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Circle Time is back in session at the Stevens County Library! Kids ages birth through five and their caregivers are invited to attend Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

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

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF STEVENS COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CHARLES HOLCOMB, A/K/A CHARLES ARTHUR HOLCOMB, DECEASED
(Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

Case No. SV-2026-PR-000023

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that on August 25, 2026, a petition was filed in this Court by Melinda Immler, an heir, devisee, and legatee, of Charles Holcomb a/k/a Charles Arthur Holcomb, deceased, requesting the will filed with the petition be admitted to probate and record; petitioner be appointed as Administrator CTA, without bond; petitioner be granted Letters of Administration CTA.

You are required to file your written defenses to the petition on or before September 24, 2026, at 9:30 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 Estate within the latter of four months from the date of 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.

/s/ Jeremiah Johnson
Jeremiah Johnson, #21968
Graber & Johnson Law Group, LLC
701 Vilymaca Street, PO Box 450
Elkhart, KS 67950
P: (620) 697-2163
F: (785) 565-0294
jeremiah@graberjohnson.com
Attorneys for Petitioner



PAW PATROL:
THE DINO MOVIE
SAT., SEPT. 12 7PM
&
SUN., SEPT. 13
2PM



SPIDER-MAN:
BRAND NEW DAY
LIVE ACTION
SAT., SEPT. 19 7PM
&
SUN., SEPT. 20
4PM



HUGOTON VS STRATFORD
FRI., SEPT. 11
7PM
DOORS OPEN AT 6:30

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COMMISSIONERS

From page 1

meeting.

The commissioners discussed withdrawing the county from WEKANDO and Port Authority memberships as those affiliations are no longer active. Motion was made and passed to dissolve Stevens County from the Port Authority and WEKANDO memberships.

The meeting was moved to the Memorial Hall so there would be enough seating for the data center discussion.

Pat Hall said he read in the newspaper the commissioners were discussing data centers. Pat's opinion is not to have data centers. Tron said he is aware there are landmen coming in and out of the county and will be contacting landowners to purchase land for possible data centers. Pat asked why there is a need for a data center in every county when the centers are exempt from paying property tax for twenty to

twenty-five years, not to mention the use of water and electricity which has been stated is a considerable amount. He expressed his concerns about what that will do to the community.

Joe stated the commissioners have always been and will remain open about data centers and what is happening. The commissioners plan to continue meetings and have no intention of signing any NDA (non-disclosure agreement) so there will be transparency. The commissioners have instructed the planning and zoning board to get ahead of the data centers to have good regulations in place. Shelley Cox asked if the commissioners knew the companies that were coming into the county looking to purchase land. Tron replied he has not heard yet and does not know if the landmen have any representation. LaDonna Hall appreciates the openness from the commissioners and expressed her main concern was there are some counties signing NDAs without informing their citizens and hoped Stevens County would not do the same.

Discussion points over data centers from the citizens were concerns of taking farmland and turning those areas into industrial property which causes values to dip, farmland being gone which will hurt the farming industry and

food supply, the aquafer depleting, noise/frequency of noise causing harm to animals and people, and light pollution. The drought in southwest Kansas also causes issues when the state sets mandates on how much water farmers can use for their farmland. Increase in water and electricity bills is another concern of the citizens. The commissioners said the State is strict on water usage and hopes they will be the same with the data centers as well as what can be done to keep Stevens County a place people want to be.

Neal Gillespie would like to have all issues and concerns addressed to discern what is fact and fiction concerning the data centers.

The citizens would like meetings over the data centers to be held in the evenings so more residents may attend. The commissioners promise to have open meetings and will have some in the evenings as well so the citizens will have a better opportunity to attend.

The data center discussion concluded, and the commissioners moved back to the commissioner meeting room.

Rex came back in to continue the discussion of the courthouse roof. He presented the commissioners with quotes from D.V. Douglass. The commissioners instructed Rex to get a date when the roofing will start and end.

Motion was made and passed to forego the bidding process as the State's statute for county bid requirements changed for building projects if they are over \$100,000.00, a bid will be needed.

Motion was made and passed to approve the quote from D.V. Douglass Roofing, Inc., in the amount of \$61,768. to reroof the Memorial Hall and entry and sheet metal flashing and trim for new TPO.

Amy requested a fifteen minute executive session over non-elected personnel to discuss job duties, with Rex included in the meeting. Executive session began at 11:08 a.m. and concluded at 11:23 a.m. No action taken.

Jackson Turner was in attendance and asked the commissioners if they discussed data centers yet. The commissioners informed Jackson that they had and relayed the information that was discussed. Jackson stated that he used to be against data centers until they were being built in Finney County. He now realizes the positives of the data centers and shared with the commissioners his reasons based on his own personal witness to several things and his own experiences. He said ground water management for Kansas is failing the farmers.

Attest: Amy Jo Tharp,
County Clerk

Kansas Masons and Midian Shrine are teaming up to sponsor for the final 2026 Wichita Wind Surge game of the season

The Kansas Masonic Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Kansas Masons, and Midian Shrine are teaming up to sponsor the final Wichita Wind Surge game of the 2026 season while helping more local families experience a day at the ballpark.

As part of the sponsorship, Kansas Masons and Midian Shrine will provide 100 complimentary tickets to families who may not otherwise have the opportunity to attend a Wind Surge game. The season finale will take place Sunday, September 13, at Equity Bank Park as the Wichita Wind Surge face the Frisco RoughRiders. Gates will open at

noon, with the first pitch scheduled for 1:05 p.m.

The event continues Kansas Masons' long-standing commitment to supporting communities across the state. Through approximately 170 local lodges, Kansas Masons contribute more than \$500,000 annually to charitable and community causes. Their efforts also include providing free cancer screenings to Kansas residents through the Masonic Cancer Alliance, recognizing exceptional teachers and students statewide, and awarding more than \$200,000 in scholarships annually to Kansas students.

"Kansas Masons have

a long history of investing in the communities we call home, and sometimes that means creating opportunities for families to simply come together and enjoy an experience they may not otherwise have," said Robert Shively, Executive Director of the Kansas Masonic Foundation. "We're proud to join Midian Shrine in supporting the Wind Surge and helping bring our community together for the final game of the season."

Families interested in receiving complimentary tickets may contact Richard Steele at richard-steele419@att.net for additional information and availability.