

THE MAVERICK MAYHEM

BALLARD BATTLES AT BEES NATIONALLY

BY DELANEY LITTLE

Using his smarts to do great things, the last weekend of October, Grayson Ballard competed in the International Academic Competitions Regional History Bee and Regional Geography Bee.

He earned 3rd place in the History Bee and was a Finalist in the Geography Bee. These once again qualified him for Nationals in Orlando, Florida in May 2025. It also qualified him for the International History Olympiad in Paris, France and International Geography Olympiad in Bangkok, Thailand.

Last May, Ballard competed at the National History Bee and Geography Bee in Orlando, Florida. His achievements were: Bronze in Women's History, 4th Place Black History, 5th Place Maps & Flags, 7th Place Recent History, 10th Place American Geography, 11th Place Military History, 13th Place U.S. Geography Championship, 13th Place European Geography, 20th Place Ancient History, and 22nd Place.

He was a semifinalist in the U.S. History Bee, quarterfinalist in the National History Bee, and competed in the National Geography Bee and National Academic Bee. He was also chosen as the flag bearer for the state of Kansas and was a representative during the opening ceremonies. Grayson qualified for the International Geography Olympiad in Vienna, Austria & International History Olympiad in London, England. However, he chose not to attend these.

He also said, "My favorite part at nationals was competing in the history competitions. Also, I really liked getting DoorDash daily." In this packed and eventful 4 day competition, Grayson said, "I got a Dr. Seuss' question correct after hearing only the first five words about a book on Mulberry Street."

He will be working the state championship games' concession stands to fundraise for his National competitions, so come out and support him. Congratulations, Grayson and way to represent KC!



8th Grader Grayson Ballard pictured with his plaques and medals from the National History & Geography Bee that he was awarded in Orlando, Florida from his 2024 Nationals. He hopes to bring home more hardware at the 2025 Nationals. (photo by Gentry Ballard)

VALUING OUR VETERANS

BY SEBASTIAN FAVELA-CLAYTON

November 11th was Veterans Day, and the school had an amazing assembly to honor the veterans. To start it off, 6th grader Rhett Heinson presented the American flag. Following that, the high school sang the National Anthem. After that, the Kindergarten-2nd grade sang a song. Then Mike Montgomery, a Vietnam veteran who went on the Honor Flight, told about his trip to Washington D.C. Once he was done, 7th graders Elizabeth Brown, Natalie Koger, Bodie McDonald, 8th graders Dallas Derley and Truman Barnes shared Veteran's Day poems and excerpts to honor the veterans. The program concluded with high schoolers Silas Hawkins and Sydney Taylor educating students about the importance of Veteran's Day and having all of the veterans in attendance recognized.



Above: 8th grader Dallas Derley reads off a couple of poems at the Veteran's Day Assembly. (photo by Kwynn Blanton)

HUSTLE & HEART SET US APART

UNDEFEATED LADY MAVS DISHING OUT LOSSES TO THEIR OPPONENTS

BY JEMMA PLOGER

The Lady Mavericks have shot into their 2024 basketball season strong with 3 straight wins against the Kinsley Coyotes, Bucklin Deuces, and the Pawnee Heights Tigers.

The coaches that have led them to victory are head coach Katelynn Alderfer and assistant coach Kyla McDonald. Alderfer said that this season her goals are to, "compete and play to the level we are capable of." The Lady Mavs are ready to outhustle and outwork their upcoming opponents, which she says will translate into wins against more skilled teams. She also reported, "I hope to continue to develop them into basketball players, but most importantly competitors."

The Lady Mavs first took on the Kinsley Coyotes bringing home two wins from the Varsity and B Team. Then they traveled to Bucklin to deal out a pair of losses. 8th Grader Delaney Little reported that she was happy to, "hand the Deuces a hard earned loss." The girls went on the court and put their hearts and hustle into winning the game. Finishing off the three win streak, the Lady Mavs out played the Pawnee Heights Tigers with a score of 32-9.

The Lady Mavs have 16 players on the team this year that include: 8th graders Addison Walters, Addison Minyard, Kwynn Blanton, Jemma Ploger, Delaney Little, and Charlee Jantz. 7th graders Melanie Sneed, Natalie Koger, and Brooklyn Wright. Lastly 6th graders Mya Hoffman, Mya Mitchell, Khloe Gilkey, Gentry Ballard, Ashley Armendariz-Carreon, Selah Lingafelter, and Jesse Wirth.

Alderfer also stated, "I'm just excited to see what they're willing to do for each other! Developing a team that isn't scared to make each other better isn't always easy, but I think if they can do that, they will reap the benefits throughout their playing years."

Don't forget to come out and cheer on the Lady Mavs to another victory tonight in Greensburg as they face-off against the Meade Buffaloes!



Top L: 8th grader Charlee Jantz drives in for a layup and draws the foul. Bottom L: 6th grader Mya Mitchell goes up for the 2 more points against the Coyote's defenders. Bottom R: 8th grader Addison Walters looks for a pass. (photos by Sebastian Favela)



LADY MAVERICK SCOREBOARD

11/11 vs Kinsley
A Team (W): 27-17
B Team (W): 26-14

11/14 @ Bucklin
A Team (W): 32-22
B Team (W): 30-7

11/21 vs Pawnee Heights
A Team (W): 32-9
B Team (W): 14-2

Current Record: 3-0

Top L: 8th grader Addison Minyard goes up for a layup and scores 2 points.. (photo by Sebastian Favela-Clayton) Top R: The KCJH Lady Mavs lineup for the National Anthem before the game at Bucklin. (photo by Mrs. Ballard)

TAKING IT TO THE NET

BOYS' TEAM UNDEFEATED WITH DOMINATING WINS

BY ADDISON MINYARD

The KCJH boys' basketball team has dominated the hardwood by running over their first three opponents with wins by large margins. Leading the Mavericks for their fourth year are head coach Brad Lingafelter and assistant coaches Cale Thompson and Shayna Lingafelter.

Coach S. Lingafelter said, "Our goals for the school year differ between each team we have. But overall, our goal is to have each player improve in some capacity, whether that be through basic basketball skills, or being able to perform at a higher level."

In their first game, the Mavs handed out a pair of losses to the Kinsley Coyotes. On Nov. 14th, they traveled to Bucklin, and won by another dominating margin. Taking on Pawnee Heights at home on Nov. 21st, the Mavs slammed the Tigers with another huge win.

The boys have 33 athletes out for basketball this season on grades 6th-8th. 8th graders include: Cy Yost, Myles Mitchell, Lochlan Gumpenberger, Lincoln Piester, Joseph Corbally, Jack Minyard, Thayer Zadina, Preston Coss, Carson Roenbaugh, Josh Gilkey, Dallas Derley, Abel Martinez, and Truman Barnes. 7th graders are: Henry Savage, Eli Peintner, Bodie McDonald, Jayce Banta, Malcolm Sitlington, Tayten Newell, Ty Hatton, Brody Hoffman, and Larston Higbie. 6th graders: Collin Ketterl, Zi Kishpaugh, Cooper Jantz, Caleb Watson, Kaden McCarley, Cash Hayes, Easton Sluss, Treyden Walters, and Evans Ballot. 7th grader Sebastian Favela is the team manager.

8th grader Jack Minyard reflected on the season and reported, "I feel our best thing is that we play fast and make the other team play fast, which leads to them making mistakes. We also have a good group of kids that want to win."



Top L: 8th grader Preston Coss has his eyes up looking for an open teammate.
 Top R: 7th grader Ty Hatton shoots a free throw.
 Bottom R: 7th grader Brody Hoffman drives past a Kinsley Coyote defender and scores 2 points for the Mavs.
 (photos by Sebastian Favela-Clayton)

MAVERICK SCOREBOARD

11/11 vs Kinsley

A Team (W): 47-17
 B Team (W): 29-24
 C Team (L): 6-10

11/14 @ Bucklin

A Team (W): 63-25
 B Team (L): 22-24
 C Team (L): 7-14

11/21 vs Pawnee Heights

A Team (W): 45-10
 B Team (W): 31-23
 C Team (L): 6-8

Current Record: 3-0



Top L: 8th grader Thayer Zadina dribbles down the court to set up the offense.
 Top R: 8th grader Jack Minyard takes the ball up for a layup. (photos by Sebastian Favela-Clayton)

AROUND THE SCHOOL

FEATURING ALL THE ACTIVITIES IN KCJH



Top L: The KCJH Choir, accompanied by Mr. Cowley, dazzle the audience with their song, "Blowing in the Wind". (Photo by Delaney Little) Top R: The 7th & 8th grade band perform the school fight song, "Go, KC!". They also performed "Crunch Time" for their performance. (Photo by Mrs. Ballard) Bottom: Working hard, the 6th grade band performs "Two English Dances" for the audience at the Twilight Theatre on Nov. 19th. (Photo by Mrs. Campbell)

A SYMPHONY OF TUNES

BY DELANEY LITTLE

On November 19th, the 5th-8th grade band & 6th-8th grade choir showed off their harmonious sounds led by director Mr. Cowley.

Mr. Cowley said "I am really happy with every student's performance at the concert. Everyone was focused, respectful when they were not performing, and played/sang better than they ever have before! All of the students who performed should feel proud of themselves.

8th grade clarinetist Cole Leoffler said, "My favorite part was getting to see the KCJH playing music. I feel the concert went a lot better than expected."

7th grade vocalist, Rowdy Young said, "I think the concert went wonderfully. My personal favorite was the vocal part, because I like singing."

Mr. Cowley reported that his favorite part of the night was seeing how everyone was willing to pitch in a helping hand to get the stage cleared before the choir went on. He noted, "I had multiple students go above and beyond what was asked of them to help get the stage cleared and set back up, which made the transition really smooth. This was something that I was most nervous about going into the concert, but it ended up being easier than I imagined. Great job to all the students!"

The 5th through 8th grade band and vocal concert was a success. Great job, Music Mavs!

RESPECT LIMERICK

BY KWYNN BLANTON

During the month of November, the Kiowa County Junior High learned more about respect. In MAVS, they watched *Inside Out 2* to connect with their feelings. As a challenge, Ms. Greenleaf hosted a respect limerick competition with each advisory group. The winning group was Mrs. Ballard's 8th grade advisory: Cy Yost, Lochlan Gumpenberger, Carson Roenbaugh, Truman Barnes, Joseph Corbally, Josh Gilkey, Preston Coss, Ellie Hayes, Addison Walters, Jemma Ploger, Addison Minyard, Lilandra Smith, and Mykenna Scheer. The winners were treated to an EF5 Sundae at the Soda Fountain.

Reflect on Respect

It is important to show respect
Make sure that you take time to reflect
You should always be kind
Now hold up and rewind
Please don't be a skibidi reject

-Mrs. Ballard's 8th Grade Advisory Group

Below: 8th grade girls Mykenna Scheer, Ellie Hayes, Jemma Ploger, Addison Walters, Addison Minyard, & Lilandra Smith enjoy their EF5 Sundae.



Photo by Mrs. Ballard

KEEPIN' UP WITH KIOWA COUNTY

ALL THE LATEST HAPPENINGS IN GREENSBURG, HAVILAND, & MULLINVILLE

Headrick's Christmas Tree Farm

Located between Highways 400 & 54
on the east side of Mullinville,
Kansas

620-548-2219 or 620-255-6473

Opening Day Friday November 29th
1 pm to Dark



Hours:

Monday - Friday Appointment Only
Saturday 10 am - Dark
Sunday 1 pm - Dark
or by appointment

\$ CASH, CHECK or CARD



HEADRICK'S HAS IT ALL

BY SEBASTIAN FAVELA-CLAYTON

The Headrick's Plants and Pines business in Mullinville is growing fast. Owners/operators Rick & Hannah Headrick started their pine tree business in 1986, and after their first four years of business, they had planted 1100 pine trees.

This year they will open on November 28th and close for the year on December 21st. Their hours are 10am-dark on Saturdays and 1pm-dark on Sundays.

H. Headrick said, "I love seeing all of the same families growing up each year and meeting all of the new families".

Everybody who walks out of there, feels very content about what they just bought. 8th grader Delaney Little said, "We can always find the perfect fitting Christmas tree for our house." So, if you want to go pick up a Christmas tree, make sure you go and see them at 100 Maple St. in Mullinville.

In the summer, the Headricks also own/operate the greenhouse in Mullinville where you kind find all types of flowers, bushes, trees, or vegetable plants. They opened their greenhouse in 1988, and it used to be at the tree farm, then they moved it into town.

They are open from mid April to early June. Their times are 9am to 6pm everyday. Each day you go, you can see Sydney (Headrick) Brown, Hannah and Rick Headrick who grow all of the plants there.

Everything that Hannah grows starts as a little, seed then they grow into full plants, unlike other businesses that buy the plants already grown.

Hannah and Rick said, "We really like watching the plants grow and bloom. We also like meeting people and watching them mix and match the colors of the flower."

Make sure that you pick up some of their beautiful flowers for the summer at 315 Cherry St. in Mullinville.



Above: Owners/operators Rick and Hannah Headrick stand by their sign by the entrance to Headrick's Christmas Tree Farm in Mullinville. This is their 38th year in business. Make sure to swing by to pick out your Christmas tree. (Courtesy photo)

FUN FACTS

WITH THE 8TH GRADERS

Article by Preston Coss

CY YOST



Photo by Kwynn Blanton

One of Cy's favorite hobbies is playing football.

Q: Would you rather have the ability to see 10 minutes into the future or 150 years into the future? Why? A: I would rather see 150 years into the future because then it would be even cooler to see what has changed in the world.

Q: Would you rather team up with Wonder Woman or Captain Marvel? Why? A: Captain Marvel because he is cooler and I don't really know Wonder Woman.

Q: Would you rather find true love today or win the lottery next year? Why? A: Win the lottery next year because money is more important when you're 13 or 14.

Q: Would you rather give up air conditioning and heating for the rest of your life or give up the Internet for the rest of your life? Why? A: I would give up the internet because the internet is annoying sometimes

DALLAS DERLEY

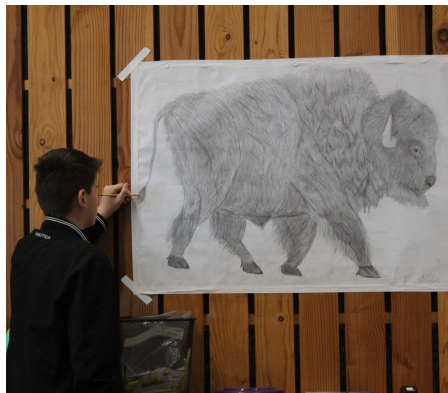


Photo by Delaney Little

Dallas loves to draw in his spare time.

Q: Would you rather be 11 feet tall or nine inches tall? Why? A: I would rather be 11 feet tall because then I could make a lot of money in the NBA.

Q: Would you rather be royalty 1,000 years ago or an average person today? Why? A: I would rather be a regular person today because they did some sketchy stuff back then.

Q: Would you rather lounge by the pool or on the beach? Why? A: I would rather lounge on the beach because I could go surfing.

Q: Would you rather always be 10 minutes late or always be 20 minutes early? Why? A: I would rather be 20 min early because I would start to get a bad reputation if I was late to every single thing I attended.

DELANEY LITTLE

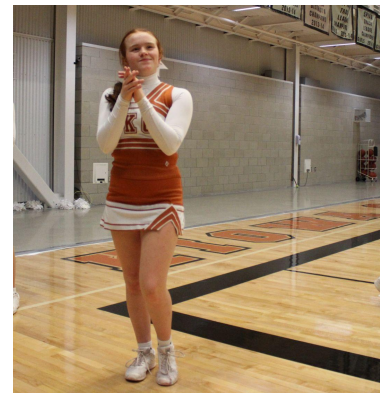


Photo by Sebastian Favela

Delaney likes to cheer on the Kiowa County Mavericks.

Q: Would you rather labor under a hot sun or extreme cold? Why? A: I would rather work in extreme cold because you can always just wear more layers.

Q: Would you rather stay in during a snow day or play outside? Why? A: I would rather go outside during a snow day because i like the snow.

Q: Would you rather buy 10 things you don't need every time you go shopping or always forget the one thing that you need when you go to the store? Why? A: I would rather forget, so I don't waste my money.

Q: Would you rather never be able to go out during the day or never be able to go out at night? Why? A: I would rather not be able to go out at night because there is nothing to do during the night.

BIG READ, BIG EVENT

BY KWYNN BLANTON

On Nov. 13th, students in the SPIAA League participated in what is called the Big Read Culminating Event at Greensburg. The Big Read is an event where 9 league schools came to Kiowa County to learn more about a genre of literature. This year's theme was Holocaust Literature. Students had read various Holocaust novels and used the Culminating Event to collaborate on ideas and work on various activities including an escape room, stone project with Holocaust victim ID cards, and ended with watching the film "White Bird" at the Twilight Theatre. Students will still have projects and essays to work on for the Big Read judging in January.

8th grader Lilandra Smith said, "I got to meet people from different schools and learn what they have learned in English. The movie was interesting; I almost cried a couple of times. I feel bad for the people who were struggling during the Holocaust. Overall, it was fun and I had a good time."

Below: 8th grader Charlee Jantz collaborates with her group on the Holocaust Escape Room. Students were grouped with kids from other schools.



Photo by Mrs. Ballard

MEET THE PUBLICATION TEAM



Kwynn Blanton
Grade 8
Co-Editor



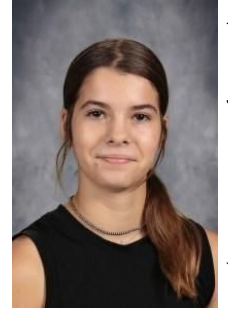
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Jemma Ploger
Grade 8
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Ellie Hayes
Grade 8
Writer/Photographer



Addison Minyard
Grade 8
Writer/Photographer

(Photos by InterState Studios)



Preston Coss
Grade 8
Writer/Photographer



Cole Leoffler
Grade 8
Writer/Photographer



Sebastian Favela-Clayton
Grade 7
Writer/Photographer



Mrs. Ballard
KCJH
Advisor



Photo by Kwynn Blanton



Photo by Mrs. Ballard



Photo by Mrs. Ballard



Photo by Mrs. Ballard



Bottom R: Mr. Cowley directs the 7th-8th grade band (Photo by Mrs. Ballard). Bottom L: The trumpeters and saxophonists play "Crunch Time" at the concert on Nov. 19th. Top L: The 8th grade class are enjoying their concession stand items while they wait to watch "White Bird" at the Twilight Theatre for the SPIAA Big Read Culminating event.

Clockwise from Top R: 6th grader Rhett Heinson presents the flag at the Veteran's Day Program. R: Ms. Greenleaf watches the 8th grade boys attempt to finish the EF5 Sundae.

FESTIVE FESTIVITIES

BY ELLIE HAYES

Get ready for the Holiday Happenings going on in the area! Christmas and Thanksgiving are right around the corner. In Kiowa County, there are lots of festive activities upcoming to get you in the holiday spirit that you should know about:

- Fri., Nov. 29th - Black Friday Sales around town. Businesses reporting sales: Emblazon and Turquoise Ranch. Go check them out.
- Sat., Nov. 30th - Small business Saturday: Go support the local businesses.
- Sat., Nov. 30th - Football State Champion Games at Kiowa County football field at 11am, 3pm, & 7pm.
- Sat., Nov. 30th - Holiday Open House at the Big Well Museum from 9am-6pm
- Sat., Dec. 1st - head to the Big Well Museum to get pictures with Santa 1-3pm.
- Sun., Dec. 15th - 11-2pm Christmas Market at the Mullinville School.
- Sun., Dec. 15th: The Lighted Christmas Parade on Main Street in Greensburg, followed by the Soup Supper & Silent Auction at the YCM Teen Center.
- Wed., Dec 18th - 5:30pm Kiowa County 3-5th grade music concert at the Big Well Museum.
- Dec. 18th-25th - From 6-9pm each night stop by the famous Candy Cane Lane

For more information, follow the 'A Kiowa County Christmas' on Facebook!

DECEMBER CALENDAR

BY KWYNN BLANTON

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2 KCHS Girls & Boys BB Jamboree	3 7:00pm: 3rd-5th Grade Vocal Concert	4 9:00am: FFA Leadership LDE @ Garden City 2:00pm: KCHS Scholars Bowl @ Pawnee Heights	5 KCJH BB @ Satanta	6 KCHS BB vs. South Barber 2:05pm: Pep Assembly 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed 3:00pm: KCHS Girls WR @ Wakeeney	7 9:00am: KCJH B Team BB Tournament 10:00am: KCHS Boys WR @ Wakeeney
8	9 Inter-State Studio Winter Sports Pictures 8:00pm: USD 422 Board Meeting	10 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed 3:00pm: 4th Annual Kiowa County Shootout	11	12 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed 3:00pm: 4th Annual Kiowa County Shootout	13 2:30pm: KCHS Girls WR @ Ulysses 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed 5:00pm: KCJH BB vs. Ashland	14 ACT Test Date 9:30am: KCHS Boys WR @ Ulysses 3:00pm: 4th Annual Kiowa County Shootout
15	16 7:00pm: KCHS Band/Choir Concert @ Twilight Theatre	17 KCHS BB vs. Meade	18 K-5 Art 11:30am: SPIAA League Meeting	19 KCJH BB @ Hodgeman County (Jetmore)	20 Last Day of 1st Semester KCHS BB @ St. John Teacher Workday - PM 11:00am: Classes Dismissed	21 10:00am: KCHS Girls & Boys WR @ Russell
22 KSHSAA Winter Moratorium	23 KSHSAA Winter Moratorium	24 KSHSAA Winter Moratorium Christmas Eve	25 KSHSAA Winter Moratorium Christmas Day	26 KSHSAA Winter Moratorium	27	28
29 NO SCHOOL	30 NO SCHOOL	31 New Year's Eve NO SCHOOL				

(Photo from usd422.org web page)



To find upcoming events, information and more, go to usd422.org

Announcements



GREENSBURG
KANSAS

December 2024

Big Well Museum Holiday Events

NOVEMBER 30TH, ALL DAY: HOLIDAY
OPEN HOUSE

DECEMBER 1ST, 1PM-3PM: PHOTOS
WITH SANTA-BRING YOUR OWN
CAMERA

DECEMBER 1ST, 4PM-5PM: JOYFUL
NOISE STRING MUSIC ACADEMY

DECEMBER 18TH, 5:30PM: KIOWA
COUNTY 3RD-5TH GRADE MUSIC
CONCERT

315 S SYCAMORE, GREENSBURG, KS 67054



Holiday Hay Bales on Main Street

We'll have 6 haybales available to decorate on Main Street by Sunday, December 1st. They'll need to be decorated by the 8th. The public will be judging this year, either online or in person at the Soda Fountain. Reserve your bale today, call 723-4102

Lighted Christmas Parade

Sunday Dec. 15th 6pm Main Street
Sign up your parade entry by messaging PowerUp Greensburg on Facebook

Youth Core Ministries Soup Supper

Sunday Dec. 15th after the parade. YCM Building
Free Will Donation

Candy Cane Lane

Wednesday, December 18th-
Thursday, December 26th 6-9pm



Greensburg welcomes
6-man, 8-man Div. I&II
State football
Saturday, November 30th



At the Twilight Theatre...
Wicked Nov. 22-24, Nov. 29-Dec. 1,
Dec. 6-8
Moana 2 Dec. 13-15
Mufasa Dec. 20-22 & 27-29
Visit Greensburg Twilight Theatre on
Facebook for details on showtimes



Kiowa County Angel Tree

Bless a local family with Christmas gifts for their child! Pick up an Angel at Kiowa County Pharmacy or Family Dollar. Unwrapped gifts need to be returned by December 8th to a Kiowa County Church or Kiowa County Pharmacy



Toys for Tots

Donations are being accepted by South Central Kansas Toys for Tots for ages 0-18 of new, unwrapped toys. Drop off location available at Greensburg City Hall. Pick up is December 10th.

Happy Thanksgiving!
We are thankful for you, our community. Wishing you a blessed Thanksgiving holiday.

City offices are closed
Thursday, Nov. 28 & Friday, Nov. 29
Regular trash pick up on
Wednesday the 27th



Shop local this holiday season!

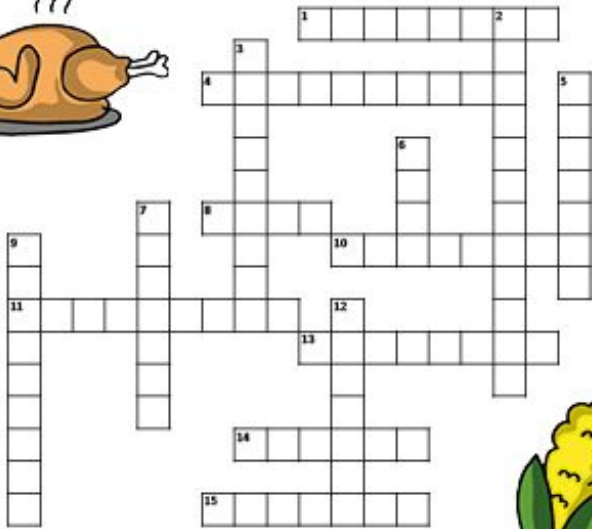
- Ways to support local...
- *Buy items or gift certificates for products or services from Kiowa Co businesses
- *Look for locally made products
- *Support home based businesses



JUST FOR FUN

THANKSGIVING

Crossword



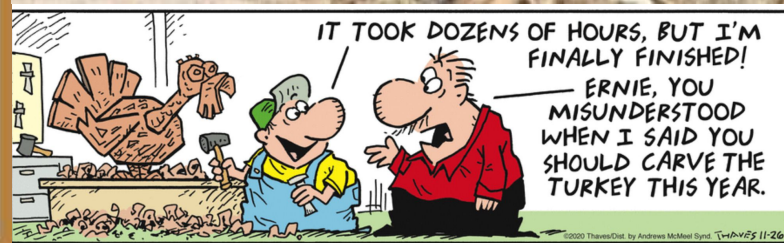
ACROSS

- 1. First village established by the Pilgrims
- 4. Symbol of abundance and nourishment
- 8. An essential grain in the New World diet
- 10. Literally, travelers going to a holy place
- 11. The Pilgrims' boat
- 13. 16th and 17th century English Protestants
- 14. The traditional holiday bird
- 15. American Indian who taught the Pilgrims many things

DOWN

- 2. 4th Thursday of November
- 3. A traditional American Indian dwelling
- 5. Gathering of crops
- 6. Season for harvesting
- 7. Country the Pilgrims left behind
- 9. Indigenous people who were present at the first Thanksgiving
- 12. Bright orange squash used to make pie

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When the whole class is fighting over whether the answer is 17 or 18 but you got 157



(All images taken from Freeprint.com)