

FARM & HOME

FAWN CREEK 4H CLUB



The Fawn Creek 4H Club has been busy the past month. In January, at 4H Club Day, Fawn Creek participated in the model meeting, receiving a purple ribbon, which qualified them for regionals at Neosho College in Chanute February 28. The club practiced several different times in preparation. Even with last minute changes, the club was happy to announce at Regionals, they received a blue ribbon for their hard and dedication. **Courtesy Photo**

Flowering Tree: Friend or Foe

Spring flowers are a highlight across landscapes and along roadsides. Flowering trees are a large portion of this display. While all of them may be beautiful, some are more problematic than others. Bradford pear is the big white puff-ball of a tree that blooms in spring... or late winter, if the weather is unseasonably warm.

The name "Bradford" is actually just a specific variety of this tree. The common name is Callery pear, from the Latin *Pyrus calleryana*. Its beautiful blooms lead to a very popular and commonly planted tree. However, while Bradford was initially supposed to be fruitless, it has become very fruitful. This is the root of the problem, and this tree has many problems.

The problems are as follows, from biggest to smallest: fruit spreading leads to widespread encroachment, poor structure causes frequent breakage, and many people think the blooms smell bad. Now, these are all problems worth discussion, but the first two may cause ecological, financial, or structural harm.

Invasive species are non-native organisms that are well adapted and proliferate easily. Callery pear fits the bill perfectly, and it can be seen in fields and pastures around the country. Several states list it as an invasive species or have state programs to address it. In 2027, the sale and transport of this tree will be limited in Kansas, per the Department of Agriculture.

The second big flaw, tree breakage, affects anyone with a tree in their landscape. Callery pear has a rounded shape with dense branches, which lend to its impressive floral display. However, there is a reason most shade trees have a single, strong trunk. That type of growth, called excurrent, leads to branches



with a better ability to withstand load. It also leads to the majority of foliage, which catches the wind, being lower in the canopy. A tree like Callery pear, with decurrent growth, has poorly structured branches that catch a lot of wind. The sharp angles lead to easily cleaved branches, and once one goes down, an entire wedge can be empty.

There are many other, less problematic, flowering trees. The native redbud is an excellent specimen for spring color, as well as the crab ap-

ple. Their colors range from white to pink to purple. Dogwood is another native tree with great spring flowers and fall color to boot!

A plant isn't usually called a problem until it becomes a big problem. If they're still in bloom, you can view the escaped callery pear trees along the highway.

[For more information, please contact Kenny Dodson, Horticulture Extension Agent, dodsonke@ksu.edu, 620-670-5018.]

Songs of the Flint Hills

ONE THAT DIDN'T MAKE IT

The truck pulled hard
Across the long stretches of road
to town,
Muddied from weeks of rain and
cold.

We passed mile after mile
Of wearied cows
And clean-faced new calves.

Until off to the south,
We saw the coyote
Next to the small black hump.

"There's one didn't make it,"
My husband said regretfully,
Head turning back to the muddied
tracks.

As we drove on by, I watched,
Sorry, but relieved
It wasn't one of ours.

The coyote's hungry eyes
Rose to follow us past,
Not offering to run,
To abandon his feast.

It was a hard winter for him, too.
This one that didn't make it
Meant he would.

His gaunt silhouette
Against a shale-gray sky
Shivered,

As he thrust his face
Back into the carcass
Unashamed.

*See more stories and songs of the
Flint Hills at tallgrassexpress.com*

Classifieds

CLASSIFIED NEW DEADLINES

Daily-11 a.m. Day Before
Saturday- 3 p.m. Thursday

Minimum Charge- 1 day, up to 15 words,
\$8.25

Call the office 620-331-3550 to place your
ad. We accept Visa, MasterCard or Dis-
cover cards, or you can pre-pay for your
ad at our offices at 6th and Chestnut
streets.

The Reporter reserves the right to edit,
classify or reject any ad submitted.

The Independence Daily Reporter does not
accept responsibility for the character of
advertisers requesting its readers to make
cash investments in business ventures.
The Reporter does suggest you check thor-
oughly with your Chamber of Commerce,
credit bureau, or your local banks before
you make investments with concerns you
know little or nothing about.

104 Notices

AA MEETINGS; 213 W. Oak;
Independence; Noon Wednes-
day, Saturday & Sunday;
Wednesday at 7pm. Thursday
at 7pm; Sunday at 6pm. Ala-
non meetings; Tuesday at 7p
m TF

132 Rummage Sale

LARGE RUMMAGE Sale, Sat-
urday, 215 N. 12th. Household
items, furniture, bedding, pots
& pans.

151 Services

LOWRY CONSTRUCTION,
new construction, room addi-
tions, steel buildings, remodel-
ing, roofing, insurance claims.
Locally owned since 2001.
We do it all, 620-330-1943.
TF

JESSE'S LAWN Service, mow-
ing, cleaning, trimming. Free
estimates. Call 620-779-3897.
TF

ALWAYS A great gift idea; au-
tomatic garage doors, Indepen-
dence Overhead Doors, Inc., 115
W. Main, Independence, 620-
331-2445. TF

182 Property For Rent

CLIMATE CONTROL storage,
available, Witwer Storage, 1691
CR 4325, Coffeyville, 620-251-
8542. TF

DEVORE STORAGE, secured
perimeter, reasonable rates,
easy access, 216 Cement, 620-
331-8407, 620-926-0197, sizes
available. TF

200 Public Notice

(First published in the Independence
Daily Reporter March 12, 2026)
Millsap & Singer, LLC
8900 Indian Creek Parkway,
Suite 180
Overland Park, KS 66210
(913) 339-9132
(913) 339-9045 (fax)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
Montgomery County, KANSAS
CIVIL DEPARTMENT
Flat Branch Mortgage, Inc
Plaintiff,
vs.
Terry Lynn Whittett II, et al.
Defendants,
Case No.MGI-2025-CV-000092
Court No.
Title to Real Estate Involved
Pursuant to K.S.A. §60
NOTICE OF SALE
Under and by virtue of an Order
of Sale issued to me by the Clerk of
the District Court of Montgomery
County, Kansas, the undersigned
Sheriff of Montgomery County, Kan-
sas, will offer for sale at public auc-
tion and sell to the highest bidder for
cash in hand on April 2, 2026 at the
time of 2:00 PM at the Montgomery
County Courthouse, Kansas, the fol-
lowing real estate:
LOTS 8 AND 9, JAMES WHITCOMB
RILEY ADDITION TO THE CITY OF
INDEPENDENCE, MONTGOMERY
COUNTY, KANSAS, Parcel ID No.
063-099-30-0-20-06-006.00-0. Com-
monly known as 1328 N 10th St., In-
dependence, KS 67301 ("the Property")
MS229595
to satisfy the judgment in the above-
entitled case. The sale is to be made
without appraisal and subject to
the redemption period as provided by
law, and further subject to the approval
of the Court.
s. Montgomery County Sheriff
MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC
By:
s. Aaron M. Schuckman, #22251
aschuckman@msfirm.com
Dwayne A. Duncan, #27533
dduncan@msfirm.com
612 Spirit Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63005
(636) 537-0110
(636) 537-0067 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF
MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC AS ATTOR-
NEYS FOR Flat Branch Mortgage,
Inc IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A
DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAIN-
ED WILL BE USED FOR THAT
PURPOSE.
March 12, 19, 26, 2026

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
Montgomery County, KANSAS
CIVIL DEPARTMENT
Freedom Mortgage Corporation
Plaintiff,
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Christopher J Furr, et al.
Defendants,
Case No.MGI-2025-CV-000075
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LOT 47, ELMHURST ADDITION TO
THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE,
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, KANSAS,
Parcel ID No. 063-099-30-0-30-11-
00700-0. Commonly known as 704 N
9th St., Independence, KS 67301 ("the
Property") MS229213
to satisfy the judgment in the above-
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ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF
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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
Montgomery County, KANSAS
CIVIL DEPARTMENT
PennyMac Loan Services, LLC
Plaintiff,
vs.
Jeffery Howard, et al.
Defendants,
Case No.MGC-2025-CV-000056
Court No.
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A PORTION OF LAND LOCATED IN A
TRACT OF THE SW/4 OF THE
NE/4 OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 34
SOUTH, RANGE 16 EAST OF THE 6TH
P.M., MONTGOMERY COUNTY, KAN-
SAS, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY
DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN-
NING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER
OF THE SW/4 OF THE NE/4 OF SEC-
TION 15; THENCE S 01 DEGREES 48
MINUTES 32 SECONDS E, ALONG
THE WEST LINE OF THE SW/4 OF
THE NE/4, A DISTANCE OF 363.00
FEET; THENCE N 88 DEGREES 27
MINUTES 43 SECONDS E, PARALLEL
WITH THE NORTH LINE OF THE SW/4
OF THE NE4 [NE/4], A DISTANCE OF
300.00 FEET; THENCE N 01 DEGREES
48 MINUTES 32 SECONDS W, PAR-
ALLEL WITH THE WEST LINE OF THE
SW/4 OF THE NE/4, A DISTANCE OF
363.00 FEET TO THE NORTH LINE OF
THE SW/4 OF THE NW/4; THENCE S
88 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 43 SEC-
ONDS W, ALONG SAID NORTH LINE,
A DISTANCE OF 300.00 FEET TO THE
POINT OF BEGINNING.
[THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN
BRACKETS HAS BEEN ADDED TO
MORE ACCURATELY REFLECT THE
LEGAL DESCRIPTION.], Parcel ID No.
063-195-15-0-00-05-002.00-0. Com-
monly known as 2468 County Rd 4550,
Coffeyville, KS 67337 ("the Property")
MS228931
to satisfy the judgment in the above-
entitled case. The sale is to be made
without appraisal and subject to
the redemption period as provided by
law, and further subject to the approval
of the Court.
s. Montgomery County Sheriff
MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC
By:
s. Aaron M. Schuckman, #22251
aschuckman@msfirm.com
Dwayne A. Duncan, #27533
dduncan@msfirm.com
612 Spirit Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63005
(636) 537-0110
(636) 537-0067 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF
MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC AS ATTOR-
NEYS FOR PennyMac Loan Services,
LLC IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A
DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAIN-
ED WILL BE USED FOR THAT
PURPOSE.
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(913) 339-9132
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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
Montgomery County, KANSAS
CIVIL DEPARTMENT
Freedom Mortgage Corporation
Plaintiff,
vs.
Christopher J Furr, et al.
Defendants,
Case No.MGI-2025-CV-000075
Court No.
Title to Real Estate Involved
Pursuant to K.S.A. §60
NOTICE OF SALE
Under and by virtue of an Order
of Sale issued to me by the Clerk of
the District Court of Montgomery
County, Kansas, the undersigned
Sheriff of Montgomery County, Kan-
sas, will offer for sale at public auc-
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County Courthouse, Kansas, the fol-
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Parcel ID No. 063-099-30-0-30-11-
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Millsap & Singer, LLC
8900 Indian Creek Parkway, Suite 180
Overland Park, KS 66210
(913) 339-9132
(913) 339-9045 (fax)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
Montgomery County, KANSAS
CIVIL DEPARTMENT
Freedom Mortgage Corporation
Plaintiff,
vs.
Christopher J Furr, et al.
Defendants,
Case No.MGI-2025-CV-000075
Court No.
Title to Real Estate Involved
Pursuant to K.S.A. §60
NOTICE OF SALE
Under and by virtue of an Order
of Sale issued to me by the Clerk of
the District Court of Montgomery
County, Kansas, the undersigned
Sheriff of Montgomery County, Kan-
sas, will offer for sale at public auc-
tion and sell to the highest bidder for
cash in hand on April 2, 2026 at the
time of 2:00 PM at the Montgomery
County Courthouse, Kansas, the fol-
lowing real estate:
LOT 47, ELMHURST ADDITION TO
THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE,
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, KANSAS,
Parcel ID No. 063-099-30-0-30-11-
00700-0. Commonly known as 704 N
9th St., Independence, KS 67301 ("the
Property") MS229213
to satisfy the judgment in the above-
entitled case. The sale is to be made
without appraisal and subject to
the redemption period as provided by
law, and further subject to the approval
of the Court.
s. Montgomery County Sheriff
MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC
By:
s. Aaron M. Schuckman, #22251
aschuckman@msfirm.com
Dwayne A. Duncan, #27533
dduncan@msfirm.com
612 Spirit Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63005
(636) 537-0110
(636) 537-0067 (fax)
ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF
MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC AS ATTOR-
NEYS FOR Freedom Mortgage Corpo-
ration IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A
DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAIN-
ED WILL BE USED FOR THAT
PURPOSE.
March 12, 19, 26, 2026

(First published in the Independence
Daily Reporter March 12, 2026)
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CIVIL DEPARTMENT
Freedom Mortgage