



# Celebrating 250 Years of AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE and THOSE WHO FIGHT TO PROTECT IT

## THE HILL CITY TIMES

MAILING LABEL WITH SUBSCRIBER EXPIRATION DATE:



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

\$1.00

Vol. 149, No. 46

Wednesday, May 6, 2026

### Specials

**Monday, May 11:** Chicken Enchiladas, Cream Corn, Cilantro Lime Rice, Oreos Fluff

**Thursday, May 14:** Southwest Chicken Wrap, Turkey Club Sandwich, Strawberry Spinach Salad, Oreos Fluff

200 N Pomeroy Hill City (785) 216-0123

### Retirement

Becky Ellis is retiring from the HS. We are having a retirement party on Monday, May 11 from 3:30-4:30pm in the HS Cafeteria.

## The 4x400 relay sets new record



Boys 4x400 shatter the school record and set a new meet record at Quinter today, with a time of 3:59.20. Maverick Nuss, Beau Born, Dean Reichert, Beckett Jilka.



## Zhoner signs UN Kearney

Vincent Zohner has signed with the track and field team at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

He also took 1st in javelin with a throw of 197-10 beating his own school record and the meet record in Quinter! Congratulations

### BOGUE NEWS - LIZ VANLOENEN

The National World Day of Prayer, May 7th, has been cancelled. It has always been held in the park and always on the first Thursday in May, but because there is an athletic banquet that same night it has been canceled. If you would like, you can go to the United Methodist Church in Hill City at 6 pm on May 7th and there will be prayers. Everyone welcome.

The Graham County Fair will start July 24th with judging of the 4-H and thrn open class will be Sat. July 25th. The Nicodemus celebration will be July 31st, Aug. 1st, and Aug. 2nd this year. Maybe everyone can attend both activities.

A big thank you to the county men for their clean up of the City of Bogue.

There will be a work day at the Bogue Church, May 2nd starting at 9 am.

The blood drive that took place on April 23rd was a big success. 58 units were collected last. The FFA was in charge.

We really need rain. There is sure a lot of wind. The farmers seem to think the wheat is done.

Alex, Caley, Laney, and Jake VanLoenen and Liz VanLoenen enjoyed supper together Wednesday evening.

Phyllis Weller has some more pictures on display at the Auto-Art museum. They are really something to see.

Bogue received 1" of rain Sunday. There was a lot of thunder and lightening in the night. Thank you Lord for the moisture we did receive.

Jean Bell and Liz VanLoenen visited Bobbie Bell Friday late afternoon.

## Kansas Drought Worsens, Prompts Emergency Declarations

By Jyll Phillips, Lincoln-Sentinel

Drought conditions in Kansas have significantly intensified during the spring of 2026, driven by persistent precipitation deficits and above-normal temperatures. Western and central Kansas are bearing the brunt of the extreme dry spell, which has degraded the winter wheat crop and prompted state officials to implement emergency water measures.

Governor Laura Kelly has signed a proclamation approving updated drought declarations for counties across Kansas.

Drought conditions have intensified this spring, with extreme drought expanding into northwest and far southwest Kansas, and severe drought continuing to grow across central parts of the state.

### Current Classifications & Geographic Spread

Statewide Overview: The lack of topsoil and subsoil moisture has spread drought conditions across much of the state, with

the western half seeing the most severe impacts.

State Action: In late April, Governor Laura Kelly issued an updated drought declaration for Kansas, placing 51 counties under a drought watch, 47 under a drought warning, and 7 in a drought emergency.

Regional Disparities: While western and central Kansas have faced significant degradation, some areas in far southeastern Kansas have seen limited improvement due to localized, targeted rainfall.

### Agricultural and Economic Impacts

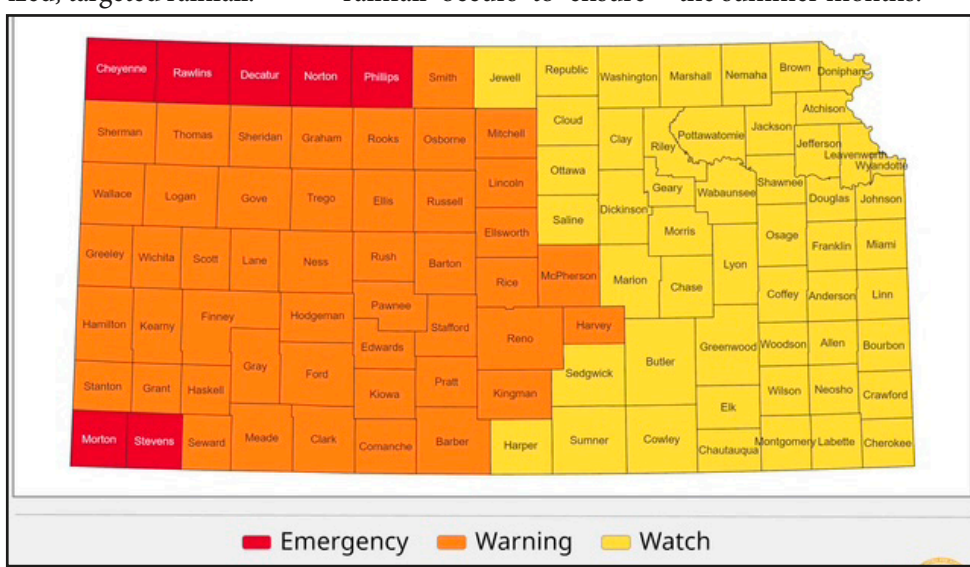
Winter Wheat: The prolonged stress from drought and recent spring freezes has severely hindered the state's winter wheat crop. Experts warn of potential widespread wheat failure and significant challenges for rangeland.

Corn Planting: Although farmers are attempting to plant corn, many are being forced to delay seeding until substantial rainfall occurs to ensure

proper germination in the dry soil.

### Forecast and Outlook

Forecasters warn that the drought is far from over and impacts—ranging from crop stress to elevated fire danger—are likely to continue. The National Weather Service and the Climate Prediction Center project that drought conditions and development will persist, and potentially worsen, across much of the western half of Kansas heading into the summer months.



## Graham Co. nurses receive flowers for their hard work and determination



Our nursing staff at Graham County Hospital would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the anonymous sender of these beautiful flowers. Your thoughtful gesture truly brightened our day and means so much to our team. Our nurses work hard to provide compassionate, high-quality care to our patients, and it's moments like these that remind us how appreciated they are. Thank you for your kindness and support!

Place your Classified ad in

## The Hill City Times

by calling 785-524-4200 or by emailing thehillcitytimes@gmail.com

SUBMISSION DEADLINES: FRIDAYS at NOON for following edition.

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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

**DEVIL WEARS PRADA 2**

• PG 13 •  
 COMEDY - 1 HR 59 MIN  
 MERYL STREEP, ANNE HATHAWAY, EMILY BLUNT, AND STANLEY TUCCI, JUSTIN THEROUX AND KENNETH BRANAGH.

Miranda Priestly struggles against Emily Charlton, her former assistant turned rival executive, as they compete for advertising revenue amid declining print media, while Miranda nears retirement.

May 2 7pm | May 3 6pm  
 May 9 7pm | May 10 6pm

3-12 years \$5 | 13 years and up \$6  
 Pop, popcorn, and candy available

**GRAHAM COUNTY'S PAST**  
 ...  
**IN PRINTER'S INK**  
 VERA FISCHER, GH CO. HISTORICAL SOCIETY



**125 years ago - May 9, 1901**  
**The People's Reveille**

What might have been a serious accident occurred at the home of O.B. Kackley last Friday. Ruth, the six year old daughter, was trying to remove some little thing from under the carpet, using a match to rake it out when the match was ignited. A fire was started, burning a hole in the carpet, and burning a new sofa and sofa cover badly and a lace curtain.

**100 years ago - May 6, 1926**  
**The Reveille New Era**

The mule dray team of the Hardman Lumber Company created a little excitement last Friday evening by scattering the main portion of the wagon to which they were hitched along the street, when they made a quick run away in going home without a driver. Report says a fender on a car was disfigured and the porch in front of the Smith Dry Goods Store was damaged, while the wagon demands numerous repairs.

**75 years ago - May 10, 1951**  
**The Hill City Times**

Bert Gansel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ferd Gansel of Hill City, was nominated for the office of president of the sophomore class at Fort Hays State College, during a special assembly last Friday. The election is scheduled for this Friday, May 11, and students chosen will serve as class officers next year. Carol Albertson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Albertson, is one of the nominees for next year's cheerleaders, which will also be elected tomorrow.

**50 Years ago - May 6, 1976**  
**The Hill City Times**

Dennis G. Sanders, 21, a neighbor of slain Hill City High School teacher Linda Leebrick, Saturday was formally charged with her murder. The suspect was taken before Graham County Magistrate Judge Henry Albertson to hear himself charged with first-degree murder in the slaying of Miss Linda Leebrick, 23, whose battered, semi-nude body was discovered by searchers April 22 in a shallow gulley east of town. The accused murderer was transferred to the Ellis County Jail in Hays over the weekend, where he is being held under \$200,000 bond, awaiting arraignment and preliminary hearing in Hill City.

**25 Years ago - May 2, 2001**  
**The Hill City Times**

The second session of "Survivor II" for high school students and their parents has been postponed and will be held in mid-May in conjunction with the "Survivor II" event planned for area middle-school students and their parents. These sessions are set for Monday, May 14, and Friday, May 17, with the Friday session the one to be attended by both age groups. "Survivor II" is planned to assist in building lines of communication between school-age youth and parents and is being sponsored by the Graham County Health Department and the Graham County Communities That Care Committee.

**News & Advertising Deadline:**

**Fridays @ Noon**  
**for the following edition**

[thehillcitytimes@gmail.com](mailto:thehillcitytimes@gmail.com)

**785-524-4200**

**110 N Pomeroy Hill City, KS 67642**

## Prairie Trails Golf Course News

### Eighty-Six Players Converge on Prairie Trails Golf Course

After many months off, due to winter, the Northwest Kansas Senior Social Golf Tour kicked off the first tournament of the year on Thursday, April 30 at Prairie Trails Golf Course in Hill City. This starts 22 straight weeks of tournaments taking place at a golf course in north-west Kansas. Players aged 50 and older participate each week with different tee boxes being used depending on age. Rolls and coffee are served in the morning during event sign up with lunch taking place once all play is concluded.

The local PTGC Men's Association facilitated the tournament kicking off the start of the 2026 season. PTGC will also host the event on Thursday, September 17 again in Hill City. A total of eighty-six players from all over northwest Kansas formed forty-three 2-Person teams as play began at 9 AM. The field endured much needed rain off and on during the day to finish 18 holes of play in a scramble format. All ties were broken by a scorecard playoff.

Winning the Championship Flight was Rick Bice and Kelly Stewart

Hill City's 81; Donnie Newell/Don Hayes, 81; Bob Dombroski and Doran Zeigler placed second, also with a score of 83; Hoeting/Hoeting, 85; Lowry/63. Third place, with a score of 66 were Klenow and Krull.

The rest of the Championship Flight went like this: Yelton/Cain, 67; Gary Long/Wade McDowell, 68; Rohr/Schneider, 68; Baldwin/Berkley, 68; Ball/Giebler, 68; Basgall/Koerner, 68. First Flight: 1st place, Fessenden/Hawks, 70, 2nd place, Herman/Gable, 71; 3rd place, Halligan/Mickelson, 72; Raines/Poe, 72; Joey Belerive/Harris, 73; Clark/Ruder, 73; Nondorf/Spillman, 73; Bliss/Flax, 73; Beyerley/Baalman, 74; Brad Coats/Jimmy Coats, 75.

Second Flight: 1st place, Fenster/Brittan 76, 2nd place, Arpin/Arpin, 76; 3rd place, Allstrom/Berry, 76; Walt/Malsom, 76; Chris Norman-din/Mark Fabricius, 76; Burris/Berchen, 76; Pruitt/Leiker, 77; Hartman/Zerr, 77; Parke/Deines, 77; Bliss/Kelley, 78; Carswell/Carswell, 78.

Third Flight: 1st place, Owen/Worcester, 79; 2nd place, Tim Thompson/Monty Long, 79; 3rd place, Kroeger/Honas, 80; Wright/Keiswetter, 81; Trogstad, Hafliger,

81; Donnie Newell/Don Hayes, 81; Hooper/Hooper, 82; Fabrizio/Lang, 83; Hoeting/Hoeting, 85; Lowry/Kats, 86; Hubert/Chaput, 88.

Flag prize winners, sponsored by Solutions North Bank: Hole No. 2, Closest to Pin, Doran Zeigler 7'8"; Hole No. 5, Long Putt, Todd B. 28"; Hole No. 6, Closest to Pin, Todd B. 26"; Hole No. 9, Long Putt, L. Parke 15'5".

Thank you to Little Cow Coffee for keeping us caffeinated in the morning and Casey's for the cups. Bottled water was supplied by Nutrien Ag Solutions.

The meal venue was located next door at the Cowboy Junction while the PTGC Ladies Golf Association made a fantastic meal for the hungry players. This included hamburgers and many choices of salads along with some wonderful desert options. The Men's Association would like to thank anyone who volunteered in any way to make this tournament a success! Also, thank you to the maintenance team for having our course ready for play.

The Senior Social Golf Schedule is posted at the clubhouse.



## Ringnecks Win TMP-Marian Golf Invite

By Bob Dombroski  
 Picture from Donald Newell

Hill City won the TMP-Marian Invitational at Smoky Hill Country Club on Monday, April 28. The Ringnecks shot a 324, three shots ahead of Hoisington and 21 better than TMP-Marian and Oakley who tied for third. Hoisington's Logan Cossel was the top medalist with a 6-over-par 77, three shots ahead of Hill City's Chase Bell, who finished second. TMP Marian's Chase Drennon and Hill City's AJ Deges both

2nd Hill City, Chase Bell 80; 3rd, Hill City AJ Deges, 81 and TMP, Chase Drennon 81; 5th, Phillipsburg, Owen Brewster 82; 6th, Oakley, Easton Fink 83; 7th, Hill City, Case Haynes, 84 and Hoisington, Kaidenn Chambers, 84; 9th, Phillipsburg, Easton Ditter, 85; 10th, Heartland Christian, Elijah Gabel, 87 and Hoisington, Kobe Crawford 87.

Other Ringneck Scoring: 13th, Tate Balthazor, 89 and Kenley Gugleman, 89; 52nd, Ryan Budig, 101.

Team Results (Team scores calculated from the best 4 individual scores per team): Champions, Hill City - 334; 2nd, Hoisington - 337; 3rd, TMP-Marian - 355 and Oakley - 355; 5th, Plainville - 362; 6th, Hoxie - 365; 7th, Norton - 380; 8th, Hays JV - 383; 9th, Phillipsburg - 391; 10th, Larned - 397, 11th, Ellis - 404; 12th, TMP-Marian JV - 410; 13th, Trego - 411; 14th, Hays JV - 424.

Top-10 Individual Results: Champion, Hoisington Logan Cossel, 77;



## HCHS Ringnecks Capture Second Place At Hoxie Invite

By Bob Dombroski

The Hill City High School varsity had another strong showing during the Hoxie Golf Invitational with a final team score of 302. Seven strokes back of first place, Oakley Plainsman, who finished with a team score of 295 on April 28.

Oakley's Easton Fink took individual honors shooting seven strokes under par with a score of 65, to outdistance second place finisher Kenley Gugleman of Hill City with an even par score of 72 and Ringneck AJ Deges, who placed third overall with a 73.

Top Scoring (Team scores are cal-

culated from the best 4 individual scores per team): Champions, Oakley - 295; 2nd, Hill City - 302; 3rd, Hoxie - 311; 4th, Goodland - 356; 5th, St. Francis - 362; 6th, Trego Community - 363; 7th, Rawlins County - 364; 8th, Oberlin - 375; 9th, Wheatland-Grinnell - 381; 10th, Hoxie JV - 393. Nesser City, Sharon Springs and Quinter competed individually but did not have enough players for a team score.

Individual Top 10: Champion, Easton Fink, Oakley - 65; 2nd, Kenley Gugleman, Hill City - 72; 3rd, AJ Deges, Hill City - 73; 4th, Bro-

die Tremble, Hoxie and Manuel Mancia, Oakley - 75; 6th, Gage Epp, Hoxie and Cauy Bosserman, Oakley - 77; 8th, Chase Bell, Hill City and Carter Selensky, Oakley 78; 10th Case Haynes, Hill City and Max Foote, Hoxie - 79.

Other Ringneck Notables: 13th, Tate Balthazor - 82; 22nd, Ryan Budig and Corbin Jones - 87.

You can watch your Ringneck golf team at Prairie Trails Golf Course on Friday, May 8 during the Hill City Invitational. The MCL tournament will be played in Hays on Thursday, May 14.

**Contact Information: The Hill City Times**  
thehillcitytimes@gmail.com • Phone Hours 785-524-4200

**Office Hours: Wednesday 9:30 - Noon**

## Spanish class takes field trip



Students in Spanish class tried out their verbal skills at Jalapenos in Hill City!



## Minium signs to CCC

Rylie Minium officially signed today as she commits to play basketball next year at Colby Community College! Congratulations!



## Adolph & Opal Harris Scholarship Winners

Rachel Walter and Rylie Minium are this year's winners of the Adolph & Opal Harris scholarship for \$1500 each.



## Rainy day? No problem

Rainy, chilly days at Dawson Place just mean one thing... it's time to gather the crew. Our elders traded in sunshine for a fingernail party, a mountain of popcorn and M&M's, and a card game that got just a little competitive (okay... a lot). There may have been some serious trash talk, a few "rule reminders," and plenty of laughs echoing down the halls. But in between the giggles and game faces, it's these moments—sitting together, sharing stories, and just enjoying each other—that make days like this feel extra special. Who needs sunshine when you've got this kind of warmth inside?

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

- ASSEMBLY OF GOD Morland, Kansas  
Worship: 10:30 A.M. and 5 P.M., Sundays  
Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.
- BOGUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Bogue, Kansas  
Worship: 9 A.M. Sundays  
Sunday School: 10 A.M.
- CHRISTIAN CHURCH 122 N. Pomeroy, Hill City  
Worship: 9 A.M. and Sunday School: 10:15 A.M.
- FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD 206 N. Middle, Hill City  
Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.  
Coffee Fellowship: 10:00 A.M., Morning Worship & Heavens Sake Kid's Church: 1045 A.M.
- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Nicodemus, Kansas  
Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.  
Church: 11 A.M.  
Bible Study: Wed., 5:30 P.M.
- FIRST PRESBYTERIAN 223 N. 4th Ave., Hill City  
Worship: 9 A.M. & Coffee Fellowship following.
- 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.
- GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 11th and Hill, Hill City  
Worship: 4 P.M. Sunday  
Bible Study: 3 p.m. Sunday
- H<sub>2</sub>O CHURCH.TV 305 N. Pomeroy, Hill City  
5:00 p.m.  
Praise - Worship - Message
- HILL CITY CHURCH OF GOD Third and Cedar, Hill City  
Worship: 10:30 A.M.
- HILL CITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 118 N. 4th Ave., Hill City
- Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.  
Worship: 10:45 A.M.
- IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH 10 N. 10th Ave., Hill City  
Masses: 6 P.M., Saturdays; 11 A.M. Sundays
- PRAIRIE HOME UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 12 miles south, 1/4 mile East of Hill City on "E" Rd.  
Worship: 9:15 A.M.
- 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.
- ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC Damar, Kansas  
Mass: 9 A.M., Sundays
- THE LIGHTHOUSE CHURCH OF GOD 519 N. East, Hill City  
Sunday Worship: 10 A.M.  
Family Training Hour: 7 P.M., Wednesday
- MORLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Worship: 6 P.M., Sunday  
Bible Study: 5 P.M., Sunday
- UNITED METHODIST Palco, Kansas  
Worship/Service: 9 A.M.  
Fellowship Time: 10 A.M.
- UNITED PARISH OF LENORA  
Worship: 10:30 A.M.  
Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.
- MT. PLEASANT BAPTIST 6.5 miles south of Morland, Ks.  
Sunday School: 9:45 A.M.  
Worship: 10:50 A.M.
- 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  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Fellowship Dinner

## MORE! Prairie Trails Golf Course News

### Low Score of 29 Win's Men's Golf

Five four-man teams were formed on Tuesday evening at Prairie Trails Golf Course in Hill City for the weekly scramble golf event. Kendall Nuss, Chris Orr, Wade McDowell and Brent Kelley had six birdies from the white tee box place with a score of 29 on April 28. Second place went to Brock Kibel, Todd Ashbaugh, Noah Fry and Fred Owen with a scorecard of 31. Jim Baldwin, Cooper Bagley, Monty Long and Jarod Rohr turned in a score of 32 while Austin Rivera, Kaleb Atkins, Cole Kirschner and Zac Robinson finished at 33. A final tally of 36 was recorded by Bronson Bailey, Sylar Rohr, Cameron Atkins and Michael Otta. Noah Fry grabbed \$10 cash from the First State Bank after being closest to the pin from the tee box on Hole No. 2. Jarrod Rohr did the same on Hole No. 6 and received a gift certificate from 2-Lane Liquor. Chris Orr was closest to the pin on the second shot for Hole No. 9 and accepted a free car wash from Campbell's 24-Hour Automatic Car Wash. Men's Tuesday Night Golf continues each week with sign up at 5:45 PM and sticks swinging at 6 PM.

## HILL CITY NUTRITION SITE

Welcome in House Participants & Carry-Out

- Friday, May 8:** Beef Frank on Bun, Tomato Cucumber Salad, Tropical Fruit, No Bake Cookie
- Monday, May 11:** Chef Salad w/Ham, Crackers, Cookie, Fruit Cobbler
- Tuesday, May 12:** Chicken Pot Pie, California Blend Vegetables, Biscuit, Watermelon
- Wednesday, May 13:** Lasagna, Italian Blend Vegetables, Bread, Peaches
- Thursday, May 14:** Bierock Casserole, Peas & Carrots, Pineapple, Birthday 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.

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Send your stories, news & photos to thehillcitytimes@gmail.com

Thank you readers



## The Rotary club honors the HC golf team

by Randall Weller

It seems that the focus of the public on high school sports rests primarily on basketball and football. The Hill City Rotary Club would like to honor the Hill City High School golf team. For the 2nd year in a row, the Rotary Club has given a carton of golf balls to each of the high school participants. The ceremony occurred at the Hill City Municipal Golf Course on the afternoon of Tuesday, April 21st.

Pictured is the Hill City High School Golf team who are as follows: front row (left to right) Taylor Schneider, Hailey Carder, Ryan Budig, Chase Bell, Chances Poe. Back Row (left to right) Don Newell, Corbin Jones, Blake Harmon, Kenley Gugelman, Brody Nuss, Tate Balthazor, Chase Haynes, Mitchell Presley, AJ De- ges along with Rotarians Garrett Otter

and Joel Green while Rotarian Melissa Atkins served as photographer.

A hearty congratulations to the team for winning the Thomas Moore Prep-Marian High School Invitational last Monday. 14 area schools participated. Chase Bell finished 2nd and AJ De ges tied for 3rd. A wonderful way to start the season!

The high school team will participate in approximately 20 tournaments during the season, and must complete 8 before being eligible for the state play offs. Tournaments are mostly with other MCL teams, but others sometimes participate.

A special shout out and thank you to Don Newell for sharing his time and talent as coach of the team.

The Hill City Rotary Club deems it an honor to support our high school golf team and we wish them well in the season that lies ahead.



## Dr. Watson visits USD 281

KSDE Education Commissioner Dr. Randy Watson visited USD 281 Graham County this past week. It was a joy to have him here and to show him all the wonderful things happening in our district.

## CCC scholarship expanded

COLBY, Kan. — High school students across Northwest Kansas will continue to have expanded access to affordable higher education after the Colby Community College Board of Trustees renewed the Colby Commitment Scholarship through the Spring 2027 semester during its April 20 meeting. Trustees will revisit the program at that time.

The Colby Commitment Scholarship provides eligible students with tuition, fees, and books. The award is available to students who receive free or reduced-price meals and attend high schools within the College's 14-county

service area. In addition, all juniors and seniors attending any public, private, or home school in Thomas County qualify.

Students who do not reside in Thomas County or who do not qualify for free or reduced-price meals may still enroll in classes for \$50 per credit hour, which includes tuition, fees, and books.

Students attending schools in Cheyenne, Decatur, Gove, Graham, Logan, Norton, Phillips, Rawlins, Rooks, Sheridan, Sherman, Thomas, Trego, and Wallace counties may be eligible based on family adjusted gross income in accordance with the

Kansas State Department of Education free and reduced meal guidelines.

"We are grateful to the Board of Trustees for continuing this investment in students and families across our region," said Colby Community College President Dr. Seth Carter. "The Colby Commitment Scholarship increases access to higher education, reduces financial barriers, and helps more students pursue their goals close to home. Ultimately, we are expanding educational opportunity across Northwest Kansas at unprecedented levels while strengthening the communities that make

See "Colby" page 5

## Graham County Commission Meeting Minutes

April 21, 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 reported that the grant, which was previously expected to have a decision on April 17, 2026, has been delayed to May 15, 2026. Jonathan also reminded the board that, if awarded, the grant funds would be used to purchase a second boiler, an AC condenser, and to remodel two patient rooms to better accommodate psychiatric patients. Jonathan spoke about the TEAMS model and explained to the board what a swing bed is. He also reported that a few minor adjustments would be made to the hospital's phone recording system, so callers may notice some changes when contacting the hospital. Commissioner Crouch asked whether any progress had been made regarding the crisis intervention center financial request. Commissioner Irby reported that he had spoken with Jonathan about the possibility of the hospital funding it; however, at this time, Jonathan does not believe the hospital has the financial

capacity to do so. Commissioner Irby added that he will continue reviewing the numbers and stated that it would be best for all parties to meet and discuss the matter further once the financial details have been examined more thoroughly.

New York Life Representative, Kac'Rae McAlonan Kac' provided the board with a packet of information regarding New York Life Insurance and introduced herself. She explained the life insurance options available through New York Life Insurance Company and inquired whether the board would be interested in offering this benefit. Commissioner Nelson stated that he believed it would be a good benefit. Commissioner Irby recommended tabling the discussion for one week to allow time for further review of the information before making a decision.

Graham County Road & Bridge Supervisor, Steven Kreutzer

Commissioner Crouch shared that a Graham County resident living west of Morland had contacted him to express appreciation for the road being bladed. Commissioner Crouch inquired about the status of the Antelope Lake bridge. Steven reported that Cliff has completed repairs on the bridge. He also noted that several crew members

were assigned to the city-wide cleanup effort, while another crew continues work on 12 Mile Road. Steven reported that the water pump on the old dozer had failed, and Bill was working on getting it transported to town for water pump replacement. He also shared that he had spoken with a current employee about potentially stepping into the mechanical role in the shop. Steven noted that the employee was expected to follow up with him regarding their interest in the position. Commissioner Crouch asked Steven whether he would like to post a job advertisement for equipment operators and a mechanic. Steven stated that he would prefer to wait on posting the mechanical position until he hears back from the current employee he had previously spoken with. Steven also reported that several employees are willing to become certified CDL trainers but have requested an increase of \$1-\$2 per hour. He indicated that he is not in favor of the hourly increase but is considering offering a \$150-\$200 bonus for everyone successfully trained. Steven and the Board discussed the importance of selecting a trainer who is a trustworthy and reliable employee. Commissioner Irby asked Steven about his plan for learning from Cliff and the potential of

promoting Taylor VanLoenen to a foreman position. Steven reported that he has been working on learning the paperwork aspects of the role and will continue working closely with Cliff. Steven also stated that he plans to promote Taylor to Foreman once Bill retires. The Commissioners and Steven discussed the process and responsibilities of each foreman role, noting that Steven has the option to promote Taylor sooner if he chooses. Steven indicated that he would discuss the opportunity further with Taylor. Steven reported that the toilets at the shop are not functioning properly and asked whether he needed to obtain bids or if he could contact someone to assess the issue. Commissioner Nelson reminded him that if the repair cost exceeds \$500, bids would be required. Steven stated that he would have someone come take a look and proceed accordingly. Steven also reported that he had spoken with Wayne Pfeifer regarding the right-of-way that was to be surveyed. He noted that pink stakes had been placed along the center line, with additional markers set 20 feet on both sides. The Commissioners agreed to visit and review the right-of-way before concluding the meeting. Commissioner Crouch advised the Board that Penokee Road, which had been treated with magnesium chloride, appears to be deteriorating. He stated that he believes the issue may be due to poor application by the company, although it has helped reduce dust. Commissioner Irby agreed to contact the company to request that they inspect the road and provide feedback. Clerk Robinson informed the Board that she assisted Steven in registering for the Kansas County Highways Association (KCHA) and enrolling in new supervisor training. Steven also reported that Wayne had provided him with the work cell phone,

and he will now be carrying it.

Graham County Treasurer, Bri Edwards

Bri reported that she wanted to provide the Board with an update on the identified deficiencies and the progress her office has made in addressing them. She gave a detailed overview of each deficiency and the current status of corrective actions. Bri also reported that Dawn from Cheyenne County assisted in bringing the bank reconciliations up to date through 2026. Additionally, she noted that funds are to be transferred annually from the Special Auto Fund to the County General Fund each May, and that she plans to complete this transfer soon in the approximate amount of \$11,000. Bri continued by discussing the Motor Vehicle Special Auto Fund and expressed her hope that it could be utilized to help reduce her office's budget. She also informed the Board that the Treasurer's Office will tentatively be closed on July 15 for her and her staff to attend mandatory title training. Commissioner Irby asked Bri how long she anticipated needing assistance from other county treasurers. Bri responded that she expects to rely on their support through at least her first year while operations are being fully stabilized, though she noted that their visits have already become less frequent than before.

New Business

Clerk Robinson presented four refund orders totaling a valuation of 50,932 and a total refund of \$6,048 for the Board's review and approval. Commissioner Crouch made a motion to approve the refund orders in the amount of \$6,048.00. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. The Board and Clerk Robinson discussed the placement of the two new time clocks. Clerk Robinson suggested installing one in the hallway of the Sheriff's Office, noting

that it would be secure from tampering while still providing access to both the Dispatch and Janitorial departments. The Commissioners agreed that the Sheriff's Office hallway would be an appropriate location, along with placing the second time clock at the Landfill. The Commissioners reviewed and signed payroll vouchers and checks. Clerk Robinson also ensured that the Board reviewed an email from County Attorney Michael Abbott regarding upcoming changes to the Appellate Contracts for the new fiscal year. Clerk Robinson presented the abstract of the Commissioner meeting minutes from April 7, 2026, for review and signature. Commissioner Irby reviewed and signed the abstract. Commissioner Crouch asked about the process for providing a pickup to the new Road and Bridge Supervisor. He agreed to research the matter and report back with his findings. Commissioner Irby also reminded the Board that he will be attending the Kansas County Commissioners Association Conference from Wednesday through Friday of this week in Hutchinson. The Commissioners recessed to view the right-of-way previously discussed.

The Commissioners reconvened following their review of the right-of-way. Commissioner Irby reported that they observed the work that had been completed. Commissioner Crouch stated that he would notify Stan Brandyberry. Commissioner Irby advised that he would inform Mr. and Mrs. Roberts that they have two weeks to relocate their fence. Commissioner Nelson reported that he would contact Jason Nelson to inform him that the matter has been addressed.

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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## Fox transported to rehab

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 Carries Rehab Critters, Nonprofit organization, run by volunteers

## COLBY/page 3

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## HANSEN MUSEUM NEWS BY SHARI BUSS

The Hansen Museum continues to welcome visitors from near and far, and this past week was no exception. Our current exhibit, SPECTACLE, traveling from the National Geographic Society, is drawing interest from across the country—and even across the ocean.

Last week, we had the pleasure of hosting a delightful couple from Dawlish in the United Kingdom. Michael and Allison were on holiday and, believe it or not, had planned a unique trip through Kansas and Missouri to explore abandoned homes and churches. One of their destinations brought them along Highway 9 in Kansas, which led them to an unexpected stop at the Hansen Museum.

They were pleasantly surprised to discover such a beautiful museum in the midst of the Great Plains and were especially interested in learning about our origins. To their amazement, they also found a photograph from their home region displayed in our gallery. The piece, by photographer David Clapp, captures waves crashing over rocks in powder-white jets during a winter storm along the Penwith Peninsula in Cornwall, England. Michael and Allison shared that the image is remarkably true to life, as they live only a county away and witness those very scenes themselves. It was a joy to visit with them and share Logan's rich heritage and the Hansen legacy—they were truly impressed.

Later that same day, we welcomed a lovely visitor from Minnesota who spent the afternoon enjoying the museum. Over the weekend, guests from Iowa made a special stop after seeing our 4.9 Google rating and strong TripAdvisor reviews. Another couple traveling along Highway 36 noticed our signage and decided to take a detour—and we're happy to report they were glad they did.

We are proud to say that each of these visitors left pleased with their decision to make the Hansen Museum part of their journey. They especially enjoyed both the world-

owned photography on display and the historical exhibits that tell the Hansen story.

In addition, we are excited to welcome our new Artist of the Month for May. Mary Beth Rose of Bogue, Kansas, began her exhibit over the weekend. Mary Beth is an incredible fiber artist who creates intricate and fascinating pieces from paper. Her collection includes a wide variety of greeting cards and charming handcrafted items—such as miniature Airstream campers—available for purchase. Her work is both affordable and beautifully crafted, offering something for everyone.

As always, we invite you to stop by, experience the art, and discover stories that make the Hansen Museum such a special place. SPECTACLE, will remain on view through June 14, 2026. The 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!



Mary Beth Rose of Bogue, Kansas, May's Artist of the Month, poses with her display of intricate and imaginative paper-crafted creations, now on view and available for sale at the Hansen Museum.



Michael and Allison Baldock of Dawlish, United Kingdom, pose with David Clapp's striking photograph capturing waves crashing over the Penwith Peninsula—an image reminiscent of the coastal beauty near their home.

### Norton Livestock Market, Inc.

**Upcoming May sales for Norton Livestock are on Thursday starting at 1:00 p.m. as follows:**

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## Legal Notice

(First Published in The Hill City Times on Wednesday, April 29, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF GRAHAM COUNTY, KANSAS

B & S, LLC, Plaintiff,  
vs.

Speight Jenkins, Trustee of Speight Jenkins, Jr.; Burford I. King, Trustee; Ruth G. Pickens Grandchildren's Joint Venture; First State Bank; Starsong Ministry Association; Choctaw Energy Limited Partnership; Rock Chalk Royalties, Ltd.; Texakan Resources, LLC; Moncrief Marital Trust; Artyce, L.P.; Hyde Oil and Gas Corporation; Franklin J. Albano Exempt Descendants Trust; Margaret S. Peterson Thomson; John Sommers; Robert Sommers; Carolyn Peterson; Black Mountain Royalty, LP; Ellen E. Langham; Laura Langham Thigpen, Belmont Sisters, LP; Louise B. Rue; Anne Coleman Bulkley; Artyce Aronson; D.R. Lauck Oil Company, Inc.; Unified School District #281; Abigail Wrathier; CTP Enterprises, LLC; Pfeifer Living Trust dated 3/19/08; Herring Oil & Gas, LLC; David N. Roberts Revocable Trust; Westfall Gooden Oil, LLC; DD Southern Holdings, LLC; Max R. McDonald; Frances Gooden Herring; David Chester Gooden; Carolyn Gooden Dunstone; Enerlex, Inc.; The I's of Texas Family Partnership, LP; Grossman Family Partnership, LP; Helen Westfall Gooden 1998 Revocable Trust; James W. Westfall 1993 Revocable Trust; Chester H. Westfall Jr. Living Trust dated 3/22/1996; John Kulowski; Frank H. Langham; Artyce Colen; Barbara Simons; Doris Smith Penrose; C.E. Hyde; Charlotte Ann Sommers; Charlotte S. Albano; John F. Sommers; Esther N. Sommers; Conrad J. Sommers; Ruth E. Langham; Billie Lou Marshall; Billie Lou Whillock; E. Stanton Moncrief; Robert N. Arnett; Holly D. Rohleder; Betty Nanette Morel; Helen Gooden; Estate of Carolyn L. Westfall; Neville G. Penrose; Revocable Inter Vivos Trust of Sheila K. Fritts dated 10/27/07; Revocable Inter Vivos Trust of Bob J. Fritts dated 10/27/07; and the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, 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 partnerships; the unknown guardians, conservators and trustees of any defendants that are minors or are under any legal disability; and the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors and assigns of any person alleged to be deceased, Defendants  
Case No: GH-2026-CV-000008  
Pursuant to K.S.A. Ch. 60.

### NOTICE OF SUIT

The State Of Kansas To All Of The Above Named Defendants And All Other Concerned Persons:

You are notified that a Petition has been filed in District Court of Graham County, Kansas, by B & S, LLC, seeking an order Quiet-Title in and to the following described tracts of land in Graham County, Kansas:

Northwest Quarter (NW/4) and West Half of the Northeast Quarter (W/2 NE/4) of Section Fifteen (15), Township Nine (9) South, Range Twenty-one (21) West of the 6th P.M., Graham County, Kansas

And you are hereby required to plead to the Petition on or before Tuesday, June 9, 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 Petition.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael J. Baxter #26459  
Christopher W.

Sook #20737

Jeter Law Firm LLP  
P.O. Box 128, Hays, KS 67601  
(785) 628-8226  
mbaxter@jeterlawoffice.com  
cscook@jeterlawoffice.com  
Attorney for Plaintiff

## Legal Notice

(First Published in The Hill City Times on Wednesday, April 22, 2026)

### NOTICE OF HEARING

In the Matter of the Proposed Greater GMD4 Local Enhanced Management Area in Cheyenne, Rawlins, Gove, Logan, Sheridan, Sherman, Thomas, and Wallace Counties, Kansas

Pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-1041(b) and K.A.R. 5-19-3, notice is hereby provided that the Chief Engineer of the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources (Chief Engineer) will hold a hearing to consider the proposed Greater GMD4 Local Enhanced Management Area (LEMA) Plan submitted to the Chief Engineer by Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District Number 4 in-person at the City Limits Convention Center, 2227 S. Range Avenue, Colby, KS 67701, Colby, Kansas, on May 27, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. central time.

The hearing will consider whether one or more of the circumstances specified in subsection (a) through (d) of K.S.A. 82a-1036 exist within the proposed boundaries of the proposed LEMA, whether the public interest of K.S.A. 82a-1020 requires that one or more corrective control provisions be adopted, and whether the geographic boundaries of the proposed LEMA are reasonable.

Anyone may submit written or oral statements to be included in the record of the hearing. Oral statements will be accepted only at the public hearing. Written statements may be submitted at the hearing, in advance of the hearing, or following the hearing. The deadline for the submission of written statements following the hearing will be June 10, 2026. Written statements may be provided by mail to the Kansas Department of Agriculture, c/o Ronda Hutton; 1320 Research Park Drive, Manhattan, Kansas 66502, faxed to (785) 564-6777, or e-mailed to ronda.hutton@ks.gov.

Earl D. Lewis, P.E.  
Chief Engineer, Division of Water Resources  
Kansas Department of Agriculture

## Legal Notice

(First Published in The Hill City Times on Wednesday, April 22, 2026)

### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF GRAHAM COUNTY, KANSAS

Board of County Commissioners of Graham County, Kansas, v. A & R Investments LLC, et al., Plaintiffs, Case #GH-2026-CV-000001 Defendants.

### SHERIFF'S NOTICE OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that under and by virtue of an Order of Sale issued to me out of the District Court of Graham County, Kansas, in the above entitled action, I will, on **May 26, 2026 at 11:00 o'clock a.m.**, on said day, in the courtroom of the courthouse in the City of Hill City, Graham County, Kansas, offer at public sale, and sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in hand, all of the property described below:

Tract # 1

Legal Description: #R-2892 - West 14' 4" of the North 100 feet and the the south 40 feet of Lot 19, all of lots 21 and 22, Block 20 or the original town, now City of Hill City, Graham County, Kansas AND a tract beginning south 150 feet and east 80' of the northwest corner of said block 20 thence north 50 feet, thence east 10 feet, thence south 50 feet, thence west 10 feet to the point of beginning, (same being a portion of Lot 17 and Lot 19, in said Block 20, in the origina town, now City of Hill City, Graham County, Kansas.

Tax lien amount \$15965.84

all plus interest and court costs.

Defendants: A & R Investments, LLC, First State Bank

Tract # 2

Legal Description: #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 cornr 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.

Tax Lien amount \$5084.25

all plus interest and court costs.

Defendants: ACR Land Trust

Tract # 3

Legal Description: #R1127 - SW/4 of 21-7-21, Graham County, Kansas.

Tax lien amount \$10,218.87

all plus interest and court costs.

Defendants: Gregory Alexander, , ,

Tract # 4

Legal Description: #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 Quatr 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.

Tax Lien amount \$2745.47

all plus interest and court costs.

Defendants: Jon J. Bradshaw, Sandra Bradshaw, , ,

Tract # 6

Legal Description: #R2310 - Lots 21 and 23, Block 16, original

town, now City of Hill City, Graham County Kansas.

Tax lien amount \$3765.88

all plus interest and court costs.

Defendants: Romell Bullock, , ,

Tract # 8

Legal Description: 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.

Tax lien amount \$12,779.93

all plus interest and court costs.

Defendants: F. Richard Gansel, June M. Gansel, , ,

Tract # 10

Legal Description: #R2172 - Lot 66, Hillcrest Addition to the City of Hill City Graham County, Kansas.

Tax lien amount \$9114.23

all plus interest and court costs.

Tract # 19

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

Tax Lien amount \$3079.08

all plus interest and court costs.

Defendants: Jason Kenneth Hall, , ,

Tract # 20

Legal Description: #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.

Tax lien amount \$608.96

all plus interest and court costs.

Defendants: Joshua David Helfrich, , ,

Tract # 25

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

Tax lien amount \$6099.16

all plus interest and court costs.

Defendants: Lawrence Adams, Norma Jean Adams aka Norma Jean Shower, John Showers, Kenney Showers, Steven Showers

Tract # 27

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

Tax lien amount \$2899.33

all plus interest and court costs.

Defendants: Charles Edward Morris, , ,

Tract # 32

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

Tax lien amount \$2.92

all plus interest and court costs.

Defendants: Roberta Rena Robinson, , ,

Tract # 34

Legal Description: #R3761 - Lots 13, 14 and 15, Block 19 in the orig inal town of Fremont, now called the City of Morland, Graham County, Kansas.

Tax lien amount \$375.07

all plus interest and court costs.

Defendants: Darci Schamberger, Midland Credit Management, Inc., Midwest Energy Inc., ,

Tract # 35

Legal Description: #R3762 - Lots 16, 17 and 18, Block 19, in the orig inal town of Fremont, now called the City of Morland, Graham County, Kansas.

Tax lien amount \$13,974.86

all plus interest and court costs.

Defendants: Darci Schamberger, Midland Credit Management, Inc., Midwest Energy Inc., ,

Tract # 39

Legal Description: #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.

Tax lien amount \$1509.51

all plus interest and court costs.

Defendants: Leroy H. Van Duvall Revocable Trust utd 10-25-11, , , ,

Tract # 46

Legal Description: #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.

Tax lien amount \$2989.66

all plus interest and court costs.

Defendants: Alva D. Winters II, , ,

The above described real estate is taken as property of the respective defendants designated herein as the owner thereof and is to be sold and will be sold without appraisal to satisfy said Order of Sale and the respective liens adjudged thereon.

WITNESS my hand at Hill City, Kansas, this April 15, 2026.

Les Burton

Sheriff of Graham County, Kansas.

ATTEST:

Tiffany Breinig

Clerk of the District Court

MICHAEL ABBOTT

County Attorney



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## Kindergarten Graduation

Children receiving their their Kindergarten diplomas:

Truitt Breinig, Jason Clark, Harlan Crawford, Brenley Headding, Abby Hoppe, Wrenlee Hunsicker, David Jewell, Liam Mengelkoch, Avery Norman-din, Camden Orr, Ascher Pfeifer, Bentley Pittman, Kaci Roberts, Ryker Rome, Henry Shewey, Odysseus Smith, Nikolai

Stevens, Koi Wyatt

The kindergartners performed as frogs, lions, monkeys, and elephants before they changed into their cap and outfits to receive their kindergarten diplomas. They worked hard this past year on counting, spelling, eating snacks, and mastering recess. They are officially ready for 1st grade!

## FFA Banquet

(photos courtesy Bev Stafford)



Greenhand and Chapter Degrees were awarded during the special recognition portion of the FFA Banquet. Easton Ruder (far left) received the Discovery Degree which is awarded at the first level of achievement. The Chapter Degree was awarded to Kason Mauck, Jaxson Smith, Rance Minium, Greeley Billips and Jenna Berland. Receiving the Greenhand Degree were Daniel McGee and Rayden Garrison. Coda Ashmore, Sabri Rohr and Adrienne Steinmetz also received the Greenhand award but were not present for the picture. Well done, students and Mrs. Ruder!



Awards of appreciation were presented to 3 individuals during the FFA Banquet. Chris Farrell, Scott Minium and Leanne Minium were recognized for the assistance they have provided to the FFA organization during the past school year. Thank you, volunteers! Another individual who was recognized was Phil Stinemetz for his cooking skills (roast beef extraordinaire).



FFA Sponsor, Stacy Ruder, stands with her FFA officers who have just completed their 2025-26 year of activities. The year always culminates with their banquet and awards night. Pictured left to right are Mrs. Ruder, Jaxson Smith (Reporter), Kason Mauck, Chase Bell (Treasurer), Rance Minium (Sentinel), Rylie Minium (Vice President), Greeley Billips (President), and Jenna Berland (Secretary).

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WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

# 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-athletics! 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](mailto:Thehillcitytimes@gmail.com)

# THE HILL CITY TIMES

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

