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The Gyp Hill PREMIERE

Independent and unbiased pursuit of the truth in Barber County!

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March 19, 2026

City Continues to Explore Possibilities of Water Supply for Google

BY FAITH COULTAS

Staff Writer

Medicine Lodge City Administrator Brian Withrow gave an update on Project Helium, the data center project that has been proposed to be built near Sharon, during Monday night's city council meeting.

If the project continues forward, construction is projected to

begin in 2027. Google recently approached the city of Medicine Lodge and inquired as to whether the city could provide the water and wastewater services to the data center. The city council did not agree to providing those services but did agree to explore the idea and take a look at the capabilities of the infrastructure the city currently has and what may be needed to expand in that direction.

The city was given an estimate from Professional Engineering Consultants (PEC) for a portion of the expansion, specifically the engineering needed for expansion to the east outside of the city limits. The council tabled the vote on the matter until the next meeting as the council is waiting for a response from the engineering company, who will be the head of the development of the data center

regarding whether Google intends to pay for the expansion and other costs associated with the water and wastewater expansion.

Withrow spoke with an engineer from the company, who will be heading the data center project for Google, and they discussed the water and wastewater services that the city may potentially provide for the project. It was discussed that the water provided to the fa-

cility from Medicine Lodge would primarily be used for domestic uses – such as showers, toilets and sinks. On a quarterly basis, the water would be used for cleaning equipment and to perform maintenance on the closed-loop system which would require a few thousand gallons of additional water.

This facility will be what is

See **WATER** / Page 2

City Council Approves Purple Heart City App

BY FAITH COULTAS

Staff Writer

The Medicine Lodge City Council met Monday March 16 to discuss a number of items on their agenda. All members except Council President Matt Forsythe and Councilwoman Julie Warner were present.

At the start of the meeting, the council heard from both Lori Pennock from Eck Insurance and Miranda Gleason from Strong's Insurance. Both ladies presented information on insurance and coverage for the city to the council members for them to review and make a decision on which one they would like to go through for insurance upon the renewal date for their current insurance.

After hearing from Pennock and Gleason, the council heard a presentation from Brandace Ward

See **CITY** / Page 7

Fight for PBM Transparency Continues for KS Pharmacies

BY BOB MORRIS

Managing Editor

Independent pharmacies have backed Senate Bill 360, which is meant to address practices by pharmacy benefit managers.

A pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) processes electronic insurance claims. They collect claims from pharmacies, then transfer them to insurance companies and collect a fee.

But along the way, insurance companies allowed PBMs to contract with pharmacies, meaning no control over how PBMs run.

Josh Quier, a pharmacist for Hibbard's Pharmacy, said what the industry is trying to accomplish is to reign in the influence of PBMs, to limit their ability to raise prescription costs and to increase transparency about their practices.

One example the pharmacy shared about PBMs is how they can raise the cost

See **PBM** / Page 2



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Local students and families from Medicine Lodge Grade School took part in a Family Fun Night recently.

Local Grade School Hosts Family Fun Night for Students, Families

PRESS RELEASE

Medicine Lodge Grade School students and their families came together recently for a night packed with fun activities at the Family Fun Night, according to event organizers.

Families from all around the community attended. Guests enjoyed games, food and hands-on activities. The night was designed to encourage family involvement in school activities.

"I love spending time with my family at

school," one student said of the night's events.

The room was filled with games, families, food and sounds of cheers and laughter. The event was considered a great success because of the involvement by faculty, student leaders and community support. Family Fun Night proved that learning and fun can go hand in hand.

Student leaders worked side by side with adult leaders and staff in the weeks leading up to the event to prepare and plan, and then, they were all hands on deck during the family night.

Food was provided by The Peoples Bank, while Paul Doman and her family provided animal for the very popular animal farm. Mike and Amy Sill allowed the group to use their cotton candy machine, while Robin Callis brought the guest of honor – Wilma, the baby piglet.

Double Diamond Shaved Ice, Blacksheep, Forsyth Furniture, MLGS PTO, Shining Stars Daycare, Casey's, USD 254 and the Ultimate Cup Customers provided prizes and donations, which helped make the event possible.

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NEWS

PBM

• From Page 1

of a drug. A 30-day supply of a drug for which the local pharmacy pays \$72.20 can rise in cost to \$17,710.21 thanks to PBM insurance pricing. The annual cost goes from \$866.40 to more than \$212,000.

The way a PBM works is this: A patient pays premiums to purchase insurance coverage and pays a copay to buy medication from a pharmacist. The pharmacist purchases drugs from a wholesaler, who purchases drugs from a drug manufacturer.

An insurance company pays for medication and PBM fees, while the PBM pays the pharmacist to dispense medication.

However, PBMs have utilized their position as a middleman to generate more profits, which drives up costs for patients and puts small community pharmacies at risk. The way that can happen is through inflated insurance premiums, steering patients to PBM-owned pharmacies, reimbursing drugs below the price pharmacists pay to purchase drugs, inflated copays for patients and PBMs choosing to cover high-cost, high-re-

bate drugs over lower-cost alternatives.

Joe Brummer, pharmacist at Irwin-Potter Drug in Anthony, noted that some smaller pharmacies in rural communities have closed because they couldn't make ends meet with the reimbursements that PBMs offered.

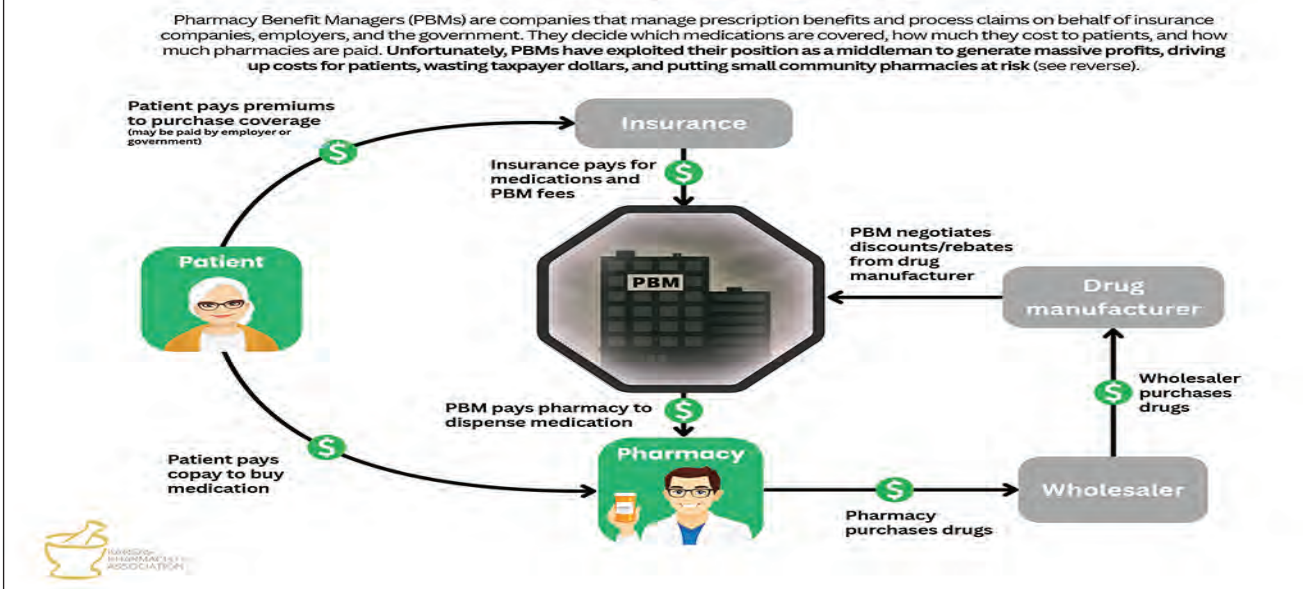
The bill seeks to end a practice called spread pricing, in which PBMs charge health plans more than they pay pharmacies, and require PBMs to pass 100 percent of rebates to health plans.

The bill would address pharmacy reimbursement, to ensure pharmacies are reimbursed at a rate no less than the most recently published monthly National Average Drug Acquisition Cost, or the average price pharmacies pay to acquire prescription or over-the-counter drugs. A \$10.50 professional dispensing fee would then be added.

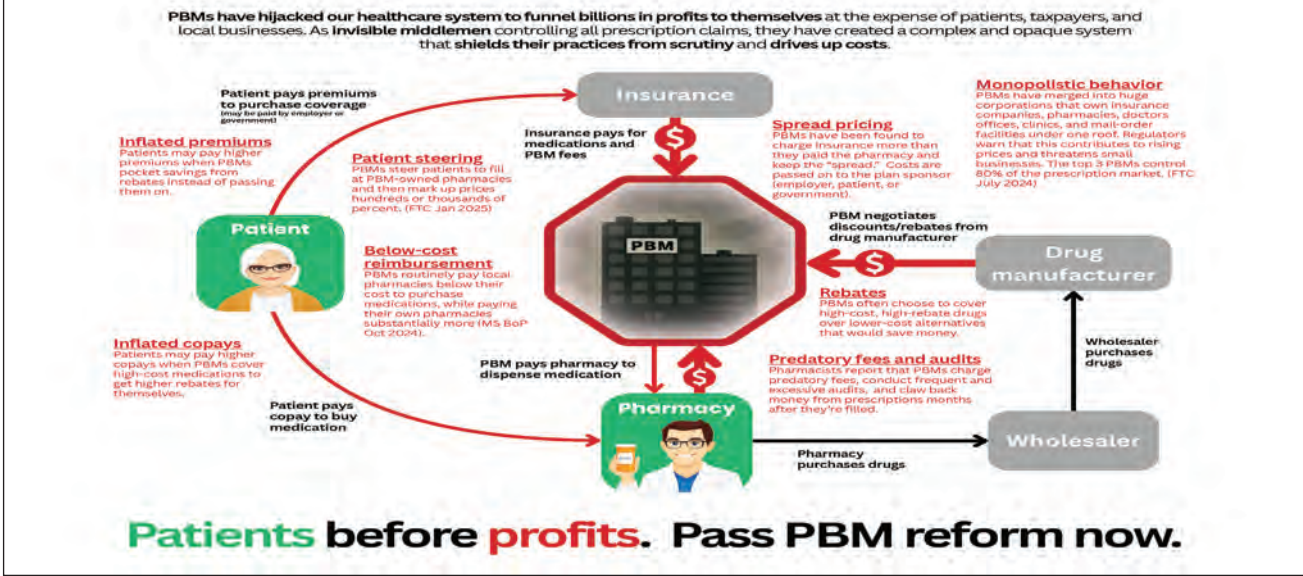
The current bill passed the Kansas Senate in a 32-8 vote and is currently making its way through the state House of Representatives. A hearing was held on March 11 and the bill has currently bounced back and forth between the Committee on Insurance and the Committee on Health and Human Services.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 886-5654 or email ghp@gyphillpremiere.com

What is a PBM?



The PBM Profit Machine



OBITUARY

THOMAS W. BEDWELL

Thomas W. Bedwell, 86, passed away on Saturday, March 14, 2026 at the Kansas Heart Hospital.

He was born on Jan. 21, 1940 in Wichita Falls, Texas to Robert W. and Mary (Wilson) Bedwell. Thomas married Barb Bedwell on May 24, 1975. They were married for 50 years.

Thomas graduated from Medicine Lodge High School in 1958. He owned and operated the Medicine Lodge Sales Company for almost 30 years, then continued buying cattle for customers and running a grower yard. He was a member of Medicine Lodge Methodist Church, and formerly a Shriner member, and he also served as president of the Peace Treaty board, as well as on the Co-op board and RWD #1. He enjoyed farming, cutting wheat, running the machinery, hunting and watching all the children and grandchildren's ball games.

He is survived by his wife, Barb Bedwell; sons: Thomas Patrick (Anita) Bedwell, of Lake City and Ryan Thomas (Emerald) Bedwell, of Medicine Lodge; daughters: Lori Beth (Greg) Pennock, of Medicine Lodge and Holly Dale (Eric) Bannister, of Wichita; grandchildren: Shane (Lacey) Bedwell, Megan (Brad) Mattison, Matthew Hargett, Ethan (Aaliyah) Hargett, Grace Bedwell and Danielle Bedwell; great-grandchildren, Cealy Bedwell, Chisum Bedwell and Whitney Mattison; step-children: Cory Bieber, Joelen (Charles) Akin and Darcy (CR) Clinton; step-grandchildren: Bobbie Akin, Ryan Akin, Salim Klinge and Jasmine Klinge.

Thomas was preceded in death by his father, Robert W. Bedwell and mother, Mary Elizabeth Hall.

Funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, March 20, at the Medicine Lodge Methodist Church with Pastor Paul Stevens and Pastor Tom Walters presiding. Burial will follow at Highland Cemetery, Medicine Lodge.

Memorials may be made to Medicine Lodge Methodist Church or Medicine Lodge Memorial Hospital and mailed to Larrison Funeral Home, 120 E. Lincoln, Medicine Lodge, KS. 67104. Online condolences may be made at larrisonmortuary.com.



WATER

• From Page 1

considered a non-evaporative structure and will use air-cooled chillers, which will reject the heat from the center without using water. The building will, however, use water on a closed-loop system to transfer heat from the building to the mechanical yard, but the system does not regularly drain that water.

The water usage is expected to follow a typical pattern for domestic usage each day with spikes in the morning and around noon.

The facility is expected to have at least one or two fire suppression tanks on site with a fuel rate of 500-1,000 gallons per minute, however, that may depend on the amount of tanks on site and the size of those tanks. Google is fully willing to communicate with PEC on the entirety of this project and plans to work closely with them should the city agree to provide the water and wastewater services for the data center if the project does move forward.

The council was able to use this information provided by PEC to gain more insight on what exactly the water usage for this facility may look like.

The city council is also looking at ways the data center could help and positively impact the city if it does move forward. Council members are also looking for ways to make this process as transparent as possible if the project does move forward.

Google has recently proposed moving the facility to another location, which would also allow for opportunities for the city to provide water and wastewater services to the data center but would require more research done to determine the cost and things needed. Nothing has been officially agreed on between Medicine Lodge and Google regarding the water and wastewater services, it is currently just in discussion and the council is exploring the options and possibility of doing so, as well as any positive and negative impacts it may have on the city, its resources and the residents.

"We are not saying yes to anything, we are just listening," Councilman Jason Taylor said about the conversations surrounding the potential for Medicine Lodge to provide water and wastewater services to the data center if it does continue.

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MEDICINE LODGE LIONS CLUB IS HAVING A BENEFIT EVENT TO RAISE FUNDS FOR NEW HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING (THE OLD UNIT IS UNREPAIRABLE) THE MEAL IS FREEWILL DONATION AUCTION TO BE HELD @ 7:00PM WE ARE SEEKING MORE DONATIONS FROM THE COMMUNITY FOR THE AUCTION CONTACT STEVE PROBST, LIONS CLUB PRESIDENT 816-718-2980

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MEDICINE LODGE POLICE BLOTTER

March 7
12:45 a.m., request to speak to an officer, 1801 Hutchinson, Officer Miranda.
12:14 p.m., attempt to serve, 332 W Central Ave A, Officer McLemore.
10:13 p.m., domestic disturbance, 5076 E Laclede St, Officer Miranda.
11:47 p.m., domestic disturbance, 820 N Oak St, Officer Miranda.

March 8
1:11 a.m., request to speak to an officer, 1801 Hutchinson, Officer Miranda.
1:16 a.m., civil standby, 5000 blk Hillside Road, Officer Miranda.
11:22 a.m., request to speak to an officer, 500 blk S Oak St, Officer McLemore.
11:35 a.m., abandoned vehicle, NE Well Rd, Officer McLemore.
12:20 p.m., vehicle unlock, First Assembly Of God, Officer McLemore.
12:50 p.m., city ordinance, Medicine Lodge, Officer McLemore.
2:13 p.m., information only, N Oak St, Officer McLemore.
2:24 p.m., traffic stop, W Second Ave, Officer McLemore.
2:30 p.m., attempt to contact, 300 blk W Second Ave, Officer McLemore.
8:22 p.m., Medicine Lodge, Officer McLemore.

March 9
3:54 p.m., information only, Medicine Lodge, Officer Jackson.

March 10
12:42 p.m., VIN inspections, 400 blk S Oak St, Officer Jackson.
3:11 p.m., traffic/driving complaint, Medicine Lodge, Officer Jackson.
3:26 p.m., traffic/driving complaint, Barber County Sheriffs Office, Officer Jackson.
5:17 p.m., reckless driver, Pratt County, Officer Jackson.

March 11
7:13 a.m., school checks/walk, Medicine Lodge Grade School, Chief Defore.
9:38 a.m., request to speak to an officer, Barber County Sheriffs Office, Chief Defore.
1:56 p.m., traffic control, 300 blk N Main St, Officer McLemore.
3:22 p.m., school checks/walk, Medicine Lodge Grade School, Officer McLemore.
3:28 p.m., traffic control, N Main St and First St, Chief Defore.
6:02 p.m., reckless driver, SE US HWY 160, Officer McLemore.

March 12
1:57 a.m., be on lookout/attempt to locate, Baco, Officer Miranda.
7:12 a.m., seizure, 200 S Spring St, Chief Defore.
7:24 a.m., vehicle unlock, Gold Bond Warehouse, Chief Defore.
8:25 a.m., Medicine Lodge, Chief Defore.
2:04 p.m., request to speak to an officer, Ricke Service & Hardware, Officer McLemore.
3:26 p.m., school checks/walk, Medicine Lodge Grade School, Officer McLemore.
3:29 p.m., Medicine Lodge, Chief Defore.
4:17 p.m., VIN inspections, Medicine Lodge Police Department, Officer McLemore.
10:35 p.m., reckless driver, Medicine Lodge, Officer Miranda.

March 13
7:40 a.m., school checks/walk, Medicine Lodge Grade School, Officer Miranda.
10:29 a.m., request to speak to an officer, Medicine Lodge, Chief Defore.
12:03 p.m., city ordinance enforcement, 500 blk N Walnut St, Officer Brown.
1:14 p.m., dog at large, Medicine Lodge, Officer Brown.
1:22 p.m., school checks/walk throughs, Medicine Lodge, Officer Brown.
9:39 p.m., civil standby, 1200 blk High St, Officer Jackson.
11:32 p.m., Medicine Lodge, Officer Jackson.

March 14
11:19 a.m., harassment, Baco, Officer Brown.
7:58 p.m., juvenile complaint, 200 blk W Lincoln Ave, Officer Brown.
10:02 p.m., Medicine Lodge, Officer Brown.

March 15
7:27 a.m., alarm, bank, commercial, residential, Jack's Mule Barn, Officer Jackson.
12:53 p.m., information only, Tharp Retail Liquor Store, Officer Brown.
6:12 p.m., lost/stolen property, 100 blk N Adams St, Officer Jackson.

KIOWA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

March 9 Meeting

Mayor Garrett England Council President Brian Hill Councilmember Janet Robison Councilmember B.J. Duvall Councilmember Jason Thayer Councilmember Dylan Molz City Attorney Brandon Ritcha City Administrator Ty Piper City Clerk Sameta Thayer

1. CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Garrett England completed roll call at 7:05 pm: Councilmembers Robison, Duvall, Hill, Thayer, and Molz were present, quorum reached. Mayor England led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmember Jason Thayer said the opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda: Councilmember Jason Thayer motioned to approve the agenda. Councilmember Brian Hill seconded the motion. The motion was carried 5-0.

2. APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES
a. Councilmember B.J. Duvall motioned to approve the February 9, 2026, regular City Council meeting minutes. Councilmember Janet Robison seconded. The motion was carried 5-0.

3. APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURE
a. Monthly Expense Report - Councilmember B.J. Duvall moved to approve the Monthly Expense Report. Councilmember Brian Hill seconded. The motion was carried 5-0.

b. The governing body reviewed the Monthly Budget Report.

4. NEW BUSINESS
a. KMEA Board of Directors – City Administrator Ty Piper advised that the office had received an email from KMEA advising that the Director 2 and Alternate positions need to be appointed/renewed. Director 1 is Ty Piper; Director 2 was previously John Duvall; and the Alternate was former mayor, Bill Watson. Councilmember Jason Thayer motioned to appoint John Duvall, City Superintendent, as Director 2, and Garrett England, Mayor, as Alternate for the 2-year term ending on 4/30/2028. Councilmember Brian Hill seconded the motion. The motion was carried 5-0.

b. City Open Burn Dates – City Administrator Ty Piper advised that, after speaking with Fire Chief Bill Duvall, they had decided that, after some good moisture, as previously suggested at the last city council meeting, the suggested burn dates are March 13 through March 29. These dates would include 2 full weeks and three week-ends as suggested by the council. City Superintendent John Duvall added that when this is made public, please remind all citizens that all burns must be called into dispatch before starting/ conducting the actual burn. Councilmember Jason Thayer motioned to accept the City's open burn dates of March 13 to March 29. Councilmember Dylan Molz seconded the motion. The motion was carried 5-0.

c. Vet Clinic in the Park - City Administrator Ty Piper advised that last year was the first year of the vet clinic in the park, and we would like to continue again this year. We will have an official date soon, but as of now, we are planning early May. The council voiced its support and would also like to see this event continue.

d. Wheel Loader – Rob Paxson with Agri Center introduced himself to the council, advising that he is out of the Hutchinson branch. He has been in contact with City Administrator Ty Piper since early February, trying to locate and get pricing for loaders. Rob was able to locate four loaders meeting the City's needs, three of them sold quicker than anticipated. Rob had given Ty a quote that was a bit higher than anticipated. After Ty and Rob had a visit on Friday, Rob was able to put a 24-hour hold on the remaining loader while he worked on getting the City the best deal he could, and he came to present that deal to the council. Rob advised that this particular loader was received stateside before the tariffs went up. It comes with manufacturers' warranties and has an available cash rebate of \$11,000 that is figured in, and financing is an option. Rob added that warranties can be added up to the point of original expiration, price just increases with time. Rob has also been authorized to sign off on the initial 250-hour service to be completely covered by Agri-Center, at an approximate \$4,500.00 cost, which includes the tech coming to Kiowa, changing all the fluids, filters, maintenance, etc. Councilmember Brian Hill questioned whether there was a trade-in on our current loader. Rob pointed out that it was valued at \$20,000 figured into the quote. City Administrator Ty Piper advised that three other options had been sought out of value of the City's current loader. Those ranging from \$15,000 to \$20,000. Council asked Rob to get a few quotes to Ty within the 24-hour holding period for financing options, such as 36, 48, and 60 months, with options of yearly payments. An extended discussion regarding wheel loaders and costs was continued with all Council Members, the Mayor and City Administrator participating.

5. STAFF REPORTS
a. City Superintendent: John Duvall advised that the annual KRWA Conference -Kansas Rural Water Association is from March 24-26. As of now, he is the only one going every day, with the possibility of City Clerk Sameta Thayer and Utility Clerk Robin Kilmer going for classes as well. John has been building rebar cages for the park shade. City crew informed John that the trash truck had an oil leak at the exhaust and believed it to be the turbo. Last time this happened, and we got it fixed, there was reprogramming that had to be done, so the truck had to be taken in. New LED Bulbs at the community building are continuing to get installed. Councilmember Janet Robison said, "It is much brighter and looks much better, thank you." John advised that Kansas Gas is going to be storing equipment at the northeast corner of Ellis Field while they work on the gas line towards Hardtner. Councilmember B.J. Duvall asked about entry. John advised that there is a gate at the northeast corner. John continued with his report, stating that he is planning to get the slide removed from the Hardtner pool and moved over to Kiowa, to figure out the position and setup. here will also be a city staff member going to Dodge City on April 7 for calibration of the fogger.

b. Chief of Police: Police Chief Jose Salinas gave his monthly report. He advised that he has done a lot of VIN inspections. He advised that there has been a sizeable increase in the number of speak-to-officer calls this past month. He has been on EMS calls, assisted with relocating a dog to KHS (Kingman Humane Society), took the city pick-up to Jeff Bryan Chevrolet for a recall notice, helped with a funeral procession, a couple of vandalism calls, 3 trespass notices, and he has had the privilege of attending and helping teach the High School CERT class. City Administrator Ty Piper asked Chief Salinas how much time he believed he actually got to spend patrolling. Chief Salinas replied that with all of the paperwork and calls lately, the new sale barn going in, and just the general state of the world lately, it's probably not even 25%. City Administrator Ty Piper then asked Chief Salinas if he thought a second police officer was needed. Chief Salinas advised that it is something we ought to look into.

c. Fire Department: Fire Chief Bill Duvall advised that the Fire Department was awarded the Circle Grant that had been applied for to purchase new fire hose. He has ordered the hose. But missed the 60-day price guarantee, so it has gone up in price. Lights are getting put up in the Fire Department, and it is helping so much! FRA financial will be down in April to review with all members of the department their information. The pump test is set for the 21. The Hamburger Feed benefiting the Kiowa Fire Department is set for March 28 at 6 pm, with a pie and cake auction to follow at 7 pm. The meat has been donated, but more might be needed; we just don't know yet. The tanker is done – but there are a few people who want to donate to help pay the cost, so I will know all of that by Friday. Bill addressed City Administrator Ty Piper, asking him to find out how much money is available in the public safety fund, because some of it may have to be used to pay the difference in the hose and tank purchase. Lastly, our ISO team is struggling to get the information completed from dispatch. They need CAD information from every fire call and have been unable to get that information. City Administrator Ty Piper asked Bill to forward the ISO contact information to him, and he would see what he could do to help.

6. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT
a. City Administrator Ty Piper advised that City Clerk Sameta Thayer is going to be attending a 2-day municipal clerks' training in Wichita at the end of March. The renewal from EMC for commercial property insurance had been received. The initial increase was 12%, but had settled on a 7% increase with a yearly premium of \$60,778. Councilmember B.J. Duvall motioned to approve the renewal of the EMC insurance policy. Councilmember Brian Hill seconded the motion. The motion was carried 5-0. City Administrator Ty Piper advised that there has been a leak in the roof at the senior center. He is waiting on a quote, expecting somewhere between \$3000 and \$8000. It has also been discovered that there is a leak at the theater, which we believe is drainage-related. We are awaiting estimates to fix the problems. We are going to seek some local grants to help with payment.

7. COUNCIL / MAYOR REPORTS
a. Councilmember Janet Robison asked if the changes in the recycle center, cutting the paper, plastic, etc. had made the trash and landfill bills go up. City Clerk Sameta Thayer advised that she had not noticed any vast increase or changes in landfill charges. Janet advised that Barber County Development has a grant available – the Marjorie Gillig Grant, for Pratt County or the City of Kiowa. It is for nonprofits with a project or program impacting: music and arts, education, senior activities, community organizations, church organizations, or mission trips. It is a 1-year project or program. Janet stated that she also has a BCD meeting on Wednesday, and she is supposed to present any questions that have been asked so that they can be presented by Barber County Development to Google at their next meeting.

b. Councilmember Brian Hill asked if there were any parameters in place for the Jeff Loyd Gaga Water Fund money, such as who can use it, how much, etc. City Administrator Ty Piper advised that there have not been many applications for use of the money. Councilmember Brian Hill suggested that some parameters should probably be put into place. Councilmember Brian Hill asked if City Administrator Ty Piper knew if the "Kiowa Clean-up Committee" would be willing to help pay for a dumpster for a week or two at a time to help clean up some of the horribly trash-ridden properties in Kiowa.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT
a. Jodi Johnson resident of Kiowa, asked about the proposed data center in Sharon, wanting to know if the city had been approached, asking for support. City Administrator Ty Piper advised that the city had been briefed by County Commissioner Bryan Quick.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION
a. Councilmember Brian Hill motioned to recess into executive session for up to 30 minutes to discuss a personnel matter about non-elected personnel, including City Administrator Ty Piper and City Attorney Brandon Ritcha. K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). Councilmember Dylan Molz seconded the motion. The motion was carried 5-0 at 8:25 pm.

Executive session ended at 8:40 pm. Councilmember Jason Thayer motioned to accept and extend the contract as discussed for the City Administrator for 3 years. Councilmember Dylan Molz seconded the motion. The motion was carried 5-0.

10. ADJOURN
a. Councilmember Janet Robison moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:41 pm.

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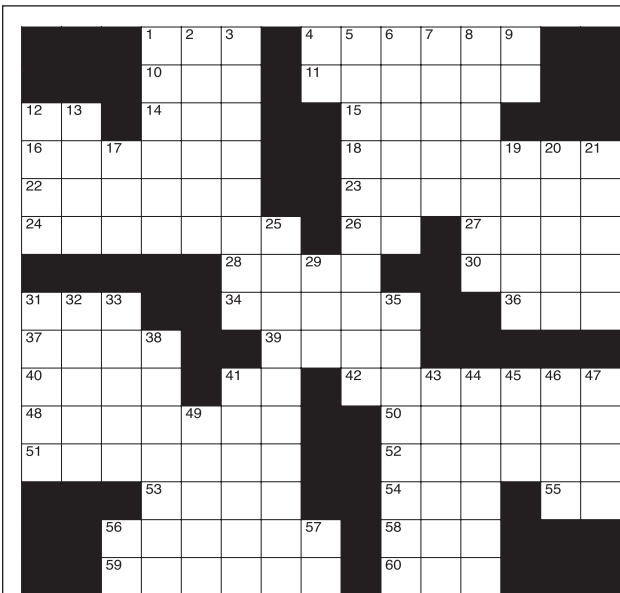
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ENTERTAINMENT

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 886-5654 or email ghp@gyphillpremiere.com



CLUES ACROSS

1. Inclined to do

4. Sketches

10. Book of Chronicles (abbr.)

11. Atomic #58

12. Dorm official

14. Small Eurasian deer

15. Southern constellation

16. Workers' groups

18. Former

22. Excellent

23. Romance language related to Spanish

24. Reference

26. Equally

27. Dirty towels

28. A cargo (abbr.)

30. Ammunition

31. You get one in summer
34. Slang for trucks with trailers

36. Swiss river

37. Exchange rate

39. British School

40. College teacher

41. Foreign Service

42. Horse gear

48. Cost to fly

50. A salt or ester of boric acid

51. Mocking

52. One who bird-watches

53. Concluding passage

54. A major division of geological time

55. Sodium

56. A way to produce

58. Soak

59. Laughed loudly and harshly

60. Affirmative

CLUES DOWN

1. Moth species phalonia ___

2. Quantum of energy

3. Break the law

4. Location of White House

5. Official cancellation of a decision

6. Where rockers work

7. Cut of beef; ___ mignon

8. Nocturnal burrowing reptile

9. Atomic #62

12. Genus of evergreen shrubs

13. Flowering plant of the legume family

17. Inches per minute (abbr.)

19. Tropical fruit

20. Hot fluid beneath the earth's crust

21. James ___, painter

25. Popular dessert
29. Payment (abbr.)

31. Cuisine style

32. Genus of true flies

33. City in western France

35. Arrogance

38. One holding a position of command

41. Weekday

43. An evening party

44. Print errors

45. Not good

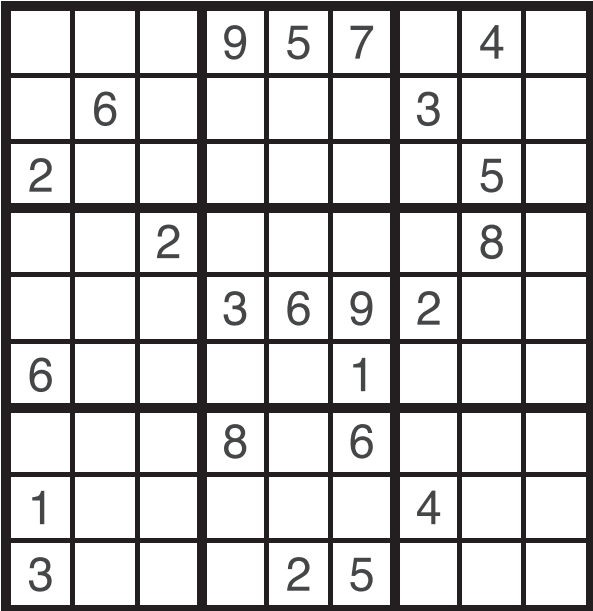
46. Egyptian Sun god

47. East German town

49. Olfactory property

56. Atomic #37

57. "Pollock" actor Harris



I T E S P Z Y L S N R V N T T G Y H L D
A C I I W E C N A N E T N I A M U I G E
S T M G R D R A G B S A N I T I Z E Z O
P U W N X T E S C C E X Z D W N W I M M
P E R I Z F A E T U V L E L M G N X X D
G D Y B M R R D P G X T I E M A C X Y P
N B Z B F E V E I C O D G N G X A P Z D
I D G U G S E D N X L A U R G C R H I M
T C E R Z H L A I E R E O A S D V S S S
S U Y C W O I F D O W D A B Z P I I N E
U A A S L T Y F T W B A M N N O N L O D G
D R T I C U B S U U U N L L F A I M M R
E X G V R I T E D E P E I E M T O U U U
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H O M E E D N Z E F H T N N P R P W C A
P Z V A W G M G R R T I O I I H H Z A L
S O R T I N G M F D M D N T I Z G I V B
L A Z E R R W V F P O G A N T G T I P L
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GUESS WHO?

I am an actress born in England on March 18, 1989. I began acting at age two on a BBC television show. I gained success in America for various roles on TV and in movies. My most recent role involves a fish-out-of-water scenario set in Paris. My dad is a famous musician.

Answer: Lily Collins



WORLD'S LARGEST RODENT CAPYBARA ANSWERS KIDS' QUESTIONS!

There are more than 2,000 species of rodents around the world.

When you think of rodents, you might picture mice or rats. But the **capybara** is also a rodent, and it's the largest one on Earth!

What does a capybara eat?

Capybaras are **herbivores**, which means we only eat plants. And we can eat a lot of grass every day! Circle every other letter to find out how much:

S B I L X J T V O S E W I Y G S H P T L P
V O X U L N Y D Z S F A C D H A P Y C
S

During dry seasons, we may also eat reeds, grains, melons and squashes.

How are capybaras like hippos?

We capybaras share a clever feature with hippos. Our eyes, ears and nostrils sit high on our heads, so we can keep our bodies mostly underwater while still seeing, hearing and breathing. Pretty sneaky, right?

How do capybaras stay cool?

On hot days, capybaras relax in shallow water or mud to keep our bodies cool. We usually eat when temperatures are cooler, like early morning or evening. But if we feel threatened, we wait until nighttime to find food.



Standards Link: Life Science: Animals have physical features and adaptations that aid in survival.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Capybara Fun Facts

Use the code to learn more about these cool creatures.

CAPYBARA CODE
A = 26 N = 13
B = 25 O = 12
C = 24 P = 11
D = 23 Q = 10
E = 22 R = 9
F = 21 S = 8
G = 20 T = 7
H = 19 U = 6
I = 18 V = 5
J = 17 W = 4
K = 16 X = 3
L = 15 Y = 2
M = 14 Z = 1

What is a group of capybaras called?

Because of their calm, social behavior, many people consider capybaras to be this.

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY Friendliness Award

The capybara is known for being friendly. Think about someone who shows kindness or teamwork. Write a letter to the editor explaining why that person deserves a "Capybara Award" for friendliness.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Write in letter format.

Double Word Search

BIRDS
CAPYBARA
CLEVER
COOL
DAYS
DRY
EARS
EAT
FOOT
GROW
HOT
LAKES
MUD
STRONG
WATER

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

R E V E L C J M U D
S A Y L Z F V B M C
J R W X R Y O S W A
D S A N S T E O I P
E A T L J K R B T Y
S V E R A G W I P B
Y W R L O O C R S A
A O Q D U N C D Q R
D O K T O H G S K A

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

How do mice make people groan?

ANSWER: With their chesny jokes!

Kid Scoop Together Capybara Quiz

Read this week's *Kid Scoop* page. Then work with a family member to answer these questions.

1. Do capybaras have tails?

2. How long can a capybara stay underwater to hide?

3. How do birds and capybaras help each other?

4. Why do capybaras live close to water?

5. When do capybaras eat?

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Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word:

RODENT

The noun **rodent** means a mammal with long front teeth that grow continuously.

The **rodent** family includes mice, rats, capybaras, beavers and more.

Try to use the word **rodent** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

Write On!

If I Were an Animal

If you were an animal, which animal would you be? Why did you choose that animal?

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

There are four differences between Picture A and Picture B.



Answers: 1. Plane in sky 2. WINNER on sign 3. Missing flag 4. Extra race car

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BARBER COUNTY SHERIFF BLOTTER

March 9
12:21 a.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Kiowa
12:45 a.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Hazelton
1:04 a.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Sharon
1:24 a.m., Deputy McClellan initiated a traffic stop on W. Central Avenue and N. Cherry Street, Medicine Lodge, verbal warning for tag light violation
2:23 a.m., Deputy McClellan responded to a stalking complaint in the 200 block of S. 4th Street, Kiowa
7:23 a.m., Deputy Eger conducted South Barber school zone, Kiowa
7:39 a.m., Sheriff Garza conducted North Barber school zone, Medicine Lodge
10:10 a.m., Deputy Eger attempted to serve civil process in the 300 block of W. First Avenue, Medicine Lodge
10:15 a.m., Deputy Eger attempted to serve civil process in the 400 block of N. Oak Street, Medicine Lodge
10:20 a.m., Deputy Eger attempted to serve civil process in the 300 block of W. Central Avenue, Medicine Lodge
10:26 a.m., Deputy Eger attempted to serve civil process in the 200 block of W. Washington, Medicine Lodge
10:54 a.m., Deputy Eger served civil process in the 400 block of W. Central Avenue, Medicine Lodge
10:59 a.m., Deputy Eger served civil process in the 100 block of W. Fowler Avenue, Medicine Lodge
1:15 p.m., Deputy Eger conducted a VIN inspection in the 300 block of N. Main Street, Sharon
2:01 p.m., Deputy Eger served civil process in the 8000 area of SW Scenic Drive, Medicine Lodge
2:42 p.m., Undersheriff McCann assisted Harper County Sheriff's Office on a vehicle crash, Harper
3:06 p.m., Deputy Eger conducted VIN inspection at the Barber County Sheriff's Office, Medicine Lodge
3:26 p.m., Deputy Eger conducted VIN inspection in the 9000 area of NW River Road, Medicine Lodge
6:28 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Hazelton
6:56 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Sharon
7:11 p.m., Deputy McClellan initiated a traffic stop in 400 block of W. 7th and Hopkins Street, Hazelton, citation issued for no driver's license, registration, and insurance
8:22 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Lake City
8:37 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Sun City
9:52 p.m., Deputy McClellan responded to a vehicle vs. cattle crash in the area of Gyp Hill Road and U.S. Highway 160
11:16 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Hardtner
11:34 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Kiowa

March 10
12:08 a.m. Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Hazelton
12:38 a.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Sharon
1:02 a.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Isabel
1:44 a.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Sun City

1:54 a.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Lake City
4:08 a.m., Deputy McClellan responded to a suspicious vehicle at U.S. Highway 281 and NE Resort Road
7:33 a.m., Sheriff Garza conducted South Barber school zone, Kiowa
8:02 a.m., Deputy Eger attempted to serve civil process in the 200 block of Black Gold, Medicine Lodge
8:27 a.m., Sheriff Garza and Sgt. Fisher responded to the 1200 area of N. 8th Street, Kiowa
9:00 a.m., Deputy Eger served civil process in the 300 block of S. Iliff, Medicine Lodge
9:04 a.m., Deputy Eger served civil process in the 500 block of Jefferson Avenue, Medicine Lodge
9:14 a.m., Deputy Eger conducted a VIN inspection at the Barber County Sheriff's Office, Medicine Lodge
9:50 a.m., Undersheriff McCann conducted a VIN inspection at the Barber County Sheriff's Office, Medicine Lodge
10:27 a.m., Deputy Eger served civil process in the 100 block of S. 6th Street, Kiowa
11:07 a.m., Deputy Eger conducted a VIN inspection in the 100 block of S. Cedar, Medicine Lodge
11:41 a.m., Deputy Eger responded to a phone scam call at the Barber County Sheriff's Office, Medicine Lodge
11:50 a.m., Sgt. Fisher conducted follow up investigation in the 400 block of E. Benton Avenue, Sharon
12:02 p.m., Undersheriff McCann and Sgt. Fisher conducted follow up investigation at the 1200 area of N. 8th, Kiowa
1:33 p.m., Sgt. Fisher returned a request to speak to officer call, Omaha Nebraska
5:17 p.m., Deputy Eger responded to a reckless driver complaint from Pratt County
6:08 p.m., Deputy McClellan responded to a criminal damage to property call in the 700 block of Drumm Street, Kiowa
6:44 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Hardtner

7:57 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Sharon
10:08 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Isabel
10:47 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Hazelton

March 11
7:17 a.m., Deputy Eger conducted South Barber school zone, Kiowa
7:30 a.m., Deputy Eger, Medicine Lodge ambulance and rural fire responded to a vehicle vs. deer crash, on U.S. Highway 160, east of Medicine Lodge
8:56 a.m., Deputy Eger responded to a suspicious call in the 100 block Walnut, Sun City
9:32 a.m., Sgt. Fisher conducted follow up investigation in the 700 block of N. Walnut, Medicine Lodge
9:38 a.m., Sgt. Fisher returned a request to speak to officer call, Medicine Lodge
10:53 a.m., Deputy Eger conducted follow up investigation in the 200 block of S. 5th, Kiowa
11:00 a.m., Sgt. Fisher returned a request to speak to officer call, Medicine Lodge
11:09 a.m., Sgt. Fisher responded to a vehicle unlock in the 2600 area of SE Rodeo Drive, Medicine Lodge
1:26 p.m., Sgt. Fisher conducted follow up investigation with Pratt Police Department
1:52 p.m., Deputy Eger responded to an injured animal in the area of Gyp Hill Road, Medicine Lodge
1:54 p.m., Deputy Eger returned a request to speak to officer call, Medicine Lodge
3:21 p.m., Sheriff Garza conducted North Barber school zone, Medicine Lodge
6:02 p.m., Deputy McClellan and two Medicine Lodge police officers responded to a reckless driver complaint on U.S. Highway 160
7:06 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Isabel
7:33 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Sharon
7:52 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Hazelton
8:21 p.m., Deputy McClellan

conducted extra patrol Hardtner
9:09 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Sun City
9:18 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Lake City
9:30 p.m., Deputy McClellan responded to cattle out on River and Forrest Roads

March 12
1:57 a.m., Deputy Brown was advised of an attempt to locate from KHP
6:53 a.m., Undersheriff McCann initiated a traffic stop on U.S. Highway 281 and mile marker 30, citation issued for speed
7:16 a.m., Undersheriff McCann returned a request to speak to officer call in the 9900 area of Laswell Road
7:44 a.m., Undersheriff McCann and Kiowa Police responded to an alarm in the 400 area of N. Main Street, Kiowa
7:47 a.m., Undersheriff McCann conducted South Barber school zone, Kiowa
9:47 a.m., Sgt. Fisher returned a request to speak to officer call, Kiowa
10:28 a.m., Sheriff Garza attempted to conduct a VIN inspection in the 3100 area of SW Bitter Creek Road, Medicine Lodge
1:55 p.m., Undersheriff McCann conducted a VIN inspection at the Barber County Sheriff's Office, Medicine Lodge
3:32 p.m., Sheriff Garza conducted South Barber school zone, Kiowa
6:07 p.m., Deputy McClellan responded to a 911 hang up in the 200 block of S. 2nd Street, Hazelton
6:31 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Hazelton
6:40 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Sharon
7:25 p.m., Deputy McClellan returned a request to speak to officer call
7:58 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Sun City
8:08 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Lake City
8:44 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Isabel

9:33 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Kiowa
9:52 p.m., Deputy McClellan conducted extra patrol in Hardtner
10:06 p.m., Deputy McClellan returned a request to speak to officer call in the 300 block of N. Choctaw Street, Hardtner

March 13
7:26 a.m., Deputy Eger conducted South Barber school zone, Kiowa
9:58 a.m., Sgt. Fisher and Deputy Eger served and arrested 1 male on an Oklahoma warrant
12:45 p.m., Deputy Eger conducted VIN inspection in the 7000 area of NW Lake City Road, Lake City
2:20 p.m., Deputy Eger served civil process in the 500 block of N. Adams Street, Medicine Lodge
8:12 p.m., Undersheriff McCann responded to cattle out in the NorthStar and Gerlane Road area
9:28 p.m., Undersheriff McCann conducted extra patrol in Hardtner
9:42 p.m., Undersheriff McCann conducted extra patrol in Kiowa
10:08 p.m., Undersheriff McCann, Kiowa ambulance and Fire, Hardtner Fire responded to a fire in the 300 block of N. Main, Hardtner
11:01 p.m., Undersheriff McCann responded to a noise complaint in the 700 block of Barnes Street, Kiowa
11:36 p.m., Undersheriff McCann returned a request to speak to officer call, Hazelton

March 14
1:10 a.m., Undersheriff McCann conducted business check in the 100 block of E. Washington, Medicine Lodge
7:38 a.m., Deputy Eger responded to a harassment call at the Barber County Sheriff's Office, Medicine Lodge
10:23 a.m., Undersheriff McCann conducted follow up investigation in the 5800 area of SE Pleasant Hill Road
12:09 p.m., Undersheriff McCann conducted follow up investigation in the 300 block of N. Choctaw, Hardtner
12:23 p.m., Undersheriff McCann conducted follow up

investigation in the 600 block of N. 7th Street, Kiowa
12:31 p.m., Deputy Eger conducted follow up investigation in the 500 block of Drumm Street, Kiowa
12:36 p.m., Undersheriff McCann and Deputy Eger conducted follow up investigation in S. 7th Street, Kiowa
12:54 p.m., Undersheriff McCann and Deputy Eger conducted follow up investigation in the 200 block of N. 10th Street, Kiowa
1:02 p.m., Undersheriff McCann and Deputy Eger conducted follow up investigation in the 600 block of Main Street, Kiowa
5:55 p.m., Deputy McCullough conducted extra patrol in Sharon
6:07 p.m., Deputy McCullough served civil process in the 13000 area of SE Kochia Road, Hazelton
6:45 p.m., Deputy McCullough attempted to serve civil process in the 200 block of W. Washington Avenue, Medicine Lodge
6:52 p.m., Deputy McCullough served civil process in the 400 block of N. Oak Street, Medicine Lodge
6:56 p.m., Deputy McCullough attempted to serve civil process in the 800 block of N. Oak Street, Medicine Lodge
7:04 p.m., Deputy McCullough attempted to serve civil process in the 300 block of W. Central Avenue, Medicine Lodge
7:12 p.m., Deputy McCullough attempted to serve civil process in the 200 block Market Street, Medicine Lodge
7:35 p.m., Deputy McCullough conducted extra patrol in Lake City
7:42 p.m., Deputy McCullough conducted extra patrol in Sun City
9:13 p.m., Deputy McCullough conducted extra patrol in Hardtner, Kansas
9:30 p.m., Deputy McCullough conducted extra patrol in Kiowa
9:40 p.m., Deputy McCullough conducted extra patrol in Hazelton
10:15 p.m., Deputy McCullough conducted a business check in the 100 block of E. Washington, Medicine Lodge

Have a question, comment or concern? We want to hear from you! Call (620) 886-5654!

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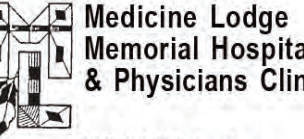
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LANE CRENNER - HONORABLE MENTION



COLE FISCHER - HONORABLE MENTION
FILE PHOTOS

All-League: Five MLHS Players Receive Postseason Honors

Medicine Lodge High School had five players who were named to the Central Plains League All-League basketball teams. Emery Shinliver was a first-team selection for the Lady Indians, while teammate Emmy Gerdes received honorable mention honors. For the Indians, Cole Fischer, Lane Crenner and Jack Schreiner each received honorable mention honors. The players are selected by the head basketball coaches of the Central Plains League.

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NEWS

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CITY

• From Page 1

brought her information and ideas to the council for her upcoming car show event she plans to hold in August. She presented the council with everything she has for the event and items she needs and asked for assistance from the city to make this event happen. The council asked her to put together a list of items they can help with as well as any more information she would like to present for the next meeting. The council will then vote on providing those items at that time.

The city council then moved into voting on items after the presentations.

The first item to vote on was the insurance renewal. The council voted 3-0 to table the renewal vote until the next meeting, allowing them time to look over the information previously provided by Pennock and Gleason.

The council then moved onto the next item, a demolition request from Tonnie Bennefield. The board voted 3-0 to table that item as

Bennefield was unable to make the meeting. That will be discussed again at the next meeting.

The next item up for vote was the Barber County Development Appropriation Request. Barber County Development requested \$5,000 from the city of Medicine Lodge.

Barber County Development was created by an agreement between Barber County and the cities of Kiowa and Medicine Lodge to promote the interests of local governments within Barber County, as well as promoting and encouraging economic development within the county by leveraging resources. The council unanimously approved the \$5,000 request.

Next, Medicine Lodge Police Chief John Defore discussed a new bite suit which will be used to help train K-9 Officer Echo in his recertification, as well as in the future. No action was taken on that item as it was already approved in the funding included in the proposal for getting Echo re-certified.

Another item discussed

was the Professional Engineering Consultants (PEC) water and wastewater expansion. The council was given an estimate from PEC for a portion of the expansion towards the area of the proposed data center near Sharon that was previously discussed at the last meeting.

The council then discussed the funding for that and unanimously voted to table that vote until the next meeting until they are able to contact the engineering company that has been hired by Google for the data center in order for them to request that Google funds the project.

The next item on the agenda was the PEC Street Assessment. The city is considering upgrading their GIS system to help map the streets as well as any of the infrastructure underneath the streets and properties in the city in order to help city workers and first responders. The council voted unanimously to table this item until the next meeting to further discuss this and other options.

During the meeting, the

council discussed having the city of Medicine Lodge dedicated as a Purple Heart City. The council unanimously approved a resolution created by Withrow. Once this is sent off and approved by the state organization for Purple Heart Cities, they will coordinate with those representatives and the local veterans organization and put a ceremony together where they will place a plaque in a designated place in the city.

The board then discussed a request for a new utility vehicle. This request was brought to the city by Public Works Director Wayne Ostrom. He requested this new vehicle to help with projects around the city such as the water pipe replacement project that will begin next month. The council voted unanimously to table this item until the next meeting so more information can be gathered.

The council discussed the possibility of applying for a grant to help build a hanger at the airport. This was not an item that required action, it was an item that Withrow wanted to bring to the council members.

The board then discussed the new state regulations that are projected to pass regarding the management and usage of wastewater. The council discussed possible uses for the wastewater and plan to continue discussions with Ostrom about the best ways to manage and use the wastewater under these new regulations. This did not require any action to be taken during this meeting but the council will continue exploring options and revisit this topic at another meeting.

Withrow then gave an

update on the PBS Partners Community Project. He updated the council on what is currently in the works with that project which includes two small videos that will be a few seconds long each and will be played on PBS in between shows. These videos will use footage from all areas around Medicine Lodge and will highlight the events and things the city has to offer.

Mayor Tom Lee will also be working to create a “Greetings from the Mayor” type video with PBS in the future.

The city council then discussed with both Ostrom and Chief Defore the ongoing house number issue. It is currently a city ordinance that residents clearly display their house number on the outside of their house using large numbers that are a contrasting color to the house. This ordinance was put in place previously in order to help first responders and city employees to identify the property.

The city plans to continue pushing the request to follow the ordinance and is expressing how important this ordinance is to not only the first responders and city employees but also to other residents in Medicine Lodge.

The council then went into a 10-minute executive session.

Upon returning from executive session, the council heard the administrative reports from various areas within the city.

Ostrom updated council members on the slide refinishing which has begun. He also said they have received the stump grinder and have begun working on removing tree stumps in needed areas.

Ostrom also updated the council on his purchase of a new motor for the mosquito sprayer for the upcoming season.

Chief Defore updated the council on Sgt. Garret McLemore’s process for applying for grants, funding and donations for Echo and his training and re-certification, as well as for equipment he and Echo will need throughout his time working with the police department. They plan to have Echo and McLemore ready to go and on the street in April.

Withrow discussed the potential property line issue that has arisen at the airport in regards to their project to grate the hill down to increase visibility for pilots. Part of what is needed to be grated is on Peace Treaty property and he is currently working to resolve that issue.

Withrow also updated the council on the Bike Across Kansas event which will come into Medicine Lodge on June 8. The cyclists will leave from Ashland that morning and will use the city as a rest stop. They will use the junior and senior high school area to set up tents and camps before leaving the morning of June 9.

Withrow provided updates on what may be needed to provide for them, and he also asked to reserve the city park for RVs that may be accompanying the cyclists.

The school district will provide transportation for the cyclists around town and it will be providing dinner at the school the night of June 8. Other needed items that will be needed are still to be determined.

The next city council meeting will be held on Monday, April 6.



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USD 255

Life Celebration: Community Honors Veteran

USD 255 students Garen Cantrell, Cody Stewart, Christian White, Ishmael White, Chisum Howland, Jaxson Robertson and Kaston Robertson showed leadership and character this week, according to school officials, for helping volunteer their time during spring break to help prepare the Kiowa Community Building for the Celebration of Life ceremony for U.S. Marine Corps Pvt. Earl Rice, who recently passed away just before reaching the age of 100.



Community Town Hall: Proposed Data Center Project

Google is proposing an air-cooled data center development in Barber County. Google is committed to being a good neighbor and would like to share plans for this proposed project with the community, answer questions, and hear feedback. Representatives from the project team will be available for a presentation and public Q&A.

Residents are invited to join for an informational town hall to learn more about the project and proposed plans for development.

There are two opportunities to attend a town hall:

Tuesday, March 24, 2026 from 5:45 pm to 8:30 pm
St. Boniface Parish Center
404 N Main Street
Sharon, KS 67138

Wednesday, March 25, 2026 from 5:45 pm to 8:30 pm
Barber County Heritage Center
1466 SE Isabel Road (Corner of Hwy. 160 & Isabel Road)
Medicine Lodge, KS 67104

NEWS

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 886-5654 or email ghp@gyphillpremiere.com



130 Years Ago

Taken from the March 18, 1896 files of *The Barber County Index*

Atty. G. M. Martin says he has concluded to stay with Kansas and Medicine Lodge and has opened an office in rooms over Geo. Southworth's drug store prepared to practice in all the local and federal courts, including those of Pixley, Mingona, Elm Mills and other cities, towns and suburban villages. W. E. Ward, who about a year ago was hostier at the Santa Fe at this point, shot and killed his wife and himself at Denver last Friday. The couple had parted and Ward became jealous of his wife which finally culminated in his ending both of their lives. They leave an infant child to the care of public charity. Mr. and Mrs. Ward were well known in this city. Alex Porter lost a horse last week by falling into an old well. He had left his team unhitched near the well and the horses became entangled in the harness and lines. Both horses backed into the well but one was gotten out with out being injured. The other was killed by the fall. On Sunday, Charley Porter's house and furnishings near Pixley, were entirely destroyed by fire. How the fire originated is only a matter of conjecture and all speculation. Mr. Porter and his family had gone to a neighbor's house on a visit when the fire started and before anyone could get to the scene of conflagration, everything was in ashes. The building was uninsured. Happily the next morning that gentle whole-souled fellow, Tom Murphy, started a subscription paper to partly replace Mr. Porter's loss and before eight had something like \$300. A people who will stand with each other in times of misfortune and adversity is the best and noblest of humanity.

120 Year Ago

Taken from the March 21, 1906 files of *The Barber County Index*

People say that the finest groceries in town are at H. T. Woodward's & Son's. Phone 38. A "Hit or Miss" social is a social event to be given at the home of Mrs. B. S. Kauffman on Kansas Avenue west tomorrow evening. Guests are expected to

display novelty or peculiarity in dress, action or appearance in order to carry into effect, the purposes for which the entertainment was conceived. To enforce this rule a fine will be imposed on all guests who fail to comply with these expectations. The small sum of ten cents will be levied on all who partake of refreshments. This unique entertainment will be given under the auspices of the Epworth League. Jess T. Peterie and Ethel Bailey, two popular young people of Isabel, were united in marriage by Probate Judge C. S. Gleason on St. Patrick's Day, Saturday, the 17th, in this city. May their married life be ever blessed with sunshine and happiness. Those tired, lank, gaunt youngsters seen on Sunday morning were all at the skating rink Saturday night. Stave Pritchard, who was arrested for burglarizing a car two weeks ago, had his preliminary hearing before Justice Collins last Thursday. His bond was fixed at \$700. So far the bond has not been given and Stave is boarding with the sheriff. The young man is charged not only with breaking into a freight car but also with breaking open a butt of chewing tobacco and appropriating four plugs thereof to his own use. He was spied by Brakeman Park while the train was in motion. It required the entire train crew to catch him, thus again applying the old axiom so often portrayed in song: "Taint no d'sgwace to run when you is ska'ed!"

110 Years Ago

Taken from the March 15, 1916 files of *The Barber County Index*

Thursday morning a most unique traveling van passed through Kiowa, going north. The sole occupant was an elderly man, N. C. Crouse, a brother of A. E. Crouse of this city. The wagon was completely equipped for comfortable traveling and camping. A comfortable bunk with springs, arrangements for heating and ventilation and a system of electric lights were the chief feature of the cozy camp car. Mr. Crouse had some conveniences for light cooking, but said he preferred to buy his food along the way already prepared as far as possible. He is en route

to Iowa by easy stages and takes pleasure in showing his wagon to interested visitors. Mr. Crouse arrived in Medicine Lodge Friday evening and spent the night with his nephew, Sheriff Crouse, and family and went his way again Saturday. He expressed a desire to visit longer in Barber County but owing the favorable weather and road conditions he thought it best to cover as much of the distance between here and his destination as possible, while nature is smiling.

85 Years Ago

Taken from the March 20, 1941 files of *The Barber County Index*

For the first time in many years, Medicine Lodge is to have a contest for mayor in its city election when it is held Monday, April 7. Two tickets, one headed by H. H. Haynes and the other by L. W. Russell, have been filed with the city clerk. Mrs. Lee Chapin entertained at a family dinner honoring the birthday of L. W. Chapin on Sunday, March 9. Those who enjoyed the delicious dinner were Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Chapin, Mr. and Mrs. Luke Chapin of Wichita, Ted and Dorothy Chapin and Miss Jane Nixon. ML High School News: If you notice Jane Nixon wearing a blank stare, do not be alarmed; she is only practicing her role for the part of the blind girl in the senior play. - Johnny Lalicker says Dudley Hanstine's whiskers are like a baseball team; nine on each side. - Nautical clothes are now the style and are really becoming quite popular. Nadine Newton and Betty Preston have twin sailor dresses. - Helen Williams was holding out for a diamond ring, but she finally settled for glass pearls. - The High School Boys Basketball team: Geo. Hogan, Carl Hogan, Clifford Forsyth, Scotty Tyrell, Bill Forsyth, Odis Brown, Bob Gilmore, Keith Meador, Vernon Hart, John Lalicker, Ken Webb, Arol Hartzel, Jerry Martin, Paul Ney, Coach, O. Meller, Dick Baldins, Gene Hellman, Marvin Holder, Prin. Bruce Kindig, Jim Rinke, John Tinchler, and Milton Gant.

70 Years Ago

Taken from the March 15, 1956 files of *The Barber*

County Index

The measles epidemic at the grade school is still not letting up from its siege of more than a week. Approximately 35 children are still out of school, with the kindergarten and first grades being hit the hardest. Fourth Grade: Spellers this week are: Pamela Axline, Sandra Dyke, Linda Eby, Lesta Freeman, Mary Hindman, Jo Ann Houlton, Eileen Urban, Sherry Walker, Robin Gordon, Mike McIlvain, Dennis Schnelle, Hugh Wheelock and Mike Nixon. First Grade: Good spellers this week were: Gwen Beebe, Melanie Bradshaw, Michael Calvert, Patty Chapin, Cynthia Dimick, Gary Hickman, Nancy Hillard, Tonnie Jacobs, Merle Jorgenson, Janis Kinsey, Frances Lalicker, David McCullough, Vicki Parr, Jessie ReQua, Barbara Mae Smith, Dennis Walker and Richard Schuman. Kenneth D. Newell, Barber County Agricultural agent for the past three years, Tuesday tendered his resignation to the Extension Service Executive Board. Newell, 33, will become Farm Service Representative of the First National Bank, Medicine Lodge.

60 Years Ago

Taken from the March 17, 1966 files of *The Barber County Index*

The annual Medicine Lodge Elementary School Science Fair was held Friday. Judging required more than three hours as judges John E. Johnson, C. B. Cox, and Rollie Farris rated each of the exhibits. In the third and fourth grade division, Chris Bertoglio's space entry won first place. Marcia Lawrence and Nancy Reed's exhibit in zoology took first place and Sara Hickey was awarded second place in her class. Mike Farrar, Ted Smith and Dorothy Conner received first, second and third place ratings respectively in the Scientific Progress division. Larry Nelson was awarded first place in the Mathematics class. In Physical Science, Greg Emrie, Cal Wylie and A. J. Hawkins took first, second and third places. The display presented by Jessie Jenkins and Ronnie Probst won first place in the Chemistry division.

50 Years Ago

Taken from the March 18, 1976 files of *The Barber County Index*

After nearly fourteen hours of searching Monday, March 15, searchers discovered the bodies of a Tulsa, Okla. man and woman at the wreckage of a Grumman American WW II vintage single engine airplane. The wreckage was discovered at approximately 4:00 p.m. by local pilot, Gilbert Dawson, 9 miles north and 1/4 mile east of U.S. 281, from Medicine Lodge. Kenneth Alan Furtney, 29, and Victoria Ann Maguire, 25, both of Tulsa, Oklahoma, were found dead in the wreckage of their plane on the W. R. Lillieqvist farm. Cause of the crash is unknown. The Pratt Greenbacks came to town Tuesday, March 23, for the annual Pratt-Medicine Lodge dual (track) meet that marks the opening of the Indian cinder season each year. Returning letterman: Mark Lottridge, Kevin Freeman, Alan Kimball, Mark Rice, Brian Poland, Mike Lynam and Mark Ball. Ted Smith and John Hoffer performed in the Bicentennial Edition of the Rock Chalk Revue, March 5 and 6, at K.U. Smith and Hoffer are members of Delta Upsilon Fraternity. Parents of the two young men, Dr. and Mrs. John Hoffer and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Smith. Ted Smith is a second year student, and John Hoffer is a third year student, at Kansas University.

40 Years Ago

Taken from the March 20, 1986 files of *The Barber County Index*

The Grand Hotel - a unique experience in nostalgia lets one escape to the 1800's furnished in the most splendid style of that era. Owners Dick and Vonda Delano have recently added to that nostalgia by opening Country Treasures, a gift shop located on the second floor. Julie Stranghoner will be giving a voice recital at the First Christian Church on Monday, March 24. A senior at Wichita State University, Julie will graduate in May with a Bachelor of Music Education degree. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Probst of Medicine Lodge. Donna Shinliver and Glenda

Morrison of ESA Sorority presented Helping Hands Pre- School with a box full of new toys Tuesday. Faye Garten, Helping Hands director, selects the toys that the sorority purchases each year. Medicine Lodge High School Forensics Squad competed at the Greensburg High School Invitational Tournament Saturday, March 1. Representing MLHS were Sheryl Jones, Stacy Ricke, John Horn, Paul Wanger, Robert Dessing and Erin Jones. E. Jones and Dessing placed fourth in Improvised Duet Acting. Coach Kelly Stelling commented, "Erin and Robert did well their first time out. I expect they will qualify for the state tournament soon." Steve Jess and Ty Hughbanks were selected team captains of the 1985-86 basketball season. Leading in free throws was Jim Wells. Lonnie Paramore was the leading field goal shooter. Greg Silvester, Ryan Colborn and Tyson Hudson, eighth graders at Medicine Lodge Intermediate School, served as pages for House of Representative member J. C. Long.

30 Years Ago

Taken from the March 18, 1996 files of *The Gyp Hill Premiere*

In just a few days, Kansas drivers will get to enjoy the luxury of a new speed limit. Last week, Governor Bill Graves signed the bill that will increase the speed limit to 65 miles per hour on improved two-lane highways designated by the Kansas Department of Transportation, and 70 m.p.h. on divided fourlanes. The speed limits on country roads will remain at 55 m.p.h. unless the county commissioners decide to change it. The new speed limit law will take effect on March 22. Rita Rhodes has been teaching elementary education for the past 35 years. For the past 25 years she has been teaching fourth grade at Medicine Lodge Primary School. But when school ends this year, so will Rhodes' career as a teacher. She plans to retire. Central Plains League 1996 All-League Basketball selection -1st Team Boys: Stan Dohm, Ryan Bedwell, Kenny Davis. 2nd Team Girls: Jaime Shelite.



SOUTH BARBER HIGH SCHOOL

Chieftains Cheer: SBHS Announces New Squad

South Barber High School recently had tryouts for the 2026-27 cheerleading squad. The new members of next year's Chieftains cheer team are: Kenslea Schupbach, Miley Hodson, Alyssa Sciara, Lynnon Humphrey, Melany Duvall, Janda Goodno, Makenna Brattin and Jenna Shields.

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-NEW-516 S. 8th St., Kiowa-4BR/3Bath, 1939sqft w/Basement \$135,000.00

-UNDER CONTRACT-824 Marvin St., Kiowa-4BR/3Bath, 2212sqft Ranch, \$168,500.00

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Barber County North USD 254 is now accepting
applications for the following positions for the 2026-
2027 school year:
Elementary Teacher
Elementary Teacher- Student Academic Support
Elementary Teacher- Special Education
High School Math Teacher
Head Football Coach
Head Track Coach
Head Jr. High Girls Basketball Coach
For more information please contact HS Principal
Adam Maloney adammaloney@usd254.org or Asst.
Principal Judd jdohrmann@usd254.org, for GS
Principal Andrea Fisher afisher@usd254.org

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PUBLIC NOTICE

(Published in The Gyp Hill Premier on Thursday, March 19,
2026) 2t

PUBLIC NOTICE: REQUEST FOR BIDS – USD 254 BARBER COUNTY NORTH

USD 254 Barber County North is soliciting bids for a roof
recover at the Jr/Sr High School, 400 Eldorado St., Medicine
Lodge, KS. Scope includes removing EPDM membrane to
existing insulation and installing 1/2" HD Securshield cover
board with a Carlisle 115 Mil Sure-Weld Reinforced Gray
TPO Energy Star Rated "Class A" system. Requirements
include a 20-year manufacturer's material/labor warranty,
3" hail, and 72 MPH wind coverage. Contractors must have
maintained ESP Hall of Fame status for the last 3 years. Bids
must be received by April 1st, 2026, at 4:00 PM. Submit bids
to Supt. Ryan Cunningham, 100 East 1st, Medicine Lodge,
KS 67104, or rcunningham@usd254.org. For full specifica-
tions or to schedule a site visit, contact 620-886-3370. SITE
VISIT IS REQUIRED FOR BID TO BE CONSIDERED. Bids must be received by April 1st, 2026, at 4:00 PM.

(Published in The Gyp Hill Premier on Thursday, March 19,
2026) 2t

PUBLIC NOTICE: REQUEST FOR BIDS – PLAYGROUND TURF INSTALLATION

USD 254 Barber County North is soliciting competitive
bids for the supply and installation of high-durability play-
ground turf at Medicine Lodge Grade School. The project
includes site preparation, drainage considerations, and the
installation of a safety-rated synthetic turf system. Bidders
must be licensed and provide proof of previous institutional
installations. Bids must be received by April 1st, 2026, at 4:00
PM. Bids should be submitted to Supt. Ryan Cunningham,
100 East 1st, Medicine Lodge, KS 67104, or rcunningham@usd254.org. For full specifications or to schedule a site walk-
through, contact 620-886-3370. SITE WALKTHROUGH IS
REQUIRED FOR BID TO BE CONSIDERED. Bids must
be received by April 1st, 2026, at 4:00 PM.

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provider.

LEGAL NOTICE

(First Published in The Gyp Hill Premiere on Thursday
March 12, 2026)3t

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DIS- TRICT COURT, BARBER COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of
BOB SOWARDS a/k/a BOBBY D. SOWARDS
a/k/a BOBBY DEAN SOWARDS, d/o/d 10/16/2023
and
LARRY SOWARDS a/k/a LARRY JOSEPH SOWARDS
d/o/d 06/21/2020

Case No. BA-2026-PR-4

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CON-
CERNED:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in this
court by Evan Sowards, heir at law of Bob Sowards a/k/a
Bobby D. Sowards, a/k/a Bobby Dean Sowards, deceased
and Larry Sowards a/k/a Larry Joseph Sowards, deceased,
praying for the Determination of the Descent of Bob So-
wards a/k/a Bobby D. Sowards, a/k/a Bobby Dean Sowards,
deceased and Larry Sowards a/k/a Larry Joseph Sowards,
and pertaining to the devolution of title to the following in-
terest in property:

An undivided one-half interest in and to all the minerals
in and under said land, and/or oil and gas royalty interest,
including working interest:

A tract of land beginning 320 Feet East of the Southwest
corner of the NW/4 of Section 18, at a fence corner and going
Easterly along the half-section line a distance of 4910.7
feet, thence turning left and going Northerly along the East
side of said section a distance of 2550.0 feet, thence turn-
ing left and going Westerly along the North side of Section
18, a distance of 1316.0 feet, thence turning right and going

Northerly into Section 7, a distance of 1321.7 feet, thence
turning left and going Westerly a distance of 1316.0 feet,
thence turning right and going Westerly a distance of 2600.0
feet, thence turning left and going Southerly along the West
line of Sections 7 and 18, except for a short deviation at the
South end, a distance of 3905.0 feet, containing 422.3
acres, more or less, All in Township Thirty-three (33) South,
Range Thirteen (13) West.

AND
The Southwest Quarter (SW/4) of Section One (1); the
East Half of the Southeast Quarter (E/2 SE/4) of Section
Two (2) ; the Northeast Quarter (NE/4) and the East Half of
the Northwest Quarter (E/2 NW/4), the Northeast Quarter of
the Southwest Quarter (NE/4 SW/4); and the North Half of
the Southeast Quarter (N/2 SE/4) of Section Eleven (11); All
in Township Thirty-three (33) South, Range Thirteen (13)
West of the 6th P.M.

and all other property, real and personal, or interests there-
in, owned by the decedent at the time of death; and you are
hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or
before April 9th, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. of said day, in said court,
in the City of Medicine Lodge, Barber County, Kansas, at
which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you
fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due
course upon said petition.

EVAN SOWARDS, Petitioner
ALAN C. GOERING GOERING AND SLINKARD
P. O. Box 366
201 South Main
Medicine Lodge, KS 67104 (620) 886-3751
Attorneys for Petitioner

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

NEWS

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 886-5654 or email ghp@gyphillpremiere.com

PUZZLE ANSWERS

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		C	H	R		C	E	R	I	U	M	
R	A		R	O	E		V	E	L	A		
U	N	I	O	N	S		O	N	E	T	I	M
T	I	P	T	O	P		C	A	T	A	L	A
A	L	M	A	N	A	C		A	S		R	A
						S	H	P	T		A	M
T	A	N				S	E	M	I	S		A
A	G	I	O			E	T	O	N			
P	R	O	F		F	S		N	O	S	E	B
A	I	R	F	A	R	E		B	O	R	A	T
S	A	T	I	R	I	C		B	I	R	D	E
				C	O	D	A		E	R	A	N
				R	E	M	A	K	E		R	E
				B	R	A	Y	E	D		Y	E

8	1	3	9	5	7	6	4	2
7	6	5	1	4	2	3	9	8
2	4	9	6	3	8	7	5	1
9	3	2	5	7	4	1	8	6
5	8	1	3	6	9	2	7	4
6	7	4	2	8	1	5	3	9
4	5	7	8	1	6	9	2	3
1	2	8	7	9	3	4	6	5
3	9	6	4	2	5	8	1	7

I	T	E	S	P	Z	Y	L	S	N	R	V	N	T	T	G	Y	H	L	D
A	C	I	I	W	E	C	N	A	B	S	A	N	I	T	I	Z	E	Z	O
P	U	W	N	X	T	E	S	C	C	E	X	Z	D	W	N	H	I	M	
G	D	Y	B	M	R	R	D	P	G	X	T	I	E	M	A	C	X	Y	
N	B	Z	B	F	E	V	E	I	C	O	D	G	N	G	X	A	P	Z	
I	D	G	U	G	S	E	D	N	X	L	A	U	R	G	C	R	H	I	
T	C	E	R	Z	H	L	A	I	E	R	E	O	A	S	D	V	S	S	
S	U	Y	C	W	O	I	F	T	D	W	A	B	Z	P	I	N	E		
U	A	A	S	L	T	Y	F	T	W	B	A	M	N	O	N	L	O	D	
D	R	T	I	C	U	B	S	U	U	U	N	L	L	F	A	I	M	M	
E	X	G	V	R	I	T	E	D	E	P	E	I	E	M	T	O	U	U	
Z	T	A	I	C	T	I	T	B	T	P	S	C	I	A	P	R	I	U	
H	O	M	E	E	D	N	Z	E	F	H	T	N	N	P	R	P	W	C	
P	Z	V	A	W	G	M	G	R	R	T	I	O	I	H	H	Z	A	L	
S	O	R	T	I	N	G	M	F	D	M	D	N	T	I	Z	G	I	V	
L	A	Z	E	R	R	W	V	F	P	O	G	A	N	T	G	T	I	P	
S	T	S	L	H	Z	P	E	Y	G	N	I	L	C	Y	C	E	R	A	
V	F	S	I	E	C	F	L	Y	G	E	E	X	Y	R	D	N	U	A	

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