

## Summer Staycation: Half of Kansans are planning on summer vacationing locally to avoid contracting Coronavirus, reveals survey

- 18% think the pandemic will boost their state's local tourism industry as residents are less willing to travel further by plane.

- Over a quarter of respondents say they would pay more for accommodation if it meant lower occupancy to reduce the risk of contracting Coronavirus.

- 71% say they might skip summer vacation this year to save money.

- Interactive map included showing results across the US.

Even though it may not seem like it, we are more than halfway through the year already, which means summer vacations are just around the corner. However,

due to the unforeseeable circumstances brought on by the Coronavirus pandemic, many Americans are now facing challenging financial implications as a result, meaning summer may be spent closer to home this year. Additionally, the fear of contracting the disease in public spaces limits activities like travelling, with many preferring to stay in to reduce their risk.

MyBioSource.com, a biotechnological products distribution company, conducted a survey of 7,500 adults across the country to find out where they will be spending their summer vacations. It was found that 50% of Kansans say they are more

likely to vacation locally in their own state this summer to avoid travelling by plane and reduce the risk of contracting Coronavirus (compared to a national average of 55%). If you're wondering 'should I stay or should I go' this summer, consider that a staycation can also be far less stressful than having to book flights. In addition, travelling within your state means you will be saving more than you would by travelling further, and contributes positively to your local economy.

Broken down across the country, Utahns were most enthusiastic about having a staycation this summer to reduce the risk of contracting Covid-19 with 85% saying this is likely to happen. By comparison, it appears Mississippians were more eager to get away as just 25% said they are planning on vacationing locally this summer.

View the results across the US with this infographic

As it stands, smaller businesses – such as restaurants

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## The Boys of Summer

By Dr. Jim Haas

The crack of the bat is a welcome sound to baseball fans, even if it's only on TV, and Dr. Tony Fauci threw the ceremonial first pitch at the Washington Nationals home opener. He missed the plate by 10 feet, but, luckily for him, no fans were there to boo. He's a lousy pitcher, but one of the world's top experts on infectious diseases as well as a hardcore Nationals fan. Presidents traditionally have the first-pitch honor, but the current one, lacking honor himself, has never done it.



The Royals are back in action with the welcome return of All-Star catcher Salvadore Perez, who sat out last year with an injury. Salvy started with a bang last week—two bangs, actually—when he socially-distanced two pitches over the fence in the first two exhibition games. The Royals on TV with no crowd in the stands is hardly different from having a crowd. The game's the thing, and the game's the same. Baseball is a welcome diversion in these hard times, and soccer, football, and basketball will carry us along while we try to get a grip on our national health disaster.

Other countries have shown us the way, including France, where officials are now confident the pandemic is so well controlled that the 2,200-mile Tour de France bicycle race, previously cancelled, has been rescheduled to start in late August. After peaking in spring, new Covid-19 cases in France are now few thanks to effective government actions: a strict nationwide stay-at-home order from March through mid-May, extensive testing, a slow reopening, and masks provided to all residents. With no national strategy, the U.S. has had a million new cases in the last two weeks.

Presidential election summers usually bring political conventions, but not this year. Democrats understood very early that the pandemic would become too dangerous to jam thousands of people into one space and planned for a virtual convention, while the former GOP, now just a personality cult, ignored the growing disaster for months then moved the speechifying part from North Carolina to Florida when Carolina officials, following the science, prohibited large crowds. After Florida virus cases exploded because the state carelessly opened too soon, Party leaders last week finally decided to go virtual, too. Slow learners, but when politics comes before science, that's to be expected.

Scrapping the conventions is no loss. Even watching them in high school decades ago, I thought the balloons, hoopla, and partying were silly and unfit for the serious business of governing a democracy. Before the Internet, party leaders had to meet in person to negotiate a platform and settle on candidates, striking bargains in a "smoke-filled room" or, more recently, a smoke-free room. Technology has made that unnecessary.

The woman of summer—maybe of the year—is New York Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D), who, on the Capitol steps last week, was the target of angry, vile comments from her Florida counterpart Ted Yoho (R). Yoho's "apology" in the House was so lame that it prompted Ocasio-Cortez to later give a ten-minute speech about the evils of male entitlement and violent language against women from Yoho and others including the president. Her restrained but firm eloquence is already being classed with the finest speeches in Congress in modern times. One writer compared it to Senator Charles Sumner's legendary anti-slavery speech of 1856. Ocasio-Cortez is a major leaguer. Yoho is not.

### Election Countdown: 97 Days

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*Jim's columns are online at <http://greatsociety2point0.blogspot.com>*

## Sue's Sudsy Soapbox By: Sue Reich



**H**ave you ever gone house hunting? Mr. Ed and I have, and it isn't easy. We are going to "downsize" because we are at the age that going up and down steps to the laundry room is getting to us. It was fine the first 20 years but not now. Going to try and find a house without a basement, with a garage, a fenced in backyard, laundry room on the main floor and in a fairly decent neighborhood. We have one pegged and ours "might" be asked for. I wonder how many of you have had to make changes because of your age? Never thought we would live this long. Of course, I am glad we have. If this darn corona virus doesn't get us, we will be happy campers again. We really try to be careful and wear our masks when we go anywhere. Sure have seen a lot of people without one. Gotta be careful when you go house hunting. Don't want to pick up any of those crazy germs. I use my sanitizer anytime I go anywhere and make sure that Mr. Ed does too. And, when I deliver, have to be extra careful.

I see where Amigos is closed temporarily because of a case there. So sad that this had to happen. The schools are in a quandary, children have to be taught to wear them and to leave them on. I really don't like to wear them but you gotta do whatcha gotta do. Sure take that sucker off when I get in the car.

I was really amazed of all the yellow ribbons all over Turner and up and down the streets, some in Argentine. People sure feel for poor little Olivia. I tied one on my Dogwood tree. The cross that Jesus was cru-

cified on was supposedly Dogwood. I thought it was appropriate that my ribbon went on the Dogwood tree. Still don't know why someone would do such a horrendous thing to a little toddler. I wish I could say what I want to say about those two devious people. But I am sure you are thinking the same thing. I have a granddaughter going on three and just cannot imagine such a thing.

Visited Jim Jarsulic today at the garden today. Got a few tomatoes and Phyllis' grandson, Ben, was there. My, he has grown. Course he just graduated and likes to work in the Community garden with the others. He is a pretty smart fellow. Hope he does well in his future. Might sound like a broken record but sure gonna miss Grandpa Jerry. Mary called me the other day she sounded okay, but I know she will miss her ol' sidekick. Jim was talking about making some kind of deal for the originals that worked in that garden 10 years ago. I came up with the logo for it. Kinda made me proud, the butterfly on the green thumb. The bee-keeper is going to add a bee to it. That's ok. It is about butterflies and bees and all the green thumbs that have been in that garden. I had three sun strokes from that place. Boy, I am sure glad we got all that hard work done. It started out as a dump and now look at it. Just love it! We had some darn good people that used their blood, sweat and tears in that project. We should have a sign with our names on it in our own handwriting. That would be cool and the date it started.

Well, peeps, guess I will sign off. Really love all of you. Please take care, mind your p's and q's and wear your masks, use your sanitizer. We want to whip this virus and we need all of you to be here to help us do it. Oh yeah, visit your community garden at 55th and Klamm. lol. from your little ol' gal from Argentine who loves you all. Sue From; Treasures of Silver "Everyone is ignorant, only on different subjects".



A beautiful sign in honor of Oliva.



My tribute to Olivia on my dogwood tree.



A wonderful tribute at Big Q BBQ for an angel by the name of Olivia.

# Comin' & Goin' Turner Style



By Sharon Hoover

I always prided myself that I was not one for having a radio blaring and that I could work in absolute quiet. Boy was I wrong. We lost our internet and television for a day and a half and I thought I would go nuts. Finally got it back this morning but all the shows I recorded this past week are all gone. I found I can see some on demand, all is not lost, just a bit of binge watching.

Just when you think you've seen it all, something happens that really surprises you. I went out

to get the mail yesterday and a sheep was walking in the driveway by the side of the house and went into the front yard. I yelled for Calvin, but by the time he got there the ewe was getting ready to cross the street. She dashed across, almost got hit by a car and disappeared. I guess we have some people raising livestock near us. It was a little excitement in rather a bland day – Not much to do, stuck at home, no TV or internet, I dug out a jigsaw puzzle to put together.

I just finished a book I have had on reserve at the library since March. It is "The Book of Lost Friends" by Lisa Wingate. This author finds a historical document and builds a novel around it. In this case, the document was the Lost Friends column of the Southwestern Newspaper published after the Civil War. Former enslaved workers were looking for their mothers, fathers, siblings, and/or children who had been sold before

emancipation. The author's previous book was "Before We Were Yours" about a specific orphanage and its abuses. I highly recommend both books - very insightful.

Have you started that fall garden yet? I am just starting to enjoy fresh tomatoes. You still have time to start cabbage, broccoli, and cauliflower from seed to transplant in late August. Now is the time to plant beets, carrots, and beans. In early August seed spinach and long maturing lettuce. In mid to late August seed radishes and leaf lettuce. No need to fertilize before planting. Wait about four weeks before adding fertilizer, either powder or liquid like Miracle-Gro. Be sure to read the label before applying. You also might want to wash off the leaves with clean water so prevent fertilizer burn. Happy gardening!

Until next time please be kind, wash your hands, practice social distancing, and wear a mask.

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## Summer Stacation... from page 1

and those in the tourism industry – have suffered severely due to lockdown as they are less likely to have had financial backup systems in place than larger franchises. 18% of respondents are looking on the bright side and say that the pandemic will turn out to be a boost for their state's local tourism industry, as people will be less willing to travel further by plane.

For many Americans, however, the economic strain caused by the pandemic means they have kicked their saving habits into gear in order to recover. 71% of people say there is chance they will skip summer vacation this year in order to save money.

If you have traveled to a coastal city over a summer break, it is understandable why there is cause for concern over the risk of Coronavirus outbreaks on public beaches during this time. The more people on a beach, the closer proximity individuals are to another and the greater the risk of an outbreak. Considering this, 61% of people think there should be limits placed on the number of people allowed onto a beach this summer.

Those who can afford to travel are even willing to spend the extra dollars to reduce their risk of contracting the virus. Over a quarter (28%) of respondents say they would be prepared to pay more for vacation accommodation if it meant there would be a lower occupancy, thus reducing Covid-19 risks.

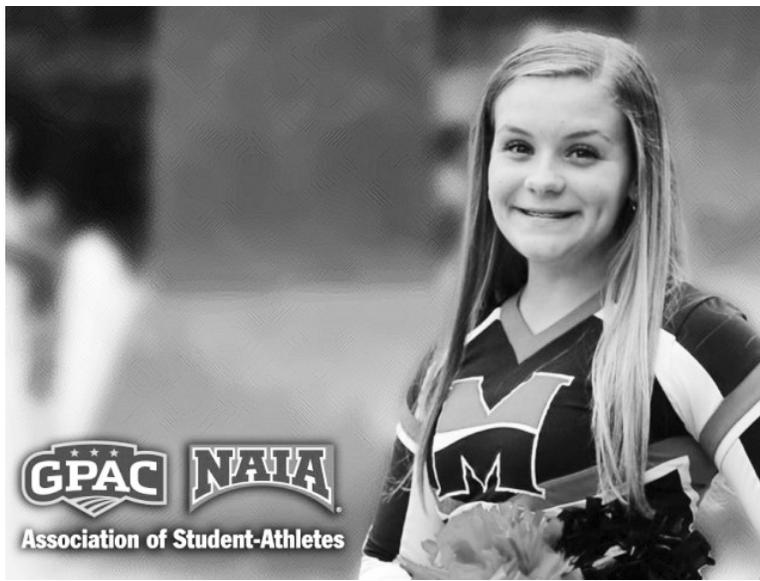


## Passings...

By: Sue Reich

JoAnn Tobiason, age 90, passed away July 5, 2020. She was an Argentine high school graduate, class of 1948.

Debbie Lee (Speiss) Stephens, age 74, passed away July 8, 2020. She was a Turner high graduate, class of 1963.



Midland University's Emma Johnson has been named the Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) student-athlete representative at the national level. She will serve on the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Association of Student-Athletes for the 2020-21 academic year. In addition to being the representative for GPAC student-athletes at the conference level, she will be one of several representatives from various conferences at the NAIA as well.

Emma is a dedicated student-athlete who is driven to graduate with honors and gain real world experience along her journey. She is a fearless leader with a strong passion for building relationships and connecting with others. She is also a confident communicator with contagious enthusiasm. Emma strives for excellence in all aspects of life, believes in building champions, and is dedicated to helping others achieve their full potential while making a positive difference in the world.

The Midland Game Day Cheer Squad is where she is able to further her athletic career, after being a four-year varsity cheerleader in high school. Being an athlete and cheering on her peers is one of the many things that keeps her busy at Midland. Emma is actively involved in the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Student Senate, Phi Omega Sorority, and Residence Life just to name a few.

Emma also works as an admissions ambassador, tailoring campus tours to prospective students and their families, upholding a positive image of the University.

Johnson replaces Nishesh Yadav from Doane as the GPAC representative to the NAIA ASA. Yadev ended his term as the Chair of the NAIA ASA and is graduating from Doane University this spring. Yadev is a men's soccer student-athlete from Las Vegas, Nevada. Yadev also was instrumental in forming the GPAC ASA, which was scheduled to meet for the first time this spring. The GPAC ASA will now begin with the 2020-21 academic year.

# Letters to the Editor

## Dear Editor:

In the August 4th Republican primary I'm supporting Adrienne Vallejo Foster for Congress.

Adrienne was born, raised and educated in Wyandotte County. As a true 'dotte original, Adrienne knows Wyandotte. She grew up near 10th & Central. She attended All Saints School and graduated from Ward High School in 1990. She played baseball at City Park, and Klopper Park, and knows the tasty treats from Casa de Tacos, and Paul's Drive In. Adrienne knows our different neighborhoods and she knows our local problems: high property taxes, high utility rates, crime, code enforcement.

It's time for someone with Wyandotte roots and experience to have a chance. Adrienne's heartfelt values are: Family, Faith and Freedom. These values are how Adrienne and husband, Stephen, married 24 years, have raised their five sons: Stephen, Jr, Sebastian, Christian, James, & Blaise.

Adrienne graduated from UMKC with a Master's degree in Public Administration. She started a small business providing legal transcription services. She was elected in 2004 to the Roeland Park City Council and in 2009 elected Mayor of Roeland Park. During the recession of 2009-10 she did not increase taxes or debt and forced the City Manager to cut spending. The City Manager also wanted to build a new city hall costing \$10 million, but Adrienne said NO, and today Roeland Park still uses the same, small, old building. She is fiscally responsible. We need that with UG and BPU.

Governor Sam Brownback appointed her Director of Latino Affairs for Kansas, a state-wide responsibility. Later, President Trump appointed her to the Small Business Administration to be an advocate for small businesses in Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, & Iowa.

In my opinion, Adrienne has the best combination of values, experience, and personality to be an effective Member of Congress.

As a Congresswoman, Adrienne will focus on national issues:

- \* get the economy going again, and get people back to work.
- \* reducing health care costs, so we can afford to buy it
- \* support President Trump's efforts to secure our borders
- \* making Congress more fiscally responsible

It's Wyandotte County's turn. Let's elect a true 'dotte original.

**Chris Steineger**

**Lifelong WyCo resident**

## ICYMI: Secretary Laura Howard – Kelly Administration puts Kansas' foster children on the right path

Gov. Laura Kelly's decision to issue an executive order creating an annual Foster Care Academic Report Card was the right one for Kansas' foster youth. As secretary of the Kansas Department for Children and Families, I'm proud of the progress our agency has made throughout the Kelly administration to improve outcomes and the life trajectory for young people who experience state custody.

When Kelly took office, her administration inherited a foster care system in crisis. Years of severe funding cuts to pay for failed tax policy had undermined the state safety net and the number of

children in foster care were at record highs.

Over the last 18 months, the DCF has improved practices, implemented new programs and made systemic changes, all with the aim of achieving better outcomes for youths in state custody. We affirmed our commitment to continue this work when we reached an agreement this month to settle the class action lawsuit filed against the state in 2018.

DCF practitioners have been trained in new practice models that prioritize family involvement in safety and placement decisions. This year, Kansas was one of the first states to implement the

federal Family First Prevention Services Act, providing vulnerable families with the skills training, support and resources they need to keep their children out of the foster care system when safely possible.

These improvements have yielded increased stability for foster youth. Currently, 95.9% of foster children in the state are in a stable placement according to federal case review standards. In the second half of fiscal year 2020, the DCF also achieved a decrease in the number of children who had no overnight placement and stayed in an office from an average of 16 per month to

six per month.

As we have refocused our mission, we have made improving education a key priority because we know it is vital for the long-term success and well-being of all children. This report card, which tracks and reports educational outcomes of Kansas foster youth on an annual basis, will give us valuable insights into what gaps exist and how to better meet the educational needs of these children.

I'm proud to say Kansas will be among the first states in the nation to produce and publish such a report. The report also provides account-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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## Guest Editorial Within the Realm of Possibility, but to no Avail, Crimes Will Face Justice

By: Tom Valverde

This op-ed was gleaned from You Tube, about a week ago. Above it there was the Twitter emblem to share, as well as one labeled as "share", and the last share emblem just said: more. It is plain to see, that The Hill wanted as many people to read this as possible, and it's well within the realm of possibility. This piece was penned by Bill Press, one of the publication's opinion contributors: Jan. 20, 2021, Exclusive to The Hill. According to official documents obtained by our team of White House correspondents, President Trump's last year official act as president, just minutes before leaving the White House to head directly to Mar a Lago, pointedly boycotting incoming President Joe Biden's inauguration, was to issue one final presidential pardon. In a brief written statement Trump said: "Under absolute powers bestowed upon me as president under Art. II of the Constitution, I am awarding a full prospective Presidential pardon to the person who has been the most unfairly investigated and persecuted by our corrupt system of justice, Donald J. Trump." Donald Trump pardon himself? Don't laugh. Admit it. You know as well as I, that's exactly where this whole clown show is headed. I'm not a betting man, but I'd bet the ranch on this one: that somewhere in the White House counsel Pat Cippolloni's office, is a file on presidential self - pardons.

The historical and legal research has already been done. The plan's already in place. ...First step - Deny the legitimacy of the Trump - Russia investigation. ...Second step - Do whatever's necessary to secure the loyalty of anybody on the inside that could tell the truth. Buy Roger Stone's silence with a commutation. Present a pardon to Michael Flynn, if he hides it. Fire the United States Attorney General for New York to keep Rudy Guiliani from having to testify under oath. Again, all underway! Last step - Get ready to pardon himself. He knows he has to do it. He will do it. It's not a question of if, but when." The Hill. There's nothing in the US Constitution which places any restrictions to a president in giving himself a pardon; an all-encompassing, "Prospective pardon." But, the reason against such an action is that it flies in the face of our entire system of justice. No one can sit in on a case, if that person has a vested interest in it. There is no way that this, or any other president to lawfully pardon their own illegal deeds while in office. This holds true, for all of President Trump's co-conspirators.

If Trump does as so many legal experts expect, there is only one solution for this. If crimes were committed, they should all be charged in a court of law, and then the Court would determine the legality of a "Prospective pardon. As an expert in Law said, charges can still be brought, if the prosecutor has a good, faith basis against public policy, against the US Constitution or anything our Government is willing to endorse, to create precedent. Once Trump is out of office, the best way to return the country to a semblance of normalcy is to hold him and all of his co-conspirators Accountable, for their illicit, illegal actions by charging them in a Court of Law. Time and again, Trump has proven himself to be his own worst enemy. He creates suspicion, by withholding documents, subpoenaed by Congress. Only a person who knows that they've done wrong, or has something to hide, would not comply with a legal subpoena from the Congress of the United States. An innocent person has nothing to hide. In time, Justice, again will prevail, and no man will be above the Law. If not for the fact of having lived through these corrupt and tumultuous times, it would be difficult to believe that such tyranny could ever exist in the United States. Looking forward to better and brighter times.

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# Guest Editorial

## Secretary of State for President Clinton “Outraged” at Trump’s Sending Unidentified Agents to US Cities

By: Tom Valverde

A Fascist “is someone who claims to speak for a whole nation, or group, is unconcerned with the rights of others, and is willing to use violence and whatever other means are necessary to achieve the goals he or she might have.” Quote taken from her book, “Fascism: A Warning” fmr, Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright. The book written published in 2018, provides a look into what the current state of affairs are, presently occurring in the US, with unrequested, military-like troops sent by Trump to Portland, OR. (In, just now, these agents, have just now attacked again, but this time, they used tear gas on the Mayor of Portland as he spoke to with the protesters!) This is the second time he has been teargassed by the Federal agents. Only the night before, “amid a tense meeting with protesters, Mayor Wheeler, choked on

teargas. And all while the Federal agents shot rubber bullets, used pepper spray, Stun grenades and batons on the Portland protesters.”

This morning, Mayor Wheeler wore a face mask and goggles, and when the teargas was deployed, said “It stings. It’s hard to breathe!” Wheeler added, “I can tell you with 100% honesty, I saw nothing that provoked this response.” I’m not afraid, but I’m pissed!” Mayor Wheeler spoke to the crowd of protesters: “This is use of police force, Federal police force, for purely political ends. That is not an acceptable solution, anywhere in America.” “This is an unconstitutional occupation, said the Mayor “The tactics that have been used by our Federal agents are abhorrent! They did not act with probable cause, people are not being told who these agents are, when they are being arrested, and you have been denied, basic constitu-

tional rights!” Wheeler added, “We did not ask the Feds to be here. We do not want them here - they’re not helping the situation. They’re not properly trained, and we’re demanding that they leave.”

After the violence of the Federal agents, Secretary Albright was interviewed, and said, “For a President that claims he represents Law and Order - Trump has broken the law and has created disorder!” “I’m definitely, outraged, this unbelievable time in America!” “And it’s important for those who care about the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence to understand what Democracy is based upon: It’s based that one tells the Truth, that we have the obligation and the privilege to Vote. And we have the privilege to tell it like it is!” She adds...I think we have to point out some of the insane things, frankly, that are taking place, in terms of troops going into cities. And I understand that the Secretary of Defense, Mark Esper, has expressed his concern, and has put out a statement about unidentified troops in camouflage going into cities.” In Portland, the city council voted to have the city’s police cease their working with the Federal agents, and it passed. Portland commissioner, Chloe Endaly said after the vote, I stand in solidarity with protesters defending black lives, demanding racial justice, and the transformation of our judicial system.” “But whether you agree with the protesters or not, if you believe in the Constitution of the United States, you must oppose the actions of this President, and the violent suppression of individuals exercising their Constitutional rights.”

Trump knows Nothing about the rule of law. Trump knows nothing about the Constitution. Trump is himself, the greatest threat to our Democracy. Trump will rue the day he ever thought to run for office, justice will prevail!

## Tom’s Tasty Treats

By: Tom Valverde

Summertime has so much tasty food, that makes for the easiest and best tasting dishes! Here is a great way to use your best garden tomatoes, and fresh basil. It’s inspired by Italian cuisine and can easily be adjusted to suit your family’s preferences. Please give this dish a try.

### Bow Tie Pasta With A Fresh Tomato Sauce

#### Ingredients

2 lg, or 4 med, Tomatoes  
Peeled and diced  
4 cloves of Garlic finely chopped  
1 Sm. can Tomato sauce  
1/4 t Red Pepper flakes  
1/3 t Black Pepper  
1 t Salt  
1/2 c Olive Oil, Extra Virgin is best  
1 lb. Italian sausage  
cooked and chopped  
1 lb. Pkg. Bow Tie pasta  
1/2 c Parmesan cheese  
Freshly grated  
Garnish

Additional Fresh basil, torn, and grated Parmesan cheese, and some finely diced red onion.

#### Directions

Sauce:

Combine the tomatoes, Tomato sauce, red pepper flakes, salt and olive oil in a bowl. Leave at room temperature for 2 1/2 - 3 hours, stirring from time to time. Just prior to cooking the pasta, cook the Italian sausage, \* and when cool enough to handle, give it a coarse chop. Leave to drain on a paper towel. \* Variation: Cooked bacon, crumbled is also good.

Bring a large pot of water to a boil. Add the salt and the bow tie pasta and cook for ten minutes or until done to your liking. Taste the sauce, add more salt or pepper, if needed. Drain the pasta, then add the sauce, and cooked sausage. Toss while warm. May be serve warm or just at room temperature.

Have a green salad, and a loaf of crusty bread and butter, and dinner is on! Serves six or eight. Prosecco wine from Italy, or a California Zinfandel goes well with this lunch or supper. Enjoy!

#### ICYMI...

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ability and transparency to the public. I am especially pleased that the report will include data by race and ethnicity, allowing us to identify and specifically target any disparate outcomes.

While we don’t yet know exactly what this data will show, I am eager to see where it leads us. This is an unprecedented opportunity for the child welfare and education systems to work together to support foster youth. I am thankful Kelly took swift action to issue the executive order, continuing her commitment to improve outcomes for foster youth.

While educational outcomes are a key issue for

Kansas foster children, the Foster Care Academic Report Card is only one of many initiatives we have undertaken at the department to improve outcomes for young people in state custody. While there remains work to be done to relieve our state’s strained child welfare system, we have made significant progress in getting it back on the right track.

Gov. Kelly and I are committed to continuing to improve outcomes for foster youth in Kansas. We’ve made progress, but we aren’t yet where we want to be or where the children and families of Kansas need us to be. With the support of the governor, Legislature, engaged communities and child welfare stakeholders, I am confident we will succeed — together.

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