

After much prayer and reflection, we have decided to close the doors at Hepner Appraisal Service on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Jim Hepner began appraising part-time in 1977 and full-time in 1985. I joined the business in 2000 and Scott Steele in 2003. During the past few years, the market conditions in the appraisal industry have pushed us to make this tough decision.

Scott Steele has decided to continue on in the appraising industry under Steele Valuation Service. His email is scottsteele@SteeleValuation.com and his phone number is 785-865-8005. Scott has spent the past twenty years in our office and is knowledgeable in all the surrounding markets. We hope that you continue to reach out to him for all of your appraisal needs and support this new opportunity for him.

Jim Hepner has decided to 95% retire. He will work as a consultant/land appraiser when needed at Steele Valuation Service. Jim will continue playing golf, going to chamber events and watching his grandchildren in all of their activities. If you see my Dad around town, please thank him for all he has done for this community. He loves this town and its people, and he feels very fortunate to have owned a business in Ottawa for so long.

I have accepted a position at Kansas State Bank in Ottawa. Kansas State Bank has been a long time appraisal client of ours and we have had a wonderful working relationship over the years. I look forward to this new endeavor. It's hard to move on from the family business, but it is time to move in a new direction. Ironically, the direction is just two blocks north.

Hepner Appraisal Service would like to thank all of our clients, customers and business partners for their support over the past forty-six years. We have been blessed to work for you and with you!

Wade Hepner / Jim Hepner / Scott Steele