



COMMUNITY

Celebrate Kansas' Birthday at the Smoky Hill Museum

Kansas is turning 165 years old this year, and the Smoky Hill Museum plans to offer a FREE public celebration on Saturday, January 31, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm.

The whole family can enjoy learning how to make butter and shell corn at the Kansas Day Open House and Birthday Bash. Plus, there will be demonstrations, a make-and-

take craft and delicious birthday cupcakes. Also, be sure to stop by the Museum Store for a wide variety of regional and Kansas products, local artwork and gifts for all ages.

The Smoky Hill Museum is a nationally accredited history museum in downtown Salina, Kansas. This FREE museum is open Tuesdays-Fridays 11-5 and Saturdays 10-5.



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(First published in The Minneapolis Messenger on January 29, 2026)

RESOLUTION 2026-01

WHEREAS there are no revenue bond ordinances or other ordinances or resolutions of the municipality which require financial statements and financial reports to be prepared in conformity with K.S.A. 75-1120a(a) for the year ending 2026

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of Delphos, Kansas, in regular meeting duly assembled this 13th day of January, 2026 that the City Council requests the Director of Accounts and Reports to waive the requirements of K.S.A. 75-1120a(a) as they apply to the City of Delphos for the year ending 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council shall cause the financial statements and financial reports of the City of Delphos to be prepared on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements as adjusted to show compliance with the cash basis and budget laws of this State.

Karen K. Kiser
CITY CLERK

James Bradshaw
MAYOR

(First published in The Minneapolis Messenger on January 29, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF OTTAWA COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of)
LINDA E. BAXTER, Deceased.) Case No. OT-2026-PR-00001

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a petition was filed in this Court by Matthew Baxter, as one of the heirs of Linda E. Baxter, deceased, praying for the determination of the descent of interest in the following described real property:

Lots Nine (9) and Ten (10), Block Eighteen (18), Original Town of Culver, Ottawa County, Kansas.

and all other property, real and personal, or interests therein, owned by the decedent at the time of her death; and, you are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before the 3rd day of March, 2026 at 10:00 o'clock a.m. of said day, in said court, in the City of Minneapolis, in Ottawa County, Kansas, 307 N Concord., at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

Matthew Baxter, Petitioner

MICHAEL A. MONTOYA, P.A.
256 South Santa Fe
P.O. Box 1220
Salina, Kansas 67402-1220
Tele. (785) 827-5505
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Kansas Pharmacies to Temporarily Close as Pharmacists Advocate for Patient Access

Pharmacy closures continue to rise across Kansas, and pharmacists say action is needed to protect patient access to care. On Wednesday, Feb. 4, many pharmacies across the state—including local AuBurn Pharmacy—will again close for a day as staff travel to the Statehouse for the Kansas Pharmacists Association's (KPhA) Advocacy Day to urge lawmakers to advance Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) reform.

The one-day closures mirror similar action taken last year, when 92 pharmacies across Kansas temporarily closed and more than 400 pharmacy professionals gathered at the Statehouse to raise concerns about financial pressures and patient access. This year, pharmacists return as lawmakers consider legislation aimed at increasing transparency, strengthening regulatory oversight, and addressing reimbursement practices that advocates say are driving pharmacies out of business.

Pharmacists identify PBMs, middlemen operating between pharmacies, insurers, and drug manufacturers, as the main cause of the current crisis. PBMs dictate which pharmacies may join insurance networks and set the reimbursement rates for medications. According to advocates, these payments often fall below the actual cost of dispensing the prescriptions, forcing many locations to operate at a loss.

Industry data shows that three PBMs—Express Scripts, CVS Caremark, and OptumRx—control roughly 80% of prescriptions nationwide. Pharmacists say this consolidation has enabled "patient steering," a practice where PBMs use their market power to direct patients away from local community pharmacies toward mail-order, specialty, or retail pharmacies that the PBMs own themselves. This not only limits patient choice but also strips critical revenue from

independent and rural locations that are already struggling under low reimbursement rates.

The pressure on Kansas pharmacies is reaching a critical level. In 2025 alone, 16 pharmacies closed statewide, contributing to 105 total losses over the last decade. With only 532 community pharmacies left, state data reveals that 68% of Kansas counties are now "pharmacy deserts."

These closures disproportionately impact the state's most vulnerable residents, particularly the elderly and those living in poverty. In many rural areas, patients are now forced to drive 15 miles or more—often a 20-minute trip each way—to reach the nearest pharmacy. For a patient already struggling with a chronic illness or limited transportation, this distance can become an insurmountable barrier to obtaining life-saving medications, leading to missed doses and worsening health conditions.

AuBurn Pharmacy Chief Executive Officer Mike Burns said the goal of closing for the day is to focus on long-term solutions.

"Closing temporarily is about making sure pharmacies can stay open permanently," Burns said. "Once a pharmacy closes for good, patients lose more than a building—they lose access to care."

AuBurn Pharmacy is also urging community members to contact their local legislators and voice support for Senate Bill 360, a bipartisan measure introduced by Sen. Tim Schallenburger that would rein in harmful pharmacy benefit manager practices, improve transparency, and help protect patient access to local pharmacy care. AuBurn leaders say public engagement is critical to ensuring lawmakers understand how PBM policies directly impact patients, families, and communities across Kansas.

With the legislative session moving quickly, pharmacists say meeting directly with lawmakers and sharing their experiences, along with patient testimony, is essential to ensuring PBM policies are fully understood as the proposed legislation is considered.



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