

Reacting to the news like rabid animals

AFEW MONTHS BACK, a member of Marion’s city council angrily yelled at *Record* reporters: “All you ever do is ask questions!”

He was right. Reporters ask questions. It’s how the public gets answers. And reporters are never more likely to ask questions than when it seems the public isn’t being told everything it needs to know.

Reporters don’t do it to sell newspapers, add rating points to newscasts, or encourage clicks online. They do it so the public has as complete a picture as possible of what’s going on. That’s how democracy functions. Democracy flourishes in sunshine and dies in darkness.

Asking questions is never more important than when public health and safety are involved. Last week’s disclosure of a suspected rabies case at Marion County Park and Lake is a perfect example.

Rabies is deadly. It’s relatively easy to be exposed. And by the time symptoms develop, it’s almost always too late for treatment.

Disclosure that a stray cat may have had rabies a week ago at one of the county’s most-visited locations should have been an alarm.

Rabies typically takes three to eight weeks to show up in cats. Anyone who went to the lake for the Fourth of July weekend might have encountered the infected animal even before it was obvious it was infected.

What the public needed to know was what the cat looked like and where, precisely, it was found. But to this day, county health officials have refused to release that information.

In fact, county health officials have refused to answer any questions other than to post on a Facebook account with just 227 followers that a rabies case was suspected.

Apparently wanting to control the message, officials shunted all questions to the county administrator, who at first didn’t have any answers and then declined to release them.

In a series of back-and-forth exchanges, even the question of whether the cat was destroyed and its infected remains removed has been answered in multiple, conflicting ways.

It’s now clear the cat wasn’t actually tested for rabies. And it’s somewhat understandable why. Personnel feared that to obtain the necessary samples, they might become infected.

We’re not even sure it was rabies. It might

have been a reaction to toxic algae infecting the lake. Either way, it remains a significant concern to the public. But even so, information wasn’t shared with other responsible officials, either.

At the end of the day, we were told there might be some reason for all this secretive behavior, but no one will say what that reason is. We’re simply supposed to trust that someone told us all we need to know, and this somehow is how small towns operate.

Quite the contrary, small towns operate best when everyone knows everything — and usually they do. Forget gigabyte speeds for Internet connections. Information spreads much faster than that in small towns — but only if the information is released.

Small towns also have an almost unique capacity for neighborly understanding. If there truly is a reason not to share certain information, all anyone has to do is explain the reason, and most people will accept it.

What no one can or should accept is secrecy and contradiction. Exposing such behavior may seem inflammatory, but the real blame lies with those who weren’t forthcoming and honest.

This week’s story about the rabies scare should be a wakeup call to county officials that the county’s system of crisis communication needs a complete overhaul.

A classic case study in crisis communication goes back to the Extra Strength Tylenol tainting scare in 1982. Marketers expected the brand never would survive the scare, but in a strategy lauded as exemplary in business and communication schools, Tylenol’s makers saved the brand by being completely forthcoming and transparent.

It’s a strategy that could have prevented alarm and confusion in the suspected rabies case and might have saved Marion and Marion County potentially millions of dollars after the 2023 raid on our newsroom.

Instead, what probably will happen is that a newspaper that dared ask questions on the public’s behalf will be boycotted by one or more advertisers. We already have been threatened with such if we refused to retract our stories about the scare.

We’re not retracting them. If we make an error, we’ll admit it. We always do if we’re aware of the error. But we won’t shirk our responsibility to the public just because someone wants us to or threatens to boycott us.

If we did, we wouldn’t deserve to be called journalists.

— ERIC MEYER



Control the message and you control the public

Another Day in the Country Light up the sky

By PAT WICK
© Another Day in the Country

IT WAS a quiet Fourth of July in Ramona, my hometown. No parade was planned this year, and no extra guests were expected. But there were going to be fireworks that evening, choreographed by the volunteer fire department again this year, and that was exciting to contemplate. Those guys do such a good job!

“Let’s put the lawn chairs in the back of the truck,” I said to my family, “and we can back the truck up to the railroad tracks like we did last year. That was so much fun.”

This was my grandson’s first Fourth of July in Ramona in some time.

There is just something so rural American about sitting in the back of a pickup truck, beside a dirt road, watching fireworks. It sounds like a theme for a country song.

While we were cleaning out the back of the truck, gathering chairs, and checking to see who had the keys, the fireworks started popping.

“It’s not even dark yet!” I cried. “Hurry up, you guys, so we can find a spot.”

How hard can it be to find a spot by the tracks in Ramona, population ±100? There wasn’t likely to be a traffic jam. Once settled, we just leaned back and watched the pyrotechnics.

It was a perfect country scene: wide-open prairie, still blue skies, pickup trucks, a four-wheeler buzzing by.

By the time the darkness truly descended, quite a few onlookers had gathered, and right on cue, Jeannie was there handing out for all the younger set bracelets that glowed in the dark.

“You want one?” she asked, waving in our direction.

Last year, a train came through in the middle of the fireworks exploding, and I hoped for a repeat performance, but no luck.

The train is such a constant

part of our lives here in town — whistling all day and into the night, stopping on the tracks and blocking our entrance or exit, calling out during services at the cemetery — that it seemed as if something was missing for engines to not be racing through the fireworks display in the dark of night, adding their two bits’ worth to the celebration.

I found myself holding my breath after every particularly beautiful burst of fireworks, hoping that this was not the end of the show.

When it was over, I said to my sister, “Would you drive the truck — take the long way home — so Dagfinnr and I can just sit back here and enjoy the view.”

“What’s the long route?” Dagfinnr wanted to know.

I told him it was code for touring the town.

“Ramona is bigger than I thought,” he said as Jess drove up and down the streets.

“Oh, that’s a nice-looking place,” my grandson called out as we turned the corner onto B St. “Who lives there?”

It’s surprising how quickly you can tour a town when it’s only five blocks square.

Our driver did slow down when we went over the WPA bridge on 5th St. so we could peer back into the trees to see myriad fireflies that gather down by the creek to do their mating rituals, but she wasn’t interested in running the route again.

Dogs barked, and cats cowered as fireworks continued to go off spasmodically around town.

We went indoors to play another game of wingspan, golf, or rummy. We love playing games.

A few days later, I took my grandson to Wichita to catch a flight to Southern California, where he was meeting his parents to go to orientation at Cal Poly, where he’ll be attending college.

I wondered as we drove how

many more summers he’ll be free to spend time in Ramona, as he has since he became a teenager.

Once he started first grade, his mother went to work full time, so it was me making a trip to California to spend the summer with him while his parents worked.

Years flew by as they tend to do, and then these last few summers he’s been spending time here in Ramona.

He always seemed to arrive with some assignment from a teacher — books to read or words to memorize to evaluate literature.

I read some of the books, too, and went through the word list with him, testing our acumen.

I jokingly called his time devoted to studying “office hours” while he worked on one summer class or another.

“This is summer vacation,” I complained. “Kids should be playing, not studying, in the summer — especially when visiting grandparents.”

However, all those “office hours” paid off when he got to orientation and discovered that he had enough credits that he was entering his first year of college as a sophomore.

It happens every time I drive loved ones to the airport, drop them off, and head home to a very quiet house.

I have to be thankful, look to the future, and the next time they’ll return to spend another day in the country.

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

Tampa bank

Some editions of last week’s paper misspelled the name of Tampa State Bank president Micky Lundy in an article about the bank’s acquisition and misstated her relationship with former bank president Chris Costello. He was her brother.

Letters TO THE EDITOR

Cut the cutting

To the editor:

I am saddened and find it hard to believe everything that has been happening since the presidential inauguration.

Promises were made that Medicaid would not be touched. Promises were made that prices on groceries and gasoline would immediately come down. Promises were made that our brave servicemen and women would continue to be taken care of. The promises in reality were lies.

The recent flash flood in Texas is just one example of how the Trump administration has destroyed life as we know it.

The weather service, which has been constantly improved to protect us from disasters, has been gutted and broken.

Medicaid has been gutted, and 17 million people are going to lose their health care.

Snap and WIC have been gutted, and now children and entire families are going to go hungry.

Our education system has been gutted and is suffering. Colleges are being targeted. Pell grants are being eliminated, making higher education impossible for thousands of students.

Promises were made that Social Security would not be touched, but probably half of its employees have been let go. You cannot call and get a person. You must make an appointment even to talk to someone.

I had a question for the IRS yesterday but could not get a human on the phone. The computer could not guide me, and

eventually it just hung up. It happened three times.

All the gutting was supposed to help balance the budget. Instead, it is increasing the national debt by trillions.

The goals of this administration are to create a brain drain to allow more government control and stuff more money in the pockets of the rich, creating oligarchs.

Have you paid attention to the increase in President Trump’s and his family’s net worth? Have you paid attention to how taxpayers’ dollars have been spent for Trump to go on enormous amounts of golf trips?

How, as a democratic republic, can we, including elected officials and appointed judges, let this continue?

We have become the laughingstock of the world. A coun-

try that once was a great place to visit is now a country that people in other countries are warned not to visit.

Let’s bring our country back to the great place it was rather than the sad, fearful, and feared country that it has become.

Connie McMahan
Tampa

A sh***y sign

To the editor:

Please let Lacy Westmoland know that I am totally offended by her profane yard sign right on the front page of the July 2 issue of the *Marion County Record*.

Thankfully, at least, it was below the fold.

Greg Bashem
Lancaster, California

tion to your paper for one of our friends.

We have also been moved to reach out to all of the independent publications in our area and support them more robustly.

We recognize that these are small steps; however, we believe that our most important rights will wither if not exercised. You and your staff stand as a light for those rights.

As you have so eloquently stated, an informed citizenry is a powerful force for democracy and freedom from tyranny.

Please know that your voice has been heard and is impactful. Thank you.

Terence Reidy
Woodstock, New York

Dispatcher, nephew arrested after fight

By **PHYLLIS ZORN**
Staff writer

A Marion County dispatcher and her nephew were arrested July 8 after a violent incident at her grandparents' home.

Interim police chief Zach Hudlin said police were called to the 400 block of Roosevelt St. for a disturbance.

The family had gathered for a birthday party, and dispatcher Jessica M. Snyder, 41, had got into a fight with her 18-year-old nephew, Gilbert E. Ramirez, who was chasing around his two younger brothers and hitting them with a stick.

Snyder began hitting Ramirez with a stick.

When Marion officer Dustin Woodford got to the address, Snyder was in the yard, and Ramirez was across the street.

Woodford arrested Snyder on suspicion of domestic battery.

She was booked into McPherson County Jail, and held until the following day and then released with-

out bond. Her booking photo shows injury to her face.

Woodford arrested Ramirez on suspicion of battery and endangering a child. He was booked into Marion County Jail and released the following day on a \$5,000 surety bond.

Hudlin said a charge of domestic battery would not apply to Ramir-

ez because his brothers are younger than 18. It would apply to Snyder because at one time Ramirez had lived with her and her husband.

Asked whether disciplinary sanctions would be taken against Snyder, Undersheriff Larry Starkey declined to comment because it was "a personnel matter."

A shopping hotspot



Jenny Roland sells sourdough bread, cakes, and cookies as local vendors brave 90-degree weather to offer their wares at a farmers market July 9 in Marion's Central Park.

STAFF PHOTO BY FINN HARTNETT

GOP selects new legislator

By **PHYLLIS ZORN**
Staff writer

Abilene resident Greg Wilson was elected Tuesday evening to replace Scott Hill as District 70 state representative.

Hill resigned June 26 to become a state senator in District 24, which includes Saline and Dickinson counties.

Wilson won Hill's seat on a 43-30 vote by Republican precinct committeemen

and woman meeting at Sand Springs Venue in Abilene.

The other candidate was Brandon Rein from Abilene.

Marion County party chairman Rose Davidson said both candidates expressed similar core values.

One factor in Wilson's favor might have been that Rein was younger, Davidson said.

"I think he's going to be a good can-

didate," Davidson said. "He's not a politician; he's a farmer. He comes across as a normal person."

Wilson's name will be sent to the governor for formal approval before he is sworn in.

District 70 includes Dickinson, Marion, and a portion of McPherson counties.

Bird starts grass fire, shuts down power

By **FINN HARTNETT**
Staff writer

A power failure July 9 which affected roughly 400 customers in Burdick, Ramona, Lincolnville, Lost Springs, and Pilsen is being blamed on a bird.

A bird became stuck in a piece of electrical equipment at a Lost Springs substa-

tion at 11:19 a.m., Every communications director Gina Penzig said.

Grass surrounding the substation caught fire.

A passer-by called 911, Lost Springs assistant fire chief Brett Hajek said, and stomped out some of the fire himself before the department arrived.

"One of the three fuses was tripped

out, and the grass started on fire and burned south toward the road," Hajek said. "We had it out pretty quickly."

Power came back on at 1:41 p.m., according to Every.

Roughly 50 customers in Dickinson County also were affected by the outage.

County votes to hold line on taxes

Although still far from agreeing on a 2026 budget, commissioners decided Monday they will limit spending and adopt a revenue-neutral budget.

County administrator Tina Spencer handed out budget charts she had created from the current and prior years.

Spencer told commissioners that the county clerk needed to be notified by Monday if the county wanted to exceed the revenue-neutral rate.

"There's always time to pull back from that later," Spencer said.

But the commissioner decided to lock in at no more than the same tax revenue as last year.

That means a tax rate of no more than 69.842 mills compared to a current tax rate of 72.907 mills.

Commissioners originally were divided, with Kent Becker and Clarke Dirks saying they wanted to keep the budget revenue neutral and Jonah Gehring saying that prices always go up.

The vote, when taken, was unanimous to remain revenue neutral.

They will continue on specifics of the 2026 budget.

When a final budget is ready for presentation to the public, commissioners will conduct a budget hearing Sept. 15.

So far, the city of Marion has announced it will notify the county clerk that it plans to exceed its revenue-neutral tax rate. Council members there still are working on the budget.

Hillsboro to exceed revenue-neutral rate

By **FINN HARTNETT**
Staff writer

Hillsboro City Council voted Tuesday to notify the county clerk to increase tax revenue by exceeding the revenue-neutral rate of 37.989 and set its mill rate at 42.

The decision came after city administrator Matt Stiles gave a presentation reviewing Hillsboro's 2026 budget.

Stiles found that the median home value in Hillsboro has increased to \$100,600, revenue has remained steady, and sales tax has declined slightly.

He noted uncertainty about the cost of future city equipment because of tariffs and the loss of federal programs.

Mayor Lou Thurston, attending the meeting remotely from the District of Columbia, said he would like to see more public input into the budget in the future.

"We get skunked in terms of overt input into the budget," he said. "We get a lot of covert input."

Council member Blake Beye asked Stiles whether he would consider a slightly lower mill rate. Stiles said he preferred a higher rate that could be reduced later.

"I think we're going to be closer to 40, truthfully," he said.

In other city business, the proposed Hillsboro fire station moved closer to reality after the

board authorized bonds worth \$6,000,000 and approved an architectural concept submitted by Sheldon Architecture.

"Thank you guys for completing what we started all those years ago," county commissioner Jonah Gehring said.

Gehring was on the city council seven years ago when the station was proposed.

The station is planned to be 23,500 square feet and two stories tall.

The first floor would feature six apparatus bays, gear storage for 28 firefighters, a shop room, a meeting room, two offices, and restrooms.

The second floor would include sleeping areas, a kitchen, an exercise room, a laundry, and restrooms.

Sheldon Architecture estimated the cost of the project at \$5,200,000, though the price will become more certain after general contractors bid.

Hillsboro hopes to finance the station in part through a U.S. Department of Agriculture loan.

Stiles said he was confident about the city receiving the loan and not sure about other potential loans.

Later in the meeting, Stiles said Hillsboro received \$10,000 from the Department of Commerce to paint a mural on the side of Gutter Ball, the bowling alley the city purchased last year.

Gubernatorial candidate visits



STAFF PHOTO BY NICHOLAS KIMBALL

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Cindy Holscher took questions Saturday from Marion and Harvey County Democrats in Marion. More than 50 people attended. They asked what people could do to stop hospitals from closing, how to get more people to vote, and how to get corporations and governments to see people as people.

Record editor wins international award

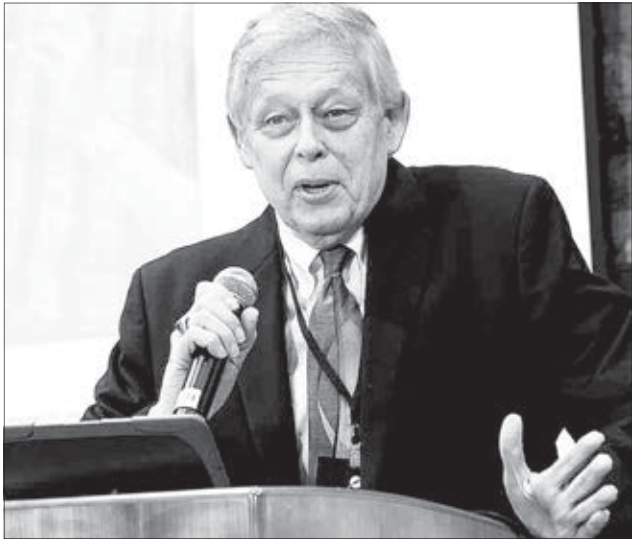
At a formal banquet Saturday at South Dakota State University, *Record* editor Eric Meyer received the prestigious 47th Eugene Cervi Award from the International Society of Weekly Newspaper Editors.

Meyer is the first son of a previous recipient to receive the award and the third journalist from Kansas to receive it.

His father, Bill Meyer, won it in 2002. McDill “Huck” Boyd, the Phillipsburg editor for whom Kansas State University’s National Center for Community Media is named, won it in 1985.

The award, not presented every year, was established in 1976 to honor a Rocky Mountain editor who consistently acted in the conviction that “good journalism begets good government.”

Unlike many awards won after police raided the *Record* newsroom in August, 2023, the award is presented, according to ISWNE, “not for a single brave accomplishment but for a career of outstanding public service through community journalism and for adhering to the highest standards of the



In a speech Saturday to members of the International Society of Weekly Newspaper Editors, *Record* editor Eric Meyer characterizes community weeklies not as mainstream media but as Main St. media.

profession with deep reverence for the English language and consistently aggressive reporting at the grassroots level.”

After his death in 1970, Cervi was described by the New York Times as “one of the most outspoken voices in American journalism.” Several ISWNE members still regard

him as their “journalism conscience.”

Colorado, Illinois, and Canadian editors have won the award four times. Kansas editors now join Missouri and New Mexico editors in winning the award three times.

Arizona, California, Georgia, Kentucky, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Wash-

ington, and Wisconsin editors have won it twice.

Other awards have gone to editors from Arkansas, Australia, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Ohio, New York, and Vermont.

Letters of support for Meyer’s nomination were provided by Emily Bradbury, executive director of the Kansas Press Association; Al Cross, director emeritus of the Institute for Rural Journalism at the University of Kentucky; Gloria Freeland, director emerita of the Huck Boyd Center; Sarah Kessinger, editor and publisher of the Marysville Advocate; Sam C. Mwangi, current director of the Huck Boyd Center; Sherman Smith, editor-in-chief of the Kansas Reflector; and Paul H. Stevens, retired Associated Press bureau chief for Kansas and Missouri.

Bradbury wrote of Meyer’s “unwavering commitment to quality journalism and his dedication to fostering good governance within his community.”

“Like Cervi,” she wrote, “Eric possesses an innate ability to use words to inspire, inform,

and provoke thoughtful discourse. Even before the infamous raid on the *Marion County Record*, Eric was consistently tireless in pursuit of truth and accountability in local government.”

His “fearless approach to investigative journalism,” “unwavering commitment to ethical journalism,” and “dedication to public service make him a true embodiment of the principals that the award seeks to honor.”

Freeland cited Meyer’s “fierce coverage of all aspects of his community, his excellence in reporting, and his strong editorial voice.”

“I don’t know how they do it,” she wrote, “but Eric and his small staff have kept on publishing . . . in spite of intimidation, unanswered questions, and continued resistance from government institutions.”

The *Record*, Kessinger said, “is stock full of well-written, concise, and balanced reports” with “a lively editorial page” that “brims with razor-sharp observations” and “never shies from weighing in on controversial topics.”

“He has hung on like a bulldog,” she wrote, “and this nation can look to him as a beacon of hope at a time when the U.S. press in general faces an era of authoritarian government threats.”

Smith and Mwangi cited Meyer’s reaction to the 2023 police raid.

“It’s especially important,” Smith wrote, “that Eric Meyer was willing to speak up, loudly and as often as anyone would let him.

“There are newsrooms in Kansas where local authorities could have gotten away with a newsroom raid because the owner is an out-of-state corporation and the only employee in the newsroom is too inexperienced to understand the severity of what happened and too scared to sound the alarms.

“They picked on the wrong small-town newspaper.”

Mwangi added that Meyer’s “eloquent defense of the value of independent community journalism” has “elevated his service to community journalism beyond Marion County to the larger national and international community.”

Kids to learn safety before school starts

By **PHYLLIS ZORN**
Staff writer

Displays and interactive learning activities designed to promote safe, healthy habits at home and everywhere else will be featured at a Safe Kids back-to-school program 6:30 to 8 p.m. Aug. 5 at the Sports and Aquatics Center in Marion.

A Marion County Park and Lake representative will discuss boating safety and distribute life jackets.

Army Corps of Engineers personnel will present information about outdoor recreation.

Susan Mueller will bring rabbits for kids to interact with and will talk about animal care and safety.

Parents as Teachers will talk about bike safety, give away bike helmets, and have a tricycle obstacle course and story walk.

Marion County Health Department will provide information about the Women, Infants, and Children program and the county breastfeeding coalition.

Hillsboro Fire Department will set up a fire safety house. A combine, a police car, ambulance, a bus, a fire truck, and other safety equipment will be displayed.

Hillsboro Community Child Care will have a sensory table for kids to explore.

Presentations will be made about railroad, medication, bus, sports and recreation, screen, sun, and car seat safety, along with resources for caregivers, advice on hand washing, infant toddler services, dental hygiene, quitting tobacco, and physical therapy.

Names of caregivers in need of a child car seat will be taken, and GraceMed will provide help signing families up for KanCare.

United Way seeks county advisers

By **PHYLLIS ZORN**
Staff writer

United Way, which extends from Harvey County to Marion County, has specific priorities for Marion County but volunteers are needed.

It hopes to increase access to nutritious food for families and

seniors; support child care and youth initiatives; encourage affordable housing; help with applications for food benefits and child care subsidies; and help with finding mental health and housing resources.

The agency wants to partner with local agencies, schools,

clinics, and churches and mobilize volunteers for crisis and neighbor-to-neighbor help.

The group is seeking to add advisory council volunteers from Marion County who will meet monthly to identify priorities, advise on partnerships, and promote initiatives.

“This is a chance for people who love Marion County to shape its future,” development coordinator Sheila Kelley said. “You don’t need special expertise — just a heart for your neighbors and a will-

ingness to be part of something bigger.”

More information about the advisory council and other volunteer opportunities is available at info@uwahmc.org.

“The best ideas come from the people who live here,” executive director Dalton Black said. “We’re excited to keep making forward progress by expanding our local advisory council of volunteers who guide us, share their lived experiences, and champion the work that matters most to Marion County.”

MENUS

SENIOR CENTERS

Menus subject to change. Milk available with all meals.

HILLSBORO

Reservations accepted at (620) 947-2304.

Thursday — Oven-fried chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans with onions, strawberry shortcake, roll.

Friday — Meatloaf, baked potato, broccoli, mixed fruit, roll.

Monday — Smothered pork chop, yams, carrots, pears, bread.

Tuesday — Chicken pasta salad, sliced tomatoes, cucumbers and onions, watermelon, muffin.

MARION

Reservations accepted at (620) 382-2942.

Thursday — Meatloaf, baked potato, broccoli, mixed fruit, roll.

Friday — Tuna salad, whole-wheat bread, pea salad, tomatoes, mandarin oranges.

Monday — Chicken salad, tomatoes, cucumbers and onions, fruit, muffin.

Tuesday — Sausage gravy with biscuit, hash browns, stewed tomatoes, peaches, cookie.

July 23 — Hamburger on bun, potato salad, coleslaw, fruit, cookie.

July 24 — Baked ham, au gratin potatoes, peas and carrots, apple cobbler, whole-wheat bread.

PEABODY

Reservations accepted at (620) 983-2226.

Thursday — Sweet and sour chicken, cauliflower, apple crisp.

Friday — Meatloaf, baked potato, broccoli, mixed fruit, dinner roll.

Monday — Smothered pork chop, yams, carrots, pears, bread.

Tuesday — Chicken pasta salad, sliced tomatoes, cucumbers and onions, watermelon, muffin.

July 23 — Chicken enchiladas, Mexican corn, Spanish rice, fruit.

July 24 — Lemon-baked fish, roasted red potatoes, Brussels sprouts, pineapple chunks, dinner roll.

Church directory

Up-to-date schedules provided by churches

Email weekly updates to church@MarionCountyRecord.com.

AULNE BIBLE

1404 Pawnee Rd., Marion
Bryan Lowery, Pastor

Worship 9:10 a.m.
Sunday school 10:45 a.m.

Nursery and children’s church available during morning worship.

Wednesday — Work on Operation Christmas Child boxes, 6:30 to 8 p.m., Phoebe Janzen’s house.

Thursday — Women’s prayer group, 7 p.m., Betty Just’s house.

Friday — Women’s Bible study, 10 a.m. or 2 p.m., Phoebe Janzen’s house.

FLORENCE UNITED METHODIST
201 W. 5th St., Florence

Gathering/coffee 10 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m.

Guest pastor, Karen Rice Ratzlaff.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH
Roman Catholic churches in Florence, Marion, Pilsen, and Tampa

Father Isaac Coulter

Florence 5 p.m. Saturday
Marion 8:30 a.m. Sunday
noon Tuesday, noon July 23

Pilsen 11:30 a.m. Thursday,
11:30 a.m. Friday, 10:30 a.m. Sunday

Confessions 30 minutes before every Mass for 20 minutes.

Saturday — Extra confessions, 3 p.m., Marion.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN
320 Cedar St., Marion
John Werner, pastor

Bible class 8 a.m.
Divine service 9 a.m.

Thursday — Mission projects, 1 p.m.

OTHER AREA CHURCH SCHEDULES

ALEXANDERWOHL MENNONITE
Sunday school 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

BURDICK UNITED METHODIST
Worship 11 a.m.

BURNS CORNERSTONE BIBLE
Worship 9 a.m.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF FLORENCE
Worship 10:45 a.m.

Free breakfast 8:30 a.m.
Sunday school 9:30 a.m.

Evening service 6:30 p.m.

COMMUNITY OF CEDAR POINT
Worship 9 a.m.

EASTMOOR UNITED METHODIST
Worship 9:45 a.m.

EBENFELD MENNONITE BRETHREN
Worship 10:30 a.m.

EMMANUEL BAPTIST
Worship 10:30 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST OF DURHAM
Sunday school 9:30 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST OF PEABODY
Sunday school 9:30 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

Facebook live 11 a.m.

GRACEPOINT
Worship 10:30 a.m.

GOOD NEWS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
Worship 10:30 a.m.

HEBRON LUTHERAN OF BURDICK
Worship 9:30 a.m.

HILLSBORO FIRST MENNONITE
Sunday school 9:30 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

HILLSBORO MENNONITE BRETHREN
Sunday school 9:15 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

HILLSBORO UNITED METHODIST
Worship 10:30 a.m.

Weekly services posted on YouTube.

HOLY TRANSFIGURATION ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN OF HILLSBORO
Liturgy 10 a.m.

MARION CHRISTIAN
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday — Bible study, 9 a.m.

MARION PRESBYTERIAN
Praise team rehearsal 8 a.m.

Worship 9:30 a.m.

Sermon discussion 7:30 p.m.

PARKVIEW MENNONITE BRETHREN, HILLSBORO
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

PEABODY CHRISTIAN
Worship 10:30 a.m.

PEABODY UNITED METHODIST
Worship 10:40 a.m.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN OF LINCOLNVILLE
Worship 10:45 a.m.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN OF TAMPA
Worship 9:15 a.m.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN OF PEABODY
Worship 9 a.m.

STRASSBURG BAPTIST
Sunday school 9:45 a.m.

Worship 10:45 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN OF RAMONA
Worship 10:45 a.m.

VALLEY UNITED METHODIST
Sunday school 9:30 a.m.

Worship 10:45 a.m.

ZION LUTHERAN OF HILLSBORO
Bible class 9:15 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

IN MEMORIAM

EXPANDED EULOGIES

“In Memoriam” listings are expanded paid obituaries, phrased as the family requests, and may include enhanced information or photographs that might not fit within free death notices.



Dorothy Conyers

Dorothy Conyers

Funeral services for Dorothy F. Conyers, 92, who passed away July 12, 2025, in a motor vehicle accident near Peabody, will be 10 a.m. Saturday, July 19, 2025, at Eastmoor United Methodist Church.

Burial will follow at Claney Cemetery, rural Marion. Visitation will be 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, July 18, 2025, at the church.

Dorothy was born Feb. 22, 1933, in Marion to John and Eva (Ray) Adams. She was a grad-

uate of Marion High School in the class of 1950.

She was united in marriage to Glen “Shorty” Conyers on Dec. 1, 1951, in Marion. She worked as a secretary for the Social and Rehabilitation Services office in Marion for 24 years.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Shorty; her son, Scott Conyers; and siblings Jack Adams, Verla Giesbrecht, and Carol Helmer.

She is survived by sons Terry (and wife Janette) Conyers of Gilmer, Texas, and Jerry Conyers of Newton; grandchildren Laci Conyers, Scott Conyers, Trenton (and wife Brandy) Conyers, and Tyler (and wife) Christina Conyers; great-grandchildren Korisa, Jayson, Traycer, Riley, Remi, and Langsten; and a host of extended relatives and friends who will cherish her memory.

A memorial fund has been established with SafeHope in care of Jost Funeral Home, Hillsboro. More information is at <http://www.safehope.net/>.

Online condolences may be left at <http://www.jostfuneralhome.com>.

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Compiled from newspaper files

15 YEARS AGO

JULY 21, 2010

Kenichi Yamasita of Tokyo is pictured as he skates on US-56/77 north of Marion. The 62-year-old man is skating across the U.S., from California to Cape Cod, because he is grateful to America for helping his country after World War II.

The Cal Ripken state tournament for 11-year-olds will be Friday to Monday in Marion. Brad Seacat and Randy Savage are pictured as they put together part of a fence in the outfield of one of Marion's baseball fields in preparation for the event.

"The Miracle of Father Kapaun" will be presented Aug. 13 and 14 at the DeMattias Fine Arts Center at Newman University, Wichita. The play is based on an original story by Roy Wenzl of the Wichita Eagle.

This summer is a bad time for mosquitoes. City employees Clayton Garnica and Jeff Harper are driving on Marion streets and along creeks with a fogging machine to alleviate the nuisance.

Marion High School graduate Julia Zeiner has been named female athlete of the year by the Hutchinson News. Zeiner was chosen because of her performance this year in three sports — volleyball, basketball, and track and field.

30 YEARS AGO

JULY 26, 1995

Numerous City of Marion projects are "on schedule." Switch gear and entrance lines are being changed at an electrical distribution center near

Santa Fe St. The former power plant has been sold, and electrical controls are now located in a new building alongside the old brick structure. Crews also have been busy tearing out old curbing and installing new curb and gutter on Roosevelt and Freeborn Sts.

"World War II, 50 Years Later" is the theme Marion Kiwanis Club has selected for the Old Settlers Day parade scheduled for Sept. 30. Casey Case is parade chairman.

Nineteen participants in Marion Senior Center's meals program went on a trip recently to Abilene and visited the Russell Stover candy outlet, Bow Studio and Gallery, and Twin Feathers Ranch.

Tony Schafers has retired as custodian at Marion Post Office after 14 years in that position.

Sue Ehrlich of Marion is pictured with home-grown tomatoes she entered in the *Record's* Produce Derby. The tomatoes weigh more than one pound each.

Brendan Sager's ongoing "Eating Around Marion County" articles this week tell of Ohm's Café in Ramona and its owner for 43 years, Betty Ohm. Pictured with Ohm is her grandson, Craig Heuton, who is visiting this week from Iowa.

45 YEARS AGO

JULY 23, 1980

A five-week-long heat wave has caused problems for the city. Residents are being asked to use major appliances during cooler hours in the morning and evening and to cut down on water usage.

After 18 years of delays, protests, and promises — plus more than 30 years of discus-

sion — the Kansas Department of Transportation has approved plans to relocate a 14-mile stretch of US-56 between US-77 and K-15. The new route will follow a path one mile north of Marion.

Kelly Humphries snapped a photo of Jeff Harris and Robbie Hett as they chugged along in an old jalopy south of Marion. The pair were joyriding in the contraption, but it looks as if they will be walking before long.

Gena Helmer of Marion won the title of 1980 Tri-County Junior Miss at Monday's pageant in Herington. The 17-year-old won the poise and appearance and talent competitions, defeating 15 other girls to advance to a Junior Miss contest in November at Belleville.

Republican Doug Westerhaus is pictured as he awaits his opportunity to speak at Aulne of his candidacy for county attorney. Pictured with Westerhaus is Democrat candidate Ed Wheeler as he contends with young son Jason, who is probing his father's pocket for a campaign card.

60 YEARS AGO

JULY 29, 1965

Twenty-three freight cars of an early morning northbound Rock Island freight train jumped the track just south of the Peabody station at 5:10 a.m. Tuesday, ending up in a jumbled mess around the depot building and along the railroad right of way. Luckily, no one was injured.

Wharton Hoch met with members of the Marion City Commission this week and told of plans for a decorative water fountain in the city park.

One of the largest home-grown potatoes seen in many

a year was brought into the *Record* office this week by Mrs. John Neuwirth of Lost Springs. The spud weighed a pound and a quarter and measured 10 inches around and 13 inches in length.

Roland Wight, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Wight of Marion, received a commendation from the Army last week for his service as a civilian engineer at Fort Wolters, a helicopter training base near Mineral Wells, Texas.

Durham citizens voted Tuesday on a bond issue to install a municipal water system for their city. Water will be piped in from seven miles west of Durham, close to where Lehigh gets its water.

Judy Pankratz and Cheri Bell, who recently attended Girls State in Lawrence, were speakers Monday noon at Kiwanis.

75 YEARS AGO

JULY 27, 1950

Wes Summervill, who lives just south of Marion County Park and Lake, is shown standing in a field of his Pioneer hybrid corn. The stalks are far above his head, and the spot in the field wasn't picked as the place where the tallest corn grows. It was the only place the photographer could snap a picture without getting his feet muddy.

Aulne Methodist Church will celebrate its 75th anniversary Aug. 4 to 6.

LaVern Hoffman, 12-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl B. Hoffman, placed second in the annual Soap Box Derby last Thursday at Emporia after he won the B division for young racers. Hoffman participated in five heats before he was beaten in the finals, one length be-

hind the winner. His prize was a Roadmaster bicycle.

Merrill Apartments at Main and 2nd Sts. will be finished around Sept. 1. Four apartments will be of the three-room efficiency type with essentials furnished.

Ezra Bernhardt and Bill Utting have purchased the Nelson Super Service building and will move their John Deere and Pontiac agencies there Aug. 1.

110 YEARS AGO

JULY 22, 1915

Herington is becoming an enthusiastic city for horse racing. Each year, crowds have grown in size. It is claimed that the same horses can be seen at Herington as at Topeka or Hutchinson during the state fairs.

This issue contains the life story of Chris Olsen, one of the county's early settlers, who died the previous week after a lengthy illness.

Judge Greer has appointed Bessie Williams as deputy probate judge to take the place of Mrs. Roy Williams, who resigned on account of moving away. Miss Williams will make a thoroughly competent and faithful assistant in the office.

Mrs. J.N. Rogers entertained at a Thimble party Wednesday afternoon in honor of Mrs. Harry Rogers. About 50 guests enjoyed a most delightful afternoon. The afternoon was spent with needlework. As added entertainment, Mrs. Matlock gave a number of readings. And there was a contest in dressing of clothespin dolls. Refreshments were served. Mrs. Rogers is always a delightful hostess.

Professor Johnson of the engineering department of the state university at Lawrence

has been here for several days checking over tentative plans made by city commissioners for purchase of new engines for the city. Every phase of the situation is being gone into. Further details will be given when plans are complete.

145 YEARS AGO

JULY 23, 1880

In 1870, the population of Marion County was 764. In 1880, it is 12,474. These figures show an average annual increase of 1,171 each year of the past decade. The increase has been greatly in excess of this average during the last few years of the 10. We call that a good showing.

Fisticuffs furnished the boys a small sensation this week. Marion Centre is gradually putting on city airs.

The engine, boiler, and other material for the sugar factory have arrived and will be placed in position immediately.

A couple of candidates were observed drawing straws the other day to settle which should set up ice cream to a voter.

Dr. Davis has removed into his snug little new office, between Wand's drug store and Billings' undertaking shop — quite a significant location, some fellow has said.

The Banner's agent-correspondent is authority for the statement that Sam Palmer of this city is about to start a hardware store in Hillsboro, in connection with his brother, John.

Parties who have not complied with the sidewalk ordinance will find an advertisement of deep and absorbing interest to them in this issue of the *Record* from the gifted pen of the city clerk.

COLLEGE

DEGREES AND HONORS

These Marion County students were listed this past week as receiving degrees or honors from colleges or universities. Grade-point averages of 4.00 indicate all A's; 3.00 indicate all B's.

EMPORIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Bachelor's degree

Marion — Braedon Alec Mercer, sport leadership and recreation.

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

Honor roll (standards vary by program)

Burns — Yana Nikolskaya-Taylor, liberal arts and sciences.

Hillsboro — Alyson Roberts, education and human sciences.

Marion — Cooper Bailey, business, and Gavin Wasmuth, journalism and mass communications.

Ramona — Tyler Nickel, pharmacy.

WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY

Bachelor's degrees

Hillsboro — Austin D. Rempel, production design and manufacturing engineering, and Callie A Serene, nursing cum laude.

Dean's honor roll (3.5 GPA or better)

Goessel — Audrey K. Reida.

Hillsboro — Grace E. Hein and Katie D. Rempel.

Lost Springs — Emil M. Godinez Vinduska.

Marion — Melanie N. Garrett and Jessica D. Helmer.

Peabody — Jacob E. Partridge.

Suggestions for highway sought

County residents can say where they want passing lanes, longer exit lanes, or other suggestions for US-56 from McPherson to US-77 east of Marion at a 4:30 p.m. July 23 public forum at Marion Community Center.

Kansas Department of Transportation is studying adding paved shoulders and

identifying locations for passing lanes to the 36-mile corridor.

It also will explore opportunities to prioritize safety, including consolidating access points and improving intersections.

Information will be gathered through spring of 2026.



Ex-chief's hearing delayed

By **PHYLLIS ZORN**

Staff writer

Former Marion Police Chief Gideon Cody's preliminary hearing on a felony charge related to now-disavowed raids on the *Record* and two homes was delayed three months Tuesday morning.

The delay was requested by Cody's defense lawyer, Sal Intagliata of Wichita, who said he needed more time to review more than 39,000 pages of documents obtained from Colorado Bureau of Investigation

agents, who investigated the raids and events leading up to them.

"We are working on defenses," Intagliata said.

District Judge Ryan Rosauer agreed to delay the preliminary hearing until Oct. 15.

Special prosecutor Marc Bennett of Sedgwick County said he understood what the defense was up against and didn't object.

This is the third time Cody's preliminary hearing has been delayed. It first was scheduled

for Dec. 16, then delayed to May 21. It was again delayed to July 23.

He is charged with felony interfering with judicial process. The charge arose from allegedly inducing former Marion restaurant owner Kari Newell to delete text messages sent between them between Aug. 11 and 17, 2023.

Rosauer, who earlier released Cody on a \$5,000 recognizance bond, ordered him to stay in contact with his attor-

ney and comply with all terms of his bond.

Further court hearings could include an arraignment during which Cody would plead not guilty, no contest, or guilty; and a trial.

Cody could work out a plea deal with prosecutors or the charge could be dismissed.

The charge is a low-level felony. Sentencing guidelines suggest probation if he is convicted.

Event to mark Day of Cowboy

Pioneer Bluffs will celebrate the Day of the Cowboy with an ice cream and cobbler social, a tribute to Josh and Jim Hoy, and a presentation by Chase County cowboy, artist, writer, and musician Bruce Brock starting at 6:30 p.m. July 26 at the ranching heritage center a mile north of Matfield Green on K-177.

Reservations, though not required, are being accepted at (620) 753-3484 and info@pioneerbluffs.org.

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RABIES: Officials tight lipped about rabies report

FROM PAGE 1

officials had said, no one was sure whether the cat had died, and no one had disposed of its remains.

“The cat went into an area where it may have died,” she wrote, “but it was a tight area, and it was not safe to remove the cat without getting a person exposed.

“We do see rabies in the area. So I recommended to not expose a person to get the cat tested. Sorry that it meant we couldn’t test the cat.”

Then, in a later email to the *Record*, she seemed to contradict that statement, saying: “The cat was euthanized. It was ultimately disposed of. I do know there was no human exposure. Maybe there were personal things that people involved with the situation didn’t want to release. I know who they were personally, and I’m not gonna tell you now because of the craziness that you’re trying to put out there.”

To date, county health department officials have released absolutely no information to news media. They specifically declined requests to be interviewed Friday. Lake superintendent Isaac Hett also stated Monday that he had been unable to get more information, such as the exact location of the sighting, out of the health department.

“It’s not something I was involved in, and I have not received any further information, either,” he said. “It’s been taken care of, and that’s all I know.”

He said residents had come to his office to ask what the cat looked like because they had seen strays in their yard, but he had to tell them he didn’t know.

The health department did post a cursory note on social media at 3:34 p.m. Thursday. But that note raised more questions than it answered. It also was posted to an account with just 227 followers, only a

tiny fraction of whom actually would have seen it.

County Administrator Tina Spencer emailed a copy of the posting to the *Record* after hours Thursday.

When the *Record* attempted to follow up first thing Friday, health department officials referred all questions to Spencer, but Spencer initially told the *Record* she knew no specifics.

Later, she said the cat had been found exhibiting aggression, confusion, and stilted movement July 9 in a residential area. She declined to identify the area.

“The animal was disposed of but was unable to be tested,” she wrote in an email.

Asked how the animal had been disposed of and why it could not be tested, Spencer replied: “Those details are not being released.”

State regulations require that any animal exhibiting “signs suggestive of rabies ...

shall be euthanized, and the head or entire brain (including brainstem) shall be submitted for rabies testing.”

The original posting from the health department stated: “A suspected rabies case in a feral (stray) cat has been identified near the Marion County Lake. Rabies is a deadly virus that affects the brain and nervous system of mammals, including humans.”

The post goes on to say that people should watch for signs of rabies in animals.

Signs include unprovoked aggression, excessive salivation, staggering and paralysis, difficulty swallowing, and unusual behavior.

Exposure to neurotoxins present in anabaena cyanobacteria (a strain of blue-green algae) include stumbling or falling, foaming at the mouth, tremors and seizures, convulsions, loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, and excessive drooling, according to the Centers

for Disease Control and Prevention.

Algae effects are largely noncommunicable, but animals, including people, can be exposed to rabies by being bitten or scratched by a rabid animal or by its saliva or brain tissue contacting broken skin, eyes, nose, or mouth.

People should avoid contact with wild or feral animals, keep pets up to date on rabies vaccinations, and report suspicious animal behavior or aggressive animals to the sheriff’s office at (620) 382-2144, the health department’s original notice stated.

People who think they have been exposed to rabies should immediately seek medical care and contact the health department at (620) 382-2550, it continued.

The Kansas Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, which performs testing for rabies, has not responded to a request for comment.

Physician Don Hodson, who serves as county medical adviser, told the *Record* Friday night that he had not been informed of the situation.

While not mentioning the discovery, Gernhard’s Animal Health Center veterinary clinic of Marion posted on its social media account at 7:30 p.m. Thursday that it would be “doing a pop-up rabies vaccine booster clinic.”

The clinic was scheduled for 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, and the notice offered a \$10 discount to anyone presenting a screen shot of the social media ad.

Under the Kansas Open Records Act, the *Record* requested late Friday copies of all communication to or from county employees regarding the suspected rabies case.

The *Record* was informed Tuesday morning that the documents likely would be available by close of business today.

CRASHES: 2 killed in wrecks

FROM PAGE 1

ordered to stand by in Marion in case of additional calls, but it and Marion ambulance were told to stand down after firefighters’ attempts at cardiopulmonary resuscitation to revive Conyers proved ineffective.

The semi, a 2024 Freightliner with Indiana license plates, was driven by 35-year-old Dennis E. Smith of Nampa, Idaho. He suffered no apparent injuries, according to state troopers.

Troopers blamed the wreck on Ludwig failing to yield after stopping.

Sheriff’s deputies directed traffic until 10:45 p.m., after both vehicles were towed.

In the other accident, a 22-year-old Idaho man riding a Kawasaki motorcycle was killed at 12:52 a.m. Saturday when he attempted to pass another northbound vehicle on US-77 near 140th Rd., three miles north of Florence.

His motorcycle collided head-on with a southbound 2019 Toyota Camry driven by a 19-year-old Wichita woman.

The motorcyclist was identified by troopers as Justin B. Williamson of Weiser, Idaho.

The driver of the car, Tina Ho, suffered what was characterized as a suspected minor injury and declined to be taken to a hospital.

Two sheriff’s deputies, Marion and Hillsboro ambulances, an ambulance supervisor, and Florence firefighters were dispatched to the wreck.

Tampa ambulance initially was told to stand by at Canada in case of additional calls, but it and Hillsboro ambulance were quickly told to stand down.

Victims of both accidents were taken to Jost Funeral Home, Hillsboro.

County.”

Newton police cars have dash cam footage of the stop sticks being rolled out, Powell said.

Stop Stick, a leading marketer of the tire-deflating device, says in its training manual that its product should never be deployed on a vehicle with fewer than four tires.

“Vehicles such as motorcycles and three-wheeled ATVs are less stable, and persons driving these vehicles are more likely to lose control when their tires deflate,” the training manual says.

Deputy Josh Meliza joined the chase east of Peabody. Starkey was called to help, but by the time he was able to join the chase, the mo-

torcycle had already passed Peabody. Sheriff’s detective Aaron Christner waited at the Florence roundabout for the motorcycle to come through.

The 2025 Kawasaki had no license plate.

Officers tried to pull the motorcycle over in Newton.

“He was in the middle of town driving really fast on this motorcycle at 12:48 a.m.,” Powell said. “He got on US-50 and wouldn’t stop.”

The Marion County portion of the chase began at 1 a.m., Undersheriff Larry Starkey said, and deputies pursued Bruce R. Burkhart, 48, Wichita, to the Chase County line before dropping out.

Powell said the chase progressed at normal highway speeds at some times, but at other times was as fast as 105 mph.

The last 30 miles of the chase, Burkhart’s speed was as low as 30 mph, Powell said.

“He got flat tires,” Powell said.

According to Harvey County sheriff’s Captain Brandon Huntley, Newton police took Burkhart to Harvey County Jail after he was captured.

Powell said Burkhart had drugs on him, but Newton police don’t yet know what the drugs were.

“We sent it to KBI for testing,” he said.

CHASE: Speeds hit 105 mph

FROM PAGE 1

Health

Posture problems often lead to massage therapy

By FINN HARTNETT
Staff writer

With more people hunched over computers and cell phones than ever, it’s no surprise that county massage therapists see many clients with posture issues.

“It’s pretty consistent with the 21st century lifestyle,” Rachel Gfeller, who runs Breathe Deep Works in Peabody, said.

Gfeller has practiced mas-

sage therapy since 2006 and opened her business in 2020.

Extensive sitting can cause poor posture, which can lead to neck and back pain, she said.

To solve posture issues, Gfeller recommends researching cross-body stretches online.

“Stretching your hamstrings and your psoas (lower back) muscles can greatly improve that,” Gfeller said. “It’s not just the lower back, but also forward

head and the shoulder rotating forward.”

A good massage also can ease joint pain. Breathe Deep Works offers a variety: relaxation massages, deep-tissue massages, pregnancy massages, and stone massages.

“They can help to lower stress, anxiety, and depression,” Gfeller said. “They can help to reset your nervous system.”

Shirley Davis, another practitioner at Breathe Deep,

is trained in reflexology — where pressure is applied to feet, ears, and hands — and craniosacral therapy, which involves the placement of hands on the skull and neck area to relieve tension.

Both practices are considered alternative medicine.

The simplest and sometimes most effective thing to do to improve posture and joint health is daily stretching.

“Stretching your arms and legs is something that you should be doing every single

day in order to keep mobility and strength over your lifetime,” Gfeller said.

Both lakes under health advisories

Visitors to Marion County Lake and Marion Reservoir are being advised of problems with blue-green algae this week.

Kansas Department of Health and Environment and Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks have issued a public health advisory due to blue-green algae.

A blue-green algae warning was issued Friday for Marion County Lake.

Warning signs must be posted at all public access points to the lake.

A less-serious algae watch at Marion Reservoir, originally issued May 24, was extended.

The reservoir is among six lakes under watches.

A watch indicates that a harmful bloom is possible and may be present. KDHE requires that warning signs be posted at all public access points.

Visitors are warned that water may be unsafe for humans and animals. Areas of algae accumulation should be avoided, and people and pets should not eat dried algae or drink contaminated water.

Swimming, wading, skiing, and jet skiing are discouraged near visible blooms. Boating and fishing are safe, but inhalation of spray might affect some people.

Direct contact with water should be avoided, and visitors should wash with clean water.

An algae bloom could look like foam, scum, or paint floating on the water and be colored blue, bright green, brown, or

red. Blooms can develop rapidly.

Symptoms of illness vary depending on the type of species

of algae. Common symptoms may include rash, vomiting, diarrhea, fever, sore throat, and headache.

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ACCIDENTS

REPORTED

These accident reports were released this past week by law enforcement agencies:

HIGHWAY PATROL

US-77 near 140th Rd.

Justin B. Williamson, 22, Weiser, Idaho, was killed at 12:52 a.m. Saturday when he attempted to pass a northbound vehicle with his Kawasaki motorcycle and collided head-on with a southbound 2019 Toyota Camry driven by Tina Ho, 19, Wichita.

Hoy suffered what was characterized as a suspected minor injury and declined to be taken to a hospital.

US-50 and Nighthawk Rd.

Passenger Dorothy F. Conyers, 92, Marion, was killed, and driver Ronald D. Ludwig, 92, Florence, was injured at 6:09 p.m. Saturday when Ludwig pulled his southbound 2022 Lincoln Nautilus out from a stop sign and into the path of an eastbound semi-trailer truck.

Ludwig was not initially taken to a hospital but became ill after being taken to a home in the 200 block of N. 3rd St. in Marion. He then was transferred to St. Luke Hospital, Marion, by Marion ambulance.

The 2024 Freightliner semi, driven by Dennis E. Smith, 35, Nampa, Idaho, was towed along with Ludwig's Lincoln.

Smith was uninjured, according to the highway patrol.

Troopers blamed the wreck on Ludwig failing to yield.

SHERIFF

Indigo Rd. north of 330th Rd.

A 2001 Chrysler Town and Country owned and driven by Keith D. Meyer, 60, rural Tampa, died and caught fire at 10:27 a.m. July 8, according to one of two accident reports released Monday.

The fire was extinguished within 50 minutes by Tampa and Durham firefighters. Deputy Clayton Philpott's report said the van was destroyed.

Sunflower Rd. east of 140th Rd.

Swerving to avoid hitting a deer at 4:05 p.m. July 9, Bryson C. Bouslog, 19, Marion, lost control of his 2008 Ford Taurus, which rolled into a barbed wire fence and cornfield.

Deputy Jesse Raney's report said the car was destroyed. He estimated damage to the fence and field, owned by Helen L. Kirkpatrick and Ronald Kirkpatrick Jr., at \$100.

MARION

Sports and Aquatics Center parking lot

Sixteen-year-old Delaney A.G. Hostetler, rural Marion, backed her mother's 2019 Chevrolet Suburban into a parked 2014 Chevrolet Impala at 8:30 a.m. Friday.

The Suburban, owned by county emergency manager Marcy Hostetler, sustained damage to its passenger door.

The Impala, owned by Margie Sandwell of the Canada community, sustained damage that part-time officer Chris Mercer characterized as slight to its front bumper.

Sandwell had been doing aerobics in the Sports and Aquatics Center at the time.

No tickets were listed as being issued.

Casey's General Store parking lot

Thinking her running 2015 Chevrolet Malibu was in park, Skylar M. Thornbro, 24, Marion, went into Casey's General Store at 9:14 p.m. Friday only to have her car proceed forward and smash into the store's southern brick wall.

The Malibu, owned by Shawn Wunderlick of the same Marion address, sustained damage to its right front bumper.

The store wall also was damaged, but officer Dustin Woodford's report does not characterize the extent.

Seth A. Banning, apparently of Wichita although his address is listed as being in Marion, was a passenger at the time.

No tickets were listed as being issued.

CIVIL

DIVISION CASES

This information was filed last week in civil division of district court. If no address is listed, no address was available.

Karen D. Fryhover was ordered June 26 to pay Marion County \$107.18 plus costs and interest for a debt not disclosed in court records.

COUNTY JAIL

ARRESTS AND BOOKINGS

This jail roster was obtained Tuesday from the jail's inmate listing system.

NEW JAILINGS

Amanda D. Brown, 34, Ramona, jailed Monday for failing to appear in court. Held in lieu of posting a \$10,000 bond. Previously jailed six times for a total of all or part of 11 days between June 2, 2018, and May 2, 2022. Previous jailings were for failing to appear in court five times and on suspicion of possessing stimulants and drug paraphernalia.

Gilbert E. Ramirez, 18, Marion, arrested July 8 by Marion police on suspicion of battery and child endangerment. Released 17 hours later after posting \$5,000 in bonds.

Evan D. Slater, 30, Burdick, arrested Sunday by a sheriff's deputy on suspicion of driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, transporting an open container of alcohol, and driving on the wrong side of a road. Released 11 hours later after posting a \$2,500 bond.

FROM PREVIOUS WEEKS

Joshua A. Bradley, 40, Sylvan Grove, jailed since June 27.

Matthew W. Dudte, 52, Canton, since Dec. 19, 2023.

Ernest L. Edens, 50, no address listed, May 20, 2024.

Joseph E. Fiedler, 28, Wichita, July 7.

Paul A. Huddleston, 27, Marion, March 29.

Richard T. Litton, 39, Peabody, Oct. 20.

James R.A. McColl, 52, Lehigh, Jan. 19.

Mitchell W. McMillen, 47, Peabody, June 7.

Nicholas C. Peterson, 41, Peabody, June 5.

Eric C. Pettit, 42, Galva, Feb. 14.

Bane L. Spurlin, 21, Hillsboro, March 28.

Brandon S. Toon, 40, Arkansas City, Nov. 13.

Athen J. Turner, 24, Loveland, Colorado, Jan. 31.

Christopher L. Walker, 19, Hillsboro, May 23.

CRIMINAL

DIVISION CASES

This information was filed last week in criminal division of district court. If no address is listed, no address was available on court records or from jail booking records.

Nicholas A. Bowen, 39, Marion, pleaded no contest June 26 to aggravated battery. Charges of making a criminal threat, endangering a child, domestic battery, and disorderly conduct were dismissed.

Dakota L. Dillashaw, 31, Marion, was sentenced June 24 to 2¼ years in prison for aggravated battery. The sentence will run consecutive to an Ellis County sentence.

Taylor Rae Gutierrez pleaded guilty July 8 to possession of methamphetamine and driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Nicole R. Hardey was sentenced June 24 to 18 months' probation for identity theft, misdemeanor theft, and driving while her license was canceled, suspended, or revoked.

Patric G. Patterson, 27, McPherson, was sentenced June 24 to a year in prison for two counts of vehicular burglary.

Brandon S. Toon, 40, Arkansas City, pleaded guilty April 14 to interference with law enforcement.

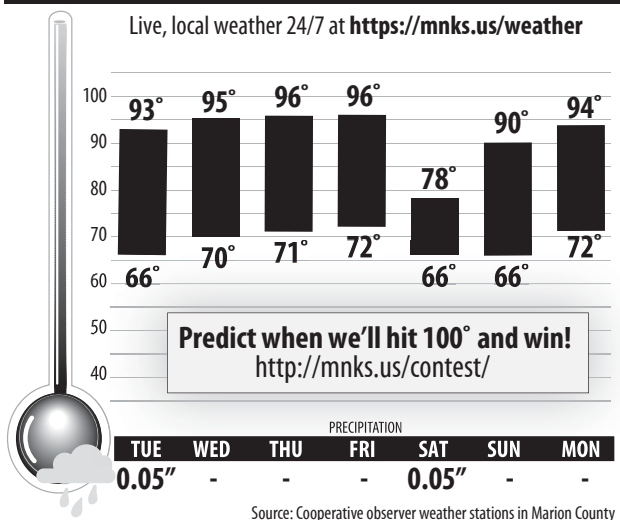
DEEDS

RECORDED

These deeds were reported last week as recorded by the register of deeds. Property addresses come from appraisal records. Agricultural property descrip-

WEATHER

July 8 through 14, 2025



tions use common road references derived from appraisal records.

Marolyn A. Schlehober Trust to Scott Norman and Michelle Lynn Winter, trustee deed to 38.42 acres east of Falcon Rd. between US-56 and 210th Rd.

Bruce M. and Belinda H. Skiles to James L. Ford and Christine M. Soto, quitclaim deed to 18½ Jerome St., Marion County Park and Lake.

Safe Harbour Eat – XII LLC to B&G Dirt and Tree Service LLC, 152.41 acres southeast of Goldenrod and 100th Rds.

Debra L. and Alan E. Schraad to themselves as trustees, an undivided third interest in 149.91 acres northwest of 240th and Alamo Rds. and 124.83 acres east of Alamo Rd. between 320 and 330th Rds.

Peterson Marion Realty LLC to William C. and Deborah A. Peterson, 70.69 acres west of Diamond Rd. between 100th and 90th Rds.

Paul Hajek to Trent A., Darrin J. and Brett A. Hajek, a lot east of N. Main St., Lost Springs.

Paul J., Gary D., Vickie, and Donna Hajek to Trent A., Darrin J., and Brett A. Hajek, 68.37 acres north of 340th Rd. between Vista and Upland Rds.

Bonnie J. Elms Trust to Scott and Rebecca Peterson, trustee deed to 155.86 acres west of US-77 between 150th and 160th Rds., 86.81 acres west of Whitetail Rd. between 130th and 140th Rds., and 431.38 acres east of US-77 between 150th and Victory Rds.

L. Funk Farms LLC to Zachary J. and Sarah R. Gutierrez, 1385 190th Rd. Jared B. and Angela Sardou to Carley Wilhelm, 403 N. Roosevelt St., Marion.

John R. and Edith A. Darting to Edith A. Darting, quitclaim deed to 320 N. Birch St., Hillsboro.

Robert D. Rahn to Jarad D. and Anna M. Woods, 114 N. Adams St., Hillsboro.

In separate transactions, Louise A. and Gail L. Whiteman, trustees, to Jess R. Whiteman, trustee, undivided fourth interest to 77.22 acres southeast of 160th and Remington Rds., and 136.35 acres southwest of 230th and Quail Creek Rds.

Levi Hauserman to Austin and Mary Vermillion, quitclaim deed to 214 N. Pine St., Peabody.

EMERGENCY

DISPATCHES

Broadcasts about these fire and ambulance calls were monitored this past week by the newspaper:

JULY 8

1:15 a.m. — An 83-year-old woman reportedly suffering from lockjaw at Peabody Health and Rehab was taken to NMC Health, formerly Newton Medical Center, then back to Peabody Health and Rehab by Hillsboro ambulance.

2:54 a.m. — Heading back to its station, Hillsboro ambulance was dispatched to Hillsboro Community Hos-

pital to transfer a 54-year-old man who suffered a stroke to Ascension Via Christi St. Francis Hospital, Wichita. However, at 3:04 a.m., the call was canceled, and a Lifesafe helicopter ambulance arrived to transfer the patient at 4:03 a.m.

6:56 a.m. — Presumably the patient taken from Peabody earlier in the night was taken back to NMC Health by Hillsboro ambulance. The call originally was assigned to Marion ambulance.

9:35 a.m. — Before Hillsboro firefighters arrived, a fire alarm at Hillsboro Community Child Care Center was determined to be a false alarm caused by a cleaning crew.

10:28 a.m. — Fire in an unoccupied van at 330th and Indigo Rds. was extinguished within 50 minutes by Tampa and Durham firefighters. The van was towed.

2:07 p.m. — Peabody firefighters spent 10 minutes watering down the city's ball field.

2:18 p.m. — A 91-year-old woman who suffered a heart attack was transferred by Hillsboro ambulance from HCH to Wesley Medical Center, Wichita.

JULY 9

11:41 a.m. — A grass fire started by a spark from an electric substation just west of Lost Springs on 340th Rd. was extinguished within 12 minutes by Lost Springs firefighters.

11:59 a.m. — Using a backup vehicle, Hillsboro ambulance attendants transferred a patient from an unreported location to McPherson Center for Health.

1:07 p.m. — Marion ambulance was dispatched to St. Luke Clinic, Marion, for someone who had fallen inside the clinic, but the call was canceled by St. Luke before the ambulance arrived.

3:50 p.m. — A 72-year-old man with bowel obstruction was transferred by Marion ambulance from St. Luke to McPherson Center for Health.

4:06 p.m. — With Marion ambulance headed to McPherson, a backup ambulance from Hillsboro was dispatched along with Marion firefighters for what was described as a rollover accident on Sunflower Rd. north of 140th Rd. The driver involved reportedly suffered a cut thumb and declined to be taken to a hospital. Before that was known, ambulance attendants had wanted Tampa ambulance to stand by in case of additional calls, but dispatchers reported that it was not available.

10:53 p.m. — A 73-year-old man with cardiac issues was transferred by Marion ambulance from St. Luke to Wesley.

THURSDAY

8:07 p.m. — An uninjured 86-year-old woman who fell from a wheelchair at a home in the 800 block of Hudson St. in Marion was helped up by her granddaughter before Marion ambulance arrived.

10:02 p.m. — A 52-year-old woman with kidney failure was transferred by Marion ambulance from St. Luke to NMC Health.

FRIDAY

9:57 a.m. — A 90-year-old man slipping in an out of consciousness after vomiting at a farmhouse on 47th Terr. between Arrow and Clover Rds. was taken to Susan B. Allen Hospital, El Dorado, by Marion ambulance. An ambulance supervisor based in Hillsboro also responded. Burns first responders were dispatched but did not answer.

2:26 p.m. — A 77-year-old man having trouble breathing at a home in the 400 block of E. 4th St. in Peabody was taken to HCH by Marion ambulance. An ambulance supervisor also responded.

4:01 p.m. — Returning from Hillsboro, Marion ambulance was sent to St. Luke to transport to Wesley a 76-year-old man with atrial fibrillation.

4:31 p.m. — An unresponsive 52-year-old man at Peabody Health and Rehab was taken to NMC Health by Hillsboro ambulance. An ambulance supervisor also responded. Peabody firefighters helped lift the patient. Tampa ambulance stood by in Hillsboro until 6:53 p.m. in case of additional calls.

8:50 p.m. — Hillsboro firefighters checked what turned out to be a mistaken report of natural gas being smelled at Oakwood Manor Apartments in Hillsboro.

SATURDAY

12:52 a.m. — A 22-year-old motorcycle rider was killed when he attempted to pass another vehicle and collided head-on with a 2019 Toyota Camry driven by a 19-year-old Wichita woman who declined to be taken to a hospital. Marion and Hillsboro ambulances, an ambulance supervisor, and Florence firefighters were dispatched. Tampa ambulance initially was told to stand by at Canada in case of additional calls, but it and Hillsboro ambulance were quickly told to stand down.

1:32 p.m. — An 86-year-old man with pneumonia was transferred by Hillsboro ambulance from Salem Home, Hillsboro, to HCH.

6:10 p.m. — One person was killed, and another later taken to a hospital after a car-semi accident on US-50 west of Nighthawk Rd. Marion and Hillsboro ambulances and Peabody firefighters were dispatched. Tampa ambulance initially was ordered to stand by in Marion in case of additional calls, but it and Marion ambulance, limited to first response status with just one attendant available, were told to stand down after firefighters' attempts at cardiopulmonary resuscitation of the victim proved ineffective. Sheriff's deputies directed traffic until 10:45 p.m.

9:46 p.m. — A 92-year-old man injured in the car-semi accident near Peabody was taken to St. Luke after he became ill upon returning to the 200 block of N. 3rd St. in Marion. An attendant from Hillsboro ambulance joined the lone Marion ambulance attendant to take him to St. Luke.

10:26 p.m. — Marion and Hillsboro police and Hillsboro firefighters using a drone and thermal imaging searched for 1¼ hours for a 9-year-old boy with autism who wandered away from his home in the 100 block of S. Lincoln St. before the boy was found nearby by a family member.

SUNDAY

7:30 a.m. — A 34-year-old man with a fever, high blood pressure, and a declining cognitive state at Peabody Health and Rehab was taken to NMC Health by a backup ambulance based in Hillsboro. With Marion ambulance apparently not fully staffed, Tampa ambulance stood by in Hillsboro until 10:08 a.m. in case of additional calls.

9:10 a.m. — Tampa ambulance and Marion ambulance as a first-response unit were dispatched to the front of Marion's police station for a report of a man in his 80s drifting in and out of consciousness. He declined to be taken to a hospital, but ambulance attendants informed HCH that he would be arriving there in a private vehicle.

10:44 a.m. — Marion firefighters

asked that St. Luke be notified that a "very ill" patient with "serious issues" would be coming to its emergency room via private vehicle.

11:40 p.m. — Marion firefighters and Hillsboro ambulance were dispatched for a wreck at the US-56/77/K-150 roundabout. Hillsboro ambulance attendants asked that the lone attendant in Marion ambulance also be dispatched, but dispatchers replied that a Marion officer said no ambulances would be needed. Three minutes later, however, the driver of a vehicle involved asked that an ambulance be summoned. Marion ambulance as a first-response unit and Hillsboro ambulance both were dispatched. One person was taken to St. Luke by Marion ambulance with a Hillsboro attendant filling in. Four others involved in the accident declined to be taken to a hospital.

MONDAY

4:44 p.m. — A 90-year-old man drifting in an out of consciousness at a ranch on 47th Terr. between Arrow and Clover Rds. declined to be taken to a hospital by Hillsboro ambulance. Burns first responders were paged but did not answer. With Marion ambulance apparently unavailable, Tampa ambulance was ordered to stand by in Hillsboro until 5:57 p.m. in case of additional calls while Hillsboro ambulance made the 70-mile round trip to rural Burns.

OFFENSES

REPORTED

These offense reports were released this past week by law enforcement agencies:

MARION

Battery, domestic battery, child endangerment

A fight at 7:18 p.m. July 8 at a home in the 400 block of S. Roosevelt St. resulted in arrests for both a 41-year-old sheriff's dispatcher and an 18-year-old family member.

Gilbert E. Ramirez of a different Marion address was accused of hitting and frightening his juvenile siblings.

Jessica M. Snyder of yet another Marion address was accused of responding "out of anger and frustration," according to officer Dustin Woodford's report, by beating Ramirez with a stick multiple times all over his body.

Ramirez was arrested on suspicion of battery and child endangerment. He was released 17 hours later from Marion County Jail after posting \$5,000 in bonds.

Snyder was arrested on suspicion of domestic battery. Because of her employment with the Marion County sheriff's office, she was booked into McPherson County Jail. She was released without bond 16½ hours later.

Theft, aggravated burglary, trespassing

Two juveniles were arrested after they allegedly stole \$25 in tobacco products at 12:16 a.m. July 8 from James A. and Linnah A. Selly at their residence in the 100 block of S. Cedar St.

Part-time officer Douglas Calam located the juveniles in the 600 block of S. Freeborn St. after the incident was reported at 8:34 a.m. July 9.

A 14-year-old was arrested on suspicion of aggravated burglary and criminal trespassing, and a 15-year-old was arrested on suspicion of aggravated burglary and theft. Both were turned over to juvenile authorities.

POLICE

ACTIVITY REPORTS

Law enforcement agencies provided these reports of their activities this past week. Routine activities such as patrols,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

Business directory

AGRICULTURAL

BURDICK

MEAT MARKET and LOCKER

- Retail meats, jerky, sticks for sale
- Slaughtering cattle, sheep, hogs, goats Wednesdays
- Cost per pound hanging
- Call Dan at (785) 983-4388 for emergency slaughtering.

8 to noon, 1 to 5 weekdays
8 to 11 Saturday mornings

(785) 983-4818

CENTRAL AG

Air

CROP & PASTURE SPRAYING

Matt Orth

OWNER/PILOT

THRUSHER78@YAHO.COM

CELL (785) 844-0181

1835 UPLAND RD. MARION

EDUCATION

Stay in the Hills and save money by taking fully transferrable gen eds!

Butler Community College

MARION | COUNCIL GROVE
flintheills@butlercc.edu
316.323.6039

ButlerCC.edu

FUNERAL

YM

Yazel - Megli

FUNERAL HOME

MARION CHAPEL

Brad Yazel

Funeral director

(620) 382-2112

205 Elm St., Marion

HOME

CKS

Residential Roofing Specialist

Free estimates

Kirt Coslett

(316) 772-7355, Elmdale

RR# 23-006091

VETERINARY

Animal Health Center

of Marion County

119 S. Coble St., Marion

(620) 382-8800

Jessica Gernhard, DVM

Rebecca Erwin, DVM

Large and small animal care
indoor boarding • grooming • pet food

Flaming's Inc.

PLUMBING • HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

113 S. 2nd St., Marion

WEEKLY RATES

First 25 words (first two, bold)	\$ 8.50
Each additional word	35c
Each additional bold-caps word	35c
"Blind" reply service	10.00
Boxed classifieds and public notices (per column-inch)	14.95
Kansas classifieds statewide	300.00

Pay in advance: Cash, VISA or MasterCard. Charges for established accounts only.

TO PLACE YOUR AD

Online	http://mnks.us/ad
E-mail	classified@mnks.us
Fax	(620) 382-2262
Phone	(620) 382-2165
Deadline	5 p.m. Monday

All real estate advertised is subject to the Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination."

CLASSIFICATIONS

1 Personals	14 Real estate
2 Pets	15 Homes for sale
3 Lost & found	16 Dwellings for rent
4 Garage sales	17 For rent
5 Public auctions	18 Help wanted
6 Wanted	19 Work wanted
7 For sale	20 Bus. opportunity
8 Livestock	21 Special notices
9 Food	22 Special services
10 Cars & trucks	23 Cards of thanks
11 Land	24 Kansas classified
12 Feed & seed	25 Public notices
13 Lawn & garden	

7 FOR SALE

FRESH, YOUNG, home-raised, grain-fed beef for sale. Various cuts: roasts, steaks, minute steaks, hamburgers, 1- and 2-pound packages. Call (785) 479-7555 for more information, pricing, and delivery scheduling.

16 DWELLINGS FOR RENT

COUNTRY LIVING — 3 bed/2 bath farmhouse coming up for rent in northern Marion County. Call (785) 479-7555 for details and availability.

17 FOR RENT

STORAGE UNITS available - North Roosevelt or South 3rd Street, Marion. Many sizes, yearly rates. Call Jim, (316) 284-2231 or call (316) 284-1299.

18 HELP WANTED

Marion County Attorney's Office

is looking to hire a part-time

Administrative Specialist

Position involves routine clerical and office duties, including filing and scanning documents and assisting other staff members. At least one year of office experience is preferred. A positive attitude, great organizational skills, and attention to detail are important in this position. Background check is required.

Applications available at Marion County Administrator's office in the Courthouse or at www.marioncoks.net/employment. Return completed applications to the Marion County Attorney's Office: 202 S. 3rd St., Suite A, Marion. (620) 382-2243. Open until filled. EOE.



MARION
COUNTY, KANSAS

Now accepting applications for

- CNA FT evenings, and nights
- CMA PT evenings

- FT HIM/Medical records
- Evening shift nurse

Applications can be obtained at www.salemhomeks.org or you can fax resume to (620) 947-1465 attn: Virgie



704 S. Ash St., Hillsboro, KS 67063

21 SPECIAL NOTICES

FACED WITH a drinking problem? Perhaps Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) can help. Weekly meetings. Open to the public. Come see us 7 to 8 p.m. Mondays at St. Luke Medical Clinic basement, 537 S. Freeborn St., Marion.

MARION CHAPTER of TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 9:30 a.m. Thursdays, Hilltop Manor, 1501 E. Lawrence St., Marion.

24 KANSAS CLASSIFIED

PLACE YOUR 25-word classified in the Kansas Press Association and 135 more newspapers for only \$300 a week. Find employees; sell your home or your car. Call the Kansas Press Association at (785) 271-5304 today!

0093. Have ZIP code of property ready when calling!

WATER DAMAGE cleanup and restoration: a small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: (877) 586-6688. Have ZIP code of service location ready when you call!

PROFESSIONAL LAWN service: Fertilization, weed control, seeding, aeration and mosquito control. Call now for a free quote. Ask about our first application special! (833) 887-1317.

NEED NEW windows? Drafty rooms? Chipped or damaged frames? Need outside noise reduction? New, energy efficient windows may be the an-

swer! Call for a consultation and free quote today. (866) 766-5558. You will need to have your zip code to connect to the right provider.

25 PUBLIC NOTICES

First published July 2, 2025 in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (3t)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
MARION COUNTY, KANSAS
CIVIL DEPARTMENT

Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Novastar Mortgage Funding Trust, Series 2007-2, Novastar Home Equity Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2007-2 Plaintiff,

vs.
Byron McFadden aka Leslie Byron McFadden (Deceased), Carol A. McFadden aka Carol Arlene McFadden, Jane Doe, and John Doe, et al., Defendants

Case No. MN-2025-CV-000029

Court No.

Title to Real Estate Involved

Pursuant to K.S.A. §60

NOTICE OF SUIT

STATE OF KANSAS to the above named Defendants and The Unknown Heirs, executors, devisees, trustees, creditors, and assigns of any deceased defendants; the unknown spouses of any defendants; the unknown officers, successors, trustees, creditors and assigns of any defendants that are existing, dissolved or dormant corporations; the unknown executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, successors and assigns of any defendants that are or were partners or in partnership; and the unknown guardians, conservators and trustees of any defendants that are minors or are under any legal disability and all other person who are or may be concerned:

You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in the District Court of Marion County, Kansas by Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Novastar Mortgage Funding Trust, Series 2007-2, Novastar Home Equity Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2007-2, praying to foreclose a mortgage on the following described real estate:

LOTS 1, 2, 3 AND 4, BLOCK 3, KIEWER'S SECOND ADDITION TO THE CITY OF HILLSBORO, MARION COUNTY, KANSAS.

AND
LOT 1, BLOCK 2, PRIEB'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF HILLSBORO, MARION COUNTY, KANSAS. Parcel ID No. 057-138-33-0-40-06-013.00-0. Commonly known as 209 S Date St., Hillsboro, KS 67063 ("the Property") MS 189070

and all those defendants who have not otherwise been served are required to plead to the Petition on or before August 12, 2025 in the District Court of Marion County, Kansas. If you fail to plead, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the request of plaintiff.

MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC
By: Dwayne A. Duncan, #27533
dduncan@msfirm.com

612 Spirit Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63005
(636) 537-0110
(636) 537-0067 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF
MS 189070.456436 KJFC

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

M-42-43-44-2735

First published July 2, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (3t)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
MARION COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF GERALD SCOTT FRANZMANN, Deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that on a petition for issuance of Letters of Administration was filed in this Court by Michael P. Franzmann, an heir of Gerald Scott Franzmann, deceased.

All creditors of the decedent are notified to exhibit their demands against

the Estate within the later of four months from the date of first publication of notice under K.S.A. 59-2236 and amendments thereto, or if the identity of the creditor is known or reasonably ascertainable, 30 days af-

ter actual notice was given as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Michael P. Franzmann, Petitioner
3467 Vamoose Court

Castle Rock, CO 80108
(303) 548-6555
michael.franzmann@gmail.com
M-42-43-44-2736

PLEASE SEE **CLASSIFIED** PAGE 9

First published July 16, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of
Liberty Township, Marion County

will meet on August 11, 2025 at 1:00 PM at USD 410 District Office, 416 S Date St., Hillsboro KS for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at the Marion County Clerk's Office, 200 S. Third St., Marion, KS and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

Fund	Prior Year Actual 2024		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
	Expend- itures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expend- itures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expend- itures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	28,520	4.953	25,700	4.776	92,265	28,451	4.425
Totals	28,520	4.953	25,700	4.776	92,265	28,451	4.425
Revenue Neutral Rate**							4.425
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditure	28,520		25,700		92,265		
Total Tax Levied	28,456		28,454				
Assessed Valuation: Township	5,744,175		5,956,641		6,428,931		
Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1	2023		2024		2025		
G.O. Bonds	0		0		0		
Other	0		0		0		
Lease Purchase Principal	0		0		0		
Total	0		0		0		

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.

**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

Jared Jost, Treasurer

M-44-2748

First published July 16, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

TREASURER'S QUARTERLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FLORENCE, KANSAS

For the period April 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025

ACCOUNT TITLE	LAST REPORT ON HAND	DISBURSED	RECEIVED	BALANCE
GENERAL TOTAL	276,970.79	304,249.28	113,704.52	86,426.03
LIBRARY TOTAL	4,468.96	4,468.96	2,479.39	2,479.39
SPECIAL PARKS & REC TOTAL	1,874.10	0.00	134.04	2,008.14
RURAL FIRE TOTAL	24,077.39	238.00	2,500.00	26,339.39
SPECIAL HIGHWAY TOTAL	57,861.64	19,573.00	2,369.73	40,658.37
FIRE SPECIAL TOTAL	34,700.15	694.19	0.00	34,005.96
COMMUNITY BUILDING TOTAL	1,200.00	0.00	0.00	1,200.00
SPECIAL LAW TOTAL	1,026.49	0.00	0.00	1,026.49
DEPT SERVICE TOTAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SEWER TOTAL	74,102.69	18,571.72	21,528.09	77,059.06
SOLID WASTE TOTAL	118,683.29	75,152.74	83,413.88	126,944.43
WATER TOTAL	186,978.01	61,568.53	53,077.39	178,486.87
SEWER RESERVE TOTAL	78,922.43	0.00	0.00	78,922.43
SOLID WASTE RESERVE TOTAL	15,202.33	0.00	0.00	15,202.33
WATER RESERVE TOTAL	35,427.81	0.00	0.00	35,427.81
EQUIPMENT RESERVE TOTAL	10,182.27	0.00	0.00	10,182.27
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT TOTAL	5,703.96	0.00	0.00	5,703.96
ARPA GRANT FUNDS TOTAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FLORENCE GRAND PRIX TOTAL	49,549.38	17,833.00	19,837.32	51,553.70
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT	0.00	0.00	180,000.00	180,000.00
REPORT TOTAL	976,931.69	502,349.42	479,044.36	953,626.63

LIABILITIES AND OBLIGATION	
Lease Purchase	16,988.72
Lease Purchase	30,000.00
Total	46,988.72

I, Mary Jane Grimmett do hereby certify that the above is true and correct

/s/Mary Jane Grimmett

City Treasurer

M-44-2747

First published July 16, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

CITY OF HILLSBORO QUARTERLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT
January - March 2025

FUND	BEG. BAL- ANCE 1/1/2025	RECEIPTS	DISBURSE- MENTS	END. BAL- ANCE 3/31/2025
GENERAL FUNDS				
General Operating Fund	318,621.24	517,579.51	597,233.73	238,967.02
Library Fund	10,324.82	55,106.79	17,757.06	47,674.55
Recreation Fund	312.01	12,749.16	-	13,061.17
Industrial Fund	32,489.49	13,766.61	39,611.77	6,644.33
Airport Revolving Fund	1,943.34	499.80	928.31	1,514.83
Special Parks & Recreation	4,541.35	378.15	-	4,919.50
Bowling Alley	33,363.14	27,162.54	21,256.95	39,268.73
Special Highway Fund	87,485.33	17,994.10	-	105,479.43
Special Law Enforcement"	91,152.96	73,466.83	87,187.12	77,432.67
Municipal Court	1,594.46	6,605.60	6,649.12	1,550.94
Dare Fund	345.03	-	-	345.03
Local Sales Tax	349,041.45	81,941.50	54,580.00	376,402.95
Equipment Reserve	69,378.21	61,933.62	80,524.72	50,787.11
Fire Equip Replacement	163,875.18	-	6,825.03	157,050.15
TIF District	20,024.57	664.27	-	20,688.84
TRUST AND AGENCY FUNDS				
Museum Trust Fund	42,980.45	215.25	-	43,195.70
Land Bank	11,045.13	1,617.91	-	12,663.04
Withholding Fund	8,185.61	-	28.56	8,157.05
Sales Tax Fund	14,910.78	23,711.92	24,210.96	14,411.74
CDBG Fund	33,109.24	568,767.13	559,372.64	42,503.73
Health Savings Fund	105,078.54	28,987.51	30,832.74	103,233.31
HCMC Plant Prop & Equip Reserve	91,758.39	16,968.93	23,833.50	84,893.82
Spec Law Enforcement Trust Fund	7,387.68	-	-	7,387.68
CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS				
Capital Improvements	12,560.15	-	2,234.13	10,326.02
Tree Screening	4,433.24	-	-	4,433.24
Street Improvement Project	1,191,635.09	-	424,615.87	767,019.22
DEBT SERVICE FUNDS				
Bond & Interest Fund	68,745.05	314,946.39	248,962.45	134,728.99
ENTERPRISE FUNDS				
Water Utility Fund	245,283.10	279,115.80	352,289.53	172,109.37
Electric Utility Fund	662,846.95	776,560.05	717,853.63	721,553.37
Refuse Utility Fund	36,109.32	105,970.70	80,091.30	61,988.72
Sewer Utility Fund	430,582.45	188,564.06	202,713.48	416,433.03
TOTALS	4,151,143.75	3,175,274.13	3,579,592.60	3,746,825.28
General Obligation Indebtedness				10,368,000.00
Lease Purchases				2,450,836.97

I certify that the above is a true and correct statement of the finances of the City of Hillsboro for the quarter January-March 2025.

/s/Matt Stiles

Matt Stiles Treasurer

M-44-2759

First published July 9, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of
Whitewater Cemetery, Marion County

will meet on August 5, 2025, at 6:00 pm at 2139 20th, Burns, KS for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at Marion County Clerk's Office, 200 S. Third St., Suite 104, Marion, KS and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

Fund	Prior Year Actual 2024		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
	Expend- itures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expend- itures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expend- itures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	3,200	1.134	4,079	1.164	25,141	5,437	1.193
Totals	3,200	1.134	4,079	1.164	25,141	5,437	1.193
Revenue Neutral Rate**							1.193
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditures	3,200		4,079		25,141		
Total Tax Levied	5,450		5,437				
Assessed Valuation	4,790,915		4,669,406		4,555,995		

Classified

CONTINUED

FROM PAGE 8

First published July 9, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (3t)

NOTICE OF PROPOSED BANK MERGER

Notice is hereby given that the SJN Bank of Kansas, St. John, Kansas, has made application to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation for its written consent to merge with Tampa State Bank, Tampa, Kansas. It is contemplated that the banking offices of Tampa State Bank located at 326 Main St., Tampa, Kansas, and 1100 E Main, Marion, Kansas, will operate under the name Tampa State Bank, a branch of SJN Bank of Kansas.

Any person wishing to comment on this application may file his or her comments in writing with the Regional Director of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation at the appropriate FDIC office at 1100 Walnut St., Suite 2100, Kansas City, Missouri 64106 no later than August 8, 2025.

The non-confidential portions of the application are on file at the appropriate FDIC office and are available

for public inspection during regular business hours.

Photocopies of the non-confidential portion of the application file will be made available on request.

M-43-44-45-2738

First published July 9, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (3t)

NOTICE OF PROPOSED BANK MERGER

Notice is hereby given that the SJN Bank of Kansas, St. John, Kansas, has made application to the State Bank Commissioner, Topeka, Kansas, for written consent to merge with Tampa State Bank, Tampa, Kansas. It is contemplated that the banking offices of Tampa State Bank located at 326 Main St., Tampa, Kansas, and 1100 E Main, Marion, Kansas, will operate under the name Tampa State Bank, a branch of SJN Bank of Kansas.

This notice is published pursuant to Kansas Statutes Annotated 9-1724.

Any person wishing to comment on this application may file his or her comments in writing with the State Bank Commissioner, 700 Jackson,

Suite 300, Topeka, Kansas, 66603-3796. The comment period will end August 8, 2025.

Public comments may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Kansas Open Records Act, K.S.A. 45-201 et seq. For information about submitting a request for records, please refer to: <http://www.osbckansas.org/consumers/openrecords.html>

Date of First Publication: July 9, 2025

Applicant Bank: SJN Bank of Kansas

Location: 116 E. 3rd Street, St. John, Kansas 67576

Target Bank: Tampa State Bank

Location: 326 Main St., Tampa, Kansas 67483 and 1100 E Main, Marion, Kansas 66861

M-43-44-45-2739

First published July 9, 2025, in the Marion County Record (2t)

NOTICE OF MEETING HOSPITAL DISTRICT NO. 1

The Hospital District No 1, Marion County, Kansas Board of Directors will participate in a board retreat on Wednesday, July 23, 2025 from 12:00

p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Marion County Health Department. No official action will be taken during the retreat.

The regular monthly board meeting will be held the same day at 5:00 p.m. in the St. Luke Clinic Basement.

M-43-44-2741

First published July 16, 2025, in the Hillsboro Star-Journal, Marion, Kansas (1t)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR ISSUANCE OF INDUSTRIAL REVENUE BONDS

In accordance with the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, public notice is hereby given that the governing body of the City of Hillsboro, Kansas (the "City") will conduct a public hearing in connection with the proposed issuance by the City of its Healthcare Facilities Revenue Bonds, in one or more series, as qualified 501(c)(3) bonds, in an aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$3,000,000 on Tuesday, August 5, 2025, at 4:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as possible, at City Hall, 118 E. Grand Ave, Hillsboro, Kansas 67063. Said Bonds are proposed to be issued

by the City for the purpose of financing the costs of purchasing, acquiring, constructing, installing, and equip-

ping certain improvements to a skilled nursing home, adult care and inde-

PLEASE SEE CLASSIFIED PAGE 10

First published July 16, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

The Governing Body of

Goessel Recreation Commission

will meet on July 29, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. at Goessel High School for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of funds. Detailed budget information is available at Goessel USD 411 and will be available at this meeting.

BUDGET SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES

The proposed budget year expenditure amount is the maximum expenditure limit for the proposed budget year.

Fund	Prior Year Actual 2023/2024	Current Year Estimated 2024/2025	Proposed Budget Year 2025-2026
General	31160	30736	31565
Totals	31160	30736	31565
Lease Purchases:			
	2023	2024	2025
1-Jul	0	0	0
Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988			1.049
Total Proposed Estimated Tax Rate			1.049

Goessel Recreation Commission
Recreation Commission Secretary Keri Unruh

M-44-2766

First published July 16, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of

Lincolnvile Cemetery, Marion County

will meet on August 4, 2025 at 7:00 PM at Lincolnvile Community Building, Lincolnvile, KS for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to levied. Detailed budget information is available at the Marion County Clerk's Office, 200 S. Third St., Marion, KS and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

	Prior Year Actual 2024		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
Fund	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	9,651	1.295	9,810	1.250	10,481	9,253	1.192
Totals	9,651	1.295	9,810	1.250	10,481	9,253	1.192
Revenue Neutral Rate**							1.192
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditures	9,651		9,810		10,481		
Total Tax Levied	9,251		9,251				
Assessed Valuation	7,139,266		7,396,740		7,759,717		
Outstanding Indebtedness,							
Jan 1,	2023		2024		2025		
G.O. Bonds	0		0		0		
Revenue Bonds	0		0		0		
Other	0		0		0		
Lease Pur. Princ.	0		0		0		
Total	0		0		0		

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.

**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

Denise Bina, Treasurer

M-44-2764

First published July 16, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of

Summit Cemetery, Marion County

will meet on August 11, 2025 at 6:00 PM at 2271 40th, Peabody, KS 66866 for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to levied. Detailed budget information is available at the Marion County Clerk's Office, 200 S. Third St., Marion, KS and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

	Prior Year Actual 2024		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
Fund	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	4,046	2.454	4,880	2.514	11,340	2,908	2.611
Totals	4,046	2.454	4,880	2.514	11,340	2,908	2.611
Revenue Neutral Rate**							2.611
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditures	4,046		4,880		11,340		
Total Tax Levied	2,909		2,909				
Assessed Valuation	1,185,271		1,156,878		1,113,695		
Outstanding Indebtedness,							
Jan 1,	2023		2024		2025		
G.O. Bonds	0		0		0		
Revenue Bonds	0		0		0		
Other	0		0		0		
Lease Pur. Princ.	0		0		0		
Total	0		0		0		

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.

**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

Shayla Clark, Treasurer

M-44-2750

First published July 16, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of

West Branch Township, Marion County

will meet on August 5, 2025 at 8:00 p.m. at 275 80th, Newton Ks for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at the Marion County Clerk's Office, 200 S. Third St., Marion, KS and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

	Prior Year Actual 2024		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
Fund	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	980		2,105		6,225		
Totals	980	0.000	2,105	0.000	6,225	0	0.000
Funds Supported by Township Only - Revenue Neutral Rate**							0.000
Funds Supported by Township and 3rd Class City - Revenue Neutral Rate**							0.000
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditure	980		2,105		6,225		
Total Tax Levied	0		0				
Assessed Valuation:							
Township Assessed Valuation Only	9,223,543		9,727,709		10,435,966		
Township Assessed Valuation Only					7,336,935		
Outstanding Indebtedness,							
Jan 1	2023		2024		2025		
G.O. Bonds	0		0		0		
Other	0		0		0		
Lease Purchase Principal	0		0		0		
Total	0		0		0		

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.

**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

Verney Voth, Trustee

M-44-2752

First published July 16, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of

Grant Cemetery, Marion County

will meet on August 5, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at 1969 Yarrow, Marion, KS for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to levied. Detailed budget information is available at the Marion County Clerk's Office, 200 S. Third St., Marion, KS and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

	Prior Year Actual 2024		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
Fund	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	2,265	1.168	5,530	1.141	14,398	3,582	1.123
Totals	2,265	1.168	5,530	1.141	14,398	3,582	1.123
Revenue Neutral Rate**							1.123
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditures	2,265		5,530		14,398		
Total Tax Levied	3,586		3,583				
Assessed Valuation	3,067,714		3,139,169		3,188,357		
Outstanding Indebtedness,							
Jan 1,	2023		2024		2025		
G.O. Bonds	0		0		0		
Revenue Bonds	0		0		0		
Other	0		0		0		
Lease Pur. Princ.	0		0		0		
Total	0		0		0		

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.

**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

Rebecca Makovec, Treasurer

M-44-2765

First published July 16, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of

Gard Cemetery, Marion County

will meet on August 1, 2025 at 7:00 PM at 1388 Pawnee, Marion, KS for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to levied. Detailed budget information is available at the Marion County Clerk's Office, 200 S. Third St., Marion, KS and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

	Prior Year Actual 2024		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
Fund	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	2,280	0.819	3,212	0.819	5,185	1,647	0.691
Totals	2,280	0.819	3,212	0.819	5,185	1,647	0.691
Revenue Neutral Rate**							0.691
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditures	2,280		3,212		5,185		
Total Tax Levied	1,650		1,649				
Assessed Valuation	2,012,823		2,012,112		2,383,459		
Outstanding Indebtedness,							
Jan 1,	2023		2024		2025		
G.O. Bonds	0		0		0		
Revenue Bonds	0		0		0		
Other	0		0		0		
Lease Pur. Princ.	0		0		0		
Total	0		0		0		

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.

**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

Eugene Just, Board Memeber

M-44-2763

First published July 16, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING TO EXCEED REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE AND BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of

Durham Park Township, Marion County

will meet on August 26, 2025 at 7:00 PM at Durham Community Bldng, 513 S Douglas Ave, Durham, KS for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at the Marion County Clerk's Office, 200 S. Third St., Marion, KS and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

	Prior Year Actual 2024		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
Fund	Expend- itures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expend- itures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expend- itures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	8,650	1.431	10,550	1.358	14,179	6,500	1.377
Totals	8,650	1.431	10,550	1.358	14,179	6,500	1.377
Funds Supported by Township Only - Revenue Neutral Rate**							0.000
Funds Supported by Township and 3rd Class City - Revenue Neutral Rate**							1.286
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditure	8,650		10,550		14,179		
Total Tax Levied	6,078		6,075				
Assessed Valuation: Township	4,244,868		4,471,061		4,719,910		
Township Assessed Valuation Only					3,955,854		
Outstanding Indebtedness,							
Jan 1	2023		2024		2025		
G.O. Bonds	0		0		0		
Other	0		0		0		
Lease Purchase Principal	0		0		0		
Total	0		0		0		

Classified

CONTINUED

FROM PAGE 9

pendent living facilities known as “Salem Home” located at 704 S Ash St., Hillsboro, Kansas (the “Project”).

Said Bonds are proposed to be issued under authority of K.S.A. 12-1740 et seq., as amended. The proposed Project would be owned or leased by the City and leased to Salem Hospital, Inc., a Kansas not-for-profit corporation. A copy of this notice relating to the proposed financing is on file in the office of the City Clerk and is available for public inspection during normal business hours.

In the event said Bonds are not ultimately issued for any reason, the City shall not be deemed to have assumed or incurred any liability or obligation to Salem Hospital, Inc. or any other party by virtue of any proceedings or actions taken in connection therewith.

All persons having an interest in this matter will be given an opportunity to be heard at the time and place specified.

The governing body of the City will not take action authorizing the issuance of such Bonds until the passage of seven (7) days from the date this Notice is published in the official newspaper of the City and until said public hearing is concluded.

CITY OF HILLSBORO, KANSAS
By: /s/ Danielle Bartel, City Clerk
M-44-2758

First published July 16, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE FOR PUBLICATION

Ordinance No. 03-2025 Summary
On June 30, 2025, the City of Peabody, Kansas, passed Ordinance No. 03-2025. This ordinance regulates traf-

fic within the corporate limits of the City of Peabody, Kansas, incorporating by reference the Standard Traffic Ordinance for Kansas Cities, 51st edition, published in 2025. A complete copy of the ordinance is available at www.peabodyks.com or in the office of the City Clerk, 300 N. Walnut, Peabody, KS 66866, free of charge. This summary is certified by the City Attorney to be legal, accurate, and sufficient.

Passed and approved by the Governing Body of the City of Peabody, Kansas on the 30th of June, 2025.

/s/Catherine Weems
Mayor

ATTEST:
City Treasurer
Approved as to form:
Zachary R. Strella, City Attorney
M-44-2760

First published July 16, 2025,

First published July 16, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING
The governing body of
Wilson Township, Marion County

will meet on August 19, 2025 at 7:30 PM at 1726 140th, Marion, KS for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at the Marion County Clerk’s Office, 200 S. Third St., Marion, KS and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

	Prior Year Actual 2024		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
Fund	Expend- itures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expend- itures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expend- itures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	5,424	1.842	19,529	1.811	44,985	15,151	1.667
Totals	5,424	1.842	19,529	1.811	44,985	15,151	1.667
Revenue Neutral Rate**							1.667
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditure	5,424		19,529		44,985		
Total Tax Levied	15,145		15,150				
Assessed Valuation: Township	8,220,939		8,365,541		9,086,555		
Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1	2023		2024		2025		
G.O. Bonds	0		0		0		
Other	0		0		0		
Lease Purchase Principal	0		0		0		
Total	0		0		0		

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.
**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988
Joyce Olsen, Treasurer

M-44-2754

First published July 16, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING
The governing body of
Pilsen Improvement District #3, Marion County

will meet on August 6, 2025 at 7:00 PM at 2739 Remington, Marion, KS for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at the Marion County Clerk’s Office, 200 S. Third St., Marion, KS and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

	Prior Year Actual 2024		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
Fund	Expend- itures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expend- itures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expend- itures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	4,116	12.198	3,900	11.395	8,409	2,825	9.463
Sewer Operating	12,181		11,019		12,682		
Sewer Replacement	32,500				92,459		
Totals	48,797	12.198	14,919	11.395	113,550	2,825	9.463
Revenue Neutral Rate**							9.463
Less: Transfers	12,800		11,400		11,400		
Net Expenditures	35,997		3,519		102,150		
Total Tax Levied	2,825		2,825				
Assessed Valuation							
Township	231,585		247,911		298,532		
Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1,	2023		2024		2025		
G.O. Bonds	0		0		0		
Revenue Bonds	0		0		0		
Other	0		0		0		
Lease Pur. Princ.	0		0		0		
Total	0		0		0		

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.
**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988
Kathy Silhan, Treasurer

M-44-2756

First published July 16, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING
The governing body of
City of Lincolnville, Kansas

will meet on September 8, 2025 at 6:45 PM at City Hall, Lincolnville, KS for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds, the amount of ad valorem tax and the Revenue Neutral Rate. Detailed budget information is available at 218 W. Main, Lincolnville, KS and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

	Prior Year Actual 2024		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
Fund	Expend- itures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expend- itures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expend- itures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	143,205	47.059	118,800	47.048	151,568	52,992	47.048
Debt Service							
Library							
Sewer	24,417	9.486	31,369	9.483	84,303	10,681	9.483
Special Highway	20,000				14,165		
Capital Improvement	4,682		75,000		174,992		
Totals	192,304	56.545	225,169	56.531	425,028	63,673	56.531
Revenue Neutral Rate**							51.404
Less: Transfers	65,780		18,000		18,000		
Net Expenditure	126,524		207,169		407,028		
Total Tax Levied	53,615		57,899				
Assessed Valuation: Township	948,156		1,024,179		1,126,341		
Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1	2023		2024		2025		
G.O. Bonds	0		0		0		
Revenue Bonds	0		0		0		
Other	154,527		142,644		130,486		
Lease Purchase Principal	0		0		0		
Total	154,527		142,644		130,486		

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.
**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988
Sabrina Powell, City Official Title: City Clerk

M-44-2757

in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE FOR PUBLICATION

Ordinance No. 04-2025 Summary
On June 30, 2025, the City of Peabody, Kansas, passed Ordinance No. 04-2025. This ordinance regulates public offenses within the corporate limits of the City of Peabody, incorporating by reference the Uniform Public Offense Code for Kansas Cities, 41st edition, published in 2025. A complete copy of the ordinance is available at www.peabodyks.com or in the office of the City Clerk, 300 N. Walnut, Peabody, KS 66866, free of charge. This summary is certified

by the City Attorney to be legal, accurate, and sufficient.

Passed by the Governing Body and approved by the mayor on the 30th of June, 2025.

Mayor

ATTEST:
City Treasurer
Approved as to form:
Zachary R. Strella, City Attorney
M-44-2761

First published July 16, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS CDBG Home Rehabilitation Project

First published July 16, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING
The governing body of
East Branch Township, Marion County

will meet on September 11, 2025 at 7:00 PM at 1112 Hwy 50, Peabody, KS for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at the Marion County Clerk’s Office, 200 S. Third St., Marion, KS and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

	Prior Year Actual 2024		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
Fund	Expend- itures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expend- itures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expend- itures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	1,375	0.757	3,114	0.738	11,017	2,995	0.728
Totals	1,375	0.757	3,114	0.738	11,017	2,995	0.728
Revenue Neutral Rate**							0.728
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditure	1,375		3,114		11,017		
Total Tax Levied	2,996		2,996				
Assessed Valuation: Township	3,957,151		4,058,195		4,112,193		
Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1	2023		2024		2025		
G.O. Bonds	0		0		0		
Other	0		0		0		
Lease Purchase Principal	0		0		0		
Total	0		0		0		

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.
**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988
Kim Dirks, Treasurer

M-44-2753

First published July 16, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING
The governing body of
Grant Township, Marion County

will meet on August 5, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at 1969 Yarrow, Marion, KS for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at the Marion County Clerk’s Office, 200 S. Third St., Marion, KS and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

	Prior Year Actual 2024		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
Fund	Expend- itures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expend- itures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expend- itures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	2,780	1.850	11,030	1.807	21,530	5,673	1.779
Totals	2,780	1.850	11,030	1.807	21,530	5,673	1.779
Revenue Neutral Rate**							1.779
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditure	2,780		11,030		21,530		
Total Tax Levied	5,678		5,675				
Assessed Valuation: Township	3,067,714		3,139,169		3,188,357		
Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1	2023		2024		2025		
G.O. Bonds	0		0		0		
Other	0		0		0		
Lease Purchase Principal	0		0		0		
Total	0		0		0		

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.
**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988
Rebecca Makovec, Treasurer

M-44-2755

First published July 16, 2025, in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas (1t)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING
The governing body of
Fairplay, Marion County

will meet on August 6, 2025 at 7:30 PM at 2468 120th Florence, KS for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at the Marion County Clerk’s Office, 200 S. Third St., Marion, KS and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

	Prior Year Actual 2024		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
Fund	Expend- itures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expend- itures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expend- itures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	1,160	1.053	4,500	1.036	14,888	3,718	0.995
Totals	1,160	1.053	4,500	1.036	14,888	3,718	0.995
Fire Protection Revenue Neutral Rate**							0.995
Total Tax Levied:							
Fire Protection	3,718		3,718				
Assessed Valuation:							
Fire Protection	3,529,030		3,586,800		3,735,874		
Fund	Expend- itures	Actual Rate*	Expend- itures	Actual Rate*	Budget Auth.	Ad Valorem	Est. Tax Rate*
General	887	0.134	680	0.131	7,130	1,022	0.128
Totals	887	0.134	680	0.131	7,130	1,022	0.128
Revenue Neutral Rate**							0.128
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditures	887		680		7,130		
Total Tax Levied							
Township	1,021		1,024				
Assessed Valuation							
Township	7,609,258		7,794,412		7,956,097		
Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1,	2023		2024		2025		
G.O. Bonds	0		0		0		
Revenue Bonds	0		0		0		
Other	0		0		0		
Lease Pur. Princ.	0		0		0		
Total	0		0		0		

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.
**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988
Charles DeForest, Trustee

M-44-2749

For the RecordCONTINUED

FROM PAGE 7

inspections, training, report-writing, and assistance to other agencies are excluded. Dates may reflect starting or ending dates of officers' shifts rather than actual dates of occurrence.

HILLSBORO

July 7 — Matthew McJimsey, 29, Hillsboro, was arrested on a warrant issued for his failure to appear in Hillsboro Municipal Court. Police transported a juvenile found in Lawrence back to Hillsboro. Drivers were warned for an unspecified infraction in the 400 block of N. Ash St. and for speeding in Memorial Park. Police patrolled Tabor College on foot.

July 8 — A homeless person reportedly camped out at the city's recycling center was not found. A fire alarm in the 200 block of S. Elm St. proved to be a false alarm

July 9 — A homeless person at Casey's General Store was removed at the store's request and taken by police to Abilene. A dog was reported loose in the 300 block of E. D St. Police helped the Department of Children and Families and Wichita police with investigations. A driver was warned for speeding at Prairie Pointe Ct. and D

St. No problems were found in checking on an alarm at Bomgaars.

Thursday — Reported accumulation of trash reported in the 200 block of N. Lincoln St. was not found. No problems were found in checking on an alarm at Hillsboro Hometown Pharmacy. Police patrolled Main St. on foot and checked drivers' speed with radar on S. Main St.

Friday — Keys found on Main St. were returned to their owner. Drivers were warned for speeding in the 400 block of N. Ash St. and for having no taillights at Main St. and Grand Ave.

Saturday — An 9-year-old boy with autism who wandered away from his home in the 100 block of S. Lincoln St. after dark was found by a family member near his home after Hillsboro and Marion police and Hillsboro firefighters searched for 1¼ hours using thermal imaging and a drone. A driver at Birch and C Sts. was warned for not displaying a license plate.

Sunday — A water leak at Date and D Sts. was reported to the city water department. A dog loose in the 400 block of S. Birch St. was returned to its owner. Drivers were warned for speeding at US-56 and Ash St. and for running a stop sign at Ash and 3rd Sts. A hard-to-see bicyclist with-

out reflective clothing on US-56 at Chisholm Trail Dr. was told to stay out of traffic lanes. Police met with a resident about a civil issue.

MARION

July 7 — A dog loose in the 400 block of Walnut St. was picked up by its owner. Drivers were warned for defective license plate lights in the 100 block of N. Coble St. and near US-56 and Timber Rd., for running a stop sign at Main and Roosevelt Sts., and for speeding near US-56 and Cedar St.

July 8 — A disturbance in the 400 block of S. Roosevelt St. resulted in two arrests — those of a 41-year-old woman suspected of domestic battery and of an 18-year-old male suspected of battery and child endangerment. Three dogs loose near Lincoln and Sherman Sts. were returned to their owner. Drivers were warned for speeding near Main and 3rd St. and for failing to signal a turn near Main and Freeborn Sts.

July 9 — A burglary in the 100 block of S. Cedar St. led to the arrest in the 600 block of S. Freeborn St. of a 14-year-old juvenile suspected of aggravated burglary and criminal trespassing and of a 15-year-old suspected of aggravated burglary. Police talked to a resident of the 400 block of S.

Freeborn St. about a scam. Suspicious activity reported at 1st and Burbridge Sts. was not found.

Thursday — Police helped a motorist with a dead battery at the courthouse and helped deputies with a traffic stop near US-56/77 and 250th Rd.

Friday — Police investigated collisions in the parking lots of Casey's General Store and the Sports and Aquatics Center, answered questions about an eviction notice in the 100 block of Billings St., and spoke to a resident of the 400 block of Walnut St. about possible abuse that apparently did not happen. A driver was warned for having a defective tag light and ticketed for having no liability insurance near US-56 and Cedar St. Another driver was warned for having a defective headlight at the same location. Police helped with traffic control at a fatality accident on US-77 near 140th Rd.

Saturday — Police helped with investigation of a fatality at US-50 and Nighthawk Rd. and joined in a search for a missing 9-year-old who was found safe in Hillsboro.

Sunday — A dog loose in the 100 block of S. Roosevelt St. was picked up by its owner. Police helped with an

injury accident at the US-56/77/K-150 roundabout. Drivers were warned for failing to signal a turn near US-56 and Cedar St. and for having a defective tag light near US-56 and Timber Rd.

TRAFFIC DIVISION CASES

This information was filed last week in court. Court costs are included in any fines listed. If no hometown is listed, no address was available on court records.

Marlo W. Becker, driving on left in no-passing zone June 13, \$183.

John N. Bilha, 79 mph in 65 zone June 5, \$177.

Ginger L. Britton, 75 mph in 65 zone June 7, \$153.

Adam N. Brown, 75 mph in 65 zone June 9, \$153.

Matthew G. Burr, 80 mph in 65 zone June 1, \$183.

Leyton E. Coover, failure to wear seatbelt (age 18 or older) June 4, \$30.

Raymond J. Crawford, failure to yield at stop or yield sign June 15, \$183.

Bruce Emmy D., 75 mph in 65 zone June 18, \$153.

Alvin B. David, 88 mph in 65 zone June 6, \$240.

Devin M. Dunford, 88 mph in 65 zone June 5, \$240.

Robert Hector, 81 mph in 65 zone May 31, \$189.

Ethan L. Hill, 81 mph in a 65 zone June 7, \$189.

Martin G. Hooper, 65 mph in 55 zone June 11, \$153.

Erick O. Kabara, 88 mph in 65 zone June 9, \$240.

Rebecca L. Minton, driving on left in no-passing zone June 14, \$183.

Cody J. Morse, 75 mph in 65 zone June 15, \$153.

Emily B. Myers, 75 mph in 65 zone June 11, \$153.

Colin J. Ratzlaff, 82 mph in 65 zone June 10, \$195.

Parker W. Schultz, 55 mph in 35 zone June 1, \$213.

Rael Simon, operating a motor vehicle without a valid license May 31, case dismissed.

Staci L. Staatz, passing on left with insufficient clearance June 9, \$183.

Calvin L. Taylor, 88 mph in 65 zone June 7, \$240.

Jeremiah D. Welle, 75 mph in 65 zone June 4, \$153.

WATER: New pipes, new well, new treatment pondered

FROM PAGE 1

er when two breaks in the main line caused water to turn dark brown two weeks ago.

“It was black as chocolate,” Elmer Ronnebaum, general manager of Kansas Rural Water Association, said. “It’s unconscionable to think that it came out of a public water supply system.”

Iron and manganese are not considered health risks by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Nonetheless, large amounts of the chemicals affect taste, odor, and appearance, leaving a brown product with sediment at the bottom. Few want to use such water for any purpose.

Manganese is on the EPA’s “emerging contaminants” list, meaning it may be classified as a health risk in coming years.

The water industry recommends a treatment process when iron and manganese levels are exceeded; the district uses a polyphosphate solution to treat the chemicals but is looking at altering the treatment after experiencing dark-brown water two weeks ago.

Water operator Autumn Chisholm said the district’s water was drinkable throughout the “brownout” even though the district handed out free bottles of water at the Ramona post office and Tampa library.

“It seemed drinkable,” board member Luke Wingerd said. “Did anyone want to drink it? No.”

What the district can do — or should have already done — to improve its system is contentious.

“We have offered to provide



STAFF PHOTO BY FINN HARTNETT

Daryn Martin (left), assistant general manager of Kansas Rural Water Association, is interviewed by a Wichita TV station after acting as intermediary between water district officials and the public, Monday night.

help to that district for 30-plus years,” Ronnebaum said.

He said his organization could help find financing for improvements “in a couple months, if not sooner,” from KDHE, USDA Rural Development, or Rural Water Finance Agency.

“They have to spend a little,” Ronnebaum said. “But there’s funding available to help.”

Former water board member David Mueller said the board had attempted to apply for grants little success.

Wingerd said board members “always have” been working with the state association.

Roughly 20 residents attended a water board meeting Monday. Many expressed discontent with leadership they perceived as passive and uncommunicative.

“There’s no open communication,” one woman said.

Arguments over adequacy of an email list run by Chisholm led to her storming out of the meeting halfway though.

Not only is the district’s water quality questionable, the system is inefficient.

Last month, the district lost 43% of its water from pump to customer, Daryn Martin, assistant general manager of KRWa, said.

The system also ranks first in the county for gallons of water pumped per capita per day — an average resident uses 120 gallons a day.

Those in the city of Marion come second with 112 gallons a day.

Those levels far exceed consumption in the two other ru-

ral water districts, which use 90 and 61 gallons respectively.

Higher per capita use may be because ranchers use the system to water livestock, but it also suggests to leaks and residents running taps to clear sediment.

Ramona resident Nathan Brunner said district customers sometimes were told to run their taps for two hours to clear away sediment.

Getting sediment out of the system will involve increased flushing of pipes and possibly drilling a new well to replace a sentiment-heavy one currently in use.

“The logical thing to do, if it were me, would be to hire a groundwater hydrologist and do a little water well expiration in that area to see if there’s not a better water supply,” Ronne-

baum said. “We know that in one well that was drilled they drilled into iron pyrite.”

Iron pyrite also is known as fool’s gold.

Water service in Ramona and Tampa would have to be interrupted if the board moved to carry out extensive improvements, but there may be no other option if discolored water persists.

“It’s not logical to try to provide the water that I’m seeing to customers,” Ronnebaum said. “It’s not going to go away. It’s been there since Day One.”

After a tumultuous meeting Monday, the board took small steps toward improving the system, moving to meet biweekly for the next two months and hiring a Clay County engineer to evaluate the water system.

However, if the board ne-

glects to take meaningful action in the future, more extreme measures could be taken by district members.

Petitions of complaint can be filed to remove a director.

If enough petitions are filed, a director can be removed with a 75% majority vote.

Directors must be notified of charges against them at least 10 days in advance of any special meeting.

Voting out a district water board member never has been done in Kansas, according to Ronnebaum.

Even conduction of a vote is extremely rare.

A spokeswoman for Leavenworth County RWD No. 7, who declined to be named, said there was a vote against a district director “30-something years ago,” but the supermajority was not achieved, and the director remained on the board.

County commissioners also may influence the fate of the district. Commissioners are able to create, organize, and combine districts.

To create districts, commissioners must receive a petition signed by at least half of the landowners in the area. But K.S.A. 82a-639 also allows commissioners to merge districts without prior approval so long as they do not create a “special benefit district” in the process.

Landowners can petition the water board to release them from the district if their land is not “economically or adequately served by the facilities of the district,” per K.S.A. 82a-646.

ClassifiedCONTINUED

FROM PAGE 10

ficial bid packet and a list of required certifications, contact Megan Unruh at munruh@sckedd.org or (316) 440-3472.

A MANDATORY pre-bid tour will be held on Wednesday, July 30th, 2025, starting at 9:30 AM at the City of Peabody Council Chambers, 300 N Walnut, Peabody, KS 66866. Attendance is required. Bids from contractors not attending the tour will be deemed non-responsive.

Sealed bids for the project will be received by the City Clerk at 300 N Walnut, Peabody, KS 66866 until August 13th, 2025 at 1:00PM, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud. Any person with a disability requiring special accommodations must contact the City of Peabody no later than 7 days prior to the bid opening. Digital bids are permissible though a secure Dropbox link. Please email munruh@sckedd.org to request this accommodation. All bid documents may be examined at the City of Peabody after this date.

The City of Peabody hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The City of Peabody is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We encourage all small and minority owned firms and women’s business enterprises to participate. No bidder may withdraw his bid within (60) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

A detailed listing of all subcontractors shall be provided by the Bidder. In accordance with the Contract Documents, documentation that the prospective contractor and its subcontractors meet minimum qualifications shall be provided and submitted.

The owner reserves the right to waive any informalities or to reject any or all bids.

Contact Person:

Questions – Megan Unruh at munruh@sckedd.org, 316-440-3472

Special Requirements:

A MANDATORY Pre-bid Meeting will be held Wednesday, July 30th, 2025, starting at 9:30 AM at the City of Peabody Council Chambers, 300 N Walnut, Peabody, KS 66866

Bid Opening Information:

August 13th, 2025 at 1:00PM

Bids will be opened virtually. Attendees can participate virtually or in person at City Hall, 300 N Walnut, Peabody, KS 66866. Bids will be awarded at the next regularly scheduled City Council Meeting.

M-44-2762

FROM PAGE 1

Council member Byron Noeth objected, pointing out that no action could be taken after the meeting was adjourned.

The motion to adjourn passed, but the board reconvened after public comment at Noeth’s request.

During the forum, Noeth spoke about the board’s history of inaction.

“You saw who voted to close the meeting already without making any decisions tonight,” he said. “That’s part of it.”

Noeth gave prior examples of the board dragging its feet. A year ago, he said, he proposed hiring a Schwab Eaton engineer to evaluate leaks in the water system for \$45,000, but he could not get the motion passed.

“We have the \$45,000,” he said. “I’m not sure why we haven’t hired this engineer.”

Daryn Martin, assistant general manager of Kansas Rural Water Association, acted as mediator between the board and the public during public comment, sometimes proposing his own solutions.

“The issue is in the short term is, how do we get this stuff out of the water lines?” he said. “Then in the long term, what is

our plan? Is it chemicals that are going to mask this stuff?”

Martin recommended increased flushing and “pigging” of the water system.

For longer-term fixes, Martin recommended pursuing state revolving loans or a Kansas Water Office technical assistance grant.

Money could be used to hire experts to study the district’s wells and determine whether a new well or different treatments were needed, he said.

“Even if we decide today that we’re going to take action and hire somebody to do this, it’s going to be a couple of years before the process even begins and pipes are getting laid in the ground,” Martin said.

Chairman Donald Mueller said the district had not realized the extent of its problems until recently, when Ramona used district water to flush sewers, allegedly without permission.

“Somebody gave them the OK to use water from our district,” Mueller said. “They should have come to us.

“Then we had a major leak that followed that. Once we had a handle on things, we immediately started flushing. It was a bad situation. But what do

MEETING: Operator walks out

you do when someone’s stealing water?”

Some Tampa and Ramona residents objected to his assessment.

“This has been happening since I’ve lived here, and I moved here in 2000,” Ramona resident Jessica Gilbert said.

Residents expressed discontent with a board they characterized as passive and uncommunicative.

“I guess I just want to know who’s in charge,” Tampa resident Kristina Kraemer said. “I’ve lived here for three years, and I know it’s been a problem for 30. It’s like I’m in the Twilight Zone.”

Kraemer said it was her, not the board, who “begged” Martin to come to speak at the meeting.

“I’m very disappointed in the board,” another man said. “I’m hoping this rocks some people to start letting us help you.”

Chisholm said she has tried to communicate with the public though an email list.

“I have asked for email addresses and various communications, and some of you will not give them to me,” Chisholm said.

Kramer urged Chisholm to

provide text notifications instead via a service such as Everbridge. According to Noeth, the idea was discussed three months ago, but no action was taken.

“There are people that will help you,” Kraemer said. “The fire department has said that they will help you. Why are you digging your heels in about this? I’ve never seen this before.”

Chisholm promptly got out of her chair and left the building.

“I suggest you stay,” Noeth called out after her.

Afterwards, Ramona resident Pat Wick told Mueller he should have encouraged the district’s only operator to stay.

“She needs some help, I think, from you guys,” Wick said. “She’s in over her head.”

The board reconvened without Chisholm, moving to increase its meeting schedule from monthly to biweekly for two months. It also granted Noeth his wish, moving to hire a Schwab Eaton engineer to conduct a yearlong evaluation of the system.

The board then went into executive session for an unspecified performance review.

PUBLIC NOTICES
Your right to know!

Making a splash



Oakleigh Semple, 5, and Alanis Semple, 2, run through a car wash sprinkler Tuesday at Hillsboro’s Larry Paine Memorial Splash Pad



Cash Semple, 4, enjoys a fountain Saturday at Larry Paine Memorial Splash Pad in Hillsboro.

STAFF PHOTOS BY PHYLLIS ZORN

RODEO: Not yet 15, he’s competing nationally

FROM PAGE 1

Despite the injury, Ballinger was hooked.

He rode bareback steers through junior high, competing in Kansas Junior High Rodeo Association competition.

At a 2024 national event in Iowa, he placed 18th in a field of 49 in bareback riding.

After starting ninth grade, he switched from steers to horses, or “broncs.”

“When you’re in junior high, they won’t let you get on any horses because it’s too dangerous,” he said. “But as soon as I got to high school, I was like, ‘I’m going to take the risk.’”

The adrenaline rush, he said, is his favorite part of the sport.

Ballinger placed fourth in Kansas High School Rodeo Association’s state competition this year, earning his second trip to nationals.

Because he does not own

horses or steers, Ballinger practices on a spur board in his family’s garage. The device simulates bareback riding.

“When I slide up on my rigging, I act like I’m the biggest, baddest mothertrucker out there,” he said.

Occasionally, he makes a three-hour drive to Oklahoma to practice on live horses.

“Twenty dollars to get on as many as I want,” he said.

While steer-riding is mainly a youth sport, bronc-riding is done professionally, and is considered more difficult. (Bull-riding is typically considered harder than both.)

“There’s more power,” Ballinger said. “On a steer, really all you have to do is just kind of hold on. On a horse, you’re prying with your arm, prying off your hip bone, moving your feet. You’re keeping your chest out, your chin tucked, your elbow tucked down.”

Competitors attempt to stay on their bucking steed for eight seconds. If they succeed, they receive a score based on how well they and their animal perform.

Riders must “hit their mark” during the ride, meaning their boots must be in contact with the horse’s neck before completion of the first jump.

This is one of Ballinger’s weaknesses as a rider, he said. His mother frequently shouts at him from the stands to keep his boots in position.

Since switching to bronc-riding, Ballinger has made the rodeo circuit his life.

“Every weekend I find somewhere to go,” he said, “whether it’s here, Oklahoma, Nebraska, or Missouri.”

Determination is one of his strengths. Last July, while still new to broncs, Ballinger broke his humerus after flying off a horse.

Within a few hours of having a metal plate implanted in his arm, he was ready to get back in the metaphorical saddle.

“The day that we were leaving the hospital, he’s like, ‘Mom, let’s go buck horses,’” Slater said. “I’m like, ‘No, you’re on pain meds.’”

A day later, he was back practicing.

Riding is an emotional activity for both human and animal. Perhaps the largest variable in bronc-riding is the horse’s mood.

“I’ve got quite a bit of control sometimes,” Ballinger said. “Then there’s sometimes where I get a crappy horse, and I don’t have much control.”

Ballinger attempts to understand his horse’s personality before competing.

“I bug people a lot about what the horse I have does,” he said. “I don’t want them to be

really angry to where they flip over, and I don’t want them too relaxed, where they just slowly come out. I like them a little bit fast and loose.”

Another pre-ride routine involves singing along to “white girl music” before a ride. “Fergalicious,” the 2006 dance and R&B hit, is a current favorite.

Ballinger joined contestants around the world in Wyoming. Riders from Mexico, Guatemala, New Zealand, and Australia all sought the \$70,000 first-place prize.

All told, there was \$300,000 in belt buckles and prize money at the event.

Ballinger wants to become a pro rider. He is deciding whether to attend a college with a rodeo program. A few — Fort Scott Community College, Oklahoma Panhandle State University, and Dodge City Community College — are already scouting him. Or he may try to jump

straight onto the pro circuit after high school.

When asked why there wasn’t more of a rodeo scene in Marion County, Ballinger said he thought the area was too urban.

“I feel like most of the people in Marion are people that have come from Wichita or stuff like that and really don’t know what it is,” he said.

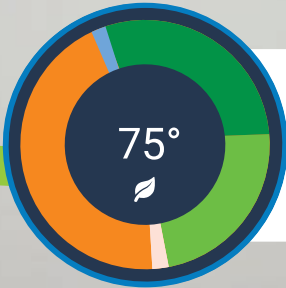
He also said he thought rodeo had become less popular over the last few decades.

Nonetheless, the young Florentine is helping keep the sport alive in Marion County with his dedication and guile.

Fittingly, his next event will be within county limits.

Ballinger will ride bareback July 23 at the Marion County Fair in Hillsboro.

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