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THE HILL CITY TIMES

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The Official City & County Newspaper for Hill City, Graham County, KS

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Vol. 149, No. 35

Wednesday, February 11, 2025



Thelma Ayers-Jarrett turns 104

Lordy lordy, look who's 104! Happy birthday to our lovely lady, Thelma Ayers-Jarrett. To help us celebrate, please feel free to send birthday cards to:

Dawson Place
Thelma Ayers-Jarrett
208 W Prout St
Hill City, KS 67642



HCJSHS Science Olympiad teams place at Regionals

Congratulations to the HCJSHS Science Olympiad teams for placing at the Regional tournament held over the weekend. The HCJSHS team placed 3rd and the HCJH team placed 2nd.

HCJH Medalists

1st Place
Crime Busters
Code Busters
Heredity
Potions/Poisons
Solar System
Disease Detectives
Circuit Lab

2nd Place
Anatomy/Physiology
Boomilever
Dynamic Planet
Meteorology
Write It, Do It

HCHS Medalists

1st Place

Codebusters - Sarah Christian, Luke Elliott
Forensics - Hailey Carder, AJ Deges
Water Quality - MaryAnne Christian, Zoe Farrar
Entomology - Hailey Carder, Sarah Christian
Engineering CAD - Colin Owen, AJ Deges

2nd Place
Anatomy/Physiology - AJ Deges, Mitchell Presley
Experimental Design - MaryAnne Christian, Maxx Blanks, Zoe Farrar
Astronomy - AJ Deges, Colin Owen
Disease Detective - Luke Elliott, Mitchell Presley
Electric Vehicle 2nd Colin Owen and Mitchell Presley

3rd Place
Chemistry Lab - Sarah Christian, Luke Owen
Rocks and Minerals - MaryAnne Christian, Maxx Blanks
Circuit Lab - Maxx Blanks, Colin Owen



VanLoenen-King Engagement

Adam VanLoenen and Makayla King wish to announce their engagement. They will be married in the Kansas City area November 15th.

BOGUE NEWS - LIZ VANLOENEN

Oh it got hot and the streets got muddy. Maybe we will have spring-like weather for a while.

Eric and Gina VanLoenen of Hoxie had a baby girl Jan. 30th. She has been named Lucy Katherine.

The Knights of Columbus Fish and Lamb Fry was a big success Sat. night, Jan. 31st.

Frank and David Holsman enjoyed the beef and noodle dinner at the Bogue Fellowship Hall with their mother, Bobbie Holsman on Sunday.

Toby and Holly Mettling had a baby girl Jan. 28th. She was named Logan Rene. A big thank you to everyone who attended the Bogue beef and noodle dinner Sunday, Feb. 1st at the Fellowship Hall.

It is great seeing all of the school activities in the paper. Good reading about the honor roll.

Liz VanLoenen went to Hays Tuesday. She enjoyed breakfast at IHOP. It was really a surprise, one of the employees paid for her breakfast. A big thank you to that person.

I hope everyone enjoyed the Hill City United Methodist Men's ground hog supper on Wed. evening, Feb. 4th. Liz VanLoenen visited Eric VanLoenen in Hoxie Wed. evening and saw her great granddaughter, Lucy.



Spelling Bee winners

2025-2026 HCGS Spelling Bee! Great job to all the participants and CONGRATULATIONS to our spelling bee winners:

1st Place- Shiloh Tompkins
2nd Place- Cadabra Hoppe
3rd Place- Hutch McCollum

From apprentice to journeyman



We're excited to share that Jacob Larson has officially completed the transition from Apprentice Lineman to Journeyman Lineman! This milestone represents countless hours of on-the-job training, skill development, and a strong commitment to doing the job right. Achieving journeyman status is no small feat. Please join us in congratulating Jacob on this well-earned accomplishment as he continues to grow and serve our members at Prairie Land.

NEWS & ADVERTISING
DEADLINE:
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 Please check our website or digital sign display for
 current movie listings, or call 785-421-3347

THE HOUSEMAID

To Be Determined!

ANDON SKLENAR,
 ELIZABETH PERKINS

Jan. 10 TBD | Jan 11 TBD



Hill City MAYB win Manhattan BB tourney

Pictured: Coach Alan Stein, Cash Haynes, Kalan Stein, Tyler Keith, Jackson Schulz, Cooper Riedel, Beau Born, Beckett Jilka, Sam Ramirez, and Coach Brody McDowell.

They beat Axtell 39-20, beat NE Hustle 54-36, beat Chargers 59-31, and beat Central Plains 58-48 which won them the 7th/8th grade division. The tournament was held on February 7 in Manhattan, Kansas.

HOME OF THE RINGNECKS JHS/HS ACTIVITIES

- Wednesday, February 11, 2026
 Blood Drive 8:00am-2:00pm
 Youth Entrepreneur Challenge 9:00am-11:00am
 High School Gifted Trip-Lifeskills
- Thursday, February 12, 2026
 HS Basketball vs. Norton 4:30pm, Senior Night
 JH Wrestling at Oberlin, 4:00pm
- Friday, February 13, 2026
 HS JV Wrestling at Colby 1:00pm
 FCCLA Drunk Goggle Games during Seminar
 STUCO Meeting during Seminar
- Saturday, February 14, 2026
 HS Girls Regional Wrestling at WaKeeney
 JH Wrestling at Phillipsburg 9:00am
- Monday, February 16, 2026
 HS Basketball vs. Thunder Ridge 4:30pm, 3rd and 4th Grade play at half time of Varsity Boys game
- Tuesday, February 17, 2026
 HS Basketball at Logan 4:00pm
- Wednesday, February 18, 2026
 MCEL Music 10:00am
- Thursday, February 19, 2026
 MCEL JH Wrestling at Ellis 1:00pm
- Friday, February 20, 2026
 HS Basketball at Russell 4:30pm
 Superintendent Advisory Council Meeting during Seminar
- Saturday, February 21, 2026
 HS Boys Regional Wrestling at Norton



HC boys vs. Oakley 1/30/26

Final Score 53-46 (Hill City)

Points
 Kason Mauck 23
 Vincent Zohner 21
 Koby Keiswetter 6
 Blake Harmon 3

Assists

Koby Keiswetter 7
 Chase Bell 4
 Kason Mauck 2
 Vincent Zohner 1
 Blake Harmon 1
 Case Haynes 1

Lady Ringnecks vs. Oakley

Final score 16-59 (Oakley)

Points
 Sabri Rohr 7
 Rylie Minimum 6
 Brayli Keiswetter 3

Assists
 Sabri Rohr 1
 Rylie Minimum 1

K-State Weed Management Schools scheduled for February 2026

A series of weed management schools will take place in northwest and north central Kansas, during the month of February, and are hosted by local K-State Extension districts. Controlling difficult weeds continues to be a significant challenge for producers. To address the topic of weed control, K-State Extension has scheduled four regional weed management schools in February. This program has been designed to help producers and agri-business retailers improve weed management with challenging species and weather conditions.

The schools schedule is as follows:

- February 16th Goodland - 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (MT) Sherman Co. 4-H Building

- February 19th Norton - 9:30 a.m. to NOON at the Norton Co. 4-H Building - Coffee and Cake provided!
- February 19th Phillipsburg - 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Phillips Co. Fair Building
- February 20th Osborne - 9:30 a.m. to NOON United Christian Church, 214 N. 2nd Street - lunch will be provided following the program thanks to sponsor Sims Fertilizer and Chemical.

The schools will be presented by speakers from Kansas State University, Sarah Lancaster & Pat Geier, K-State Extension Weed specialists (Manhattan/Garden City); Jeanne Falk Jones, K-State NW Area

Agronomist and local Extension Agents. Topics will include Where NOT to cut costs on weed control and a Research update on challenging weeds (Palmer Amaranth, kochia and others) along with Know your KSU Weed Chemical Book and a question and answer session. So be sure to bring all your questions with you! 2.5 credit hours for 1A certification along with CCA credits have been applied for.

There is no cost for the schools, however, pre-registration is requested by Monday, February 11th, for all meetings either online at www.bit.ly/KSUWeedSchool or call any office of our Post Rock Extension District in Beloit, Lincoln, Mankato, Osborne or Smith Center.

Injured Red Tailed Hawk rescue



Several people were involved with helping this injured Red Tail Hawk that was sighted in a ditch along a road by Gaylord, KS a few days ago. A special thank you to the Phillips county game warden for transporting the Hawk to Hill City for medical treatment after being called to help.

This Hawk arrived dehydrated and emaciated (with a low temp). My Exam also found a fractured wing and limited use of a leg/hip (bruised) that was possibly from being hit by a vehicle.

Carries Rehab Critters
 Northwest Kansas
 501(c)(3) organization

THE HILL CITY TIMES

Ringneck Activities is sponsored by:
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Come-and-Go
Cookie Reception for
Paul Hofstetter's
100th Birthday!

Saturday,
February 21
3-5 pm

Graham County
Community Center

We Appreciate Our Readers
& We Need Your Support!

Contact Information: The Hill City Times

thehillcitytimes@gmail.com • Phone Hours 785-524-4200

Office Hours: Wednesday 9:30 - Noon

Retreat designed to help children deal with grief

By Linn Ann Huntington

After a year's hiatus, a special retreat designed to help children navigate the world of grief is back.

The Healing Kids' Hearts Retreat has a new sponsor and will be held in a new location. But organizers say its purpose remains the same—to offer children who have suffered the loss of someone close to them a safe place where they can ask questions, express their emotions, and connect with other children going through the same thing.

This year's retreat will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 28, at the Bob and Pat Schmidt Community Center, 2510 Canterbury Dr. The free retreat is designed for children ages 7 through 12 and will include lunch, said Myrna Jordan with Hospice of HaysMed, the new sponsor.

Parents must register their children by Sunday, March 1. Families may call Jordan at (785) 623-6200, and a registration form will be mailed to them, she said.

The day will include crafts, games, and other activities. Each child will be assigned a specially trained adult "buddy" for the day.

Doris Schmidt of Victoria, who helped organize the first retreat in 2015, said the event began after a grief support group called Healing Hearts was established in Ellis County to help families who had lost a child.

"This group brought together mothers, fathers, siblings, and grandparents, allowing them to share stories of their beloved child who had passed away. These families, united by grief, sought to support one another through the sharing of experience of their loss.

"Discussion many times was about the feelings the child's siblings had. How could we create a space where children could express their emotions, ask questions, and connect with other children who were going through the same thing?" Schmidt recalled.

A task force was created, and soon the first retreat took form. "The retreat would provide healing activities and guided conversation with a caring adult. Each child has an adult buddy with them to listen when they talk about their loss because so often the children don't want to talk to mom or dad because they may make them cry." The kids have already seen their parents cry a lot.

The retreat "quickly gained support from various community organizations, excited to help with the funding to help the children find healing," Schmidt said.

That community support is still there, which is one reason the retreat has never charged families any registration fees through the years, Schmidt said.

In 2015, that first year, 17 children attended the retreat. Organizers now put a cap on enrollment at 20 children. These can be children who have lost a sibling, parent, grandparent, teacher, or close friend. Children who have attended previous retreat are welcome to attend again, as long as they fall within the 7-to-12 age range, organizers said.

One "adult buddy" recalled that the last time the retreat was held in 2024, the children made memorial stepping-stones to honor their lost loved ones.

One little boy asked if he could make some additional stones. When the "buddy" asked him why, the little boy replied that Grandpa had died, but his grave didn't yet have a marker. There just hadn't been enough money to pay for one, the little boy said.

The child wanted additional stones to make a marker for his grandpa's grave.

He got them. And the "adult buddy," a senior citizen, got a big hug.

Summer events are in the works



The event has been officially approved and scheduled for July 4th. It will feature a drag race spanning approximately one block on pavement. With ample time to prepare, participants can look forward to multiple classes. Further details will be announced, but rest assured, the event aims to deliver an entertaining experience.

Riders Inc Grow Graham County - Kansas Travel and Tourism and Leadership Graham County will be having events in the park that day as well.

New Arrival

Eric and Gina VanLoenen of Hoxie are the proud parents of a baby girl born January 30th. SHE has been named Lucy Katherine and she weighed 8 lbs. 13 oz. and was 21 1/2 inches long.

She has a big brother, Levi Floyd to welcome her home. Grandparents are Bruce and Tammy VanLoenen of Hill City and Charles and Lucille Callari of New Jersey. Great grandmothers are Liz VanLoenen of Bogue and Leona Newell of Damar.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
Fridays at Noon

To ensure placement in the following week's edition

THEHILLCITYTIMES@GMAIL.COM

CHURCH DIRECTORY

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Morland, Kansas
Worship: 10:30 A.M. and 5 P.M., Sundays
Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.</p> <p>BOGUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Bogue, Kansas
Worship: 9 A.M. Sundays
Sunday School: 10 A.M.</p> <p>CHRISTIAN CHURCH
122 N. Pomeroy, Hill City
Worship: 9 A.M. and Sunday School: 10:15 A.M.</p> <p>FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
206 N. Middle, Hill City
Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.
Worship: 10:35 A.M., Sun., 6 P.M., Sun. 7 P.M., Wed.</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Nicodemus, Kansas
Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.
Church: 11 A.M.
Bible Study: Wed., 5:30 P.M.</p> <p>FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
223 N. 4th Ave., Hill City
Worship: 9 A.M. & Coffee Fellowship following.</p> <p>FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST
8th and Walnut, Hill City
Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.
Worship: 10:30 A.M. Sun.
Youth Program: 6 P.M. Sun.</p> <p>GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
11th and Hill, Hill City
Worship: 4 P.M. Sunday
Bible Study: 3 p.m. Sunday</p> <p>H₂O CHURCH.TV
305 N. Pomeroy, Hill City
5:00 p.m.
Praise - Worship - Message</p> <p>HILL CITY CHURCH OF GOD
Third and Cedar, Hill City
Worship: 10:30 A.M.</p> <p>HILL CITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
118 N. 4th Ave., Hill City
Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.</p> | <p>Worship: 10:45 A.M.</p> <p>IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH
10 N. 10th Ave., Hill City
Masses: 6 P.M., Saturdays; 11 A.M. Sundays</p> <p>PRAIRIE HOME UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
12 miles south, 1/4 mile East of Hill City on "E" Rd.
Worship: 9:15 A.M.</p> <p>RED LINE CHURCH OF GOD
3804 H Rd., Palco, Kansas
Worship: 8:45 A.M.
Fellowship: 10 A.M.
Sunday School: 10:30 A.M.
Bible Study: 7 P.M. Wed.</p> <p>ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC
Damar, Kansas
Mass: 9 A.M., Sundays</p> <p>THE LIGHTHOUSE CHURCH OF GOD
519 N. East, Hill City
Sunday Worship: 10 A.M.
Family Training Hour: 7 P.M., Wednesday</p> <p>MORLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Worship: 6 P.M., Sunday
Bible Study: 5 P.M., Sunday</p> <p>UNITED METHODIST
Palco, Kansas
Worship/Service: 9 A.M.
Fellowship Time: 10 A.M.</p> <p>UNITED PARISH OF LENORA
Worship: 10:30 A.M.
Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.</p> <p>MT. PLEASANT BAPTIST
6.5 miles south of Morland, Ks.
Sunday School: 9:45 A.M.
Worship: 10:50 A.M.</p> <p>AWANA program: 5-7 P.M. Wed. Men's Prayer, 7 A.M. Wed. Youth Group, 7 P.M. Bible Study in Homes, 7 P.M. Wednesdays
3rd Sunday Fellowship Dinner</p> |
|---|--|

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THE HILL CITY TIMES

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Graham County Commission Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2026

Commissioner Nelson called the meeting to order at 10:00 am with the flag salute with Commissioner Nelson, Commissioner Irby, County Clerk Kendra Robinson, Deputy Appraiser Robyn Steinmetz, Graham County Hospital CEO Jonathan Gleason and community member Jarrod Knoll in attendance.

Graham County Hospital CEO – Jonathan Gleason

Jonathan informed the Board that the hospital had a COVID outbreak and followed required reporting procedures. Jonathan reported that, due to the outbreak, anyone entering the hospital is required to wear a mask. Jonathan informed the Board that approval is still pending from the Kansas State Fire Marshal regarding the generator relocation plan, and when the move occurs, the generator will most likely be replaced. Commissioner Nelson inquired about grant opportunities to help fund a new generator. Jonathan stated that there may be funding available through the Rural Health Transformation Program for modernization projects and is hopeful to obtain assistance through that program. Jonathan stated there has been positive progress regarding the 340B program due to a restraining order being implemented. Commissioner Irby asked Jonathan if he had seen reports indicating that Hays Medical Center was operating in the red and possibly considering

closure. Jonathan stated that he had only heard rumors and did not have any confirmed information at this time.

New Business

Clerk Robinson presented Resolution 2026-04 regarding the Court-house wage scale for 2026. Commissioner Irby made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-04. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0. The Commissioners agreed that this resolution establishes a wage cap, and no employee may be paid above the approved scale without first coming before the Board for approval. The Commissioners further agreed that if an increase were to occur without Board approval, the raise would be voided. Clerk Robinson presented the 2026 Elected Officials Base Salary Scale for approval and signatures. Commissioner Nelson made a motion to approve the 2026 Elected Officials Base Salary Scale. Commissioner Irby seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0. The Clerk presented 16 abatement orders with a total valuation of 470,790 and a total tax amount of \$72,083.39 for review and approval. Commissioner Nelson made a motion to approve the 16 abatement orders. Commissioner Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes from January 13, 2026. Commissioner Irby seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0. Commissioner Irby seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0. The Commissioners reviewed and ap-

proved Accounts Payable, payroll, and payroll payable vouchers. The Clerk presented the abstract of the Commissioner minutes from January 6, 2026, for signature. Commissioner Nelson signed the abstract. The Clerk ensured the Commissioners were aware of the invitation included in their packets for the multi-county Commissioners meeting scheduled for January 27, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Ness County Courthouse. Commissioner Irby requested Clerk Robinson RSVP on his behalf. Clerk Robinson ensured the Commissioners were aware of the Kansas Legislative Policy Group Winter Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. The Commissioners reviewed the invitation. Commissioner Irby noted that Doug Pratt with the spraying company will be at the Road & Bridge Department tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. to discuss spraying operations.

Graham County Health Nurse – Kristen Wise

Kristen reported that she wanted to touch base with the Commissioners regarding Rusty beginning work on the project at the old clinic building. She explained that the Dane G. Hansen Foundation does not operate on a reimbursement basis, so Shawn with the Graham County Community Foundation is working to obtain approval from Dane G. Hansen to allow the project to begin prior to grant approval. Kristen stated that if she is

See "COMMISSION" Pg 10

HILL CITY NUTRITION SITE

Welcome in House Participants & Carry-Out

- Friday, February 13:** Cook's Choice Entrée, Vegetable, Compliment, Grain, Fruit
- Monday, February 16:** Pork Fritter W/Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Italian Blend Vegetables, Bread, Apples Slices
- Tuesday, February 17:** Chili, Cinnamon Roll, Crackers, Mandarin Oranges
- Wednesday, February 18:** Tuna Noodle Casserole, Peas & Carrots, Bread, Fruit Cobbler
- Thursday, February 19:** Smothered Steak, Mashed Potatoes, California Blend Vegetables, Bread, Pineapple Up/Down Cake

Menu Subject to Change
Meal \$4 • Guests under 60 \$7

SNAP Benefits (previously known as food stamps) can be used to contribute towards the meal. If you need help applying for SNAP, call our office at 1-800-432-7422.

Community News

The Graham County Hospital Auxiliary has a new room at the hospital for all of their equipment they have available for people to use in their homes. If anyone has walkers, canes, crutches, or anything people can use take them to the hospital and they will be put to good use. If we have what you need, there is no need to buy anything. Everything will be marked as Auxiliary property.

Insight - Kansas Farm Bureau - opinion

Blessings and basketball

Kim Baldwin
McPherson County farmer and rancher

We experienced our first season of organized school basketball with my son this year while he played on his junior high team. My daughter has kept us driving rural roads on Saturdays for elementary recreation league game matchups.

We've experienced many years of Saturday rec league basketball with the kids. We knew going into this season, we'd probably have one or two practices a week, games always on Saturday, parents taking turns providing snacks and drinks after every game and a possible tournament to end the season.

Junior high basketball was a whole new world for our family this year, but one we all truly enjoyed. Aside from a lot of freezing, dark mornings getting my son to town for his 6 a.m. practices five days a week, we saw a lot of community culture and pride while driving down many smalltown Main Streets or while sitting inside a lot of gymnasiums.

We discovered that like our town, sometimes the only place to stop and grab some food after late games was at a gas station. This is, if the town we were in had a gas station.

We also discovered that many of the schools that are part of the league that our school is a member of have a fantastic base of supporters. These supporters show up to the home games and make the trips to the away games as well.

One of the standout supporters for my son's team attended as many home and away games as he could this year. When he was younger, he and his family dedicated their summers to chasing wheat to harvest. Later, he chased his kids and grandkids at many sporting events.

Now that his grandkids have graduated, he dedicates much of his time attending games to watch local kids play. During the home games, I can glance down to the front row of the seatback bleachers and spot him near midcourt. During away games, I can scan the gymnasium to find him sitting courtside either on the front row or at the end of the bench with the boys keeping the books.

He's always there providing words of encouragement, on-point stats for the team and a presence that beams with pride for the kids from his hometown.

His presence isn't just seen or felt at the junior high games either. You'll see him at all the high school games and he will even be in the gym many Saturdays to cheer on our town's kids during the elementary rec league games.

By all accounts, he's their biggest fan, and the kids see him and love him for it.

As a parent, I see him and appreciate the continuous support that he provides, and I love how the kids interact with him and recognize that he comes to see them play for their little town's school.

If you ask me, there's a lot

See "Insight" page 7

PRAIRIE DOC BY JILL KRUSE, DO

Spring into Seasonal Allergies

The groundhog may have seen his shadow, but Spring will be here soon. While many of us look forward to warmer days and blooming flowers, those who suffer from seasonal allergies know that the return of grass, budding trees, and blooming flowers can lead to more sneezing than smiles. Welcome to the Spring allergy season.

If your seasonal allergies seem to be getting worse each year, it is not in your head. A Study from the National Academy of Sciences in 2021 found that over the last 30 years the North American pollen allergy season has increased by approximately 20 days. Pollen concentrations have also risen 21%. The Spring tree pollen season has been starting earlier and the Fall ragweed season has been ending later.

Seasonal allergies can develop at any time in one's life. The most common risk factor for developing seasonal allergies is family history. If have family members with allergies, you have an increased risk of developing them as well. Seasonal allergies are the sign of an overactive immune system that has mistakenly identified harmless substances, like pollen, as dangerous threats to the body. This triggers an

inappropriate defense response that leads to the common symptoms of allergies like runny nose, congestion, watery eyes, itching, and sneezing. The immune system is trying to fight pollen like it would fight a cold. This is why it can be difficult to differentiate between allergies and illness.

There are a few ways to help decrease the risk of children developing allergies. Several studies have shown that children who visit a farm in their first year of their life or have furry pets have a lower risk of allergies. In that first year of life, the immune system is busy trying to figure out what things the body needs to defend against and what things are safe to ignore. The environment on the farm has so different allergens, that it allows the immune system to become tolerant of the harmless pollen and animal dander. However, once someone has allergies, and the immune system is sensitive to these substances, further exposure to allergens that are on a farm will not help. It will just make the allergy sufferer more miserable.

The first line over-the-counter treatment for seasonal allergies is intranasal corticosteroids such as Fluticasone (Flonase), Mometasone (Nasonex), and Budesonide (Rhi-

nocort). These nasal sprays have been shown to be more effective than over-the-counter oral antihistamines such as Loratidine (Claritin), Fexofenadine (Allegra), and Cetirizine (Zyrtec). If the spray does not give adequate control, then adding an oral antihistamine can help.

If these medications are not effective, then seeing an Allergist is the next step to enjoying everything that comes with April showers and May flowers. The groundhog says we have six more weeks to prepare for Spring. Regardless of when it comes, everyone can enjoy Spring if they understand seasonal allergies and how to treat them.

Dr. Jill Kruse is a hospitalist at the Brookings Health System in Brookings, SD. She serves as one of the Prairie Doc Volunteer Hosts during its 24th Season providing Health Education Based on Science, Built on Trust. Follow The Prairie Doc® at www.prairiedoc.org, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Tik Tok. Prairie Doc Programming includes On Call with the Prairie Doc®, a medical Q&A show (most Thursdays at 7pm on YouTube and streaming on Facebook), 2 podcasts, and a Radio program (on SDPB, Sundays at 6am and 1pm).

THE ANGLE



Alexa Romesburg

What's the point? Am I making a difference? Is my life of any value to those around me? When I die, will my efforts have any lasting impact? Will my time on this earth have mattered? The older I get, the more these questions close in around my sense of purpose. I heard a story many years ago, and I know not whether it is a true story or simply a myth with meaning. But my family and I used to live in Florida, near the ocean. We could walk on the beach anytime. It was beautiful. You could walk for miles and miles on a stretched-out sand-covered shore, as rhythmic waves keep time with your steps, whether slow or brisk, like an oceanic metronome, and rolling tides of saltwater gently lap your feet. At just the right time of day (or year)

one could walk for hours with nothing and no one around. I took such walks often in Florida, but not often enough. The aforementioned story also takes place on a beach. It begins with a little boy. He is walking along the shore, bending down every so often to pick something up, pausing briefly as he does, with an appreciative glance at the thing in his hand, before promptly tossing it back into the sea. An old man sitting nearby, curiously watches the boy. The man, observing him more intently, becomes perplexed. The desolate beach was littered with starfish stranded in the sand after being carried ashore with unusually high tides which washed them up above the water's edge and left them there upon receding back out again. They would surely die if left to dry out in the hot sun. Up and down the shoreline, there were several scores

of them, as far as the old man's eyes could see. He couldn't just sit back and watch the boy continue to do what seemed to him to be an exercise in futility. Standing up, and ambling down, nearer to the boy, he said, "What are you doing?" The boy looked up, startled, as he recognized for the first time, the presence of another person on the beach. He replied, "Well, I'm throwing the starfish back into the ocean, or else they're going to die." The old man blustered back, challenging the boy saying, "What's the point? There're too many. You'll never get them all! Why even waste your time? They're not worth it. You're never going to make a difference, son." The young boy, undisturbed by the older man's words, and before uttering another word of his own, simply stooped down again, and picking up another starfish, paused once more, just for a moment, and gazed at the unique creature in his hand. Then, the boy, after throwing it back into the ocean, turned back to the old man and humbly

responded, "I made a difference for that one." I think that's the point. Maybe we won't all have our name written in history books as a hero or a highly acclaimed leader of our time and generation. Maybe the world as a whole will never even know we existed at all, in our little corner of it. Maybe neither we, nor the masses will ever see our name lit up in Hollywood lights or splashed across the cover of a Vogue cover. But maybe that is not important at all. Maybe, just maybe, like the little boy, it is enough to appreciate the unique, individual starfish- and people- whom we have the power and ability to help, encourage, save, rescue, teach, inspire, or love, right in front of us. Maybe we won't ever be able to "save them all." But maybe that was never the goal. At the end of our time on this earth, maybe there will be only one thing we did of any importance- or real significance- but if we, like the boy, can say, "I made a difference for that one" then certainly, it was all worth it.

SIP & SHOP

FEBRUARY
02/14/26
10am-4pm

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U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for High Plains

Drought intensity and Extent by County

- Moderate Drought: Yuma County, Dundy County.
- Abnormally Dry: Southwest Nebraska and along the Kansas-Nebraska border.

Comments

Below normal precipitation for the past several months has led to the development of drought in northern portions of the area.

U.S. Drought Monitor

Abnormally Dry (D0) Moderate Drought (D1) Severe Drought (D2) Extreme Drought (D3) Exceptional Drought (D4)

Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 01/27/26

★ Star is centered on Goodland in all following maps.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
National Weather Service
Goodland

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WE ARE HIRING JOIN OUR TEAM

Graham County Clerk's Office is seeking applicants for the Deputy Clerk position.

Position Summary:
 Under the supervision of the County Clerk, the Deputy County Clerk shall perform financial, clerical, computer and reporting duties to assist with the operations of the County Clerk's Office. This position is responsible for maintaining current county reports and records, processing accounts payable, assisting with elections, and providing customer service to the public. The Deputy County Clerk may assume the responsibilities of the County Clerk in their absence.

Essential Duties and Responsibility

- Process accounts payable & generate reports
- Maintain computer records for real estate transfers
- Annual K-Camp/KWORCC invoicing to county entities
- Processing K-Camp/KWORCC policy payments & complete annual audits
- Complete annual BCBS employee verification audit
- Balance daily statements with the Treasurer's Office
- Provide assistance to the public in person, by phone and via email
- Reconcile bank accounts
- Obtain election supplies and assist with polling place set-up
- Ensure all election data is set up correctly in systems
- Ensure ballots are accurate and complete upon arrival
- Complete testing on all election machines
- Assist County Election Officer with Election School and proper training of poll workers
- Perform other related duties as assigned

Requirements:

- High school diploma or GED, Associate degree preferred
- Valid driver's license
- Must be bondable

Working Conditions/Physical Requirements:
 This position is conducted in an office environment with no adverse working conditions. Qualified candidate will primarily work Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. with few exceptions (ie. Elections). This position is sedentary in nature and involves sitting the majority of the time. Qualified candidate must be able to lift items weighing up to 20 pounds when needed.

If you would like more information about this position or to view a full job description, please contact the Graham County Clerk's Office at (785) 421-3453, or if interested in applying for this position please pickup application in the Graham County Clerk's Office or email resume to clerk1@grahamcountyks.com.

Help Wanted

Graham County Job Opening

Graham County Treasurer's Office is seeking applicants for the Deputy Treasurer & Office Clerk positions

Requirements: High school diploma or GED is required. One to three years of clerical work experience is preferred. Experience in all Microsoft Programs, data entry, computers, printers, copiers, fax machines and a multi-line phone system is preferred. Knowledge of bookkeeping and accounting principles is preferred. Candidates must possess the ability to follow oral and written instructions and must uphold professionalism to the general public when working with them. On-the-job training will be provided.

Working Conditions/Physical Requirements:
 This position is conducted in an office environment with no adverse working conditions. Qualified candidate will primarily work Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. with few exceptions. This position is sedentary in nature and involves sitting the majority of the time. Qualified candidate must be able to lift items weighing up to 20 pounds when needed.

If you would like more information about this position, please contact the Graham County Treasurer's Office at (785) 421-2331, or if interested in applying for this position please pickup application in the Graham County Clerk's office or email resume to treasurer@grahamcountyks.com.

HELP Wanted

WINTER SPORTS



High School Boys Basketball

10	Chase Bell	5-6	11
12	Corbin Jones	5-6	10
14	Rance Minium	5-9	10
20	Vincent Zohner	6-5	12
24	Blake Harmon	5-11	10
30	Kason Mauck	6-1	10
32	Briggs Born	5-9	10
40	Mitchell Presley	6-0	11
42	Case Haynes	6-1	11
44	Koby Keiswetter	6-1	12

Head Coach: Keith Riley
 Asst. Coach: Brody McDowell
 Managers: Brayli Keiswetter, Megan Carder

High School Girls Basketball

1	Brayli Keiswetter	5-6	10
10	Sabri Rohr	5-6	09
11	Jenna Berland	5-5	10
13	Taylor Schneider	5-6	10
15	Rylie Minium	5-5	12
20	Scarlett Harmon	5-6	10
30	Eva Hart	5-8	11
34	Kamryn Mauck	5-7	12
35	Cora Ashmore	5-5	11

Head Coach: Greg Deines
 Asst. Coach: Linda Nighswonger
 Managers: Hailey Carder, Luke Elliott, Emmy Ashbaugh



Junior High Boys Basketball

Front: Beau Born, Tyler Keith, Dean Reichert, Sam Ramirez, Cooper Riedel, Jackson Schulz, Beckett Jilka, manager Dylan McNabb
 Back: Assistant Coach Tommy Atkins, Kase Stithem, Elijah Bruton, Kalan Stein, Cash Haynes, Clark Randall, Head Coach Kyle Jilka



Hill City Kids Wrestling Club - 4 year old to 5th grade

Not pictured is Jared Flax and Jase Ashbaugh.



GCRC 4th & 5th Grade Basketball 2025-2026

1 PAISLEY ROME	11 ADDISON PITTMAN
2 MADILYNN OWEN	12 REESE WINDHOLZ
3 BRENLEY RIEDEL	13 LILY WEBSTER
4 REESIE BRACHTENBACH	14 RALYNN MINIUM
5 LORELAI JEWELL	
6 ECHO CARENDER	
7 OAKLEIGH PFEIFER	Coaches
8 RAYA SCHULZ	Scott Schulz
9 KINSLEY SUMMERS	Maegan Owen
10 HENRIETTA HARMON	Desiree Harmon
	Sara Riedel

WINTER SPORTS

RINGNECK WRESTLING



HILL CITY HIGH SCHOOL MENS WRESTLING TEAM

NOLAN MORRIS OSCAR MARTINEZ COOPER UNDERHILL TATE BALTHAZOR
 AIDEN HALL TYLER ASHBAUGH KENLEY GUGELMAN BENTLEY UNDERHILL
 CHRISTOPHER ATKINS RYAN BUDIG JAXSON SMITH SLADE ROHR HUDSON BELL
 NICOLAS BRASSFIELD SHAUN JEWELL DYLLAN VIGNALO GAVIN BELL

Lady RINGNECK WRESTLING



HILL CITY HIGH SCHOOL WOMENS VARSITY WRESTLING TEAM

EMILY SMEE GRACIE PENROD CADY DOOLEY BRILEY BRACK KYA BELL SARAH CHRISTIAN

Junior High Girls Basketball

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 10 Caylyx Vest | 42/34 Gentry Windholz |
| 11 Alexis Desbien | 43 Liberty Billips |
| 12 Claris Harmon | 44 Cali Orr |
| 13 Josslyn VanLoenen | 45 Aubree Orr |
| 14 Lauryn Horne | 50 Olivia Shewey |
| 22 Averlee Breinig | |
| 23 Khloe Johnson | Manager |
| 30 Izzy Zohner | Avery Steinmetz |
| 32 Jeanette Counter | Manager |
| 33 Ivy Walt | Izzie Hupka |



Hill City Cheerleaders



Regina Baldwin



Rec Basketball

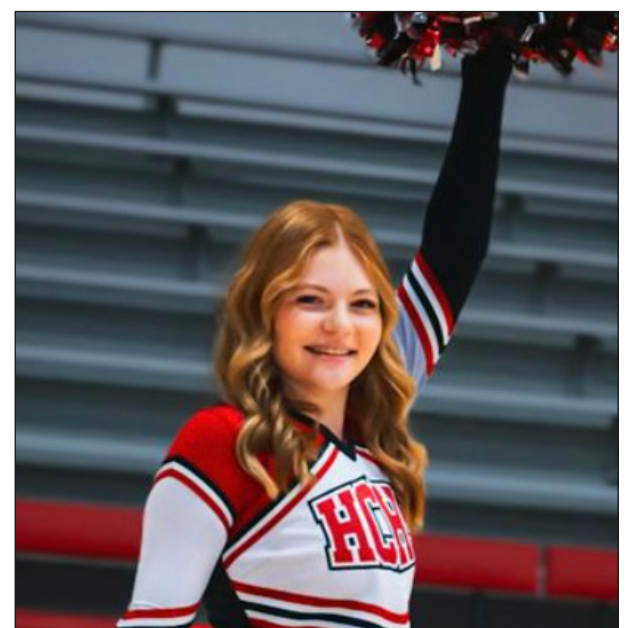
Coach Kyle Jilka, Waylon Billips, Jude Jilka, Alak Stein, Nash Ashbaugh, Axen Brack, Ben Harmon, Jared Flax, Matt Deges, Liam Bruton, and Coach Alan Stein. Not pictured is Braxton Summers. They were 7-1 on the season.



MaryAnne Christian



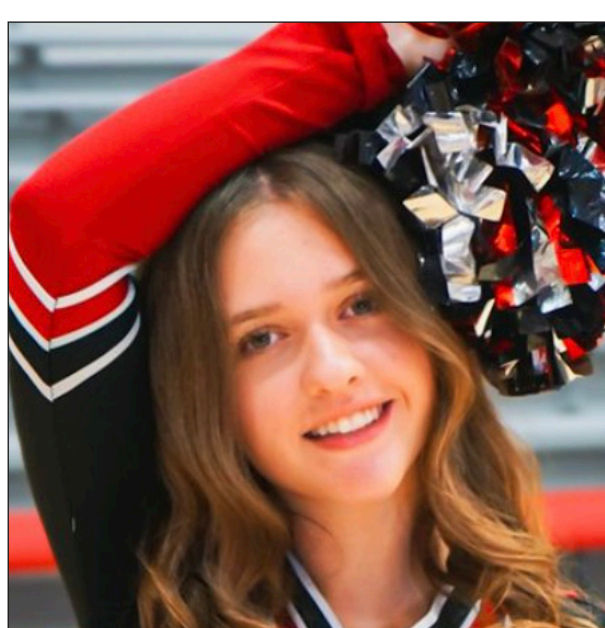
Sarah Christian



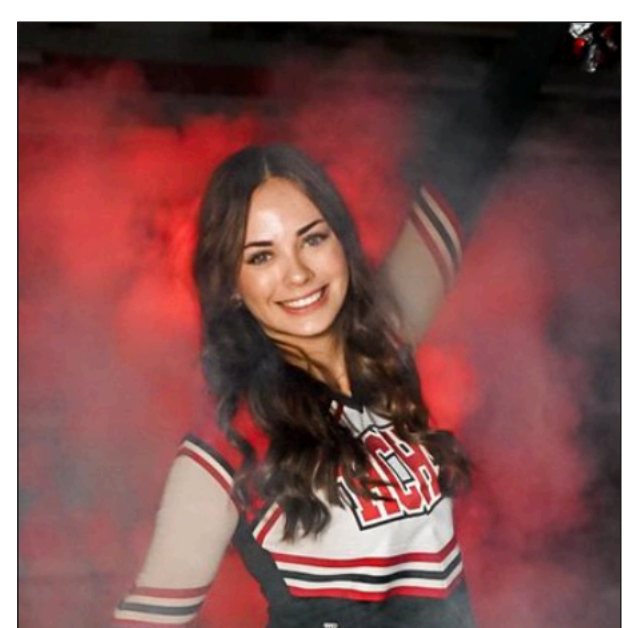
Jalynn Flax



Sophie McGee



Kayden Simmons



Rachel Walter

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HANSEN MUSEUM NEWS BY SHARI BUSS

The Hansen Museum gallery is buzzing with creativity right now, filled wall to wall with artwork from the 49th Annual High School Art Show. Each year, this exhibit reminds us just how much talent and imagination exists in our area schools, and this year's show is no exception.

One of the most fun parts of this exhibit is the wide range of materials and techniques students are exploring. You'll see everything from traditional drawings and paintings to mixed media, pottery, and ceramics. Some students are even experimenting with a trending technique that uses drywall mud to build texture and add a three-dimensional quality to their paintings. There are three great examples of this approach in the gallery, and they really stand out for their depth and creativity.

Phillipsburg's art department has also introduced something new this year—graphic design. Students have created designs intended for t-shirts, adding a modern and practical twist to the show. Alongside these works are some truly impressive printmaking pieces, created using a variety of printing methods and tools. The results are bold, detailed, and exciting to look at.

The ceramic work in the show is especially eye-catching. Clay, pottery, and ceramic pieces feature a range of firing techniques that create beautiful finishes, from smooth and glossy to earthy and textured. These works reflect not only creativity, but also patience, skill, and a strong understanding of the artistic process.

Be sure to also spend some time in the Artist of the Month space, which features fiber artist Connie Albin of Quinter, Kansas. Her display includes both practical and beautiful handmade items, from colorful dish scrubbies to intricately embroidered tea towels. Her work adds warmth and charm to the gallery and is a wonderful complement to the student

artwork on display.

We invite everyone to stop by and enjoy this wonderful display of local and student art. The Hansen Museum is located at 110 W. Main Street in Logan, Kansas. We are open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., and on Sundays and holidays from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. The Museum is fully handicap-accessible, and thanks to the Dane G. Hansen Foundation, admission is always free. If you have questions or would like more information, please feel free to call us at 785-689-4846. We hope to see YOU at the Museum!



Lion, a mixed media piece by junior Jayana Creighton of Stockton, captures the strength and quiet majesty of this powerful animal through bold contrast, texture, and an intense, commanding gaze.

Got News?

We run club, business, school, sports and life's celebrations!

Birthday Announcements

Free with a picture for 100 years or older for residents of Graham County. For 100th birthdays for non-residents with a tie to the area, the article is free. Free announcements are available for Graham County resident 75 and older. Photos can be submitted for \$25.

Anniversary Announcements

Free with one photo for 50 years and over for Graham County residents or couples with children in Graham County. Free announcements, with no photo, are available 25, 30, 40 and 45 years. Announcements can include couple's name, residence, date and place of marriage, occupations, children/grandchildren, and reception information (if applicable). Additional photos can be submitted for \$25.



Wedding Announcements

Free for Graham County residents or couples with parents in Graham County with the following information: name of bride and groom, residence, parents and residence, bridal party, where and when the wedding took place, honeymoon location and where the couple resides after wedding. Free announcements must be submitted to our office before their one year anniversary. A photo may be added for \$25.

Engagement Announcements

Free for residents of Graham County or couples with parents in Graham County with the following information: name of prospective bride and groom with residence, their parents and residence, when/where the wedding is planned, couples' schooling and occupations. Free announcement must be submitted to our office before their wedding. A photo may be added for \$25.

Birth Announcements

Free for parents and/or grandparents in Graham County with the following information: baby's name, weight, length, place of birth and date, parents name and residence, siblings, grandparents and residences, great grandparents and residences) please specify if they are deceased). A photo may be added for \$25.

Letters to the Editor

The Hill City Times, Graham County is open to views from residents within the county.

Letters to the Editor must include complete name, signature, address and phone number. Name and town will only be published in the newspaper. Free letters are limited to approximately 250 words. If a letter is more than 250 words, it is subject to editing and the full versions will be posted online. They may also be published in the paper at the editor's discretion. If the word count exceeds 250 words, the letter can be published as a paid advertisement (subject to editorial approval). Political letters are also considered paid advertisements.

Calendar Entries

Any event from Graham County which is free or by free will donation may be listed in the Times calendar. Those events are also listed in the Essential Calendar on the website. Deadline is 5 pm Friday.

Club Notes

Clubs and organizations are welcome to submit items. We publish these for free if the clubs regularly meet within Graham County.

Business Briefs

If a business is located within Graham County, or owned by a resident of Graham County submissions such as new hires, awards, etc. may be submitted for consideration. Note, this does not include sales, services or other items considered advertising.

Sports Items

We are happy to publish sports items from around the county. Don't forget your college student-athletes! Open to all Graham County residents -- including proud grandpa and grandmas!

Academic Items

We publish awards and achievements from our students around the county. This can be any level from elementary school through college.

Your item not listed?

Just give us a call or an email and tell us what you'd like published -- 785-524-4200 - or Thehillcitytimes@gmail.com

Submit editorial content by email to Thehillcitytimes@gmail.com

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 812 MAIN ST. WAKEENEY - \$175,000 - 4 bed, 2 bath, main floor laundry, great location NEW PRICE!	 SOLD 820 N 6th St., Wakeeney- \$335,000 - 5 bed, 3 bath, updated brick home, beautiful landscaping	 206 W OGDEN St., Ransom - \$40,000 - 2 bed, 1 bath, large corner lot, detached garage SOLD
 402 N 8th, Hill City - \$115,000 - 4 bed, 2 bath, enclosed porch, detached 2 car garage UNDER CONTRACT	 257 N Logan Ufca - \$70,000 - 3 bed, 2 bath, attached garage, 20x30 steel shed	 224 Kedzie, Wakeeney - \$159,000 4 bed, 2 bath, main floor laundry, large corner lot NEW PRICE
 321 N School, Ness City- \$240,000 4 bed, 3 bath, 2 car garage, large corner lot NEW LISTING	 NEW LISTING 308 N Main WaKeeney 2 beds, 1 bath, att 1 car garage, 35 x 24 shed	Additional Property: 317 W. 8th QUINTER, \$105,000 Large property, call for more information

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Have a great week!



The Graham Co. Historical Society receives a donation

By Jarrod Knolls
Unlock the doors to the past and discover the magic! Visit and support the Graham County Historical Society. It truly is a wonderful place. We are honored to contribute a donation that will help keep our historical flame burning!

Pictured: Vera Fischer and Lexi Knoll

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Legal Notice

(First Published in The Hill City Times on Wednesday, January 28, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF GRAHAM COUNTY, KANSAS

GOLDEN PLAINS CREDIT UNION, §
§
Plaintiff, §
§
vs. § Case No. GH-2026-CV-000003
§

BILLY L. GOODENOW; RACHEL A. ORTH; §
GRAHAM COUNTY HOSPITAL; §
AND THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF §
A DEFENDANT; UNKNOWN OFFICERS, §
SUCCESSORS, TRUSTEES, CREDITORS §
AND ASSIGNS OF A DEFENDANT THAT §
IS AN EXISTING, DISSOLVED OR §
DORMANT CORPORATION; UNKNOWN §
EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, §
DEVEISES, TRUSTEES, CREDITORS, §
SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS OF A §
DEFENDANT THAT IS OR WAS IN §
PARTNERSHIP; UNKNOWN GUARDIANS, §
CONSERVATORS AND TRUSTEES OF A §
DEFENDANT THAT IS A MINOR OR IS §
UNDER ANY LEGAL DISABILITY; AND §
UNKNOWN TENANTS, §

Defendants. §
(Title to Real Estate Involved).

(Proceedings Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 60)

NOTICE OF SUIT

STATE OF KANSAS TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS WHO ARE OR MAY BE CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in the district court of Graham County, Kansas, by Golden Plains Credit Union, praying for foreclosure of a real estate mortgage executed by Billy L. Goodenow and Rachel A. Orth to Golden Plains Credit Union covering the following described real estate located in Graham County, Kansas, to wit:

North One Hundred Five feet (N 105') of East Seventy-five feet (E 75') of the Southeast Quarter (SE/4) of Block Three (3) in GARNETT'S ADDITION to the City of Hill City, Graham County, Kansas.

and for the sale of said premises to pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes and the costs of this action, and forever barring and foreclosing you and each of you from all right, title, estate, interest, or equity of redemption in or to said premises or any part thereof and you are hereby required to plead to said petition on or before the 10th day of March, 2026, in said court in Hill City, Graham County, Kansas. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

Golden Plains Credit Union, Plaintiff

Tomas Ellis, No. 27235
KENNEDY BERKLEY, P.A.
212 W. PINE STREET
GARDEN CITY, KANSAS 67846
(Tel.) (785) 825-4674
(Fax) (785) 825-5936
HYPERLINK "mailto:tellis@kenberk.com" tellis@kenberk.com
Attorneys for Plaintiff - GPCU

NW KANSAS PRODUCERS NEEDED

Do you grow produce in Northwest Kansas? AmberMed is looking for more local growers to fill produce boxes with locally grown fruits and vegetables as part of their USDA GusNIP grant to improve nutrition for qualifying youth in 2026.

Any size producer is welcome.

To learn more about AmberMed's ambitious 'Produce Prescription for Frontier Kids' grant:
<https://ambermed.com/> 785-677-4160 text 249
jodi.dumler@ambermed.com

Interested Producers Fill Out Survey Below
https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_e9zWwUuPyn0GJCH4

Legal Notice

(First Published in The Hill City Times on Wednesday, January 28, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF GRAHAM COUNTY, KANSAS - PROBATE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of

**BONITA CHARLENE HOCKER BRUTON
CASSANDRA CAY BRUTON, and
PHILLIP ELIJAH BRUTON Case No. GH-2026-PR-03**

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in this Court by Tyce Hocker Bruton, praying for the determination of descent of the following described property:

An interest in and to the surface rights only and an interest in and to the mineral minerals and mineral rights as to a tract of land located in the Southwest Quarter (SW/4) of Section Thirty-Five (35), Township Eight (8) South, Range Twenty-Two (22) West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Graham County, Kansas, more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point 577.5 feet South and 660 feet East of the Northwest corner (NW/c) of the Southwest Quarter (SW/4) of Section Thirty-Five (35), Township Eight (8) South, Range Twenty-Two (22) West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Graham County, Kansas; thence East a distance of 742.5 feet to a point; thence South a distance of 825 feet to a point; thence West a distance of 742.5 feet to a point; thence North a distance of 825 feet to the point of beginning, said tract containing 14.0625 acres, more or less. Said tract of real estate includes an easement approximately 30 feet in width for the purpose of ingress and egress commencing approximately at a point 577.5 feet South of the Northwest corner (NW/c) of the Southwest Quarter (SW/4) of Section Thirty-Five (35), Township Eight (8) South, Range Twenty-Two (22) West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Graham County, Kansas, and

An interest in surface rights as to the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (SW /4SE/4) and Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SE /4SW / 4) of Section Thirty-Four (34), Township Eight (8) South, Range Twenty-Two (22) West of the Sixth Principal Meridian Graham County, Kansas, and a tract of land in the West Half of the Southwest Quarter (W/2 SW/4) of Section Thirty-Four (34), Township Eight (8) South, Range Twenty-Two (22) West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Graham County, Kansas, commencing at the Southeast corner (SE/c) of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SW/4SW/4) of said Section Thirty-Four (34); thence due North along the East line of said Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (SW/4SW/4) of said Section Thirty-Four (34) a distance of 1,854 feet to a point; thence West a distance of 825 feet to a point; thence South a distance of 864 feet, more or less, to a point which is the Northeast corner (NE/c) of that certain tract described in the Joint Tenancy Warranty Deeds recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Graham County, Kansas, in Book 266 at Page 793, 794, and 795; thence East a distance of 660 feet to a point thence South a distance of 990 feet to a point on the South line of said Southwest Quarter (SW/4) of said Section Thirty-Four (34) Township Eight (8) South Range, Twenty-Four (24) West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Graham County, Kansas; thence East a distance of 165 feet to the point of beginning; and A tract lying adjacent to the West boundary line of that certain tract described in the Joint Tenancy Warranty Deeds recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Graham County, Kansas, in Book 266 at Page 793, 764, and 795 to include the real estate lying West to and including the now existing tree row.

An interest in the mineral rights and mineral rights only as to a tract of land located in the Southwest Quarter (SW/4) of Section Thirty-four (34), Township Eight (8) South, Range Twenty-Two (22) West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Graham County, Kansas, more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point 1485 feet West of the Southeast corner (SE/c) of the Southwest Quarter (SW/4) of Section Thirty-Four (34), Township Eight (8) South, Range Twenty-Two (22) West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Graham County, Kansas; thence North 990 feet to a point; thence West 660 feet to a point; thence South 990 feet to the Section line bordering the Southwest Quarter (SW/4) of Section Thirty-Four (34), Township Eight (8) South, Range Twenty-Two (22) West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Graham County, Kansas; thence East along said section line a distance of 660 feet to the point of beginning, containing 15 acres, more or less.

And interest in term mineral rights as to mineral interests as to the South Half (S/2) of Section Thirty-Four (34), Township Eight (8) South, Range Twenty-Two (22) West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Graham County, Kansas, LESS AND EXCEPT the 15-acre tract described above.

and all other property, real and personal, or interest therein owned by Bonita Charlene Hocker Bruton, Cassandra Cay Bruton and Phillip Elijah Bruton at the time of their deaths; and you are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before February 25, 2026, at 10:00 am, of said day in said Graham County District Court, in the City of Hill City in Graham County, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

**Tyce Hocker Bruton
Petitioner**

**Karen L. Griffiths #9919
SEBELIUS, GRIFFITHS & HORN, LLP**
P. O. Box 10
Norton, KS 67654-0010
Phone: 785-877-5143
Fax: 785-877-3456
karengriffiths@sebeliusandgriffiths.com
Attorneys for Petitioner

Insight/page 4

of blessings being part of a small community, and the support that's provided to our kids is one of the greatest. "Insight" is a weekly column published by Kansas Farm Bureau, the state's largest farm organization whose mission is to strengthen agriculture and the lives of Kansans through advocacy, education and service.

Legal Notice

(First Published in The Hill City Times on Wednesday, February 4, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF GRAHAM COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of David Chalfant, Deceased Case No. GH-2026-PR-00004

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS, TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Joni Chalfant, spouse and one of the heirs of David Chalfant, deceased, requesting:

Descent be determined of the following described real estate situated in Graham County, Kansas:

South Half (S/2) and Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of Section Four (4), Township Eight (8) South, Range Twenty-two (22) West of the 61h P.M., Graham County, Kansas; and East Half (E/2) of Section Five (5), Township Eight (8) South, Range Twenty- two (22) West of the 6th P.M., Graham County, Kansas.

And all personal property and other Kansas real estate owned by decedent at the time of death. And that such property and all personal property and other Kansas real estate owned by the decedent at the time of death be assigned pursuant to the laws of intestate succession.

You are required to file your written defenses to the Petition on or before Thursday, March 5, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. in the District Court of GRAHAM County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail to file your written defenses, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

**Joni Chalfant
Petitioner**

Prepared by:
Jill Elliott #21719
Elliott Law Office, PA
301 N. Pomeroy Ave.
P.O. Box 128
Hill City, Kansas 67642
(785) 421-2288: Telephone
jill@jillelliottlaw.com
Attorney for Petitioner

Legal Notice

(First Published in The Hill City Times on Wednesday, February 4, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF GRAHAM COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of SYLVANUS ROME, Deceased Case No. GH-2026-PR-000005

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on 29th, day of January 2026, a Petition was filed in this Court by James Rome praying that the Last Will and Testament of Sylvanus Rome filed with the Petition be admitted to probate and record; that petitioner, James Rome be appointed as executor, without bond; and that petitioner be granted Letters Testamentary.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before the 5th day of March, 2026, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. in the District Court, Hill City, Graham County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the petition.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within four months from the date of the first publication of this notice, as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

James Rome, Petitioner

**ROBERT M. BERLAND #21856
BERLAND LAW OFFICE, LLC**
P.O. Box 38
Hill City, KS 67642
(785) 421-2144
Attorney for Estate

Legal Notice

(First Published in The Hill City Times on Wednesday, February 4, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF GRAHAM COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of David Chalfant, Deceased Case No. GH-2026-PR-00004

**ORDER FOR HEARING AND FOR
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

This Order is effective as of the date and time shown on the electronic file stamp.

NOW, the Court finds that the Petition for Determination of Descent filed herein by Jill Elliott, should be heard on Thursday, March 5, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. in this court and that notice of the time and place of hearing be given pursuant to K.S.A. 59-2209; and notice to creditors shall be given pursuant to K.S.A. 59-709 and 59-2236.

All instruments required by K.S.A. 59-2209 to be included with the Notice shall be served on all interested parties, and the Affidavit of Service shall so reflect, provided however, the Petitioner shall be excused from physically attaching to the Affidavit of Service copies of all instruments other than the Notice.

IT IS SO ORDERED.
SUBMITTED BY:

Jill Elliott #21719
Elliott Law Office, PA
301 N. Pomeroy Ave.
P.O. Box 128
Hill City, Kansas 67642
(785) 421-2288: Telephone
jill@jillelliottlaw.com
Attorney for Petitioner

Legal Notice

(First Published in The Hill City Times on Wednesday, February 11, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF GRAHAM COUNTY, KANSAS Board of Commissioners

Board of Commissioners
of Graham County, Kansas,
v.
A & R Investments, LLC, et al.,

Plaintiffs,
Case # GH-2025-CV-01
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SUIT

STATE OF KANSAS TO:

- Tract # 2: ACR Land Trust
- Tract # 3: Gregory Alexander
- Tract # 4: Jon J. Bradshaw, Sandra Bradshaw
- Tract # 5: Jon J. Bradshaw, Sandra Bradshaw, Citizens State Bank
- Tract # 6: Romell Bullock
- Tract # 7: Doug David, Stephanie Ann David, Guaranty State Bank & Trust Co
- Tract # 8: F. Richard Gansel, June M. Gansel
- Tract # 19: Jason Kenneth Hall
- Tract # 20: Joshua David Helfrich
- Tract # 21: Jesse O Jones,
- Tract # 24: Erica C. Knoll
- Tract # 25: Lawrence Adams, Norma Jean Adams aka Norma Jean Shower, John Showers, Kenney Showers, Steven Showers, Douglas Showers, Cathy Logan, Jennifer L. Showers, Justin L. Showers; Jessica E. Showers, Jordyn P. Showers, Sherry E. Showers, Michelle E. Wiltfong, Devra C. Dobbins, James H. Showers
- Tract # 26: Thomas R. Miller, Sharon Miller, Blair I. Weinau
- Tract # 27: Charles Edward Morris
- Tract # 28: Lynn Paul Prochazka
- Tract # 30: Glenda Browning Peltier
- Tract # 31: Reichert Living Trust utd 4-22-16, Reichert Living Trust utd 4-22-16
- Tract # 32: Roberta Rena Robinson
- Tract # 33: Rock Creek Farms, Inc., American Mortgage Company
- Tract # 39 & 40: Leroy H. Van Duvall Revocable Trust utd 10-25-11
- Tract # 43 & 44: Mary E. Pryor, Roberts Charles Webb Revocable Living Trust utd 9-3-13
- Tract # 45: Twillia O. Wilson
- Tract # 46: Alva D. Winters II

if the above defendants are living, and if dead, then their unknown spouses, heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, successors and assigns; and

The unknown executors, guardians and trustees of such of the above named defendants who are minors or are in anywise under legal disability; and

The unknown executors, administrators, trustees, creditors, successors of such defendants as are or were partners or in partnership; and

The unknown executors, administrators, trustees, creditors, successors, receivers and assigns of any of the above named defendants who are or were existing, dissolved or dormant corporations; and

The unknown spouses of the defendants, and all other persons concerned,

Defendants.

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in the District Court of Graham County, Kansas, by the Board of Commissioners of Graham County, Kansas, praying for judicial foreclosure and sale of real property upon which there is unpaid delinquent real estate taxes, and you are hereby required to plead the said petition on or before April 2, 2026, in said Court in Hill City, Kansas. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition. The following are descriptions of all properties which shall be subject to foreclosure and sale and the names of such of you as are the owner, or a party having some interest therein:

Tract # 2: #3781 (Parcel 1) and 3782 (Parcel 2) -

Parcel 1: A portion of Block Twenty-six (26), Town of Morland, County of Graham, State of Kansas, more particularly described as follows: Considering the North line of said Block 26 to bear an assumed bearing of North 90°00'00" West with all bearings contained herein relative thereto. Beginning at the Northwest corner of said Block 26, thence along the West line of said Block 26, South 00°04'04" West 68.60 feet; thence along an exterior building wall to the East, North 89°34'02" East 169.62 feet to a point on an interior building wall; thence along interior building walls the following 6 courses, South 00°36'41" West 25.53 feet; thence South 89°23'19" East 7.28 feet; thence South 00°36'41" West 8.91 feet; thence South 89°23'19" East 5.89 feet; thence South 00°36'41" West 14.03 feet; thence South 89°23'19" East 15.51 feet to a point on an exterior building wall; thence along said wall, South 00°16'50" East 14.12 feet; thence North 89°38'46" East 45.28 feet to the Southwesterly corner of Tract 3 shown on Survey recorded in Book 254, Page 575, March 9th 2012; thence along the Westerly line of said Tract the following 3 courses, North 00°21'14" West 32.50 feet; thence South 89°38'46" West 37.61 feet; thence North 00°20'28" West 97.66 feet to the North line of said Block 26; thence along said North line, North 90°00'00" West 204.65 feet to the point of beginning.

SUBJECT TO AN ACCESS EASEMENT.

Parcel 2: A Portion of Block Twenty-six (26), Town of Morland, County of Graham, State of Kansas, more particularly described as follows: Considering the North line of said Block 26 to bear an assumed bearing of North 90°00'00" West with all bearings contained herein relative thereto. Commencing at the Northwest corner of said Block 26, thence along the West line of said Block 26, South 00°04'04" West 68.60 feet; thence North 89°34'02" East 120.98 feet to the point of beginning; thence along an exterior building wall to the East, North 89°34'02" East 48.64 feet to a point on an interior building wall; thence along interior building walls the following 6 courses, South 00°36'41" West 25.53 feet; thence South 89°23'19" East 7.28 feet; thence South 00°36'41" West 8.91 feet; thence South 89°23'19" East 5.89 feet; thence South 00°36'41" West 14.03 feet; thence South 89°23'19" East 15.51 feet to a point on an exterior building wall; thence along said wall, South 00°16'50" East 14.12 feet; thence North 89°38'46" East 27.16 feet to the Northwest corner of Tract 2 shown on Survey recorded in Book 254, Page 575, March 9th, 2012; thence along the West lines of Tracts 1 & 2 shown on said Survey, South 00°02'56" East 189.94 feet to the South line of said Block 26; thence along said South line, South 89°57'04" West 76.14 feet to the Southeast corner of Tract 4 shown on said Survey; thence North 00°02'56" West 44.57 feet to the Northeast corner of said Tract 4; thence along the North line of said Tract 4, North 89°55'56" West 26.83 feet; thence North 00°19'28" West 207.76 feet to the point of beginning.

TOGETHER WITH AN ACCESS EASEMENT.

ACCESS EASEMENT DESCRIPTION- An easement for the purpose of ingress and egress over and across a portion of Block 26, Town of Morland, County of Graham, State of Kansas, more particularly described as follows: Considering the North line of said Block 26 to bear an assumed bearing of North 90°00'00" West with all bearings contained herein relative thereto. Commencing at the Northwest corner of said Block 26; thence along the North line of said Block 26, North 90°00'00" East 146.63 feet to the Westerly edge of an existing concrete sidewalk; said point being also the point of beginning; thence more or less along said Westerly edge, South 00°01'21" East 67.49 feet to the North line of Tract 2 described above; thence along said

North line, North 89°34'02" East 22.88 feet; thence North 00°36'41" East 15.56 feet; thence South 89°40'15" West 14.75 feet to the Easterly edge of said concrete sidewalk; thence more or less along said Easterly edge, North 00°01'21" West 51.84 feet to the North line of said Block 26; thence along said North line, North 90°00'00" West 8.30 feet to the point of beginning.

Tract # 3: #R1127 - SW/4 of 21-7-21, Graham County, Kansas.

Tract # 4: #R3164 - The Surface rights only in and to a tract of land beginning at a point 466.7 feet West of the Northeast corner (NE/c) of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NW/4NE/4) of Section Fourteen (14), Township Eight (8) South, Range Twenty-three (23) West of the 6th PM, Graham County, Kansas, thence West 51 feet, thence South 466.7 feet, thence East 51 feet, thence North 466.7 feet to the point of beginning. The above tract is also described in the certificate appearing in the abstract as Tract No. 8-A, 1974 Addition, Ordinance No. 579 of the City of Hill City, Graham County, Kansas, and The tract is also described as Tract No. 3 of Ordinance No. 579 of the City of Hill City, Graham County, Kansas.

Tract # 5: #R3189 - Lots 21 and 23, Block 6, McGill's Addition to the City of Hill City, Graham County Kansas and a strip of real estate approximately 10 feet wide adjoining the west side of said lot 23, said strip being vacated pursuant to Hill City ordinance 352.

Tract # 6: #R2310 - Lots 21 and 23, Block 16, original town, now City of Hill City, Graham County Kansas.

Tract # 7: #R471 - A portion of the Northeast Quarter (NE/4) and of the South Half (S/2) of Section Thirty-one (31), Township Six (6) South, Range Twenty-four (24) West of the 6th PM, County of Graham, State of Kansas, more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the Southeast corner of said Section 31 and considering the East line of said Section 31 to bear an assumed bearing of North 00°00'00" East with all bearings contained herein relative thereto; thence along said East line, North 00°00'00" East 2227.22 feet; thence South 89°51'43" West 469.79 feet; thence North 86°33'40" West 403.11 feet; thence North 43°02'28" West 441.08 feet; thence North 34°52'18" West 267.48 feet; thence North 04°25'59" West 248.50 feet; thence North 17°45'00" West 130.07 feet; thence North 40°27'08" West 243.57 feet; thence North 39°31'22" West 268.44 feet; thence North 01°19'54" East 401.63 feet; thence North 06°35'30" West 1193.98 feet; thence North 89°46'05" East 105.19 feet; thence North 00°13'55" West 133.26 feet to the North line of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 31; thence along said North line, South 89°46'05" West 900.72 feet to the Northwest corner of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 31; thence along the West line of said Northeast Quarter, South 00°02'16" East 2116.24 feet; thence North 88°57'45" East 919.92 feet; thence South 00°12'23" East 324.71 feet; thence South 51°53'29" West 196.47 feet; thence South 06°19'46" East 316.23 feet; thence South 22°19'24" East 134.70 feet; thence South 02°17'56" East 303.79 feet; thence South 54°17'11" West 207.24 feet; thence South 81°30'43" West 135.57 feet; thence South 11°13'29" West 89.77 feet; thence South 16°29'33" West 393.04 feet; thence South 37°43'40" West 57.05 feet; thence South 58°38'53" West 504.99 feet; thence along a curve to the Right with a Radius of 2581.20 feet, a Chord Bearing of South 32°13'46" West and a Chord of 438.39 feet; thence South 17°38'40" West 570.61 feet to the South line of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 31; thence along said South line, North 89°41'40" East 685.44 feet to the Southwest corner of the Southeast Quarter of said Section 31; thence along the South line of said Southeast Quarter, North 89°41'40" East 2634.23 feet to the point of beginning.

Tract # 8: R1836 - Beginning at a point 330 ft west of the northeast corner of the W/2 NW/4 of 18-8-22, Graham County Kansas, thence 165 feet west along the north line of said section 18, thence 528 ft south on a line parallel to the east line of the W/2 NW/4 thence 165 feet east, thence 528 feet north to the point of beginning.

Tract # 19: #R3821 - Lots 1, 2 and 3, Block 31 in the original town of Fremont, now called the City of Morland, Graham County, Kansas.

Tract # 20: #R-2216 - East 52 feet of Lots 2, 4 and 6, Block 17 in Garnett's Addition to the City of Hill City, Graham County, Kansas.

Tract # 21: #R4212 - E/2 12-9-23, Graham County Kansas

Tract # 24: #R3817 - E/2 of lot 17 and all of lots 18, 19 and 20, Block 30, Original town of Fremont now called the City of Morland, Graham County Kansas.

Tract # 25: #R1501 - W/2 of Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Block 33, original town, now City of Bogue, Graham County, Kansas.

Tract # 26: #R1572 - W 82 feet of Lots 10, 11 and 12, Block 24 in the City of Bogue, Graham County, Kansas.

Tract # 27: #R302311 - A leasehold improvement - # 9 hangar at Hill City Airport, Graham County, Kansas

Tract # 28: #R2597 - Lots 1, 3 and 5, Block 2, Sandford's Addition to the City of Hill City, Graham County, Kansas.

Tract # 30: #R2955 - Lots 8, 10 and 12, Block 4, Sanford's and Crawford's Addition to the City of Hill City, Graham County, Kansas.

Tract # 31: #R2148 - Lot 16, Hillcrest Addition to the City of Hill City, Graham County Kansas.

Tract # 32: #R304788 - Lot 18, Block 9 in the town of Nicodemus, Graham County, Kansas.

Tract # 33: #R839 - S/2 and E/2 NE/4 28-7-24, Graham County, Kansas.

Tract # 39: #R1148 - W/2 NW/4 23-7-21 Graham County, Kansas less a tract beginning at the southwest corner of the W/2 NW/4 thence east 336 feet, thence north 1000 feet thence west 336 feet, thence south 1000 feet to the point of beginning.

Tract # 40: #R1209 - NW/4 SW/4 1-8-21, Graham County, Kansas.

Tract # 43: #R1065 - NW/4 29-7-22, Graham County, Kansas.

Tract # 44: #R1067 - E/2 NE/4 and NW/4 NE/4 and NE/4 NW/4 30-7-22, Graham County, Kansas.

Tract # 45: #R1272 - Lots 23 and 24, Block 12, in the town of Nicodemus, Graham County Kansas.

Tract # 46: #R2950 - Lots 1, 3, and 5 and the east five feet of Lot 7, Block 4, Sanford's and Crawford's Addition to the City of Hill City, Graham County, Kansas.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
GRAHAM COUNTY, KANSAS.

APPROVED:
Michael Abbott
Graham County Attorney

2026 Graham County Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge

We're excited to announce the 2026 Graham County Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge!

This exciting competition gives middle and high school students in Graham County the chance to bring their business ideas to life, pitch to judges, showcase at a tradeshow, and win prizes!

Event Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2026

Location: 1 Ringneck Drive, Hill City, KS

Competition Includes:

- Written Executive Summary
- Formal Pitch to Judges
- Tradeshow Exhibit

Prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place!
Open to students eager to learn, create, and compete!
*Free to enter — no entry fee!

Whether you're building a business concept, refining your pitch, or just curious about entrepreneurship, this is your chance to shine and gain real-world experience!

Learn more & register: <https://goventuredash.com/competitions/794>

Have questions or want to volunteer as a judge or mentor? Let us know!

#GrahamCountyYEC #YouthEntrepreneurship #FutureBusinessLeaders #EntrepreneurshipChallenge

Legal Notice

(First Published in The Hill City Times on Wednesday, February 4, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF GRAHAM COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of
John Cameron Swayze, Jr., Deceased
Case No. GH-2026-PR-000006

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS, TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Clare Madeline Swayze, wife and one of the heirs of John Cameron Swayze, Jr., deceased, requesting:

Descent be determined of the following described real estate situated in Graham County, Kansas:

The Southwest Quarter (SW/4) of Section Ten (10), Township Nine (9) South, Range Twenty-Two (22) West of the 6th P.M., Graham County, Kansas

And all personal property and other Kansas real estate owned by decedent at the time of death. And that such property and all personal property and other Kansas real estate owned by the decedent at the time of death be assigned pursuant to the laws of intestate succession.

You are required to file your written defenses to the Petition on or before Thursday, March 5, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. in the District Court of Graham County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail to file your written defenses, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

Clare Madeline Swayze,
Petitioner

Prepared by:
Jill Elliott #21719
Elliott Law Office, PA
301 N. Pomeroy Ave.
P.O. Box 128
Hill City, Kansas 67642
(785) 421-2288: Telephone
jill@jillelliottlaw.com
Attorney for Petitioner

Legal Notice

(First Published in The Hill City Times on Wednesday, February 4, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF GRAHAM COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of
John Cameron Swayze, Jr., Deceased
Case No. GH-2026-PR-000006

ORDER FOR HEARING AND FOR NOTICE TO CREDITORS

This Order is effective as of the date and time shown on the electronic file stamp.

NOW, the Court finds that the Petition for Determination of Descent filed herein by Jill Elliott, should be heard on Thursday, March 5, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. in this court and that notice of the time and place of hearing be given pursuant to K.S.A. 59-2209; and notice to creditors shall be given pursuant to K.S.A. 59-709 and 59-2236.

All instruments required by K.S.A. 59-2209 to be included with the Notice shall be served on all interested parties, and the Affidavit of Service shall so reflect, provided however, the Petitioner shall be excused from physically attaching to the Affidavit of Service copies of all instruments other than the Notice.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

SUBMITTED BY:



Jill Elliott #21719
Elliott Law Office, PA
301 N. Pomeroy Ave.
P.O. Box 128
Hill City, Kansas 67642
(785) 421-2288: Telephone
jill@jillelliottlaw.com
Attorney for Petitioner

MCL wrestling results

Once again the toughest league tournament in the state.

MCL wrestling results.

- 106 - Shaun Jewell 4th
- 113- Nolan Morris 4th
- 126 - Ryan Budig CHAMPION
- 150 - Tate Balthazor 4th
- 165 - Jaxson Smith Runner Up
- 215 - Aiden Hall 4th

- 115 - Kya Bell CHAMPION
- 120 - Sarah Christian - 4th



Kya bell champion. 115 MCL girls finals held in Wakeoney



Jaxson Smith - Runner Up



Ryan Budig - Champion



Sarah Christian - 4th



Tate Balthazar - 4th



Aiden Hall - 4th



Sean Jewell - 4th

Onaga duals Runner up, high school



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MARTIN FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION

Monday, February 16th, 2026 – 10:00 am
 7710 WCR 62, Windsor, CO 80550

4 Miles East of I-25 on Hwy. 34 to WCR 17 then North 1 Mile to WCR 62/E. Crossroads Blvd. then West ¼ Mile to Sale Site.

On Site Auction with Live and Pre-Auction Internet Bidding Items without internet bidding capabilities start at 10:00 am, items with internet bidding capabilities sell at approximately 1:00 pm.

Tractors, Wheel Loader, Trucks & Trailer sell after equip (Online Bidding Available)-02 Challenger MT755, 3pt w/QH, Big 1000 PTO, 4hyd, 300gal frnt tnk & 400gal sde tnks, Trmble auto steer equip w/CFX750 mnt & AG25 RTK rcvr, 5,792hrs, 2nd ownr-91 Case IH Magnum 7140 MFWD, PS, 3pt w/QH, Big 1000 PTO, 3hyd, 380/90R46 dls, 6,497hrs-92 Case IH Magnum 7120 MFWD, PS, 3pt w/QH, dual PTO, 3hyd, 380/90R46 dls, 12,694hrs, 2nd ownr-92 Case IH Maxxum 5250 2wd, PS w/LHR, 3pt, dl PTO, 3hyd, 300/95R46 dls & 18.4-38 sncls, 10k hrs, 2nd ownr-FH SL945 self-lvng ldr, fits CIH 5250-82 IH 1486 2wd, TA, 3pt, dl PTO, 3hyd, 8,129hrs, 18.4R38 dls, 2nd Ownr-79 IH 986 2wd, TA, 3pt, dl PTO, 3hyd 16.9-38 dls, 11k hrs, 1 Ownr-65 FA 806 dsl, TA, 3pt, dl PTO, 2hyd, Cab, 13.6-38 dls, 12k hrs-79 IH 686 dsl, 3pt, 540 PTO, 2hyd, 12.4-38 rub, 7,366 hrs, 2nd Ownr-79 Int 515 whl ldr, 1.5yd bckt & bckt mnt hay spear, 15.5-25 rub-93 Int 8100 TS w/Aulick 2067 bx, slge racks, combo end gte, L10 Cum, 9spd, 427,840 mi, 2nd ownr truck, 1 ownr bx-80 Int 2155 TS w/Aulick 2067 bx, RO tarp, DT466, 13spd, 293,799 mi-55 Chevy 6400 SA w/14' beet bx, sde hoist, 235 inlne 6cyl, 4&2spd, oldr restrtrn-98 Int 8100 day cab semi, dl lne wet kit, Cum M-11, 9spd, 310,282 mi-02 Aeroswint 102"x30' frmd end dmp, spmg ride, slge rcks-Harvest, Hayng, Plantng, Tillage & Support Equip sell at approx 1:00 (Online Bidding Available)-99 JD 9510 cmbne, chppr & sprdr, bin exts, rock trap, slow dwn kit, 800/65R32 rub, 5214/3745hrs-JD 822 corn hd, plstc snouts, oil bath-JD 643 corn hd, low tin, dry chn-JD 925 gm pltfm, PU reel, fore & aft-JD 224 pltfm w/Sund 22' PU plus reel & sckle-JD 218 pltfm w/Sund 14' PU plus reel & sckle-E-ZTrail 500 gm crt-Alloway BT156 6R22' beet dggr-new roll 42"x½" bltd chn-ArtsWay Heath 736A 6R22' defoliator w/scpr-FH F808 beet crt-Heath 1028 8R22' one stppr-UFT 6R22' bn ctnr-Harriston 5200 8R bn rod-3pt 14' bn rod-Innes 400-AR 3pt bn wndrwr-Westgo 1010 10'x60' pto aug-Hutchinson 6"x36" pto aug-JD 7300 12R22' plntr, trsh whps, var rate liq fert, lft assist-White 6700 12R22' plntr, lft assist-NI Kinze 3pt 6R30 plntr-JD 71 Flex 12R22' stack fld plntr-JD 71 3pt 6R22' plntr-(2) Int Cyclo 500 plntrs-JD 8300 7.5' x 12' DD gm drll w/aliffa bx & agitator-Case IH 8585 3x4 blr, rlr chte, 49-50k bales-Hesston 4590 inlne sm sq blr-Hesston 1160 14' hydro swng swthr-Hesston 3983 12 whl hay rake-NH 56 side dlrvy hay rake-FH hay tddr-Brillion Land Commander 9 shnk dsc rppr, independent dsc dpth-Brillion Commander 16' pckr-Brillion WL-03 24' pncke fld mlchr, dbl pckr whls, S-lines-Brillion 14' inbrd mlchr, dbl pckr whls, S-lines-Schlagel 3pt 12R22' Strip-till'r w/bldr attach-Case IH 165 7 btm 16" RO plw-Int 155 5 btm 16" RO plw-Int 140 4 btm 18" RO plw-Johnson 3pt 7 shnk V-rppr-Case IH 496 18' tndm dsc-Int 10' tndm dsc-Noble 24' PT S-tine fld cult w/lflng bsks-Noble 3pt 18' S-tine fld cult w/2 bar hrrws-White 385 3pt 18' sprng shnk field cult w/2 bar hrrws-BushHog 22' hvy hrrw-13 Schmeiser 3pt 22' fld rlr-3pt 6R22' rlr bddr-7' & 9' fld rlr-Noble 3pt 12R22' cult-3pt 12R22' cult-Alloway 3pt 6R22' cult-3pt triple bar 6R22' cult-Brillion 3pt 6R30' cult-JD 3pt 12' T bar-3pt 6R dsl sid dtchr bar-(2) 3pt 12' dbl tool bars-JD 400 3pt 14' rtry hoe-3pt 6' rtry hoe-3pt 6R22' crrgrt-3pt 22' 4x7 fldng tool bar-3pt 22' dbl tool bar-3pt 20' T bar-MF 3pt 12' T bar-11' & 13' fngr weeders-Eversman 130 3pt lead dggr-3 sect spke tooth drg hrrw-MF 8' rppr-JD 940 12' land plne-Eversman 3212 land plne-Brady 5630 6R stck chppr wndrwr-FH 545 mnre bx on 4 whl running gear-JD 410 aug wgn-Bear Cat prtble hmr mill-JD 10' dzer blde-JD 4 whl running gear w/20' fltbd-Harsh 3pt weed bmr-SB Silver Jet weed bmr-Kuker 500gal PT spry, 45' boom-Wyo sprys 120gal field spry, 12R22' boom, Honda mtr-Modern Ag Predator 3pt 8' rtry mwr-TrailBlazer 3pt 6' rtry mwr-Eversman 3pt 7' dbl cyl dtch V-SB 3pt plstc dtch lyr-PT 77' pckr-Sidewinder RD16 3pt pwr dtchr-SB 3pt trck clsr-3pt 8 dsc rdgr-Coontz 3pt 6' hyd blde-3pt 8' blde-Big R 3pt PH dggr w/9' aug-Big Valley 3pt md bale carrier-3pt 1R dtchr-JD #5 7' sckle mwr-8' dry fert. sprdr-antique wood bx mnre sprdr-Monitor wd bx gm drll-ATV's, Fuel Tanks, Water Pumps & Hog Floors sell at approx 1:00 (Online Bidding Available)-14.9R46 tires-Firestone 15.5-38 clmp on dls-(2) 12.4R46 tires-(2) 15.5x38 tires on rims-assorted snle rib trctr tires-15.5-38 tires on rims-15.5-38 tires on rims-12.4x42 Case IH rims-vehicle & truck tires-300gal sddle tnks w/Int mnts-220gal sddle tnks w/Int mnts- 300gal frnt mnt tnk w/Magnum mnts-(5) haystck bcktps-hay trps-cattle & hog pnls-Pearson sqze chte-(2) rnd hog fdrs-dbl sided crp fdr-T-pts-(2) lgloo dog hses-(2) wstrm sddles- misc livestock supplies & vac guns-assrmtnt cattle show tack-several hundred 1/2" to 6" irr tubes-3" & 4" drag line irr pipe-6" alum gtd pipe-10" alum gtd pipe-8" PVC gtd pipe-PVC & alum pipe fittings-P&R surge vlvs-pipe socks-dtch clnrs-cement dtch gts-corrugated clvrts-Super Glide 5th whl htch-new intercooler for 6.7L PS-79 CJ7 Jeep seats & cab-ATV sprys-Automatic spry-several garden wgn-black poly sprnkir pipe-Honda 90 3 whlr-(2) Coronado cream separators-SB grvty bx basketball game-several tons scrap iron-Plus More

Owners: Loren & Kim, Melvin & Nancy Martin

Note:Melvin started farming in 1956 and Loren joined him in 1980. Though Melvin has been all but retired, he still assisted Loren with harvest including this past fall. The Martin's have been farming where the sale is to be held for 51 years. Loren and Kim have decided it is now time for them to retire from farming, pursue other interests, and spend more time with the grandkids. Over the years the Martin's have done most of their own mechanic work on the equipment and it is all in good working order and ready to go to the field. Don't miss this two-generation retirement farm sale. Plan to attend! Loader available on auction day and the next day 10am – 2pm. Lunch available auction day.

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GRAHAM COUNTY'S PAST

IN PRINTER'S INK

VERA FISCHER, GH CO. HISTORICAL SOCIETY



125 years ago - Feb. 7, 1901

The People's Reveille

Three tramps struck Hill City last Saturday and asked for lodging of the Mayor. He assigned them to quarters in the jail and provided them with food.

Monday morning they were put to work on the streets shoveling snow and in the afternoon left town. Two of them seemed to appreciate the assistance of the officials and did not appear to be professional tramps

100 years ago - Feb. 4, 1926

The Reveille New Era

Word comes from Lawrence that all of the Hill City students made high semester grades and passed with honors to spare. At one of the houses where two of our Hill City students room, three out of the seven were sent home on account of failing grades, but our folks are all on the honored side and we are proud of them, "U Bet".

75 years ago - Feb. 1, 1951

The Hill City Times

The Graham County commissioners have changed their Friday meeting date to Thursday. They are now in session on Mondays, all day, and on Thursday afternoons, at the court house in Hill City.

50 Years ago - Feb. 5, 1976

The Hill City Times

Three Graham County young people served recently as pages in the Kansas House of Representatives.

They were selected for that honor by Arnold Anderson, State Representative for Graham, Gove, Logan and Trego counties. Those selected were Madonna Farrell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Farrell of Hill City, Annette Keith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Everette Keith of Penokee and Steve Schlingloff, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Schlingloff of Hill City.

25 Years ago - Feb. 7, 2001

The Hill City Times

Members of the Hill City FFA Chapter conducted Opening and Closing ceremonies for the 56th Annual Meeting of the Graham County Conservation District on January 29, 2001. The FFA members included; James Meis, Dawn McAmoil, Kaci Davignon, Tressie Bryant, Amanda Stinemetz and Travis Bryant.

Commission/page 3

unable to obtain approval from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation, the earliest they would be notified of grant approval would be February 20, 2026. She added that she asked Rusty how this would affect the project start date, and he indicated it would likely push the start of the project to mid-March. Kristen reported that Corina with Northwest Kansas Planning and Development is confident the Health Department will be approved for a grant through the Dane G. Hansen Foundation. Kristen stated she felt it was wise to wait, as this would also provide her with the opportunity to apply for additional grants. The Commissioners agreed it was best for Rusty to wait to start the project until they hear back on the Dane G. Hansen grant decision. Kristen informed the Commissioners that the WIC dietitian was meeting with them today and expressed hope to expand nutrition services beyond WIC patients. Commissioner Irby asked where the dietitian was based, and Kristen responded she is with Green Leaf Nutrition out of Hays. Kristen reported that they have cleared out the storage unit and are now storing those items, along with their Christmas decorations, at the old clinic building.

New Business, Part 2

Clerk Kendra informed the Commissioners that she spoke with Bobbie Jo, the Treasurer from Osborne County, after spending a day assisting in the Treasurer's Office. Kendra reported that Bobbie Jo stated it will take a significant amount of work and time to get the Treasurer's Office caught up. Kendra further reported that Bobbie Jo expressed her willingness to assist the incoming Treasurer and provide training to current employees. Bobbie Jo also indicated she would allow the Board to determine appropriate compensation for her assistance. Kendra reported that the Treasurer's Office is currently working on completing

the distribution and is awaiting assistance from the computer software company, CIC. She stated they are also waiting to address the checks that need to be canceled or voided by direction from County Attorney Michael Abbott. Kendra further reported that staff are working on the tax roll, which is nearly complete, and that the Heritage Trust Fund has been caught up.

Graham County Road & Bridge Supervisor - Wayne Pfeifer

Clerk Robinson presented Wayne with an employment application upon his arrival. She reported that he does not currently hold a CDL but stated he would be more than willing to obtain one. Wayne reported he did not have much to update other than that he currently has three trucks in operation. The Commissioners discussed the potential purchase of new trucks and pricing. Wayne also reported they are hoping to complete 8 Mile Road today and begin work on J Road tomorrow, weather permitting. Wayne asked the Board if Doug Pratt would still be at the Road & Bridge Department tomorrow. Commissioner Irby confirmed that Doug Pratt will be there at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 21, 2026.

New Business, Part 3

The Commissioners discussed the purchase of new trucks for the Road & Bridge Department and agreed they should not spend more than \$30,000-\$40,000 per truck. Commissioner Irby asked if the Community Development Director would be back in the office tomorrow, as he had questions regarding the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP). Clerk Kendra stated she was unsure.

Graham County Treasurer Employees - Kelli VanLoenen & Brianna Edwards

Commissioner Irby reported that, as of the end of the day Wednesday, the County will be without a Treasurer and that all Treasurer's Office operations should cease until the

new Treasurer takes office. Commissioner Irby asked Kelli to gather all loose funds, including cash and checks, and place them in a secure location with a detailed inventory of all items collected. Kelli agreed. Brianna asked if she could continue working on bank reconciliations while the office is closed. The Commissioners agreed this was a good plan and also supported Kelli continuing to stay current with daily envelopes. The Commissioners asked Brianna and Kelli if they felt they would still be able to take appointments while the County is without a Treasurer. Both employees agreed the office would remain closed to the public and operate by appointment only. Commissioner Irby instructed them not to discard or dispose of any items during the interim period. Brianna reported she had been researching back taxes and asked if she could continue doing so. The Commissioners advised her to defer to Bobbie Jo and seek her guidance on the matter.

New Business, Part 4

Kendra asked the Commissioners if they would still hold a meeting on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, in the absence of Commissioner Irby and Clerk Robinson. The Commissioners agreed there would be no meeting on Tuesday, January 27, 2026. Commissioner Irby reported that while reviewing the budget, he noticed Twin Creeks' expenditures were significantly higher than in previous years. Clerk Robinson informed him this increase was due to two other counties leaving the district. Commissioner Irby asked if this had been identified prior to budget approval and inquired who he should contact for further information. Clerk Robinson advised him to reach out to John with Mapes & Miller.

With no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Irby moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Small towns can strengthen resilience efforts through initiative

By Val Ankeny, Senior policy associate, Center for Rural Affairs

Throughout the nation, communities highly vulnerable to climate impacts have an opportunity to strengthen their adaptation and resilience efforts through the Climate Smart Communities Initiative.

This public-private partnership offers both funding and technical assistance. Through its current grant cycle, the program will award 16 to 20 grants, with individual awards ranging from \$75,000 to \$115,000.

One awardee, the City of Fremont, Nebraska, was selected in 2024 to support families living in mobile and manufactured homes near the Platte River where increasingly intense storms and ice jams have led to flash flooding that threatens both lives and livelihoods.

With a \$114,978 grant, Fremont and its partners are adding on to

existing hazard mitigation plans and evaluating options to reduce flood risk, including infrastructure improvements.

Grants are intended to provide funding to assist communities in hazard mitigation planning, restoring floodplains, and developing and implementing climate change adaptation plans. Funded activities can be early in the process, such as setting priorities and building shared strategy, or more advanced, such as moving a specific project toward implementation.

Technical assistance provided by the Climate Smart Communities Initiative is to help communities scope projects, evaluate options, and ensure plans are both practical and competitive.

The program prioritizes funding for communities that include historically disinvested populations facing increased risk from cli-

mate-related impacts. Eligible projects must be based in the U.S. and submitted by a team that includes three partners: an adaptation practitioner, a community-based organization, and a local or regional government entity.

Applications for the Climate Smart Communities Initiative are accepted through March 12, 2026. Communities interested in applying should begin identifying priority needs, gathering local data, and engaging partners as soon as possible. Find out more by reading our grant spotlight at cfra.org/rural-resources.

Established in 1973, the Center for Rural Affairs is a private, nonprofit organization working to strengthen small businesses, family farms and ranches, and rural communities through action oriented programs addressing social, economic, and environmental issues.

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THE HILL CITY TIMES
110 N Pomeroy Ave
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Black History Month is American History

This February, join Nicodemus National Historic Site and partners from across the National Park Service and Kansas as we explore Black history through the lens of America's upcoming semi-quincentennial (250 years).

Hear powerful stories and perspectives from:

- Camp Nelson National Monument
- Boston African American National Historic Site
- George Washington Carver National Monument
- The Kansas African American Museum

Saturday, February 14

1:00 PM (Central)

Virtual Event - Scan the QR code to join

Don't miss this meaningful and engaging Black History Month experience that connects past, present, and future.

#Nicodemus #NicodemusNHS #BlackHistoryMonth #AmericanHistory



Community News

Hill City Pharmacy has
NEW HOURS:
Monday - Friday
9 am to 5:30 pm