

THE BUTLER INSIDER

Butler County

Volume 25, Issue 3
March 2026

ANNUAL BUTLER COUNTY
Lawn & Garden Show

**GROW & BLOOM
IN BUTLER**

Master Gardeners of Butler Co., KS

FREE
Admission

- Children's activities
- Concessions
- Exhibits & vendors
- Plants for sale!
- Professional presentations
- Seed swap
- Soil test service available!
- & More!

**DOOR
PRIZES!**

Event Details



MARCH

2026

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Saturday, April 11th, 9 AM - 5 PM

Sunday, April 12th, 11 AM - 4 PM

Butler County Community/4-H Building

200 N. Griffith, El Dorado

This institution is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services, and activities. Program information may be available in languages other than English. Language access requests and reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, including alternative means of communication (e.g., Braille, large print, and American Sign Language), may be requested by contacting the event contact, Butler County Ext. Office four weeks prior to the start of the event, March 13th, at 316-321-9660. Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so. Language access services, such as interpretation or translation of vital information, will be provided free of charge to limited English proficient individuals upon request.

K-STATE
Research and Extension
Master Gardener
Butler County





Will's Desk

Tis is the end of February and I am sitting here staring out the window at 75-degree temperatures wishing I were somewhere other than typing this newsletter here in my office. This is a much different opening from last year's newsletter when we were talking about bitter cold and a lot of February snow. Amazing what a difference a year makes. Let's just pray we can make it through March and April without severe weather or major spring wildfires.

It has been relatively quiet as we are busy wrapping up some long overdue projects such as the compensation study and update to the Comprehensive Plan. While we have implemented the salary adjustments from the compensation study, we still need to finalize the final guidance document; we should have this done in March. Likewise, we continue to work on the final edits to the Comprehensive Plan and, while the target date for adoption was April, we may push it back a couple months to give the Planning Commission and County Commission time to fully review and discuss modifications prior to adoption. These two projects have been long overdue and I am going to be excited when we finally close them both out.

We continue to watch closely what is going on in Topeka as the Legislature is still dead set on doing something with property taxes, especially since this is an election year. It appears two similar bills are on a crash course again this year. One from the Senate, capping appraisals, and another from the House, which will cap property taxes. Each bill is drastically different and it appears the Senate still has not learned capping appraisals does not cap property taxes and only ends up creating a financial mess for State of Kansas along with major inequities between our neighbors when paying taxes over time. The House, on the other hand, has put together a pretty good and thought-out bill which has the potential to actually limit property taxes. While I may or may not agree with State taking control out of the hands of local officials, at least this bill has a chance to accomplish something rather than making a mess out of the appraisal system which is not broke. So, we shall see where this goes over the course of the next few weeks. Unfortunately, this is an election year and crazy things get introduced and happen without being fully vetted. We are also watching HB 2712 which would allow Counties to issue up to 2% in special sales tax without the approval of the Legislature. This would be a great win for Kansas counties and I am hoping this moves forward, otherwise we will have to continue going to the Legislature for approval of special use sales taxes, which are currently doing with HB2643. HB2643 would allow Butler County to issue up to a 1% sales tax dedicated for property tax relief. To date, HB2643 has not received a hearing date and we are hoping HB2712 passes and our bill is not necessary.

Remember storm season is right around the corner, and I am not talking about pending legislation, which could be more damaging than a tornado. We need to make sure we are prepared both as individuals and employees. Keep up the great work; enjoy the beautiful weather and thank you for making Butler County the best county in Kansas. - Will

RAIN BARREL CLINIC

Whitewater Library
118 E Topeka, Whitewater, KS
Clinic is free!
Make your own rain barrel for \$50!



**SATURDAY,
MARCH
28TH AT
9:30 A.M.**



KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension
Butler County

- ✓ How to make a rain barrel
- ✓ How to care for a rain barrel
- ✓ Plants for a Resilient Landscape
- ✓ How to reduce water use in the garden and landscape

**RSVP FOR A RAIN BARREL BY
MARCH 13TH
CALL (316) 321-9660**

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Butler County Emergency Communications has been re-accredited as the world's 214th Medical & 48th Fire Accredited Center of Excellence (ACE) by the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch (IAED)! Congratulations to all of the Butler County Emergency Communications department, especially the Emergency Dispatchers who answer every request for assistance. This is Butler County's 5th Medical & 4th Fire accreditation.

Congratulations Butler County Dispatch, & Thank you for your continued commitment to excellence!



2026 Storm Fury on the Plains

Thursday, March 12th, 6:30 p.m.

The Point Events Center
2101 Dearborn St., Augusta

With Winter finally making its big arrival in January, our brains have been numbed recently by the bitter wind chills and accumulating snow. Since much of this season has been unusually warm, though, it may make it easier to flip the switch from “snow season” thoughts to “storm season” thoughts. Knowing that it only takes one bad weather day to significantly change a life, we want to ensure our community is prepared as possible before those Spring skies start to turn dark.

One important preparedness step is to learn everything you can about how severe storms form and how to identify those “red flags” that tell you it’s time to take action. The National Weather Service’s annual “Storm Fury on the Plains” presentation is a fun and interesting way to get that information — and if you’ve attended this before, it can be a great refresher to get you in the storm safety mindset.

This program is open to the public and offered free of charge. No pre-registration is required. If you are interested in learning more about severe weather in Kansas, make plans now to join us!

If you have any questions, contact Butler County Emergency Management
at (316) 733-9796.



*This program is the result of a cooperative effort
between Butler County Emergency Management and
the National Weather Service Office in Wichita.*





MARCH EMPLOYEE BIRTHDAYS



March 2nd

Wesley Elmore—Detention

March 3rd

Caden Burnett—Appraiser's Office

Fabian Coker—Emergency Medical Services

Shawn Elsen—Public Works

March 4th

Ayden Rasnic—Detention

Elmer Titus—Department on Aging

Natasha Whalen—Facilities Management

March 5th

Tracy Burnett—Detention

March 6th

Rebecca Weaver—Emergency Communications

March 7th

Stephanie Wallace—Emergency Medical Services

March 8th

Freddie Barnett—Emergency Communications

March 9th

Lacy Ruth—Detention

David Springob—Public Works

Thad White—Sheriff's Office

March 10th

Vanessa Daniels—Emergency Medical Services

Patrick Howard—Sheriff's Office

March 11th

Scott McMurphy—Sheriff's Office

James Nelson—Sheriff's Office

March 12th

Donald Phillips—Public Works

March 15th

Dane Danninger—Detention

Pamela McNown—Sheriff's Office

March 16th

Keri Korthals—Emergency Management

Shelby Mascareno—Detention

Makayla Stiles—Emergency Communications

March 17th

Drake Hall—Sheriff's Office

Steven Haury—Public Works

March 18th

Charles Miller—Community Corrections

March 19th

Donna Farthing—Treasurer

March 20th

Angela Jones-Burks—Clerk's Office

Wesley Stewart—Sheriff's Office

March 21st

Clayton Hill—Public Works

March 22nd

Jennifer Castleman—Register of Deeds' Office

Steven Parker—Sheriff's Office

Pablo Ramos—Detention

March 23rd

Victoria Wilson—Clerk's Office

March 24th

Nathan Moyer—Sheriff's Office

March 27th

Larry Reynolds—Detention

March 29th

Deb Studebaker—Appraiser's Office

March 31st

Jacob Lawrence—Sheriff's Office

Johnny Throckmorton—Sheriff's Office

IT'S A RETIREMENT

PAR-TEE

FOR

CHRIS GRAY

THURSDAY MARCH 5TH

4:30-6:30 PM

**701 N HAVERHILL RD.
EL DORADO KS, 67042**





WALK KANSAS

March 22 - May 16, 2026

Walk with us toward a *healthier* tomorrow.

Registration opens March 1!



Kansas State University
Extension

walkkansas.org

K-State Extension Butler County

206 N. Griffith St. El Dorado, KS 67042

316-321-9660

cmmiller1@ksu.edu

Kansas State University is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

13th Judicial District News

Important Notice

Starting January 1, 2026, the Butler County District Court Clerk will only accept the following types of payment:

- Debit/Credit Card,
 - Check,
 - Money Order, and
- Cash – EXACT FUNDS ONLY



Kansas Legal Services Legal Aid

Kansas Legal Services (KLS) will be available to the public to provide legal aid one day a month at the Butler County Judicial Center. KLS attorneys will be on-site in the Butler County Judicial Center, Jury Assembly room from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM on the third Tuesday of each month.

The legal aid services are open to the public at no cost if there is not a conflict. While there is no appointment required, KLS will be limited to 20 individuals per legal aid day. If someone is unable to participate in legal aid day, KLS has made available an advice line. The number for the advice line is 1-800-726-6933.

If you have any questions, please contact Dawn Rouse or Kim Ellison at 316-322-4358.

Butler County's 5K VITALITY WALKS

LET'S GET MOVING!



MAY 5-30, SEPTEMBER 1-29

All Tuesday/Thursday walks will start at 5:15 p.m. on the specified dates at East Park in El Dorado. 250 Vitality Points will be awarded for each walk you register for and complete. Preregistration is required by 5 p.m. on the day before each walk.

SPRING
(HELD IN MAY)

TUESDAYS
5, 12, 19, 26

THURSDAYS
7, 14, 21, 28

SATURDAYS
(MAP MY FITNESS)
9, 16, 23, 30

FALL
(HELD IN SEPTEMBER)

TUESDAYS
1, 8, 15, 22, 29

THURSDAYS
3, 10, 17, 24

SATURDAYS
(MAP MY FITNESS)
5, 12, 19, 26

To receive credit, you must: walk at least 3.2 miles on the specified walk date, preregister for the walk, and notify Sandy of your intent to walk before 5 p.m. the day before.

TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR HEALTH. REWARD YOUR LIFE.

You can participate using the MapMyFitness app on your smartphone if you are unable to participate on the walk at East Park. After downloading the app, friend Sandy Zieman on your account.

Preregistration is required for all walks.

You can only receive points for 10 walks total that are completed during the spring and fall.
Contact Sandy to preregister at benefits@bucoks.com.

Ag Tech Day

April 4, 2026
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Flickner Innovation Farm
Moundridge, Kansas



Visit stations around the farm and learn about technologies to make a farm management plan.



Free and open to the public; activities are tailored for middle and high school students.



Come and go as you please; snacks provided!

Register by April 1 at <https://bit.ly/AgTechDay>

K-STATE
Research and Extension



KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY Institute for Digital Agriculture and Advanced Analytics





please join us for a

Retirement
CELEBRATION

honoring

Kevin Worrell

Friday March 13th 2026

2-4pm

205 W Central

4th floor Commisson Room





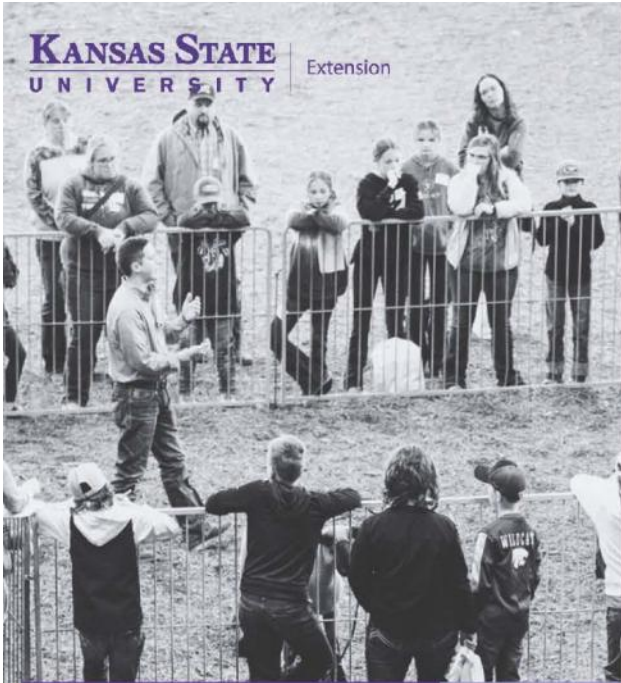
March Employee Anniversaries

Jamie Downs—33 years, Health Department
 Darrin Devinney—26 years, Attorney
 Todd Gurley—24 years, Sheriff's Office
 Joshua Whiteside—22 years, Emergency Medical Services
 Danny McKenzie—18 years, Community Corrections
 Ryan Adkison—12 years, Administration
 Kayce Rickels—12 years, Detention
 Emelia Toney—11 years, Attorney's Office
 Fabian Coker—11 years, Emergency Medical Services
 Carri Guy—10 years, Appraiser's Office
 Tracy Hall—9 years, Health Department
 Quinten Cox—8 years, Emergency Medical Services
 Nathan Sturchio—8 years, Emergency Medical Services
 Donald Tharp III—8 years, Sheriff's Office
 Charles Miller—8 years, Community Corrections
 Frank Williams—7 years, Emergency Medical Services
 Allen Hosler—7 years, Public Works
 Tessa Bragg—7 years, Emergency Communications
 Christina Bastain—5 years, Attorney's Office
 Wesley Stewart—5 years, Sheriff's Office
 Emily Frakes—3 years, Administration



Andrea Humig—3 years, Appraiser's Office
 Angela Aschenbrenner—2 years, Clerk's Office
 Joy Cushman—2 years, Clerk's Office
 Elizabeth Fox—2 years, Clerk's Office
 Harold Leslie—2 years, Clerk's Office
 Sanna Lindley—2 years, Clerk's Office
 John Ruhl—2 years, Clerk's Office
 Peggy Ruhl—2 years, Clerk's Office
 Michael Stafford—2 years, Clerk's Office
 Avery Bryant—2 years, Detention
 Curtis Mader—2 years, Public Works
 John Marlnee—2 years, Public Works
 Shawna Taylor—2 years, Clerk's Office
 Raymond Petty—1 year, Public Works
 Tommy Wilson—1 year, Public Works
 Lauren Hotz—1 year, Emergency Communications
 Malachi Moore—1 year, Detention
 Conner Austin—1 year, Public Works
 Richard Johnston II—1 year, Public Works
 Cody Otto—1 year, Public Works





KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

2022 K-State Junior Sheep Producer Day



Date

4.11.2026

Manhattan, KS



Scan Me!



Registration

Due: 3.20.2026

Cost: \$20/person

<https://bit.ly/SheepJrProducer>

- *All adults & youth must register to attend.
- **Only those registered by 3/20/26 will receive a t-shirt.
- ***Late registration is \$30/person.



Questions

Lexie Hayes



785.532.1264



adhayes@ksu.edu

Program

Join us for the biennial K-State Junior Sheep Producer Day on Saturday, April 11, 2026. Presentations will be provided by featured guests, as well as K-State faculty, staff, and students. This event will be an educational day of activities in which youth, parents, extension agents, ag teachers, and sheep project leaders can increase their knowledge of youth sheep project selection and management. A variety of topics will be shared, including an optional YQCA certification at the end of the day. All ages and skill levels are invited! Lunch and a t-shirt are included. The registration fee is \$20/person for those who sign up by March 20 or \$30/person for those who register after that date. Only those who register by the deadline will receive a t-shirt. This is a family event! Anyone attending, including both youth and adults, must register. There will be an optional tour of the sheep and meat goat center offered on Friday evening and Saturday after jr. day.

Tentative Schedule

- Friday, April 10**
- 5:00-7:00PM Optional Tour of Sheep & Goat Center
- Saturday, April 11**
- 8:00AM Check-in
- 9:00AM Welcome
- 9:15AM Selection
- 10:00AM Nutrition
- 10:45AM Morning Breakout Sessions
 - facilities & equipment, reproduction, project management purchase to show
- NOON Lunch
- 1:00PM Health
- 1:45PM Afternoon Breakout Sessions
 - wool, showmanship, clipping & grooming
- 3:45PM Dismissal
- 4:00PM Optional YQCA Class
- 4:00-6:00PM Optional Sheep & Goat Center Tour



K-State, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating. All educational programs and materials available without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability.



COME AND TREAT YOURSELF TO A CLASS OF GREENERY

KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension
Butler County

You can create a wall-mounted piece of art or learn how to make a Kokedama, which means "moss ball" in Japanese. Walk away with your own garden art creation that will make for a unique personalized gift or addition to your home and garden décor.

**** NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED ****

- Classes are limited to the first 25 individuals who sign up!
- Classes appropriate for ages 7+.
- Pre-registration with payment is required.
- Use code EARLYBIRD07 to get \$5 off (Valid Through 03/18).

**** Attention ** YOU MAY/WILL GET MESSY AND DIRTY, BUT
TOTALLY WORTH IT!**

**TAUGHT BY:
SIMPLE
MOREA**



**BUTLER COUNTY COMMUNITY BUILDING
200 N. GRIFFITH ST. EL DORADO KS**

WORKSHOP #1 – WALL
MOUNTED ART.
THESE SIMPLE,
ELEGANT PLAQUES
FEATURE A BEAUTIFUL
PLANT MOUNTED TO A
CEDAR BOARD WITH
SPHAGNUM MOSS.
TIME: THURSDAY,
MARCH 26TH AT 5:30 PM



WORKSHOP #2 – KOKEDAMA.
KOKEDAMA IS THE JAPANESE
ART OF GROWING PLANTS IN
A MOSS-COVERED BALL OF
SOIL WRAPPED WITH
STRING, TRANSFORMING
ORDINARY HOUSEPLANTS
INTO ELEGANT LIVING
SCULPTURES.
TIME: THURSDAY, MARCH
26TH AT 7 PM

"THIS INSTITUTION IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN ALL PROGRAMS, SERVICES, AND ACTIVITIES. PROGRAM INFORMATION MAY BE AVAILABLE IN LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH. LANGUAGE ACCESS REQUESTS AND REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF COMMUNICATION (E.G., BRAILLE, LARGE PRINT, AND AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE), MAY BE REQUESTED BY CONTACTING THE EVENT CONTACT BUTLER COUNTY EXT. OFFICE FOUR WEEKS PRIOR TO THE START OF THE EVENT, FEBRUARY 26TH, AT 316-321-9660. REQUESTS RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE WILL BE HONORED WHEN IT IS FEASIBLE TO DO SO. LANGUAGE ACCESS SERVICES, SUCH AS INTERPRETATION OR TRANSLATION OF VITAL INFORMATION, WILL BE PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE TO LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT INDIVIDUALS UPON REQUEST."

Crop Talk

Herbicide and Fertilizer
Considerations in a Tight Budget

**Come Join us March 3rd
5:30-7:30pm**

**Butler County Community
Building**

200 N. Griffith El Dorado

**Please Register by: March 1st
316-321-9660 or by filling out
this [form](#) or scan our QR code**



"This institution is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services, and activities. Program information may be available in languages other than English. Language access requests and reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, including alternative means of communication (e.g., Braille, large print, and American Sign Language), may be requested by contacting the event contact Butler County Ext. Office four weeks prior to the start of the event, February 17th, at 316-321-9660. Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so. Language access services, such as interpretation or translation of vital information, will be provided free of charge to limited English proficient individuals upon request."

KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension
Butler County





I QUILT!

RETIREMENT PARTY

IN HONOR OF

Fran Trent

4:30 PM | 05 | 2026
THURSDAY | MARCH

BUTLER COUNTY EMS

701 N Haverhill Rd
El Dorado KS, 67042

BUTLER COUNTY DEPARTMENT ON AGING'S ANNUAL

Spring Fling
SENIOR RESOURCE FAIR
★ 2026 ★

APRIL 30

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Two Locations in El Dorado: Civic Center & Community Bldg
Over 100 Booths ★ Monterey Lunches ★ Free Shuttle ★ Door Prizes
Questions? Call Brenda or Crystal at 316-775-0500



Welcome to Butler County!

TeDre Turner—Emergency Communications
Kylie Wiebe—Emergency Communications
Shane Masters—Public Works
Natalie Biggart—Treasurer's Office





March 2026

4-H & Youth Development

Madeline Wallace – 4-H & Youth Development Agent

As we reach the midpoint of the 4-H year, now is the ideal time to review and update your record book. Make sure your goals are still relevant and specific, bring all financial records up to date, and log meetings, workshops, leadership roles, and community service activities. Accurate documentation not only strengthens your record book but also builds important life skills like organization and financial management. Take time to reflect on the skills you have gained and the challenges you have overcome; thoughtful reflection often sets strong record books apart. A short check-in now can prevent stress later and ensure your hard work is fully captured and recognized.

Family Consumer Sciences



WALK KANSAS

March 22 - May 16, 2026

Walk with us toward a *healthier* tomorrow.

Registration opens March 1!



Kansas State University
Extension

walkkansas.org

Agriculture

Notice to Terminate a Lease

Charlene Miller – Agriculture Agent/Extension Director

While spring is almost here, fire weather season has already arrived. During Fire Preparedness Week, we shared daily videos on protecting your property on our [K-State Extension Butler County Facebook page](#). I encourage you to watch them and make sure you are prepared. As farmers and ranchers, we have significant value tied up in livestock, equipment, and property. There are several steps you can take to help reduce your risks. Our friends to the South, the Oklahoma State Extension, have published great resources for go-bags. You can find that information on [their Facebook page](#) and [their website](#).

Don't get caught unprepared this wildfire season. Help the firefighters help you. Preparedness is key in situations like this!

Horticulture

Houseplant Care

Calla Edwards – Horticulture Agent

Planting Asparagus

Asparagus is a popular perennial vegetable throughout Kansas. It is generally the first fresh vegetable harvest of the spring, which makes a welcome addition to the garden. If you plan to start a new asparagus bed, it should be planted from March 15th to April 15th, so if you plan to plant it this spring, it's time to get started. In reality, we probably should have started preparing the planting area in the fall by killing any weeds or foliage growing there, but we can still be successful. Now that the soil has thawed, it is the perfect time to prepare the site. Before tilling, add compost, rotted manure, or another good organic material to the bed, along with 4 to 5 pounds of a 5-10-5 fertilizer per 1000 square feet. Till all the amendments into the soil and work them in well.

Asparagus will come as one-year-old crowns that you will plant in a trench as wide as your garden spade and approximately 8 inches deep. If you plan to plant more than one row, space the trenches approximately four feet apart. Place the crowns at the bottom of the trenches and cover them with about 3 inches of soil. Over the growing season, you will slowly fill the trench over several weeks. The crowns should not be covered all at once. Keep the weeds under control and water the crowns regularly to help them establish. Popular varieties include Jersey Giant, Jersey King, Jersey Knight, Jersey Supreme, and Purple Passion. Let them grow this year and start harvesting next spring.

Contact us:

Phone: (316) 321-9660

Facebook: @ksrebutleroo

Web: Butler.K-State.Edu

Twitter: @ButlerExtension

Address: 206 N Griffith St, Ste. El Dorado, KS 67042

See our full Newsletter at <https://www.butler.k-state.edu/newsletter.html>

For KSRE publications and information,
visit www.ksre.ksu.edu



What's up with the Butler County Employee Association?

Aren't a member yet? No problem! We have lots of benefits to enjoy throughout the whole year. Contact Sandy at benefits@bucoks.com or call her at 322-4301.

We would love to have you join!

Recent Events

Valentines Day brought a sugar cookie for EA members! Thank you to Jennifer Castleman, Michelle McCoy, Destiny Leinart, Julie Hokr, Emily Cornell & Anna Wealand for playing a part in making sure EA members were appropriately treated this Valentine's Day.

Upcoming Events

Keep an eye out for information about 2026's Food Truck Fridays!

Adopt-A-Charity 2026 Schedule

The General Board chose Kansas Honor Flights, Monkey in My Chair & Refuge in the Storm El Dorado (RISE) to come to the March 5th General Board Meeting to present information about their organization. The Board will then vote on how and to whom to allocate Adopt-A-Charity assistance this year.

2026 Jean Day Schedule

- 1st Quarter—Birthline of El Dorado
- 2nd Quarter—Substance Abuse Center (SAC)
- 3rd Quarter—Kansas Honor Flights
- 4th Quarter—Dept on Aging Senior Christmas Bags

Merchant Highlights

*Sedgwick County Zoo
\$18 any Age Ticket

**Must purchase in advance from Anna in Administration

*Superior Auto Care
5% discount

*Jimmy Johns
10% discount

Jeans Days

2026 1st Quarter Jean Days go to the Birthline of El Dorado
March Jeans Days are the 5th & 19th.



Butler County

205 W. Central
El Dorado, KS 67042

Phone: (316)322-4300



www.bucoks.com



The earliest surviving sheet music of *The Star Spangled Banner* from 1814.



Moments in Time

March is an important month in the history of the establishment of *The Star Spangled Banner* as the national anthem of the United States of America. The song's lyrics are based on the poem *Defence of Fort M'Henry* by Francis Scott Key, which was inspired by Francis' experience of the Battle of Baltimore during the War of 1812. Francis' brother-in-law, Joseph Nicholson, put Francis' poem to the music of the popular British song called *The Anacreontic Song*. An anonymous Baltimore printer first printed the song—two (2) known copies from this printing still exist! Shortly after, the newspapers *The Baltimore Patriot & The American* published the newly assembled song, which helped the song gain popularity amongst the public.

President Woodrow Wilson instructed the US Bureau of Education to establish an "official" version of the song. In 1916 President Wilson ordered that the newly official song was to be played at military & other such celebrations. Maryland Congressman John Linthicum tried several times between 1918 & 1929 to have *The Star Spangled Banner* established as the national anthem, but was unsuccessful. Finally, on March 3rd, 1931, President Hoover signed the bill officially establishing the official version of the song as America's national anthem.

MISSION STATEMENT

Provide the public with quality service

And efficient use of resources through

Responsive, interactive, and proactive management

While respecting individual rights and dignity.