

Insight

Glenn Brunkow,  
Pottawatomie County farmer and rancher

Faces of Trust

Agriculture needs you. Maybe I should give you a little more background. There are people and groups who attack agriculture, and we need you to be an advocate to help our consumers better understand what we do.

I admit it is scary when you start looking into who we are up against. The money seems limitless; we will never outspend our opponents to get our message out. The people funding the assaults against agriculture are billionaires. We are also up against activist celebrities, and we will never be able to match their glitz and glamour. That is the bad news.

I know, why start off with doom and gloom? Well, here is the good news, the consumer still respects farmers and ranchers. They trust us, and that is something no amount of money and fame can buy. The trick is figuring out just how to use the trust the public has in us to our advantage.

That is where you come in. We all need to do our own part in being the face of agriculture. We need to tell our story and let everyone know why we do what we do. But use some caution when doing this. I know we all see people who use confrontation to their advantage, but that is not helpful when it comes to reassuring people about how their food is raised or grown.

Be open and honest when you talk about the care and responsibility you use. Explain the steps we go through to safeguard our food. Talk about withdrawal periods for vaccinations and the safe use of pesticides. Be sure to talk about the practices you are implementing on your farm or ranch that protect the air, water and soil for the next generation. Share your plan with them and the lengths you go to ensure food safety and to protect our natural resources.

My point is that we are all doing incredible things to produce more food while making our world better. We are all trying to get better each day in the way that we produce food and we need to make sure our consumers know this. Surveys continually show farmers and ranchers are among the most trusted professions, and we need to use this to dispel misinformation from activists.

This effort will take each and every one of us and that is why organizations like Kansas Farm Bureau are so important. KFB can provide training to tell your story, but it also provides the avenues and the opportunities to let our consumers know that their food is safe and our natural resources are cared for.

The only thing left is for you to answer the call when the opportunity arises. I know we are all busy and the last thing we need is something else on our plate, but this is an important part of what we need to do.

Yes, I agree it is very daunting knowing that the other side has money and celebrities, but we have something they will never have and that is trust. We are used to facing long odds and rolling our sleeves up and getting to work. This is no different.

"Insight" is a weekly column published by Kansas Farm Bureau, the state's largest farm organization whose mission is to strengthen agriculture and the lives of Kansans through advocacy, education and service.

KDOT's Cost Share Program applications being accepted

The Kansas Department of Transportation is now accepting applications for the fall 2025 round of the agency's Cost Share Program. More than \$157 million has been given to Kansas communities since the Cost Share Program began in 2019.

The Cost Share Program provides financial assistance to local entities for construction projects that improve safety, leverage state funds to increase total transportation investment and help both rural and urban areas of the state improve the transportation system. This is the 13th round of projects to receive funding.

"KDOT's Cost Share Program improves transportation, creates economic growth and increases job opportunities across Kansas," said Michelle Needham, Economic Development Programs Manager. "Past Cost Share participants have proven this program to be the financial boost that many small and large communities needed to achieve their project goals."

All transportation projects are eligible, including roadway (on and off the state system), rail, airport, bicycle/pedestrian and public transit. Candidate projects should include investments that provide transportation benefits and are not eligible for other KDOT programs. This round of grant funding has an overall budget of \$6 million, with a maximum awarded amount of \$1 million per project.

The deadline to submit applications is Sept. 18. More information and the application link are on KDOT's website at [ksdot.gov/programs/economic-development-programs/cost-share-program](https://ksdot.gov/programs/economic-development-programs/cost-share-program). All applications will be completed online, and a sample PDF application will be available for preview.

Post Rock Extension District

Cassie Thiessen  
Horticulture Extension Agent

Fall Armyworm Invasion

Kansas and much of the Midwest have seen a surplus of armyworms this year. The worms love the lush green grass of cool season lawns. They can leave a trail of destruction on lawns, landscape plants, and crop fields. The name armyworm originates from agriculture, where infestations sometimes resemble an army as they move across large crop fields. The same devastation can occur in turf, where armyworms can consume areas as large as a football field in as few as 2 to 3 days.

Armyworms and cutworms are the caterpillars of several species of night-flying moths. Adult moths are generally gray, with a 1½-inch wingspan and white underwings. True armyworms are plump, sparsely-haired, generally green to brown larvae, with dark stripes running down the sides and back. Their most distinguishing characteristic is a whitish inverted Y between the eyes. These caterpillars feed on the aboveground plant parts of many grasses and are pests of numerous garden and field crops.

Armyworm caterpillars pass through six instar stages (life stages) with their size and appetite increasing with each molt. The earliest instars, one to four, eat relatively little leaf material, while the fifth and sixth larval stages eat over 90 percent of the total foliage the armyworm will consume over its lifespan. This usually means that early damage is often overlooked, and most defoliation takes place over a relatively short period during the later development stages. That is why the caterpillar damage seemed to appear "overnight." The caterpillars had been with us for some time, but they hadn't produced noticeable damage until the final instar stages.

Armyworms feed on grass blades and cut plants off near the soil surface. Grass appears ragged and may turn brown from the feeding. Damage is more likely to occur if the lawn borders cropland or large, untended fields. Armyworms seem to be attracted to areas of lush vegetation. Caterpillars feed throughout the day but are typically most active early in the morning and late in the evening. They can often be observed easily at these times. If armyworms are suspected, check the damaged areas a couple of hours after dark. Depending on the species involved, larvae may be feeding up on the plant foliage or down near the crown of the plant. Damage near the crown should be considered much more serious than simple foliar feeding.

Scouting for damage is important for all types of insects. Frequent inspection is especially important for this pest because it feeds rapidly and is very destructive. Active ingredients (and products thereof) registered for the control of armyworms and/or cutworms include: acephate (Acephate, Bonide Systemic Insect Control); *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (Dipel, Thuricide); bifenthrin (Talstar, Bonide Eight Flower & Vegetable Granules, Hi-Yield Bug Blaster Bifenthrin, Ortho Home Defense Insect Killer for Lawn & Landscape); carbaryl (various carbaryl and some Sevin products); cyfluthrin (Tempo, BioAdvanced Vegetable & Garden Insect Spray); fluvalinate (Mavrik); fonofos (Crusade); lambda-cyhalothrin (Scimitar, Bonide Garden & Home RTU, Spectracide Triazicide); and trichlorfon (Dylox, BioAdvanced 24 Hour Grub Control, Proxol).

**KANSAS  
STATE FAIR**

SEPT.  
6-15  
HUTCHINSON,  
KS

**ADVANCE  
TICKET PRICES**

**THROUGH SEPT. 4**

<b>Adults (13-59)</b>	<b>\$7 (\$10 Value)</b>
<b>Children (6-12)</b>	<b>\$4 (\$6 Value)</b>
<b>Seniors (60+)</b>	<b>\$4 (\$6 Value)</b>
<b>Midway Wristband</b>	<b>\$30 (\$35 starting Sept. 1)</b>

\*Additional processing fee applies for online and phone orders  
Tickets are available online or at the KSF Ticket Office.  
Gate Tickets are also available at any Dillons store.

**KansasStateFair.com**

Legal Notice

Published in the Cawker City Ledger August 14, 2025

ORDINANCE NO. 768

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER IV: ARTICLE 2: BUILDING CODE, SECTION 4-211(a).

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF GLEN ELDER, KANSAS.

SECTION 1. CHAPTER IV: ARTICLE 2: BUILDING CODE, SECTION 4-211(a) of the Glen Elder Code is hereby amended, by adding a deadline for building applications, which shall read as follows:

4-211. SAME; APPLICATION INFORMATION REQUIRED. (a) A building permit shall be issued upon an application in writing to the office of city clerk on a form or forms provided for the purpose. **This application shall be due by 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to the next governing body's meeting.** This application shall, among other things disclose the following:

(1)

The name of the owner of the improvement site;

(2)

The location and description of the structure and the improvement site;

(3)

The improvement or relocation proposed;

(4)

The outside dimensions of the basement (if any);

(5)

The class of occupancy (if applicable);

(6)

The class of construction (if applicable);

(7)

The kind of materials to be used for walls, floors, ceilings, roofs, and foundations;

(8)

The estimated cost of the labor and materials for the improvement or relocation of the structure;

(9)

The date work will commence;

(10)

Expected date of completion;

(11)

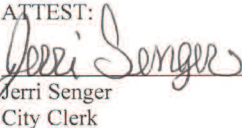
Name and address of contractor or contractors doing the improvement or relocation of the structure;


(12)

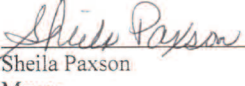
Such other information as may be pertinent to the issuance of the building permit.

PASSED by the Governing Body and signed by the Mayor this 4 day of Aug., 2025.

ATTEST:

  
Jerri Senger  
City Clerk



  
Sheila Paxson  
Mayor

Legal Notice

Notice of Hearing 2025-2026 Budget

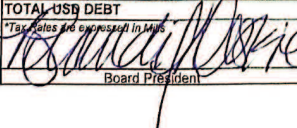
The governing body of Unified School District 272 will meet on the 8th day of September 2025 at 5:45 PM at 708 Locust Street, Cawker City, KS 67430 for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to be levied. Detailed budget information, including budget profile, building needs assessment and Board state assessments review is available at the USD 272 District Office or on the district website and will be available at this hearing.

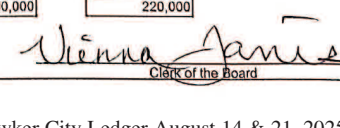
The Amount of 2025 Tax to be Levied and Expenditures (published below) establish the maximum limits of the 2025-2026 Budget. The 'Est. Tax Rate' (column 7), shown for comparative purposes, is subject to slight change depending on final assessed valuation.

		2023-2024 Actual	2024-2025 Actual	2025-2026 Proposed Budget		
	Code 99 Line	Actual Expenditures (1)	Actual Tax Rate* (2)	Actual Expenditures (3)	Actual Tax Rate* (4)	Budgeted Expenditures (5)
OPERATING						Amount of 2025 Tax to be Levied (6)
General	08	3,525,184	20.000	3,794,125	20.000	3,892,318
Supplemental General (LOB)	09	1,113,894	21.826	1,179,895	24.425	1,298,041
SPECIAL REVENUE						Est. Tax Rate* (7)
Federal Funds	07	733,347		143,098		123,708
Adult Education	10	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
Preschool-Aged At-Risk	11	178		0		144,822
Adult Supplemental Education	12	0		0		0
At-Risk Education Fund	13	524,137		651,596		858,793
Bilingual Education	14	0		484		763
Virtual Education	15	0		0		0
Capital Outlay	16	599,117	7.991	548,280	7.987	1,218,237
Driver Training	18	6,103		11,275		35,738
Declining Enrollment	19	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
Extraordinary School Program	22	0		0		0
Food Service	24	316,838		286,319		444,482
Professional Development	26	24,085		22,082		76,309
Parent Education Program	28	0		0		0
Summer School	29	0		0		0
Special Education	30	669,302		680,160		971,465
Cost of Living	33	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
Career and Postsecondary Education	34	105,873		128,073		349,108
Gifts and Grants	35	358,915		397,268		592,334
Special Liability Expense Fund	42	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
School Retirement	44	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
Extraordinary Growth Facilities	45	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
Special Reserve Fund	47	0		0		0
KPERs Special Retirement Contribution	51	283,749		268,773		303,041
Contingency Reserve	53	0		0		0
Textbook & Student Material Revolving Fund	55	679		432		0
Activity Fund	56	171,932		186,992		0
DEBT SERVICE						
Bond and Interest #1	62	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
Bond and Interest #2	63	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
No-Fund Warrant	66	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
Special Assessment	67	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
Temporary Note	68	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
COOPERATIVES						
Special Education	78	0		0		0
TOTAL USD EXPENDITURES	100	8,433,133	49.817	8,308,862	52.412	10,307,215
Less: Transfers	105	1,968,585		2,010,884		1,636,430
NET USD EXPENDITURES	110	6,464,548		6,297,978		8,670,785
TOTAL USD TAXES LEVIED	115	1,954,279		1,953,814		1,854,920

1. Sponsoring District Only  
\*Tax Rates are expressed in Mills

		2023-2024 Actual	2024-2025 Actual	2025-2026 Proposed Budget		
	Code 99 Line	Actual Expenditures (1)	Actual Tax Rate* (2)	Actual Expenditures (3)	Actual Tax Rate* (4)	Budgeted Expenditures (5)
OTHER						Amount of 2025 Tax to be Levied (6)
Historical Museum	80	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
Public Library Board	82	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
Public Library Board Employee Benefits	83	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
Recreation Commission	84	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
Per Comm Emp Benefits & Spec Lab	86	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
TOTAL OTHER	120	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
TOTAL TAXES LEVIED	125	\$1,954,279		\$1,953,814		\$1,854,920
Assessed Valuation - General Fund	128	\$35,750,058		\$31,865,170		\$31,433,990
Assessed Valuation - All Other Funds	130	\$41,475,037		\$40,757,037		\$40,496,823
Assessed Valuation - Capital Outlay	129	\$41,475,037		\$40,038,196		\$39,990,091
Outstanding Indebtedness, July 1		2023		2024		2025
General Obligation Bonds	135	0		0		0
Capital Outlay Bonds	140	0		0		0
Temporary Note	145	0		0		0
No-Fund Warrant	150	0		0		0
Lease Purchase Principal	153	355,000		290,000		220,000
TOTAL USD DEBT	155	355,000		290,000		220,000

  
Board President

  
Clerk of the Board

Published in the Cawker City Ledger August 14 & 21, 2025