

## Deaths

### Dr. William E. (Bill) Smith

William E. (Bill) Smith, son of Claybourne Smith and Ruth (Carnine) Smith, was born on August 22, 1930, on a farm near Hartford, Kansas. He passed away on April 26, 2025, at Republic County Hospital - ISB, Belleville, Kansas at the age of 94.



Bill received his education at Hartford High School, Newman Hospital School of Nursing, Washburn University and The University of Kansas City Dental School.

Bill was united in marriage to Mildred Davis on September 6, 1953. To this union three children were born: Susan, Steven, and William James (Jimmy). The couple lived in Topeka, Kansas City, Belleville, and North Port, Florida, returning to Belleville in 2014.

Bill began a career as a registered nurse in 1950. During that time he also served as an officer and registered nurse in the Kansas National Guard in Topeka. He and

Mildred moved to Kansas City in 1952 where he continued a part-time nursing career while attending dental school at The University of Kansas City. After attaining the Degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery in 1960, the family moved to Belleville, Kansas. Bill began a dental practice in Belleville at that time. He became a Fellow in the Academy of General Dentistry in July 1984. He continued practicing dentistry until his retirement in 1993. Bill and Mildred then moved to Florida, residing in North Port, Florida until moving back to Belleville in 2014.

Bill was a member of the Belleville Presbyterian Church and the Venice Presbyterian Church in Venice, Florida serving in several capacities in the governing body of the church. Bill enjoyed many activities throughout his life. He was an instrument-rated pilot, loved fishing, boating, golfing, woodworking, and making jewelry and stained glass.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, Claybourne and Ruth; sister, Arlene Benson; son, Jimmy; and his wife of 70 years, Mildred. He is survived by daughter,

Susan (Terry) Jelinek of Munden, KS; son, Steven (Ann) Smith of Lexington, NC; three grandchildren: Holly (Joe) Giammanco of Kansas City, MO; Tegan (Mark) Wagner of Huntersville, NC; and Jadd Smith of Huntersville, NC; one great-granddaughter, Lila Wagner; sister-in law, Rosa Geske of Mesa, AZ; as well as other relatives and many friends.

Cremation was selected. The family will greet friends from 10 AM until 11:30 AM on Saturday, June 14 at the Bachelor-Surber Funeral Home, 1322 19th Street, Belleville, Kansas. Following the greeting of friends, at approximately 11:30 AM, a Graveside Service for both Bill and Mildred Smith will be held for friends and family at the Belleville Cemetery, Belleville, KS, with Lay Pastor, Deb Hadachek officiating. Interment will follow the services at Belleville Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested in Bill's name to Republic County Hospital - ISB, 2420 G Street, Belleville, KS.

Online condolences at [www.bachelor-surber.com](http://www.bachelor-surber.com) Bachelor-Surber Funeral Home, Belleville, KS is assisting the family with the arrangements.



### Son To Dad

Matt Cole, president of The Belleville Lions Club, right, presented his father Mike, with a Community Service Award during the annual Lions Club Banquet last weekend in Belleville. More award recipients from the banquet can be found in this week's online edition of the Telescope.

-Telescope Photo by Katy Duryea

## Death Notice

### Joyce Fischer

Joyce Fischer, 84, of Belleville, Kansas beloved mother of Dr. John Fischer (Martell, NE), Dr. Joseph Fischer (Belleville, KS), Anny Anderson (Grand Island, NE) and Dr. Tony Fischer (Denver, CO) passed away on April

29, 2025 in Belleville, KS.

Cremation was selected and Family Memorial Services will be held at a later date with burial at the Grand Island Cemetery, Grand Island, Nebraska.

Memorials are suggested to the Golden Bell Haven (Church

People Concerned) and may be left at the funeral home or given to the family.

Online condolences at [www.bachelor-surber.com](http://www.bachelor-surber.com) Bachelor-Surber Funeral Home, 1322 19th Street, Belleville, KS is assisting the family with the arrangements.

### Tammie L. Bracamontes

Tammie L. Bracamontes, 40, of Belleville, KS, passed away on May 2, 2025 at

the Belleville Health Care Center, Belleville, KS.

Cremation was selected and a Celebration of Life Service will be held at a later date

to be announced. Bachelor-Surber Funeral Home, 1322 19th St, Belleville, KS is assisting the family with the arrangements.

## Public Forum

Public Forum Policy: Writers must include their names for publication. Letters may be edited for space limitations. The opinions expressed here are those of the writer, and not of this publication.

## Plant Operator Addresses Comments Made By Councilman

Editor:

Progress has not slowed nor screeched to a halt at the power plant. Engine #9 is still being custom fitted for sensors, electronics, and various operating systems. It was initially held up for a few weeks in St Louis when the turbocharger showed a leak during the dyno test. Then the snow storm combined with continued below freezing temps prevented the engine from being delivered to Missouri for another month. As for Engine #7, it cannot be hacked and slashed for quick removal. To save the city money, we are planning on using existing piping and pumps for the forthcoming Engine #10.

That has to be carefully coordinated to ensure we don't make a mistake.

Also, the electronics have to be removed from Engine #7 before it can be disassembled. Steve Payne, or someone from his company, will be doing that. They are busy preparing Engine #9 for Belleville, and that is their top priority.

As of Friday May 2nd, three other power plants have shown interest in buying parts off of Engine #7.

Large projects like these take time and they take thought. Knee jerk reactions can lead you to a less than desirable outcome. Progress is slow and that's just the way it is.

**(Editor's Note: McChesney is referencing comments made by City Councilman Mike Palmquist, who asked why progress has slowed at the plant, why no parts on the now defunct engine #7 had been sold.)**

John McChesney  
Belleville Power Plant Operator  
Belleville, KS

## Republic News

Compiled By: Betty Bouray

Betty and Kent Bouray visited with Richard and Aaron Ahrens, Yvonne and son Drew Bailey and Klay Bouray on Saturday and Sunday as they dealt with the Estate of Robert and Arlene Ahrens.

City Wide Clean Up in Republic is May 4-11. Items accepted are tires, metals, wood items, lumber, bricks. Items not accepted are paints, batteries, chemicals, oil and other chemicals. Please place your items in the marked locations east of the Community Center.

City Council meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, at 8 p.m. at the City office.

Last Friday, Bryan and Carolyn Simms traveled to Salina to attend Laurel Fisher's K-State Art Exhibition at the Salina Arts Center where other students art works were also on display.

Casey Robertson will be coming home

for the Summer.

Following church service at Republic Community Church, they had a Mexican meal to celebrate Cinco De Mayo.

Several attended the Cinco De Mayo fundraiser at the RFD#9 held on Saturday night.

Mark your calendar for June 7th, which will be the Republic Community Church rummage sale to be held at the Community Center.

The Pawnee Indian Museum's American Mountain Men Encampment will be June 7th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Following that event, there will be a benefit fund raiser for Kent and Betty Bouray. It will be held at Webber Community Christian Church serving from 5-8 p.m. with a pancake supper including pancakes, sausage, eggs, juice and milk. Free will offering will be taken. The Bouray's had a fire right before Christmas and are repairing their home.

# 2025

## Community Calendar

- **2nd & 4th Monday Each Month**  
Belleville City Council meets at city office starting @ 7 p.m.
- **1st & 3rd Friday Each Month**  
The Belleville Lions Club meets the first and third Friday of every month at The Crazy Kraken in Belleville. Meeting time is set for noon. All Lions and their guests are welcome to attend.
- **Every Monday**  
Republic County Commissioners meet at 8:30 a.m. in the basement of the Republic County Courthouse.
- **Every Tuesday**  
The Belleville Library will host Senior Stretch and Strength, Chair Exercise Programs from 10:30 a.m. -11.30 a.m.
- **Every Wednesday**  
Republic County Health Department has "Walk In Wednesdays" for immunizations. You can call for an appointment or walk in on Wednesdays. 785-527-5671
- **May 8**  
All are invited to attend community coffee this Thursday from 8-9am with information beginning at 8:15 at the Republic County Hospital. Come hear what is going on in the community. Coffee sponsor this Thursday, May 8, is Republic County Hospital.
- **May 10**  
Belleville Community Pride will have a youth fishing tournament on Saturday May 10 from 9 to 11 a.m. at Rocky Pond. Bring your poles and bait as limited bait will be provided. Prizes and drinks will be available.
- **May 21**  
The next commodity distribution will be May 21 at the Commercial Building at the fairgrounds in Belleville.  
Belleville individuals may pick up at 7:30-9:00 a.m. Belleville is first come, first served!  
The following items will be distributed: Whole kernel canned corn, vegetable soup cans, raisins, canned carrots, catfish fillets (recipe card available for this), apple juice, pulled pork, sliced deli turkey meat, 1% milk, canned green beans.

## Holiday Means "Click It Or Ticket"

Memorial Day is fast approaching, and Belleville Chief of Police Chris Springer says, so is Click It Or Ticket.

The local police department will be participating in the annual safety program designed to make sure that all drivers and passengers on the roads are buckled up.

During the period of May 18 through June 1 officers

will be on the roads looking for unrestrained drivers, passengers and children. Springer said that using seat belts can be what saves you and those riding with you.

"Insist that everyone in the vehicle is restrained before you start," he said. Violators will be issued citations, not warning, the chief stressed.

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### Card Shower

#### 60th Anniversary

Don & Dorothy Grove are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary. Please help them celebrate with a card shower for their anniversary on May, 2nd. Happy 60th Anniversary Don & Dorothy Grove from your family!

Please send cards to:  
**Don & Dorothy Grove**  
1325 24th St.  
Belleville, KS 66935

### Weather

Weds 7 | Day 66° 41%  
Cloudy with occasional showers for the afternoon. High 66F. Winds ENE at 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 40%.  
Night 54° 21%  
Mostly cloudy skies early will become partly cloudy late. Low 49F. Winds N at 5 to 10 mph.

Thurs 8 | Day 75° 22%  
Sunshine and clouds mixed. High near 75F. Winds ENE at 10 to 15 mph.  
Night 49° 7%  
Some clouds early will give way to generally clear conditions overnight. Low 49F. Winds ENE at 5 to 10 mph.

Fri 9 | Day 80° 7%  
Sunshine. High around 80F. Winds NE at 5 to 10 mph.  
Night 48° 3%  
Mainly clear. Low 48F. Winds SSE at 5 to 10 mph.

Sat 10 | Day 82° 3%  
A mainly sunny sky. High 82F. Winds SE at 5 to 10 mph.  
Night 50° 3%  
A mostly clear sky. Low near 50F. Winds S at 5 to 10 mph.

Sun 11 | Day 83° 3%  
Sunny skies. High 83F. Winds S at 10 to 15 mph.  
Night 50° 3%  
Clear skies. Low around 50F. Winds S at 10 to 15 mph.

Mon 12 | Day 84° 3%  
Mainly sunny. High 84F. Winds S at 10 to 20 mph.  
Night 56° 3%  
Clear skies. Low 56F. Winds S at 10 to 20 mph.

### Markets

at closing on Monday

Wheat: \$4.70  
Corn: \$4.01  
Milo: \$3.46  
Soybeans: \$9.52

### Card Shower

#### 95th Birthday

Roger Lahodny will turn 95 on May 19. Help him celebrate with a card shower.

Please send cards to:  
**Roger Lahodny**  
1322 9th St.  
Belleville, KS 66935