

Obituaries

HERBERT LEE ORR JR.

Herbert Lee Orr Jr., 75, of Globe, passed away Monday, April 28, 2025.

He was born January 22, 1950, in Topeka, Kansas, the son of Herbert and Darlene (Montfoort) Orr. He attended Shawnee Heights High School graduating in 1968. He received a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Drawing from Pittsburg State University.

Herb worked at Kansas University and later retired from Ottawa University.

Herb married Sheryl Bettis in Topeka. From this union, Herb welcomed his daughter Amy. He and Sheryl would later divorce. In 1980, Herb met and married Linda Nelson, and they divorced.

Survivors include a daughter, Amy (Tad) Allen; brothers, Dan (Debbie) Orr and Dennis (Vickie) Orr. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Rick Orr.

Herb was an avid outdoorsman who loved fishing and hunting. He grew a wonderful vegetable garden every summer. He always looked forward to his yearly Canada fishing trip with his buddies.

Herb's wishes were to be cremated. A graveside service will be held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at Clinton Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Helping Hands Humane Society, 5720 SW 21stSt, Topeka, KS 66604.

To share a memory of Herb or leave a special message for his family, visitwww.DoveTopeka.com



PAUL PERSINGER, JR.

Paul Persinger, Jr. was born on December 20, 1959. He was the first child and only son of Paul and Lutitia (Gibbons) Persinger. He passed away peacefully on April 23, 2025.

Paul had an outgoing personality and enjoyed the outdoors from a young age. He had an engaging grin, and a great sense of humor, and was a generous person. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, cooking, family, and good friends. Paul will be greatly missed.

He attended Baldwin public schools and worked for his dad as an automotive electrician until his father retired. He received his Associate of Applied Science from Johnson County Community College in 1999 and was licensed as a residential electrician and HVAC with a master electrician license. He worked the last twenty years for the Lawrence School District as an electrician and mechanic. Paul had planned to retire this year and take a fishing trip.

Paul was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by three sisters, Laura Persinger of Baldwin City, Cheryl Robinson of Garnett, and Julia Griffith of Ottawa, along with three nephews and one niece.

A visitation will be held 5:00-7:00 pm, Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at Dengel & Son Mortuary, Ottawa. Graveside memorial services will take place at 1:00 pm, Friday, May 9, 2025, at Highland Cemetery, Ottawa.

Legislative Update by State Senator



Sen. Caryn Tyson

caryn.tyson@senate.ks.gov

April 25, 2025,

Even though the 2025 session ended a couple of weeks ago, several bills were recently signed into law.

After a bill passes the legislature, there is a 10-day time frame to get it to the Governor.

The Governor then has

another 10 days to sign or veto the bill, if not it becomes law without the Governor's signature.

This week my update focuses on tax policy.

All legislation can be found at www.KSLegislature.gov.

No Personal Property Taxes on electric wheelchairs, ATVs (all-terrain vehicles), snowmobiles, off-road motorcycles, golf carts not operated on the highway, motorized bicycles, trailers 15,000 pounds or less used for personal use, and watercraft.

A couple of years ago a constituent called and said she paid more property taxes on her ATV than on her home.

Coincidentally, the president of the Kansas County

Paws for pushovers during National Pet Month



By Dorothy Rosby

dorothy.rosby@gmail.com

I have a photo on my cellphone of a small dog in the arms of a woman I don't even know.

I met them a few years ago at a campground and I asked the woman if I could take a picture of her dog because it reminded me of one my family had when I was growing up.

Bernie was part chihuahua and part who knows what and if I close my eyes I can still see her, her whole backside wagging when she greeted me.

I do have photos of Bernie, but they're tucked away in albums.

So yes, I keep a picture of someone else's dog on my phone.

But I'm only admitting it so that you'll believe me when I say I truly love dogs.

Knowing this, you may wonder why my husband and I never got one for our son when he was growing up.

He wonders too.

But just because he never had a dog doesn't mean he never had pets.

Boy did he have pets.

Turns out I'm a pushover for critters.

May is National Pet Month, a time to celebrate pets and champions like me who can't say no to them.

So I'd like to introduce you to the ones my son talked me into.

His first three pets were accidental.

We'd gone to a school carnival where some well-meaning folks who, because of their love for children and disregard for parents, were giving away goldfish.

He won pets number one and two by tossing a ring on a bottle or some other equally impressive feat.

But I suspect he could have had them by saying, "Me! Me!" at the close of the carnival when organizers were begging people

to take the leftover fish.

Despite our best efforts, the fish only survived three days.

You might think I'd learned my lesson.

I'd think so too.

But a year later, we got goldfish number three in much the same way.

Alas it didn't last any longer than the first two had.

I was reluctant to bring pet number four into our home but I was glad I gave in.

I was very fond of Monsieur Hamstie—probably fonder than most people are of rodents.

Hamstie was, as you might have guessed, a hamster.

And when he went to that Great Hamster Wheel in the Sky, we replaced him with pet number five, an equally adorable hamster named Bobo.

Pet number six was Mr. Tweepers, and if you guessed he was a bird, you're right again.

Despite my initial reluctance to adopt him, I fell for him too.

He never perched on my finger like canaries on YouTube do, but he did sing to me while I worked.

Or at least I liked to think he was singing to me.

More likely he was singing to

attract a girlfriend.

I suppose he had reason to be hopeful considering how easily I'd been persuaded to take in three fish and two hamsters.

My husband assumed that once we were empty nesters there would be no more pets for me to bond with.

But our son hadn't been out of the house long when he rescued pet number seven, a kitten named Bastian.

He kept it at his apartment until he moved and then Bastian moved too—in with us.

I changed his name to Sebastian.

I figured that was my prerogative since I was now responsible for feeding him and paying the vet bills.

There was a pattern in the acquisition of all of these pets: I was reluctant. I caved.

And then I fell for them—except for the goldfish.

They didn't live long enough for me to bond with them and I'm not sure I would have anyway.

The point is, I'm a sucker for critters, which is exactly what you'd expect from someone who keeps a photo of another woman's dog on her phone.

Pioneer lessons

Kim Baldwin is a McPherson County farmer and rancher. She is a writer for Kansas Farm Bureau's Insight Column.

As the end of the school year is quickly coming into sight for my children, the end-of-year activities are beginning to ramp up. State assessments have been completed, countdowns have begun and field trips have picked up.

I recently joined my daughter's elementary class as they expanded on their classroom lessons about pioneers and experienced a different time period for a day. Students dressed up as pioneer children, wrapped their lunch in parchment paper, packed it into metal pails and headed to Wichita to participate in a day of experiential learning. Their earlier lessons truly came to life as these students experienced multiple aspects of what life was like for a child in Kansas more than 150 years ago.

For a portion of the morning, the students entered a restored farmhouse and learned about a variety of chores required to churn butter, fire

up the kitchen stove, wash dishes and make toast. Afterwards, the students moved outside to learn about some of the tasks they would have helped with had they lived on a farm. From cutting grass using a scythe, tossing hay using pitchforks, utilizing pulley systems to move heavy objects to planting rows and rows of seed on foot, the kids soon realized that there was a lot of work involved in running a farm back in the day.

While walking by some antique farm machinery that was being explained to the kids, I couldn't help but think that I sure was glad I live in 2025 and can utilize advanced technology and practices from planting seeds to harvesting crops.

I was soon reminded that while there have been major advancements in technology, some things still remain the same.

As the students wrapped up their lesson about all of the work required of a pioneer family to prepare for planting to harvest, we rounded a corner to discover a large display board with pegs.

The students were asked what was one thing completely out of their control that still needed to happen to increase the odds of growing a successful crop to harvest. While there were some interesting answers presented by



Kansas Farm Bureau

Reflecting on her child's class trip to a restored 150 year old Kansas farmhouse deepened her understanding of past daily life and increased her appreciation for modern technology.

these third graders, the main answer was rain.

The students were then each handed a hockey puck and one by one they were prompted to select a space on the peg board to release their puck. Where the puck would land would determine the crop they would have, ranging from a bumper crop all the way to a total failure.

Students cheered one another on as each child would approach the board and chose where to place their puck before releasing it to watch as it bounced from peg to peg before arriving at its final spot.

High fives and cheers were given when a puck landed on average or bumper harvests and audible sighs were heard when a puck would land in the zones deemed below average and crop failure.

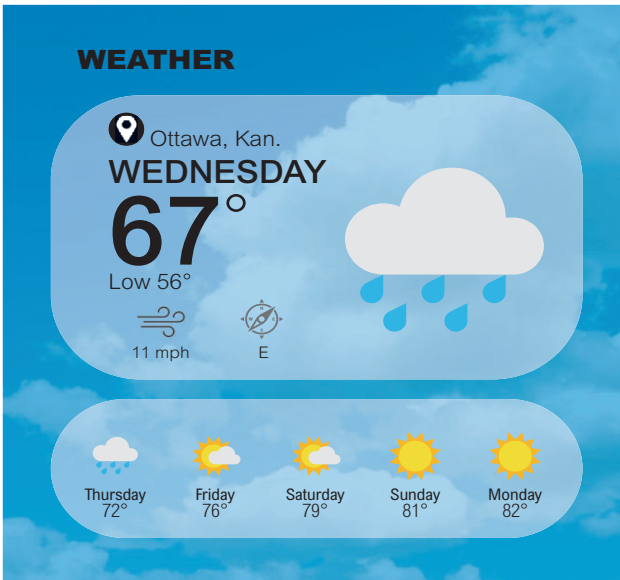
You could actually see some students were quite anxious as they approached the board to find out the results of their crop.

Sometimes a student would second guess their initial placement of their puck and quickly select another area of the board before releasing hoping their luck would be better by making an adjustment.

Overall, there were more successful harvests than crop failures with this group of students. Nonetheless, the exercise allowed students to briefly experience the feelings and concerns a farmer living in the late 1800s would potentially have as they grew a crop.

The day I spent with a group of pioneer kids is one I will soon not forget as it was a great reminder of the realities and concerns of farmers back then that are still present for us today.

Sometimes it takes a day in third grade to help me realize that while there have been major advancements, there are still plenty of areas that impact the success of our farms today just like those from years past.



OTTAWA HERALD (USPS 600-240) is published weekly on Tuesday by CherryRoad Media, 214 S. Hickory St, Ottawa, KS 66067-2309. Periodicals postage paid at Ottawa, Kan., and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER, please send address changes to:

Circulation Department
Ottawa Herald
214 S. Hickory St.
Ottawa, KS, 66067

By submitting your address and/or email, you understand that you may receive promotional offers from CherryRoad and its related companies. You may cancel your subscription at any time for a refund of the unused portion of your subscription. For more information, call 785-992-0001.

Ottawa Herald

214 S. Hickory St., Ottawa, KS, 66067
785-992-0001 • www.ottawaherald.com

Franklin County serving the Cities of Lane, Ottawa, Pomona, Princeton, Rantoul, Richmond, Wellsville and Williamsburg

Find us on facebook.com/OttawaHerald



CherryRoad Media

PUBLISHER
JEREMY GULBAN
JGulban@cherryroad.com

OBITUARIES
KATIE PERRY
Obits@ottawaherald.com

LEGALS NOTICES
legals@ottawaherald.com

EDITOR/SPORTS
GREG MAST
WMast@cherryroad.com

REPORTER
MCKENNA NEASE
MNease@cherryroad.com