



Martha Washington Roul, 79, passed away April 5, 2025. A visitation will be held at Cornejo Funeral Home from 1-7pm Friday, April 18 with family present to receive guests from 5-7pm. A graveside service at Prairie Lawn Cemetery in Wellington will be held on Saturday, April 19 at 10am.

Kylea Lauren Castaneda, 35, passed away on Tuesday, April 8, 2025. A visitation will be held from 5-7pm on Wednesday, April 23 at Cornejo Funeral Home. Recitation of the Holy Rosary will begin at 10am on Thursday, April 24, immediately followed by a Funeral Mass. Interment will follow at Sumner Memorial Gardens. A memorial fund has been established at Impact Bank to support her son.

Phillip Emmett Conklin, 35, passed away on April 10, 2025. A funeral mass was held on April 15th at St Anthony & St Rose Catholic Church. Following the funeral mass, burial took place at Prairie Lawn Cemetery in Wellington, KS.

Gerald Dwayne "Jerry" Ricke, 76, passed away on April 10, 2025. A memorial service was held on April 16, 2025 at the St Anthony & St Rose Catholic Church. Interment followed at Sumner Memorial Gardens.

Ronald Bruce Turner, 74, passed away on Friday, April 11, 2025. A visitation will be held at the funeral home from 3-7pm, Friday, May 2 with the family present to receive guests from 5-7pm. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 3 at 10:30am at the Cornejo Funeral Home. Interment with service honors will follow at Riverview Cemetery, Arkansas City, KS.

Wellington Daily News Earns Top Honors

By Laura Lombardi



This month marks three years since The Wellington Daily News returned to providing community-centered journalism in Wellington. Our small but mighty team of writers, graphic designers, and content creators is committed to telling the stories that matter most to our readers.

For the first time since stepping into the role of editor, I submitted thirteen entries to the Kansas Press Association's Awards of Excellence competition. We're honored to share that our work received recognition across several categories — including seven first-place awards.

Some entries, like the Justice for Janet series, were submitted to expand the story's reach and bring renewed attention to a

local cold case. Others were chosen to celebrate our town's spirit — heart-warming human interest stories, in-depth features, and stories that spotlight Wellington's rich culture and character.

We're also thrilled that Ursula Goff's phenomenal photography received praise, especially in our sports coverage. Her work continues to elevate the visual storytelling of our paper. And, with Ace Finch's passionate sports writing, we're proud to provide coverage that gives voice to student-athletes and keeps

our community cheering from the sidelines.

With the support of CherryRoad Media, we'll continue shining a light on local businesses, community achievements, and the everyday moments that make Wellington special. We are deeply grateful for your readership and encouragement — these awards belong to all of us.

2025 KPA Awards of Excellence — Wellington Daily News

- 1st Place**
Editorial Series: Justice For Janet
Sports Story: A Proud and Powerful Tradition
Story/Picture Combination: What Are the Odds
Story from a Public Notice: Powering the Future, Supporting Community
Front Page Design Category
Sports Pages Category

Overall Design & Layout Category

2nd Place
Agricultural Story: Love and the Land
Environmental Story: Local Building First to Install Innovative Energy-Saving Ceiling Tile
Sports Column Writing: Ace Finch

3rd Place
Local Business Story: An Elite Manufacturing Company
Sports Feature: From Williamsport to Wellington, By Way Of Australia
Investigative Story: Justice for Janet

The 2025 Awards of Excellence will be presented by the Kansas Press Association on June 6th, 2025 at the KPA Convention in Salina.

Avenue of Flags Volunteers Needed



Thursday, April 17
10am, Chamber Coffee at Memorial Auditorium. This week's host is the Sumner County Historical & Genealogical Society

Friday, April 18
1-3pm, Sumner County Health Department, Senior Health & Resource Fair in Memorial Auditorium. Door prizes, Vendors and more!

KWLS 107.9, Country Music Concert benefit for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society at Wichita Union Stockyards
7pm, Nowhere Grill, Live music with Loose Change
8:45pm, KanOkla Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt, ages 9-12

Saturday, April 19
9am, Trigger Guard, NRA Action Pistol (short course)
10am, KanOkla Easter Egg Hunt, ages 0-8
2-4pm, Sumner County Farm Bureau, Sumner Co. Legislative Update at College College - Sumner Campus, Short Community Room

Sunday, April 20 - Happy Easter!
6:30am, Easter Sunrise Service in Memorial Auditorium, host by the Ministerial Alliance
7am, American Legion Breakfast
7am, Easter service followed by an Easter egg hunt at St. John's Lutheran Church. All are welcome.
9am-1pm, Andy's/D3 Easter Brunch. For reservations call 620-326-2776
10:30am, Easter Worship Service at First Christian Church of Wellington

Monday, April 21
8am - 6pm, Tiger Enrollment at Cowley

College 4-5:30pm, Cowley College Open House - Sumner Campus
6pm, Cowley College Board Meeting, Room 208
6:30pm, J. Harvey Koehn's presentation of Kansas County Courthouses: Their Architecture, Features, Grandeur, Landscape, & Setting from the Sumner County Historical & Genealogical Society, Cowley College Sumner Campus, Short Room

Tuesday, April 22
7pm, Bingo at VFW, the kitchen will be open.

Wednesday, April 23
6:30pm, Trivia Night at The NoWhere Grill

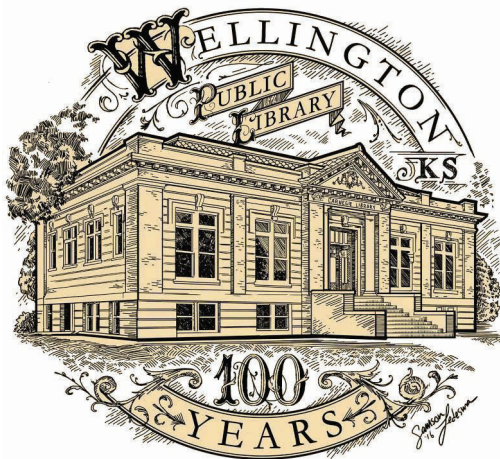
Thursday, April 24
10am, Chamber Coffee at Memorial Auditorium. This week's host is Rainbows United
5-7pm, 35th Anniversary celebration! Tonia Sturm, consultant Mary Kay, 517 Morningside Dr.

Member News:
Join in the fun the entire month of April with SU-CO Boutique Crawl BINGO!
Shop the participating retailers, spend \$10+ and receive a sticker. One store will enter you into a drawing for a prize, acquire a Bingo Line and be entered into the drawings for one of ten gift cards. Get a Blackout and be entered to win a \$250 Chamber Buck drawing!
Know of a nonprofit that could benefit from Cox Charities funding? We invite charitable organizations to apply for a Cox Charities Community Investment Grant from now through May 1 at www.coxcharities.org

The Avenue of Flags organizers are seeking volunteers to lend a hand during a community work day on Friday, April 26 at 10 a.m. at the Wellington Armory, located at 218 S. High Street.

Volunteers will help with organizing name plates in preparation for the annual Memorial Day tribute. All are welcome, and no special skills are required—just a willingness to pitch in and honor those who served.

For more information contact Ansy McEntire at 620-326-1091.



Thursday, April 17
Local Author Fair at 6pm

Saturday, April 19
Pokemon Club at 1pm
YA Tornado Alley at

Monday, April 21
Adult \$Tree Crafts at 5pm

Tuesday, April 22
YA Spanish Club at 6pm

Wednesday, April 23
Raising Readers Storytime at 10:30am

Rick's Rain Report

Precipitation as of Monday morning, April 14, 2025
This week: 0"
This month: 1.42"
YTD: 3.36"

TUESDAY NIGHT IS BINGO NIGHT AT VFW POST 881!

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL VETERANS!

🕒 7:00PM
📍 424 E. HARVEY
☎ 620-326-5071

BINGO

Obituaries

GARRY JENAKSELA

Garry Jenaksela, born on August 11, 1942, in Wichita, Kansas, passed away on April 8, 2025, in Charles Town, West Virginia.

Throughout their life, Garry dedicated himself to education and the pursuit of knowledge. As a college professor, they influenced countless students with their passion for teaching and commitment to academic excellence. Their career was marked by a deep love for learning and a desire to inspire others.

Outside the classroom, Garry found joy in the outdoors. Whether exploring nature or simply enjoying time outside, they embraced the natural world with enthusiasm and appreciation.

Garry is remembered with love by their wife, Janette J., their son, Andrew J., and their daughter, Janessa J. They were predeceased by their daughter, Shannon J.

May Garry's memory bring comfort to those who knew them and continue to inspire all who value education and the beauty of the world around us.

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