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Atchison Book Signing for “A Wild Irish Rose” Wednesday (KAIR) -- A former Atchison County lawyer has published a book chronicling controversial events surrounding the actions of Atchison County government and law in the early 1920s.

A book signing for “A Wild Irish Rose” by Robert Caplinger will be Wednesday morning from 10 until noon in the Atchison County Courthouse Courtroom.

It is also the first day the books will go on sale.

The book signing tour will continue Wednesday afternoon at two at the Effingham Library.

This book is based upon actual events that occurred in Atchison County from 1923 through 1925. This was a period of Kansas history which included the rise of the Ku Klux Klan and the enforcement of prohibition laws.

It includes the personal story of Maurice P. O'Keefe, a young attorney, who had returned from service in World War I and was elected County Attorney in January 1923.

It is also a story of W. P. Waggener, the head of one of the most prominent law firms in the state of Kansas and President of the Exchange National Bank, who discovered fraud in County government.

It also includes a story of Gene Howe, a young editor of The Atchison Globe, and his rise to journalistic heights in covering the story.

Caplinger, now residing in Kansas City, did a majority of research for the paperback book in the Atchison Library.

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