Gascapades

By Shila Moore

Thank you to those who stopped by our table at Stevens County Fair. Please take the interest survey on this page. If you don't use QR codes, go to our Facebook page "Gas Capital Historical Society Inc." and find the link to the survey. We want to know what you would like to do and see during Gascapades.

From Hugoton Hermes April 8, 1927, "There is nothing new in the way of oil news this week. There has been but little activity at Crawford No. 1 during the week. The drilling stopped on a good rock formation to await the arrival of casing. On account of continued cavings, it was decided to run in the smaller casing and clean the hole in order to see what was there before attempting to go further.

"It is expected that the work will be resumed in the very near future.

"There is considerable talk of oil and gas about town and nearly everyone is anxious to see the work resumed and the hole made deeper at an early date.

"A block is being formed east of Rolla. In the edge of Morton and Stevens county and already the contract has been made for drilling as soon as the required acreage has been secured. We have been told that land owners have been signed up quite freely. Here's hoping for another test."

Walter L. Sidwell and W. M. McNab were partners overseeing the actual drilling of the Crawford No. 1 well. Walter had been a wildcatter for many years. He was born in Montrose, West Virginia in 1883. He had a variety of jobs early on, but mostly he worked in the oil fields throughout the United States. In about 1907 he and his wife moved to Romania where he worked as a driller. This is where the first of his three sons was born. He came back to the States in 1910, working in the oil fields in West Virginia then Hominy, Oklahoma. In 1914 he moved his family to Winfield, Kansas where he resided the rest of his life. I haven't found any background information on W. M. McNab yet. If anyone has information on Mr. McNab, please email it to me. Also, please email your history and photos of the gas/oil field. shilamoore007@gmail.com Thanks!

The photo is of Walter L. Sidwell, circa 1932. Photo is from familysearch.org.

History from the Hermes

Thursday, August 19, 2021

The Rolla Lions Club recognized Jeff Thomilinson's work in the Club bestowed on him the Melvin Jones Award named after the founder of the Lions International. Jeff has gone above and beyond to serve both the Club and Community.

Thursday, August 18, 2016

Katy Heger has traveled to Italy for America's Team Basketball tournament in Milan, Italy. Katy along, with 8 other girls from arcoss the nation were asked to be a part of the team by Salina Central High Coach Geoff Andrews.

Katy and the other 7 basketball players went to Italy thanks to the program "America's Team" The organization seeks to "change lives through sports" sending athletes to foreign countries to further their understanding of the world and other people.

The team visited the cities of Milan, Florence, and Rome with guide Giacomo who spoke fluent English.

Thursday, August 11, 2011

The Hugoton seventh grade traveling boys basketball team finished first in the Southwest Kansas Summer Basketball League in Sublette. This team of 13-14 year-old boys competed with teams for around Southwest Kansas for four weekends, ending in the finals tournament. Hugoton won the big event with a total of 14 games and were undefeated throughout the tournament competition. In all Hugoton went 26-4 on the season and ended with a 20 game winning streak.

Members of the team include Alex Gonzales, Wade Heger, Caleb Gayer, Garrett Hamlin, Manuel Mendez, Tyler Goode, Parker Titus, and Coach Todd Gayer.

Thursday, August 10, 2006

The 2006 Exxon Mobil United Way Golf Tournament is set for Friday, August 18, at the Hugoton Forewinds Golf Course, with a four-person scramble. The shot gun starts at 7:30 a.m. and at 1:00 p.m. The entry fee of $75 per golfer includes a golf cart and lunch. Mulligans will cost $5.00 a piece, purchased at the door.

Hole prizes are placed on every hole and there are door prizes. A prize will be awarded to first, second, and third in each flight.

Thursday, August 16, 2001

Curtis Crawford, 17, son of Jeff and Diane Crawford, lifetime resident of Stevens County and member of Boy Scout Troop 189, has earned the rank of Eagle Scout. He will be honored in a ceremony on August 19, 2001 at 2:00 p.m. at Bethel Friends Church in Hugoton.

Curtis joined the club at the age of 5 years, and advanced steadily up the ranks, earning many awards along the way, including the Arrow of Light while in Webelos. While in Boy Scouts, Cutis has earned of 25 merit badges, has been inducted into the Order of the Arrow, served his troop in many capacities including Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, and currently as Junior Assistant Scoutmaster.

The Eagle project Curtis chose was constructing and installing four bench/planters for Main Street in Hugoton.

Since the first Eagle Scout was awarded in 1912, only 2% of Boy Scouts reach the rank of Eagle Scout.

If any readers have pictures or memories for the history page of the Hermes, please bring them in to the staff at The Hugoton Hermes newspaper.

The Hugoton Hermes
522 S. Main
Hugoton, KS 67951
hugotonhermes.com
620-544-4321

KEEP IT LOCAL

Local subscription $40.00 a year Non-Local subscription is $45.00 a year Online subscription is $24.96

Attention Parents & Students

Hugoton Recreation Commission Announces

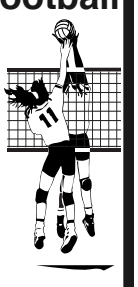
2026 Fall Sports Sign-Ups

August 17 - 21

9:00 am-5:00 pm Monday-Friday

Sign up for the following leagues:

*** 3rd to 4th Tackle Football - $25**
*** 5th to 6th Tackle Football - $25**



*** 3rd to 4th Volleyball - $15**
*** 5th to 6th Volleyball - $15**
*** 1st to 2nd Grade Soccer - $15**

*** Kindergarten Soccer- $15**

*This upcoming school years grade, participants must register at the above time in order to be put on teams.

Youth Coaches needed at every level!
Talk with Austin or Todd
For more information call 620-544-4675
HRC Offices, 211 S. Madison*
www.hugotonrec.com

HERMES DEADLINE

MONDAYS@ 5 PM

GASCAPADES 100 YEARS OF THE HUGOTON GAS FIELD OF KANSAS, OKLAHOMA, AND TEXAS

JULY 24 – 31, 2027

TELL US WHAT EVENTS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE DURING THE 2027 GASCAPADES?

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PUBLIC NOTICE

(First published in The Hugoton Hermes, Thursday, August 13, 2026) 1t

State of Kansas
Special District

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of
Wild West District #18
Seward County
will meet on September 8,2026 at 6:30pm at 503 S. Fairgrounds Rd Sublette, KS 67877 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 is avaiable at Wild West District Offices in Sublette, Hugoton, and Liberal and will be available at this hearing.

SUPPORTING COUNTIES
Seward County (home county) Haskell County, Stevens County

BUDGET SUMMARY
Proposed Budget 2027 Expenditures and Amount of Current Year Estimate for 2026 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2027 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

	Prior Year Actual 2025		Current Year Estimate for 2026		Proposed Budget Year for 2027		
FUND	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	755,698	1.323	1,283,000	1.233	1,516,500	627,055	1.269
Debt Service							
Totals	755,698	1.323	1,283,000	1.233	1,516,500	627,055	1.269
						*Revenue Neutral Rate***	*1.269*
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditures	755,698		1,283,000		1,516,500		
Total Tax Levied	629,877		629,237		xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx		
Assessed Valuation:	475,249,092		510,177,674		494,060,496		

Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1,	2024	2025	2026
G.O. Bonds	0	0	0
Revenue Bonds	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Lease Pur. Princ.	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

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

Tony Martin
Wild West District #18 Board Chair

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