

# WORLD

HIAWATHA, KANSAS

Brown County's community newspaper

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PHOTOS BY JOSEPHINE MAY

The east side of the steps leading into the Hiawatha Police Department in downtown Hiawatha is a tribute to fallen officer Todd Widman, who was shot and killed in the line of duty March 1, 2000. The mural was designed by graduating senior Maddy Gruber, who painted it along with her art instructor Matt Leahy.

## STEPPING IT UP



Hiawatha graduating senior Maddy Gruber works on the police department step mural she designed with her instructor Matt Leahy.

## Mural dedicated to fallen officer

By Joey May  
Hiawatha World

The front steps of the Hiawatha Police Department has a new look.

This past week the side of the steps leading into the entrance were painted with a mural dedicated to fallen Hiawatha officer Todd Widman, who was shot and killed in the line of duty

March 1, 2000.

The mural was designed by graduating Hiawatha Maddy Gruber and painted by her and Hiawatha High School art instructor Matt Leahy.

"Last year, as you all might remember, I approached our commissioners and asked them to allow Madelyn Gruber and the high school art teacher to paint a mural on

our front steps," said Police Chief John Defore.

So, anyone driving down Oregon Street today can see the artwork and patriotic design dedicated to Widman. This was to be for the HHS Community Service Day project, which was postponed last fall and again in the spring due to the

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## Dates set for Fourth of July events

Hiawatha World

Local communities have set the dates for Fourth of July celebrations.

The city's fireworks display will take place on Friday, July 3, while the Hiawatha Lake will be open from the 2nd through the 5th for personal fireworks to be set off. The nights of the 2nd and 5th the lake will be open until 10 p.m. while lake will be open for use until midnight on the 3rd and 4th. The Hiawatha fireworks is also sponsored by the Hiawatha Chamber and Visitors Bureau.

Horton is going all out for the 4th again this year. Opening the day will be a Fireman's Break-

fast Fundraiser at the Horton Fire Station from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m., with the annual Youth Fishing Derby to be held at the Little Lake from 8 to 10. The evening kicks off at 6 p.m. with the 2nd annual Boat Parade on Mission Lake. The John Harris Band will provide the evening's entertainment at Hickory Point from 7 p.m. to 9, with the fireworks show closing out the evening over Mission Lake at dusk. The city does urge all community members and visitors to follow social distancing and safety protocols.

Highland has canceled some of its normal 4th of July activities, but will still hold the

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PHOTO BY JOEY MAY

Fireworks lit up the sky in last year's Hiawatha display.

## Celebrating Independence Day

### INDEPENDENCE DAY

The fourth of July

Almighty God, we pray to you to help us have faith in Jesus and our country and to keep the freedom we have cherished for over 244 years. With this freedom we may continue to grow in all of your undertakings. Also help us with the friendships we have made to love one another so that harmony may be with us always in this great land of ours. We ask this Jesus name AMEN.

GOD BLESS AMERICA



Homer White American Legion Post 66  
Robert Sines Chaplain



SUBMITTED BY HOMER WHITE POST 66

## Brown County tables decision over wearing masks in public until Monday

County will readdress issue at 8:15 a.m. Monday – meeting to be aired outside of courthouse

By Joey May  
Hiawatha World

*(Editor's Note: Monday's meeting will now be aired via Zoom Conference at 8:15 a.m. and anyone wishing to listen can be OUTSIDE of the north side of the courthouse. The Zoom conference code is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88133340066>.)*

The Brown County Commissioners decided at Tuesday morning's regular meeting to keep restrictions in the county "as is" until they gathered more information from county health officials on whether to require

masks in public to protect from the spread of COVID-19.

This came after Governor Laura Kelly announced Monday afternoon in her press conference that she was mandating masks be worn in public. According to the press release from her office, this mandate was for indoor public spaces and outdoors only if social distancing of 6 feet or more could not be maintained. However, she signed her Executive Order on Thursday and it went into effect at 12:01 a.m. Friday morning.

Gov. Kelly said her tough deci-

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BY JOEY MAY

Rep. Randy Garber (far right) talked to the county commissioners (l-r Keith Olsen, Dwight Kruse and Richard Lehmkuhl, along with Kristina Romine from the Multi-County Health Department about the governor's decision Monday to require masks in public.

## Governor Laura Kelly announces masks must be worn statewide

Hiawatha World

TOPEKA, Kan. — Governor Laura Kelly today announced that she will sign an Executive Order requiring that most Kansans in a public space must wear a mask, beginning 12:01 a.m. Friday, July 3.

"This is a simple, proactive step we can take to keep Kansans at work, get our kids back to school, and keep ourselves and our neighbors healthy," Governor Kelly said. "Wearing a mask is not only safe — but it is necessary to avoid another shut down."

"Remember — my mask protects you, and your mask protects me," Governor Kelly said. "We're all in this together."

Under the order, most Kansans must wear masks in stores and shops, restaurants, and in any situation in which social distancing of 6 feet cannot be main-



Gov. Laura Kelly

tained, including outside. The EO will be released on Thursday, and will provide specific guidance regarding under what circumstances masks must be worn.

"I know Kansans will have many questions about this order — and we will answer them when it is released

later this week," Governor Kelly said. "But by announcing the requirement today, people in our state will have the appropriate time to acquire the masks."

The Kansas Attorney General's Office will work closely with officials in Governor Kelly's administration to ensure that the order complies with Kansas law. For more information on COVID-19 health guidance, please visit [www.covid.ks.gov](http://www.covid.ks.gov). To view the Executive Order go to <https://governor.kansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/20200702093130003.pdf>.

