

# Take heat precautions for pets

•Contiued from Page A-5

increase the chance a lost pet will be returned safely. Even indoor pets should be properly identified.

Summer also brings increased risk of toxic exposures and seasonal irritants.

“Be cautious with summer landscaping and gardening products,” Nelson said. “Some mulches, fertilizers and plants — such as lilies, azaleas and rhododendrons — can be toxic to pets.”

Increased time outdoors can also trigger seasonal allergies, causing itching, sneezing or watery eyes in pets. Grass awns, chiggers and other hidden irritants may also cause skin infections or more serious complications.

Finally, Nelson reminds pet owners to al-

ways provide fresh food, water and shade. Food spoils more easily in warm weather and attracts insects. Dehydration can happen quickly when water bowls are not kept filled. For outdoor pets, be sure to check your yard at various times throughout the day to ensure there is always access to shade so pets can get relief from the heat.

“Summertime is a season many of us look forward to, but it is important to take basic precautions to help prevent our furry friends from physical hazards, toxins and parasites that accompany this time of year,” Nelson said. “The keys to a healthy summer for your pet are to provide consistent fresh food, water and parasite preventives, as well as keeping them up to date on their vaccinations. Exercise your pets in the early morning or late evening to help avoid heat exhaustion, and follow the suggestions to avoid exposure to hazardous situations.”

For more information on year-round pet health, consult your local veterinarian.

Tax Preparation • Bookkeeping • Payrolls

JANET A. GRAHAM

Public Accountant, Inc.

128 S. Kansas,Columbus, KS

Mon. - Fri. 9 to 5, Sat. 9-Noon

(620) 429-2662

Col. JACK GARNER

All Kinds of Auctions Conducted

Real Estate      Farm      Antique      Household Business Liquidation

GET THE TOP DOLLAR

REAL PRO

Columbus, Kansas      Office: (620) 429-4400      Cell: (417) 438-0468      Home: (620) 848-3875

## Legal Notice

(First Published in the Columbus News-Report Tuesday, July 15, 2025)

**Search to Find Children in Need of Special Education**

**Southeast Kansas Interlocal #637** is seeking to identify every student from birth through age 21 who lives within the boundaries of Crawford CO Schools, Cherokee CO, Labette CO: USD #235Untiontown:USD #246Arma: USD #247 Cherokee: USD #248 Girard: USD #249 Frontenac: USD #250 Pittsburg: USD #404 Riverton: USD #493 Columbus: USD #499 Galena: USD #504 Oswego: USD #505 Chetopa/St. Paul: USD #506 Altamont: USD #508 Baxter Springs.

who has developmental delays or may be in need of special education. If you have a child or know of a child who you think has a development delays or special need, contact:

**Greg Kubler**  
**400 N. Pine Street**  
**Pittsburg, KS 66762**

Areas of special education include: birth through age two (infanttoddler), early childhood disability, developmentally delayed, visual impairments including blindness, hearing impairments including deafness, deaf blindness, autism, traumatic brain injury, emotional disturbance, specific learning disabilities, mental retardation, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairments, speech or language impairments, and gifted.

Parents are advised that all special education services are designed to offer the utmost in educational opportunities for each qualifying student, as well as to provide assistance and support in the areas of physical, mental, emotional, and social growth. State and federal laws are followed in providing each student with a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment. Call: 1-800-281-2749 or (620) 235-3180 if you have a child or know of a child who may need special education services.

**Notification of Rights under FERPA for Elementary and Secondary Schools**  
*The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students who are 18 years of age or older ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:*

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day the [SCHOOLS] receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal [or appropriate school official] a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA. Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the [SCHOOLS] to amend a record should write the school principal [or appropriate school official], clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or a person serving on the school board. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside of the school who performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.
4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the [School] to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

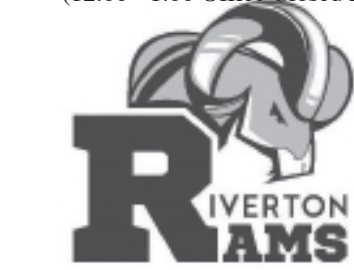
Family Policy Compliance Office	SEK Interlocal #637	USD 404Riverton
U.S. Department of Education	400 N. Pine	6860 SE Hwy 66
400 Maryland Avenue, SW	Pittsburg, KS 66762	Riverton, KS 66770
Washington, DC 20202	1-800-281-2749	(620)848-3386

### ANNUAL ASBESTOS NOTIFICATION

USD 404 has been complying with federal and state asbestos regulations for many years. Some of the building materials in our schools do contain asbestos. These materials are periodically inspected and maintained to ensure that they do not present a health hazard to students, employees or visitors. The asbestos management plan for USD 404 is located in the district administrative office and in the administrative office of each school. Interested persons may inspect the plan at any time. If you have specific questions, you may contact Justin Wilson at 620-848-3386.

<b>ELEMENTARY:</b>	<b>MIDDLE SCHOOL:</b>
ENROLLMENT FEES \$20.00	ENROLLMENT FEE \$25
Enrollment dates: August 5-8	Laptop Fee \$50
Enrollment Times:	Enrollment dates:
8:00 am – 3:00 pm	6th Gr Enrollment/Orientation -
(11:30 – 12:30 Office Closed for lunch)	August 4 – 5:30 pm
	7th & 8th Gr Enrollment - August 5 - 8
	8:00 am – 3:00 pm
	(12:00 - 1:00 Office Closed for lunch)

<b>HIGH SCHOOL:</b>	<b>FOOD SERVICE FEES:</b>
ENROLLMENT FEE \$25	<b>LUNCH</b>
PLUS	Elementary Students \$3.55
ELECTIVE CLASS FEES	Middle School Students \$3.55
1:1 INITIATIVE FEES - \$50	High School Students \$3.65
Enrollment dates:	Faculty, adults, guest \$5.15
Jrs/Srs – August 5	<b>BREAKFAST</b>
Fresh/Soph – August 6	Students PK - 12 \$2.55
9th Gr Orientation – August 7 - 6:30 pm	Faculty, adults, guest \$3.10
Open Enrollment August 7 - 8	
8:00 am - 3:00 pm	
(12:00 - 1:00 Office Closed for lunch)	



The Riverton Unified School District No. 404 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, genetic information, or religion in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies.

Dr. Kevin Cooper, Superintendent  
6860 SE Hwy 66  
Riverton, KS 66770  
620.848.3386  
July 15, 2025, July 22, 2025

Almanac for COLUMBUS, KS July 21, 2025				
Daily Data	Observed	Normal	Record Highest	Record Lowest
Max Temperature	94	90	105 in 1974	73 in 1950
Min Temperature	77	70	82 in 1954	50 in 1944
Avg Temperature	85.5	79.9	93.5 in 1954	67.0 in 1950
Precipitation	0.00	0.12	3.61 in 1896	0.00 in 2025
Snowfall	0.0	0.0	0.0 in 2025	0.0 in 2025
Snow Depth	0	-	0 in 2025	0 in 2025
HDD (base 65)	0	0	0 in 2025	0 in 2025
CDD (base 65)	21	15	29 in 1954	2 in 1950
Month-to-Date Summary	Observed	Normal	Record Highest	Record Lowest
Avg Max Temperature	89.5	89.2	106.3 in 1954	81.2 in 1950
Avg Min Temperature	70.9	69.1	74.7 in 1980	61.9 in 1967
Avg Temperature	80.2	79.2	90.3 in 1954	72.6 in 1967
Total Precipitation	1.26	2.98	11.79 in 1950	0.00 in 1980
Total Snowfall	0.0	0.0	T in 1951	0.0 in 2025
Max Snow Depth	0	-	0 in 2025	0 in 2025
Total HDD (base 65)	0	0	4 in 1895	0 in 2025
Total CDD (base 65)	325	298	537 in 1954	149 in 2002
Year-to-Date Summary	Observed	Normal	Record Highest	Record Lowest
Avg Max Temperature	65.7	65.9	88.5 in 1978	62.0 in 1912
Avg Min Temperature	44.8	45.0	65.8 in 1978	39.8 in 1979
Avg Temperature	55.2	55.5	77.0 in 1978	51.2 in 2002
Total Precipitation	30.82	27.39	43.68 in 1999	6.67 in 1978
Total Snowfall (since July 1)	0.0	0.0	T in 1951	0.0 in 2025
Max Snow Depth (since July 1)	0	-	0 in 2025	0 in 2025
Total HDD (since July 1)	0	0	4 in 1895	0 in 2025
Total CDD (since Jan 1)	760	740	1178 in 1934	354 in 2002

**Period of Record:**

- Max Temperature : 1892-12-01 to 2025-07-21
- Min Temperature : 1892-12-01 to 2025-07-21
- Precipitation : 1892-12-01 to 2025-07-21
- Snowfall : 1892-12-01 to 2025-07-21
- Snow Depth : 1898-12-04 to 2025-07-21

# Fraternal societies in genealogy research

In the 1800’s and 1900’s fraternal benefit societies were very popular in the United States because this was a way that the working class could afford financial protection. This is evident by the number of grave markers that have fraternal symbols on them. And, of course, most of the fraternal societies maintained a lodge where people could meet in fellowship. Below are descriptions of a few of the societies which are/were popular in south-east Kansas.

The Masons is one of the oldest known fraternal organizations in North America, but started as stonemasons’ guilds in England and Scotland. Members share the virtues of industriousness, productivity, charity, faith and hope. The main emblem of the Masons is the square and compass, usually with the letter “G” in the center. The

## Genealogy Corner



**By  
Ella  
Buzzard**

square reminds members to square their actions by the square of virtue. Famous Masons include George Washington, Mozart, Benjamin Franklin and Fredrick the Great of Prussia.

Members of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine for North America are members of the Masonic Order and follow the principles of freemasonry -- brotherly love, relief and truth. Shriners’ greatest achievement is the Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children.

The Order of the Eastern Star is a Masonic related group open to both men and

women. Being established in 1850, it is based on the teachings of the Bible but is open to people of all religious beliefs. The emblem is a five-pointed star representing the Star of Bethlehem and has small symbols inside the star and the letters “F.A.T.A.L. which means “Fairest Among Thousands, Altogether lovely”. Today there are 10,000 Eastern Star chapters in 18 countries.

The Ancient Order of United Workmen (A.O.U. W.) was the first fraternal benefit society organized in the United States and was the first society to pay substantial death benefits to a deceased member’s family. Each member would pay \$1 in to the insurance fund at each meeting. Not less than \$500 was paid to a member’s dependents when he died. The motto of the Ancient Order, which dissolved in the 1950’s, was “Charity, Hope and Protection”.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I. O.O. F.), also known as “The Three Link Fraternity” was organized in England in the 17th Century for the purpose of giving aid to those in need. This benevolent society was founded in Baltimore, Maryland in 1819 and has established cemeteries throughout the United States. The three links represent the degrees of friendship, love and truth which can be stowed on a member. There are about 600,000 members worldwide.

The I.O.O. F. was the first national fraternity to include both men and women when it adopted the Rebekah Degree in 1851. Women do not have to be related to the men in Odd Fellows to be a member. The Rebekah Lodge’s symbols are the beehive, dove, lily, moon and seven stars.

The Modern Woodmen of the World was founded by Joseph Cullen Root in Omaha, Nebraska. Later the word modern was dropped. In 2015 the group became known as Woodmen Life. The traditional W.O.W monument had four objects on it, the maul, axe, wedge and dove. The motto Dum Tacet Clamat is Latin meaning “Though silent, he speaks”. The insurance company which was established by the group would pay the widow \$100 and a free marble tree stump monument if the logo of the insurance company could be put on the tombstone. The societies today remain as insurance companies.

The female auxiliary for the Woodmen of the World was called the Woodmen Circle. Its local units were called groves and they were governed by a “Supreme Forest”. This society was absorbed by the Woodmen of the World in 1965.

**Southeast USD 247 has an immediate opening in our Grounds/Maintenance Department.**

Qualified candidates will be expected to perform minor maintenance tasks and serve as a grounds keeper. Candidates must demonstrate a positive attitude, be dependable, flexible, self-motivated, self-starter and a team player. Other required skills: utilize cell phone, email and basic office computer skills. Candidate will work a 40hr base week and must be available for overtime if needed. Benefits include:

- 9 paid holidays
- 2 personal days
- 8hrs sick leave per month
- 2 weeks' vacation, after 1 year of employment
- Employee only paid health insurance
- Employee only paid life insurance
- Company vehicle and cell phone provided during work hours

Optional benefits available:

- Dental insurance
- Vision insurance
- Family health insurance
- Flex 125
- KPER's life insurance

The successful candidate must be able to pass a drug testing and a federal background check. Non-certified applications may be obtained at the District Office located at: 506 S Smelter St, Cherokee, KS or it can be found on the website at [www.usd247.com](http://www.usd247.com). For more information call 620-457-8350. Southeast USD 247 is an equal opportunity employer.

Legal Notice

(First Published in the Columbus News Report Tuesday, July 15, 2025)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF  
CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS.  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
KAREN LOUISE PHELPS, DECEASED.  
Case No. CK-2025-PR-000055

**NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:  
You are notified that on July 9, 2025, a Petition was filed in this Court by Tamera M. Wellner, one of the heirs of Karen Louise Phelps, deceased, requesting Tamera M. Wellner be appointed as Administrator and she be granted Letters of Administration.  
You are required to file your written defenses to the Petition on or before August 12, 2025, at 9:30 o'clock AM at the Cherokee County Courthouse, Columbus, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail to file your written defenses, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the petition.  
All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within the latter of four months from the date of the first publication of notice under K.S.A. 59-2236 and amendments thereto, or if the identity of the creditor is known or reasonably ascertainable, 30 days after actual notice was given as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Tamera M. Wellner,  
Petitioner.

Timothy L. Fielder - #08649  
Attorney at Law  
112 South Ozark – PO Box 99  
Girard, KS 66743  
(620) 724-4214 Phone  
(620) 724-8679 Fax  
Attorney for Petitioner.  
July 15, 2025 July 22, 2025 July 29, 2025