

New museum program to explore recipes that built Southeast Kansas

BY PHILIP STEVENS
HOMETOWN GIRARD

►► Miners Hall Museum will host a special program celebrating the food, traditions and immigrant stories that helped shape Southeast Kansas at 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 2.

“The Tables that Built Us” will feature Chuckie Hessong of Laughing Rooster Eats, who will share stories from the region’s culinary heritage and offer guests samples of recipes included in her forthcoming cookbook.

Hessong’s book, The Tables That Built Us: 80 Recipes from a Town That Spoke 53 Languages, is being published this year in recognition of Pittsburg’s 150th anniversary. The collection reflects the recipes and traditions passed down through generations of immigrant families, miners, settlers and other community builders.

Food has long served as a record of the people who settled Southeast Kansas. Family recipes, handwritten instructions and cooking traditions brought from around the world help illustrate the cultural diversity of a region where more than 50 languages were once spoken.

The Aug. 2 program will examine the stories behind those meals and recognize the families whose food traditions became part of the area’s shared heritage. Refreshments will also be served.



Chuckie Hessong. COURTESY PHOTO

Smart Ways to Save Money on Back-to-School Shopping

BY JULIE BEEMAN
K-State Extension

►► August is here, and students are preparing to head back to the classroom. Families face the reality that summer is over and the reminder that it’s time to shop for school supplies, clothing, and technology. Families can keep from breaking the budget by planning ahead. Here are three simple strategies to help stretch your dollar when school shopping.

1. First, create a plan. Take an inventory of what you already have. Supplies such as pencils, backpacks, calculators, and even notebooks can often be reused. Create a list based on your school’s required supply list and stick to it. Shopping with a plan helps reduce impulse purchases and ensures you buy only what you need.
2. Next, compare prices. Many stores offer back-to-school sales. Compare prices online and in local advertisements. Use digital coupons and consider purchasing store-brand items. Many are comparable in



The event is being presented in conjunction with the museum’s quarterly exhibit, “Blueprints of American Grit: McNally and 150 Years of Pittsburg Progress.” Hosted by Celebrate Pittsburg/Pittsburg 150, the exhibit will remain on display through Sept. 26.

Following Hessong’s presentation, visitors will be invited to tour the exhibit.

The program is also part of the museum’s 2026 observances recognizing Pittsburg’s sesquicentennial and the 250th anniversary of the United States.

Doors will open at 1:30 p.m. Admission is free. Museum representatives ask those planning to attend to call 620-347-4220 so adequate seating can be arranged.

Miners Hall Museum is located at 701 S. Broadway in Franklin, along the historic Jefferson Highway and next to the Franklin Sidewalk historic site. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday, with free admission to the museum and its programs.

Legal Notices

2027

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING TO EXCEED REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE AND BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of
Sheridan Township
Crawford County

will meet on Sept 14, 2026 at 7pm at Cherokee Storm Shelter for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at Crawford County Clerk Office and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2027 Expenditures and Amount of 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.

Fund	Prior Year Actual 2025		Current Year Estimate 2026		Proposed Budget 2027		
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	12,407	0.672	6,300	0.386	10,000	8,799	0.630
Cemetery	18,456	0.574	9,000	0.406	16,000	14,717	1.053
Totals	30,863	1.246	15,300	0.792	26,000	23,516	1.683

Funds Supported by Township and 3rd Class City - Revenue Neutral Rate**

0.759

Less: Transfers	0	0	0
Net Expenditure	30,863	15,300	26,000
Total Tax Levied	15,980	10,587	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Total Assessed Valuation	12,833,981	13,397,385	13,970,707
Township Assessed Valuation Only			11,315,513

Outstanding Indebtedness,

Jan 1

2024

2025

2026

G.O. Bonds

0

0

0

Other

0

0

0

Lease Purchase Principal

0

0

0

Total

0

0

0

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.

**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

Bruce Washington

Treasurer

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of
City of Hepler

will meet on September 2, 2026 at 7:30 PM at Hepler Community Building, 201 N Prairie, Hepler for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at Mary L Smith, 101 N Prairie, Hepler and will be available at this hearing.

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.

FUND	Prior Year Actual for 2025		Current Year Estimate for 2026		Proposed Budget for 2027		
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax	Estimate Tax Rate*
General	37,493	28.386	42,300	37.471	55,775	21,172	39.040
Library	1,950	2.757	1,960	2.705	1,950	1,657	3.055
Special Highway	4,220		4,000		2,916		
Sewer	8,884		12,800		68,406		
Totals	52,547	31.143	61,060	40.176	129,047	22,829	42.095

Revenue Neutral Rate**

42.096

Less: Transfers	0	0	0
Net Expenditure	52,547	61,060	129,047
Total Tax Levied	16,713	22,829	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Assessed Valuation	535,472	568,240	542,321

Outstanding Indebtedness,

January 1,

2024

2025

2026

Other

6,694

0

0

Lease Purchase Principal

0

0

0

Total

6,694

0

0

*Tax rates are expressed in mills

** Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

Mary L Smith

City Official Title: Treasurer

NOTICE OF HEARING

Published July 23, 30, Aug. 6, 2026.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CRAWFORD COUNTY, KS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

HAZEL FERN DECKARD,

also known as

HAZEL F. DECKARD,

DECEASED.

Case No. CRP-2026-PR-000062

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Shannon Maffett, as an owner of an interest in the following described real estate, requesting:

Descent be determined of the following described real estate situated in Crawford County, Kansas:

Lot One (1) EXCEPT the East Six (6) feet of said Lot One (1) and all of Lots Two (2) and Three (3) in Block Three (3) in W. P. Hamilton’s Addition to the City of Cherokee, according to the recorded Plat thereof.

and all personal property and other Kansas real estate owned by Hazel Fern Deckard, decedent, at the time of death. And that such property and all personal property and other Kansas real estate owned by 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 August 18, 2026, at 9:00 o’clock AM at the Crawford County Judicial Center, 602 North Locust, Pittsburg, 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.

Shannon Maffett, Petitioner.

Timothy L. Fielder - #08649 Attorney at Law 112 South Ozark PO Box 99 Girard, KS 66743 620-724-4214 Phone 620-724-8679 Fax Attorney for Petitioner.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Published July 30, 2026.

CITY OF HEPLER FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE – OFFICIAL NOTICE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN AND TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that on Wednesday, September 2, 2026, at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall, 105 S Prairie, Hepler, Kansas, the City of Hepler Floodplain Management will hold a public meeting to consider:

(1) Revisions to Floodplain Regulations in Ordinance 265

For more details or to see flood maps in advance of the meeting, call City of Hepler,

Kansas Floodplain Manager at (620-368-4776).

If you require special accommodation (i.E. Qualified interpreter, hearing assistance, etc.) In order to participate in this meeting, please notify the city of hepler0 treasurer (620)368-4776 no later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled commencement of the meeting.

Certified this 28, July 2026

City of Hepler Floodplain Manager.

Got something to Sell? Looking to Hire? Got a Rental available? Announce your services and business!

We Buy & Sell COINS-GOLD-SILVER In God We Trust LLC 620-423-6600 611 Main • Mindenmines, MO.

Movin Thru the Ages

BY VALORI STONE
K-State Extension

►► Regular exercise becomes one of the most powerful tools we have for maintaining independence and vitality as we age. Movement supports the body’s natural ability to preserve muscle mass, strengthen bones, and keep joints functioning smoothly. Even simple routines like walking, stretching, or light strength training help counteract the natural physical changes that occur over time, making everyday tasks easier and reducing the risk of falls or injury.

As mobility changes, staying active also helps maintain balance, coordination, and flexibility, three abilities that directly influence safety and confidence in daily life. Exercises that focus on stability, such as yoga, tai chi, or targeted balance training, can significantly reduce fall risk, which remains one of the most common causes of injury among older adults. By keeping the body agile and responsive, regular movement supports long-term independence and a greater sense of control.

Beyond physical strength, staying active plays a

major role in protecting long-term health. Research consistently shows that regular movement can lower the risk of chronic conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, and arthritis. Exercise also improves circulation, supports immune function, and boosts energy levels, helping older adults feel more capable and engaged in daily life. These benefits accumulate over time, making consistent activity one of the most effective forms of preventive care.

Equally important is the impact of exercise on emotional and cognitive well-being. Physical

activity stimulates brain health, improving memory, focus, and mood. Group classes, walking clubs, or chair-based programs also offer valuable social connections, which are linked to reduced stress and greater life satisfaction.

For older adults, staying active isn’t just about fitness; it’s about preserving independence, confidence, and joy in the years ahead.

For more information, please contact Valori Stone, Family and Community Wellness Agent, Wildcat Extension District, at valori@ksu.edu or 620-670-4878.