

GOVERNMENT

Make a Cool Summer Pudding From England



While the 2026 FIFA World Cup was in full swing on screens across the United States and the world, I loved how the cameras put viewers like us in the middle of the action, especially for the third-place playoff match between France and England. Amid all the excitement of England winning the high-scoring match, I began to get curious about local English food.

I decided to make a cultural experience at home and created a taste of London by preparing an old English late-summer dessert called “Summer Pudding.” For the Brits, the word “pudding” (“pud” for short) actually means “dessert,” and this fun recipe from across the pond can become a memorable finale to an August dinner. It’s full of fresh berries, and the easy prep doesn’t require any baking, so the kitchen stays cool. It’s a great use for day-old bread, too!

Kids love to take part in the easy prep, so gather the ingredients and enjoy this fresh, beautiful dessert while it’s still summer.

ENGLISH SUMMER PUDDING
Makes 6-8 servings
• 16 slices of day-old firm white bread without

- preservatives
- 6 cups assorted berries such as blueberries, blackberries, raspberries and strawberries
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon freshly squeezed lemon juice
- Whipped cream

In a saucepan, combine berries, sugar and lemon juice. Stir over medium heat until berries release their juices, about 5 minutes. Remove from heat and drain berries over a bowl, reserving the juice.

Line the inside of a 5- to 6-cup bowl with plastic wrap. Trim and discard crusts from the bread and cut slices diagonally into 4 pieces. Dip each triangle into the juice, then arrange on the bottom and in a continuous pattern around the inside of the bowl to create a pinwheel effect. Fill any gaps with more bread, saving some for the next step.

Fill the bread-lined bowl almost to the top with the drained berries. Place a single layer of the remaining bread on top of the berries to create a cover. Spoon remaining juice evenly over the top.

Cover the bowl with plastic wrap, then set a small plate on top that fits inside the bowl. Set a heavy 2-pound can on the plate to provide weight. Refrigerate overnight.

To serve, remove the can, plate and plastic wrap, and carefully invert the colorful molded pudding onto a serving plate. Remove the plastic wrap liner. Slice into wedges with a large spoon and serve with a dollop of whipped cream.

Commissioner’s Desk



By Duane Morris
Ottawa County Commissioner District #3

Please remember this is NOT an official documentation of the minutes, it is meant to be an informative synopsis of County Commissioner activities from my perspective. If you want more information on a subject I mention here I encourage you to read the full minutes of the meetings or watch the video of the meetings online at the Ottawa County Website <https://ks1497.cicohosting.com/main/> I want to begin this week by tying up some loose ends from last week. First and foremost I want to recognize

Commissioner Grund for her walking the entire parade route! Way to go Carla! On Thursday July 23rd I attended a meeting for the North Central Regional Planning Commission. They gave a presentation on the weatherization program they administer in our region. I have had the idea that weatherization equals “winterization.” That makes it even harder to think about in August! This program is so much more! Replacing unsafe or inefficient furnaces or refrigerators is included plus patching foundations, window caulking and weather stripping to name just a few. There are some income guidelines to qualify, but please get in touch with the NCRPC office for more information. 785-738-2218 or email weatherization@ncrpc.org

Numbers are in and Ottawa County was among 11 counties that lost more than 100 people between 2024 and 2025 according to annual data from the Kansas Division of Budget. We are fighting that trend with two great grant programs to help people re-

locate to Ottawa County. The first is offered by Choose Ottawa County. Make My Move includes a variety of “goodies” including \$10,000 cash for relocation, welcome basket, locally raised Bison meat, 1 year free subscription to the Minneapolis Messenger, 6 months free WIFI, and more. There are two positions available and this program will expire in October.

The second program is offered by the Innovation Center and also offers \$10,000 relocation bonus for graduates outside the Dane G. Hansen region to return to counties within the region. Graduates from within the region will also be considered. There are requirements for both of these programs. You can contact Katie Vanderhoff at hello@chosedottawacounty.com for more information. You can also contact friends and family that might qualify, tell them about these incentives, and remind them about how great it is to call Ottawa County “home!”

Our July 27th meeting began by Sheriff Thornton updating the commission on housing inmates in our jail again. There are several ideas we’re following up on, more later as things develop.

Keith Coleman is pursuing information on replacing the windows in the courthouse and we’re waiting to hear from the architect and contractors.

We passed a resolution closing Solomon Road between Frontier and Granite Roads. This process was initiated by Dickinson County, but we had to follow the proper procedure as well since it’s a county line road.

Northern Natural Gas is working on their pipeline in Logan and Blaine townships we approved their right-of-way permits.

We had more discussion about the sales tax we are considering. The tax would be used for medical departments within our county. The big question is how do you, the tax payers, feel about this? Revenue could be used for a variety of medical services including, but not limited to: the hospital, EMS, or county health department.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you!

(First published in The Minneapolis Messenger on August 6, 2026)

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-06

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND PROVIDING FOR THE CALLING OF A SPECIAL QUESTION ELECTION IN THE CITY OF BENNINGTON, KANSAS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY THE QUESTION OF IMPOSING A ONE PERCENT (1.0%) CITY RETAILERS' SALES TAX FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CITY'S WATER UTILITY SYSTEM AND RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE; AND PROVIDING FOR THE GIVING OF NOTICE OF SAID ELECTION.

WHEREAS, K.S.A. 12-187 *et seq.*, as amended (the “Act”), authorizes the governing body (the “Governing Body”) of the City of Bennington, Kansas (the “City”) to submit to the electors of the City the question of imposing city retailers’ sales taxes, which in the aggregate may be in amounts not to exceed two percent (2%) for general purposes and not to exceed one percent (1%) for special purposes, provided sales taxes for special purposes shall expire ten (10) years from the initial date of collection thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has determined it is necessary and advisable to authorize the levy of a 1.0% special-purpose retailers’ sales tax (“Sales Tax”), to begin as soon as the tax may lawfully be collected by the Kansas Department of Revenue, which date is expected to be April 1, 2027, with revenue received from the tax used for the specific governmental purposes as described in the ballot question approved by Section 2 of this Resolution, provided the electors of the City authorize such sales tax at an election held in the City for such purpose;

WHEREAS, in order to authorize such Sales Tax, it is deemed advisable to call a special question election in the City on November 3, 2026 (the “Election”); and

WHEREAS, if approved, the Sales Tax will constitute a sales tax imposed for special purposes, as said term is described in K.S.A. 12-189, as amended.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF BENNINGTON, KANSAS:

SECTION 1. Public Purpose; Implementation of Sales Tax. It is hereby deemed necessary and advisable and in the best interests of the citizens of the City to submit to the electors the question of authorizing the Sales Tax for the purpose of funding the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, repair, maintenance, improvement, extension, and enlargement of the City’s water utility system and related infrastructure. If approved by a majority of the electors voting thereon, the Governing Body shall take such further action as is required by law to levy and implement the Sales Tax. Collection of the Sales Tax shall commence on April 1, 2027, or as soon thereafter as permitted by law. All proceeds of the Sales Tax shall be applied for the purposes set forth in this *Section 1*.

SECTION 2. Special Question Election. It is hereby authorized, ordered and directed that a special question election shall be and is hereby called to be held in the City on November 3, 2026, at which time there shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the City the following proposition:

New Pilot Program for First Responders Suffering from Service-Related Trauma



Kansas Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt, today, announced that the Kansas Department of Insurance is now accepting reimbursement requests for the HERO Act. The Helping First Responders Overcoming Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, or HERO Act, is a pilot program to help emergency responders by providing reimbursement for assessment and treatment of certain psychological conditions resulting from duty-related trauma. “Our first responders put their lives on the line for us

every day, and we owe them in return the same support when they need help,” said Commissioner Vicki Schmidt. “The HERO Act will help remove a financial barrier for first responders who need vital mental health treatment they may not have been able to receive otherwise.”

The HERO Act was established this year by a proviso to the state budget, establishing a fund to be administered by the Department. First responders who meet the requirements may be eligible to receive reimbursement for the diagnosis and treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), acute stress disorder (ASD), or subclinical syndromes of either disorder as a direct result of a duty-related traumatic event. A million dollars is set aside to be administered through the pilot program to eligible first responders.

“Kansas law enforcement, firefighters, and emergency medical responders regularly step into situations involving

traumatic scenes of human destruction brought about by criminal acts, natural disasters, or accidents,” said Ed Klumpp of the Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, the Kansas Sheriffs Association, and the Kansas Peace Officers Association. “The HERO act will assist these first responders by providing financial support for professional evaluation and treatment of post-traumatic stress. It is the result of a coordinated response by the legislature, the Kansas Department of Insurance, the Fraternal Order of Police, our associations and other first responder associations to provide positive support for our first responders to manage the emotional challenges they face in serving and protecting their communities.”

Information on the eligibility requirements of the program and the reimbursement request forms questions can be found at <https://www.insurance.kansas.gov/consumers/hero-act>.

(First published in The Minneapolis Messenger on July 23, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF OTTAWA COUNTY, KANSAS CIVIL DEPARTMENT

NewRez LLC)
Plaintiff,) Case No. OT-2026-CV-000009
vs.) Court Number:
Derrin T. Broome; Samantha J. Broome; John Doe) Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 60
(Tenant/Occupant); Mary Doe (Tenant/Occupant),)
Defendants.)

NOTICE OF SUIT

THE STATE OF KANSAS, to the above-named defendants and the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors and assigns of any deceased defendants; the unknown spouses of any defendants; the unknown officers, successors, trustees, creditors and assigns of any defendants that are existing, dissolved or dormant corporations; the unknown executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, successors and assigns of any defendants that are or were partners or in partnership; the unknown guardians, conservators and trustees of any defendants that are minors or are under any legal disability; and the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors and assigns of any person alleged to be deceased, and all other persons who are or may be concerned.

You are notified that a Petition has been filed in the District Court of Ottawa County, Kansas, praying to foreclose a real estate mortgage on the following described real estate:

Lots 22, 23, 24, 24, 26, 27 and 28, in Block 2, J.H. Nelson's Second Addition to the City of Bennington, Ottawa County, Kansas, commonly known as 219 N Parker St, Bennington, KS 67422 (the “Property”)

and all those defendants who have not otherwise been served are required to plead to the Petition on or before the September 2, 2026, in the District Court of Ottawa County, Kansas. If you fail to plead, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

NOTICE

Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. §1692c(b), no information concerning the collection of this debt may be given without the prior consent of the consumer given directly to the debt collector or the express permission of a court of competent jurisdiction. The debt collector is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

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