

COMMUNITY

Lions Split Final Week of Regular Season; Set Sights on Substate

The Minneapolis High School boys basketball team closed out their regular season this week with a display of gritty resilience and a tough road test, finishing with a 7-13 overall record. The Lions are now preparing to travel to Neodesha for the opening round of Substate action.

The week began with a thrilling comeback victory during senior night on February 17th against Smith Center. The Lions found themselves in a deep hole early,

trailing 16-29 at the halftime break. However, the third quarter belonged entirely to Minneapolis. Sparked by a massive surge in defensive intensity, the Lions outscored Smith Center 20-5 in the 3rd quarter to reclaim the lead. They managed to hold on in the closing minutes for a narrow 47-45 win. Top performers were Tanner Norris with 13 points and 4 rebounds, Kenyon Deronnet with 9 points and 3 rebounds, Owen Just with

8 points, 7 rebounds, and 6 assists, and Kingston Deronnet with 8 points and 13 rebounds.

The momentum from Tuesday's win hit a roadblock on February 10th as the Lions faced a sharp-shooting Beloit squad. Despite a valiant effort, Minneapolis fell short 40-60. The difference in the game came down to possession; turnovers and second chance points allowed Beloit to take 15 more shots than the Lions. Owen Just led the scoring effort for Minneapolis with 15 points and 6 rebounds, while Kingston Deronnet continued his strong work on the glass with 8 rebounds to go along with his 7 points.

With the regular season officially in the books, the Lions turn their attention to the post-season. The team will travel to Neodesha for their Substate matchup, looking to recapture the defensive fire that fueled their comeback win against Smith Center. "Defensive intensity got us back into the game (Smith Center)," noted Coach Brubaker, a strategy they will surely carry into the win-or-go-home atmosphere of Substate.

CKD Theileria in Cattle Program

There is a new kid on the block, or should we say pasture? Kansas has identified its first Asian Longhorned tick, bringing concerns about the spread of Theileria orientalis Ikeda, a protozoan parasite that infects red and white blood cells in cattle.

To address your questions and concerns in advance, the Central Kansas Extension District will host a Theileria in Cattle Program on March 19th in Minneapolis, KS, at the Ron Seyfert Meeting Room in the CKD Extension office. The program begins at 10:00 am. Dr. Cassandra Olds will provide an overview of Theileria in cattle, including transmission pathways, entomology considerations, arthropod control strategies, and management practices to reduce disease risk while minimizing insecticide resistance.

A fee of \$5 is required to attend. Coffee and snacks will be provided. For more information or to register, visit <https://www.centrankansas.k-state.edu/livestock/> or contact Justine Johns at 785-392-2147 or jwh04@ksu.edu.

(First published in The Minneapolis Messenger on February 19, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF OTTAWA COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of
JEANNE LARZALERE BLOOM, Deceased Case No. OT - 26 PR 05

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

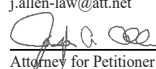
THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:


You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Jonathan E. Bloom praying for Letters of Administration, you are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before March 17, 2026 at 9:00 o'clock a.m. of said day, in said Court, in the City of Minneapolis, in Ottawa County, State of Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the estate within four months from the date of the first publication of this notice as provided by law and if their demands are not thus exhibited they shall be forever barred.

/s/ Jonathan E. Bloom
Jonathan E. Bloom, Petitioner

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Shop Local Effort Continues to Reward Ottawa County Residents

Choose Ottawa County's shop local campaign continues to gain momentum as a growing county-wide effort encouraging residents to keep their dollars close to home. Funded by a grant through the Ottawa County Community Foundation, the initiative highlights the importance of supporting local businesses while celebrating the pride and strong sense of community found throughout the county. Shoppers who dine, shop, or conduct business locally can enter each week to win a \$25 Choose Ottawa County gift card, redeemable at any business in the county, by simply

dropping their receipts into collection boxes located at banks across the county, as well as at Klein Oil, Westside Ventures, GR Parker's, and more locations coming soon. One winner is selected weekly, and recipients have included both long-time residents and newcomers. Many participants have shared that what they value most about Ottawa County is its friendly people, peaceful atmosphere, meaningful job opportunities, local amenities, and the charm of country living, noting above all that it is a family-focused community where neighbors look out for one another.



Janette Lott



Angel Constable



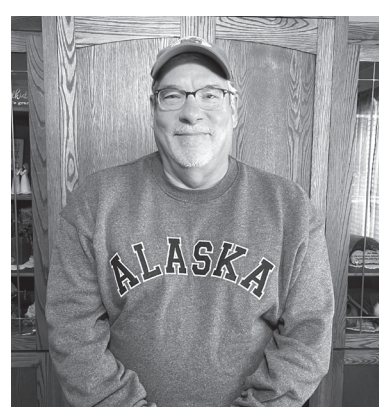
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