

Days of Yore

continued from page 2

is 19 miles west of Medicine Lodge on Highway 160.

The Alexander Ranch is thousands of acres of beautiful green grasslands stretching out to the horizon. The grass gently waves in the Kansas breeze as cattle graze on the gently sloping hills. Occasional wildlife can be spotted as they peacefully make their home on the ranch. The trees down in the canyons and valleys hint from a distance of the presence of water. The contrast between the red hills and green grass adds to the picture perfect countryside. The peaceful and serene landscape is capped off with a startling blue sky with piles of fluffy clouds floating in the atmosphere. To the uneducated eye, it looks like the land is living in perfect harmony.

Brian Alexander quickly dispels that notion as he points out the enemy, the eastern red cedar. Alexander explained that before the Europeans settled the land, the natural occurrence of wildfires controlled the cedar. The Europeans looked at fire as being bad and destructive and something to avoid. Without the natural control provided by the fires, the trees have grown rampant and spread across the grasslands. The spread was escalated in the 1940s and 1950s when the government made the decision to use red cedars to create windbreaks. The cedar waxwings also accelerate the spread of the trees. This bird is extremely fond of the berries found on the tree and spreads them far and wide after the berries have moved through the bird's digestive process. Alexander commented on how much more viable the seeds are after passing through the bird than dropping directly on the ground from the tree.

A 15 to 20 foot cedar uses 35 to 40 gallons of water a day. An overgrowth of the voracious eastern red cedar results in prairie grasses dying out and water sources drying up. Both consequences interrupt a natural ecosystem and cost the rancher money and resources.

Under presentations, the Council discussed the budget funds. City Administrator, Jeff Porter presented the Council with some slides revealing past, present, and future budget expenditures. For months the Council has been taking a close look at the budget seeking to cut any unnecessary expenses. After this close examination, the budget still appeared extremely tight. The Council decided that for emergencies it would be wise to have more of a cushion in the budget. A motion was made for a 7.5 mill levy increase. Mayor Stutler opened the table for debate, giving each of the Councilmen a chance to express their thoughts, opinions, and suggestions for adding a cushion to the tight budget. The motion for a 7.5 mill levy increase was passed unanimously William (Bill) Landon Axtell was born in the Barber County Courthouse on April 29, 1925 to James Harvey (Harve) and Goldie Elizabeth Mills Axtell. He was named after both of his grandfathers, William Allison Axtell and Landon C. Mills. L.C. Mills was undersheriff and his wife, Harriet McElwaine Mills, looked after the prisoners and cooked for them. Harve and Goldie lived out by Lake City by the river where they raised cattle and three children, Bill, Peggy Jean, and Bobby James. Bill was just two years old when he rode in a covered wagon during the first Peace Treaty in 1927. He was old enough to ride a horse in the second Peace Treaty in 1932. Axtell laughed as he remembered the Peace Treaty Pageants to follow, "I've been to all of them. I've played Indian and I've played cowboy and I've been with the covered wagons." He remembered that during the early Peace Treaty events, soldiers were brought from Ft. Riley to participate in the reenactment of the signing of the Peace Treaty, but they didn't bring horses. The soldiers camped out on the Courthouse lawn and area farmers and ranchers provided horses for them to ride. Many of the horses were unbroken. Axtell commented with a smile, "That was quite a show!"

Dispatch continued from page 4

to a 63-year-old female with unknow medical condition in the 400 block of Miller in Kiowa. The patient and her husband were taken to the Kiowa District Hospital.

Arrest for June 30th to July 6th, 2025:

Book date 07/05/2025, Duvall, Jamie, W/F, Arrest for (1) Possession of Marijuana & (2) Possession of para w/intent to manufacture/plant/cultivate controlled substance.

Book date 07/06/2025. Campbell, Travis, W/M, Arrest for Criminal Threat.

Book date 07/06/2025, Ruiz. KaeLynn, W/F, Arrest for Criminal Threat.

local

Courthouse News TRAFFIC

Lauren Heaton, John Roberson, Austin Carroll.

WARRANTY DEEDS

Swin Housing LLC. Danny and Cindy Archuleta,

Rylan Archuleta to Cindy Archuleta, Dianna Ricke-Peden, Rylan Archuleta.

Proposed Budget 2

2025 Ad

/alorem Ta

38,978

181,91

Budget Authority

for Expenditures

50,063

196,965

47,028

247.028

ine Lodge, KS 67104 for the purpose of hearing and all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax.

Budget Authority

for Expenditures

12,880

102,178

Proposed Budget

2025 Ad

alorem Tax 10,314

Estimate Ta

Rate*

2.33

1.637

19.928 19.928

Proposed

Tax Rate

7.044

37.008

Michael Harger to Donny and othy Stutler.

Tammy Burns. Joshua and Kimberly Bird to

Country Place, LLC to Jacob and Mara Beecher.

Jacob and Mara Beecher to Tyson Rosenberger, Sarah Koehn.

Matthew and Deborah McNamar to Brian and Lisa Withrow.

Chad and Jackie Capansky to Jerry and Patricia McNamar.

KickingBear Ministries of Kansas, Inc. to Robert and Dor-

CRIMINAL

Monday, July 14, 2025 Page 5

Daniel Melson. Violation of Barber County Burn Resolution, Class B Misdemeanor.



PUBLIC NOTICE Published in The Gyp Hill Premiere Monday, July 14, 2025

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING





Prior Year Actual 2024 Current Year Esti Proposed Budget



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	Prior Year Actual 2024		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
Fund					100 (00		10.300
General	312,182	12.196	195,206	9.741	198,683	132,637	10.300
Road	446,266	5.828	265,015	6.864	265,015	59,358	9.374
Cemetery	56,617	3.185	60,000	2.764	82,828	37,187	2.888
Special Machinery							
Totals	815,065	21.209	520,221	19.369	546,526	229,181	22.562
Funds Supported by Township Only - Revenue Neutral Rate**							8.632
Funds Supported by Township and 3rd Class City - Revenue Neutral Rate**							13.930

PUBLIC NOTICE

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NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of HAZELTON TOWNSHIP BABER COUNTY will meet on July 30, 2025 at 7:30 am at Owl's Building, 414 E Main, Hazelton, KS 67061 for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at Owl's Building, 414 E Main, Hazelton, KS 67061 and will be available at this hearing BUDCET SUMMARY Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

Expenditures

50,06

196,965

247,028

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NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

In the contrast p1, 2023 at 100 pin at 37 two bioten Artow W, Netholite Lodge, KS 67104 for the purpose of hearing and more an exercise objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valoren tax. Detailed budget information is available at 35 NW Broken Arrow W, Medicine Lodge, KS 67104 and will be available at this hearing. BUGET SUMMARY Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

Expenditur

12,88

Actual Tax

16.077

Rate*

Prior Year Actual 2024 Current Year Estimate 2025

Actual Tax

Rate*

1.86

15.52

rent Year Estimate 2025

Actual Tax Rate*

7.304

33.020

40.324

tual 2024

Actual Tax Rate*

6.15

27.221

Funds 3

The governing body of <u>ELM MILLS TOWNSHIP</u> <u>BARBER COUNTY</u> will meet on July 21, 2025 at 7:00 pm at 35 NW Broken Arrow W, Medicine J answering objections of transmission

Expenditure

10,724

65,053 7,557

Prior Year Ac

38,620

194,752

Expenditure

Fund

ieneral

bad

pecial Machinery

Outstanding Ind

Lease Purchase Principa

Func

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

Mick Gillig Trustee

Jan I G.O. Bonds

Violations for Speeding:

Joel an Amanda Swindler to

Becky Ryals, Andrew and Benjamin and Janaya Primrose.

