



Harvey County News

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2

SPRING 2014

UPCOMING DATES

Courthouse Closed:

1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
April 18

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
May 26

Health Dept. Breastfeeding Class:

1st Mon. - 4 p.m.
3rd Mon. - 11 a.m.

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Jones' cross-country journey



Santa Fe students wait for Jones to arrive on his bike

As community members, leaders and students looked on Jan. 22, raising signs praising Rob Jones and his service to the United States, the man of the hour rode up on his bicycle to the Harvey County courthouse.

This was no ordinary bike ride. Jones rides without the use of his lower extremities.

Jones, a decorated Marine who lost both legs above the knee in Afghanistan in 2010, decided that he wanted to live his life with purpose after his 2011 honorable discharge. That includes this cross-country journey.

"During my recovery at Walter Reed, I was determined to re-learn how to ride an upright bicycle again," Jones said. "Despite many difficulties, thanks to the innovation of my prosthetist Zach, the help of Left Side Industries and Ride2Recovery, we managed to get me up and cycling in only six months."

After mastering the bicycle, Jones competed in the Nation's Triathlon in Washington, D.C. He also learned to row and competed

for a slot in the 2012 Paralympics in London. Jones brought home a bronze medal for the United States, to add to his Purple Heart.

During this time of rediscovery and competition, Jones came up with the idea to bicycle across the United States and

raise money to benefit some of the charities that aided him in his recovery.

Jones began his journey in Maine and plans to finish in Southern California. He hopes to raise \$1 million over the course of his journey for aid organizations like Coalition to Salute America's Heroes, The Semper Fi Fund and Ride2Recovery.

"In setting a goal to raise \$1 million, I hope to show what Americans can accomplish when we come together for a purpose," Jones said.

Using his prosthetic legs, Jones rides roughly 35 miles a day.

Many communities along the way have supported Jones' endeavor, including donations, spreading awareness and

providing law enforcement escorts. Harvey County's own sheriff's office investigator and Army vet, Robert Guest, escorted Jones through Harvey County.

Upon his arrival in Newton, Jones had already ridden half-way across the country and 2,700 miles. But he knows there are

still 2,700 miles to go.

Those miles are hard-earned, but that hasn't deterred Jones.

"It's simple really," he said. "I am committed to giving back to the organizations that were there for me in my darkest hours."

For more information on Jones' cross-country trek, or to donate to his

cause, visit robjonesjourney.com or "like" him on Facebook at [Rob Jones Journey](https://www.facebook.com/RobJonesJourney).



Jones addresses the waiting crowd



Jones' trip takes him from Maine to California, covering more than 5,400 miles.

A good English name

Kristine Schmucker, Harvey County Historical Museum

Englishwoman Mary Martinsdale arrived in Newton to answer an advertisement for a mail-order-bride placed by Patrick Rickman. Much to her surprise, her future husband was black. She answered the ad because “Rickman was a good English name, but now that she was here he was stuck with her.” They wasted no time and were married March 17, 1911.

Mary was born on a farm near Liverpool, England, on Oct. 22, 1872. She had come to the United States at the age of 14 to work for a family, but not much else is known of her life prior to coming to Kansas. In the spring of 1911, at the age of 39, she traveled to Newton to meet her future husband.

Patrick Rickman was a well-known and respected craftsman in Harvey County. Born in White County, Tenn. on July 31, 1857, Patrick came to Harvey County in 1879. Here, he joined his father, Joseph Rickman, and aunt, Mary Rickman Anderson Grant. He learned the trade of brick mason. In 1882, he married Amanda Burdine and they had four children; Angus and Guy, who died young, and Hazel and Lloyd, who lived to adulthood. Patrick and Amanda

construction company that employed several members of the larger Rickman/Anderson family. This company worked on the foundation of the building for the new Mennonite college.

After Patrick’s death, his wife Mary worked as a private nurse caring for several of Newton’s widely known and highly respected citizens. In her obituary, Mary was described as “kind and loving, patriotic and charitable.” She was survived by her step-children, Lloyd Rickman and Hazel Rickman Rossiter. Services for Mary were held at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Newton. The pallbearers were members of her adopted American family, the Rickmans, Andersons and Rossiters.



Mary Rickman faced quite the surprise when she arrived in Newton as a mail-order bride for Patrick Rickman.

divorced in the fall of 1899.

At the time of his death, Patrick Rickman was, according to the *Evening Kansas Republican*, “one of the best known workmen in this section, as well as one of the most dependable, respected workman. Many a building stands today as a monument to his skill and industry.” His daughter, Hazel, later recalled the times she brought lunch to her father while he was working on the foundation of the Bethel College Administration building. According to family tradition, Patrick Rickman was the head of the



Patrick Rickman was well-known for his craftsmanship as brick mason. Many buildings stand in Harvey County that were projects of Rickman’s construction company, including the Bethel College Administration building.

“Rickman was a good English name, but now that she was here, he was stuck with her.”



Patrick Rickman

Elderly scams

Rich Hanley, Department on Aging

Fraud hurts everybody and nobody is immune.

Despite the fact that elderly people are frequent targets, they represent just one third of all scam victims. The Financial Fraud Research Center at Stanford University's Center on Longevity estimates the measurable direct cost of financial fraud to Americans to be \$40 to \$50 billion dollars per year.

No wonder scammers can afford the best and latest technology — they're making billions!

Last September a man in Kansas lost \$10,000 in the now familiar "grandparent scam."

About the same time, a woman in Missouri lost \$250,000 to the same scam.

Perhaps you read the *Wichita Eagle* article in January about a woman who lost \$106,000 to home repair con artists. Fortunately, they were convicted.

Fraud isn't unusual in Harvey County. A new fraud case is investigated at least once every week in Newton, according to Harvey County law enforcement.

Common cons these days include fake charity phone solicitations. Don't fall for them, there are plenty of non-profits here in Harvey County, operated by people you know.

The frequent "grandparents scam," is usually committed

against people 80 years or older.

The home repair scam is the one that happened in Wichita, which will hopefully result in legislation to better protect seniors.

Do you need home repairs? Beware if a contractor comes

rienced.

During October, November and December, the office of the Kansas Attorney General received complaints regarding door-to-door driveway paving scams from 13 Kansas counties.

"You've just won a gift card" or "national family health care plan for \$3 a day" are just some of the scams that just keep on coming.

How can you protect yourself?

Be skeptical when promised something for nothing. Don't reveal personal information to people who initiated contact with you.

Deal only with long-time, trusted financial

advisors. Guard your cell phone number like a credit card.

Go to donnotcall.gov, the National Do Not Call Registry, and register. Until the telemarketers stop calling, hang up on them. As far as telemarketers are concerned, "it's shrewd to be rude."

If you suspect fraud, it's time to report fraud.

Check in with the Department on Aging. We have a comprehensive list of resources for reporting suspected fraud.

Another excellent, new resource is a website created by the office of Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt, inyourcornerkansas.com.

"Fraud hurts everybody and nobody is immune."



door-to-door or seeks you out, and just happens to have material left over from a recent job.

The contractor may tell you the job will be a "demonstration," offer you discounts for finding other customers, quotes a price that's out of line with other estimates, pressures you for an immediate decision, offers an unusually long guarantee, can only be reached by leaving messages with an answering service, drives an unmarked van or has out-of-state license plates, or asks you to pay for the entire job up front.

Door-to-door paving scams continue in Kansas, in spite of the cold weather we have expe-

April

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Commission Meeting Breastfeeding class: 4 p.m.	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Commission Meeting	15	16	17	18 Courthouse Closed 1 - 5 p.m.	19
20	21 Commission Meeting Breastfeeding class: 11 a.m.	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Commission Meeting	29	30			

May

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5 Commission Meeting Breastfeeding class: 4 p.m.	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Commission Meeting	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Commission Meeting Breastfeeding class: 11 a.m.	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Courthouse Closed	27 Commission Meeting	28	29	30	31

June

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Commission Meeting Breastfeeding class: 4 p.m.	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Commission Meeting	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Commission Meeting Breastfeeding class: 11 a.m.	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 Commission Meeting	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Commission Meeting					