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THE HILL CITY TIMES

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

\$1.00

Vol. 149, No. 39

Wednesday, March 11, 2025

Specials

Monday, March 16: Lasagna, Bread Sticks, Cream Corn, Orange Jello Salad

Thursday, March 19: French Dip Sandwich, Chicken Bacon Ranch Sandwich, Southwest Chicken, Broccoli Salad, Taco Salad, Oreo Fluff

200 N Pomeroy Hill City (785) 216-0123

Big ads get noticed - small ads do too!

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Great turn out for the Johnsons

What a great turn out for the soup supper benefit for Colter Johnson and his parents. Words cannot describe how truly blessed they are to be surrounded by family, friends, and this community that steps up to help. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to everyone who was able to show your support in one way or another.



Support Local with a special shirt

Show your support and Ringneck spirit with a Hill City Times t-shirt. The shirt is tan in color and consists of our business name and phone number on the front and a Ringneck wearing a hat and reading a newspaper with the saying, "use it or lose it" on the back.

This saying goes for any type of business, not just us. All businesses need community support to keep their doors open and continue supplying locals with what they have to offer. You can order yours today from Graphi-Tease Inc.

<https://graphi-tease.com/collections/fundraiser>

BOGUE NEWS - LIZ VANLOENEN

In 1954 the Memorial High School, Hill City changed their high school colors from black and orange to red and white and changed their mascot from a tiger to a ringneck. When did Hill City pick up the black? Coach Riley says it is still red and white.

I hope everyone turned your clocks ahead 1 hour, March 8th.

There will be a Wildhorse Township meeting at the township hall Monday, March 23rd at 6:30 pm. Everyone will meet at the Hall first then go to the church fellowship hall for a presentation. Everyone in Wildhorse township is asked to attend.

The Chosen is presented at the Bogue Fellowship Hall every Sunday evening at 6:30 with a light meal beforehand.

Jean Bell, Bobbie Bell, and Liz enjoyed supper at the Brazen Bull in Wakeeny Thursday evening. They enjoyed coconut cake and coffee at Bobbie's afterwards.

A big thank you to PBS for broadcasting the state wrestling. It was great being able to see it again.

Adam VanLoenen and Makayla King of Overland Park visited Liz Sat. afternoon.

Liz attended the birthday party for Jake vanLoenen, son of Alex and Caley VanLoenen, Sunday afternoon in Hill City. It was his 2nd birthday.

I hope the sickness is over. The Auxiliary volunteers are back at the hospital after being out for a month and a half.

Jessica Dirks of Garden City spent a few days with Loren Johnson. She was a Sunday morning coffee guest at Liz's with Bobbie Holsman and Loren Johnson.

Liz went to Hays Monday afternoon.

Monday Feb. 23rd Bobbie Holsman, Frank, and David enjoyed dinner at the Norton Pizza Hut with Eugene and Margaret Wetter.

Bobbie Holsman and Frank called on the Roy Voss family Thursday.

Annette Wetter of Colby spent Friday and Saturday with Bobbie Holsman, Frank, and David. They all attended the appreciation fish fry given by Midland Marketing in Palco Friday noon.

Bogue had a drizzle Tuesday. We need more moisture.



Local students learn more about healthcare

We enjoyed having local students to join us at Graham County Hospital for the 2026 KHA Virtual Career Fair hosted by the Kansas Hospital Association. With more than 5,000 students participating across the state, it was inspiring to see so many young people coming together to learn about opportunities in healthcare.

Thank you, Kansas Hospital Association, for this opportunity to connect with our schools and students to build the future of care in our rural communities. With this experience, students are able to ask questions, explore possibilities, and gain a better understanding of how they can make a difference right here at home.

We encourage students and families to explore the website, Happy in Healthcare, at <https://happyinhealthcare.org/> — a wonderful resource that highlights the many paths available in healthcare and shares real stories from professionals across Kansas.

If you have a student that would like to learn more about careers in healthcare - please reach out to us! We'd love to share our opportunities with you.



8th grade scholars bowl

Congrats to the eighth grade scholars bowl team for earning second place at the Hill city meet!

THE HILL CITY TIMES
I Look Forward to Hearing From You!!
Submit Stories & Photos to thehillcitytimes@gmail.com



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NEWS & ADVERTISING DEADLINE: FRIDAYS @ NOON

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THE FRONTIER STAGE
 321 East Main Street, Hill City
facebook.com/frontierstage

Due to changes in bookings that sometimes occur: Please check our website or digital sign display for current movie listings, or call 785-421-3344

HOPPERS
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 COMEDY/SCI-FI - 1 HR 44 MIN

PIPER CURDA, DAVE FRANCO, BOBBY MOYNIHAN,
 JAMES HAMM

When scientists discover a way to transform human consciousness into robotic animals, Mabel uses the new technology to uncover mysteries of the animal world that are beyond anything she could have ever imagined.

March 14 7 pm | March 15 6 pm



High Winds Okinawan Karate hosts local seminar

High Winds Okinawan Karate recently welcomed Eddie Bethea, along with other distinguished instructors from the Shorinkan, for a special seminar focused on training and fellowship. The event was open to both students and members of the commu-

nity, providing participants with the opportunity to learn, grow, and connect through traditional Okinawan karate instruction.

High Winds Okinawan Karate extends its sincere gratitude to the local businesses and community sup-

porters whose contributions helped make the seminar a success. The dojo looks forward to hosting future events that continue to strengthen both martial arts practice and community ties. (Article and picture from Amber Webster)

HILL CITY
HOME OF THE RINGNECKS
JHS/HS ACTIVITIES

Thursday, March 12, 2026
 No Scheduled Activities

Friday, February 13, 2026
 NO SCHOOL

Monday, March 16, 2026
 Spring Break

Tuesday, March 17, 2026
 Spring Break

Wednesday, March 18, 2026
 Spring Break

Thursday, March 19, 2026
 Spring Break

Friday, March 20, 2026
 Spring Break

High school psychology students visit grade school



The high school psychology students had fun testing what they have learned in class with the kindergarten and 1st graders.

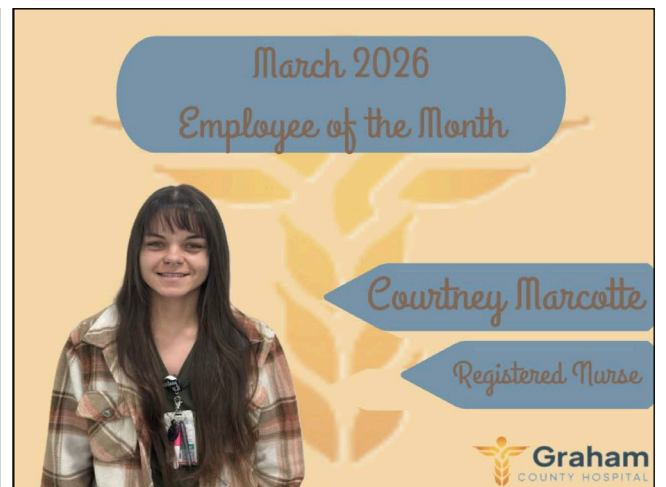


State band for HCHS students

Congratulations to Sophie McGee and Becca Farrell! This is the second consecutive year that both of these ladies represented Hill City Junior/Senior High School at State.

Sophie McGee - Sophomore - 2nd Chair Trombone - KMEA 12A Honor Band

Becca Farrell - Sophomore - Soprano 1 - KMEA All-State Treble Choir



Hospital employee of the month

Congratulations to Courtney Marcotte, Registered Nurse at the Graham County Family Health Clinic, for being selected as our March 2026 Employee of the Month!

Courtney was nominated for consistently going above and beyond in the way she approaches every situation. She maintains a positive attitude, is pleasant to work with, and brings a steady, encouraging presence to her team each day.

Not only does she cover many responsibilities within the clinic to ensure exceptional patient care, but she is also willing to step in at the hospital when needed. Her flexibility, teamwork, and commitment to doing what's best for patients are truly valued.

Thank you, Courtney, for your dedication, compassion, and the positive impact you make across our organization!

THE HILL CITY TIMES

Ringneck Activities is sponsored by: If you would like to become a sponsor, please contact us at 785-366-6186 or thehillcitytimes@gmail.com

CHECK USD281.COM
 Schedule subject to change without notice



Spring Break: March 16-20

Spring break kids-only party at Kandace's daycare Friday the 13th 6-9 pm \$25 a kid and ½ price for additional siblings. Dinner will be provided.

Come color with your peeps at the Graham Co library March 17th 3-5 pm Snacks, drinks, and a scavenger hunt.

Karate camp happening March 18th and 19th Ages from 3 to 10+ Separate times slots for age groups. There is a multi-child discount. Check out High Winds Karate Okinawan Karate on facebook to learn more.

Reserve your spot for March 15th Cross Craft Class @ 2 pm with us . We loved this one so much that we are doing it again, since it was a private class last month . Price includes \$45 All supplies and snack will be provided at Jack Creek Salvage Pumpkin Patch

Lots of ideas at the Strategic Doing meeting

The Strategic Doing meeting, held in Hill City by the Graham County Community Foundation, was a great success! They had some thoughtful conversations about the community's strengths, weaknesses, potential threats, and—most importantly—ideas for the future of Hill City.

One of the main ideas they agreed to focus on first is developing a festival or possibly multiple festivals for the community. If you have ideas

or would like to be part of helping make this happen, please feel free to reach out to the Foundation at director@grahamcc.org or call 785-421-7466.

Several other exciting ideas were also discussed, including:

- A splash pad near the pool
- Building an amphitheater
- Sprucing up the visual appeal of our downtown area
- Creating more events and entertainment opportunities

• The need for additional lodging in the area

- Community block parties
- And many more great suggestions!

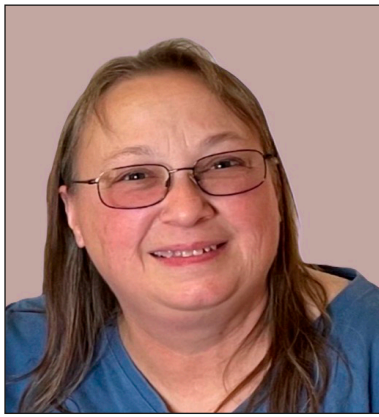
The Foundation plans to hold a follow-up meeting in the coming weeks to review progress on these ideas and begin forming groups or committees to help move them forward. Thank you to everyone who attended and shared their thoughts. It's great to see so many people who care about the future of Hill City!

LET US KNOW!!

EMAIL THEHILLCITYTIMES@GMAIL.COM IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SUBMITTING ARTICLES/COLUMNS/REPORTS/ETC FOR PUBLICATION!

Contact Information: The Hill City Times
thehillcitytimes@gmail.com • Phone Hours 785-524-4200
Office Hours: Wednesday 9:30 - Noon

Obituary



Karri June Worcester Sisk
Jan. 30, 1964 - Feb. 22, 2026

Karri June Worcester Sisk, of Norton, Kansas, departed this life peacefully on February 22, 2026, at the age of 62 in Norton, Kansas. She was born on January 30, 1964 in Hill City, Kansas.

Karri was a beloved member of her community and will be deeply

missed by her friends, family, and all who knew her.

Karri was described as the epitome of sweetness. She had a kind heart and a generous spirit, which endeared her to everyone she met. She made it very easy for everyone to love her. She leaves behind a legacy of love and compassion that will be cherished by those who were fortunate enough to know her.

Karri is survived by her loving husband of 25 years, James Sisk of Norton, Kansas; son, Kurtis and wife Jessica Campbell of Olathe, Kansas; daughter, Sara and husband Shawn Hicks of Hays, Kansas; grandchildren, and her brothers and sisters: Sherri Worcester and Dale Gillman of WaKeeney, Kansas, Terry and Sandy Worcester of Flagstaff, Arizona, Larry and Jody Worcester of rural Hill City, Kansas, and Perry "PJ" Worcester of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Donald and Marilyn

"Mary" Worcester and mother-in-law, Kathy Fanning.

Karri graduated from Hill City High School in 1982 and that summer moved to Norton, Kansas to begin employment. She worked for the Kansas Department of Transportation for over 20 years in Norton, along with other jobs.

Karri was very fond of animals. Her hobbies included woodworking, metal working, drawing, and painting. Most of all, she loved spending time watching her grandkids.

Karri will forever be remembered for her sweet nature, generosity, and love for her family, grandkids, and community. Her legacy will continue to inspire and touch the lives of those she leaves behind.

The family has chosen cremation, and no memorial services are planned. Condolences may be left at www.plumbergobber.com Arrangements by Plumber-Gobber Funeral Home, 215 W. Main St., Norton, KS 67654



<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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Graham County Commission Meeting Minutes

February 24, 2026

Commissioner Irby called the meeting to order at 10:00 am with the flag salute with Commissioner Irby, Commissioner Nelson, Commissioner Crouch, County Clerk Kendra Robinson and Graham County Hospital CEO Jonathan Gleason all present.

Graham County Hospital CEO, Jonathan Gleason

Jonathan reported that Graham County Hospital has been recognized as one of the Top 100 Critical Access Hospitals in the nation. He noted this is a significant achievement for the organization and encouraged the community to congratulate hospital staff on this accomplishment. Jonathan reported that at the recent hospital board meeting, the board approved replacement of the facility's generator as well as installation of a new boiler. He also reported that the board approved a contract for a new nurse practitioner, Zoey Wands, and the contract was scheduled to be signed that day. Jonathan reported that the hospital continues to replace wellness center equipment one piece at a time. He added that they are working with Travis Desbien to donate the replaced equipment to the school's weight room. Jonathan reported that the hospital's annual audit is approaching, along with the one-time audit related to completion of the new clinic. Commissioner Irby asked whether Jonathan would be available to host a visit from the Graham County Leadership Class on March 4 at 10:30 a.m., and Jonathan confirmed he would be happy to facilitate the visit.

New Business, Part 1

The Commissioners reviewed and signed vouchers and checks. Clerk Robinson presented Resolution 2026-06 regarding security camera access. Commissioner Irby requested the resolution be tabled until the following week to allow additional time for review prior to consideration. The other Commissioners agreed. Clerk Robinson presented Resolution 2026-07 regarding a refund policy for overpayments of fees made to Graham County offices. Commissioner Irby made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-07. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Irby presented a draft resolution he had prepared regarding the County's Drug and Alcohol Policy. He provided the document to County Attorney Michael Abbott for review prior to board consideration and action.

Graham County Health Administrator, Kristen Wise

Kristen provided the Board with several updates. She reported that Norton Glass had completed installation of the door at the old clinic, and she would be coordinating with Nex-Tech to proceed with installation of the access control system. Kristen noted that the newly installed door does stick somewhat but is hopeful the issue will be addressed during the access control installation. Clerk Robinson added that the door recently installed by Norton Glass at the courthouse also appears to stick but expects it will be corrected when the access control system is installed. Kristen asked the Board to confirm that the Norton Glass invoice could be paid from Capital Outlay as previously discussed, and the Commissioners confirmed. She also reported

that she and Kenzie plan to attend meetings in Wichita from March 30 through April 1, noting she secured a scholarship that will cover one of their registration fees. Kristen further reported that the former health nurse had been tracking finances using Excel, which was not proving effective, so she has transitioned to QuickBooks, which will carry an approximate monthly fee of \$70.00. Kristen reported that she spoke with Corina at Northwest Kansas Planning regarding the CDBG grant and was advised that healthcare projects are no longer eligible. She further reported that an application submitted to the Patterson Foundation was not approved, and she plans to submit a new grant application to T-Mobile. Commissioner Irby asked Kristen whether she had received an update on the Hansen grant. Kristen reported she learned that morning the project had been awarded \$75,000, approximately half of the requested amount. She requested approval to have Rusty begin work on the project, and the Commissioners agreed. Kristen also reported she is already preparing the routine 2027 grant applications and will return to a future meeting to obtain the Board's signatures prior to submission. Commissioner Irby reported that the basement wall has been treated with spray and he will be preparing it for painting in the near future.

New Business, Part 2

Clerk Robinson informed the Commissioners that the Health Department had requested use of the Community Center twice per week for one month to offer community classes and inquired whether the standard \$50 rental fee would apply for each use. She also asked who would be responsible for snow removal at the facility on weekends during inclement weather, noting that Road and Bridge handles snow removal during the week. The Commissioners discussed the request and inquired about the nature of the classes to be offered. Clerk Robinson advised she was unsure of the specific class content. Commissioner Irby stated he would contact Kristen to obtain additional information before a decision is made.

Graham County Community Members, JossLynn & Kelli VanLoenen

JossLynn reported she is collecting donations for the Spring Livestock Show scheduled to be held in Graham County on May 17, 2026. Commissioner Irby asked for additional information regarding the event. JossLynn provided participation numbers by species from the previous year and noted that exhibitors attend from across the region. Kelli explained that Graham County is part of a show circuit and that approximately \$5,000 had recently been spent on buckles for award winners. Commissioner Irby inquired whether the event was community-based or affiliated with a specific club, and Kelli clarified that it is a community event organized by volunteers to give youth opportunities to show their animals and gain experience. Commissioner Nelson made a motion to donate \$250.00 toward the Spring Livestock Show. Commissioner Irby seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

New Business, Part 3

Commissioner Irby contacted Kristen to obtain clarification regarding the type of classes the Health

Department intends to hold at the Community Center. Commissioner Irby reported that the classes would be for elderly residents to assist with balance and mobility and would be held twice per week for one month. Commissioner Nelson made a motion to allow the Graham County Health Department to use the Community Center at no charge for the duration of the classes. Commissioner Irby seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Clerk Robinson advised that the next agenda item was an email from Peartree Title regarding a tax foreclosure matter. The Commissioners asked County Attorney Michael Abbott for his opinion. Abbott stated he believed abating the taxes would set a poor precedent given that a court order was in place and should have been reviewed prior to the property sale. He further advised he was uncertain the Board had legal grounds to approve an abatement. Commissioner Nelson commented that the matter appeared to be outside the Board's authority. Abbott also addressed a concern noted in the email regarding the current tax sale not being sent out for bids. He acknowledged this was an oversight on his part, explaining he was aware of changes involving Eland Title but did not realize there were two separate title companies operating in Graham County. Commissioner Irby asked whether the process typically goes out for bid. Abbott responded that when more than one title company operates in the county, the work is typically bid, and confirmed that future tax sale title work will be sent out for bids moving forward.

Graham County Road & Bridge Supervisor, Wayne Pfeifer

Wayne presented the Board with his formal resignation letter, stating his intent to retire effective June 30, 2026. Wayne inquired whether the Commissioners had received any updates from the chemical company regarding application of magnesium chloride. Commissioner Crouch reported he had been in contact with the company and noted that temperatures would need to remain above freezing and the road would require preparation prior to application. He added that the company indicated it would be contacting him directly as the project moves forward. Wayne advised Commissioner Nelson that he had researched the information previously requested and determined there appears to be a county right-of-way involved. The Commissioners discussed the property and the potential to blade a path to provide access. The Board agreed to view the property in person and continue the discussion at the following week's meeting. Wayne also reported that shale has been hauled and is being placed near Cody Keiswetter's property. Commissioner Irby made a motion to accept Wayne's resignation letter with a retirement date of June 30, 2026. Commissioner Crouch seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Graham County Treasurer, Brianna Edwards

Bri provided an update on the Treasurer's Office. She reported that she remains behind on processing daily envelopes but expects the quarterly report to be completed soon and confirmed that all deposits have been taken to the bank. Bri stated that three county treasurers are assisting periodically

See "COMMISSION" Pg 6

Church Services are sponsored by:

THE HILL CITY TIMES

If you would like to become a sponsor, please contact us at 785-524-4200 or thehillcitytimes@gmail.com

HILL CITY NUTRITION SITE

Welcome in House Participants & Carry-Out

Friday, March 13: Fish Sandwich, Parsiled Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Bun, Pineapple

Monday, March 16: Swiss Steak w/Tomatoes, Mashed Potatoes, Spinach Salad, Bread, Mandarin Oranges

Tuesday, March 17: Chicken & Noodles, Mashed Potatoes, Beets, Bread, Strawberries & Bananas

Wednesday, March 18: Taco Burger, Lettuce, Tomato, Cheese, Mixed Vegetables, Bun, Gelatin W/Fruit

Thursday, March 19: Ham & Beans, California Blend Vegetables, Corn Bread, Cinnamon Apples

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.

Top 10 checked out books for 2025 at the Graham Co. Public Library

10. All the Colors of the Dark - Chris Whitaker	McFadden
9. The Housemaid's Secret - Freida McFadden	5. The Tenant - Freida McFadden
8. The Perfect Son - Freida McFadden	4. Rage - Linda Castillo
7. The Jackal's Mistress - Chris Bohjalian	3. Counting Miracles - Nicholas Sparks
6. The Housemaid - Freida	2. The Crash - Freida McFadden
	1. Battle Mountain - C.J. Box

NEWS BRIEFS

HILL CITY AG SEEKS SUPPLIES

Hill City Ag mechanics and fabrication classes are looking for oil field pipe to make metal fence posts to send down to southwest Kansas for fence rebuilds. Please contact the High school Ag shop at 785-421-2177 with questions.

BILLINGER and RAHJES IN HILL CITY
 Senator Rick Billinger and Representative Ken Rahjes plan to have a Town Hall Meeting in Hill City on Saturday March 28, 2026.

The meeting will be from 3:00 - 3:45 PM at The Schweitzer Hotel - 224 W. Main Street

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS!

We're looking for stunning photos that showcase the beauty, character, and spirit of Graham County!

Depending on the number of entries we receive, 5-10 selected photos will be professionally printed and raffled off during our Match Month in April.

Share your very best shots from around the area — landscapes, wildlife, downtown scenes, community moments, and more!

Submission Deadline: March 20, 2026

Submit your photos in one of the following ways:

- Send via Facebook Messenger
- Email at: director@grahamccf.org

Disclaimer: By sharing your photos, you grant us permission to print and use them for fundraising purposes.

We can't wait to see Graham County through your lens!

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Since the weather is nicer, Kortney Khan has the Neighbors Helping Neighbors stand back up and running for the community! Thanks to a VERY generous donation, the table is full. She started this stand because she knows these times can be uncertain, so if you or someone you know needs something, feel free to stop by! This is available as the weather permits and can be located at 622 N 8th street in Hill City. It is along the alley on the north side of the house. Take what you need, leave what you can.

POST ROCK EXTENSION DISTRICT

All About Potatoes

By Cassie Thiessen
*K-State Research and Extension
 Post Rock Horticulture Agent*

Potatoes are one of the world's most important food crops. Grown in more than 100 countries, only wheat and rice are produced in higher quantities for human consumption. If you plan to grow your own potatoes, early spring is the best time to plant them in the garden. If you are a gardener, you probably know the tradition of planting potatoes on St. Patrick's Day. Actually, anytime from mid- to late March is fine for potato planting.

When purchasing potatoes, buy quality seed potatoes that have been inspected and are disease free. You don't want to use potatoes from the produce section of the grocery store because they are often sprayed with chemicals to slow sprouting. Seed potatoes are certified disease free and have plenty of starch to sprout as quickly as the soil temperatures allow. Each pound of potatoes will yield approximately eight to ten seed pieces. One pound should be enough to plant roughly a ten-foot row.

Before planting the potatoes, cut the

seed pieces two to three days prior so freshly cut surfaces have a chance to "suberize", or heal, and form a protective coating. Store the seed pieces in a warm location during this process to speed the healing along. Most seed potatoes can be cut into four pieces, though large potatoes may be cut into a few more. Each seed piece should be between one and a half to two ounces to ensure enough energy for germination.

Potatoes thrive in loose, easily tilled soils high in organic matter. Avoid heavy, "sticky" soils and areas where water drains slowly or stands for a long time. If this isn't possible in your backyard garden, consider planting in a large container or grow sack.

Plant each seed piece about one to two inches deep and eight to twelve inches apart in rows. Plant the seed piece of potato with the eye facing upward. Though planting potatoes in early spring is important, emergence is slow. Plants typically begin emerging in early to mid-April. As the potatoes grow, pull soil up to the base of the plants. New potatoes will grow above the planted seed piece, and it is important to keep sunlight from hitting the new potatoes. Exposed pota-

atoes will turn green and can't be eaten. Keeping the potatoes covered with soil will prevent this from happening.

Potatoes should not be grown in the same location year after year. A three-year rotation reduces pest problems that may accumulate with continual potato crops and uses soil nutrients not used by other garden crops.

Harvest the potatoes when vines begin to die, ideally when vines are half dead. Potatoes dug earlier than this should be handled carefully to prevent scarring the tender skins. Potatoes planted in mid-March should be ready to harvest in early to late July, depending on the planting date, the earliness of the variety, and the growing conditions.

If you plant a potato patch this spring, you will likely taste a difference from those store-bought spuds. If you have any questions about growing potatoes, contact your local Post Rock District Extension Office.

Post Rock Extension District of K-State Research and Extension serves Jewell, Lincoln, Mitchell, Osborne, and Smith counties. Cassie may be contacted at cchiessen@ksu.edu or by calling The Beilitt Extension Office (785-738-3597).

PRAIRIE DOC BY WHITNEY LUCAS MOLITOR, Ph.D., OTD, OTR/L, BCG AND ALLISON NABER, Ph.D., OTD, OTR/L

Meaningful Living in Rural Communities: Pathways to Productive Aging

Living in rural communities offers unique opportunities to promote successful aging. Incorporating a purposeful lifestyle, developing social connections and engaging in daily physical activity is essential to achieving positive health outcomes and quality of life.

Finding purpose includes exploring the activities you already engage in and being open to new possibilities. Engaging in motivating activities provides a framework for a purposeful life. The selected activities can promote health, foster a sense of identity and give a sense of purpose in life while aligning with personal values and interests. While some daily activities are performed without much thought, identifying others may require careful exploration.

In rural communities, consideration of the physical context is also essential. The American Occupational Therapy Association provides a framework that incorporates reflection on personal values, interests and prior life experiences.

This approach, along with establishing priorities and goals, can be a valuable way to explore daily activities and create new opportunities for engagement that enhance purpose in daily life. To align life purpose with a rural context, it is essential to incorporate outdoor activities, find creative ways to connect with family and friends and explore opportunities with local groups. Activities can be modified to support evolving interests, abilities and desires.

Establishing and maintaining strong social connections is critical to promoting healthy aging in rural communities. Older adults in rural areas may experience social isolation due to limited opportunities for interaction. This can be due to changes in overall health, technology barriers (limited internet access or limited computer or smartphone skills) or physical barriers (limited community mobility or driving restrictions). Social isolation can pose physical, psychological and behavioral health risks. Engaging in meaningful activities with others can help build relationships, find purpose or fulfillment and develop new hobbies or skills. Educational programs or groups are an excellent way to explore new leisure activities or learn strategies to improve health and

well-being. Reaching out to family or friends, visiting your local senior center, attending community events, or joining a club can all provide a sense of connection, purpose and well-being.

In addition to staying socially connected, developing a regular physical activity routine is essential for older rural adults. Adults over 65 should set goals to strengthen their muscles and improve their balance by engaging in at least 150 minutes of moderate physical activity per week. Moderate physical activity increases breathing and heart rate, but you should still be able to talk while active. Beneficial activities include brisk walking, dancing, riding a stationary bike or NuStep, using weights or resistive exercise bands, gardening or participating in water aerobics. Consider setting a goal to move your body for 30 minutes each day to reduce sedentary time. Sedentary activities include watching TV, reading, sitting or lying down. Prolonged sedentary behavior increases the risk of poorer health outcomes among older adults. Intentionally participating in meaningful activities throughout the day will reduce time spent sedentary. Reduce sedentary behavior by standing during commercial breaks, walking around your home after

a meal or stretching after reading the paper or playing cards. Incorporating the strategies mentioned in this article can promote well-being and enhance quality of life.

Whitney Lucas Molitor, Ph.D., OTD, OTR/L, BCG, is department chair and associate professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy at the University of South Dakota. Lucas Molitor is a licensed occupational therapist in Iowa and South Dakota. Her research interests include health promotion and productive aging. Allison Naber, Ph.D., OTD, OTR/L, is the academic fieldwork coordinator and an associate professor in The Department of Occupational Therapy at the University of South Dakota. Naber is a licensed occupational therapist in Minnesota and South Dakota. Her research interests include occupational performance and life balance, particularly as they relate to healthy aging. Follow The Prairie Doc® at www.prairiedoc.org, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and TikTok. Prairie Doc Programming includes On Call with the Prairie Doc®, a medical Q&A show (most Thursdays at 7pm, on SDPB, YouTube and streaming on Facebook), 2 podcasts, and a Radio program (on SDPB, Sundays at 6am and 1pm).

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER JOB OPENING

THE CITY OF HILL CITY IS HIRING A PART-TIME CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER. HOURS ARE FLEXIBLE AND DO NOT EXCEED 30 HOURS A WEEK. PAY WILL START AT \$16.00-\$18.00 AN HOUR DEPENDING ON QUALIFICATIONS.

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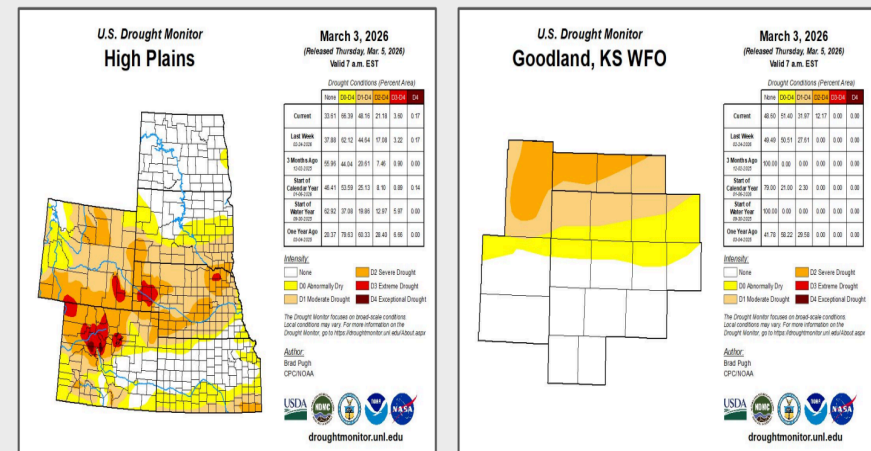
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Insight - Kansas Farm Bureau - opinion Letters from Grandma

Kim Baldwin
 McPherson County farmer and rancher

My family recently celebrated the life of my husband's grandmother. We were incredibly lucky to have Grandma Irene in our lives for so many years. I don't know a lot of people who knew a great-grandparent, but our son and daughter are old enough to remember her. While she lived three hours from us, she was very much aware of what we were all doing between our visits by keeping up with us on Facebook or through reading this column in her local paper. She kept us up-to-date by writing letters that she'd put into cards and send to arrive just in time for birthdays and holidays. You always knew to be on the lookout for an envelope in the mailbox from her a few days before those special days. Sometimes Grandma Irene would send a handwritten letter just because and include a news clipping or pages from her daily devotionals that reminded her of us. She had raised her family on a farm as well and knew what living in the country and raising crops and kids entailed. She loved seeing pictures of her great-grandkids holding lambs, working cattle, riding in a tractor or enjoying a meal in the field during harvest. A handful of years ago, she moved into an assisted living facility in her small town in Southeast Kansas. She'd write us letters telling us about her days. She stayed busy with her sewing and piano playing and eating out with family on Sundays. She'd write about the games she and the other residents would play and would mention on occasion that she'd outlived another one of her friends. Regardless of the topic of her letters, we always knew she was staying active within her church and social circle. We also knew she was always praying for us and loved us immensely. Her funeral was well attended for a woman who had outlived so many of her friends. Aside from family, the seats were filled with those who knew her from church or the community. At one point during her funeral, those in attendance were encouraged to share their memories of her. It took quite a while for the microphone to be passed around. It was evident that Grandma Irene loved a lot of people. Whether it was memories of her helping with 4-H projects, sewing quilts or gifting dish scrubs, writing letters, serving in her church or keeping a stash of cinnamon flavored candy and oatmeal cream pies in the pantry for her grandkids, the shared memories truly celebrated her and the work she did. This is the time of the year when I'd normally find a blue, yellow or purple envelope in our mailbox containing a card and personalized handwritten letter inside letting us know she was thinking of us as we prepared for all of the spring work required on the farm. I'll miss those letters from Grandma Irene. They were simple, yet intentional, acts that let her loved ones know that she was thinking of them from afar. Those simple, intentional acts are what will remind me of Grandma Irene and the life she lived loving others. *"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.*

Have a great week!

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HANSEN MUSEUM NEWS BY SHARI BUSS

The Hansen Museum continues to buzz with creativity and community spirit, offering an exciting lineup of classes, exhibitions, and cultural events that keep the arts thriving in northwest Kansas. Recent activities brought together makers and art enthusiasts for a joyful, hands-on experience that was as inspiring as it was fun.

On Saturday, March 7th, the Museum hosted a lively Fabric-Wrapped Rope Basket Class led by the talented Monica Sellens. The classroom was filled with laughter, color, and creativity as participants turned simple materials—scrap fabric, cotton rope, glue, and a zigzag stitch—into charming and practical baskets.

Monica's upbeat and engaging teaching style made the workshop especially memorable. With clear step-by-step instruction, encouragement, and plenty of creative tips, she helped participants feel confident throughout the process. By the end of the class, everyone left with a beautiful, handmade basket that reflected their own personal style.

"Monica went above and beyond," one participant shared. "She made the class easy to follow and generously provided fun notions that helped make every basket unique."

The Museum extends its sincere thanks to Monica Sellens for sharing her talents, and to all the wonderful participants who brought their enthusiasm and creativity to the day. Events like this are at the heart of the Hansen Museum's mission—to foster artistic expression and build community through shared creative experiences.

March also ushered in a new Artist of the Month. The Museum is proud to feature Logan Laser and Printing, a unique student-run business from Logan High School guided by instructor Janet Gottstine. On display and available for purchase is a wide variety of items created by these talented students. Visitors will find embroidered tea towels made with the program's ten-needle embroidery machine, screen-printed T-shirts and sweatshirts, eye-catching metal and wooden signs for doors and walls, bookmarks, and much more. While the display includes many Trojan-themed items, it also offers plenty of designs that appeal to everyone. Stop by to admire the students' craftsmanship and perhaps pick up a special gift for yourself or someone else.

The Museum also welcomed the opening of its newest exhibit at the beginning of the month. SPECTACLE features a stun-

ning collection of photographs from world-renowned photographers that truly live up to the exhibition's name—spectacular, dramatic, eye-catching, and unforgettable. Through a dazzling variety of images, the exhibit captures both the beauty of the natural world and the ingenuity of human creativity in moments that surprise, intrigue, and inspire.

March at the Hansen Museum offers something for every interest—from globally inspired visual storytelling to engaging, hands-on artistic experiences. The Hansen Museum is located at 110 W. Main Street in Logan, Kansas. Hours are Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.; Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00-5:00 p.m.; and Sunday and holidays, 1:00-5:00 p.m. The Museum is handicap-accessible, and thanks to the Dane G. Hansen Foundation, admission is always free. For more information, please call 785-689-4846. We hope to see YOU at the Museum soon!



Mariana Kemper of Logan and Sandy Jacobs of Phillipsburg proudly display the fabric-wrapped rope baskets they created during the recent basket-making class at the Hansen Museum, led by instructor Monica Sellens.

Commission/page 3

cally—Osborne, Thomas, and Cheyenne Counties. She asked whether the Board had determined a rate of pay for the assisting Osborne County Treasurer. The Commissioners agreed that assisting treasurers will be compensated at \$30 per hour plus mileage. Commissioner Crouch asked when she anticipated the Treasurer's Office would be current. Bri stated it was difficult to provide a specific timeline but felt the office was moving in the right direction and making progress and she was hopeful by March things should be caught up. She added that with continued assistance from the visiting treasurers, particularly Dawn from Cheyenne County, she is hopeful the office will be caught up soon. Bri reported that she has hired one employee but believes an additional staff member is necessary, as the office cannot reasonably function with only herself and one other employee. The Commissioners agreed and authorized Bri to proceed with hiring an additional employee. Bri noted that the candidate resides outside the county and requested formal approval from the Board, which the Commissioners granted. Commissioner Irby asked Bri to provide the Board with a list outlining her responsibilities so progress can be tracked. Commissioner Nelson also requested a list of checks currently held in the Treasurer's Office that remain unprocessed. Commissioner Crouch asked whether an audit would be conducted. Bri reported that she met with representatives from the Lloyd Group, who advised that outside audit assistance was not necessary at this time and that support from experienced county treasurers would be more beneficial. Bri stated that Dawn from Cheyenne County had previously navigated a similar situation and successfully brought her office back into good standing with assistance from other treasurers. Bri expressed confidence that, with Dawn's help, she should be able to resolve most—if not all—of the outstanding issues.

Graham County Community Member, Jessica Ost-

meyer Jessica stated she was present to determine whether the Board had any questions regarding her email. Commissioner Irby responded that the Board had previously discussed the matter and, at this time, was uncertain it had the authority to abate the taxes. Jessica stated she did not believe the situation was due to her error, explaining she had been informed that only the 2023 taxes were delinquent and felt the responsibility rested with the County for providing inaccurate information. She further reported that she had multiple conversations regarding possible abatement and that Steve had emailed her indicating the 2018 taxes would be abated. Jessica stated she was willing to pay the 2019 taxes but requested that penalties and fees be waived so the property could be removed from the tax sale, noting the defendant was very upset. County Attorney Abbott advised that he had reviewed an Attorney General's opinion indicating that Commissioners do not have authority to waive penalties and fees. Commissioner Irby stated he would like to find a way to make the situation right but emphasized the

Board needs time to ensure any action taken is legally appropriate. Jessica asked the Commissioners where responsibility lies when a county official makes an error. County Attorney Abbott stated he would not engage in a hypothetical discussion on the matter. The Commissioners requested that Jessica be placed on the agenda for further discussion and clarification at the next meeting. Clerk Robinson scheduled Jessica to appear at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 3.

New Business, Part 4

Clerk Robinson presented the draft damage waiver that Chris had requested the County Attorney prepare. She explained that community members occasionally ask Chris to place items in their vehicles, and the waiver would help protect the County from liability should any damage occur during that process. Clerk Robinson also asked whether the Board would support Chris utilizing the County's employee-sharing policy by scheduling Ethan to assist at the landfill on Saturdays. Ethan is already regularly scheduled to work that day, which could avoid the need to pay a Road & Bridge employee overtime for a full shift. The Commissioners agreed to table consideration of the damage waiver until the following week. They also advised Clerk Robinson that they would like to first hear directly from Ethan confirming his willingness to assist at the landfill before making a decision regarding the staffing arrangement. Commissioner Irby reviewed and signed the abstract of the Board of County Commissioners meeting minutes from February 10, 2026. Commissioner Irby stated he wished to address the Meeting OWL system. He expressed concern that community members who work full-time jobs may not be able to take time off each week to attend meetings in person and felt the camera provides a level of transparency the public expects. Commissioner Irby also commented that he does not believe the presence of the camera prevents individuals from expressing themselves during meetings. Commissioner Nelson responded that he would prefer Commissioner Irby observe meetings for a longer period without the camera in use to better understand its impact. Commissioner Nelson noted that in several recent meetings, he observed presenters sharing information that he believed may not have been discussed as openly if the camera had been on. Commissioner Crouch reported that he had contacted several constituents regarding the Meeting OWL system and received approximately 50 responses, with 41 in favor of using the camera and 9 opposed. Commissioner Crouch stated he believes the presence of the camera may impact individuals' willingness to share information of a sensitive nature during meetings. He further noted that if the Board chose to reinstate the system in the future, improvements to the sound quality and equipment would be necessary. Commissioner Crouch suggested that if the system were reinstated and did not demonstrate clear value within six weeks, it should be discontinued entirely. He also expressed that he would have preferred the system not have been implemented initially, noting that one constituent had indicated they believed they had a right to view meetings live, which he clarified is not a statutory requirement. Commissioner Nelson agreed, stating that for many years meetings were held without the camera and, although he had previously supported its implementation, he has observed decreased engagement and interaction since its use. Commissioner Irby stated that, in the interest of compromise, he was willing to continue without the camera for an additional two months and revisit the matter afterward. Following discussion, the Board reached consensus to not utilize the Meeting OWL at this time and to revisit the matter at the end of April. Commissioner Crouch made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Crouch stated that he believed the County Clerk should begin posting meeting minutes as "unpublished minutes" prior to formal approval. He explained this would allow members of the public who are unable to attend meetings in person or view them live to stay informed of the matters discussed before the minutes are officially approved and published. Following discussion, the Commissioners agreed that the County Clerk will post the unpublished minutes by the end of the day each Wednesday following a regular meeting. The posted minutes will clearly indicate that they are not yet approved and are considered unpublished.

With no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Irby moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.



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Legal Notice

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

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF GRAHAM COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of Ronald L. Quint, Deceased CASE NO. GH-2026-PR-000010

ORDER FOR HEARING

THIS ORDER IS EFFECTIVE as of the date and time shown on the electronic file stamp.

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

NOW, on this day, the Court finds the Petition to Admit Foreign Will to Probate and Record filed by Sherry J. Quint, shall be heard on **April 13, 2026 at 10:00 am** in this Court and notice of the time and place of hearing in accordance with K.S.A. 59-2209.

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



NOTICE OF SUIT

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

Millsap & Singer, LLC
8900 Indian Creek Parkway, Suite 180
Overland Park, KS 66210
(913) 339-9132
(913) 339-9045 (fax)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF Graham County, KANSAS CIVIL DEPARTMENT

SWBC Mortgage Corporation) Case No. GH-2025-CV-000011

Plaintiff,) Court No.

vs.) Title to Real Estate Involved

Clementine Bates, and James E. Bates, et al.,) Pursuant to K.S.A. §60

Defendants)

NOTICE OF SUIT

STATE OF KANSAS to the above named Defendants and The Unknown Heirs, executors, devisees, trustees, creditors, and assigns of any deceased defendants; the unknown spouses of any defendants; the unknown officers, successors, trustees, creditors and assigns of any defendants that are existing, dissolved or dormant corporations; the unknown executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, successors and assigns of any defendants that are or were partners or in partnership; and the unknown guardians, conservators and trustees of any defendants that are minors or are under any legal disability and all other person 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 SWBC Mortgage Corporation, praying to foreclose a mortgage on the following described real estate:

ALL OF BLOCK THIRTY-EIGHT (38), CITY OF NICODEMUS, GRAHAM COUNTY, KANSAS. Parcel ID No. 0331110102038001000. Commonly known as 505 Monroe Ave., Bogue, KS 67625 ("the Property") MS 229743

and all those defendants who have not otherwise been served are required to plead to the Petition on or before April 14, 2026 in the District Court of Graham County, Kansas. If you fail to plead, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the request of plaintiff.

MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC

By:

Dwayne A. Duncan, #27533
dduncan@msfirm.com
612 Spirit Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63005
(636) 537-0110
(636) 537-0067 (fax)

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

MS 229743.462177 KJFC

MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.



MS File No. 229743.462177 KJFC

Legal Notice

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

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF GRAHAM COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of Ronald L. Quint, Deceased CASE NO. GH-2026-PR-000010

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that on , a Petition was filed in this Court by Sherry J. Quint, a beneficiary of Ronald L. Quint, Deceased, requesting that: the foreign will of Ronald L. Quint, deceased, dated September 21, 2004, be admitted to probate and record in this Court; no administration of the Estate is necessary; the will be construed, and the following Kansas real estate owned by the decedent, situated in Graham County, Kansas:

At tract of land located in the Northeast Quarter (NE/4) of Section Nineteen (19), Township Eight (8) South, Range Twenty-two (22) West of the 6th PM, Graham County, Kansas more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point 686 feet West of the Northeast Corner of Section Nineteen (19), Township Eight (8) South, Range Twenty-two (22) West, thence South 460 ft. to a point, thence West 550 ft. to a point; thence North 460 ft. to a point, thence East 550 ft. to the point of beginning; said tract containing 5.8 acres, more or less be assigned in accordance with the terms of the Will.

You are required to file your written defenses to the Petition on or before **April 13, 2026 at 10:00 am** in the District Court, Hill City, 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.

Sherry J. Quint, Petitioner

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

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Legal Notice

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

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF GRAHAM COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of Allen J. Worcester, Deceased CASE NO. GH-2025-PR-000008

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that a Petition was filed in this Court by Amy Karst, duly appointed, qualified, and acting Executor of the Estate of Allen J. Worcester, deceased, requesting that Petitioner's acts be approved; account be settled and allowed; the heirs be determined; the Will be construed and the Estate be assigned to the persons entitled thereto; the Court find the allowances requested for attorneys' and guardian ad litem fees and expenses are reasonable and should be allowed; the costs be determined and ordered paid; the administration of the Estate be closed; upon the filing of receipts the Petitioner be finally discharged as the Executor of the Estate of Allen J. Worcester, deceased, and the Petitioner be released from further liability.

You are required to file your written defenses to the Petition on or before **April 13, 2026 at 10:00 am** in the District Court, in Hill City, 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.

Amy Karst
Petitioner

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

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

THE HILL CITY TIMES

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



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State Wrestling Medalists

Congratulations to our state medalist.
Emily Smee 5th
Kya Bell 6th

Ryan Budig 3rd
Jaxson Smith 3rd

Two Day March Consignment Auction

Tuesday, March 24th & Wednesday, March 25th – 9am
Brush, Colorado

At lot East of Town at Jnct of Hwys 34 & 71

Delivery Deadline for All Items is WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18th

Selling Farm & Construction Equipment, Tractors, Loaders, Forklifts, Skid Steers, Semi & Farm Trucks, Vehicles, ATV's, all types of Trailers, Campers, Boats, Livestock Equipment, Farm & Construction Attachments & more.

Live On-Site Bidding Plus Pre-Auction and Live On-Line Bidding, Phone and Absentee Bidding on all Items.

CONTACT AMA WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT ITEMS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

(No Miscellaneous items accepted for this auction)

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State Wrestling Qualifiers

Congratulations to our STATE QUALIFIERS!

Gavin Bell 4th
Wrenlee Hunsicker 2nd
Maelyn Morris 3rd
Cooper Orr 2nd
Ascher Pfeifer 2nd
Slade Rohr 1st
Emily Smee 2nd
Adrianna Willeford 3rd

We also want to congratulate 3 young men that placed at the District 4 Tournament

Jase Ashbaugh 6th
Nicolas Brassfield 6th
Sylas Galbavy 6th



DIRKS FAMILY EQUIPMENT AUCTION

Monday, March 16th, 2026 – 10:00 am

32287 County Road 51 Amherst, CO 80721

1 Mile West of Amherst on Hwy. 23 to Rd. 51 Then South 1/2 Mile to Sale Site

On Site Auction with Live and Pre-Auction Online Bidding

Items without online bidding capabilities start at 10:00 am

items with online bidding capabilities sell at approximately 1:00 pm.



Tractors & Attachments & Forklift sell after equip (Online Bidding Available)—19 Case IH 420 QuadTrac, 3pt w/QH, PTO, 5 hyd, premium cab, Trimble RTK gncc equip, 2,560hrs, 2nd ownr(2) sets Lakestate 1000gal CIH QdTrac saddle tnks-Ringsted hyd stalk rlr for CIH QuadTrac-19 Case IH Mgmn 380 RowTrac, 3pt w/ QH, PTO, 5hyd, premium cab, frnt suspnsn, Trimble RTK gncc equip, 3,858hrs, 2nd ownr-06 NH TG285 MFWD, 3pt w/QH, PTO, 4hyd, spr str, SideQst hubs & mnts, Trimble WAAS gncc equip, frnt & rear dls, 9,387hrs, 1k hrs on new mtr, trans & cltches-09 NH T8050 MFWD, 3pt w/QH, PTO, 5hyd, frnt suspnsn, SideQst hubs & mnts, Trimble WAAS gncc equip, frnt & rear dls, 8,354hrs, new crate mtr at 8,032hrs, 1 ownr-Ringstead hyd stalk smshr for NH T8050-Demco SideQst 1000gal saddle tnks w/ HIPro pmp-73 JD 4430 w/JD 158 ldr 7' bckt & grpple, 3pt w/QH, dl PTO, 3hyd, 20.8R38 rub, 6,111hrs, 2nd ownr-85 Vrstle 256 Bi-Di w/ldr, 8' bckt & grpple, frnt 3pt, PTO & 3hyd, swthr hkups, 4,339hrs-Yale GLP50 5k lb. frkflr, 4cyl. LP eng, 1spd shlttle, 3 stge mast w/free lift & LBR, side shft, 13,746hrs-**Trucks, Trailers, Fert. Tender Equip & Vehicles sell after trctrs (Online Bidding Available)**—89 Pete 379 conv semi, Cat 3406B, 15spd, 419k mi, new cltch & rebuilt trans at 369k mi-89 Pete 379 ext. hood day cab semi, Cat 3406B, 18spd, 611k mi, frsh in-frm OH-66 Ford 600 sngle axle w/18' grn bx & rear hst, 390 V8, 5&2spd, drill fill aug, 105k mi-11 Timple 96"x42"x72' SprHppr grn trlr, clsd tndm air ride, RO tarp, hyd traps w/wrflss mtr-96 Timple 96"x42"x66' Spr Hppr grn trlr, sprng ride, RO tarp-89 Timple 96"x42"x66' SprHppr grn trlr, sprng ride, RO tarp, elect traps-69 Fruehauf 6500gal tnkr trlr w/Honda GX200 mtr & 2' pmp, sprng ride-16 Fontaine alum combo 102"x53' stp dck FB trlr, sprd axle air ride, adjstble rear axle, + 2 Ace Roto-Mold 3400gal blk poly leg tnks & Honda GX390 mtr w/John Blue 3' pmp will be sold separate-89 Wabash 102"x48' + 5' dove step deck FB trlr, sprng ride, stl fir, + 2 Snyder 3100gal blk poly leg tnks, 4 tnk mix stn, Honda GX390 mtr w/John Blue 3' pmp, 4 DuraPumps, & Venturi will be sold separate-1600gal blk poly leg tnk on mnt for 102' trlr-93 Trailman 102"x40' trple axle low pro GN FB trlr, drve ovr fndrs-71 Sooner 5'x16' BP stck trlr-13 Ford F350 King Ranch, 4 dr, Iron Star 9' alum. FB 6.7L dsl, auto, 4x4, 218k mi, 1 ownr-99 Ford F250 XLT, ext. cab, long bx, 7.3L Pwrstrke, 6spd, 4x4, 270k mi-68 Ford F100, sngle cab, long bx, 390 V8 bored to 417, auto, dual strght pipes-12 Lincoln Navigator L SUV, 5.4L V8, auto, loaded, 284k mi, 1 ownr-**Application, Harvest, Planting, Tillage & Support Equip sell after Campers (Online Bidding Available)**-Miller Nitro 4365 sif-prplld spry, 1600gal stlls tnk, 120' boom w/3 way nzzles on 20' cntrs, fnce row nzzle, tread adjst, boom hght, 5 sect. shutoff, Trimble WAAS gncc equip 380/90R46 rub (520/85R38 rub to sell separate) 3820hrs, 2nd ownr-18 NH CR8.90 cmbne, sprdr & chppr, bin exts, lateral tilt, prem cab, Peterson sieves, bu + cnvcs, WAAS gncc equip, 620/70R42 dls, 2806/2077hrs, 2nd ownr-11 Capello 1230 flat fld cm hd, hyd deck pltes, hght snse, indivl row mwr-Shelbourne Reynolds CVS32 strppr hd, new stlls fngs-14 Case IH 3152 drpr hd, fngr reel, ga whls, fore & aft, hyd level, hght snse, pea aug inclded-Unverferth 48' 4whl steer hdr trlr, lights & brkes-04 & 06 Kinze 1050 Hrvst Cmmndr gr crts, 480/80R42 dls, 22' augr, RO tarps, scles, 2nd ownr-Loftness GBL10 gm bggr, swng arm ldr w/pwr drve hppr, hppr tarp-Loftness GBU gm bag unldr, lower aug cnvrted to high spd unldr-SB hyd gm bag rlr-Westfield WR8-71 aug w/swng hppr-Spd King 6'x30' elec aug-21 Case IH 2150 Early Riser 24R30' plntr, CCS, Delta Force hyd. dwn prsre, Precision Hi-Speed units w/spd blts, cm & srghm units, in-frw & 2x2 fert, insctede/fngode tnk & mtr, SureFire vrble rate pmp, pneumatic row clnrs, hyd. cooler, 1 ownr-Landoll 5530 10"x40' DD frnt fold gm drll, rub prss, dpth skds, pneumatic dwn prsre, 2nd ownr-CrustBuster 3200 TS49x12 hoe drill, spll prss-Crust Buster 3200 TS41x12 hoe drill, spll prss-Roth 4 pro bx sd tndr trlr, Honda GX340 mtr w/elec. start-McFarlane Incite 5132 32' vert tilt reel dsc, wve blades, hyd adjst gang ptch, dble rllng bskts, wkng tndms, 1 ownr(2) Sunflower 1435 40' dble OS dscs, C-fix hngrs, wng ga whls, 1 ownr-Friggstad 6543 43' sprng shnk fld cult, wkng tndms, 3 bar hrwvs, wng ga whls-JD 1910 41' fld cult, 18' swps, pckrs, wkng tndms-Big G 1018 18' OS dsc-lnt. 165 5 btm 16' RO plw Buffalo 3pt. 12R30' fld cult, cut awy dscs, shlds-3pt. dble 7x7 3pt' tool bar w/cult shnks & ga whls-3pt. 16' dble tool bar-CrustBuster 16' PT grdr, 3pt htch, bx ends, SB land plne htch-Soil Mover 75-RF 7.5yrd pan scrpr-Sharpie 12' bx scrpr-cm detasseler cnvrt to sprnkr repair buggy on custom trlr, 6cyl. gas, 2spd hydrostat, 4x4, hyd boom, grmd cntrls-LandPride Commander 15' btwng rtry mwr-Patriot 3pt. 6 dsc trck clr w/drm pckr-6' rtry hoe-8' sprng shnk hrrw-110v rtry gm clnr-bckt mnt 3 tne ble spr(3) 4whl running gears-6' PT grdr-JD Skiles 1000gal cne btm nrse trlr w/Honda GX160 mtr & John Blue 2' wet pmp-(2) 13 Lamar 990 gal BP fuel trlr w/100gal DEF tnks, Fill-Rite 20 gpm 12v pmps w/onbrd bttry & solar chrgs, 12v DEF pmps-**ATV's, Motorcycles, Riding Mowers, Campers, Utility Trailers, Antique Tractors & Combine & More sell at Approx. 1:00pm (Online Bidding Available)**-03 Mitsubishi LE-u62T mini trck, hyd. dmp bd, 4x4, HD suspension, 4cyl. gas, 5 spd, 56k mi-21 CFMoto ZForce 800 Trail side x side, 1,094mi-21 CFMoto CForce 600 4whlr, EPS, 2,186mi, 1 ownr-03 Arctic Cat DVX400 Sport Quad 4whlr-Honda 110 & 200 non-running 3whlrs cnvrted to chpprs-05 Harley Davidson Electra Glide mtrcycle, 31,507mi-80 Yamaha Special 400 mtrcycle, not running-73 Honda Trail 70 mtrcycle, not running-LandPride AccuZ T772 zero tm mwr, 72" deck, Kawasaki 750 mtr-Craftsman VT3000 rdng mowr w/bggr-10 Heartland C3950 Cyclone 5th whl toy hauler cmpr, 41' w/12' grge, 3 slides, Onan sif-cntrnd, trple axle sprng ride, fully stckd, GN & king pin htches-98 Carriage Lite LS341 GN cmpr, 35', 2 slides-08 Pacific Tango 296RLSS BP cmpr 29', 1 slide-(3) 05 Chameleon 80"x13' BP utility trlr-08 HMDE 5'x14' BP utility trlr-5'x8' BP tilt bd utility trlr-4'x8' BP tilt bd utility trlr-Chevy 6'8' PU bx trlr-Ford 8' PU bx trlr-21' V-Hull cabin csr boat on trlr-48 Oliver 70 stndrd non-running trctr-49 Case VAC non-running trctr-MH 35 non-running cmbne-Ace RotoMold 3000gal blk poly cne btm tnk on stnd-Agri-Inject 34gal 1.9gph chmtrg-Soltera 12v pmp w/digi mtr-Lister dsl mtr w/4' water pmp on 3pt. skid-96 Pete 378 Semi frme-Cat 3176 take out mtr-**Shop Equip, Tools, Farm & Livestock Misc & More sells at 10:00am (No Online Bidding)**-Big Joe elec frkflr-Landa 4-2000 hot wtr prsre wshr-rebuilt-North Star prsre wshr-Puma prtble air comp-Dayton 16spd drll prss-20T shp prss-Atlantic bnd sw-Thermal Dynamics plsmc cctr-Fire Power wldr/gen-L-Tec 225 mig wldr-Century 250 AC-DC wldr-chry pckr-Grizzly 14-40 G1174 wd copy lath 110v-Grizzly G1535 scrl saw 110v-Craftsman 10" radial arm saw 110v-Ridgid R415R2 10" tble saw 110v-tble w/ drll prss, chp saw & dble gmdr-actylne/prpne trch set on cr-Delta plnr-Onan Homesite 6500 gas gen-11 1/2' stlls shp bnch-frk mnt wlr plfrm-trlr jcks-Porta-Power 10T ptra pwr-lrge selection hnd & pwr tools-(6) tote blk oil rck-CPS trngle toolbxes-assrtd toolbxes-Clarke toolbxes-Lakewood shp fan-Port-A-Cool 48" swmp clr-drip oil tnk w/12v pmp-metal fuel cans-fert inject pmps-Eriez Magnetics bggr-Amy dsc rlr-fuel tmfr trnk w/12v pmp-(2) Scout gncc htches-(24) rows Red Ball mtrs-NH cm snouts-assrtmnt farm misc-(3) 520/85R38 tires-implmnt tires- trck tires-undrgmd 7 wy pvt wre-assrtd sprnkr tires & rims-sprnkr cddy-sprnkr prts-Banjo ftngs-stck tnks-Hastings dble sided crp fdr-cttle sqze chte-cflr tble-PT ATV spry-JD 826 snw blwr-MTD 8/26 snw blwr-grdn tools-pncn tble-rub hose & fix hose-boat mtrs-used tin-2'x4' Imbr-Ford F-250 bx, tail gate bmrp & receiver htch-Peterbilt 359 slpr-new & used PU & vhcle tires-Plus More

Owners: David & Julie, Stephan, Lucas & Ty Dirks
Note: The Dirks Farm is a fourth-generation family farm. David started farming in 1976 & the boys have farmed with him ever since graduating school. The family has decided the time has come to discontinue their farming operation & pursue other interests. They have gone thru the entire line of equipment and repaired everything as well as completely serviced all running units. Everything is ready to go to the field just as if they were going to use it themselves. Plan to attend! **Loadout provided all day auction day and the next day 10am – 2pm.** Lunch available auction day.



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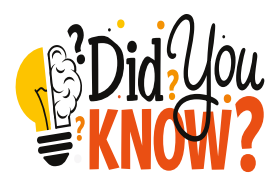
THIS DAY IN HISTORY



1912: The Girl Guides, eventually renamed the Girl Scouts, are founded in the United States.

1947: The Truman Doctrine is proclaimed to help stem the spread of Communism.

2020: The United States suspends travel from Europe due to COVID-19.



St. Patrick supposedly used the clover/shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity to native Irish in an effort to convert them to Christianity.



PLACE YOUR AUCTION AD TODAY FOR HALF PRICE! EMAIL THEHILLCITYTIMES@GMAIL.COM

GRAHAM COUNTY 2026 Soil Conservation Edition

Graham County Conservation District Annual Meeting

The Graham County Conservation District held its annual meeting on Monday, January 26, 2026 at the Hill City Jr./Sr. High School. These pictures are representative of the 2025 Bankers Award for Soil Conservation (L & A Johnson Farms – Corey and Loren Johnson & family) and Water Conservation (Sean Kats and family). Grassland

Award, Windholz Brothers (Art and Lester Windholz & families) and Wildlife and Parks Award, Jason & Andrea Nelson. Also pictured are the 2026 Color page, poster, limerick and essay contest local winners. This year Graham County had two 2024 State Winners. Angela Vanfredenberg received 1st place at the state level for her limerick

titled “Home Is Where The Habitat Is” and Emmersyn Ashbaugh received Honorable Mention for her Essay titled “Home Is Where The Habitat Is”. Those moving to the State competition for 2025 with entries titled “Soil. Where It All Begins” will be as follows:
K-1 Adeline Smith

2-3 Sophia Roy
4-6 Miya Voss
Limerick (7th grade) Alexis Desbien and Cooper Riedel
Essay (8th grade) Noah McDonald and Dylan McNabb
Congratulations to all of the Graham County award winners recognized at the 2025 Conservation District Annual Meeting.

Coloring, Poster, Limerick & Essay Contest Winners



Kindergarten Coloring Page winners Harlan Crawford 1st Place Camden Orr 2nd Place Not pictured Liam Mengelkoch 3rd Place



1st Grade Coloring Page Winners 1st Place Adeline Smith 2nd Place Adley Summers 3rd Place Kinleigh Kibel



2nd Grade Poster Contest Winners 1st Place Remington Nickelson 2nd Place Magdolyn Nutting 3rd Place not pictured Tripp Breinig



3rd Grade Poster Winners 1st Place not pictured Sophia Roy 2nd Place Wrynna Riedel 3rd Place Maverick Edgell



4th Grade Poster Winners 1st Place Lily Webster 2nd Place Ralyn Minium 3rd Place Oakleigh Pfeifer



5th Grade Poster Contest Winners 1st Place Julia Deges 2nd Place not pictured Hunter Dreiling 3rd Place Lorelai Jewell



6th Grade Poster Contest Winners 1st Place Miya Voss 2nd Place Leah Vanfredenberg 3rd Place Lauryn Horne



7th Grade Limerick Winners 1st Place Alexis Desbien 2nd Place Cooper Riedel 3rd Place not pictured Ronnie Washington



8th Grade Essay Contest Winners 1st Place Noah McDonald 2nd Place Dylan McNabb 3rd Place not pictured Averlee Breinig



2025 State Winners 1st Place Limerick Angela Vanfredenberg Honorable Mention Essay not pictured Emmersyn Ashbaugh



Hill City FFA Chapter performed opening and closing ceremonies for the annual meeting

Congratulations to all!



Jenet Billips Recognized

Janet Billips recognized for 30 years of service as a board supervisor pictured with Conservation District Board (courtesy photo)



Water Conservation Award

2025 Kansas Bankers Award Water Conservation Sean Kats and family (courtesy photo)

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Grassland Award

2025 County Conservation Award Grassland Windholz Brothers (Art and Lester Windholz) and families (courtesy photo)



Wildlife and Parks Award

2025 Wildlife and Parks Award Jason Nelson & wife Andrea (not pictured) (courtesy photo)

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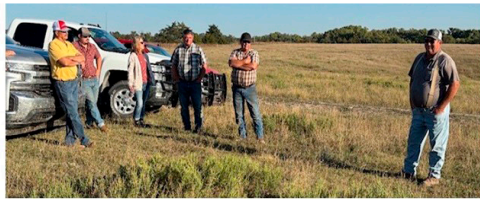
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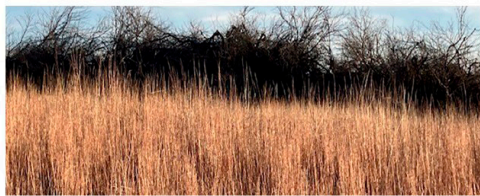
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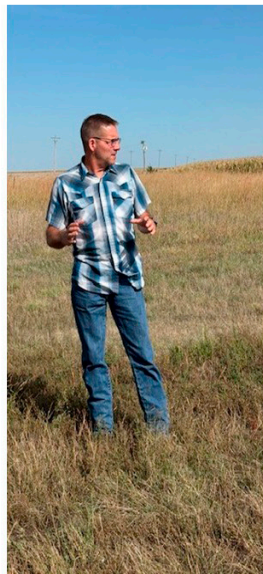
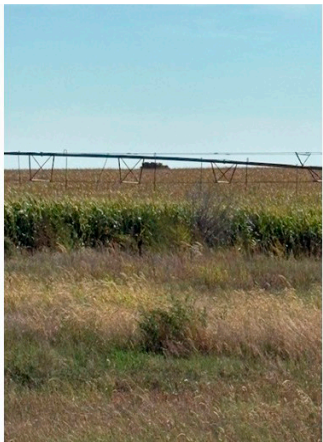


The Grassland Award
Art and Lester Windholz
Windholz Brothers

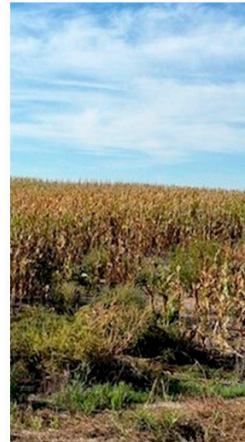
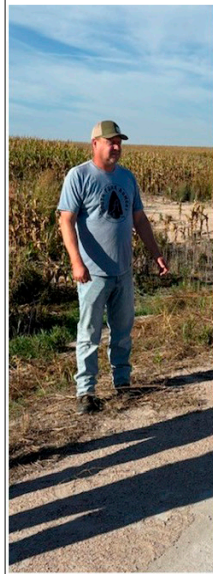


The Soil Conservation Award
Loren and Corey Johnson
L & A Johnson Farms

The Water Resources Award
Sean Kats and the Kats Family



The Wildlife Award
Jason Nelson



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