



Behind making of new Summitt film

SPORTS, 1B

THE HUTCHINSON NEWS

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026 | HUTCHNEWS.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



Abilene's Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library, Museum & Boyhood Home includes this two-story house where the nation's 34th president grew up. EVERT NELSON/TOPEKA CAPITAL-JOURNAL

Kansas tourist attraction shares Eisenhower's legacy

What to see at presidential library, museum and boyhood home

Tim Hrenchir

Topeka Capital-Journal | USA TODAY NETWORK

Decades after Americans declared "I like Ike," tourists love the Kansas attraction that preserves the legacy of President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The Eisenhower Presidential Library, Museum & Boyhood Home was voted "Best Kansas Attraction" in the 2017 USA TODAY Readers' Choice Awards and "Best Presidential Attraction" in the 2025 Newsweek Readers' Choice Awards.

The site is located on a 22-acre campus at 200 SE Fourth St. in the former Kansas cow town of Abilene. It educates visitors about the life and times of Eisenhower, a five-star Army general who was president from 1953 to 1961.

"He left office a popular president, and his stature has grown with the passage of time," says the website of the Miller Center, a nonpartisan think tank at the University of Virginia that looks in particular at the presidency.

Eisenhower's legacy is expected to see renewed attention with the May 29 theatrical release of "Pressure," a historical thriller in which Academy Award winner Brendan Fraser portrays Eisenhower as he

led World War II's D-Day invasion.

Why legacy of Dwight D. Eisenhower matters

Eisenhower museum exhibits show how he grew up in Abilene and rose to become supreme commander of Allied Forces in World War II.

They tell how, as president, he was credited with the following:

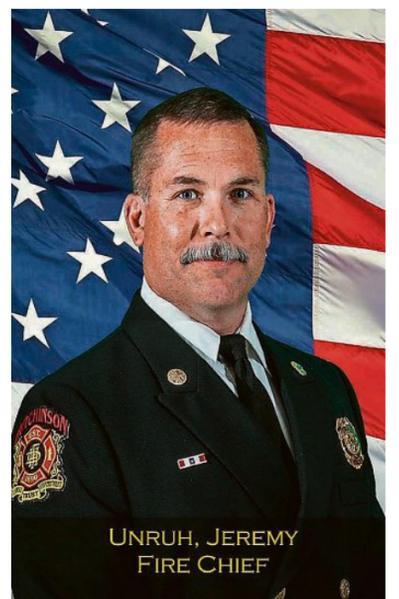
- Guiding Americans during a time of heightened Cold War tensions.
- Overseeing the enforcement of newly required school segregation mandates.
- Greatly improving highway infrastructure.
- Playing a key role in establishing the U.S. space program.

What to see at Eisenhower Presidential Library, Museum & Boyhood Home

Highlights of the campus include chances to do the following:

- Tour Eisenhower's boyhood home.

See EISENHOWER, Page 3A



UNRUH, JEREMY
FIRE CHIEF

Jeremy Unruh has been appointed as the next fire chief for the City of Hutchinson. Unruh comes to the position as a second-generation firefighter with 27 years of experience in the department. PROVIDED BY CITY OF HUTCHINSON

Hutchinson names 27-year veteran as fire chief

Charles Rankin

Hutchinson News
USA TODAY NETWORK

The City of Hutchinson has appointed a familiar face, Jeremy Unruh, as its next fire chief.

Unruh, who is a 27-year veteran of the Hutchinson Fire Department and second-generation firefighter, most recently served as division chief of operations.

In its announcement, the city said he comes to this new role with experience, leadership and a "longstanding commitment to serving the Hutchinson community."

"Throughout his career, he has played a key role in advancing the department's operations, training, and service delivery," the city said. "As Fire Chief, Unruh will lead a department

See CHIEF, Page 3A

Kansas lawmakers pass property tax plan

Bill now heads to governor's desk

Matt Resnick

Special to The Capital-Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Months of bitter negotiations between House and Senate lawmakers culminated in the narrow passage of a property tax plan aimed at providing financial relief for beleaguered Kansas homeowners.

Senate President Ty Masterson, R-

Andover, said the "property tax crisis" is the top issue he's encountered on the campaign trail for governor.

"I would like to do it for the Kansas people," Masterson told The Capital-Journal, adding that the issue is "not really tied" to his governorship ambitions.

Masterson made the comments after House Bill 2745 scraped by in the Senate 22-18, and prior to the House's narrow 63-59 vote. The bill now awaits a decision from Gov. Laura Kelly, but the numbers fall well short of two-thirds veto-proof majorities.

What newly passed property tax bill includes

The bill allows residents to sign a protest petition if a local taxing jurisdiction exceeds their revenue-neutral-rate – or previous year's budget – beyond 3% inflation. The primary intent is to slow the growth of local government spending.

House Speaker Dan Hawkins, R-Wichita, touted HB 2745 as "a major step toward reining in out-of-control local spending."

"This bill finally puts taxpayers in control," he said in a news release. "If lo-

cal governments want to raise property taxes beyond reasonable limits, Kansans now have a direct path to step in and stop it."

Sen. Patrick Schmidt, D-Topeka, called the bill "far from perfect," but added that it's a starting point and "an admission that we must do more to bring relief to Kansans who are being priced out of their homes with runaway property taxes."

Sen. Kenny Titus, R-Manhattan, expressed confidence that HB 2745 will

See TAX PLAN, Page 2A

Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by going to hutchnews.com/enewspaper or scan this code on your mobile device. You will also find late news and sports in the bonus sections. Check it out today!



Volume 154 | No. 227
To subscribe 800-766-5730
©2026 \$2.00



6 60424 00050 7