

OBITUARY

Ardis O. Petersen

Ardis O. Petersen, 82, passed away on December 20, 2019. Ardis was born the daughter of Niels Overgaard and Nadjeschda Lynge on August 22, 1937 in Kimballton, IA.

Ardis is remembered as creative, talented, exciting and hospitable. She loved the Lord, Elvis, her family, her Danish heritage and her community. Ardis touched the hearts of everyone she met in every phase of her life and left her footprints wherever she walked. She was our Mother, Far Mor, sister, friend, aunt, confidant, teacher, director and a proud master gardener. While she is now at home with Jesus, the impact she made will live on forever through everyone who was blessed to know her.

She is preceded in death by both of her parents and one sister. Ardis is survived by three sons, two daughters, one brother, four sisters, 10 grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

AG Derek Schmidt Statement 'On Federal Appeals Court Ruling That Key Part of 'Obamacare' Is Unconstitutional

TOPEKA – Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt issued the following statement in response to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit ruling today that the “individual mandate” in the Affordable Care Act (ACA), also known as “Obamacare,” violates the U.S. Constitution and is invalid:

“The ruling today is welcome confirmation that the power and scope of the federal government are not unlimited. As we have argued consistently, when Congress in 2017 eliminated the tax penalty for failing to purchase health insurance but left intact the naked statutory command that certain Americans buy health insurance, it cut the thin constitutional thread that the U.S. Supreme Court previously said supported the ACA. In other words, it is no longer possible to claim the individual mandate is a tax, and if it is not an exercise of Congress’s power to tax then no provision of the U.S. Constitution authorizes it and it is invalid.

“The appeals court sent the case back to the district court to more thoroughly assess whether other parts of the ACA can survive despite the unconstitutional mandate. This further judicial review will take time. I encourage the U.S. Congress and the Kansas Legislature to use this time to reaffirm and recodify other parts of the ACA, such as guaranteed protections for Kansans with preexisting medical conditions. Obviously, these and certain other provisions are important and popular, and it would seem both federal and state legislators of both political parties should agree that they be preserved despite Congress’s reckless disregard of the Constitution’s limits on its power.

“Kansas law declares that ‘[a] resident of this state has the right to ... refuse to purchase health insurance.’ With today’s decision invalidating the federal mandate for certain persons to purchase health insurance, our office has successfully defended that duly-enacted state law and along with it the personal freedoms and liberties it was intended to protect.”

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit today held the individual mandate unconstitutional and directed the federal district court in Fort Worth, Texas, to consider further whether other parts of the ACA survive or are also invalid without the individual mandate. The decision came in *Texas et. al. v. United States*, a lawsuit filed in 2018 by several states, including Kansas, arguing that Congress exceeded its constitutional authority in ordering citizens to purchase insurance policies. The decision is available at <http://bit.ly/2Mb3yOP>.

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The Record

Get Your Family Outside in Cooler Weather: It's Good for You

Parents and guardians may be tempted to dial back outdoor activities when cold temperatures arrive but getting outside is good for children and their families, even in the wintertime. The TurfMutt environmental education and stewardship program encourages families to appreciate and use the outdoors and offers the following tips:

Do outdoor activities that are fun. Weather that adults consider to be “messy” can be a huge canvas for children and their imaginations. Fall leaf piles, snowball fights, and snow forts offer a wealth of opportunities for parents to play with their children and to explore and experiment in our living landscapes.

Encourage exploration. Ask your child to look at how the landscape changes with the seasons. Talk about what happens after leaves fall, when snow arrives, when it’s windy, and more, linking these seasonable changes with basic science about clouds, rainfall, temperature changes and the earth.

Try something new. Try your hands at cross-country skiing, igloo-building, fall or winter hiking, ice fishing, ice skating, snow sculpting, snowshoeing, or something else that your children want to try to give them an appreciation of the outdoors in all seasons.

Do yardwork as a family. Involve everyone in seasonal yard chores to make the work go faster. Children can help put outdoor toys into storage and help tidy the yard. Just remember that if using outdoor power equipment like a lawn mower or leaf blower for your cleanup, children should be indoors and supervised, and they should not be near equipment when it’s operating.

Mention how getting outside helps our happiness. Even winter sunshine can make kids happy—literally. Sunlight boosts Vitamin D, which helps regulate emotional and mental moods by increasing serotonin in the brain. Even exposure to weaker sunlight in the winter can cause this joy boost.

Tolerate some mess. It’s a given that kids going outside in all sorts of weather will often return wet, muddy and messy. Be prepared for wet and cold kids and get them warmed up when they return from playing outside.

Process what they did. Ask kids to share about what they did outdoors or ask them to write or draw out their activities and observations. Did they see something new? Did something surprise them? What was fun?

Learn more about the TurfMutt program at www.TurfMutt.com and more about our living landscapes in all seasons at www.SaveLivingLandscapes.com.



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Sue's Soapbox

By: Sue Reich



birthday, we did it as a family. Now we are a small one and it was a lot different. I didn't even put up a tree. But with the two of us and our four-legged kids, we didn't need one.

I delivered *The Record* on Tuesday and a few of the businesses were closed but it made the day go by faster and I had time to go to Burlington to do some shopping and to Michaels and got everything. I stood in the dining room 5 or 6 hours and wrapped it all. Whew, I am getting too old for all this jazz. Here's a good thought. When I was reading *The STAR*, the comics of course, there were several cartoons in there that said, "Merry Christmas". I thought that was great and it warmed my heart. Dennis the Menace was one of them. I really hope they do say Merry Christmas more now. Guess I will sign off and see if I can get into some mischief. Just have a great and a very safe New Year's Eve so I can say to you, "HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020" I said a prayer that the Lord will give us a better 2020. We all deserve it, right? Your little ol' friend from Argentine. "You can't get anywhere today if you are mired down in yesterday." *Apples of Gold* "There is no conflict between the old and the new, the conflict is between the false and the true." *Apples of Gold*. That's me, Sue.

Music is My First Love 'Musica es Mi Primer Amor'

By: Sue Reich/Irene Gonzalez

On the 2nd of December, 2019, the Wyandotte County Historical Museum held a reception and dinner in honor of Lupe Gonzalez. Lupe Gonzalez's orchestra was a popular Kansas City, Kansas dance orchestra. They played popular swing and show music of the day with a Latin flavor. The curator was Gene Chavez. There are documents, photographs, newspaper articles and musical memorabilia. Lupe contributed much to his community with his strong family musical origin. He was born in 1935, the

son of Julie and Juan and grew up in Argentine. He grew up during the time when communities were separated. He attended Argentine High School during the first years

of desegregation. That is where he received his musical training and had the opportunity to study under Bob Luyben who established the KC Symphony. Everything

his orchestra played was with a Latin swing. Sadly, Lupe Gonzalez passed away of heart failure on the 17th of April, 2008. That was the day the music died.



Listening to the speaker talking about the history of Strawberry Hill. The main part of the topic was Christmas.



Rosey, our pretty Posey. She always enjoys herself at the center.



This lady did a great job calling Christmas bingo



Eric. My adult nephew. My 3 grandkids, Jaxon, Avonlea and Kailer. Had a good time at my son and his wife's house.

Mr. Ed and I spent the Christmas of 2019 with our four fur babies. They really enjoyed their scraps from our dinner and before that, I bought them Christmassy treats and some squeaky toys that our little Brat Terrier, I mean Rat Terrier already chewed some up. We didn't have the traditional dinner, but it was all good. On Monday, we went to Raytown to be with my son and his wife, Matilda. John, my son, his adult son, Kevin, (my oldest grandson) my two nephews, Aaron and Eric and Sandy and Crystal. Then there was Kailer, Jaxon, Grace, and Avonlea. My brother-in-law, Dan came over too. He and Mr. Ed talked about a lot of man stuff I guess. Matilda had a spread that would put all these taco places around here to shame. Everything imaginable. There was certainly a lot of traffic. But we got home before dark. That's our goal, get home, beat the traffic and the darkness. Those kids were sure a pleasure though. They liked everything that Gma Sue Gpa Ed got them.

I had another stroke of sadness this year. A real dear friend of mine, Janet passed away on December 20th. Just two short months after her 79th birthday. You wouldn't believe how we met, and we just clicked. Of course, we were in our 20's and had our kids and our kids sorta grew up together. We would rent a paddle boat at Wyandotte County Lake and paddle around. We would run thru cornfields like a couple of idgets. We would shop, go to sales, just do a lot of silly things. When her son Dennis told me she passed, I just about fell over. This really has been a different kind of Christmas. I know, the true meaning of it, but the way we always celebrated Jesus'

— MORE PHOTOS BY SUE REICH ON PAGE 4

Comin' & Goin' Turner Style



By Sharon Hoover

Once again, I am turning to those who issue the K-State Research and Extension's Horticulture Newsletter. This time the subject is "What to Do with the Christmas Tree After Christmas" and I have taken excerpts from this article by Charlie Barden, Extension For-ester.

"...An old Christmas tree can be used to benefit birds, fish and the landscape by placing it in a corner of your deck, and spreading some bird-seed nearby, or tying it to

a deciduous tree or post near a bird feeder. The birds benefit from having escape cover nearby when hawks or cats threaten, and the dense boughs reduce the wind chill on a cold night.

Sinking your Christmas tree in a pond is an easy way to improve fish habitat and fishing. The tree serves as a little coral reef, in that the branches provide substrate (foun-dation) for water plants to grow, and cover for minnows and other forms of small aquatic life.

Larger fish are drawn by the shade and the pres-ence of prey. How do you sink a tree? Tie the base to a cinder block with a short, stout rope, and toss it in. Just be sure to get permission from the pond owner first (unless the pond is yours)." I added the parentheses.

To use the tree in the landscape, you need to clip off all the branches. "Use the boughs to add extra insulation around

semi-hardy perennials or to trees and shrubs that were recently planted. The leftover tree trunk may be used as a garden stake next spring."

Charlie also suggests to "cut or let it dry for a few weeks, and you will have some easy lighting firewood. Just beware that most conifer species tend to spark and pop more than hardwoods, as resin pockets in the wood make tiny explo-sions. This can be fun for the youngsters, but for safety's sake, keep an eye on the fire when burning Christmas tree logs." (I'm too much of a chicken to do this.)

As I mentioned last time, I receive these newsletters weekly. If you or someone you know would be interested in subscribing send an e-mail to wupham@ksu.edu or cdipman@ksu.edu requesting a subscrip-tion.

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Sue's Soap Box... from page 2



Melissa Bynum, Shepherd's Center, talking to a member.



Ken Nettling was at the Shepherd's Center for a Christmas dinner and bingo games with prizes.



Love this man's hat. Jesus is what it's all about.

Guest Editorial

Democracy At Work; Trump Is Impeached

By: Tom Valverde

On December 18, 2019, the House Of Representatives voted to impeach the 45th president, Donald Trump. They approved two articles of impeachment. Article I "abuse of power, article II obstruction of Congress. Speaker Nancy Pelosi has made it her goal to hold this president to account for his misuse of his office. She was deliberate, and worked tirelessly to not only this, as she often said, "the President gives us no choice, but to impeach," but also passed major legislation to send to the Senate. Speaker Pelosi remarked that her biggest concern was for our national security, as Trump sought foreign help to cheat the 2020 election from the President of Ukraine. "he is a continuing threat to our country's fair and free election of the next United States President."

On Tuesday, the eve of their historical vote to impeach Trump, in cities across the country, there were protest marches. They marched in protest of President Trump carrying signs, demanding his removal from office. Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney was asked about his thoughts on the house' vote. He commented, "isn't it important that our president follow the law? Should it be permissible to seek the help of a foreign president in order to smear an opponent? "No." "The president's actions, undermines our system of government!" Maloney also reminded that, Trump is an unindicted co-conspirator with his former personal lawyer, Michael Cohen, who sits now, in prison.

The president has much to account for. With several on-going investigations by house committees, these articles will not yet be delivered to the Senate. Harvard's Laurence Tribe, professor of constitutional law, wrote an op-ed in *The Washington Post*. In it he tells of how the articles need not be sent over immediately to the Senate, there is still much under investigation. The House is involved in multiple court cases which seek White House documents, and there is testimony that is yet to be

heard from key administration officials; former national security adviser John Bolton and White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney, among others. Speaker Pelosi said, "we cannot name house managers to present the articles to the Senate, until we see what the process is on the Senate side." "so far, we haven't seen anything that looks fair to us." "hopefully, it will be fair, when we see what the Senate's process is." According to professor Tribe, the articles may be held indefinitely. Congressman Earl Blumenauer is concerned about the fairness of the Senate trial. He said that he had spoken to three dozen democratic lawmakers who all expressed some level of support for, "rounding out the record, and for spending the time to do this correctly." Speaker Pelosi seeks, at minimum, an agreement about access to key witnesses, and she also wants to know about the Senate's proposed rules for conducting it's trial.

Professor Tribe writes, "the public has a right to observe a meaningful trial, rather than simply learn that the result is a verdict of not guilty." One of the major sticking points for the trial in the Senate are the "not guilty" comments made by the majority leader Mitch McConnell, and other Senate republicans. Rep. Blumenauer remarked "at present, I can't see how Mitch McConnell could take the oath, prior to the Senate trial. He and other outspoken defenders of the president may have to recuse themselves, since they have shown obvious bias, this, and the trial has yet to start. The tens of thousands who marched in favor

of Trump's impeachment, are one side of our divided america.

A poll by NBC News and *The Washington Post* revealed that 48% of Americans were in favor of Trump's impeachment and removal from office, and 48% were opposed. With the requested White House documents and testimony from key people from Trump's administration, his White House lawyer, Don McGhan and Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo, who both possess first-hand knowledge of the president's actions, could help to sway those who have been in lockstep support of the president. A current poll taken by *Military Times* revealed that Trump has lost support of active-duty service members. 58% do not approve of President Trump, and 42% of these military members approve of the president.

It had been thought that there would be a Senate trial in January. This is doubtful, Speaker Pelosi insists on a fair trial, and the Senate is in holiday recess until January 7th. The concessions Pelosi seeks will take longer, and there are on-going probes by six house committees. Who knows if additional articles of impeachment will be drafted? The one thing that can be counted upon, are more angry tweets, more name-calling at rallies, and more lies from Trump. Why not? Trump has only told 15,413 lies since taking office, why would he change now? Fact checkers at *The Washington Post* gave that number, on the night of Trump's impeachment vote, in the house. This gives hope for a good new year in 2020.

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Guest Editorials

Take Time to Keep The Giving Spirit Alive All Through The Year!

By: Tom Valverde

Some believe it's such a drag to care for the welfare of others. It is a sacred responsibility; * One that all who are able to, should whole-heartedly embrace. Need is there 365 days of the year, not only at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Government programs have their place, but they are not the complete answer. Find ways to help at your place of worship, at community centers, and by calling 311, the Unified Government of Wyandotte County. Find your way of being a part of the solution. Do you not have time? Then an easy way to help, is at the grocery check-out. Add a financial contribution that benefits harvesters, a great community panty that serves so many in Kansas City. One in six us families are on food stamps, with an ever-growing number coming from formerly middle-class families. Food pantries and providers of hot meals are doing their best to keep up to meet the growing need.

*Christian ideals are what most baby boomers were raised on. It's a both an honor and a blessing to be able to serve the needs of others. Giving was a thing to be proud of! Now, many will comment that they can't be bothered, that those badly in need should, "get a job." Giving does not allow for the judging of others. Leave that to a higher power.

Being a boomer, I will always remember how my mother, Rachel, always made an effort to give whatever she could, and especially to the Salvation Army, who had been a caring resource for her as a young mother. And she would always place money into the red buckets at Christmas, in spite of not having a lot of extra cash. She always had multiple Christmas funds at the local bank, so she felt that it was the only right thing to do. And we three grew up always wanting to be the one who got to put the money in the bucket. And we all still do!

Because of those early, childhood lessons, I am a firm believer in the power of one. One voice, one act of deliberate kindness, can make a world of difference. It is simply the Christian thing to do, to have love for all, and to truly care for everyone as though, they were family. Remember, you won't ever know what a difference you can make, unless you give it a try!

Tom's Tasty Treats

By: Tom Valverde

This week's tasty treat is a great drink to have anytime it's cold outside. Good for a party, New Year's Eve, or any other occasion. It makes a sufficient amount to keep everyone warm and happy! Hope you will try it!

Maker's Mark Hot Bourbon Cider

Ingredients:

- 1 part maker's mark bourbon
- 4 parts apple cider
- 3 cinnamon sticks
- 5 whole cloves
- 3 allspice berries
- 3 whole peppercorns

Directions:

Place all ingredients in a large saucepan. Place over medium/low heat and let simmer for one hour. Serve in heat-proof mugs, and garnish as desired. Thinly sliced oranges and/or cinnamon sticks are great for garnish.

If you have non-alcohol drinking guests, leave out the bourbon. Then for the guests who do drink, add 1/2 jigger, or more to each mug, then ladle in the warm and spicy cider. So very good!

For a party, place the heated drink in a slow cooker, and keep on medium heat or low as you like. And, always drink

'The Lincoln Project' GOP Strategists Form Super PAC to Defeat Trump

By: Tom Valverde

"We look to Lincoln as our guide and inspiration. He understood the necessity of not just saving the union, but also the knitting the nation back together spiritually and politically. But these wounds can be bound up, only when the threat has been defeated. So, too, will our country have to knit itself back together after the scourge of Trumpism has been overcome." A core group of republican strategists wrote an opinion piece which was in last week's *New York Times*. They are, Jennifer Horne, Steve Schmidt, John Weaver, Rick Wilson, Reed Galen, and George Conway, III. They also launched a new super pac, the "Lincoln Project." Begun on December 17th, by days end, they had collected over \$1,000,000!

Taken from their times article, "This effort asks all Americans of all places, creed's, and ways of life to join in the seminal task of our generation: restoring to this nation, leadership and governance that respects the rule of law, recognizes the dignity of all people, and defends the constitution and American values, at home and abroad." "over these next 11 months our efforts will be dedicated to defeating President Trump

and Trumpism at the ballot box and to elect those patriots who will hold the line..." "Our peril outstrips any past differences: it has arrived at our collective doorstep, and we believe there is no other choice." "We seriously hope, but are not optimistic, that some of those republicans charged with sitting as jurors in the Senate's impeachment trial will do likewise."

"Lincoln Project" co-founder Rick Wilson appeared on Deadline White House, hosted by Nicolle Wallace. Wilson began by saying that, "Donald Trump does not represent the values the republican party has worked for, and in fact, he has flipped them on to their head. Trump has turned this once great party into a personality cult! "We recognize the need to rebuild something so that it matters and becomes again, a positive force in American society, instead of being an something that is dedicated to the sole defense to a man who is overtly criminal, overtly corrupt, and who has diminished the office of the presidency, and has diminished this country in meaningful ways." Wilson continues, "We are advocating for a post-Trump environment, a post-Trump

country. We hope to rebuild the GOP into something new and good."

This group of republican activists share a vision of a party that's been revived and renewed to embrace the best of its core principals, and to lead it with vigor into the realities of the 21st century. Accepting and respecting our diversity. The United States is made stronger by its melting pot of diversity, and not accepting this, is contrary to the spirit of, "with liberty and justice for all." these people are to be congratulated for their move into actively moving their political party forward! Conway, interviewed by Newsweek made his thoughts about the former GOP and Trump, very clear, "being republican used to standing up to fiscal responsibility, free markets the rule of law, and against tyrants. Now, it seems that being a republican as defined by the republican apparatus, means one thing, unwavering fidelity to the incompetent, narcissistic, sociopath in the White House, and to his senseless, self-serving whims." the times article concluded with, American men and women stand ready, around the globe, to defend us and our way of life. We must do right by them and ensure that the country for which they daily don their uniform, deserves their protection and their and their sacrifice."

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Turner USD 202 is requesting bids for ERV replacement at Turner High School RFP # 122019 Please contact Chris Crockett at 913-288-3721 for bid documents. Bid opening is schedule for 01/13/2020 at 1:00 pm. Late proposals will not be accepted.

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Turner USD 202 is requesting bids for Parking Lot Replacement at Turner Sixth Grade Academy RFP # 121919 Please contact Chris Crockett at 913-288-3721 for bid documents. Bid opening is schedule for 01/13/2020 at 1:00 pm. Late proposals will not be accepted.

For information about any of these projects including bid documents, please contact Chris Crockett at crockettc@turnerusd202.org or call 913-288-3721.

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2t-The Record-1-9-20



Passings...

By: Sue Reich

Nova Jean Lietzen, age 67, passed away December 19, 2019. She was a graduate of Wyandotte High school and worked as a TWA mechanic for 38 years.

Janet A. Murphy, age 79, passed away December 20, 2019. She retired from the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers as a claims examiner.

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3-Year Subscription
42.00

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CARD NUMBER

EXP. DATE ____ / ____ / ____

Name as it appears on card _____

Signature _____

Please make checks payable to: *The Record*

Mail to or drop off at The Record
PO Box 6107
Kansas City, KS 66106