

The Record

Kansas City, Kansas Recruiting for Police Chief, Seeks Input

The City of Kansas City, Kansas is recruiting for the next Chief of Police. Under the Unified Government's Charter, the Chief of Police is selected by - and subsequently reports to - the County Administrator. The County Administrator is seeking community input on what residents would like to see from the new Chief.

Department Facts:

- The Police Chief oversees a department of nearly 500 employees and includes such divisions as Investigations, Patrol, Community Policing, Traffic, Narcotics, and Animal Services
 - The Police Department responds to over 135,000 calls for service annually in the City, with many of these calls being resolved by the responding officer(s) and not resulting in any arrests
 - Total target crimes have dropped almost 20% in the past 10 years
- Recruitment Process – The Unified Government will conduct a thorough recruitment process to ensure the best candidate

is selected. Steps will include:

- Utilizing a search firm to recruit applicants and conduct preliminary evaluations of candidates
- Extensive promoting of the position through the UG and the search firm
- Initial evaluations to narrow the field to the top candidates: interviews, comprehensive media check, and utilizing an assessment center (recognized best practice for recruitment of public safety executives)
- The two-day assessment center measures: interpersonal skills, communication, planning and evaluating, reasoning and problem-solving, and leadership
- Finalists will make a brief presentation to the Governing Body in a public setting
- Final interview and background check
- Timeframe: starting January 2020 with a selection expected by late summer/early fall of 2020

Community Input

Engaging the Public in the Recruitment Process –

The County Administrator is taking multiple steps to get input from the community on the selection of the next Chief of Police. This feedback will be utilized during the assessment interview with candidates.

- Meeting with organized community leaders through Livable Neighborhoods in January 2020

• Community focus group meetings in February/March. Sign up at ChiefSearch@wycokck.org by February 28 if you would like to participate. Due to the high amount of public interest, only a certain number of residents will be selected

- For those not selected or unable to participate in the community focus groups, there will be a survey tool for the general public to submit their thoughts by April 1. The survey can be found at maps.wycokck.org/ChiefSearch.html. Hardcopies of the survey are available upon request at any of Kansas City, Kansas' recreation centers. Completed surveys may be returned in-person to any recreation center or mailed



A Thought For Your Valentine's Day

By: Tom Valverde

If you want the Moon
don't hide from the night
If you want a Rose
don't run from the thorns
If you want Love
don't hide from yourself.

Rumi

This above all: To thine own self be true. And it must follow, as night the day, Thou canst not be false to any man.
William Shakespeare

When seeking your love, present your true self; make no false attractions, and no pretensions! Love who you wish to love. This is your life - it isn't a dress rehearsal! A new-found meaning for Shakespeare's famous words. A modern understanding which expands his famous quote for the present time. Happy Valentine's Day!

to the County Administrator's Office at 701 North 7th Street, KC, KS 66101.

- Meeting with various long-standing recognized organizations (NAACP, El Centro, Chamber of Commerce, Black Ministers Union, etc.) to gather direct feedback

• Candidate evaluation conducted by professional organizations, neighborhood group leaders, FOP4, and Unified Government employees selected by the County Administrator

Questions asked of the public will include:

- What do you believe the Police Department does well?
- What areas does the Department need to focus on in order to improve?
- What do you think helped reduce crime in the past decade? Are there new areas or crime reduction strategies that should be addressed?
- What is the relationship with the Police Department in your area? How would you like to see the interac-

tion change?

- How do we get people to step forward after serious crimes and communicate with the Department?

Input on the top priorities of the new Chief of Police – Through the public engagement process, the community will have an opportunity to weigh in on what they see as priorities for the next Police Chief. These could include:

- Concentrating on recruitment efforts
- Attending community meetings with the general public and improving community relations
- Implementing rapidly changing technology, such as body cameras
- Continuing efforts to reduce crime
- Focusing on internal operations and employees
- Improving response times to calls for service
- Other

CONTACT: Dave Reno, Interim Public Information Officer
Office: 913.573.5307

Sue's Soapbox

By: Sue Reich



Remember when I said that I hope I had a better year this year than I had in 2019? Well, it didn't start out as well as I had hoped. The first thing, our little Wiley, our Pugapoo, had to be put down a few days ago. He is the one that had his toes amputated and went through all the misery of healing. About a year later, found out he had other problems. He developed heart worms, then became a diabetic and I had to give him a shot of insulin every night. Then he went blind but found his way around pretty well. He ate well and even though he wore a doggie diaper, he seemed to be doing ok. Then apparently, he had a stroke and Mr. Ed and I decided he has had enough misery. So brave daddy took him to Bethel animal hospital, and they did the rest. He was a funny, sweet little guy and we will miss him very much. I believe he was about 15 or 16 years old. We gave him the best life he ever had. So anyway, we have our other fur babies and they do miss him too.

I lived at 34th and Gibbs for over twenty some years and where my house was, I could see straight down the alley behind the shopping strip that was there. Right on the end, the north end of the strip, was Shalinski's RX. I walked over there every day to have coffee, maybe a 3 Musketeers candy bar, meet my friends so we could talk and whatever. Then Joe sold it to Tom Finnell and the bar was removed and some up-to-date changes were made. I met the front cashier; her name was Phyllis, and Eddie, a postman, was the delivery guy. Bud Meditz took over later. They were all great people and were very good with the customers. Marty worked there too, and she

worked the side counter. One day I went over there to buy a greeting card. Picked out my card and went to the front counter and hollered, "hello?". No one answered. Must be pretty busy in the back. I shouted again. I laid my money on the counter and walked across the street to my home. It was a warm balmy day and I went to my room and laid across the bed for a catnap. Later I heard a bam, bam, bam and when I went to the door, a suited gentleman stood there. After I asked him what he wanted, he wanted to know if I was across the street a while ago. "Yes, I bought a card, but I did put the money on the counter". I guess they thought I stole the card. He proceeded to tell me that they were all in the back, tied up and were robbed. Oh my gosh, what did I get myself into? All he wanted to know if I saw anyone suspicious. I didn't and I told him so. Then Jonathan, the son, told me later in the years that Joe, his dad, was tied up with a telephone cord. That is one incident that I will never forget living there on that corner.

Right next-door to our house used to be a liquor store and my folks and I heard some loud banging and there were a couple of guys that were literally breaking in. One was already in when we went outside, I grabbed a flashlight and went around the liquor store to the 34th street side and a man put his hands up, he thought I was a cop. When I told him I wasn't he took off running and down to the Coachlight. I thought, to heck with it. In the meantime, the other guy had taken off down Gibbs in a car. The cop told me I was stupid for doing what I did because he could have had a gun and shot me. Duh! Sometimes I am too brave, and I need to settle down now because I am almost on the other side of the hill. Speaking your piece or doing something without thinking, probably could get you in hot water. I have gotten in hot water a lot of times for doing things like that. But you know what? You can't let people pick on you. I don't go out looking for trouble, but I get in trouble for speaking up. If you are RIGHT, speak up. Anyway, I guess I will let

you go and just watch your p's and q's. Love all of you, be careful and don't take any you know what. Your buddy from Argentine. Sue. "If you want to put the world right, start with yourself." *Apples of Gold.*

Kobe Bryant

by Sue Reich

The big news all week long was the death of the nine people in a helicopter that crashed in California. Kobe Bryant and his daughter Gigi were two of the nine that were killed in the crash. They were on their way to play a basketball game. The crash was a shock to the public. Kobe and Gigi played basketball together constantly. Keep your thoughts and prayers for the families and friends of all that was taken away too soon.

Event at Turner First Baptist Church

By: Sue Reich

"Love Your Neighbor". That is the motto of the First Baptist Church in Turner. There will be no cost to the guests for entertainment, food and conversation. You must RSVP by February 9 and will be held on the 15th of February. It is a Community Friends Dinner and the time will be 6:00 p.m. I will be there to take pictures for the event to be in *The Record*.

Domino Dottes

By: Sue Reich

Yahoo, we did it. Finally got together for the first time since old man Winter stuck

his ice-cold fingers out and made our life miserable with the ice- and snow-covered streets. Our warm wonderful group of domino players got together for our hot game of dominoes. We had our usual treats, our good hot black coffee and our usual gossip. John came in after Darlene and I got there and had everything set up. It felt so good to be with my friends again.

We have been doing this for several years now and they are just like family. We really care about each other. David and I used to

be in the same clown group together and then John was there when Christine was the receptionist. Anyway, some of our people passed away and then there were the six of us. But we stuck together and are now at the Turner First Baptist Church. Like I have mentioned many times before if it wasn't for Steve being a very nice guy, I don't know where we would have been. We are still wanting some domino players. But maybe in the Spring some of you oldies but goodies will join us. K?



This is John, one of our domino players. He used to work for TWA and flies to Florida several times a year.



This lovely lady is from Argentine, aka: Betty Boop.



Quite a few months ago this little bridge was going to be closed to one lane for whatever reason. A big pole was brought in and it is sort of shoved down in the trees. There was some digging, orange plastic was up for a while. Really looks nice. What was the idea anyway?

Comin' & Goin' Turner Style



By Sharon Hoover

I just returned from the National Hot Chocolate Day event at Turner Rec and now I'm ready to start my day. I had such an enjoyable time, I thought I'd check out their Activity Guide to see what events were coming up in February for not only me but the younger set. The first event I noticed was the Annual Daddy/Daughter Dance on February 8. On February 21, the 50+ club's potluck theme is Soups and Salads. Calvin and I usually take soup

because I'm soup fanatic.

At the beginning of every month I stop by the Turner Library to see what new programs they are offering. All require an appointment or registration (913) 295-8250 ext. 4.

• AARP Tax Aide, Thursdays, 9am-5pm. One on One Computer Help is available during library hours by appointment.

CHILDREN & TEENS

• Underground Hub: Meets every Thursday at 3 pm Registration required

• Sonic Celebration, February 13

• Pizza Bombs, February 6.

• Super Smash Bros. Tournament, February 20

• Mozzarella Sticks, February 27

• STEM stations: Fidget Spinners & Lego Marble Mazes, Monday, February 24, 6 pm. Registration required.

• Every Tuesday at 3:30 pm is Gamer's Adventures

• CHILDREN: Make Your Own Valentine, Thursday, February 6 at 12 pm. Registration required.

• Valentine's Day Party, Monday, February 10 at 6 pm. Registration Required.

• Peas in a Pod Craft, Thursday, February 27 at 6 pm. Registration required.

I hope you or your family can take advantage of what is happening in Turner. I understand two new business will be opening soon - The Windmill Coffee Shop on 55th street next to the photography studio and Deep Roots, a restaurant in the old Pizza Hut location east of 47th on Shawnee Drive. Welcome to the neighborhood.

Sorry to say, I am taking a break from writing this column for a few weeks so... Until Next Time - Keep Warm and Stay Safe

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SENATE NEWS

By Sen. Pat Pettey

THIS WEEK AT THE CAPITOL

With the holiday on Monday commemorating Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., it's been a short week at the Capitol. The Senate took action on one bill this week. The rest of the time was spent in committee meetings where a number of bills had scheduled hearings.

Committee hearings and legislative proceedings are now live streamed from the Kansas Legislature's website. Archived recordings are available as well. Visit www.kslegislature.org and click on "Audio/Video" in the upper righthand corner, next to the search box on the home page, to reveal a drop-down menu. To view a full schedule of committees, choose "Statehouse Live & Archive" from the drop-down menu. To listen to legislative proceedings, select either the House or Senate audio stream.

You can also track bills on the Legislature's website by clicking on the "Bills & Laws" link. You are welcome to testify before a committee on any issue important to you. A written copy of your testimony is required at least 24 hours prior to the committee hearing.

I welcome your input on any of these issues My office is located in Room 125-E. Please feel free to contact me at 785-296-7375, or pat.pettey@senate.ks.gov, if you should have any questions or concerns.

FIRST BILL OF SESSION

The Senate passed this week its first piece of legislation this session. Senate Bill 45 increases penalties for involuntary manslaughter or aggravated battery against a public safety sector employee to a severity level two, person felony and level three, person felony, respectively. Driving under the influence which results in great bodily harm or disfigurement to a public safety sector employee would also be a severity level three, person felony.

The bill defines public safety sector employee as an employee of any law en-

forcement office, sheriff's department, municipal fire department, volunteer and non-volunteer fire protection association, emergency management department, emergency medical service provider, or public works department.

PAGE OPPORTUNITIES

Each session, Senators are allowed up to 20 Senate Pages. Pages spend the day running errands for legislators and sit on the Senate floor during daily proceedings. It's a great opportunity for students to get a first-hand experience in Kansas state government. If you know a middle school or high school student who would be interested in paging, please contact my office at (785) 296-7375.

ABORTION DEBATE UPDATE

Both versions of the constitutional amendments (HCR 5019 and SCR 1613) seeking to eliminate abortion rights in Kansas passed out of their respective committees this week. They are now headed to their respective chambers for full consideration. A vote is anticipated as early as next week. The measures require two-thirds majority vote (27 votes in the Senate; 84 votes in the House) to pass. They cannot be vetoed by the Governor.

When voters see something as serious as a change to the Constitution on the ballot, they assume the Legislature has done a thorough job vetting the amendment. That has not happened with these amendments.

Both amendments were introduced last Thursday. A joint hearing was held the following Tuesday, after a three-day weekend and a day of inclement weather that shut down most of Northeastern Kansas. There were arbitrary deadlines initially set for submitting testimony and no easy way to submit electronically. Then, on Wednesday, both House and Senate committees took action on the amendments with limitations on how the public could watch or listen to the proceedings. The House Committee on Federal and State Affairs hadn't been posted notice of their meeting publicly and the Senate Judiciary Committee's live stream cut off just before they took action.

The process surrounding these amendments has been treated as political fodder and not as the serious matter that it is.

AMENDING KANSAS ACT AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

A hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, January 28, in the Senate Committee on Federal State Affairs for SB 250, which seeks to amend the definition of "race" in the Kansas Act Against Discrimination. The bill, introduced by Senator Oletha Faust-Goudeau of Wichita, would add traits historically associated with race, including hair texture and protective hairstyles to the definition.

OTHER BILLS TO WATCH

• **SHELDON'S LAW** SB 218 was originally introduced as SB 37 by Senator Tom Holland of Baldwin City. It requires clergy to report certain abuse and neglect of children. The Senate passed it in 2019 on a vote of 39-0. It's now in the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs awaiting a hearing.

• **NATURAL DISASTER TAX ABATEMENTS** SB 242, introduced by Senator Tom Holland of Baldwin City in response to the EF-4 tornado that devastated certain parts of Douglas and Leavenworth counties in late May 2019, establishes tax abatements for agricultural buildings destroyed by natural disasters. It has been referred to the Senate Committee on Taxation and Assessment.

• **GOLDEN YEARS PROPERTY TAX FREEZE** Introduced by Senator Tom Holland of Baldwin City, SB 104 establishes a property tax freeze for over 76,000 qualifying senior and disabled veteran households. The homestead would have to be appraised at \$350,000 or less and homeowners would have to have a household income of \$50,000 or less. The bill passed the Senate in 2019 on a vote of 39-0. It is now in the House Committee on Taxation, which had a hearing on it on April 3, 2019. It's awaiting further action.

UNITED WAY 211

What is 211?

United Way 211 is a referral service that provides free,

confidential, non-judgmental information on community resources.

• Callers are provided resources for basic needs including food, shelter, healthcare, mental health, employment, education and seasonal assistance (tax preparation, school supplies, heating/cooling centers).

• In addition to basic needs, callers can be connected to resources for more complex issues such as cancer support, consumer protection, landlord issues, caring for an aging relative, etc.

• Callers reach a trained, caring call specialist who assesses the needs of each person and searches a database with more than 8,000 services to connect callers to the help they need.

• Call specialists are also trained to Advocate for people with complex needs or barriers to receiving services such as lack of understanding of intake processes, language barriers, lack of support system, etc.

• Anyone can search 211 Online, the comprehensive resource database, on their own at www.211kc.org.

• United Way 211 service is available in more than 150 languages through interpreters and Spanish-speaking staff.

• Veteran and military callers can speak to the Veterans Navigator, who can provide additional advocacy & resources.

How to Reach 211

Dial 211 from any phone Online database at www.211kc.org

Alternately call 816-474-5112

Call toll-free 866-320-5764

Email 211KC@uwgkc.org Facebook [facebook.com/211gkc](https://www.facebook.com/211gkc)

Interpreters available Kansas Counties Served Doniphan • Linn • Franklin • Miami • Johnson • Wyandotte • Leavenworth Turner Diagonal Interchange Project Groundbreaking Ceremony

The Unified Government, Kansas Department of Transportation, Kansas Turnpike Authority, and the Federal Highway Administration are hosting a groundbreaking ceremony for the turner Diagonal Interchange Project on Friday, January 31. The public is

invited to attend the celebration at 10:30 AM at the I-70 westbound Truck Staging Area near the I-70 and Turner Diagonal Interchange in Kansas City, Kansas. In the event of inclement weather or temperatures below 40° Fahrenheit, the groundbreaking will be held at the Kansas City Kansas West Branch Library at 1737 North 82nd Street, Kansas City, KS 66112.

KANSAS TEACHER FINALIST FOR NATIONAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

The Council of Chief State School Officers announced Thursday morning that 2020 Kansas Teacher of the Year, Tabatha Rosproy, is one of four finalists for 2020 National Teacher of the Year. Tabatha is a preschool teacher for Winfield Early Learning Center, Winfield Unified School District 465, teaching in a program nestled within a retirement village and nursing home. This setting provides the children interaction with residents. She has helped the Cumbernauld Little Vikes program build new social capital in the community while also boasting the highest preschool literacy and math scores in the district. Wouldn't it be awesome if Tabatha was named 2020 National Teacher of the Year!

SHADOW FOR THE DAY

Aaron Coleman came over from KCK on January 23rd to shadow me for the day. Aaron is interested in a political future and is the nephew of Representative Pam Curtis. His brother, Michael, was one of my students.

VISITORS TO MY OFFICE

Mayor Alvey at the Capitol

Mayor David Alvey was in the Capitol on January 23rd with the Kansas League of Municipalities.

KU Nurse Anesthesia Education

I met with a group from Kansas Association of Nurse Anesthetists from KU Nurse Anesthesia Education. Professor Brittany Hollabaugh was accompanied by students: Zach Shepherd, Carlos Mata, Kodi Knott, Lindsey Bagby, Taylor Stewart, and James McMurry.

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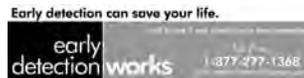
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UNDER THE DOME

By Rep. Stan Frownfelter &
Rep. Tom Burroughs

2020 Legislative Session Begins

On Monday afternoon, the Kansas legislature kicked off the 2020 session. Newly elected Mayor Brandon Whipple delivered a farewell address before he resigned his post as Representative of the 96th District. Now-Representative Stephanie Yeager was sworn in the following day. The Kansas House of Representatives holds 125 representatives; the House Democratic caucus consists of 41 representatives. We're looking forward to tackling the many issues still facing our state.

Medicaid Expansion Promise

On Thursday, January 9th, after weeks of negotiations, Governor Kelly and Senate Majority Leader Jim Denning announced a proposal to expand healthcare to more than 150,000 Kansans and lower health insurance costs in the marketplace. Expanding Medicaid has been a priority for both Republicans and Democrats for years, so this is a huge bipartisan step in reaching this goal.

Governor's Budget Proposal

On Thursday, Budget Director Larry Campbell presented the Governor's budget to a joint session of the House Appropriations and Senate Ways and Means Committees. The Governor's budget is intended to further restore the fiscal responsibility that has thus far occurred under her watch. The budget is a complex and dense document, so here are some of the major points included:

- This budget is structurally balanced, with an ending balance of 8%, or \$627.8M.
- For the third year in a row, state employees will receive a 2.5% raise.
- It will continue the phase-out of the "Bank of KDOT," with no further raiding of highway funds.
- The plan again includes a re-amortization of KPERS, resulting in massive debt reduction.
- There will be no new taxes. The following recommenda-

tions are in the budget: taxing digital property, food sales tax relief, and local property tax relief.

2020 State of the State Address

Governor Kelly's address had a recurring theme – moving forward from the disasters Kansas has faced throughout the last decade. She pointed out several issues that have been resolved, such as adequate school funding, as well as future plans to resolve issues that still haunt Kansas, such as Medicaid expansion, infrastructure, and closing the "Bank of KDOT."

She also pointed out that for the first time in Kansas history, women sit at the helm of each branch of the Kansas government – exactly 100 years since women were granted the right to vote. The Governor has many plans for our state, and we look forward to working with her to achieve those.

Constitutional Amendment

A proposed amendment to the Kansas Constitution, HCR 5019, was heard in a joint meeting of the House Federal and State Affairs Committee and Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday. The amendment would strip women of their bodily autonomy and could potentially open the door to a full ban on abortion in the state of Kansas. The hearing went throughout the entire day, with proponents and opponents testifying. On Wednesday, the amendment passed out of both committees, and was read into the Senate. Thursday, the amendment was read into the House. Thus far there is no word on when the amendment will be worked on either floor.

Equality Day

Thursday was Equality Day in the State House. Much of the crowd consisted of students coming from all over Kansas -- many of whom it was their first time in the building. Speakers included Representative Brandon Woodard and Representative Susan Ruiz, the first LGBTQ state representatives to be elected in the state of Kansas; State Senator Barbara Bollier; and Tom Witt, the Executive Director for Equality Kansas. Among the topics mentioned by the speakers were amending the Kansas

discrimination act to include Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression; banning conversion therapy and more.

It is a special honor to serve as your state representative. We both value and need your input on the various issues

facing state government. Please feel free to contact me with your comments and questions. My office address is Room 50-S, 300 SW 10th, Topeka, KS 66612. You can reach us at Rep. Tom Burroughs - (785) 296-8153, Rep. Stan Frownfelter - (785) 296-7300, or call the legislative

hotline at 1-800-432-3924 to leave a message for me. Additionally, you can e-mail us at Tom.Burroughs@house.ks.gov, Stan.Frownfelter@house.ks.gov. You can also follow the legislative session online at www.kslegislature.org

51 Kansas Law Enforcement Agencies Earn AAA Kansas Community Traffic Safety Awards

AAA Kansas announced today that 51 law enforcement agencies – comprising 38 police departments and 13 sheriff's offices – throughout the state are being honored with AAA Kansas Community Traffic Safety Awards for their 2019 work to keep roadways in their cities and counties safe through a variety of initiatives and programs.

The awards have been presented annually since 2011 by AAA Kansas to community law enforcement agencies for their efforts to successfully and cost-effectively improve local traffic safety. The agencies are scored and recognized for their efforts in multiple categories, including education, emergency medical response, enforcement and engineering.

"Our police departments and sheriff's offices in Kansas do an excellent job in keeping motorists, cyclists and pedestrians safe in their communities," said Shawn Steward, Public Affairs Manager for AAA Kansas. "We salute these 51 law enforcement partners – a record number receiving this honor – for their commitment, hard work and, in many cases, creative community engagement, in delivering effective and successful traffic safety programs."

The winning law enforcement agencies will be recognized by AAA Kansas with presentations and award plaques in their communities in the coming weeks and months. The honored agencies and their award levels are as follows:

Agency 2019 Award Level

- Andover Police Department Platinum
- Arkansas City Police Department Platinum
- Atchison Police Department Platinum
- Barton County Sheriff's Office Silver
- Basehor Police Department Silver
- Bonner Springs Police Department Platinum

- Brown County Sheriff's Office Platinum
- Caney Police Department Platinum
- Cheney Police Department Platinum
- Cherokee County Sheriff's Office Platinum
- Cloud County Sheriff's Office Gold
- Coffeyville Police Department Gold
- Concordia Police Department Gold
- Dodge City Police Department Platinum
- El Dorado Police Department Platinum
- Fort Scott Police Department Platinum
- Franklin County Sheriff's Office Silver
- Gardner Police Department Silver
- Hays Police Department Platinum
- Hiawatha Police Department Gold
- Horton Police Department Gold
- Independence Police Department Gold
- Johnson County Sheriff's Office Gold
- Kansas City Kansas Police Department Platinum
- Leavenworth County Sheriff's Office Gold
- Leawood Police Department Platinum
- Lenexa Police Department Platinum
- Linn County Sheriff's Office Gold
- Lyon County Sheriff's Office Platinum
- McPherson County Sheriff's Office Silver
- McPherson Police Department Silver
- Miami County Sheriff's Office Platinum
- Mission Police Department Platinum
- Olathe Police Department Platinum
- Osawatimie Police Department Platinum
- Overland Park Police Department Platinum
- Parsons Police Department Platinum

- Pittsburg Police Department Platinum
- Riley County Police Department Silver
- Roeland Park Police Department Platinum
- Salina Police Department Platinum
- Saline County Sheriff's Office Silver
- Seneca Police Department Platinum
- Shawnee Police Department Gold
- Spring Hill Police Department Platinum
- Tonganoxie Police Department Platinum
- Wamego Police Department Silver
- Wellsville Police Department Silver
- Westwood Police Department Platinum
- Wichita Police Department Gold
- Wyandotte County Sheriff's Office Gold

Six Kansas law enforcement agencies have earned a AAA Kansas Community Traffic Safety Award in each of the nine years the awards have been given: Andover Police Department, Arkansas City Police Department, Cherokee County Sheriff's Office, Olathe Police Department, Pittsburg Police Department and Shawnee Police Department.

About AAA

AAA provides automotive, travel, and insurance services to 60 million members nationwide and nearly 349,000 members in Kansas. AAA advocates for the safety and mobility of its members and has been committed to outstanding road service for more than 100 years. AAA is a non-stock, non-profit corporation working on behalf of motorists, who can now map a route, find local gas prices, discover discounts, book a hotel, and track their roadside assistance service with the AAA Mobile app (AAA.com/mobile) for iPhone, iPad and Android. For more information, visit www.AAA.com.

Fatal Crashes Involving Drivers Who Test Positive for Marijuana Increase After State Legalizes Drug

Percent of THC-positive drivers has doubled since recreational use was legalized.

TOPEKA, Kan. – A concerning number of Washington state drivers involved in fatal crashes are testing positive for recent use of marijuana, according to new research from the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety.

The share of drivers who, after a fatal crash, tested positive for active THC – the drug’s main psychoactive ingredient – has doubled since the state legalized marijuana in December 2012. AAA believes the increase raises important traffic safety concerns for drivers across the country, because recreational marijuana use is now legal in 11 states and Washington, D.C.

The latest AAA Foundation research found that between 2008 and 2012 – the five-year period before the drug was legal – an estimated 8.8% of Washington drivers involved in fatal crashes were positive for THC. That rate rose to 18% between 2013 and 2017.

The average number of THC-positive drivers increased, too. In the five years before legalization, an average of 56 drivers involved in fatal crashes each year were THC-positive. In the five years after legalization, the average jumped to 130. The new numbers bolster the findings of a similar report the AAA Foundation released in 2016. The study did not attempt to determine if marijuana contributed to the crashes included in its latest research. It focused only on the prevalence of drivers who tested positive for active THC.

“This study enabled us to review a full 10-years’ worth of data about the potential impact of marijuana on driving safety – and it raises significant concerns,” said Dr. David Yang, executive director of the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. “Results from the analysis suggest that legalization of recreational use of marijuana may increase the rate of THC-positive drivers involved in fatal crashes.”

Marijuana use can inhibit concentration, slow reaction times and cloud judgment. Its effects vary by individual, but a number of studies have concluded that marijuana use impairs the ability to drive safely. Previous research suggests that users who drive high are up to twice as likely to be involved in a crash.

AAA opposes the legalization of marijuana for recreational use because of its inherent traffic safety risks and because of the difficulties in writing legislation that protects the public and treats drivers fairly.

Eleven states and Washington, D.C. have legalized marijuana for both recreational and medical use.

Another 22 states have legalized it for medical use only. State legislative sessions for 2020 are getting underway and recreational use is expected to be a popular topic. The legislative interest combined with likely November ballot measures could result in additional states taking a hard look the issue.

In an attempt to curtail drug-impaired driving, seven states have set legal non-zero, or “per se,” limits on the amount of THC drivers can have in their system. While well-intended, AAA believes imposing such limits is problematic because no data reliably shows what level of THC impairs driving, the chemical’s effects vary by user, and THC testing often cannot be done until hours after a crash.

AAA believes that states that have legalized the drug should not rely solely on an arbitrary legal limit to determine if a driver is impaired. They should adopt a two-pronged approach that requires:

1. a positive test for recent marijuana use
2. behavioral and physiological evidence of driver impairment

Regardless of the drug’s legal status – and limits in any state – all motorists need to avoid driving while impaired. “Simply put, if you’ve used marijuana, don’t drive,” said Jake Nelson, AAA’s director of traffic safety advocacy and research. “And if you plan to drive, don’t use marijuana.”

Last year, a Foundation survey

found that nearly 70% of Americans think it’s unlikely a driver will get caught by police for driving shortly after using marijuana. The survey also revealed that an estimated 14.8 million drivers report getting behind the wheel within one hour after using marijuana in the past 30 days.

AAA is committed to educating the public about the risks of substance-impaired driving. Through AAA Foundation research, AAA is working to improve understanding on the topic and is working collaboratively with safety stakeholders to reduce the impact of substance-impaired driving related crashes.

About AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety

Established in 1947 by AAA, the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety is a nonprofit, publicly funded, 501(c)(3) charitable research and educational organization. The AAA Foundation’s mission is to prevent traffic deaths and injuries by conducting research into their causes and by educating the public about strategies to prevent crashes and reduce injuries when they do occur. This research is used to develop educational materials for drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists and other road users. Visit www.AAAFoundation.org.

About AAA

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safety and mobility of its members and has been committed to outstanding road service for more than 100 years. AAA is a non-stock, non-profit corporation working on behalf of motorists, who can now map a route, find local gas prices, discover discounts, book a hotel, and track their roadside assistance service with the AAA Mobile app (AAA.com/mobile) for iPhone, iPad and Android. For more information, visit www.AAA.com.



Passings...

By: Sue Reich

Norman Gunderman, age 84, passed away January 16, 2020. He was a Wyandotte High school class of 1953 graduate.

Keith Marler, age 73, passed away January 18, 2020. He was an Argentine High school class of 1964 graduate and a lineman for BPU.

Merle Dean Schuur, age 77, passed away January 23, 2020. He attended Wyandotte High school and was a Shriner.

Marilee W. Lea, age 98, passed away January 24, 2020. She was the receptionist for USD#500 Board of Education for 20 years.

Bob Jones, age 90, passed away January 21, 2020. He attended Emerson Elementary and Argentine High. He was a United States Marine.

Kobe Bryant, age 41, passed away January 26, 2020. He was a Lakers All Star Basketball player (helicopter crash)

Gigi Bryant, age 13, passed away January 26, 2020. She was the daughter of Kobe Bryant (helicopter crash)

LOOKING TO HIRE FULL-TIME GROOMER

Bubbles and Bows is looking to hire a trustworthy full-time groomer. Must have a minimum 1-year grooming experience. Managing experience a plus. Interview process to include phone interview, face-to-face interview, and working interview. Call or text (913)549-0521 to set up first interview.

LEGAL PUBLICATION

REQUESTING BIDS

Turner USD 202 is requesting bids for ERV replacement at Turner High School RFP#20118 Please contact Chris Crockett at 913-288-3721 or crockettc@turnerusd202.org for bid documents. Bid opening is scheduled for 02/11/2020 at 1:00 pm located in the Turner USD 202 Facilities Office at 5800 Metropolitan Ave. Late proposals will not be accepted.

(First published 1-30-20)
2t-The Record-2-6-20

LEGAL PUBLICATION

REQUESTING BIDS

Turner USD 202 is requesting bids for, Junction Elementary Parking Lot Renovation RFP # 202501 Please contact Chris Crockett at 913-288-3721 or crockettc@turnerusd202.org for bid documents. Bid opening is scheduled for 02/12/2020 at 10:00 am located in the Turner USD 202 Facilities Office at 5800 Metropolitan Ave. Late proposals will not be accepted.

(First published 2-6-20)
2t-The Record-2-13-20

REQUESTING BIDS

Turner USD 202 is requesting bids for, Turner Sixth Grade Academy Parking Lot Renovation RFP # 203001 Please contact Chris Crockett at 913-288-3721 or crockettc@turnerusd202.org for bid documents. Bid opening is scheduled for 02/12/2020 at 10:00 am located in the Turner USD 202 Facilities Office at 5800 Metropolitan Ave. Late proposals will not be accepted.

(First published 2-6-20)
2t-The Record-2-13-20

REQUESTING BIDS

Turner USD 202 is requesting bids for, Turner Transportation Parking Lot Renovation RFP # 203501 Please contact Chris Crockett at 913-288-3721 or crockettc@turnerusd202.org for bid documents. Bid opening is scheduled for 02/12/2020 at 10:00 am located in the Turner USD 202 Facilities Office at 5800 Metropolitan Ave. Late proposals will not be accepted.

(First published 2-6-20)
2t-The Record-2-13-20

LEGAL PUBLICATION

ACCEPTING SEALED BIDS

The Board of Education, Unified School District No. 500, Kansas City, KS will accept sealed bids for: IFB 20-002 Pest Control Services. Sealed bids should be addressed to: Purchasing Department, Board of Education, 2010 N. 59th Street, Room 370, Kansas City, KS 66109 - "IFB No. 20-002 – Pest Control Services"

Bids will be opened 02/25/20 @ 2:00 PM in the Purchasing Office.

Bid Documents are available at the Purchasing Department Office, at the above-address between 8 AM and 4 PM, M-F. Bid Documents are posted at <http://www.kckps.org/index.php/invitation-for-bids> .

(First published 2-6-20)
1t-The Record-2-6-20

LEGAL PUBLICATION

ACCEPTING SEALED BIDS

The Board of Education, Unified School District No. 500, Kansas City, KS will accept sealed bids for: IFB 20-004 Electrical Upgrade Services. Sealed bids should be addressed to: Purchasing Department, Board of Education, 2010 N. 59th Street, Room 370, Kansas City, KS 66109 - "IFB No. 20-004 – Electrical Upgrade Services"

Bids will be opened 02/20/20 @ 2:00 PM in the Purchasing Office.

Bid Documents are available at the Purchasing Department Office, at the above-address between 8 AM and 4 PM, M-F. Bid Documents are posted at <http://www.kckps.org/index.php/invitation-for-bids> .

(First published 2-6-20)
1t-The Record-2-6-20



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