

Industry envisions first U.S. transcontinental railroad

The week before Christmas, Jim Vena, CEO of Union Pacific (UP) Railroad, filed a nearly 7,000-page proposal to purchase Norfolk Southern (NS) Railway with the Surface Transportation Board (STB). Once done, it would mark the first transcontinental railroad in U.S. history. The nations sharing our continent have had such rails for decades.

At once, a raft of opposition to UP's action erupted.

Internationally known for being a solid investment and for pioneering routes across the American West, UP has built a reputation for achieving financial and historical ends. It has made a host of admirers.

However, a group of vocal critics have difficulty with how UP has achieved these ends. Previous actions taken by UP have led to opposition regarding the merger and prompted numerous requests for additional information.

Bill Stephens, my favorite railroad

expert, recently promoted to editor of the monthly journal *Trains*, has noted that the unions who run the trains have given support to the merger. And Vena has promised that no union worker on UP's roster will lose her or his job once the merger is completed.

This past week, the Midwest Association of Rail Shippers (MARS) gathered in Chicago for their winter meeting, the first and most important of the year. From podiums, in hallways, at restaurants, and wherever challenged, UP's VP of marketing and sales, Kenny Rocker, led the chance to "set the record straight." He made a lot of telling points.

Rocker noted that the two companies have minimal overlaps in joining east and west rails. He indicated that this will not reduce shipper choices and is an easy claim to refute.



Walt Mack

"All you need to do is look at a map," he said.

Where facilities are duplicated, UP plans to close one of them, but all employees will be retained.

He went on to say that UP has made jobs-for-life agreements with operating unions and expects to hire 900 new union jobs within three years.

One argument critics made was that merger would make service less reliable as it had in many previous merger events. Rocker said that the evidence critics of the merger used was 30 years old. Since then, he noted, modern transportation management systems have transformed the rail industry.

The MARS meeting seemed to validate many of the points Rocker made. More than 500 customers signed letters of support for the merger. These letters make a powerful argument for merger action, he asserted.

As part of her America at Work tour, U.S. Labor Secretary Lori Chavez-DeRemer last week visited UP headquarters in Omaha. She toured both UP's Training Center and the vast Harriman Dispatching Center, which serves as UP's central nervous system. The Harriman facility dispatches trains and crews 24/7 across UP's entire multi-state system.

Impressed with tour, the secretary said that she appreciated the efforts of UP "to strengthen our skilled workforce and keep America competitive for decades to come."

This year as part of the nation's 250th birthday, UP will dispatch the Abraham Lincoln Commemorative Locomotive across the nation. It will honor our nation's 16th president's signing of the Pacific Railway Act in 1862. It and UP's Big Boy steam engine will tour the country as part of the nation's celebration.

Walt Mack is a lifelong historian and lives in Leavenworth.

CLASSIFIEDS

PLACE YOUR AD: **913.682.0305** **classifieds@leavenworthtimes.com**

Public Notices

(First Published in the Leavenworth Times on January 10 2026).

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF LEAVENWORTH COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of Thurman V. Moore, Deceased. Case No. LV-2025-PR-000221

Proceeding Under K.S.A. Chapter 59
Title to Real Estate Involved

Public Notices

NOTICE OF HEARING

The State of Kansas to all persons concerned:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in said court by Lyle V. Moore, heir at law of Thurman V. Moore, deceased, requesting descent be determined of the following described real estate situated in Leavenworth County, Kansas:

The West Half of the Southeast Quarter (W/2 SE/4) of Section 26, Township 9, Range 21 Leavenworth County, Kansas.

Public Notices

and all personal property and other Kansas real estate owned by decedent at the time of death. And that such property and all personal property and other Kansas real estate owned by the decedent at the time of death be assigned pursuant to the laws of intestate succession.

You are required to file your written defenses to the petition on or before February 13, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. in said court in the City of Leavenworth, in Leavenworth County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should fail to file your written defenses, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the petition.

Lyle V. Moore Petitioner

Erin K. Lynch – 28991 BARBER EMERSON, L.C. 1211 Massachusetts Street P.O. Box 667 Lawrence, Kansas 66044 (785) 843-6600 Telephone (785) 843-8405 Facsimile lynch@barberemerson.com Attorneys for Petitioner Published in the Leavenworth Times, Jan 10, 17, 24, 2026 418603C

Public Notices

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF LEAVENWORTH COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of Michael D. Mathews, Deceased Case No. LV-2026-PR-000005

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on or before February 13, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. in said court by Stephanie A. Mathews praying that she be appointed as Administrator and granted Letters of Administration.

You are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before the 13th day of February, 2026, at 8:30 o'clock a.m. of said day, in this Court at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the petition.

Lyle V. Moore Petitioner

Erin K. Lynch – 28991 BARBER EMERSON, L.C. 1211 Massachusetts Street P.O. Box 667 Lawrence, Kansas 66044 (785) 843-6600 Telephone (785) 843-8405 Facsimile lynch@barberemerson.com Attorneys for Petitioner Published in the Leavenworth Times, Jan 10, 17, 24, 2026 418603C

Public Notices

G. Ronald Bates, Jr. #12901 529 Delaware St. Leavenworth, KS 66048 (913) 682-8882 - P (913) 682-7136 - F ron@grbateslaw.com Attorney for Petitioner Published in the Leavenworth Times, Jan 17, 24, 31, 2026 420056C

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LEAVENWORTH COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

To all qualified electors residing within the boundaries of the Leavenworth County Conservation District, notice is hereby given that pursuant to K.S.A. 2-1907, as amended, on the 6th day of February 2026, at 5:00 p.m., an annual meeting of the Leavenworth County Conservation District will be held at Kane Family Farm 17791 Chieftain Road Tonganoxie, Ks 66086 Please RSVP to 785-863-2221 ext 1031.

The meeting agenda shall include the following business items:

ONE:
The supervisors of the Leavenworth County Conservation District shall make full and due report of their activities and financial affairs since the last annual meeting.

TWO:
The supervisors shall conduct an election by secret ballot of qualified electors there present of two supervisors to serve for a term of three years from date of said meeting.

The term of Rodney Parsons and Jeff Heim is expiring. All in the county of Leavenworth in the State of Kansas.

By
Jeff Heim, Chairman
Leavenworth County Conservation District
Attest

Megan Hollander, District Manager

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dered by the Governing Body to be repaired or demolished NOW THEREFORE BE IT RE-

SOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS: Section 1. Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the City Commission on March 10 2026, at Leavenworth City Hall

100 N. 5th Street, Leavenworth Kansas, 66048, such date being at least thirty (30) days after the last date scheduled for publication of this Resolution. The public hearing will commence at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the City Commission can hear the matter. If, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic or other reason, such public hearing may not be held in person but rather via remote meeting, such remote meeting shall be held at the same date and time, and access instructions for remote participation shall be available at the City's website, www.leavenworthks.gov, and included with the published agenda for such meeting.

At the public hearing the owners, their agents, heirs any lien holders of record and other persons affected by certain structures herein described

may appear and show cause why such structures should not be condemned as dangerous or hazardous structures and ordered repaired or demolished pursuant to K.S.A. 2-1907 et seq.

The structure is described as: A single-family structure located at 130 Logar Street. The property is legally described as: Lot 20, Block 32 of Southside Park Subdivision Leavenworth, Kansas. CAMA 1010104014005000 Sector 2. The City Clerk and/or Chieftain Building Inspector are hereby authorized and directed to provide for the notice of the public hearing by taking the following action:

a. A copy of this Resolution shall be mailed by certified mail within three (3) days after its first publication to each such owner, agent, lienholder, and occupant at the last known address and shall be marked "deliver to addressee only." b. This Resolution shall be published for two (2) consecutive weeks on the same day of each week.

Section 3. This Resolution shall be effective upon its adoption by the City Commission of the City of Leavenworth, Kansas.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of Leavenworth, Kansas, this 13th day of January, 2026. Nancy D. Bauder, Mayor (SEAL)

ATTEST: Sarah Bodensteiner CMC, City Clerk

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RESOLUTION NO. B-2413 A RESOLUTION FIXING THE TIME AND PLACE AND PROVIDING FOR NOTICE OF HEARING BEFORE THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, AT WHICH TIME AND PLACE THE OWNER, ITS AGENT, LIEN HOLDERS OF RECORD, AND OCCUPANTS OF THE STRUCTURES HEREIN DESCRIBED MAY APPEAR TO SHOW CAUSE WHY SUCH STRUCTURES SHOULD NOT BE CONDEMNED AND ORDERED REPAIRED OR DEMOLISHED AS UNSAFE OR DANGEROUS STRUCTURES PURSUANT TO K.S.A. 12-1751 ET SEQ. WHEREAS, pursuant to K.S.A. 12-1752, the enforcing officer of the City of Leavenworth, Kansas, did on the 5th day of January, 2026, file with the Governing Body of said city a statement in writing that certain structures hereinafter described are unsafe or dangerous and should be or-

The High Prairie Township Board will be conducting quarterly meetings on the following dates: January 22, April 23, July 23, and October 22.

All meetings will be held at the High Prairie Township Fire Department, 25093 187th Street, Leavenworth, KS, at 6:30 p.m.

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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

38 Toy

1 Psychedelic drug

4 Red

42 Usual

8 Molt

12 Expert

13 Norse god

14 Body of laws

15 Water barrier

16 Be in a funk

17 Gigantic

18 "Of — and Men"

20 Extreme

22 Get brown in the sun

23 Wheel part

24 New business venture

28 Nuisance

31 Fastener

32 Fish eggs

34 Extremely popular

36 Curved letter

37 The present

Answer to Previous Puzzle

TWO WISH SCAT
RIGARIA HERR
ARROGANT ALTO
PEIVED HERESY
ERE NEB
MOORS PAD RIB
IMP TOPS ADO
RAE JUST NEW
ERR ANT VITAL
ADD DEN
PITIED ESCHEW
ERIC OFFSHORE
NAVE GLEE UMP
NEED EARL RAT

5 "Much —

30 Ancient garment

Nothing"

33 Sheep

6 Rends

35 Rocky

7 Snide look

38 "Clair de —"

9 Time of day

40 Lure

10 Brink

41 Fanatical one

11 Poor grade

43 Mix up

19 Complain

45 Father

21 Big cheese

47 Unclotted

49 Pro —

24 That girl

51 Be in a rage

25 Thing to be done

52 Crimson

26 Samovar

54 Farm denizen

27 "— Things"

56 Not talking

29 Protected from bad weather

41 Instant

