

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF HEARING

Published September 25, October 2, 9, 2025.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CRAWFORD COUNTY, KS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
GEORGE F. HIGHTOWER, also known as
GEORGE F. HIGHTOWER, SR., also known as
GEORGE FREDERICK HIGHTOWER, also known as
GEORGE FREDERICK HIGHTOWER, SR., also known as
GEORGE HIGHTOWER, DECEASED.
Case No. CRP-2025-PR-000094
NOTICE OF HEARING
THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:
You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Paula Robertson, also known as Paula J. Robertson, one of the heirs of George F. Hightower, also known as George F. Hightower, Sr., also known as George Frederick Hightower, also known as George Frederick Hightower, Sr., also known as George Hightower, deceased, requesting: Descent be determined of the following described real estate situated in Crawford County, Kansas:
The South Half (S/2) of Lots Number Twenty Three

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Published September 18, 25, October 2, 2025.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CRAWFORD COUNTY, KS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
BARBARA A. LAFFERTY, DECEASED.
Case No. CRP-2025-PR-000092
NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS
THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:
You are notified that on September 10, 2025, a petition was filed in this Court by Geoff Hines, as the executor named in the “Last Will and Testament of Barbara A. Lafferty” deceased, dated September 10, 2020, requesting the will filed with the petition be admitted to probate and record; petitioner be appointed as executor, without bond; and petitioner be granted Letters Testamentary.
You are required to file your written defenses to the petition on or before October 14, 2025, at 9:00 o'clock AM at the Crawford County Judicial Center, 602 North Locust, Pittsburg, 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.
All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within the latter of four months from the date of the first publication of notice under K.S.A. 59-2236 and amendments thereto, or if the identity of the creditor is known or reasonably ascertainable, 30 days after actual notice was given as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.
Geoff Hines, Petitioner.
Timothy L. Fielder - #08649 Attorney at Law
112 South Ozark
PO Box 99
Girard, KS 66743
(620) 724-4214 Phone
(620) 724-8679 Fax
timfielder@ckt.net
Attorney for Petitioner.

NOTICE OF HEARING

Published September 25, October 2, 9, 2025.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CRAWFORD COUNTY, KS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATES OF
WILLIAM JOHN GREGORY, and
META EVELYN GREGORY, DECEASED.
Case No. CRP-2024-PR-000092
NOTICE OF HEARING
THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:
You are notified a Petition has been filed in this Court by Marshall W. Blinzler, duly appointed, qualified and acting Administrator of the Estates of William John Gregory and Meta Evelyn Gregory, deceased, requesting that Petitioner's acts be approved; account be settled and allowed; the heirs be determined; the Estate be assigned to the persons entitled to it pursuant to the laws of intestate succession; fees and expenses be allowed; costs be determined and ordered paid; the administration of the Estate be closed; the Administrator be discharged and Petitioner and the surety on Administrator's bond be released from further liability.
You are required to file your written defenses to the Petition on or before October 21, 2025, at 9:00 o'clock AM at the Crawford County Judicial Center, 602 North Locust, Pittsburg, 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.
Marshall W. Blinzler - #26465
WHEELER & MITCHELSON, CHARTERED
Fourth and Broadway
PO Box 610
Pittsburg, KS 66762
(620) 231-1450 Phone
(620) 231-1453 Fax
mblinzler@wm-law.com
Administrator.

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FIX by 5! It's babies having babies!

PRESS RELEASE
Pawprints on the Heartland
Pawprints on the Heartland is conducting a campaign, FIX by 5, to raise awareness among pet parents on early-age sterilization. Fix by 5 aims to stave off these unwanted litters and stem the endless tide of animals roaming in the streets or entering shelters. It is presently recommended for kittens and puppies to be spayed/neutered before they are five months old. Kittens and puppies can go into heat when they are just four months old. That means pets as young as five months can give birth to unwanted litters. Pets can be safely spayed or neutered once they are two months old or weigh two pounds. Early sterilization also decreases the risk of

mammary gland cancer by 91%. Surgeries on younger, smaller animals are shorter in duration and easier to perform as well as less stress on the animal. A spayed or neutered animal is a happier animal and less likely to want to roam or possess other unwanted behaviors. Pawprints on the Heartland is helping solve the over-population problem by performing all low-cost surgeries on pets 30 pounds or less for only \$55.00. Appointments are necessary. Pet owners can make appointments by calling 620-232-0907 or going to pawprintsontheheartland.org. Pawprints' motto is prevention, not destruction. Adoption saves one life; spay/neuter saves millions!

Choosing quality child care

BY MICHELLE BROXTERMAN
K-State Research and Extension
►► As expecting parents prepare to welcome a new baby, one of the most significant challenges many face is securing child care. Our nation is facing a child care shortage. In Kansas, current estimates indicate that an additional 85,000 child care slots are needed to meet the demand for early childhood care and education. This shortage has left many families struggling to find affordable, quality care for their children. In addition to these challenges, many childcare providers struggle to earn a living wage, which further complicates efforts to increase the availability of care. In Kansas, child care workers have an annual average salary of approximately \$20,000. Addressing these issues could result in widespread benefits for children, families, and businesses throughout Kansas. Parents looking for early childhood care are encouraged to select licensed care providers whenever possible. In many Kansas counties, home care providers

account for half of the childcare options and undergo the same licensing and professional development as early childhood centers. When evaluating potential providers, parents should observe how caregivers interact with children. Are there back-and-forth interactions between the provider and the children? Providers should treat children and their feelings, thoughts, and ideas respectfully. Other important considerations include the cleanliness of the facility, safety practices, and activities geared towards children's interests and development. Parents should also ask about discipline protocols and request referrals from current or past clients. Quality licensed providers welcome questions about their services, and parents should ask as many as needed to feel confident in their choice. For more information on choosing quality child care, visit childcareaware.org or contact Michelle Broxterman, mbroxterman@ksu.edu, (620)724-8233.

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GNBank receives regional housing champion award

BANK SELECTED FOR ITS COMMITMENT TO IMPROVING HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES IN KANSAS

PRESS RELEASE
FHLBank Topeka

►► GNBank, headquartered in Girard, Kansas, received the Regional Housing Champion Award yesterday at the FHLBank Topeka regional meeting. Since 2021, GNBank has utilized FHLBank Topeka TurnKey programs to provide \$138,500 in downpayment and closing cost assistance to make the dream of homeownership a reality for 14 households. To further support their community, GNBank utilized reduced rate advances through our Community Development Program to support 14 community development projects and retain 48 jobs. Their commitment to supporting Native Americans is also noted with participation in FHLBank's Native American Housing Initiatives (NAHI) Grant Program partnering on a \$500,000 grant to Kickapoo Housing Authority to provide repair assistance to approximately 20 homeowners to make their aging homes safe and livable. Additionally, through the Lending Enhancement Advance Program (LEAP), GNBank received a reduced rate advance to support Native American Tribal lending in their community. Alongside its core mission of providing liquidity to members in support of local communities, FHLBank Topeka is also committed to supporting affordable housing and community development. In 2025, it allocated 15 percent of its income for grant funds that fuel these community-building efforts. “GNBank is truly honored to receive FHLBank Topeka's Kansas Regional Housing Award. FHLBank Topeka's housing programs have been essential in helping the rural communities

across Kansas that we serve to develop much needed affordable housing as well as community services and resources,” said Mark Schifferdecker, President and CEO of GNBank. “Earlier this year, we were able to help provide assistance to one of our local Native American tribes due to their programs. The FHLBank Topeka staff does an excellent job guiding both our bank staff and our customers through the entire process. The extent of impact these housing programs have had upon our Kansas communities is immeasurable. Kansas is a much better place to call home because of FHLBank Topeka's housing programs.”

About GNBank:
GNBank has been committed to serving our customers and communities well since 1918. Family-owned and operated, GNBank is committed to providing the highest quality financial services in a friendly, personal way. We have expertise in agricultural, business, residential, and consumer financial services and the technology to deliver products and services. We are proud to call 13 communities in Kansas and two in Southeastern Colorado our home where we live, work, and help our hometowns thrive.

About FHLBank Topeka:
FHLBank Topeka is one of 11 Federal Home Loan Banks that accesses the capital markets to provide liquidity and funding for its member banks, thrifts, credit unions, insurance companies and community development financial institutions. FHLBank Topeka is a strong, reliable source of liquidity for 655 financial institutions in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma, who are members of its cooperative.

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– **Philip Stevens**, Owner/Publisher of Hometown Girard