccuWeather predicts a high of -4 on Thursday, and a low of -11 Thursday night. Wind gusts up to 47 mph will create a wind chill effect of -45. Measurable amounts of snow are also forecast for the area.

This kind of frigid weather can be deadly for both human beings and animals. Extreme caution is necessary when venturing outdoors and traveling.

The weather could also wreak havoc on homes and apartments, and on the city's infrastructure.

"A lot of times people think our water mains freeze and break, and they really don't because they're too deep," said Jeremy Arnold, Concordia's utilities director. "It's the ground freezing and shifting. That will cause pressure on the pipes, and the old ones break."

Arnold said that most of the city's water lines are four feet deep and that a layer of sand was put around newer pipes that were installed, which allows for movement. "If we get snow coverage we don't have as many problems, because the snow acts as kind of an insulator," Arnold said.

Water towers can also freeze. "They will freeze if you don't have proper circulation of that tower," Arnold said. "So we try to keep the water going in and out of that tower so we don't get an ice cap."

For homeowners and renters, this kind of extreme cold can put your household plumbing and service lines at risk. Burst pipes are one of the most common causes of property damage during frigid weather and can cause thousands of dollars in water damage.

Some easy steps to protect yourself: keep garage doors closed; open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors; let cold water drip from a faucet served by exposed pipes, and keep the thermostat set to the same temperature during the day and night.

With windchill factors reaching Antarctica levels, people and animals are at extreme risk with even minimal amounts of exposure. Wear layers of clothing, hats, and gloves, and leave as little exposed skin as possible when outdoors.

Like people, cats and dogs struggle in frigid weather and are susceptible to frostbite and hypothermia. If possible, pets should be kept inside a house or garage. The Humane Society recommends removing any ice, salt, or caked mud from your pet's paws and coat after they've been outside. Also, make sure your pet's bed is not on the floor in a cold or drafty area of your home. Outdoor pets typically need more food in cold weather because they must burn more calories to keep warm. Check the animals for frostbite, especially on the paws and ears. Outdoor and feral cats have been known to climb onto vehicle engines or inside wheel wells for warmth.

Bundle up, stay warm, keep an eye on your pets and plumbing, and hunker down for a cold spell that may set records for our area.

12/20 POSITION AVAILABLE

The City of Concordia is seeking a part-time
(approx 20hrs/wk)

Downtown Events Staff & Groundskeeper

Possible seasonal opportunity.

Some Duties: Groundskeeping, maintenance of downtown Concordia & Broadway Plaza.

Set-up & clean-up of special events.

Requires flexible availability, that includes weekends & holidays.

Applications taken until position filled.

Apply at the City Clerk's Office, 701 Washington.
Application & complete job description is available
online www.concordiaks.org.

Accommodations are available for persons needing assistance upon request. EOE.

Today in History

50 Years Ago December 21, 1972

Richard Culbertson, Culbertson Electrical Co., received a fine wrist Chronograph as an award in a recent Zenith TV sales contest... Marine Pfc. Ronald Blochlinger reported for duty at the Marine Barracks, Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill... Bob Garlow was first and Bill Garlow tied for fifth place in the senior division of the 1972 North Central Kansas Future Farmers of America district speech contest; Kim Colby placed seventh and Norman McMillan 16th in the sophomore division; and Larry Jackson placed 17th in the freshmen division... Baby Tweaks or New Arrival dolls were selling for \$4.44 at Gibson's... Montgomery Ward was offering a complete engine tune-up for \$8.88.

25 Years Ago December 21, 1997

The art work of eight students from art classes at the Concordia Elementary school was selected to be reproduced for the angel series in the month of December. The students chosen were Graham Petersen, Breann Johnson, Nathan Bulthaup, Kate Remley, Katherine Meyer, Sarah Cibolski, Lindsay Walsh and Lindsay Crum... sixth-graders from Concordia Middle School went door to door in the downtown business district, singing Christmas carols... the unbeaten Concordia High School girls' basketball team claimed the title in the Smoky Valley Invitational... Marty and Lori West Ade, Concordia, announced the adoption of their daughter, Kaelyn Gelene.

10 Years Ago December 21, 2012

The newest members of the community, born at Cloud County Health Center between October 15 and

December 6, included Baley Marie Garner, Braxton Michael Loeffler, Hector Antonio Reyes, Ayslynn Rose Krier, Remi Claire Wurtz, and Nathaniel James Minzghor... members of the hard rock band Like A Storm, hailing from Auckland, New Zealand, played an acoustic show prior to the midnight showing of "The Hobbit" at The Majestic Theatre... wheat was selling at \$8.31, corn was \$7.05, and milo was \$6.85 per bushel on local markets.

5 Years Ago December 21, 2017

Concordia Elementary Students of the Month for December were Camleigh Hake, Matthew Nailleux and Timmy Turner... the Cloud County Community College softball team led local efforts for the 2017 Christmas for Kids Toy Drive, which benefited the children in the care of Saint Francis Community Service programs... Blake Leiszler, a senior on the Concordia High School wrestling team, was a perfect 10-0 on the season and finished first in the 126-pound class at the Minneapolis Invitational... wheat was selling at \$3.62, corn was \$2.88, and milo was \$3.18 per bushel on local markets.

1 Year Ago December 21, 2021

Concordia High School senior Ryah Klima was among those attending the 2021 JAG National Student Leadership Academy in Washington, D.C... Annie Chapin was celebrating her 98th birthday... Concordia Elementary Students of the Month for December were Lennon Mai, kindergarten; Alex Morgan, 1st; Addison Viereck, 2nd; Emily Wallace, 3rd and Deacon Widen, 4th... wheat was selling at \$7.87, corn was \$5.84, and milo was \$6.19 per bushel on local markets.

12/23 POSITION AVAILABLE

The City of Concordia is seeking a part-time
(approx 20hrs/wk)

Downtown Events Staff & Groundskeeper

Possible seasonal opportunity.

Some Duties: Groundskeeping, maintenance of downtown Concordia & Broadway Plaza.

Set-up & clean-up of special events.

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Two Concordia city commissioners sworn in

The swearing-in of a new city commissioner, the election of a new mayor and mayor pro tem, a quarterly report from CloudCorp, and a final plat for the new Cloud County Community College technical education building were some of the proclamations, presentations, and action items during the regularly scheduled meeting of the city commission on Wednesday evening.

City Clerk Stacey Smith administered the oaths of office to commissioner Marsha Wentz, who was re-elected to a three-year term, and Amy Jackson, who won her first term on the commission in the November election. Jackson replaces Christy Hasch, who did not seek another term. Hasch was honored with a reception and the key to the city for her nine years of service on the commission.

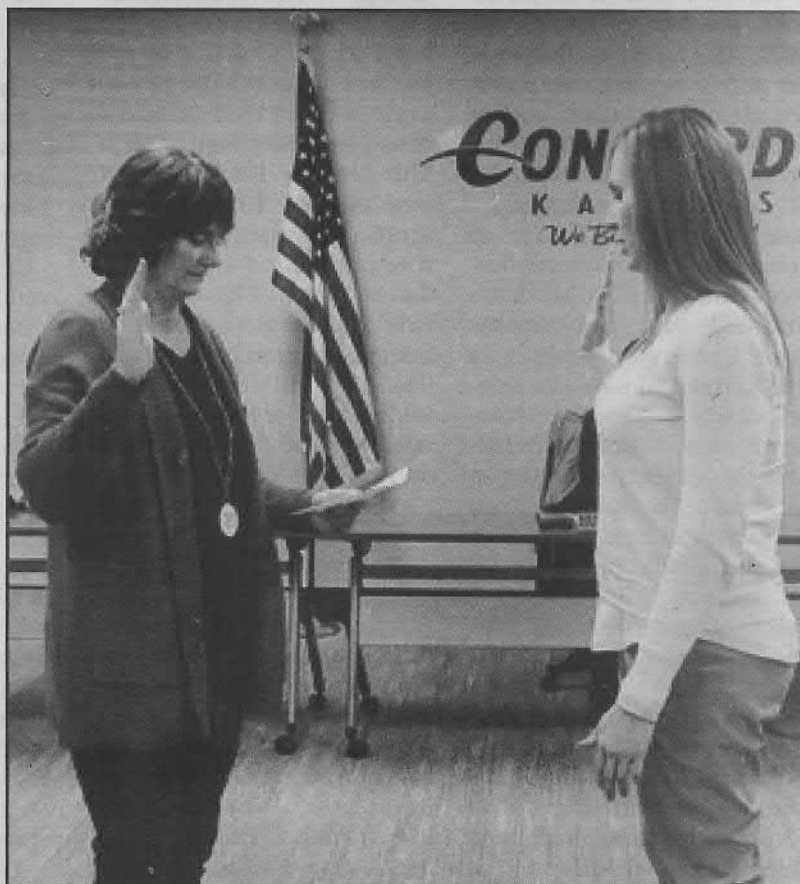
By unanimous vote, the city commission elected Chuck Lambertz as mayor and Marsha Wentz as mayor pro tem. Mayor Lambertz was designated to serve on the Frank Carlson Library Board, and commissioner Jackson was designated to serve on the CloudCorp board of directors.

Nicole Reed, CloudCorp executive director, presented a quarterly report to the commissioners. CloudCorp recently received \$480,000 in Kansas Housing Investor Tax Credits (KHITC) to help develop moderate-income housing.

Reed reported ongoing work with Nelson Development of Sioux City, Iowa, for a food distribution center in the North Development, and a Colorado business entity that wants to build a car wash and charging station on the former site of the bowling alley. CloudCorp is also helping to spearhead a drive to develop more child care facilities in Cloud County, and seeking a new assistant to run the Broadway Plaza.

The commissioners heard a proposal from Jodi Baker, animal control officer, to deal with the feral cat problem in the city.

Feral cats tend to live in colonies with other feral cats which allows them to breed. The city's animal control officer has identified 20 of these colonies within the city limits of Concordia so far. The number of cats in the colonies varies greatly, with a majority of them having between 10



Oath of office 12/23

Concordia city clerk Stacy Smith, left, administers the oath of office to newly elected city commissioner Amy Jackson during the meeting on Wednesday.

and 30 cats, but these numbers are based on the cats that are actually seen and the numbers could be much higher. (see Sworn In on page 8)

(continued from page 1)

In the past, the animal shelter has attempted to give feral cats away to farmers with limited success. Have a Heart TNR (Trap-Neuter-Release) out of Clifton, Kansas, has an assistance plan. They place humane traps in the area, and a captured cat is taken to a vet to be spayed or neutered and given a rabies vaccination. The cat's ear is then notched so it is easily identifiable, and then released back into the colony. The goal of the TNR program would be to deal with one colony at a time until all of the cats are fixed.

Tallgrass Veterinary Hospital has agreed to conduct the operations and vaccinations at a reduced cost. The cost of neutering and vaccinating a cat would be \$35, while a spaying and rabies vaccination would be \$75. An additional \$3000 in shelter funding would be needed.

The commissioners expressed support for the TNR proposal and targeted early 2023 as the start of a pilot program.

By unanimous vote, the commission approved the acceptance of the permanent utility easement from Cloud County Community College (CCCC), and the final plat for the Cloud County Tech Center. The land involved is owned by CCCC and will be addressed as 120 East College Drive.

Upon the recommendation of the city's building inspector Bruno Rehbein, the commission voted to approve Resolution 2022-2146 which releases insurance proceeds of \$18,000 for the structure at 534 West Sixth Street.

The house was damaged by fire on March 11, 2022. The owners applied for and received a building permit to repair the structure within a 45-day limit.

Although the repairs to the structure are not complete, it has progressed enough in the process to determine the structure safe and secure. Therefore, the proceeds can be released back to the owner.

In other action, the commission approved Ordinance 2022-3195 which updates the rules for the campground at Airport Park, which had not been updated since 2018. Some of the changes were requested by police officers; other changes were the result of how the campground is being used. Nothing in the previous ordinance specified tents, and it was reported that in some cases, some individuals in the campground had planned to stay for an indefinite period of time with no plans to move on. Some did not keep a tidy campsite. The campground was always mostly intended for travelers passing through.

Among the changes in the new campground ordinance: no one may park or leave unattended for longer than 24 hours any non-recreational vehicle not accompanying an RV or tent at any location in Airport Park; non-RV vehicles shall not be used to reserve a camping stall; no one may park or leave unattended any motor vehicle or recreational vehicle without current licensing and registration; no one may stay more than three times a year without prior approval from the city clerk; and tent campers are allowed up to three nights of stay. Also, observation of possible illegal activity by law enforcement or city staff will be grounds for immediate removal from the property.

The commission reappointed Devon Davis to the Housing Authority Board.

The meeting was officially adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

150th Anniversary of Concordia's first major fire

Concordia was just in its infancy and celebrating its 2nd Christmas holiday. The town was full of festivities that Christmas Eve in 1872. The community gathered at the dance held at Fredrick Sturges' newly constructed two-story building. Part of the festivities' plans included changing the stagecoach schedule to allow the drivers to attend the dance. Bachelors were vying for a chance to dance with the beautiful Betourney sisters. The dance had to be paused, when it was discovered that too many people were causing the second floor of Sturges' building to collapse under their weight. About one o'clock, while the floor was being shored up, shouting could be heard from the street. People celebrating Christmas could not have imagined that they would be walking through the ashes of what had been a large section of their prospering town the next day. The shouting in the street was a call to fight a growing fire in freezing gale force winds.

Eleven buildings along the south side of Sixth Street were destroyed due to the spread of the fire. One building was not destroyed by the fire, but by the town's people, who tore it down and threw it into the street to hinder the path of the flames. The fire had started in the W.M. Donaldson's pool hall on the sec-



Concordia Main Street in 1872 was painted by Albert T. Reid, son of stagecoach line owner, and was based on his boyhood memories.

12/23

ond story of a building on the south corner of Sixth Street and Washington Street. W. E. Crans & Company had a drug and grocery store in the lower level. A boy was cleaning out the stove in the pool hall. He placed the container with the hot coals and ashes next to the wall by the window. A gust of wind blew through a crack in the plaster and fanned the contents into a fire. That fire then jumped to the adjoining building, which housed the market of Messrs. Bean & King. More buildings were ignited as the blaze raced eastward. Most of the furnishings of the City Hotel owned by John and Simon Gliddon were saved before the building was destroyed.

Sturges' large two story building where the dance was held was next. A store room was on the first floor with a public room upstairs. Their neighboring building housed the grocery store of R.H. Sturges. The contents of L. J. Cran's law office building was saved. Shelmamer's bakery was the next building to the east along with his adjoining flour, feed and produce department, of which only a portion of the stock was saved. It was also his residence. Unfortunately, his children were sick and their condition worsened after being exposed to the freezing wind for an hour. Next, was the saloon and residence of Mr. Neitzel. The last building burned was owned by

James Hagaman and was run as a carpenter's shop. Even though the townspeople tore down his building, Hagaman praised the fire fighters' efforts to save the town and for saving his business records. Just like Hagaman's, the residents tried to save what contents of the burning buildings they could. What could be rescued was piled in the street. The buildings of Case & Co. and E. T. Floyd were fortunate to escape the destruction.

The destruction that swept through the heart of Concordia's businesses was estimated to be over \$30,000 in uninsured damages, causing a severe setback for the town. The smoldering ruins of desolated businesses casted a gloom over the whole community. Nevertheless, the spirit of Concordia could not be suppressed. With renewed hope, Concordia proved to be an enterprising town and built back better than before. Townsfolk were proud of how of their town looked, when the wooden structures were replaced with magnificent stone and/or brick buildings. Most of the new buildings were erected within eight months. In 1873, the town was discussing the need for a hook and ladder company, two public wells in the business district, and an organized bucket brigade to help defend against future fires.

(Published in the Concordia Blade-Empire on Wednesday, December 28, 2022.)

Ordinance No. 2022-3195

On December 21, 2022, the City of Concordia adopted Ordinance No. 2022-3195, amending the City's code for recreational vehicles for the purpose of camping in Airport Park. A reproduction of this ordinance will be available for not less than one week following the publication of this summary of the ordinance at the website address of the City of Concordia, <http://www.concordiaaks.org>. This summary is certified by the city attorney to be legally accurate and sufficient.

Looking Back at 2022

Opening of new hospital is among top stories of the year

The construction of, renovation of and planning for facilities were making headlines throughout 2022.

Cloud County Health Center, now North Central Kansas Medical Center; Unified School District 333; and Cloud County Community College have had facilities projects in the works throughout the year.

The biggest story of 2022 was the opening of the \$40.35 million North Central Kansas Medical Center that is located at 155 West College Dr. in Concordia.

Cloud County Health Center administration, with the support of Salina Regional Health Center, announced plans in July 2019 to build a new hospital without any taxpayer support.

It was announced in June 2020 that an application for financing through the United States Department of Agriculture had been approved.

Construction of the new hospital began in March 2021.

The 14-bed hospital, that includes, an emergency department, surgery space, the rural health clinic, a variety of specialty clinic services and an MRI suite, opened under the new name, North Central Kansas Medical Center, on November 16.



Images of 2022

From the construction of the new North Central Kansas Medical Center, to wheat harvest, Homecoming royalty and more, the images of 2022.

12/28

Unified School District 333 continued with its renovations of the old Concordia Middle School that began in January.

The original plan was to move the fifth and sixth-grade students back into the facility at the start of the 2022-2023 school years.

Supply chain issues resulted in the school district pushing back its timeline.

With work continuing, the district now plans to have the fifth and sixth-graders back in the building when school starts next August.

USD 333 also restarted discussions on possible renovations to the Concordia Junior-Senior High School building.

A \$48.5 million bond issue that included renovations and new construction at the junior-senior high school facility was defeated by voters in 2021.

Tucker Peddicord, Lighthouse Construction Guidance, along with representatives from HTK Architects and McCownGordon Construction, presented a plan to the USD 333 board of education that included renovations to the junior-senior high school and the construction of a new auxiliary gymnasium at an estimated cost of \$33.6 million.

Cloud County Community College (CCCC) completed its renovations to the Children's

Learning Center and hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony on September 28.

The cost of the renovation project was \$642,000.

Looking to help alleviate a child care crisis in the area, the college expanded its capacity from 23 students to 40 students at the newly renovated Children's Learning Center.

CCCC also made progress on its plan to construct a new Technical Education and Innovation Center on College Drive, between the college and Walmart.

The 33,725-square-foot building will house the college's renewable energy, nursing and allied health and agriculture programs.

The CCCC board of trustees approved a nearly \$10 million bid package for the technical education building project in December.

Work on the building is expected to begin next spring and be completed in the summer of 2024.

Beginning today and finishing up on Friday, The Blade-Empire will be looking back at these and other top stories of 2022.

JANUARY

Cloud County Community College women's basketball coach Brett Erkenbrack record-

ed his 700th victory when the Thunderbirds defeated Coffeyville Community College, 74-51. Erkenbrack, who was in his 33rd season as the Cloud County Head coach, became the sixth winningest women's coach in the NJCAA...Kim

Reynolds announced her resignation as the executive director of Cloud-Corp. Reynolds, who had taken over as executive director in January 2019, accepted a position with the Aurora Cooperative in Aurora, Neb...The inductees into the Cloud County Community College Athletic Hall of Fame included Roger Koester, Laura (Herman) Mann and Craig Stromgren...Concordia High School senior Dalton Owen was selected to play in the Kansas Shrine Bowl. Owen, an offensive and defensive lineman for the Concordia football team, was an all-state selection...Brad Berk was sworn in as the newest member of the Unified School District 333 board of education. Berk was elected to Member District 3, Position 6 in the November 2021 general election.

FEBRUARY

Mike Cleveland was named the recipient of the Kansas Banker's Association Soil Conservation Award. Cleveland farms in southeast Cloud Coun-

ty...The Cloud County board of commissioners approved a payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) agreement with EDP Renewables North America for the proposed wind farm project in Cloud County. Under the agreement, EDP Renewables will pay \$1,500 per megawatt, or \$300,000 for 10 years, after the Plum Nellie Wind Farm is completed. Construction of the Plum Nellie Wind Farm could begin in 2024...The city of Concordia was awarded \$560,000 in Community Block Grant funds to be used for the purchase of a new ladder truck for the Concordia Fire Department...Cloud County Health Center reached its fundraising goal for the addition of a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) suite at the new North Central Kansas Medical Center and for the magnet. Approximately \$1.5 million was raised to make it possible for there to be a permanent MRI machine in the new hospital...Two people were arrested following a police chase that ended in the 900 block of Lincoln Street. It was reported that shots were fired during the chase...A Concordia couple, Mark and Melody Gillan, had frost quakes popping under the ground in their yard.

(see 2022 on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

12/28 MARCH

The city of Concordia approved bids for the demolition of houses located at 326 and 330 West Sixth Street. The houses were being removed so a public parking lot could be constructed on the west side of the Brown Grand Theatre. The bid of \$18,900 from Smith Construction Services for the project was accepted...Fuller Bates was hired as the new director of public works for the city of Concordia. Bates replaced Ron Copple, who retired after several years in the position...It was announced that the Concordia Middle School students and staff were to be presented the 2021 Challenge Award that was created by the Kansas Confidence in Public Education task force. The award recognizes schools for outstanding achievement and uncommon accomplishment...The Cloud County Community College board of trustees approved a bid from Cary J. Stupka Construction, Concordia, in the amount of \$379,500 with a 10 percent contingency in

the amount of \$49,702.40, for renovations to the Children's Center...Two teachers in Concordia Unified School District 333 were recognized during the Kansas Teacher of the Year program regional award event. The USD 333 teachers nominated for Kansas Teacher of the Year were Jenny Acree, a junior-senior high school English language arts teacher, and Katie Nease, a third-grade teacher at Concordia Elementary School.

APRIL

It was announced by Unified School District 333 superintendent of schools that the plan to move the fifth and sixth grade students into the old Concordia Middle School building had been delayed. USD 333 had planned to have renovations to the building, at 1001 East Seventh St., completed in time to move the students in at the start of the 2022-2023 school year. For a number of reasons, the renovations to the building, which began in January, were not going to be completed in time for the move...Concordia residents were asked to participate in

a housing study being conducted by FIVE RULE Rural Planning, Kearney, Neb. The purpose of the housing study and market analysis was to help the city commission and CloudCorp identify the housing issues that are limiting the city's ability to grow and determine what actions can be taken to assist with addressing those issues...The Cloud County board of commissioners approved a fifth change order for the remedial repairs being done by Budreau Construction, Inc. of Clyde, to the Cloud County Law Enforcement Center. The original price tag for the project was \$944,064. Change orders totaling \$1,234,516.71 increased the total cost to \$2,178,580.71...Cloud County Community College was announced as one of the 25 semifinalists for the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence...A strong thunderstorm that rumbled through Concordia produced golf ball sized hail that caused damage to several homes and businesses.

MAY

The CloudCorp board of

directors announced the hiring of Nicole Reed as the new executive director. Reed, who had served as the CloudCorp administrative assistant and Broadway Plaza Coordinator, replaced Kim Reynolds...Boedy Chavey, a fourth grade student at the Concordia Middle School, was selected as the winner of the Fall Fest Button Contest. His design was displayed on the Fall Fest buttons and he served as the junior grand marshal for the parade...It was announced that Salina Regional Health Center, the Salina Regional Health Foundation and the Salina Regional Health Foundation's Investment program were donating a total of \$1 million for the construction of the Cloud County Community College Technical Education and Innovation Center. The donation secured naming rights for the nursing department's skills area and sim lab. The new technical education facility is to be built on College Drive between the college and Walmart...The Unified School District 333 board of education approved a re-

quest to contribute \$50,000 to help fund the replacement of the grass infield on Doyen Field at the Concordia Sports Complex with synthetic turf. The total cost of the project at the Sports Complex is estimated to be \$500,000...Approximately 70 men and women participating in the Targeted Observation by Radars and UAS Project (TORUS) were stationed in Concordia monitoring weather conditions in north central Kansas and south central Nebraska. The aim of TORUS is to use the data collected during severe storms to improve the conceptual model of supercell thunderstorms...A slow moving system provided the Concordia area with some much-needed rain. The National Weather Service Office in Topeka reported that Concordia received 3.5 inches of rain in a 48-hour span.

JUNE

The Federal Aviation Administration announced that Blosser Municipal Airport in Concordia was one of two airports to be awarded funds through its improvement program. Blosser Mu-

nicipal Airport was awarded \$600,000 for the construction of a new 80x80 box hangar...The Concordia Blade-Empire was celebrating its 120th birthday...Scooter's Coffee opened in Concordia...Kevin Pounds retired after 45 years as a teacher and coach at Cloud County Community College...With the surge in market value of real estate being a key factor, the assessed valuation of Cloud County increased by more than \$6.75 million from 2021. The estimated assessed valuation of the county in 2022 was \$126,960,182, a 5.6 percent increase from the valuation of \$120,252,981 in 2021. The assessed valuation of real estate in the county contributed more than \$4.5 million, or 62 percent, of that increase...Ric Fredrickson announced that he was retiring as the Concordia Police Chief. Fredrickson spent 34 years in law enforcement working for the Concordia Police Department and the Cloud County Sheriff's Department.

(to be continued in Friday's Blade-Empire)



A year in photos

The images of 2022 include wheat harvest, a concert at the Broadway Plaza, an election, the opening of the North Central Kansas Medical Center, the Cloud County Fair and more.

12/30

Construction of, renovation of and planning for facilities were in the news throughout 2022.

The top story of the year was the opening of the new \$40.35 million North Central Kansas Medical Center in Concordia.

Unified School District 333 and Cloud County Community College have also moved forward on facilities projects.

Starting on Wednesday, and finishing up today, The Blade-Empire is looking back at some of the top stories of the year.

JULY

The Cloud County Fair offered a schedule packed full of activities that did not include a carnival. WEEE Entertainment was scheduled to provide the carnival, but pulled out after being bought out by a bigger carnival company. The fair board moved forward by offering bounce houses and inflatables at no charge for the children...Projects awarded Get in the Cloud small business grants through CloudCorp included JKCC Print & Design, Glasco; Rock Island RV Park, Clyde; Einstein Sewing Workshop, Miltonvale; and Concordia Collision Repair, Concordia. There was a total of \$150,000 in grant funds awarded...Enel Green Power provided an update on its plans for the construction of the Skyview Wind Project in Cloud County. It was reported that Enel Green Power had completed leasing agreements with approximately 180 landowners participating in the project. John Beck, business development manager for Enel Green Energy, met with the Cloud County board of commissioners to discuss a payment in lieu of taxes agreement for the

Skyview project...Lyndsey Kopsa was hired as the new director of the Frank Carlson library. Kopsa, a Concordia High School graduate who had served as the director of the Hennessey (Okla.) Public Library, replaced Denise de Rochefort-Reynolds, who had served as the director since 1983...The ATM machine at the Elk State Bank office in Concordia was robbed. Police officers found the ATM had been broken into and a stolen pickup was left at the scene. Evidence was recovered from multiple locations...The Cloud County board of commissioners approved appointing Tonya Sulanka as the director of the Cloud County Health Department...The Cloud County Community College board of trustees approved a professional services agreement with McCownGordon Construction in the amount of \$764,500 to serve as the construction manager at-risk on the Technical Education and Innovation Center project.

AUGUST

Byron King, who operates King's Dream Barbershop in Concordia, continued his tradition of giving children a free haircut as they prepare to head back to school...The National Orphan Train Complex unveiled an Orphan Train Rider statue honoring Mildred Tracy, a former school teacher in Concordia. The statue is located at the Concordia Middle School...The Unified School District 333 board of education approved the hiring of staff members to fill two newly created positions. Kevin Muff was hired as district's dean of student improvement. Kim Muff was hired as the

director of the newly established USD 333 Education Foundation...Mark Matthew was declared the winner in the Republican primary race for the First District position on the Cloud County board of commissioners. Matthew officially received 361 votes and incumbent Bill Czapskiy received 316 votes...The city of Concordia received a \$500,000 grant for the purchase of a new ladder truck for the Concordia Fire Department. The new truck will replace the current ladder truck that is a 1999 model.

SEPTEMBER

The Cloud County Health Center board of trustees unanimously voted to gift the land where the hospital is located to the city of Concordia Land Bank for the purpose of developing moderate to high income housing. Cloud County Health Center was nearing the completion of the new North Central Kansas Medical Center on College Drive. The existing building will be razed, creating useable acreage. The city of Concordia and CloudCorp are proceeding with plans for a housing subdivision on the donated land...The Cloud County board of commissioners and the Unified School District 333 board of education approved supporting the establishment of a Rural Housing Incentive District (RHID) that had been proposed by the city of Concordia. The RHID can be used as a financial tool for the development of a housing subdivision...Loren Swenson served as the grand marshal for the 40th Annual Fall Fest parade...Cloud County Community College president Amber Knoettgen announced that the

enrollment numbers for the fall semester were up for the first time in several years. The student numbers were up by 10 percent, or 152 students, and the credit hour numbers showed an increase of seven percent, or about 1,000 credit hours.

OCTOBER

About 40 pilots participating in the Fly Kansas Air Tour made a landing at Blosser Municipal Airport. It was hosted by the Kansas Department of Transportation Division of Aviation and focused on STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education...Foundation Properties Corporation, Wichita, announced it was closing Mount Joseph Senior Village in Concordia. Mount Joseph had a history of care and service dating back to 1884. There were approximately 35 residents at Mount Joseph when the announcement was made...Unified School District 333 received a donation of \$200,000 to the USD 333 Education Fund. The donation was made anonymously by a Concordia High School graduate alum and his wife. The funds are to be used for the district's career and technical education program's house building project...It was announced that the opening of the new \$40.35 million North Central Kansas Medical Center had been pushed back from November 7 to November 16 because of the continued complications created by workforce shortages and supply chain issues. There was a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house at the 82,000-square-foot modern medical facility located on College Drive.

(see 2022 on page 4)

(continued from page 1)
12/30 NOVEMBER

Marsha Wentz and Amy Jackson were elected to the Concordia city commission in the general election. There were three candidates vying for two positions on the commission. Jackson was top vote-getter with 988 votes. Wentz was re-elected with 773 votes...Mark Matthew, running unopposed, was elected to the Cloud County board of commissioners...The new \$40.35 million North Central Kansas Medical Center opened for business on November 16.

DECEMBER

The Cloud County Community College board of trustees approved a management policy for the \$4 billion in American Rescue Plan Act funds that will be used to help fund the construction of the new Technical Education and Innovation Center...A nationwide child care crisis is being felt in Concordia and the surrounding area...A proposed plan for renovations and upgrades at the Concordia Junior-Senior High School was presented to the Unified School District 333 board of education by Tucker Peddicord, Lighthouse Construction Guidance, and representatives

from McCownGordon Construction and HTK Architects. The plan, which does include the construction of a new 10,000-square-foot auxiliary gymnasium, has an estimated cost of \$33.6 million...Brent Gering was hired as the new Concordia Police Chief. Gering was one of three candidates interviewed for the job. He replaces Ric Fredrickson, who retired in June...Cloud County was awarded \$4,270,000 from the Kansas Department of Transportation for the replacement of the bridge over the Republican River on 190th Road. The current bridge is on the National Register of Historic places and will remain in place. The new bridge will be constructed to the south of the existing bridge. Construction is expected to take place in 2024...The Cloud County Community College board of trustees approved bid package #1 for the construction of the new Technical Education and Innovation Center. The first bid package totaled \$9,967,076. The new 33,725-square-foot facility will be constructed on College Drive between the college and Walmart. The target date for construction to begin is April 3, 2023 and the target date for completion is July 17, 2024.