

(First published in The Sheridan Sentinel January 18, 2024)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SHERIDAN COUNTY, KANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of
KARLA WESSEL, Deceased.

Case No.: SD-2024-PR-000003

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:
You are hereby notified that a petition dated December 22, 2023, has been filed in this court by Christopher Wessel, as a surviving son of Karla Wessel, deceased, praying for administration of said estate and for the appointment of Christopher Wessel as executor of the estate.

You are further advised that the petitioner in this matter has requested administration pursuant to the Kansas Simplified Estates Act, and if such request is granted the court may not supervise administration of the estate and no further notice of any action of the executor or other proceedings in the estate will be given except for notice of final settlement of the decedent's estate. Should written objections to simplified administration be filed with the court, the court may order supervised administration to ensue.

You are hereby required to file your written defenses to the appointment of Christopher Wessel as executor of the estate on or before **February 19, 2024, at 11:00 A.M.** in this court in the city of Hoxie, Sheridan County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the petition.

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

/s/Christopher Wessel
Christopher Wessel, Petitioner

/s/ Steven W. Hirsch
Steven W. Hirsch #12789
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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SHERIDAN COUNTY, KANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
DONNA M. HAFFNER, DECEASED.

Case No. SD-2024-PR-000001

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a Petition for Probate of Will and Appointing Executor under Kansas Simplified Estates Act was filed in this Court by Julie A. Carroll, an heir, devisee and legatee, and Executor named in the Last Will and Testament of Donna M. Haffner, deceased, praying that the instrument attached to the Petition dated November 2, 2011, be admitted to probate, and for the appointment of Julie A. Carroll as Executor of the Will to serve without bond.

All creditors of the above-named decedent are notified to exhibit their demands against the estate within four (4) months from the date of first publication of this notice, as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

JULIE A. CARROLL, Petitioner

BAUER, PIKE, BAUER, WARY,
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Legal Notice

Pursuant to 1.101, ch. 279,2

Results of the market study analysis for Sheridan County for assessment year 2024.

A study of the residential real estate market indicated that there is an overall upward inflationary trend.

A study of the commercial and vacant lot real estate market indicated that there is an overall upward inflationary trend.

Values on specific properties may not follow the general trend because of changes in the property, correction of descriptive information or adjustment of values based on sales of similar properties. In accordance with the provisions in K.S.A. 79-1476, the Division of Property Valuation is required to annually furnish each county the results of its study relating to changes, if any, of the use value of agricultural land. Changes can and do occur as a result of several factors including cropping practices, commodity prices and production costs.

Irene Foster

October 30, 1945 ~ January 28, 2024

Irene Marie (Stremel) Foster, Grainfield, Kansas, passed away on Sunday, January 28, 2024, in Hays, Kansas surrounded by her loving family. Irene was born October 30, 1945, in Hays, Kansas to Edward (Ed) and Isabel (Schuckman) Stremel. Irene attended and graduated from Schoenchen High School, Schoenchen, KS. She married James L. Ross and later married Morris Ray Foster in Canton, Georgia in 1984.

After graduating from high school, Irene was employed at TEMPO and at TRAVENOL in Hays. She later moved to Georgia and was employed by Lockheed Martin, Marietta, GA. She then worked for and retired from Northwest Airlines, Minneapolis, MN. She belonged to the Grainfield American Legion Auxiliary Post 301, was a member of St. Agnes Catholic Church, Grainfield, and St. Agnes Catholic Ladies Guild, a lifetime member of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and Elk Foundation committee member. Irene loved working with her arts and crafts, especially her stained-glass projects. Camping, traveling, and volunteering were some of her favorite things to do. Most of all, Irene loved spending time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Irene is preceded in death by Morris Foster, her spouse of 32 years; parents, Ed and Isabel Stremel, and brother, John Stremel.

She leaves to mourn her passing, two sons, Jeff Ross of Fairmont, NE, and Dale Ross of Auburn, WA; granddaughter, Jenna Ginther and husband, Cory; grandson, Randy Ross of Amarillo, TX; great-grandsons, Jacob, Jeremiah, and Justan Fox; great-granddaughter, Jaelyn Ginther; sister, Esther Schaffer; two brothers, Ed Stremel and wife, Mary, of Olathe, and Mike Stremel and wife, Lori, of Hays; sister-in-law, Claudia Stremel and companion, Arlyn Wasinger; and many special nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial was Thursday, February 1, 2024, 10:00 AM, at Christ the King Catholic Church in WaKeeney. Interment will immediately follow the service in the Kansas Veterans Cemetery in WaKeeney. Visitation and following Vigil will be held at Mickey-Leopold Funeral Home, Hoxie, Wednesday, January 31, 2024. Memorials are suggested to Grainfield American Legion Post 301 or St. Agnes Catholic Church, Grainfield. Memorials may be sent in care of Mickey-Leopold Funeral Home, PO Box 987, Hoxie, Kansas 67740. Words of caring and comfort may be left at mickeyleopoldfuneral.com.

Commission Minutes 1/23/2024

Now on this 23rd day of January 2024, the Board of Commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas, met in regular session with Chairman Mike "Buck" Mader presiding. Other members present were David Stithem, Joe Pratt, County Attorney and County Clerk Heather Bracht. Guest was *The Sheridan Sentinel*.

At 8:00 a.m. Mader called the meeting to order.

Those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Joe Herskowitz, Road & Bridge Supervisor, came to the table. Herskowitz advised the Board that there are several graders down with mechanical problems. They are currently being worked on.

Herskowitz received back the survey from Penco Engineering on the Grinnell Rd. The drainage should go to the southeast. Several roads were discussed.

The new C&D cell has been staked and finalized through the state. The MSW cell should be filled by May or June. At 8:15, Mader made a motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing non-elected personnel. Stithem seconded. Carried 2-0. Present were the Board, Bracht, Herskowitz and Pratt. The door opened at 8:30 and Mader made a motion, seconded by Stithem to extend the executive session for a period of 10 minutes. Carried 2-0. The door opened at 8:40 with no decision being made.

Herskowitz advised the Board he will start running the help wanted ad in the paper again.

Herskowitz will start getting information on repairs, etc. to Bracht so that it can be put with the Commissioner's packets and they have time to review prior to the meeting.

Stithem made a motion, seconded by Mader, to approve the January 16, 2024 Minutes as amended. Carried 2-0

The Board approved appointing Don Koerperich as the Sheridan County representative on the NWKS

Homeland Security Council for 2024-2026 on a motion by Mader and second by Stithem. Carried 2-0

Brian Meder, Regional Sales Director and Taylor Cates, Regional Vice President NW Region from Vyve Business Services came to the table. Troy Schultz and Jon Cisneros from IOT on Main Street and department heads Shirley Niermeier, Marie Jones, Brandon Carver, Brian Diercks, and Dana Hess were also in attendance. There was discussion about how things have gone to date and that there appears to be a lot of tidying up that needs to be done. Schultz stated they were waiting until all phones were in then they would come back and do something with all the wiring and general "clean-up". There was discussion about the frustration with the lack of communication between Vyve and the County, as well as which entity would be handling specific problems. This list will be tweaked between Vyve and IOT and then forwarded to Bracht so that everyone knows who to call for specific problems. Cates stated that the Sheriff has been flagged as 911 and EMS for priority response. Bracht will draft a letter to NexTech asking to cancel phone and internet services for specific phone lines. There will be a termination penalty as well as payoff of the IT Agreement. Vyve will reimburse the County for this. Vyve will help with training of each office on the new phone capabilities. Vyve and IOT will go upstairs to the courtroom as soon as the meeting is adjourned and to each office to do a walk through and discuss problems or questions people might have.

At 10:16 a.m. with no further business, Mader made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Stithem. Carried 2-0. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, January 30, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Room.

Attest: Heather Bracht, County Clerk, Mike "Buck" Mader, Chairman

Donna Horton

November 24, 1930 ~ January 15, 2024



On November 24, 1930, Donna D Horton, the fifth child of six children, entered this mortal world of humanity. Her parents, Blanche (Wilcox) and George M. Horton lived on a farm east of Lucerne, in Sheridan County, Kansas.

Life on the farm, in a community of many neighbors, in the 20's, 30's and 40's was challenging, fun, hard work, boring at times, interesting and sometimes sad. Along with her siblings, she attended Prairie View #10 (Lucerne) Country School.

After WWII began, many changes occurred for all the Horton family. The change for Donna was living in Lenora and attending high school. After the war, she met "Buzz" (A.F.) Dempewolf and they were later married.

Their first home was in Russell, and over a year later, they moved to Norton. At that time, Donna worked for Duckwalls. They later moved to Colby, where they resided for the next 40 years and raised their five children. She worked at Duckwalls in Colby, and later for JCPenney's. In 1958, she began working with Southwestern Bell and remained there for 23 years until her retirement.

Upon her husband's retirement from Great Plains Electric, he started his own business of custom harvesting, and they traveled through Oklahoma up to the Dakotas to Canada. In 1988, they moved to Lenora, to be closer to their farming.

After the death of her husband in 1989, Donna remained in Lenora. She managed her farming, traveled a lot visiting her family and friends. She participated in various organizations while living in both Colby and Lenora. She particularly loved working with the Blood Bank in Colby and the Nutrition Council at the Lenora Senior Center in the late 90's and early 2000's. She enjoyed the Tuesday Bridge Club and the Pollyanna Club. Three of her greatest enjoyments were researching eight generations of family lineage, studying biblical history, and helping others when needed.

Donna was also a Life Member of the VFW Auxiliary and a member of the Sacred Heart Church in Colby and later the St. Francis of Assisi Church in Norton.

Donna passed from this life on January 15, 2024. To mourn her passing are her children, sons: Gary and Debra (Jamison) Dempewolf, Emporia; JD and Cynthia (Pyle) Dempewolf, Morrill; Dick and Becky (Hayes) Dempewolf, Colby; and daughters: Lisa and Jim Cech, Hays; and Christol and Rod Wolf, Peyton, CO. 15 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren, many nieces and nephews and close friends.

Donna was the last survivor of her childhood family, preceding her in death are her parents, brothers: Loren, and wife, Delphia Horton; William Horton, killed in WWII; Ben, and wife, Rosa Horton; Jim, and wife, Laura Horton; and sister, Ann Hinds.

A Funeral Mass will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 3, 2024, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Colby, followed by a private family inurnment. All are invited to join the family for lunch soon after for comradeship and celebration of Donna's life and friendship. Memorials may be made to Thomas County Historical Society and sent in care of Baalman Mortuary, PO Box 391, Colby, KS 67701. For information or condolences visit baalmanmortuary.com

DeVera Baalman

November 15, 1930 ~ January 20, 2024



DeVera (Smith) Baalman passed away peacefully of natural causes at her home in Cimarron, Kansas, at the age of 93, after a full and healthy life. DeVera was born in Bogue, Kansas on November 15, 1930, to Lee and Maggie Smith. The family moved to Hill City, Kansas where she attended and graduated from Hill City High School with the class of 1948. DeVera married Larry Baalman in Seguin, Kansas, December 5, 1948. Larry and

DeVera had to follow a snowplow to and from Seguin on their wedding day. They made their home in Hoxie, Kansas. To this union four children were born.

The greatest joy in DeVera's life was spending time with her family. She also loved caring for her lawn and garden. She was an avid reader and enjoyed reading historical fiction. It was not uncommon for her to read two or three novels a week. DeVera was an excellent cook and baker. She lived her life to the fullest. She will be greatly missed but always remembered and loved.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Larry; parents, Lee, and Maggie Smith; and brother, Galen Smith.

Devera is survived by her daughters, Kristine Moss and husband Fred, Nancy Campbell and husband Michael, and Jean Dizmang and husband Rick; son, Lee Baalman; brother Irwin "Huck" Smith and wife Shirley; eleven grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial was Thursday, January 25, 2024, at the St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church, Hoxie. Interment followed the service in the St. Frances Cabrini Cemetery. Visitation and a Vigil with Rosary were held at the Mickey-Leopold Funeral Home, on Wednesday, January 24, 2024. The Vigil and Rosary followed the visitation. The family suggests memorials to the Sheridan County Library or the Cimarron Public Library and may be sent in care of Mickey-Leopold Funeral Home, PO Box 987, Hoxie, Kansas 67740. You may leave words of comfort and care at mickeyleopoldfuneral.com.

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