

The Red Planet Continued

sporting a reddish hue to the left of Orion? This is none other than the planet Mars! January will be an excellent opportunity to spot this planet and some of its details with a medium-sized telescope. Be sure to catch these three events this month.

Martian Retrograde Mars entered retrograde (or backward movement relative to its usual direction) on December 7, 2024, and will continue throughout January into February 23, 2025. You can track the planet's progress by sketching or photographing Mars' position relative to nearby stars. Be consistent with your observations, taking them every few nights or so as the weather permits. You can use free software like Stellarium or Stellarium Web (the browser version) to help you navigate the night as Mars treks around the sky. You can find Mars above the eastern horizon after 8:00 PM local time.

Hide and Seek On the night of January 13th, you can watch Mars 'disappear' behind the Moon during an occultation. An occultation is when one celestial

object passes directly in front of another, hiding the background object from view. This can happen with planets and stars in our night sky, depending on the orbit of an object and where you are on Earth, similar to eclipses.

Depending on where you are within the contiguous United States, you can watch this event with the naked eye, binoculars, or a small telescope. The occultation will happen for over an hour in some parts of the US. You can use websites like Stellarium Web or the Astronomical League's 'Moon Occults Mars' chart to calculate the best time to see this event.

Closer and Closer As you observe Mars this month to track its retrograde movement, you will notice that it will increase in brightness. This is because Mars will reach opposition by the evening of January 18th. Opposition happens when a planet is directly opposite the Sun, as seen from Earth. You don't need to be in any specific city to observe this event; you only need clear skies to observe that it gets brighter. It's also when Mars

is closest to Earth, so you'll see more details in a telescope.

Want a quick and easy way to illustrate what opposition is for Jupiter, Saturn, Mars, or other outer worlds? Follow the instructions on our Toolkit Hack: Illustrating Opposition with Exploring the Solar System page using our Exploring Our Solar System activity!

Mars has fascinated humanity for centuries, with its earliest recorded observations dating back to the Bronze Age. By the 17th century, astronomers were able to identify features of the Martian surface, such as its ice caps and darker regions. Since the 1960s, exploration of the Red Planet has intensified with robotic missions from various space organizations. Currently, NASA has five active missions, including rovers and orbiters, with the future focused on human exploration and habitation. Mars will always fill us with a sense of wonder and adventure as we reach for its soil through initiatives such as the Moon to Mars Architecture and the Mars Sample Return campaign.

Legal Notice

First published in the Elkhart Tri-State News, Thursday, January 9, 2025, Thursday, January 16, 2025, Thursday, January 23, 2025.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF MORTON COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE)
)
OF)
) Case No. MT-2024-PR-000029
JIMMY O. EVANS, A/K/A)
JIMMY ODELL EVANS, DECEASED)
)
(Petition Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Levi O. Evans, one of the heirs of Jimmy O. Evans, deceased, requesting:
Descent be determined of the following described real estate situated in Morton County, Kansas:

Lot 2, Block 1, Davolt Addition, Elkhart, Morton County, Kansas;

and all personal property and other Kansas real estate owned by decedent at the time of death. And that such property and all personal property and other Kansas real estate owned by the decedent at the time of death be assigned pursuant to the laws of intestate succession.

You are required to file your written defenses to the Petition on or before February 4, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the city of Elkhart in Morton County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail to file your written defenses, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

/s/ Jeremiah Johnson

Jeremiah Johnson #21968
Graber & Johnson Law Group, LLC
701 Vilymaca, PO Box 450
Elkhart, KS 67950
(620) 697-2163
Attorneys for Petitioner

Legal Notice

First published in the Elkhart Tri-State News, Thursday, January 9, 2025, Thursday, January 16, 2025, Thursday, January 23, 2025.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF MORTON COUNTY, KANSAS CIVIL DEPARTMENT

Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC) Case No. MT-2024-CV-000009
f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc.)
) Court No.
Plaintiff,)
) Title to Real Estate Involved
vs.)
) Pursuant to K.S.A. §60
Donald G Fisher, et al.)
)
Defendants,)

NOTICE OF SALE

Under and by virtue of an Order of Sale issued to me by the Clerk of the District Court of Morton County, Kansas, the undersigned Sheriff of Morton County, Kansas, will offer for sale at public auction and sell to the highest bidder for cash in hand at the front entrance of the Morton County Courthouse, Elkhart, Kansas, on February 4, 2025, at the time of 10:00 AM, the following real estate:

LOT THREE (3), BLOCK "G", ADDINGTON SECOND ADDITION TO THE CITY OF ELKHART, MORTON COUNTY, KANSAS, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF., Parcel ID No. 0652451603023007000. Commonly known as 1043 Richard St, Elkhart, KS 67950 ("the Property") MS220442

to satisfy the judgment in the above-entitled case. The sale is to be made without appraisal and subject to the redemption period as provided by law, and further subject to the approval of the Court.

Morton County Sheriff
MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC

By: _____
Victor B. Finkelstein, #13410
vfinkelstein@msfirm.com
8900 Indian Creek Parkway, Suite 180
Overland Park, KS 66210
(913) 339-9132
(913) 339-9045 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC AS ATTORNEYS FOR ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS INC. IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Classified

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NOTICE

**Deadline
FOR
Elkhart
Tri-State
News**

**Pictures
& Stories
Deadline
5 pm
Monday
Advertising
Deadline
10 am
Tuesday**

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS MORTON COUNTY LANDFILL PHASE H2 CONSTRUCTION

1. Bids will be received by Morton County (Owner) until **10 am Wednesday January 22, 2025** for construction and related site improvements associated with Phase H2 Construction at the Morton County Landfill (Site). Sealed bids shall be submitted to the following location:

Morton County Clerks Office
P.O. Box 1116
Elkhart, KS 67950

Direct Questions to:
Sheldon Pippin
620-697-2655
sheldon.pippin@mtcoks.gov

Bids received after the bid date and time will not be accepted and will be returned unopened. Bids will be opened at **10:00 am Monday January 27th, 2025** at the Morton County Commissioner's meeting.

2. An electronic copy of the Bid Documents can be provided upon request or can be examined at the Morton County Landfill Office.

3. The Scope of Work for Phase H2 construction includes, but is not limited to, providing all labor, materials, tools, equipment, incidentals, and services necessary and required to excavate soil (approximately 52,937 cubic yard) from the Phase H2 Area and stockpile soil on site within 500 feet of the excavation area.

4. Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids or portions of any or all bids and to waive informalities therein to determine the best Bid. The Bidder may not withdraw its Bid for a period of ninety (90) calendar days following the Bid Date. Bids may be held by Morton County for up to ninety (90) calendar days from the date of the opening of bids for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the qualifications of bidders prior to awarding of the contract.

5. Bidder must be properly licensed to perform the work pursuant to all applicable state and local law. An award to contract will not be made to a Bidder who is not licensed.

Legal Notice

First published in the Elkhart Tri-State News, Thursday, January 9, 2025, Thursday, January 16, 2025, Thursday, January 23, 2025, Thursday, January 30, 2025.

NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND FORECLOSURE SALE

WHEREAS, on June 18, 2007, a certain Mortgage was Executed by Earnest E. Henley and Barbara E. Henley, his wife as mortgagors in favor of James B. Nutter & Company as mortgagee, and was recorded on June 27, 2007, in Book 148, Page 116 in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Morton County; Kansas and

WHEREAS, the Mortgage was insured by the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (the Secretary) pursuant to the National Housing Act for the purpose of providing single family housing; and

WHEREAS, the Mortgage is now owned by the Secretary, pursuant to an assignment dated August 3, 2020, and recorded on August 13, 2020, in Book 201, Page 522, in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Morton County, Kansas,

WHEREAS, a default has been made in the covenants and conditions of the Mortgage in that payments were not made and remains wholly unpaid as of the date of this notice, and no payment has been made sufficient to restore the loan to currency; and

WHEREAS, the entire amount delinquent as of January 31, 2025 is \$57,218.24; and **WHEREAS**, by virtue of this default, the Secretary has declared the entire amount of the indebtedness secured by the Mortgage to be immediately due and payable;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to powers vested in me by the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act of 1994, 12 U.S.C. 3751 et seq., by 24 CFR part 27, subpart B, and by the Secretary's designation of me as Foreclosure Commissioner, attached hereto and recorded herewith, notice is hereby given that on January 31, 2025 at 10:30 AM local time, all real and personal property at or used in connection with the following described premises ("Property") will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder:

LOT 3, BLOCK 39, IN THE CITY OF ELKHART, MORTON KANSAS, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF;

BEING THE SAME PREMISES AS CONVEYED IN DEED FROM ROLAND F. CAFFEY AND CAROL L. CAFFEY, HIS WIFE RECORDED 12-7-76 IN BOOK 47, PAGE 49 IN SAID COUNTY AND STATE.

TAX ID: 245160201200300000000

COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 611 Point Rock Rd, Elkhart, KS 67950

The sale will be held at the front door of the Morton County, Courthouse, City of Elkhart, State of Kansas. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development will bid \$61,902.24.

There will be no proration of taxes, rents or other income or liabilities, except that the purchaser will pay, at or before closing, his prorata share of any real estate taxes that have been paid by the Secretary to the date of the foreclosure sale.

When making their bids, all bidders except the Secretary must submit a deposit totaling \$6,190.22 in the form of a certified check or cashier's check made out to the Secretary of HUD. A deposit need not accompany each oral bid. If the successful bid is oral, a deposit of \$6,190.22 must be presented before the bidding is closed. The deposit is nonrefundable. The remainder of the purchase price must be delivered within 30 days of the sale or at such other time as the Secretary may determine for good cause shown, time being of the essence. This amount, like the bid deposits, must be delivered in the form of a certified or cashier's check. If the Secretary is the high bidder, he need not pay the bid amount in cash. The successful bidder will pay all conveying fees, all real estate and other taxes that are due on or after the delivery date of the remainder of the payment and all other costs associated with the transfer of title. At the conclusion of the sale, the deposits of the unsuccessful bidders will be returned to them.

The Secretary may grant an extension of time within which to deliver the remainder of the payment. All extensions will be for 15-day increments for a fee of \$500.00 paid in advance. The extension fee shall be in the form of a certified or cashier's check made payable to the Secretary of HUD. If the high bidder closes the sale prior to the expiration of any extension period, the unused portion of the extension fee shall be applied toward the amount due.

If the high bidder is unable to close the sale within the required period, or within any extensions of time granted by the Secretary, the high bidder may be required to forfeit the cash deposit or, at the election of the foreclosure commissioner after consultation with the HUD representative, will be liable to HUD for any costs incurred as a result of such failure. The Commissioner may, at the direction of the HUD representative, offer the Property to the second highest bidder for an amount equal to the highest price offered by that bidder.

There is no right of redemption, or right of possession based upon a right of redemption, in the mortgagor or others subsequent to a foreclosure completed pursuant to the Act. Therefore, the Foreclosure Commissioner will issue a Deed to the purchaser(s) upon receipt of the entire purchase price in accordance with the terms of the sale as provided herein. HUD does not guarantee that the property will be vacant.

The scheduled foreclosure sale shall be cancelled or adjourned if it is established, by documented written application of the mortgagor to the Foreclosure Commissioner not less than 3 days before the date of sale, or otherwise, that the default or defaults upon which the foreclosure is based did not exist at the time of service of this notice of default and foreclosure sale, or all amounts due under the mortgage agreement are tendered to the Foreclosure Commissioner, in the form of a certified or cashier's check payable to the Secretary of HUD, before public auction of the property is completed.

The amount that must be paid if the mortgage is to be reinstated prior to the scheduled sale is \$57,218.24 as of January 31, 2025, plus all other amounts that would be due under the mortgage agreement if payments under the mortgage had not been accelerated, advertising costs and postage expenses incurred in giving notice, mileage by the most reasonable road distance for posting notices and for the Foreclosure Commissioner's attendance at the sale, reasonable and customary costs incurred for title and lien record searches, the necessary out-of-pocket costs incurred by the Foreclosure Commissioner for recording documents, a commission for the Foreclosure Commissioner, and all other costs incurred in connection with the foreclosure prior to reinstatement.

Tender of payment by certified or cashier's check or application for cancellation of the foreclosure sale shall be submitted to the address of the Foreclosure Commissioner provided below.

This notice is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC

Foreclosure Commissioner

612 Spirit Drive

St. Louis, MO 63005

(636) 537-0110

File No: 224556.013125.451064 HCOM

NOTICE

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



Syracuse Dairy
Morton County location is now accepting applications for milking positions starting at \$14.00 an hour with a \$250.00 signing bonus. Benefits include 401K, health insurance, dental insurance, and life insurance. Please apply in person at our office (751 SE CR 36, Syracuse, KS 67878) or call 620-492-2525.

Morton County
is seeking applicants for a full-time position. The successful applicant will primarily serve the County's legal department. Applications are available on the County's web page or the County Clerk's office. Deadline for applications is January 10, 2025, and may be emailed to county.attorney@mtcoks.gov or delivered to the County Clerk's Office at 1025 Morton Street, Elkhart. EOE

Accepting Bids
for removing contents inside and yard clean up outside of the Morton County Care Center and Memory Care buildings. Bids may be mailed to Morton County Clerks Office, PO Box 1116, Elkhart, KS 67950 or dropped off at 1025 Morton Street until January 10, 2025. For more information and a walk through the facility please come to the Clerk's office at the Morton County Courthouse.

Legal Notice

First published in the Elkhart Tri-State News, Thursday, January 9, 2025.

City of Elkhart, KS Quarterly Financial Report Oct. 2024 to Dec. 2024				
Fund Name	Previous Balance	Receipts	Expenditures	Balance
General Operating	\$862,977.25	\$265,190.32	\$393,009.50	\$735,158.07
Employee Benefits	\$62,877.03	\$8,716.43	\$69,078.32	\$2,515.14
Elkhart Animal Foundation	\$3,657.69	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,657.69
Water Fund	\$186,944.34	\$125,173.52	\$98,128.29	\$213,989.57
Water Equipment Reserve	\$164,311.33	\$7,500.00	\$0.00	\$171,811.33
Customer Deposits	\$107,982.56	\$1,850.00	\$2,525.00	\$107,307.56
Sanitation Fund	\$129,107.63	\$59,333.95	\$82,665.53	\$105,776.05
Sanitation Reserve	\$18,658.25	\$7,500.00	\$0.00	\$26,158.25
Sewer Fund	\$55,728.82	\$38,625.90	\$56,499.88	\$37,854.84
Sewer Reserve Fund	\$21,386.95	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$22,886.95
Special Highways	\$106,015.84	\$12,454.51	\$0.00	\$118,470.35
Special Fire	\$186,299.87	\$1,055.79	\$5,175.00	\$182,180.66
Special Parks	\$5,454.04	\$871.46	\$0.00	\$6,325.50
City Bond & Interest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sales Tax Revenue Fund	\$878,521.96	\$70,631.13	\$0.00	\$949,153.09
Whistle Stop Park	\$9,076.28	\$251.74	\$88.68	\$9,239.34
Safe Park Equipment Fund	\$4,495.49	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,495.49
Municipalities Fight Addition	\$12,767.31	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,767.31
Court Diversion Fund	\$951.50	\$204.77	\$0.00	\$1,156.27
2020 Water Project	-\$5,899.24	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$5,899.24
Forfeitures	\$6,771.85	\$0.00	\$708.48	\$6,063.37
2023 WTR Baca Project	-\$13,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$13,500.00
Fireworks	\$690.67	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$690.67
Clearing Fund		\$252,468.88	\$252,468.88	
Total	\$2,805,277.42	\$853,328.40	\$960,347.56	\$2,698,258.26

I do solemnly swear that the above statement is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, so help me God.


Mellisa Johnson
Asst. City Clerk/City Treasurer

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day of January, 2025.
My commission expires: 10-22-25



