



# The Sheridan Sentinel

The Official Newspaper of City of Hoxie, City of Selden, & Sheridan County

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Hoxie, Sheridan County, Kansas 67740

Thursday, February 12, 2026

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## HHS Sweetheart Candidates



The Senior candidates for Hoxie's Sweetheart Winter Dance are pictured. Front row: Kyra Reuber, Avery Mauck, Madi Meier. Back row: Joseph Dorenkamp, Brody Tremblay, Caden Beckman. The King and Queen will be crowned at the home basketball game on Tuesday, February 10. (HHS photo)



## Hoxie High Competes at MCL Wrestling Tournament



The Hoxie boys' wrestling team proudly displays all of their hard-earned awards from the MCL tournament on Friday, January 30, which was hosted at Trego. (HHS Yearbook Staff photo)

By Kalleigh Baier

On Friday, January 30, the Hoxie High boys and girls wrestling team traveled to WaKeeney for the MCL Wrestling Tournament. This tournament was very successful for Hoxie, with the boys' team placing first with 224 points and several girls' team members placing in the top four individually. The girls placed 8th with 40.5 points. At the start of the day, the announcer described how the MCL is one of the most competitive leagues in the state, with multiple 3-2-1A state placers from this area, which amped up the competitive spirit among the athletes.

For the boys' team, junior Max Foote (175) competed well but ended the day early with a 0-2 record. Sophomores Beau Koster (138) and Carter Giancola (165), as well as junior Alex Bufkin (285), competed in 8-man brackets, ending the day with records of 3-1 and all earning 3rd place.

Freshman Porter Meyer (106) competed in a round-robin bracket, ending the day with a 3-1 record and earning 2nd place. Sophomore Bradyn Wilson (113) also competed in a round-robin bracket, ending the day at 2nd place with a 2-1 record. Junior Gunner Wentz (120), freshman Simon Watkins (126), sophomore Travis Johnson (157), and junior Mat Bretz (215) competed in 8-man brackets, and all earned 2nd place for the tournament.

Senior Ian Giancola (132) competed in an 8-man bracket, ending the day with a record of 3-0 and winning the championship, extending his overall record this year to 24-0. Junior Chase Meyer (144) competed in an 8-man bracket, ending the day 3-0 and earning 1st place. Sophomore Noah Nickelson (150) competed in a 12-man bracket, earning 1st place with a 4-0 record. Finally, senior Draden Herl (190) competed in an 8-man bracket, ending the day with a 1st place finish and a record of 3-0.

For the girls, sophomores Lillie Denio (105) and Wyntr Kroeker (115), as well as senior Sarah Dardis (170), competed well within their respective brackets but came up short, ending the day early by not making



SHERIDAN COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

## SCCF Closes Out 2025 Awarding \$22k+ in Grants

By Karl Pratt, Executive Director, Sheridan County Community Foundation

**Hoxie** - The Sheridan County Community Foundation (SCCF) closed out 2025 by awarding a total of \$22,128.99 in grant funding to a variety of local and regional partners during its November and December grant cycles combined. These grants support projects that strengthen community services, infrastructure, collaboration, and quality of life across Sheridan County and Northwest Kansas.

During the November grant cycle, SCCF awarded funding to the following projects:

**Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)** received \$2,000.00 to support the NWKS Regional Representative project, which expands youth outreach and programming opportunities across the region.

The **Sheridan County Agency on Aging Council** was awarded \$3,000.00 to assist with the construction of a cement parking pad at the community bus barn, improving accessibility and safety for transportation services.

SCCF approved \$6,250.00 in grant funding from the **Cultivate Sheridan County Fund** to support the first phase of "Rooted & Cultivated: The Northwest Kansas Food Network," a regional initiative focused on strengthening food access, coordination, and sustainability across Northwest Kansas.

During the December grant cycle, SCCF awarded funding to the following projects:

**Sheridan County Communications** received \$4,500.00 to support the Critical Mapping Project, an initiative aimed at improving emergency response, planning, and infrastructure coordination.

**Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas (DSNWK)** was awarded \$1,128.99 for its Dignity, Mobility, and Outdoor Renewal Project, which enhances accessibility and outdoor spaces for individuals with developmental disabilities.

**St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church** in Seguin received \$250.00 to assist with cemetery maintenance efforts.

In addition to monthly grant awards, SCCF celebrated the conclusion of its record-breaking November Match Month campaign by awarding five \$1,000.00 Match Month Surprise Grants. These grants were awarded by randomly selected Match Month donors to local nonprofit organizations of their choice. Receiving the \$1,000.00 surprise grants were the following organizations listed along with the respective donors who selected them to receive a surprise grant:

- Sheridan County Historical Society & Mickey Museum (Marie Mickey)
- HAMA Food Pantry (Roberta Shipley)
- USD 412 Hoxie Community Schools (Jill Pratt)
- All Stars for Jesus (Christ Community Church) (Becci Baker)
- Hoxie Golf Club (Darlene Schaffer)

As SCCF enters the new year, the Foundation has revised its grant guidelines and introduced three new grant application forms to better align funding opportunities with project size, scope, and community impact. These updates are designed to simplify the application process, improve clarity for applicants, and ensure a more efficient review process. Educational resources and outreach opportunities will be offered in the coming months to help nonprofits and community groups understand the updated guidelines and determine which application best fits their project.

SCCF continues to accept grant applications from eligible nonprofit organizations on a rolling monthly basis, with the final day of each month serving as the deadline for consideration during the following month's review.

Organizations interested in applying for grant funding are encouraged to learn more and submit applications at [www.growsheridancounty.org/grants](http://www.growsheridancounty.org/grants).

the semi-final round. This was the first tournament that freshman Keiley Kincaid (155) competed at, and she went 1-2 on the day.

Senior Gabbi Meyer (110) competed in an 8-man bracket, ending the day with a record 2-2 and earning 4th place. Sophomore Molly Rahier (235) competed in a round robin bracket, ending the day at 2nd place with a 2-1 record. Junior Josie Bell (120) led the team in a competitive bracket, earning 1st place with a 3-0 record.

Next week, on Thursday, February 5, the Hoxie wrestling team will travel to Plainville to compete in duals against the Cardinals. On Friday, February 6, the Lady Indians wrestling team will travel to Phillipsburg to compete in the Panther Classic, with the Hoxie boys' team to follow on Saturday, February 7.

## Scholarships Available for Graduating Seniors

By Karl Pratt, Executive Director, Sheridan County Community Foundation

**Hoxie** - The Sheridan County Community Foundation (SCCF) is proud to offer multiple scholarship opportunities for graduating high school seniors from Sheridan County who are pursuing post-secondary education.

The Foundation currently administers four local scholarship funds, and two additional scholarship opportunities managed by the Thomas County Community Foundation in Colby are also open to Sheridan County seniors based on eligibility criteria.

Eligible students are encouraged to submit their applications online by March 31, 2026 (unless otherwise stated), for the following scholarships:

- **Opal and Adolph Harris Scholarship Fund** - Two scholarships of \$1,750 each are available. A minimum 2.0 GPA is required, with preference given to students enrolling in on-campus programs.
- **Youth on the Move Scholarship Fund** - Two scholarships of \$250 each will be awarded, with preference given to students pursuing programs lasting two years or less, though four-year programs are also eligible.
- **Fred L. Moss Memorial Scholarship** - One scholarship of \$500 is available. Applicants must have a 2.5 minimum GPA and plan to attend a 4- or 2-year university, college, or vocational/technical school. Candidates must demonstrate academic potential, intellectual curiosity, a strong work ethic, leadership skills, and a commitment to community throughout their educational journey.
- **Pheasants Forever Memorial Scholarship** - One scholarship of \$500 is available. Applicants must have a minimum 2.0 GPA and possess hunter education certification.
- **Education Empowerment Scholarship Fund** - One scholarship of \$1,000 is available for students with a minimum 3.5 GPA. Eligible institutions include four- or two-year colleges, universities, or vocational/technical schools. Preference will be given to applicants with a well-rounded resume showcasing work experience, extracurricular involvement, and community service. (Early deadline of March 15, 2026).
- **15th Judicial District Scholarship Fund** - Two scholarships of \$1,500 each are available to students with a minimum 3.0 GPA. Female students majoring in Pre-Law or Criminology who plan to work within the 15th Judicial District for at least two years are eligible. (Early deadline of March 15, 2026).

Students can visit [www.gnwkcfc.org/scholarships](http://www.gnwkcfc.org/scholarships) and filter by "Sheridan County" to view all of the above scholarship opportunities and apply.

The Foundation also invites donors interested in establishing new scholarship funds to reach out. Scholarships through SCCF are endowed, providing lasting support for future high school graduates.

For more information, contact the Sheridan County Community Foundation at 785-677-5090 or email [director@growsheridancounty.org](mailto:director@growsheridancounty.org).

SCCF is an affiliate of the Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation based in Bird City. The foundation seeks to encourage, prudently manage, and distribute charitable contributions to improve the quality of life of Sheridan County residents, now and in the future. To learn more, contact Pratt at 785-677-5090, [director@growsheridancounty.org](mailto:director@growsheridancounty.org), or visit [www.growsheridancounty.org](http://www.growsheridancounty.org). Connect with SCCF at [www.facebook.com/sheridanccf](https://www.facebook.com/sheridanccf).

## New Grant Fund Fred L. Moss Memorial Scholarship Fund

Established by the Moss family in memory of Dr. Fred L. Moss, DVM, this scholarship—made possible through memorial gifts and family contributions—supports Hoxie High School seniors pursuing post-secondary education who demonstrate strong character, leadership, and commitment to community.



SHERIDAN COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

### Words of Wisdom



Love has reasons which reason cannot understand. ~Blaise Pascal

### Grain Report

Reported on: Tuesday, February 10

Corn	3.79
Milo	3.29
Beans	----
Wheat	4.49

### Weather Report

Date	High	Low	Moisture
2/1	61	26	--
2/2	60	27	--
2/3	49	26	.06"
2/4	50	30	.05"
2/5	68	32	--
2/6	57	32	--
2/7	62	30	--

### Thought of the Week

Learn to Love with all your heart and accept the faults of others in your life. Remember, anyone can love a rose, but it takes a great heart to include the thorns. ~Unknown



## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Viktorija Briggs

We recently received a notice from a subscriber that if they did not start getting their paper on Thursday every week and the grocery paper in Hoxie, then this would be their last renewal.

This is something that seems to have to be covered at least every few years as people don't seem to understand that WE HAVE ZERO CONTROL OVER THE POST OFFICE. We have our subscriber list in order, and it is updated weekly. We take the newspapers to the Post Officer personally each week. WHAT HAPPENS FROM THERE IS OUT OF OUR CONTROL. Period.

As for the "grocery paper in Hoxie"...we have NEVER in the 9 1/2 years that I've owned this newspaper ever received a flyer insert from a Hoxie grocery store (Joslyn's or Jamboree). So, I'm really not sure what that person was referring to.

We're sorry for anyone who does not receive their newspaper in a timely manner, but again, we have ZERO control over them once they are dropped off at the Post Office. Our suggestion is that you speak with your mail carrier and/or Post Master.

**KENOXIE ARCHIVES & MUSEUM**  
785-675-3321  
archives@sheridansentinel.com  
716 Main Street, PO Box 78, Hoxie, KS 67740

**Valentine's Dinner**

Friday, February 13  
Homemade  
Chicken Fried Steak  
Dinner

Saturday, February 14  
Steak & Fish Boil Special  
No Reservations Required  
8pm Dance ~ JAKE GILL

Ash Wednesday  
February 18  
Loaded Salmon Burger

Friday's  
During Lent  
Salad Bar Every Friday  
February 20 ~  
Cod Fish Taco Special  
February 27 ~  
Savory Salmon Patty  
March 6 ~  
Cajun Fish Fry

Extreme Bingo  
EVERY WEDNESDAY  
7pm  
Follow Us On Facebook  
For More Details

**BUFFALO PARK STATION**  
785-673-8100

**Area Churches**

Christ Community Church  
2008 Sheridan Ave, Hoxie

Hoxie Baptist Temple  
1000 Valley Ave, Hoxie

Hoxie Christian Church  
1025 Queen, Hoxie

Hoxie United Methodist Church  
900 12th St, Hoxie

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church  
Hwy 223, Leoville

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
1400 Locust St, Hoxie

Living Word Fellowship  
454 Hwy 24, Hoxie

Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church  
14988 E Rd 70 S, Hoxie

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
202 S Missouri, Selden

St. Frances Catholic Church  
924 17th, Hoxie

Selden United Methodist Church  
Selden

St. Martin's Catholic Church  
Seguin

CALL 911 EMERGENCY

Sheriff's Dept. 785-675-3481  
Fire Dept. 785-675-3773  
EMS 785-675-3364  
Emergency Mgmt. 785-386-8051  
County Clerk 785-675-3361  
Road & Bridge Dept. 785-675-3621  
Library 785-675-3102  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Pregnancy Pathways 785-657-7707

**CITY LIMITS**  
**VALENTINES DINNER 2026**

All Entrees served with Chef Inspired Appetizer, Glass of Sparkling Brute and your choice of Dessert

**Surf & Turf** - Baked Stuffed Shrimp, Grilled 12oz New York Strip, Baked Potato, Asparagus \$68

**Filet Oscar** - Grilled Asparagus, Crab meat, hollandaise, Mashed Potato \$55

**Baked Stuffed Shrimp** - Mashed Potato, grilled asparagus \$35

**Norwegian Roasted Salmon** - English Peas, Herb Roasted Fingerlings Potatoes, Chefs Mix Wild Mushrooms, White Grain Mustard and Oil Cream sauce \$35

**Seared Atlantic Cod** - Seared Atlantic Cod, Herb Roasted Cherry Tomato Risotto, Roasted Garlic Wilded Spinach \$33

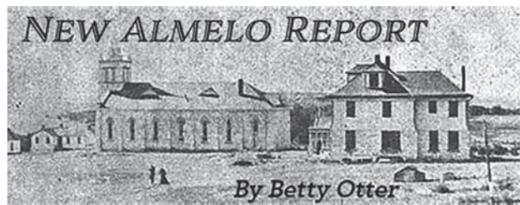
**DESSERT**

**Chocolate Molten Lava Cake** - Moist chocolate cake on the outside with a warm, liquid chocolate center

**Creme Brulee** - Creamy Custard topped with a contrasting layer of hard, caramelized sugar torched to golden brown, served fresh

RESERVATIONS: www.citylimitscookyks.com or Call 785-462-6565

Love is on the menu at  
**City Limits Bar & Grill**  
Wine, Dine, & Valentine  
with us this  
February 13 & 14.  
Limited tables—book early!



On December 21, Wrenley Rose Gassmann, daughter of William & Taylor Gassmann, was baptized by Father Josuha Werth at St. Joseph Church in New Almelo. Her godparents are Nakayla Hock and Mason Schultz.

On January 11, Devon Wolf and Brody Mullins, sons of Casey & David Wolf, received the sacraments of Baptism, Communion, and Confirmation by Father Josuha Werth. Their godparents are Deacon Brian and Stephanie Kirk. A reception was held on Sunday, January 25, welcoming them to the St. Joseph Parish family.

A Breaking Camp Memorial for Lil Grizz was held on January 17, celebrating his life and his many adventures.

Brian & Stephanie Kirk went to California to visit their son, Brother Marion, celebrating a late Christmas.

On the weekend of January 24, Dan & Shelly Wahlmeier visited their daughter, Jazzmin & Alex Rein and Rocky in Omaha, NE.

Missy Rumbach spent that same weekend at Riley, KS, visiting her daughter, Nicole & Avery Torrey and Kollins.

On January 31, the New Almelo Knights of Columbus had their membership meal with a delicious hamburger steak meal. The door prizes went to Johnathan Gassmann and Becky Linden.

Word was received of the death of Father Vincent Thu Laing on February 1 in his home country of Burma from a lung condition. He was pastor of St. Joseph Church and St. Francis in Norton from 2002 until July of 2015 when he was moved to St. Francis in Hoxie and St. Martin in Seguin. A Memorial Mass will be celebrated in Hoxie on January 7.



**Birthdays & Anniversaries:**

February 6: Chris Bainter, Tom Stacey, Paul Bruggeman

February 7: Dwight Williams, Laura Ingalls Wilder, Garth Brooks

February 8: Monica Aumiller Svoboda, Wanda Spreser

February 9: Joe Wessel, Dana Geisinger, Anden Merkle, Phoenix Kenedy

February 10: Carlene Bruggeman, Danica Ritter, Kailee Wessel

February 11: Constance Hunter

Sacred Heart Parish will be sponsoring the Mardi Gras on Sunday, February 15, at the Parish Hall in Selden. Spaghetti Dinner will be from 11:30 to 12:30, followed by games. Bake Walk, Spinning Wheel, Quilt Raffle, CYO Raffle, Fish Pond/Dart Game. Fun for all and everyone welcome to come join the fun.

On Wednesday, February 4, the Tripoly club met at the Community Center for an afternoon of fun. Those attending include Shirley Emigh, Helen Carman, Boyd Wilson, and Jacque Boultinghouse.

The Selden Senior Citizens met on February 5, the Community Center for a delicious meal prepared by Gloria Goschanof Midway Cafe followed by an afternoon of pinochle. Those attending included Margee Wilson, Helen Carman, Carlene Bruggeman, Boyd Wilson, Ellis Walker, and Betty Hickert. Those staying to play cards included Steve Carman with a score of 621, Shirley Emigh with a score of 616, Tammy Shaw with a score of 585, Pat Wessel with a score of 649, Bob Wessel with a score of 589, Kou Lovin and Elaine Koerperich with a score of 349, JR Albers with a score of 615, and Jacque Boultinghouse with a score of 494.

There will be a Valentine's Dance February 21, at the Leoville Parish Center. The evening begins with wine tasting by Wahlmeier Farms Vineyard at 5pm. Supper starts at 6pm with a main course is Roast Beef. The beef is provided by Foot Cattle Company. Reservation information, kids 5 and under are free, kids 6 to 12 are \$10. Single ticket is \$25. Couples tickets are \$40 and a table reservation for 8 is \$150. Get your ticket reservations from Denise at 678-8437, Peggy at 470-7896 Shelly at 678-3050, or Stephanie at 470-7818. CS Entertainment will be present as the DJ and Wahlmeier Farms will be selling wine and slushies.

**CLOSED**  
for  
**President's Day**  
Monday, February 16  
**Courthouse**  
Road & Bridge Dept. \* Landfill

**BANKS CLOSED**  
Monday  
February 16, 2026

**PRESIDENT'S DAY**

Farmers & Merchants Bank of Gully, the bank, OUTDOOR, EQUITY BANK, THE FSB FIRST STATE BANK

**The Sheridan Sentinel**

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**Submission Guidelines**

Print-ready ads and content deadline: noon Tuesday  
Non-print-ready ads MUST be in by 3 pm Monday.  
Due to time constraints, all ad & content submissions must be emailed in .doc, .docx, or .pdf format; photos in .jpg or .png format.  
All non-print-ready ad submissions are subject to a design fee (starting at \$10).  
Please email articles, news, and photos to: editor@sheridansentinel.com or bring them by our office at 716 Main Street, Hoxie.  
For advertising, send to lori@sheridansentinel.com  
We confirm receipt of all emailed submissions within 24-hours.  
If you have not received confirmation, or if it is a time-sensitive submission, please call us at 785-675-3321.  
www.sheridansentinel.com

**Stay Prayed Up or Get Swallowed**

I pray.  
Not when it's convenient.  
Not when it sounds spiritual.

Not when I'm trying to look right.  
I pray because if I don't—I fall apart.  
I pray the moment my eyes open, because breath in my lungs is borrowed, not guaranteed.  
Because waking up is mercy.  
Because yesterday could've been my last chapter.  
I pray before my feet hit the floor because I already know what kind of world I'm stepping into.  
I pray on the drive.  
I pray at work.  
I pray while I'm building sermons and while I'm cleaning messes.  
I pray when nobody sees me and when nobody would clap if they did.  
Because here's the truth most people won't say out loud:  
I cannot function without God.  
Not spiritually.  
Not mentally.  
Not morally.  
Not as a man.  
Without God, my life isn't just empty—it's dangerous.  
Without prayer, my thoughts run wild.  
My temper gets short.  
My pride gets loud.  
My past starts knocking.  
And without God at the center, my family don't have a foundation—just good intentions trying to survive a violent world.  
And this world is violent.  
Not just with fists and bullets—but with noise.  
Endless noise.  
Opinions screaming.  
Outrage selling.  
Religion arguing.  
Culture shifting.  
Everyone telling you who to hate, what to believe, what's wrong with you, what's wrong with them.  
You can't escape it.  
You can try to mute it.  
Drink it down.  
Scroll past it.  
Laugh it off.  
Pretend you're fine.  
But the noise waits.  
It always waits.  
And if you ain't anchored, it'll pull you under.  
That's why I pray.  
Because in over 2,000 years—  
when empires fell, cultures flipped, churches split, and truth got watered down—  
God didn't change.  
Faith didn't lose its power.  
Prayer didn't stop working.  
Obedience didn't go out of style.  
God is still God.  
Still steady.  
Still speaking.  
Still shaping men in silence while the world screams for attention.  
And prayer is how I stay connected.  
Not church talk.  
Not fancy words.  
Not performance.  
Prayer is survival.  
Prayer is me staying in conversation with the only voice that don't lie to me.  
Prayer is me staying aligned when temptation pulls sideways.  
Prayer is how I keep my heart clean in a dirty world.  
I don't pray because I'm strong.  
I pray because I'm not.  
I pray because I know who I was without Him.  
I pray because I remember the darkness.  
I pray because I refuse to go back.  
So I stay prayed up.  
Because if you don't stay prayed up, you'll get chewed up.  
By the noise.  
By the chaos.  
By your own unchecked thoughts.  
Stay prayed up.  
Stay locked in.  
Stay talking to Him.  
Because the world ain't getting quieter—but God is still speaking.  
And if you ain't listening, you'll lose yourself trying to survive the volume.

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at these locations:

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Grainfield: Harvest Market

**The Sheridan Sentinel**  
www.sheridansentinel.com

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2025 ~ 2026

# AREA SCHOOLS

HOXIE INDIANS - GOLDEN PLAINS BULLDOGS - WHEATLAND THUNDERHAWKS

**AUNT SHANNON'S \* BETTER BUILT TRAILERS \* BUFFALO PARK STATION \* EQUITY BANK \* FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES-KENDRA BARNES  
FIRST STATE BANK \* FOOTE CATTLE CO \* GOLDEN PLAINS BOOSTER CLUB \* GRAINFIELD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
HARVEST MARKET \* HI-PLAINS CO-OP \* HIRSCH-ABBOTT LAW \* HOXIE SPRAYERS \* HOXIE VET SERVICE \* JAMBOREE-HOXIE  
L & C HOME HEALTH AGENCY, INC \* JIM MYERS, CHARTERED \* MIDWEST ENERGY \* NOVUS AG/PATHWAY AG \* NUTRIEN AG  
OLSON CONSULTING, P.A. - MARK R. OLSON, DVM \* OUTDOOR BANK \* SHEPARD PERFORMANCE HORSES  
SHERIDAN COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION \* 6-TOES FEED & SEED \* STEVE'S BODY SHOP \* WATKINS INSURANCE & REALTY  
WOOFER PUMP & WELL**

**SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY AND YOUR SCHOOL'S ACTIVITIES**

### Record Number of Teams as KidWind Challenge Begins

**Topeka** – The 2026 Kansas KidWind Challenge is expected to be record breaking. This year, 110 teams representing 38 schools from across the state are registered to compete, breaking the previous record of 94 teams in 2023.

The first regional challenge will be held in Dodge City on Tuesday, February 10. Five more regional events are scheduled throughout the month in Colby (February 12), Hutchinson (February 17), Overland Park (February 19), Manhattan (February 25), and Burlington (February 27). All events are open to the public and free to attend. The 2026 KidWind Event Guide, complete with times and locations, is available here.

Student teams work together to design, build and test a wind turbine using the materials of their choice. Each team's turbine will be put to the test in a wind tunnel at a wind speed of approximately 3.5-5 m/s (meters per second). Scoring is based on turbine performance, a knowledge quiz, a presentation to judges where the team explains its design process, and an instant challenge.

Students compete by age categories: 4th - 5th grade, 6th - 8th grade and 9th - 12th grade. The winning teams at regional events advance to the state finals on April 11 in Salina. State winners are invited to participate in the World KidWind Challenge in Madison, WI from May 18-21.

"KidWind is a fantastic hands-on opportunity that allows students to tinker and experiment with wind turbine designs. They experience the thrill of scientific discovery as their designs are validated through performance testing, and they hone their public speaking skills as they present their turbine design to a panel of judges," explained David Carter, Director of the Kansas Energy Program at K-State Engineering Extension.

Kansas KidWind is an energy-related STEM education event from the Kansas Corporation Commission and K-State Engineering Extension made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy.

More information about KidWind is available at <https://www.kccc.ks.gov/energy-education/kidwind>.

### HHS Completes Busy Week of Athletics

The Hoxie Indians had a very successful and busy week of sports from February 2 through February 7. The basketball teams split games against Smith Center and Wallace County, while the wrestling teams competed in away events at Plainville and Phillipsburg.

To begin the week, the Hoxie Indian basketball teams traveled to Smith Center on Tuesday, February 3. The varsity Lady Indians earned a win against the Lady Red with a final score of 53-34. The varsity boys took the court next but unfortunately fell 51-36.

On Thursday, February 5, the Hoxie Indians wrestling team traveled to Plainville to compete in a dual against the Cardinals. There were few matches for the Indians, but those who competed wrestled well. For the girls' team, sophomores Lillie Denio (105) and Wynter Kroeker (110) both lost, while junior Josie Bell (120) added another win to her record. On the boys' side, sophomore Carter Giancola (165), junior Max Foote (175), and junior Alex Bufkin (285) fell to the Cardinal wrestlers. Junior Chase Meyer (144), sophomore Noah Nickelson (150), sophomore Travis Johnson (157), and senior Draden Herl (190) all earned wins.

Continuing the week on Friday, February 6, the basketball teams hosted the Wallace County Wildcats for an exciting night of varsity-only games. The Lady Indians faced some adversity but pulled away with a 55-43 win over the Wildcats. The Hoxie boys competed hard but lost to Wallace County with a final score of 56-37.

"We had a slow start to the game, but we were able to come back at the end," said freshman Jentry Rhodes. "I think we had great teamwork throughout the whole game, which really helped us".

On the same day, the Hoxie girls' wrestling team traveled to Phillipsburg to compete in the Panther Classic wrestling tournament. Sophomores Lillie Denio (105) and Wynter Kroeker (110), along with freshman Keiley Kincaid (155), wrestled hard but did not place. Sophomore Molly Rahier (235) placed second overall in her

### GP Scholars Qualify for State



**The Golden Plains High School Scholar Bowl team Javier Romero, Kailee Wessel, Ezekiel Weiner, Diego Perez, Tanner Black, Elizabeth Weiner, and Coach Kelli Smith. (Photo by Judy Rogers)**

*By Judy Rogers*

The Golden Plains High School Scholar Bowl team placed as regional runner-up at the Regional meet held in Rexford on February 5. This qualifies them to compete at the state meet in McPherson on February 14.

The Bulldogs, which included team members Diego Perez, Ezekiel Weiner, Tanner Black, Kailee Wessel, Javier Romero, and Elizabeth Weiner, went 3-2 in pool play with wins over Triplains, Logan, and Natoma and losses to Wheatland and Cheylin. They advanced to the championship round.

In the championship round, they lost the first contest to Wallace County 10-80. They then lost the second round to Otis Bison 30-40. The came back and won the next three rounds over Northern Valley 4-10, Logan 20-10, and Cheylin 60-10.

The Bulldogs were tied with a 3-2 record with Cheylin but placed second due to their win over the Cougars. The top three teams qualified for state with Wallace County placing first, Golden Plains second, and Cheylin third.

"I am proud of our team," said Diego Perez. "I was glad we qualified for state for the second year in a row. It sets a tradition for the underclassmen to continue. Both years were under first year coaches with Brandy Sprester last year and Kelli Smith this year."

"It was good that everyone answered well contributing to our win," added Ezekiel Weiner. The team will compete at the state meet in McPherson on February 14.

### Thunderhawks Take First in IDA



**(l-r) Brielle Hanna, Axtyn Teeter and Griffin Beckman competed in the Rexford High School speech contest on January 31. Teeter and Beckman placed first in the IDA category. (WHS photo)**

*By Carolyn Nelson*

The sophomore team of Axtyn Teeter and Griffin Beckman won first place in Improvised Duet Acting at Rexford High School Saturday, January 31. It was the first time for the boys to partner together, and the first time they had competed in a speech tournament. Their success qualifies them to advance to the state tournament May 2 in McPherson.

Senior Brielle Hanna also competed in the tournament on Saturday in the prose interpretation category. Although she did a good job, she was not able to break into finals this time.

Axtyn Teeter stated, "I am looking forward to state competition."

Mrs. Nelson, forensics coach stated, "I was so happy the boys were able to bring home first place medals from their very first tournament. It is exciting to look forward to more successes as all the forensics team continues to improve and compete in additional tournaments."

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**Chase Meyer Wins His Match at Plainville. (HHS Yearbook Staff)**

bracket, and junior Josie Bell (120) earned a first-place medal in her weight class.

To round out the week, the Hoxie boys' wrestling team also competed in the Panther Classic on Saturday, February 7. Juniors Max Foote (175)

and Alex Bufkin (285) wrestled hard but did not place. Sophomore Travis Johnson (157) and senior Draden Herl (190) both placed fourth in their weight classes. Freshman Porter Meyer (106), sophomore Noah Nickelson (150), and



**Evie Schippers drives the ball up the court in the Wallace County game. (HHS Yearbook Staff)**

junior Mat Bretz (215) each placed third. Freshman Bradyn Wilson (113), sophomore Beau Koster (138), juniors Chase Meyer (144), and Gunner Wente (120) all placed second. Freshman Simon Watkins (126), sophomore Carter Giancola (165), and Ian Giancola (132) each placed first

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## The Hoxie Democrat February 13, 1891

Mose Thorpe was in the country Tuesday on business.

Word from G. W. Duncan says he has got no work to do yet.

Commissioner Cressler was in the city a couple of days this week.

Mrs. M. W. McKinney spent Sunday in the country with her husband.

Frank Brandram and Frank Houseworth were pleasant callers Saturday.

S. Scoville put in his spare time this week hauling hay from Grinnell's place.

Many strangers were in the city last Friday and the city took on its old time rush.

A letter received from Squire Pond says that business is opening up lively in Colorado City.

Henry Ellithorpe was up from Hill City to spend the Sabbath with his parents and friends.

Dr. Winternitz has lost a valuable fountain pen and will pay a liberal reward for its return.

Some of out town folks lost a horse last week. We did not learn the disease from which it died.

Grover Walker has been troubled with one of Job's comforters on his neck for the past week.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Ira Berry a girl. All doing well and Ira not driving the dray but setting up the cigars.

W. J. Carson, county surveyor, was in the city on business Tuesday, he says the winter is passing off nicely and stock doing well.

The Hashman Bros. and their uncle were in the city four or five days last week. They will perhaps start a store at Guy in the near future.

### Skelton Letter

The home talent is making great preparation for the concert, Saturday evening.

Thos. Pratt, of Museum, was visiting friends on the Saline a couple of days last week.

Miss Mattie Hill will teach a four month's term of school in the Haynes district No. 70, beginning March 2.

Jas. Coates, who has been in Iowa the most of the winter, returned home last Thursday evening. He says the people here are about as comfortable as the people are there.

Xerxes

### Valley Township

John Roswall left Guy City about four o'clock last Wednesday afternoon, his horse having skipped out in advance. We believe that his horse had the Ghost dance.

Last Saturday night the Guy City literary held their first meeting. A large and enthusiastic audience attended. Some good speeches were made and they decided to meet every Friday night.

Frank Brandram, attorney-at-law, has returned to his old place at Guy and is ready to attend to business, takes loans on shortest notice. He extends his best wishes to his many patrons and solicits a share of their patronage in the future.

Jack of Spades

### 125 Years Ago

February 14, 1901

Jason Joskins from Squash Town, Conn., at the Opera House next Monday night.

Postmaster Crick, of Guy, was in the city Tuesday. he reports a shortage of mail matter down his way since the storm.

Ed Lupton went to Oberlin Tuesday morning to look after some Mutual Life business he has had under way for some time.

Henry Baier and Guy Chainhalt came in Monday in a home-made cutter, the runners of which were partly made of buggy wheels.

James A. Sprague, G. W. Sloan and Dave Sanely, directors of the Selden State Bank, were business visitors to Hoxie Thursday last.

John Butts and Jake Clark, of the northeast of town, were pleasant visitors at this shebang Monday. Mr. Butts is preparing to move to Oklahoma in a short time. He expects to embark in the cattle business down there.

McKinney Bros. are offering some special inducements on winter goods.

After confinement of two weeks to his room with rheumatism, Davy Wiggins sauntered down Main street by the aid of a cane Monday.

A certain Sheridan county school teacher, who farms between times, says if he raises three hundred bushels of corn this year he is going to get married. Here's hoping he raises the corn.

Judge Gregg issued a marriage license last Saturday to Leonard Teel and Miss Maggie Gilchrist, both of Bloomfield township.

Len Miller was in the city Saturday cultivating the acquaintance of Mrs. Miller and the baby. He was just back from a two weeks sojourn in Utah, where he was buying horses. He brought a mixed carload of mules and horses back.

About fifty young people attended the Valentine social, given by the Christian

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**N. SMITH. QUINTER, KANSAS.**

From The Hoxie Sentinel, 1926. (Kenoxie Archives & Museum photo)

Endeavor, held at the residence of Mr. J. S. Turner, last evening. Several hours were passed away with games, recitations and music, after which all partook of the supper that had been prepared for the occasion, consisting of ice cream and cake.

### Violenta Items

Mr. Geisenhener is putting up several new frame buildings.

Myrtle Barnhart will close her school at Hawkeye Friday.

Robert Davis had the misfortune to lose a fine horse last week.

J. B. Hines has been working for Mr. Geisenhener the past week.

### Adell Sparklets

T. M. Small was butchering Monday. Robert Brewster St. is quite poorly this winter.

Len Small has been herding, recently for Harlen Hayes.

E. L. Teel was down in Bow Creek township on business Monday.

Poppersnapper

### Saline Siftings

Friday night was too cold for the dance, nobody went.

Sam McWilliams has traded for a fine, black driving team.

Claude Jones and Irv Borger were out sleigh riding Sunday and called on several of the neighbors.

Mr. and Mrs. Ream entertained a number of young people at their home Monday, it was given in honor of their grandson, Elmer Nickelson.

Reporter

### 100 Years Ago

February 11, 1926

### Mrs. Grover Walker Entertains

Mrs. Grover Walker entertained Friday with a beautiful three-course luncheon in honor of Mrs. Kate Hall, of Punxsutawney Pennsylvania, who is visiting Mrs. Harl Humphrey. There were present, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Humphrey, Mrs. A. S. Chandler, Mrs. M. D. Gallogly, Mrs. Mary McMullen, Mrs. Graddy and the hostess.

### Delphian Club Meets

The Delphians met Tuesday afternoon. The members present were: Mrs. Grover Walker, Mrs. C. E. Montgomery, Mrs. E. V. Newland, Mrs. Nigel Wilson and Miss Sara Graddy.

Mrs. Walker led the meeting Mrs. Newland presided in place of the president, Mrs. Reed, who was unable to be present. The subject of the lesson was, "Italy, the Battleground of Nations and Its Achievement of Union."

The text reports were most instructive and interesting.

### Local News

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Percival are spending a few days in Excelsior Springs, Missouri.

Mrs. Forest Forsyth enjoyed a visit Sunday, with her mother, Mrs. D. R. Vernon, and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Landan and three children, of Decatur county.

Henry Wessel, township treasurer of Solomon township, was a Hoxie business visitor Tuesday. Henry handed us his report for publication while in town. He always makes his reports out with a typewriter which relieves our machine man from guessing at i's, e's, etc. and expedites the setting very much. His report will appear in next week's paper.

Mrs. E. M. Chandler left for Kansas City the first of the week where she will purchase a spring and summer line of millinery for her shop.

Dr. W. S. and Mrs. Reister and some other Morland people attended the Osborn revival meetings Sunday evening.

Miss Marjorie Corrick left Monday for Chicago. During her residence here she was employed by the United Telephone Company. She has a sister living in the Windy City. She will be greatly missed by her many Hoxie friends.

Editor Gross, of the Menlo Leader, was an early Saturday morning Hoxie visitor. Mr. Gross has been in the newspaper game for many years and

Menlo is fortunate to have a man of his experience piloting its paper.

G. Sandemier was in from Bow Creek township Saturday wearing a smile from ear to ear, so thankful and proud is he of his daughter-in-law. His son, Henry, and brie will make their home with him on their Bow Creek ranch.

Mrs. L. C. Miley and daughter, Miss Nita Miley, left Monday for Los Angeles, California.

Mrs. E. B. Mickey is in Keokuk, Iowa, visiting her aunts, Mrs. C. F. Russell and Mrs. John Hunter.

R. S. Winslow, of WaKeeney, representative of the Oakley Marble and Granite Works, was in Hoxie Monday in the interests of his company.

### 75 Years Ago

February 15, 1951

### Patrolman Nabs Couple

Last Saturday afternoon patrolman Wendell Wyatt, of Colby, became suspicious of two young men in a car just west of Hoxie. After investigating them he found they were driving a stolen car out of Denver. The young men were brought to the local jail and placed under the custody of local authorities. Later it was learned that these men were AWOL out of Lowry Field, had stolen a car in down town Denver and had driven it into another state. They were turned over to the FBI who picked the pair up this morning. (Wednesday)

### Win At Goodland

The local high school A team came through with a winner Tuesday evening when they traveled to Goodland. At the end of the game the score stood 55-43 in favor of Hoxie. Junior Lace was high point man for Hoxie with 20, followed by F. Adams with 14, Monty Smith 11 and L. Adams 8. Daniels was high for Goodland with 14. The Little Indians lost their game 48-40.

### Menlo Items

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Jellison and Donnie were dinner guests in Goodland Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Bailey, of Topeka, and Mr. and Mrs. George Bailey, of Dorrance, came Friday evening to visit at the Rose Bailey home.

Mrs. Charlie Ogier was called on Aurora, Colo., Wednesday to help take care of her daughters children who were quite ill.

Mr. and Mrs. G. V. Christensen and family of Loveland, Colo., came Saturday evening to visit at the H. V. Christensen home and many of their other Menlo friends.

### Tasco Notes

Tasco Club met with Mrs. Helen Hojda on Feb. 8 with eleven members present. Mrs. Rooda Jones, Mrs. Fern Jones and Judy and Mrs. Arlene Millirons, and Donna Jean were visitors. A delicious dinner was enjoyed at noon. At the business meeting it was decided to have a package to sell numbers on and the proceeds to go for something for the hospital. Club meets with Nell Karnes Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Ralph and Keith Taylor spent Saturday morning with Leo and Leon Sample.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Timmons and children spent Friday evening with Mrs. L. Sample, Leo and Leon. Janet spent the night with Samples.

Myron Conard came Tuesday from Coolidge to visit his mother and brother.

### The Party Line

Mr. and Mrs. Stan Winter and girls were supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Emmerson Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Christensen, of La Center, Wash., are rejoicing over the arrival of Rex William on Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> weighing 7-lb., 1-oz., Mrs. Christensen will be remembered as Patty Patmon.

Ken Oren, Mrs. Anna Oren and Adam Sulzman were Sunday visitors at Arlie Orens.

### 50 Years Ago

February 12, 1976

### Tebo Implement to New Owner

John Tebo, Case and Allison-Chalmers implement dealer in Hoxie

since the fall of 1967, has announced the sale of the business. The new owner is Ronald "Ron" Muggge of Hoxie.

Muggge, a native of Cedar Falls, Iowa, has been a resident of the Hoxie area since 1972 when he came here as a custom harvester.

### Hoxie Sends Eight Wrestlers to State

The Hoxie grapplers pulled 8 men through the Regional at Oberlin during the past weekend. Hoxie placed fourth in team score with 109 points. Oberlin took first place with 129 ½, Atwood 122, Oakley 110, Hoxie 109, St. Francis 89 ½, Norton 55, Hill City 29, Trego 23 ½, Leoti 19 ½, Wheatland 12, Grinnell 14 ½, and Tribune 3.

The Indians had two first place finishers in the tournament. David Schippers at 185 and John Mosier at heavyweight. Lee Cooper and Randy Farber took second place; Don Pickinpaugh and David Winter took third place finishes. Dave Schamberger and Dick Heskett got fourth place finishes. Coach Mauck commented, "We didn't place as high as we wanted to, but we have just as many wrestlers as anybody else going to the State and have a real good chance of winning it."

### McGraw News

The Victory Club met at the home of Mrs. Gayle Bainter Thursday afternoon. Ruth made a pretty cake in honor of Mrs. Glen Lewis' birthday anniversary.

A meeting was held at the Jim Bainter home Thursday evening for more discussion on the Bicentennial float. We decided to have a covered wagon and team of horses. Those present for the meeting were Mr. and Mrs. Jim Bainter, Gary and Brenda, Mr. and Mrs. Wade Smith, Rachel, Eric and Greg. Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Sewell, Steve and Chris, Dwane Tice, Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Weis and Urban Weis.

### Leoville

Mr. and Mrs. Nick Schmidt of Colby visited the Ben Ritters Friday afternoon.

Mrs. Larua Olson and Bernard of Oberlin attended Mass here Sunday and visited friends in the afternoon.

Marie Ritter of McCook spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Ritter.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Herl returned home from Mexico last week where he consulted a doctor.

### Mickey's Want Ads

Wen 10" and 14" Chain Saw.

The school teacher left her classroom for a few minutes and on her return found the children doing everything they will do on such occasions. Wrathfully she called them to order, then asked, "How does it happen I never find you studying when I come back to the room?"

A small voice answered, "Please, ma'am, it's cause you wear rubber heels."

Black & Decker Tools - drills, sanders, circular saws, saw blades, hedge trimmers, and more. Check your shop - and then shop Mickey's to equip that shop with power tools.

### 25 Years Ago

February 8, 2001

### Indians Wrestlers Third at P-Burg

The Hoxie wrestling team placed third at the Panther Classic in Phillipsburg Saturday.

On Saturday at Phillipsburg, four Indian wrestlers advanced to the finals, all of whom came away with second-place finishes. They included Charlie Ochs, 103; Mat Gilliland, 119; Trent Baker, 140; and Cody Farber, 145.

### Jennings-Allison

The Senior Citizens met Saturday at the Senior Center to play pinochle. Rosa Brock won high. Others attending were Mary Votapa and Vendla Tacha, Jennings, and Floyd Edgett and Henry Edgett, Oberlin.

Mildred Tacha, and Doyle and Kay Brown, Jennings; Kurt and Valerie Brown, Quinter; Phil and Keli Kleidosty, Wichita; and Gordon and Kara Kuntz, Katherine and Zachary, Hays, attended the Investiture Ceremony of Honorable Deanelle Reece Tacha as Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the 10<sup>th</sup> Circuit which was held in Lawrence on Jan. 26.

Josh Ritter celebrated his eighth birthday with a trip to the Sternberg Museum at Hays on Jan. 27. Others accompanying him were his brother, Seth, and Troy Bainter and Ryan Bishop.

### Selden

Those present at the Selden Senior Citizens on Feb. 1 include; Betty James, Laura Berls, Lola Cook, Royce Cook, Clara Schieferecke, Vesta Shea, Flerry Shea, Paulie Neff, Mabel Andrews, Cordie Guyer, Don Smith, Donald Shaw, Leone Porsch, Anna Albers, Irene Kruse, Dorothy Lovin, Cecelia Ottley, Carol Shaw, Fansion Juenemann, Gene Rogers, Elsie Wessel and Eleanor Rogers.

### Broadway

Mr. and Mrs. Stan Smith and boys, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Smith and family, treated Alma Maude Smith to a birthday dinner at the Q-Inn Sunday. They had a family get together Monday evening for cake and gifts, celebrating Marchita's birthday too. Mr. and Mrs. Don McWilliams were present also.

## Kansas In-State Tuition Policies Violate Federal Law

**Topeka** – Kansas Attorney General Kris Kobach today issued an Attorney General Opinion that concludes that a Kansas statute granting in-state tuition to illegal aliens violates federal law.

“For more than 20 years, Kansas has been violating federal law with impunity. Now, the Trump Department of Justice is cracking down on states that have been violating that specific law banning in-state tuition for illegal aliens. Seven states have already been sued, and the federal government has already prevailed in two of them. Kansas legislators would do well to bring Kansas into compliance with the law rather than being sued by the federal government,” Kobach said.

The opinion, requested by State Rep. Samantha M. Poetter Parshall, analyzes how the Kansas statute conflicts with two federal laws: One, which prohibits states from offering postsecondary education benefits to illegal aliens based on residency unless the same benefits are available to U.S. citizens regardless of residency, and another, which generally bars illegal aliens from receiving state or local public benefits unless a state law enacted after Aug. 22, 1996, affirmatively provides for such eligibility.

According to the legal opinion, Kansas statute, K.S.A. 76-731a, deems certain illegal aliens as Kansas residents for tuition purposes, bases eligibility on attendance at Kansas high schools, and excludes residents of other states, all of which conflict with federal prohibitions. Kansas enacted its law in the early 2000s along with several other states.

However, in 2025, the U.S. Department of Justice filed lawsuits against seven states—Texas, Kentucky, Illinois, Oklahoma, Minnesota, California, and Virginia—with similar in-state tuition policies. The federal government reached settlements with Oklahoma and Texas.

The opinion reads, “In summary, K.S.A. 76-731a directly conflicts with federal law because it permits illegal aliens to qualify for in-state tuition rates without providing the equivalent benefit to U.S. citizens without regard to residency.”

## Museum News

By Shari Buss, Director, Hansen Museum

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

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

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

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

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

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

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## 2026 Girl Scout Cookie Season Begins with New Cookie

*Girl Scouts across Kansas embark on the highly anticipated 2026 Girl Scout Cookie season, channeling their entrepreneurial skills through creativity and exploration.*

On February 13, Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland kicks off the 2026 Girl Scout Cookie Season as Girl Scouts explore more possibilities through the largest girl-led entrepreneurial program in the world.

Exploremores™, a rocky road ice cream-inspired sandwich cookie, will join the legendary lineup for the 2026 Girl Scout Cookie season beginning February 13 - March 22. Filled with delicious flavors of chocolate, marshmallow and toasted almond-flavored crème, Exploremores reflect the spirit of exploration at the heart of every Girl Scout. In addition to the exciting new cookie, the 2026 cookie lineup will include fan favorites such as Thin Mints®, Caramel deLites®, Peanut Butter Patties® and more. Cookies are \$6 per package and all of the proceeds after paying the baker stay in Kansas to support our local Girl Scouts.

The Girl Scout Cookie Program® provides invaluable entrepreneurial skills for Girl Scouts across the country and funds experiences such as service projects, troop travel, and summer camp. From a curious kindergartener, amazed by jellyfish at the local aquarium, to a middle schooler finding the courage to go on her first overnight trip with her troop, Girl Scouts know the road to discovery starts with exploration. Each cookie season, Girl Scouts develop important life skills like goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills and business ethics through the Girl Scout Cookie Program. All proceeds from cookie sales power Girl Scouts' amazing experiences year-round.

Right now, Girl Scouts all over the world are exploring who they are, what they can do and all they can become. Your purchase helps them make the world a better place — one box of cookies at a time.

### How to Purchase Girl Scout Cookies This Year

- If you know a Girl Scout, reach out to her.
- If you don't know a Girl Scout, use the Girl Scout Cookie Finder by entering your zip code. There you can find a troop selling at a nearby booth, or you can purchase cookies to be shipped directly to you from troops nationwide.

### Share Something Sweet with Kansans

Since the Care & Share program began in 2010, customers have donated more than 200,000 packages of cookies to members of the military and local charities. In 2025 alone, approximately 7,500 packages were distributed through the program.

Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland gives cookie customers the option of sharing the sweet treats with those in the healthcare industry, service men and women, their families and local charities like the Kansas Food Bank. Customers can simply purchase a package of cookies to donate and Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland handles the rest.

Girls in grades K-12 can start their journey to fun, friendship, and new experiences by joining the world's largest entrepreneurial organization for girls at any point in the year. Life's more fun when you explore more! Unbox the future with Girl Scouts by joining the world's largest girl-led organization or learn how to become a volunteer at [www.kansasgirlscouts.org](http://www.kansasgirlscouts.org).

### About Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland

*Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland serves more than 10,000 members in 80 Kansas counties through its operational headquarters in Wichita, Kan., and regional offices in Salina, Hays, and Garden City. Founded in 1912, Girl Scouts is the leading authority on girls' healthy development and is the pre-eminent leadership development organization for girls. Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place.*



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NWS GOODLAND

## Colby Remains Among Leaders in Graduation and Retention

**Colby** - Colby Community College continues to rank among the state's leading institutions for student success, placing third in graduation rate and sixth in full-time student retention among Kansas community colleges, according to the 2026 Kansas Community College Data Book. Published by the Kansas Board of Regents, the annual report analyzes all 19 Kansas community colleges based on the most recent available data.

Colby's two-year graduation rate for first-time, full-time students is 48.5%, ranking third in the sector and just 2.3 percentage points behind the highest graduation rate in Kansas. CCC has held the top rate seven times in 11 years.

The college's full-time retention rate is 66.5%, placing Colby sixth statewide. Retention measures the percentage of first-time, full-time degree-seeking students who return for their second year. Colby consistently performs at the top of the state in retention, leading in five of the last seven years.

Colby Community College continues to strengthen the student experience through targeted investments in campus facilities, such as enhanced dining areas, residential spaces, recreation areas, and modernized technology. A wide range of support services is available to promote academic success, including free tutoring, personal counseling, and convenient walk-in advising. To ease financial barriers, the college provides no-cost learning materials for most classes, and students can access substantial scholarship opportunities through the Endowment Foundation to help offset educational expenses.

## Senator Rick Billinger Newsletter

February 9, 2026

The first half of the 2026 legislative session is only two weeks away from being complete. On February 19th, we will reach Turnaround—which is when most bills need to be passed out of one chamber to be considered in the other chamber. Until this point, most of the heavy legislative work has occurred in committee. In the next two weeks, both chambers will be spending longer days on the floor considering all that hard work. The Senate Ways and Means subcommittees finished all our hearings and reported out all agencies last Thursday. This next week we will be spent assembling our budget.

SB 299: In the past, the Supreme Court Nominating Commission has met in private. SB 299 changes this by restricting the Kansas Supreme Court and Supreme Court Nominating Commission from adopting a rule that prohibits disclosure of the Commission's records and making records of the Commission, including the names and cities of residence of people nominated to serve on the Commission, open and subject to disclosure. The bill would continue to allow background checks and sensitive financial information of applicants or nominees for judicial office to be closed from public disclosure by the Commission.

SB 348 will exempt any electric public utility that is a not for profit, wholly owned subsidiary of an electric cooperative public utility from the jurisdiction, regulation, supervision and control of the Kansas Corporation Commission. The bill would also authorize the KCC to investigate any changes to the electric rates, joint rates, tolls, charges and exactions, and classifications and schedules of rates affecting an exempt electric public utility following a petition filed by customers of the exempt electric public utility to investigate such rates.

HB 2331 would amend laws relating to coroner procedures for the disposition of remains by creating a process that would allow a coroner to relinquish custody or dispose of unclaimed cremated remains and specify whether civil liability would arise from such disposition. The bill would make certain provisions for the remains of veterans, establish requirements for continuing education programs for licensed embalmers and funeral directors, authorize the use of the word "crematory" in the names of certain businesses, and create the crime or aggravated criminal desecration.

SB 327 will eliminate the requirement that the Bob Bethell joint committee on Home and Community based services and KanCare oversight committee's January and April meetings be held during the regular legislative session.

I am honored and grateful to represent the 40th Senate District in Kansas. Please do not hesitate to contact me by email: [rick.billinger@senate.ks.gov](mailto:rick.billinger@senate.ks.gov) or call me with your questions or concerns. My office number is 785 296-7399 or my cell number is 785 899-4700. If you are in Topeka, stop by my office at 545-S.

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## Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame Inducts Bob Foote at CattleCon 2026

On February 4, 2026, Bob Foote with Foote Cattle Company in Bucyrus, Kansas, was posthumously inducted into the Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame during the 17th Annual Banquet at CattleCon 2026 in Nashville, Tennessee.

Bob Foote developed a multi-location family-owned cattle operation with 285,000 head feeding capacity among other businesses across Kansas and Nebraska.

Established in 2009, the Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame honors the exceptional visionary men and women who have made lasting contributions to the cattle-feeding industry. For more information about the Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame and 2026 inductees, visit [www.cattlefeeders.org](http://www.cattlefeeders.org).

### Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame

HONOR. VALUE. INTEGRITY.

The Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame was established to recognize visionary men and women who have made lasting contributions to our industry. Each year, cattle feeders from across the nation vote for two nominees to join this distinguished list of honorees.

<https://cattlefeeders.org/>



### Bob Foote Foote Cattle Company Bucyrus, KS

Bob Foote began his marriage to the love of his life, Gail, as well as his cattle business journey, in 1975. He worked early on, and throughout his time, to perfect his craft and his passion – the cattle business. Countless cattle-deal negotiations helped Bob become comfortable with taking on significant risk.

In 1985, Bob and Gail founded Foote Cattle Company which encompassed farming, order buying, and cattle feeding. Hoxie Feedyard became a part of Foote Cattle Company in 1997 with an initial capacity of 10,000 head. Today, Foote Cattle has grown to a multi-location family-owned cattle operation with 285,000 head feeding capacity as well as land, farming, ranching, banking, and other investments across Kansas and Nebraska.

Bob has been recognized on the floor of the U.S. Congress for being a leading agricultural producer and businessman. He had an aggressive business nature as well as an unassuming soft-side that people who truly knew him had the opportunity to connect with. He conducted business, and his life, in his own way. He used the talents given to him by God to the best of his ability.

Bob passed away in 2022. He was most proud of his Catholic Faith, his Family, and the Foote Cattle Brand. Bob was respected by everyone who knew him and is quoted by many for the motto he lived by, "GET IT!" Foote Cattle is continuing Bob's legacy with his three sons – Scott, Brad, and Greg.

<https://cattlefeeders.org/bios/bob-foote/>



**Congratulations from:**  
 Jim & Julia Myers \* James V. Myers, Chartered  
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**CATTLE FEEDERS  
 HALL OF FAME**



**FOOTE CATTLE  
 COMPANY**

### President Trump Is Strengthening Farmers' Rights

Washington, D.C. - U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins, U.S. Small Business Administrator (SBA) Kelly Loeffler, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lee Zeldin published a joint opinion piece in Newsweek highlighting how President Trump is strengthening farmers' rights, cutting regulations, and lowering costs.

"Earlier this week, the Trump administration set the record straight on the right to repair, paving the way for annual operating costs on the farm to drop by 10 percent. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released guidance to manufacturers reaffirming the agency's position that the Clean Air Act (CAA) supports—rather than restricts—Americans' ability to repair their own farm equipment," said Secretary Rollins and Administrators Lee and Loeffler. "There is no better advocate for the needs of the American farmer than President Trump, and this guidance is proof that we are not slowing down. In the spirit of Thomas Jefferson, we will continue to put farmers first and protect their right to repair. The future of our republic depends on it."

Read the full piece below.

The right to repair isn't just a slogan. It's a common-sense extension of the fundamental, constitutional right to private property, which has been recognized and vigorously protected since the founding of the United States 250 years ago. As Thomas Jefferson affirmed, "The true foundation of republican government is the equal right of every citizen in his person and property and in their management."

No one appreciates the importance of those rights more than the men and women who feed, fuel, and clothe us day in and day out—by the sweat of their brow and with the help of mechanical equipment that's become practically indispensable.

But when that equipment breaks down and remains out of operation, it means crops aren't planted or harvested, mouths aren't fed and America's economy and national security are put at risk.

Earlier this week, the Trump administration set the record straight on the right to repair, paving the way for annual operating costs on the farm to drop by 10 percent. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released guidance to manufacturers reaffirming the agency's position that the Clean Air Act (CAA) supports—rather than restricts—Americans' ability to repair their own farm equipment.

For years, prominent equipment manufacturers have interpreted the CAA's emission control anti-tampering provisions as preventing them from making essential repair tools available to all Americans. As a result, instead of making a repair in the field or at a nearby independent repair shop, farmers have been forced to take their equipment to manufacturer-authorized dealers to be fixed. Not only has this made repairs more costly, it has also caused many farmers to opt for older agricultural equipment that lacks modern emission controls simply because they can fix that equipment themselves.

An overwhelming majority of farmers—a staggering

### K-State Weed Management Schools Scheduled

A series of weed management schools will take place in northwest and north central Kansas, during the month of February, and are hosted by local K-State Extension districts.

Controlling difficult weeds continues to be a significant challenge for producers. To address the topic of weed control, K-State Extension has scheduled four regional weed management schools in February. This program has been designed to help producers and agri-business retailers improve weed management with challenging species and weather conditions.

The schools' schedule is as follows:

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

February 19: Norton - 9:30 a.m. to NOON at the Norton Co. 4-H Building - Coffee and Cake provided!

February 19: Phillipsburg - 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Phillips Co. Fair Building

February 20: Osborne - 9:30 a.m. to NOON United Christian Church, 214 N. 2nd Street - lunch will be provided following the program thanks to sponsor Sims Fertilizer and Chemical.

The schools will be presented by speakers from Kansas State University, Sarah Lancaster & Pat Geier, K-State Extension Weed specialists (Manhattan/Garden City); Jeanne Falk Jones, K-State NW Area Agronomist and local Extension Agents. Topics will include Where NOT to cut costs on weed control and a Research update on challenging weeds (Palmer Amaranth, kochia and others) along with Know your KSU Weed Chemical Book and a question-and-answer session. So be sure to bring all your questions with you! 2.5 credit hours for 1A certification along with CCA credits have been applied for.

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

95 percent—believe they should have the ability to fix their own equipment. That's why the Trump administration is giving our agriculture communities the freedom they need to thrive.

The guidance could not be more clear—manufacturers can no longer use the Clean Air Act to justify limiting access to repair tools or software. This includes making repairs to Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) systems on nonroad diesel engines. EPA is working to build upon the DEF guidance it released last summer, which reversed deratements and protected diesel equipment operators from DEF system failures. In the meantime, the right to repair guidance will allow farmers to fix broken DEF systems at home or in the fields, saving them time and money.

Like so many of President Trump's victories over the past year, this is about cutting red tape, expanding consumer choice and lowering input costs.

*Continued on page 9*

### State Water Plan Fund (SWPF) - Part II

Friends - I finished my last article on the SWPF with an incomplete sentence. If Kansas is ever going to come to grips with our water challenges and solutions, Kansas must first incorporate a complete set of data on water use. It must include federal farm payments, federal conservation payments, State funding, and the efforts made at the local levels, including the conservation districts statewide. To this point, this compilation has not been done. The current Federal Farm Bills pumps \$1+ billion annually to 11,000 farms, of which 5,300 irrigate 2.3 million acres to primarily grow wheat, corn, soybeans and sorghum. Until this is modified, the mining of the High Plains aquifer will continue at its present unsustainable rate as farmers and their bankers farm the Farm Bill. The Kansas Department of Agriculture has a \$78.5 million budget for an assortment of programs. In comparison, the Kansas Water Office has a \$44.1 million budget, and the Division of Environment at KDHE has a \$90.4 million budget, which covers five bureaus (of which water is just one). The Kansas Legislature has a Water Program Task Force that must collect this data to truly focus the water debate.

While the Senate Ways & Means committee made the sharp cuts, the House Appropriations committee - through the hard work of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget committee - gave these key budgets of KDA, KWO, and KDHE a more thoughtful consideration of systemic water issues. In 2026, the Kansas Water Office's budget committee restored \$5.2 million from the SWPF. They made partial cuts to many line items but kept these programs viable. There were no enhancements in 2026. For 2027, this House budget committee added back \$3.3 million in SWPF (including \$1.8 million for water planning and project development, plus \$1.5 million for a new reservoir sediment management initiative). Kansas is starting to address sediment issues with Tuttle Creek Reservoir and will move onto Johns Redmond before exploring other reservoirs.

Regarding the Kansas Department of Agriculture, this House budget committee added back \$9.6 million in SWPF to restore all reappropriations with a slight decrease to the water quality buffer initiative. They added \$1 million in one-time funds for the Musil Center for Sustainable Wheat Production at KSU in 2026. For 2027, this committee added \$1.7 million in SWPF for aid to conservation districts. This continues a State match of 2 to 1 for the county conservation districts, where 80 of 105 counties took part. \$250,000 in SWPF was added to the livestock watering cost-share program. \$97,662 from SWPF and 1.0 employee position was added in a new grassland line for 2027.

For the Division of Environment at KDHE, this House Budget Committee added back \$1.8 million in SWPF for nonpoint source technical assistance, drinking water protection, watershed restoration, and a harmful algae bloom pilot. In 2027, this House budget committee added \$2.4 million in SWPF for the Burtron Plume, \$350,000 in SWPF for the local environment protection program (LEPP), and \$45,000 in SWPF for the nonpoint source program.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

(First published in The Sheridan Sentinel February 5, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SHERIDAN COUNTY, KANSAS  
CIVIL COURT DEPARTMENT

FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION  
Plaintiff,

vs.

BENJAMIN BUEKIN, JOHN DODS (UNKNOWN TENANT/OCCUPANT), JANE DODS (UNKNOWN TENANT/OCCUPANT), ROOFMASTERS ROOFING CO., INC., ET AL.  
Defendants.

Case No: SD-2025-CV-000008  
Division No:

Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 60 Title to Real Estate Involved

### NOTICE OF SUIT

THE STATE OF KANSAS, to the above-named defendants and the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors and assigns of any deceased defendant; the unknown spouses of any defendant; the unknown officers, successors, trustees, creditors and assigns of any defendant that are existing, dissolved or dormant corporations; the unknown executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, successors and assigns of any defendant that are in some partners or in partnerships; the unknown guardians, conservators and trustees of any defendant 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 and all other persons who are or may be concerned.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the District Court of Sheridan County, Kansas, praying to foreclose a real estate mortgage on the following described real estate:

LAND REFERRED TO IN THIS COMMITMENT IS DESCRIBED AS ALL THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF SHERIDAN, AND STATE OF KANSAS AND BEING DESCRIBED IN A DEED DATED 08/10/2010 AND RECORDED 08/10/2010 IN VOLUME 17 PAGE 6281 / 6282 AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF THE COUNTY AND STATE SET FORTH ABOVE AND REFERENCED AS FOLLOWS: THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LOTS, TRACTS OR PARCELS OF LAND LIVING, BEING AND SITUATE IN THE COUNTY OF SHERIDAN AND STATE OF KANSAS TO-WIT: TRACT 1: THE EAST 66 FEET OF THE SOUTH 30 FEET OF THE SOUTH HALF OF BLOCK 10, LOVELAND ADDITION TO THE CITY OF HOME, SHERIDAN COUNTY, KANSAS. TRACT 11: THE EAST 1/2 FEET OF THE CENTER 30 FEET OF THE SOUTH HALF OF BLOCK 10, LOVELAND ADDITION TO THE CITY OF HOME, SHERIDAN COUNTY, KANSAS.

COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 2222 Trail Avenue, Hoxie, KS 67040 ("Property")

and all those defendants who have not otherwise been served are required to plead to the Petition on or before March 18, 2026, in the District Court of Sheridan County, Kansas. If you fail to plead, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

### NOTICE

Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692c(b), no information concerning the collection of this debt may be given without the prior consent of the consumer given directly to the debt collector or the express permission of a court of competent jurisdiction. The debt collector is attempting to collect a debt and any information will be used for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,  
MARINOSCI LAW GROUP, P.C.

By: David V. Noyce  
David V. Noyce, #20870  
11111 Neil Avenue, Suite 104  
Leawood, KS 66211  
Phone: (913) 800-2021  
Fax: (913) 257-5222  
dnoyce@mlg-deafidlaw.com  
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

MARINOSCI LAW GROUP, P.C. AS ATTORNEYS FOR THE PLAINTIFF IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

(Last published in The Sheridan Sentinel February 19, 2026)

## PUBLIC NOTICE

(First published in The Sheridan Sentinel February 12, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SHERIDAN COUNTY, KANSAS

Board of Commissioners of Sheridan County, Kansas, Plaintiffs,

v.

Castillo Contractors, et al., Defendants.

NOTICE OF SUIT

STATE OF KANSAS TO:

Tract # 1: Castillo Contractors  
Tract # 2: Gerald Dwain Rahier II  
Tract # 7, 8, 9 & 10: Shirley Lee Mayber  
Tract # 11: Clara Jean Unrein  
Tract # 12 & 13: Katy Anders

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

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

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

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

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

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

Tract # 1: #1-HO257 Lot 12, Block 27, Loveland Addition to the City of Hoxie, Sheridan County, Kansas.

Tract # 2: #1-HC035B - Lot 8, Block 4 with the exception of a tract, Original town, now City of Hoxie, Sheridan County Kansas

Tract # 7: #2-AD005B - A 30% interest in and to all oil, gas and other minerals in and under and that may be produced from the S/2 18-6-26, Sheridan County Kansas.

(Last published in The Sheridan Sentinel February 26, 2026)

J & J Drainage Products for culverts. Mader made a motion to approve purchasing culverts from Welborn Sales, who was low bid. Emigh seconded the motion. Carried 3-0. Cost for the various culverts is \$21,022.40.

Fort Hays State is putting on a grader class in Beloit. It is a weeklong training and there is an application process to get in. Cost of the class is \$1,500/per person. Herskowitz will get further information.

Additional information was distributed pertaining to mowers from BTI. The new bid information is \$87,687.31 which includes trade-in of three of the County's mowers. The three mowers will be repaired prior to trading in. Emigh made a motion to purchase three JD flex wing rotary cutters from BTI at a total cost of \$87,687.31. Mader seconded the motion. Carried 3-0. There was a quick discussion about sharing an employee with the City of Selden during our mowing season.

This is not something the Board is interested in pursuing at this time.

Jordan Riley, EMS Director, Crystal Rodriguez, and Jordan Ewers came to the table. Riley presented the names of himself and Crystal Rodriguez as appointees to sit on the Region 1 EMS Council. Mader made a motion to appoint Jordan Riley and Crystal Rodriguez to the Regional 1 EMS Council. Emigh seconded. Carried 3-0. Riley advised the Board that the inspections were done and there were no deficiencies found.

Sheriff Carver and Undersheriff Diercks came to the table. The Board advised they had signed the Agreement for Warranty Deed for a two-acre tract in the SE4 8-8-28 with Bill and Ilene Spillman.

At 9:35 Stithem made

a motion to enter into executive session for a period of 15 minutes for the discussion of non-elected personnel. Mader seconded. Carried 3-0. Present were the Board, Bracht, Carver, and Diercks. The door opened at 9:50.

There was a brief discussion about sales tax and the law enforcement building and the Sheridan Lake project.

Carver advised the Board they have interviewed two applicants for the law enforcement position but no interest yet. There was a discussion about scheduling.

The 2026 Agreement for Services between Sheridan County and DSNWK was approved and signed by the Board on a motion by Stithem and second from Emigh. Carried 3-0

On a motion by Stithem and second from Emigh, the January 27, 2026 Minutes were approved as presented. 3-0

Stithem made a motion to approve the January 30, 2026 Payroll as presented. Emigh seconded. Carried 3-0

The following payroll was reviewed and approved by the Board:

General \$95,878.25  
Road & Bridge \$40,644.30

Nox Weed \$1,940.50  
Public Transp. \$1,211.00  
Landfill \$2,201.22

At 10:36 a.m. with no further business, Stithem made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Emigh. Carried 3-0. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Room.

Attest: Heather Bracht, County Clerk, David Stithem, Chairman

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## OBITUARY



**Thayne Spresser**  
February 13, 1989 –  
February 2, 2026

Thayne Alstin Spresser, age 36, of Hays, Kansas, passed away on February 2, 2026, at his home in Hays. He was born February 13, 1989, in Colby, to Gregory Paul Spresser and Dana Rae Delehoy.

Thayne attended Hoxie High School, graduating with the Class of 2007. He participated in many sports throughout his school years, with basketball being his true passion. He was also an accomplished golfer and enjoyed time at the racetrack, but many will fondly remember him as the luckiest guy in the casino.

Family was central to Thayne's life, and he took great pride in being an uncle. He will be remembered for his great dancing skills, his loyalty as a friend, and his deep love for dogs.

Thayne worked as a Paintless Dent Removal technician with Spresser Auto Care.

He is survived by his father, Gregory Spresser (Leslie Smith) of Hays; his mother, Dana (Tim) Moss of Selden; his significant other, Kiana Kukus of Hays; and his brothers, Nathan (Leslie) Spresser of Kechi and Gerid (Chandra) Spresser of Granbury, TX. He is also survived by his nieces and nephews, Owen, Harper, Hudson, and Sutton, and his grandparents: Butch & Arlene Spresser.

He is preceded in death by grandparents: Gerold & Maribeth Delehoy; and his uncles, Dustin Delehoy and Greg Overlease.

Funeral services were held Saturday, February 7, 2026, at Keithley Funeral Homes and Crematory - Cline's Chapel, 1919 East 22nd Street, Hays, Kansas 67601. Viewing and visitation was Friday, February 6, 2026, at the funeral chapel.

Cremation is under the direction of Keithley Funeral Homes and Crematory. Memorials are suggested to Thayne's family to be designated at a later date, please make checks payable to Greg Spresser or Dana Ross in care of the funeral chapel. Memories and words of comfort may be shared with Thayne's family on his tribute page at [www.keithleyfuneralchapels.com](http://www.keithleyfuneralchapels.com).

## PUBLIC NOTICE

(First published in The Sheridan Sentinel February 12, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SHERIDAN COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ) Case No.: SD-2026-PR-000002  
FRED L. MOSS, DECEASED ) TITLE TO REAL ESTATE INVOLVED  
(Petition Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that on February 5, 2026, a Petition for Probate of Will and Issuance of Letters Testamentary under the Kansas Simplified Estates Act was filed in this Court by Kristine P. Moss, an heir, devisee and legatee, and Executrix named in the "Last Will and Testament of Fred L. Moss," deceased.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within the later of four months from the date of the first publication of this notice, as provided by law, or if the identity of the creditor is known or reasonably ascertainable, 30 days after actual notice was given as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Kristine P. Moss, Petitioner

SUBMITTED BY:

John D. Gatz, #10808  
Gatz & Ress LLP  
505 N. Franklin Ave., Ste. A  
P.O. Box 346  
Colby, KS 67701  
Phone: 785-460-3383  
Fax: 785-460-7104  
john@gatzlaw.net  
Attorney for Petitioner

(Last published in The Sheridan Sentinel February 26, 2026)

## Commission Minutes 2/3/26

Now on this 3rd day of February 2026, the Board of Commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas, met in regular session with Chairman David Stithem presiding. Other members present were Kyle Emigh, Mike "Buck" Mader, Steve Hirsch, County Attorney and County Clerk, Heather Bracht.

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

Those in attendance stood and recited the

Pledge of Allegiance.

Hirsch presented the Agreement for Warranty Deed for a two-acre tract in the SE4 8-8-28. This is being purchased from Bill & Ilene Spillman to potentially house a new law enforcement building. The Agreement for Warranty Deed was signed by all Board members. Hirsch, the Board, and Herskowitz discussed the property line issue in 11-8-27. Herskowitz will contact Gerard Meitl and have him flag the lines.

Joe Herskowitz, Road & Bridge Supervisor, distributed information from Welborn Sales and

**320+ AC CROPLAND & GRASS**  
**ABSOLUTE LAND AUCTION**  
**DECATUR COUNTY, KANSAS**  
**TUES., FEB. 17, 2026 @ 10:30 AM, CST**

**AUCTION LOCATION:**  
CITY HALL, JENNINGS, KANSAS

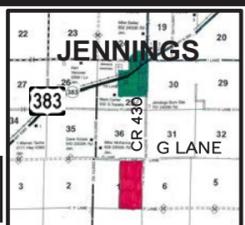
**SELLERS: MARK & TIA CARTER**

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION: E/2 OF SECTION 1-5-27**

**FSA INFO:**  
CROPLAND AC: 159.39  
GRASS ACRES: 153.94+

**CROPS:** No growing crops.  
**MINERAL RIGHTS:** All Seller's interest will transfer to Buyer.  
**POSSESSION:** Date of closing.

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Hoxie, KS 67740



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## City Minutes 1/12/25

### Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 12, 2026

The Governing Body of the City of Hoxie, Kansas, met in regular session on Monday, January 12, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the City Office. Present were Dawn Elliott, Mayor, Jim Erwin, Street Commissioner, Kevin Schoendaler, Water Commissioner, Janet Bainter, City Clerk, Justin Armknecht, City Superintendent, Paul Wisinger, Chief of Police, and Harry Joe Pratt, City Attorney.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dawn Elliott at 6:00 p.m. Guest present was Curtis Zerr with ICI Insurance.

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 8, 2025, were

read and approved on a motion made by Schoendaler and seconded by Erwin. Motion carried 2-0

Curtis Zerr with ICI Insurance entered the meeting to discuss the City's property and liability insurance. Mr. Zerr explained that the current broker for the City of Hoxie is an agency in Topeka. Mr. Zerr stated that he has direct access to EMC Insurance and feels he could benefit the City as the agent with EMC. Mayor Elliott made a motion to appoint ICI Insurance as the broker of record. Erwin seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Mayor Elliott signed the Broker of Record letter. Mr. Zerr exited the meeting at 6:21 p.m.

Mayor Elliott made a motion to hire Kaden Tremblay at \$20.00 per hour with a possible

Continued on page 9

**CITY LIMITS BAR & GRILL**

**PASTA NIGHT EVERY TUESDAY**

**Braised short rib** - truffle parmesan cream sauce, wild mushrooms, fresh herbs, pappardelle pasta  
+ Suggested Wine: Bella Chianti

**Spaghetti in white clam sauce** - clams, white wine butter sauce, fresh herbs, spaghetti pasta  
+ Suggested Wine: Canyon Road Chardonnay

**Chicken Alfredo** - Grilled Chicken, parmesan cream sauce, penne pasta  
+ Suggested Wine: Bella Sera Pinot Grigio

- \*\*While we will gladly prepare items to your desired temperature, consuming raw or under-cooked proteins may increase your risk of food borne illness, especially if you have certain medical conditions.\*\*

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Reservations Recommended

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**Public Transportation**

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- ✓ Errands
- ✓ Doctor Visits
- ✓ Long Term Care Outings
- ✓ Sight-Seeing
- ✓ Daycare Outings
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**City Minutes**

Continued from page 7

increase of up to \$1.00 per hour after a 6-month review. Erwin seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0

Bainter reviewed the health insurance rates for 2026 with the Commission. Schoendaler made a motion to renew the City's Blue Cross Blue Shield policy for 2026. Mayor Elliott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Schoendaler made a motion to pay the dues for 2026 in the amount of \$2,223.00 to the Northwest Kansas Planning & Development Commission. Erwin seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0

Chief Wisinger stated that he would like to purchase a locked metal cabinet to store evidence. He will provide prices at the February meeting.

Armknacht discussed multiple sewer hook-ups on the same property. A quote for new storm sirens was presented from Federal Signal in the amount of \$67,266.70. Armknacht stated he had attended a County Commission meeting in November 2024, and the County stated that they would be willing to help but wanted the city to check into grant funding. The city was unable to secure a grant through Kansas Emergency Management. Armknacht will check with Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission as well as a Dane G. Hansen grant.

The warrants and overtime for the month of December were reviewed, approved, and signed by the Commission.

With no further business, Schoendaler made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Elliott seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0

Janet Bainter, City Clerk  
Dawn Elliott, Mayor  
Jim Erwin, Street Commissioner  
Kevin Schoendaler, Water Commissioner

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**Prairie Doc Perspective: Spring into Seasonal Allergies**

By Jill Kruse, DO

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

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

Seasonal allergies can develop at any time in one's life. The most common risk factor for developing seasonal allergies is family history. If have family members with allergies, you have an increased risk of developing them as well. Seasonal allergies are the sign of an overactive immune system that has mistakenly identified harmless substances, like pollen, as dangerous threats to the body. This triggers an inappropriate defense response that leads to the common symptoms of allergies like runny nose, congestion, watery eyes, itching, and sneezing. The immune system is trying to fight pollen like it would fight a cold. This is why it can be difficult to differentiate between allergies and illness.

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

The first line over-the-counter treatment for seasonal allergies is intranasal corticosteroids such as Fluticasone (Flonase), Mometasone (Nasonex), and Budesonide (Rhinocort). These nasal sprays have been shown to be more effective than over-the-counter oral antihistamines such as Loratidine (Claritin), Fexofenadine (Allegra), and Cetirizine (Zyrtec). If the spray does not give adequate control, then adding an oral antihistamine can help.

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

Dr. Jill Kruse is a hospitalist at the Brookings Health

**Farmers' Rights**

Continued from page 6

Since 2020, capital expenditures on vehicles and machinery have increased over 45 percent. This isn't just because farmers are buying more equipment. After all, the entire farm economy plummeted in the four years of the previous administration's failed leadership, and the total number of farmers has also fallen.

The Biden administration's policies drove up inflation and ignored the needs of farmers and ranchers. President Trump is determined to turn things around in both the short term and the long term. The right to repair guidance is a critical part of the solution, and we expect it to deliver approximately \$48 billion in total savings for American farmers. Before today, a single repair would cost farmers about \$33,000—and that doesn't even factor in the time away from the field or the consequent loss of yield.

In America, the timely, affordable maintenance of agricultural equipment should not be a luxury—it should be a given.

There is no better advocate for the needs of the American farmer than President Trump, and this guidance is proof that we are not slowing down. In the spirit of Thomas Jefferson, we will continue to put farmers first and protect their right to repair. The future of our republic depends on it.

Lee Zeldin is U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator. Brooke L. Rollins is U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. Kelly Loeffler is U.S. Small Business Administration Administrator.

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