

OPINION

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Letter to the Editor,

There's a persistent narrative that crops up from time to time around town, on Facebook (especially Facebook), whispered between neighbors, and passed along like gossip that Kingman is in decline. They say we're drying up. That nothing is happening here. That story is a myth, and its time we start challenging it.

Sure, like every rural town in America, we've had our share of challenges. We've seen businesses close. We've watched our youth leave for college and careers elsewhere. We've felt the weight of changing economies and shifting priorities. But that's not the whole story. It's not our story.

Here's the truth: Kingman is building. Kingman is growing. And Kingman, thanks to a

determined group of residents, leaders, and entrepreneurs, is fighting like hell not just to survive, but to thrive, to dismantle the false narrative about who we are and where we're headed.

In the last few years, we've secured millions in grant funding to support local businesses, revitalize our downtown, preserve historic buildings, and invest in critical infrastructure. We've launched programs to help entrepreneurs get started and to help existing businesses expand. We've embraced art, culture, and creativity, not as luxuries, but as central to our identity.

We've increased amenities in our park system: upgrading facilities, improving accessibility, and creating entirely new parks that serve families, kids, and visitors alike. From safe-

ty surfacing to new swings to neighborhood gathering spaces, we are investing in the kinds of public spaces that make a community livable and vibrant.

We've also upped our game in attracting and hosting regional events, including major conferences that bring visitors, visibility, and new energy to our community. These efforts are putting Kingman on the map, and they reinforce what we already know: this is a place worth investing in.

We've taken bold steps locally to better support our business community and to create a more unified strategy for growth. We've seen people come home and choose to raise their families here. We've watched new shops open, new ideas take root, and new leaders step forward. We're working every day to make sure Kingman isn't just a place people remember fondly; it's a great place to land today!

The results speak for themselves. Our city's total valuation has increased by \$1.8 million in the past year, a clear sign invest-

ments we are making are working. We've had a net increase in both commercial and residential utility customers over the last five years, which means more people are living, working, and doing business in Kingman. In fact, our median household income has risen so significantly we no longer qualify for several grants aimed at lower-income communities. That might limit some of our funding options, but it also tells a powerful story: Kingman is stronger.

What should be in decline is the tired myth that Kingman is anti-growth, anti-progress, and unwilling to take chances. What should be fading is the idea that our best days are behind us. So the next time someone says Kingman is in decline, tell them they're wrong. Tell them to look around. Tell them to drive down Main Street. Tell them to look at the people working, volunteering, investing, and dreaming here every single day. Tell them I call bulls--t. And tell them we're just getting started.

Leslie D. Schrag, Kingman

PUZZLE SPONSOR



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

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

LEGAL NOTICE

(First published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, June 19, 2025.) 3t

IN THE 30th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF
Kingman COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF
Jacob Alexander Trent

TO CHANGE HIS/HER NAME TO Jacob Alexander Soza
Case No. KM2025-CV-000017

Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 60
NOTICE OF HEARING

PUBLICATION THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL WHO ARE OR MAY BE CONCERNED: You are hereby notified that Jacob Alexander Trent filed a Petition in the above court on the May 29, 2025, requesting a judgment and order changing his/her name from Jacob Alex-ander Trent to Jacob Alexander Soza. The Petition will be heard in Kingman County District Court, 130 N. Spruce St., 3rd Floor, Kingman KS, on August 20, 2025 at 11:00 AM. If you have any objection to the re-requested name change, you are required to file a responsive reading one or before August 20, 2025, in this court or appear at the hearing and object to the requested name change. If you fail to act, judgment and order will be entered upon the Petition as requested by Petition.

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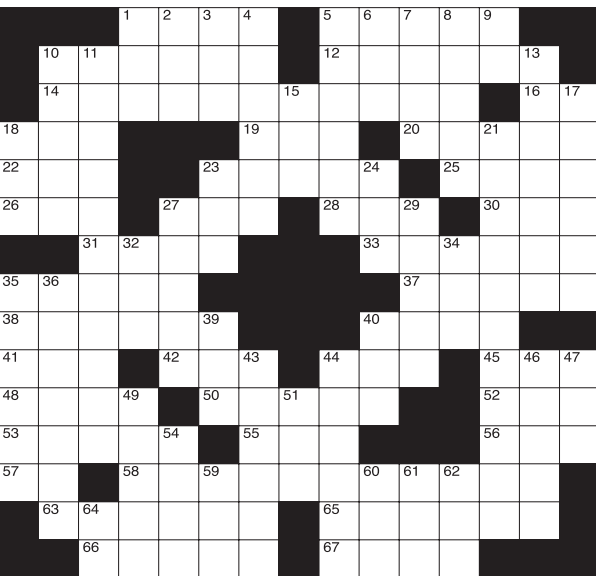
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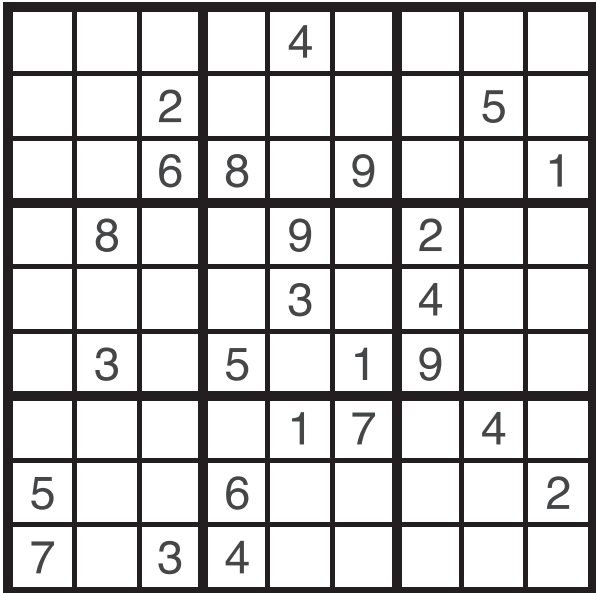


CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Type of bread | 37. Plants in the chamomile tribe |
| 5. Range of mountains | 38. Revolutionary War era spy |
| 10. Ended | 40. Portion of a book |
| 12. Musical forms with a recurring theme | 41. Hoover's office |
| 14. On the nature of being | 42. Title of respect |
| 16. Law enforcement agency | 44. Tax collector |
| 18. Australian flightless bird | 45. Cool! |
| 19. Subway rodent | 48. Real estate |
| 20. More dried-up | 50. Boy's name |
| 22. A beaver might build one | 52. Airborne (abbr.) |
| 23. Suggestive of the supernatural | 53. Strongly recommends |
| 25. Art __, around 1920 | 55. Hit lightly |
| 26. American rocker Snider | 56. Bar bill |
| 27. Not or | 57. Atomic #54 |
| 28. Earliest human: __-Magnon Man | 58. Devotes again |
| 30. Firearm | 63. Fish sauce |
| 31. Tough outer skin of fruit | 65. French stock market |
| 33. Alternative form of a gene | 66. Things that consist of two elements or parts |
| 35. Low shrub some call "fat pork" | 67. Tense |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Retired game show host Sajak | 29. Ceramic jars |
| 2. Equal (prefix) | 32. I (German) |
| 3. Israeli city __ Aviv | 34. Something to toss on a fire |
| 4. Loved | 35. The process of flowing in |
| 5. A type of analyst | 36. A series of acts at a night club |
| 6. Ad __ | 39. Egg of a louse |
| 7. Gasteyer and de Armas are two | 40. Inquire too closely |
| 8. Ran without moving | 43. Travelers |
| 9. Opposite of yes | 44. Drink |
| 10. Diffuse clouds of gas | 46. Behave in a way that degrades |
| 11. Mentioning one by one | 47. Electronic music style |
| 13. Instruments used to dilate | 49. Northern Ireland city |
| 15. Freshwater fish | 51. Upset |
| 17. Remotely-manned flying objects | 54. Stiff structure resembling a hair |
| 18. Doctor of Education | 59. Father |
| 21. Renews | 60. North Atlantic fish |
| 23. Not the start | 61. 8th month (abbr.) |
| 24. Pitching stat | 62. Make an effort |
| 27. Small water buffaloes | 64. Commercial |



V B O Y Y S L A I R E A P E F K B Y R R
P U L A U F T E V R B C V U T U T U I S
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