

# Obituaries

## DONNA B. REIMER

Donna B. (Nunnenkamp) Reimer 94, died August 17, 2025 at Newton, Kansas

Visitation will be 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday August 26, 2025 at Petersen Funeral Home. Graveside committal service will be 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, August 27, 2025 at Kechi Cemetery in Kechi, Kansas.

## HELEN LEPPKE

Helen Leppke, 86, passed away August 20, 2025, at St. Luke Hospital in Marion. She was born March 31, 1939, in Goessel to Walter and Esther (Suderman) Hiebert. She married Wilbur Leppke on July 7, 1957, at Ebenfeld Church in rural Hillsboro.

Survivors include: husband Wilbur Leppke of rural Peabody, sons, Stuart (Sheree) Leppke of McPherson, Lyle (Ann) Leppke of rural Marion, Kent (Daveda) Leppke of Bonner Springs, KS; brother, Roger (Mary Alice) Hiebert of rural Marion; sister, Betty (Eugene) Just of rural Marion; 6 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. Predeceased by: brother, Lewis Hiebert; sister, Joyce Schmidt.

Family will receive friends from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Monday at Jost Funeral Home in Hillsboro. Funeral service 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 26, 2025, at Aulne Bible Church in Aulne, KS. Interment 10:00 a.m. Tuesday at Prairie Lawn Cemetery in Peabody, KS.

Memorials to Latcom Bolivia Missions in care of Jost Funeral Home, P.O. Box 266, Hillsboro, Kansas 67063. Online condolences at [www.jostfuneralhome.com](http://www.jostfuneralhome.com)

## JANICE RUTH EVANS

Janice Ruth Evans 85, went to be with her Heavenly Father on August 19th.

Memorial service will be 10:30 a.m. Friday August 29th at Zion Lutheran Church in Newton. The family will receive friends from 9:30 a.m. until service time. Graveside committal will be 2:00 p.m. at the Lincolnville Kansas Cemetery

Have an event to add? Send like information to [news@thekansan.com](mailto:news@thekansan.com)

### Aug. 23

8 a.m. to noon — Harvey County Farmers Market, 301 N. Main.

8 a.m. to noon — Newton Farm and Art Market, 121 W. Sixth.

1:30 p.m. — Dutch Blitz Bash, Newton Public Library, 223 E. 7th Street. Registration is requested. Fill out the form to sign up: <https://newtonplks.libcal.com/event/14766357>

2 to 4 p.m. — Becky Yates Spencer author visit and book signing, Faith & Life Bookstore, 606 N. Main.

7 p.m. — Live music: Flattland, The Hub Brick Oven & Brewery, 100 S Christian Ave, Moundridge,

### Aug. 24

6 p.m. — Fundraiser Dinner for The Table, First United Methodist Church, 801 N. Main.

### Aug. 26

7 p.m. — Fourth Tuesday Photography: The In-Between Moment with Dale Strattman, Newton Public Library, 223 E. 7th.

### Aug. 27

9:30 a.m. — “Accepting Change: The Key to Bethel’s Journey” by Dr. Jon C. Gering. Bethel College Life Enrichment, Krehbiel Auditorium, Bethel College, 300 E 27th Street, North Newton. Cost: \$40 per semester or \$4 per week.

10:50 a.m. — “Hidden Connection: The Bethel Bell and Brown vs. Board of Education in the Supreme Court” by Levi Goosen, Bethel College Life Enrichment, Krehbiel Auditorium, Bethel College, 300 E 27th Street, North Newton. Cost: \$40 per semester or \$4 per week.

### Aug. 30

8 a.m. to noon — Harvey County Farmers Market, 301 N. Main.

8 a.m. to noon — Newton Farm and Art Market, 121 W. Sixth.

### Sept. 3

9:30 a.m. — “Experiences Traveling to Tbilisi, Georgia” by Kris Schmucker, Bethel College Life Enrichment, Krehbiel Auditorium, Bethel College, 300 E 27th Street, North Newton. Cost: \$40 per semester or \$4 per week.

10:50 a.m. — “Long-Lost Sisters” by Richard Hofer, Bethel College Life Enrichment, Krehbiel Auditorium, Bethel College, 300 E 27th Street, North Newton. Cost: \$40 per semester or \$4 per week.

### Sept. 5

6 to 9 p.m. — Library After Hours, Newton Public Library, 223 E. 7th Street.

### Sept. 6

7 a.m. — First Saturday Bird Walk, Kauffman Museum, 2801 N. Main, North Newton.

8 a.m. to noon — Harvey County Farmers Market, 301 N. Main.

8 a.m. to noon — Newton Farm and Art Market, 121 W. Sixth.

### Sept. 10

9:30 a.m.— “Discovering the Blue Zones: Keys to Living Longer and Better” by Sharolyn Jackson, Bethel College Life Enrichment, Krehbiel Auditorium, Bethel College, 300 E 27th Street, North Newton. Cost: \$40 per semester or \$4 per week.

10:50 a.m. — “Chance Rides: Engineering the Design of Movement” by Kyle Penner, Bethel College Life Enrichment, Krehbiel Auditorium, Bethel College, 300 E 27th Street, North Newton. Cost: \$40 per semester or \$4 per week.

### Sept. 13

8 a.m. to noon — Harvey County Farmers Market, 301 N. Main.

8 a.m. to noon — Newton Farm and Art Market, 121 W. Sixth.

8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. — Newton

Fine Arts Boosters March for the Arts, Newton High School.

10 a.m. to noon — Second Saturday, Carriage Factory Gallery, 128 E. Sixth. Create with us on the Second Saturday of the month. Themed make and take creations will be provided every second Saturday through the year for ages 4-10. Free and open to the public. Donations always welcomed. Funded by the Ericka J. Stucky Scholarship Fund and various patrons.

### Sept. 17

9:30 a.m. — “Mechanical Restorations Benefit Kansas MCC Sale” by Jerry Toews, Bethel College Life Enrichment, Krehbiel Auditorium, Bethel College, 300 E 27th Street, North Newton. Cost: \$40 per semester or \$4 per week.

10:50 a.m. — “Mask of the Deer Woman” by Laurie L. Dove, Bethel College Life Enrichment, Krehbiel Auditorium, Bethel College, 300 E 27th Street, North Newton. Cost: \$40 per semester or \$4 per week.

### Sept. 18

5 to 8 p.m. — Third Thursday Downtown. Newton Schools night.

### Sept. 24

9:30 a.m. — “Music Theater in the USA” by Dr. Doyle Preheim, Bethel College Life Enrichment, Krehbiel Auditorium, Bethel College, 300 E 27th Street, North Newton. Cost: \$40 per semester or \$4 per week.

10:50 a.m. — “Birds of Kansas” by Bob Gress, Bethel College Life Enrichment, Krehbiel Auditorium, Bethel College, 300 E 27th Street, North Newton. Cost: \$40 per semester or \$4 per week.

### Sept. 25

6:30 p.m. — Author Talk by Mark Janzen, Newton Public Library, 223 E. 7th Street.

## PINE

From A1

[legally] compliant,” Kelly said. “It has a 36-inch door and they are both manual. They are double doors, which is great. Once you get into it the vestibule is large and you could get a couple of wheel chairs in there. You get in there and you can move around, however, to get in there will be really quite challenging.”

The majority of public traffic, and handicapp parking, will be in the south parking lot, meaning that clients will be expected to make use of a different set of doors.

However, county commissioners expressed this week a desire for the west door to be more accessible.

“I agree that not having an automatic door kind of defeats the purpose of having an ADA entrance,” said Don Schroeder, chairman of the Harvey County Commission.

“I just thought, and a lot of us thought, that ADA complaint included the automatic door,” Kelly said. “I just did not know any better to ask that specific question. ... It is my job to advocate for our older adults and those with disabilities that may need to utilize that west door.”

The commission directed county staff to research the cost of aftermarket door openers that could be used to make the doors automatic.

The project would be a capital improvement project, and likely not eligible for grant funds through the department on aging.

Schroeder said the county may have American Rescue Plan

funding that could be a funding option.

“It will likely cost more than we expect, but something that needs to happen,” Schroeder said.

Schroeder requested that the item be placed on the next county commission agenda, Aug. 26.

The building, purchased in 2022 by Harvey County for more office space, is now under construction on the first and third floors.

“We have had progress on the first floor and it is moving forward as anticipated, and will be completed in mid to late August,” said Shannon Kingsley, director of finance for Harvey County during a recent meeting with the county commission.

There has been, however, a hiccup on the third floor.

The insulation found there had to be removed.

“The third floor, demolition is complete,” Kingsley said. “Of note, we did have to remove the insulation on the third floor due to fire code. That was an unexpected suprise.”

The plan is to reinsulate the third floor

Harvey County purchased the facility in 2022 to address growing space needs at the Harvey County Courthouse — most notably the need of an additional courtroom after an additional judge was assigned to the district court.

This past November, the Harvey County Commission approved a bid from Vogts Construction to remodel the facility.

Other County departments will move from the Courthouse to the Pine Street building over time, beginning with the Planning, Zoning and Environmental Department in the coming

months.

The Department on Aging, Appraiser’s Office and Kansas State Research and Extension – Harvey County will also later permanently base their operations from the Pine Street building.

The 2025 adopted budget includes a total of \$4,063,190 for this project, which includes \$3,149,760 for construction, \$236,250 for architectural fees, and a contingency of \$677,180. The contingency will need to cover the cost of items outside of the construction contract including civil engineering fees, door access controls, security cameras (if desired), west parking lot lighting improvements, any new furniture, signage, moving expenses, etc., in addition to any unexpected costs during construction or increased architectural or engineering fees. The \$4,063,190 is a combination of savings created from the receipt of ARPA funds, in addition to monies previously set aside in the Capital Improvement Fund for facility improvements.

The plan calls for the Department on Aging, county appraiser’s office, Kansas State Research and Extension office and county Planning and Zoning/G.I.S. offices currently in the courthouse to move to the building on Pine Street once construction work is done.

Moving those departments will open the way for work to reconfigure the courthouse.

In 2021 the state added two judges to district court - one full time judge and a magistrate judge. When that occurred, another courtroom became needed.

Initial estimates for courthouse renovation are \$7.5 million.

The county moved into the courthouse in about 1966.

## NOMINATIONS

From A1

A member of Emerge and a 2023 Young Professional in Financial Services honoree by the Wichita Business Journal, Brittany is committed to enhancing outdoor and recreational amenities in Harvey County. She played a key role in the successful campaign to prevent the sale of Harvey County Camp Hawk, demonstrating her passion for community involvement and leadership. Additionally, she actively participates in continued education and networking to further her professional development as a community banker.

Dr. Mallorie Coffman – Dr. Mallorie Coffman is a highly accomplished chiropractor and community leader. Valedictorian of the 2017 graduating class at Logan University, she is certified in chiropractic pediatrics and has been a member of the International Chiropractic Pediatric Association since 2015. Dr. Coffman is deeply involved in health and wellness initiatives, serving on multiple coalitions and planning teams focused on pediatric, prenatal, and maternal health. She holds leadership roles such as Community Impact Chair for Emerge Harvey, ICC Chair, and Newton Recreation Commission Chair. Dr. Coffman is committed to continuous professional development and actively participates in community service projects, emphasizing the importance of health equity and community engagement.

Marissa Murphy – Marissa Murphy is a dedicated nurse with 12 years of experience, 8 of which are in critical care at NMC Health. She is actively involved in the Newton Public Library Foundation Board and serves on the North Newton City Council, where she has contributed to community development, including the creation of two new parks in North Newton. Marissa is committed to community service, participating in leadership training through the Kansas Hospital Association and other local initiatives. A proud mother of two, she values her role in her children’s lives and strives to make a positive impact on her community through her work and volunteer efforts.

In year one Emerge named winners during an Annual Banquet at Grace Hill Winery: Benjamin Meier (Mirror, Inc.), Dalton Black (Harvey County United Way), Hannah Hahn (Ironstone Wealth Advisors), and Skip Cowan (Harvey County Health Department).

In year two Emerge named winners during a banquet at Son Ray Ranch: Carly Stavola, public information director at Newton USD 373; Kendra Davila, executive director of Peace Connections; Kyle Fielder, North Newton city administrator; and Nathan Murphy, commercial relationship manager at INTRUST Bank.

## The Newton Kansan

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