

A Farmer’s
Calendar

Insight

By Jackie Mundt
Pratt County Farmer and Rancher

As a kid, summer had very clear boundaries. It started Memorial Day and ended on Labor Day. This “fact” was likely a result of our school schedule in Wisconsin, which got out before Memorial Day and started around September 1.

Thinking about my internal calendar made me realize none of my seasons line up with scientific dates. For me, winter starts the Monday after Thanksgiving, and spring is in April, usually right before Easter.

I think we all divide our time based on the unique priorities of our lives. Seasons are marked by things like sports, holidays, work, school, hobbies and church. If you want to get to know someone, ask them to describe a year in their life based on their unique seasons.

Recently, I was asked to share one of my internal calendars. My coworker, who is in her first year on the job, is still learning the seasons of Kansas farming. She asked me to make a calendar of the year — basically, a guide to when things happen.

I initially thought this would be easy. I have been around farming my whole life and know the crop cycles almost instinctively. But when I actually sat down to put

it on a calendar, I realized how difficult it is to explain something learned through experience by date.

The problem comes when you try to tie those steps to a calendar. Planting corn can happen anywhere from March through May in most years. Wheat harvest is usually sometime in June, but I have seen it finish before Memorial Day and stretch past the Fourth of July. Honestly, it is very difficult to explain to someone without having experienced it.

There are a million variables in farming, and almost all of them are outside the farmer’s control. Weather changes the plan. Equipment breaks down. A crop matures early or late. Rain that is desperately needed arrives at exactly the wrong time.

Farmers’ calendars are dictated by conditions rather than dates. Farmers plant when the soil temperature and moisture are right, harvest when the crop is ready and move cattle when the pasture grass is dwindling. None of those things are easy to predict.

This difference between dates and conditions can be especially difficult for people who marry into farming. It is hard to adjust to a life where you

can make a plan six months from now and still have no idea if the farm will cooperate with it.

I sometimes find myself frustrated when Marc won’t give me an answer about an event or trip I am planning. In those moments, I have to remind myself that I grew up on a farm and love our life. I shouldn’t be surprised or frustrated when his answer is, “I don’t know.” He’s just being honest.

Not everything important in life happens on a specific date. We can put dates on a calendar, but we don’t always get to decide when a season is over. Some things happen when the conditions are right; sometimes they are never right, and we must change our plans

Kansas Soybean Commission opens request for proposals

Research, education, and market development are pillars of the Kansas Soybean Commission, and they all start with a request for proposals. KSC has opened the RFP process, looking for projects that will bolster the profitability of Kansas soybean farmers.

The RFP process is the first step towards the next

entirely.

We all have our own calendars, marked by the things that matter to us. Some are marked by school, sports, work, faith or family. Others are determined by circumstances we can’t control. Maybe the lesson of the farmer’s calendar is that there is a difference between knowing what season should come next and being willing to recognize the season we are actually in. The calendar may tell us what should be happening, but the conditions often tell us what needs to happen next.

"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.

Copyright © 2026
Kansas Farm Bureau,
All rights reserved.

Senior Lifestyles

624 S. Main, Hugoton • 620-544-2283

Hello everyone and welcome to September! It’s starting out a little warm for my taste, but hopefully by the first day of fall September 22 it will bring nicer temperatures. We will be Closed Monday, September 7 for Labor Day. Our dance will be September 12 with Bob Walters performing from 6:30-9:30 pm. The next Grace and Gather Table will be September 14. We hope to see you soon!

Menu
September 3Goulash
September 4 ...Pepper &Onion Pork Chops
September 7Closed
September 8Roast

Eagle Nation football scrimmages at Dodge City

The 2026 version of Eagle Nation Football was at the Dodge City Jamboree last Friday night. This was the fifth year that the Eagles have participated. Dodge City, Pratt, Cimarron and Hugoton all participated.

Hugoton scrimmaged Cimarron first and the JV lost 1-2 and the varsity tied 2-2. Each team got 18 offensive plays and 18 defensive plays. Playing without several starters because of injury, Hugoton did very well.

Coach Witt knew that with only 18 offensive plays there would be a lot of scoring since the offense is geared toward clock control and wearing down the defense. The offensive mantra is 3+3+3= A First Down. Defensively the Eagles

.....Beef
September 9Smoth-
...ered Chicken Breast
September 10BBQ
.....Cocktail Frands

Activities
Friday, September 4
Bingo12:30 p.m.
Saturday, September 5
Cards6:00 p.m.
Monday, September 7
Closed
Tuesday, September 8
Dominoes12:30 p.m.
Wednesday, September 9
Cards12:30 p.m.
Friday, September 11
Bingo12:30 p.m.
Saturday, September 12
Dance- Bob Walters
6:30p.m.
Cards6:00 p.m.

are replacing some key players but Coach Witt was pleased with the effort and hard work against Dodge City....the same results.....2-2 with the varisty and the JV lost 1-2. Remember that Dodge is a 6A school.

Coach Witt commented that now we know where we are and where we have to be by next week and practice will be a “Lively” place to be this week.

Friday, the Eagles host the Perryton Rangers in a Texas vs Kansas matchup. Game time is 7:00 p.m.

Coach Witt and his coaches would like to thank all those fans that made the drive to Dodge to support these young men. We do live in Heavenly Hugoton!!!!

Sports Schedule

September 3
1:00 PM HS Girls Golf JV/Varsity @ Hugoton Invitational
3:30 PM MS Football @ Goodland
4:00 PM HS Volleyball JV/Varsity @ Ulysses (Quad)
7:00 PM HS Football JV @ Perryton
September 4
7:00 PM HS Football Varsity vs. Perryton
September 5
9:00 AM HS Cross Country @ Meade
9:00 AM MS Cross Country @ Meade
September 8
9:00 AM HS Girls Golf Varsity @ Goodland (GWAC Tournament)
4:00 PM MS Volleyball @ Guymon (Dual)
September 10
1:00 PM HS Girls Golf Varsity @ Cimarron
2:00 PM HS Girls Golf JV @ Goodland
4:00 PM HS Volleyball C/JV/Varsity @ Holcomb (Tri)
4:00 PM MS Football @ Lakin
4:00 PM MS Volleyball @ Home (Tri)
5:00 PM HS Football JV vs. Stratford

(First published in The Hugoton Hermes, Thursday, August 20, 2026) 3t

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
STEVENS COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE
OF BETTY JO BANGS, Deceased
(Petition Pursuant to K.S.A.
Chapter 59)

Case No. SV-2026-PR-000015

NOTICE OF HEARING AND
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL
PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that on July 15, 2026, a petition was filed, and on August 11, 2026, an amended pe-

tition was filed in this Court by Robert A. Crane, an heir, devisee and legatee, and Personal Representative named in the "Last Will and Testament of Betty Jo Bangs," deceased, dated July 5, 2024, requesting the will filed with the petition be admitted to probate and record and Petitioner be appointed as Personal Representative, without bond.

You are required to file your written defenses to the petition on or before September 17, 2026, at 11:00 A.M. in the District Court, Stevens 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.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the

PUBLIC NOTICE

(First published in The Hugoton Hermes, Thursday, September 3, 2026) 1t

State of Kansas
Budget Form USD-A
USD #210
2026-2027

Notice of Hearing 2026-2027 Budget
The governing body of Unified School District 210 will meet on the 14th, day of September 2026 at 6:15 PM at 529 S. Main Street, Hugoton, KS 67951 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 District Office on the district website and will be available at this hearing.
The Amount of 2026 Tax to be Levied and Expenditures (published below) establish the maximum limits of the 2026-2027 Budget. The "Est. Tax Rate" (column 7), shown for comparative purposes, is subject to slight change depending on final assessed valuation.

		2024-2025 Actual		2025-2026 Actual		2026-2027 Proposed Budget		
	Code 99 Line	Actual Expenditures (1)	Actual Tax Rate* (2)	Actual Expenditures (3)	Actual Tax Rate* (4)	Budgeted Expenditures (5)	Amount of 2026 Tax to be Levied (6)	Est. Tax Rate* (7)
OPERATING								
General	06	9,651,974	20.000	9,647,439	20.000	9,716,616	1,501,963	20.000
Supplemental General (A OR)	08	3,018,160	21.116	3,096,689	17.294	3,169,348	1,775,101	20.321
SPECIAL REVENUE								
Federal Funds	07	565,842		346,452		319,100		
Adult Education	10	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Preschool-Aged At-Risk	11	127,601		145,000		225,000		
Adult Supplemental Education	12	0		0		0		
At-Risk Education Fund	13	1,938,520		1,830,259		1,969,228		
Bilingual Education	14	214,044		202,702		203,526		
Virtual Education	15	26,557		56,000		25,000		
Capital Outlay	16	1,395,149	7.992	1,200,040	7.994	1,500,000	696,614	8.000
Other Training	18	11,642		20,894		30,000		
Declining Enrollment	19	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Extraordinary School Program	22	0		0		0		
Food Service	24	809,944		861,801		925,000		
Professional Development	26	34,689		39,677		45,000		
Parent Education Program	28	0		0		0		
Summer School	29	0		0		0		
Special Education	30	1,116,043		1,098,770		1,225,000		
Cost of Living	33	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Center and Postsecondary Education	34	126,413		135,000		139,892		
Gifts and Grants	35	30,870		49,762		100,000		
Special Liability Expense Fund	42	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Extraordinary Growth Facilities	45	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Special Reserve Fund	47	1,779,421		2,138,045				
KPERS Special Retirement Contribution	51	928,598		930,767		1,001,738		
Contingency Reserve	53	89,783		0				
Textbook & Student Material Revolving	55	0		100,000				
Activity Fund	56	484,133		443,891				
DEBT SERVICE								
Bond and Interest #1	62	787,700	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Bond and Interest #2	63	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
No-Fund Warrant	66	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Special Assessment	67	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Temporary Note	68	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
COOPERATIVES								
Special Education	78	0		0		0		
TOTAL USD EXPENDITURES	100	23,057,089	48.108	22,336,188	45.238	20,594,448	3,975,878	48.321
Less: Transfers	105	5,426,752		5,637,258		3,708,614		
NET USD EXPENDITURES	110	17,630,337		16,698,930		16,885,834		
TOTAL USD TAXES LEVIED	115	3,718,833		4,631,519		5,975,878		

Notice of Hearing 2026-2027 Budget								
	2024-2025 Actual		2025-2026 Actual		2026-2027 Proposed Budget			
	Code 99 Line	Actual Expenditures (1)	Actual Tax Rate* (2)	Actual Expenditures (3)	Actual Tax Rate* (4)	Budgeted Expenditures (5)	Amount of 2026 Tax to be Levied (6)	Est. Tax Rate* (7)
OTHER								
Historical Museum	80	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Public Library Board/District	82	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Public Library Board Employee Benefits	83	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Recreation Commission	84	635,000	6.993	630,000	5.140	600,000	553,230	6.333
Rec Comm Emp. Benefits & Spec Lab	86	175,000	1.992	170,000	1.386	163,000	149,162	1.708
TOTAL OTHER	120	810,000	8.985	800,000	6.526	763,000	702,392	8.041
TOTAL TAXES LEVIED	125	\$4,443,243		\$5,331,007		\$4,619,210		
Assessed Valuation - General Fund	128	\$68,601,080		\$95,470,166		\$75,088,156		
Assessed Valuation - All Other Funds	130	\$80,624,136		\$107,821,090		\$87,351,727		
Assessed Valuation - Capital Outlay	129	\$80,624,136		\$107,821,090		\$87,351,727		
Outstanding Indebtedness, July 1		2024		2025		2026		
General Obligation Bonds	135	700,000		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	2,262,842		1,959,253		1,649,391		
TOTAL USD DEBT	155	2,962,842		1,959,253		1,649,391		

**Tax Rates are expressed in Mills*


Board President


Clerk of the Board

Board President

Clark of the Board

Stevens County Hospital Specialty Clinics Scheduled for September 2026

Open Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Closed for lunch and holidays

Tele Health	Cardiology	Tues.	9/1
Dr. Freund	Cardiology	Thurs.	9/3
CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY			
Dr. Brown	Podiatry	Thurs.	9/10
Dr. Frankum	General Surgeon	Fri.	9/11
HPM	Pain Management	Mon.	9/14
Tele Health	Cardiology	Tues.	9/14
HPM	Pain Management	Mon.	9/18
Dr. Frankum	General Surgeon	Fri.	9/18
HPM	Pain Management	Mon.	9/21

Dr. Freund. For appointments, please contact his office at 620-272-2430.

Tele health visits with Dr. Farhoud will be available the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 1-4 pm. All visits will be scheduled through his office 316-686-5300.

For appointments with:
Dr. Brown, David Aranda, Dr. Frankum, Holistic Pain Management please call 620-544-8339
If you need more information, please call 620-544-8339.