

## Governor Announces FY 2022 Kansas Budget to Protect Fiscal Foundation and Kickstart Economic Recovery

TOPEKA – Governor Laura Kelly today announced her third budget recommendation. The fiscally responsible budget protects and invests in core services – like education, infrastructure, and economic development – while keeping Kansas on a path for economic growth.

“All Kansans benefit from good schools, a strong infrastructure, and access to affordable healthcare,” Governor Laura Kelly said. “This fiscally responsible budget protects the critical resources, services, and programs Kansas communities and businesses need to recover and emerge from this pandemic stronger than ever.”

Governor Kelly’s budget protects Kansas public schools, includes funding to expand Medicaid and behavioral health services, allocates \$37.5 million to modernize the state’s unemployment system, and maintains fiscal responsibility through a \$600.9 million ending balance.

The Kelly budget accomplishes the following critical policy goals necessary to recover and rebuild from COVID-19 without any increases in individual or business income taxes:

- **Maintaining Fiscal Responsibility:** The Governor’s proposed budget for FY 2022 protects critical public services while also stabilizing the state budget during

a year of significant economic uncertainty. It leverages federal stimulus dollars and avoids any increases to income taxes for Kansas families and businesses. Due to the Governor’s fiscal leadership during her first term, this year’s recommendation maintains a healthy State General Fund ending balance of \$600.9 million.

- **Continuing Record-Breaking Economic Growth:** Despite the economic pressures of COVID-19, Kansas recorded more than \$2.5 billion in new investment from businesses like Urban Outfitters, Amazon, and Great Plains Manufacturing. These deals, which will bring thousands of quality jobs to Kansas communities, were spurred by the Governor’s investments in rebuilding the Kansas Department of Commerce and its economic development tools. This budget protects these tools by supporting community development programs like the Kansas Main Street Program, protecting funding in the Economic Development Initiatives Fund, and allocating state dollars to hire experienced economic development staff to make Kansas an attractive place to grow a business.

- **Protecting Kansas K-12 Public Schools:** In 2019, the Kansas Supreme Court unanimously

ruled that Kansas had enacted a plan fulfilling the state’s constitutional obligation to adequately and fairly fund public schools. The Governor fully funds this plan in the FY 2022 budget, putting Kansas on track to increase school funding by \$388.1 million through FY 2023. This year, despite significant state fiscal challenges brought forth by the pandemic, the Governor has continued her commitment to public education in Kansas by protecting K-12 education funding for the FY 2022 and FY 2023.

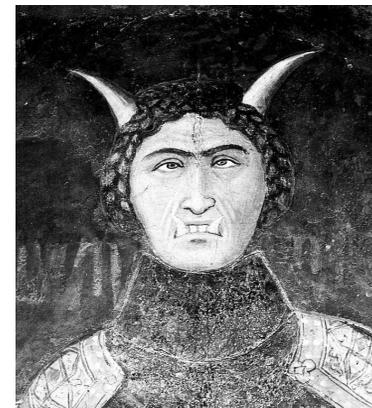
- **Expanding Access to Affordable Healthcare and Behavioral Health Services:** The COVID-19 pandemic has further highlighted the importance of access to affordable, quality healthcare in protecting the health of Kansans and keeping the state on the path of economic growth. The Governor’s recommendation includes \$19 million to expand KanCare, the state’s Medicaid program. The budget also allocates \$5 million in additional funding to the Mobile Response and Stabilization Services Program and \$3 million for Family Crisis Response and Support services. These programs will expand behavioral health crisis response

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## Art Lesson for Leaders

By Dr. Jim Haas

In the year 1338 C.E., during the early days of the Italian Renaissance, the Republic of Siena hired Ambrogio Lorenzetti to paint several frescos on the walls of the governing council’s meeting hall illustrating contrasts between bad and good government. The paintings were meant as a reminder to elected councilors of the evils of bad government—cruelty, deceit, fraud, fury, division, war, avarice, pride, and vainglory—and the blessings of good—peace, fortitude, prudence, magnanimity, temperance, and justice.



The central figure in *The Effects of Bad Government* is a rich tyrant with horns and fangs seated on a luxurious throne and holding a dagger above a captive figure of justice. Siena leaders understood 700 years ago that officials who lied, defrauded, and stoked fury and division could not be tolerated in their Republic. Likewise, they can have no place in ours.

The Siena frescos are Lorenzetti’s masterpiece and can still be seen in the city’s medieval Palazzo Publica. Having survived seven centuries of wars, water damage, and other hazards, they’re a reminder that art matters. President Kennedy said, “We must never forget that art is not a form of propaganda; it is a form of truth.” And the truth shall set you free—unless you’re guilty.

So much for a lesson from the fourteenth century. Here in twenty-first century America, events have been happening thick and fast, and because of deadlines, this column was written last weekend and won’t be up to date, but with a stretch of bad government behind us, we can look forward to stable and competent leadership tackling the many serious problems we share.

To begin, the Biden-Harris Administration is asking Congress for a \$1.9 trillion emergency vaccination and relief package, including ...

- \$50 billion to ramp up Covid-19 testing and \$30 billion for pandemic supplies, all to save lives and to help businesses and schools reopen safely
- \$1,400 stimulus checks for individuals, expanded unemployment benefits and an end to foreclosures and evictions, all through September, plus \$30 billion to help people pay rent and utilities, mandated paid sick leave, childcare subsidies, and a \$15 minimum wage
- \$350 billion for state, local, and tribal governments to support front-line workers, including healthcare, school, and other employees
- \$3 billion for the existing Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

President Biden plans to expand vaccine eligibility, create hundreds of mass vaccination sites, increase vaccine supply, hire a vaccination workforce, and launch a campaign to publicize the process and explain how essential masks, distancing, and handwashing will remain for months. The goal is 100 million vaccinations in the first 100 days.

Meanwhile, what was probably the fairest, most secure election in our history has been followed by one of our worst tragedies, fomented by agitators who refused to accept the result for one pair of offices (but didn’t question thousands of others). Any child knows that if you play a game, you have to be willing to lose. Likewise, for grownups and elections.

Losers include the Republican Party and, for Kansans, new Senator Roger Marshall, one of a few who voted to overturn a state election with zero evidence of fraud. Winners include Democrats who now have a Senate majority thanks, in part, to the grassroots organizing work of Georgia’s Stacey Abrams, and past Presidents James Buchanan, Andrew Johnson, and Warren Harding who are guaranteed to be safe from the judgment of history as worst president ever.

As I write, I’m looking forward to a peaceful and dignified inauguration as befits a dignified nation. Better times will come.

# Sue's Sudsy Soapbox By: Sue Reich



Finally, the snow has melted as of this writing. Been getting around pretty good too. Boy, I sure will be glad when Spring has sprung. This has been the longest two years and now this one isn't beginning any better. I am so ashamed of the goings on in our country. I realize that our citizens are so tired of this virus and no events are being held. The sports venue is very sparse with very few people attending. I made a cutout of Mr. Ed and we went sightseeing the other day. Not much to see but my Mr. Cutout enjoyed it. Just sat there and didn't say a word. When I got home, I tucked him under his bed. Mr. Ed didn't even notice he has a lookalike. When he sleeps all day, I just get out Mr. Cutout and off we go.

Didn't want to talk about this and I won't take sides, that is not my place, but the riot that went on at our Capitol was so shameful. This is America, people, and we should not disrespect our Capitol like that. My gosh, we are going through so much as it now, with the pandemic going on, that breaking in and tearing it up and now five people are dead from it is sure a disgrace. Why can't they act like adults should act and not act like a bunch of heathens? We know the rest of the world is probably laughing at us. They are going through the pandemic too and it would be horrible to see a mob climb the Vatican and breaking everything up, or people climbing the Buckingham Palace walls and doing the same thing. How much longer we are going to be quarantined, I don't know. That is no excuse to act like a bunch of idgets. This country has been thru enough without our Capitol

being part of the frustration and exasperation of peoples' anxieties. I don't know, I get short tempered too, but I try not to take it out on other things or people. I am so sad, so shocked that it had to come to this. What next?

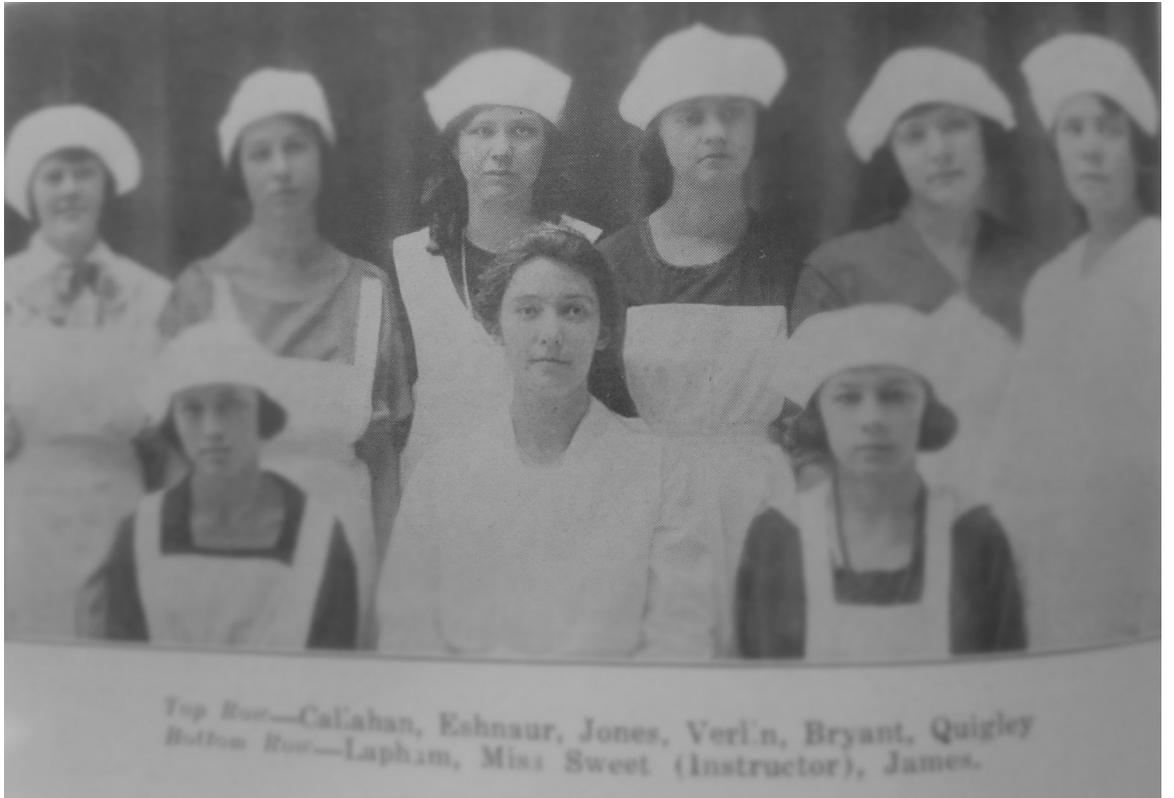
A few restaurants have closed, don't know if for good or not. Mr. Ed and I went to Amigos a couple of weeks ago. They had a fairly nice crowd there. We eat at home mostly. Tell you the truth, I don't like to cook anymore, and it is so hard to figure out what to fix. Any ideas out there? Has anyone got that vaccine yet? Hope it gets to us soon. My neighbor had a family member that had a Christmas dinner and I guess quite a few people were there. Guess what? Covid 19 had hit and a man got it and passed away. See, you just can't take chances. I don't know why people just don't understand what that virus is all about. I for one don't want to take any chances. Please everyone, follow the rules, it is real, it is dangerous and keep your distance, wear that mask, wash your hands and use sanitizer. Love all of you and want you to be safe. K? Guess I'll sign off and get some shut eye. Take care, your little ol' gal from Argentine. Sue

"The grass may be greener on the other side, but it is just as hard to mow." "The quitter never wins, and the winner never quits" From *Treasures of Silver*.

## Happy Birthday Herb

By: Sue Reich

What a wonderful 100th birthday for Herb Lewis. Herb is a local man that celebrated his 100th birthday on New Year's Eve. A nice surprise for him because his family and friends presented him with a birthday cake and over 100 birthday cards for his celebration of a century. Herb got a card from the Governor of Kansas, the Mayor of KCK, the KCKFD, the KCKPD, local churches of Argentine and members, and friends and family. He sang in his church choir and still carries a fine tune. Congratulations Herb. May you have many many more.



This is what girls wore in cooking class at Argentine High School 1920.



FL Schlagle was Principal of Argentine High School in 1922.



JC Harmon was Principal of Argentine High School in 1934.

## Restaurant, Bar Owners Plead For Help

By: Murrel Bland

Melissa Nead said it best. "My back is against the wall and a knife is at my throat." Nead, the co-owner of The Dotte Spot Bar and Grill, explained her desperate situation to the Legislative Committee of the Kansas City, Kansas, Area Chamber of Commerce Friday, Jan. 8 as it met via ZOOM.

Nead said the 10 p.m. closing in Wyandotte County has cost her business when bars and restaurants in neighboring counties, such as Johnson can stay open until midnight.

Nead said she has been

very careful to follow all of the mandates that the Health Department has required during the coronavirus pandemic such as keeping the capacity to 50 percent and wiping down tables.

Other bar and restaurant owners made the same pleas. Similar complaints also were heard at a meeting of the Economic Development Committee of the Unified Commission Monday night, Jan. 4.

The Chamber issued a news release stating that it supports extending the hour of operations "to align with neighboring counties."

Mayor David Alvey said he hopes that, working with the Health Department, a way can be found for restaurants and bars to extend their hours.

In other action, the Chamber's Legislative Committee presented its 2021 Legislative Agenda. Many of the items were those carried over from previous years.

The Chamber supports a business and residential property tax system that phases in radical increases. A multi-year floating average,

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

# Comin' & Goin' Turner Style



By Sharon Hoover

Today was a good day to be curled up and reading a novel as I watched the snow drifting by my windows. I had to tear myself away from David Baldacci's latest novel "Daylight" to sit in front of my computer. It still not to late to join the KCK's Public Library's Winter Reading Program. It ends February 28, 2021. I earned a phone charger and an insulated coffee mug just for reading books I would have already read. Any reading counts, so check out those magazines you've got laying around. Sign up at KCKPL.Beansack.org.

In honor of the 150<sup>th</sup> anni-

versary of the 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment several outdoor installations created from the Watkins History Museum in Lawrence are being displayed in six locations in Kansas – one at the Wyandotte County Museum. "The Art of Voting" looks at the amendment that made it illegal to deny US citizens "on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude." The pop-up exhibit will be displayed outside to provide for maximum public visibility and safe social distancing practices. The exhibit will be located on the sidewalks in front of the museum along other additional exterior historical pieces. On display from January 14, 2021 to February 28, 2021, the museum is located at 631 N 126<sup>th</sup> St., Bonner Springs, Ks. Nicer weather is in the forecast, so a future visit is planned.

The snow put a damper on the construction of the hoop house but before the bad weather set in, the guys dug the holes for the columns that the hoops are attached to. As soon as the weather permits, they will be out in the garden again.

I almost made a big mistake

this past week. I received in the mail what I thought was first a scam and then a solicitation for a credit card and was about to throw it away. I even had Calvin look at it and he noticed a website IRS.gov/EIP. Come to find out it was a stimulus payment, but the envelope called it an Economic Impact Payment. How was I to know? I got a check last time. Anyway, I have yet to do anything with it because I want to see what Calvin will receive. I talked to my sister about it. She said a lot of people got those the first time around and threw them away because they were looking for a paper check. It would have been nice to know ahead of time in what form the money was going to be delivered. It's just a shame Congress couldn't get their act together before now. So many have suffered through no fault of their own and needed it so badly. Let's hope the Biden administration can follow through with their plans and get this country's economy going again.

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

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# Tom's Tasty Treats

By: Tom Valverde

Trying out vintage quick cake recipes is a great way to remember what a great Aunt or Grandmother would often have on hand to serve as special treats and nothing can beat an old-fashioned, frosted Banana Cake. So that's exactly what we have for this week's tasty treat! Plan to make one soon:

## 1930's Banana Cake

- |  |                   |  |
|--|-------------------|--|
| <b>Ingredients:</b>                      | 1 t Vanilla       | 1/2 c toasted Pecans or<br>Chocolate chips, optional |
| 2 or 3 ripe Bananas, Very<br>well mashed | 2 c Flour         | <b>Streusel topping:</b>                             |
| 1/2 c Sugar                              | 1/2 t Salt        | 1/2 c Sugar  |
| 1/2 c Brown Sugar                        | 2 t Baking Powder | 5 T Flour  |
| 1/4 c Crisco                             | 1/2 t Baking Soda | 1/2 t Cinnamon                                       |
| 2 lg. Eggs                               | 1 t Cinnamon      | 4 T Butter   |
|  | 1/4 c Milk        |  |

### Directions:

Set oven to 350°. Grease an 7" Cake pan or large loaf pan. \*\*Cake bakes for 25 - 30 minutes, but if using a loaf pan, the cake may take up to 55 minutes. Check the loaf after 46 minutes. If more time needed, cover the top with foil to stop top from over browning.

In the bowl of a mixer, cream the sugars with the Crisco ( Butter flavored also works). Add the bananas, cut into small pieces, then beat the mixture on medium speed until smooth. Add the eggs and beat until well combined.

In a separate bowl, combine and whisk together the flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt. With a large spatula or wooden spoon, add small amounts of flour together with some milk. Continue, scraping down the bowl to mix in any dry flour, blend just until mixed. Add the chopped pecans or chocolate chips and stir in. Place the batter in the cake pan and smooth the top.

### Streusel topping:

Combine the streusel topping ingredients in a bowl and cut the butter in with a pastry blender or large fork until the mixture is crumbly. Sprinkle the mixture liberally over the cake.

Bake at 350° for 25 minutes and test for with a wooden skewer. Leave to cool in pan for 10 minutes, then remove and place on wire rack to finish cooking.

The cake is great just like this, but if desired, make a powdered sugar and milk glaze to lightly drizzle over the cake top. Try this recipe from 1930, it's one that deserves to be brought into the 21st Century. Store the cake wrapped with plastic wrap to keep airtight. This is a delicious and moist snacking cake that everyone will really like. It's the Streusel that sets it apart from other banana cakes. So good with a glass of cold milk or a cup of fresh coffee. Enjoy!

## Governor... from page 1

and triage services to Kansans across the state, including for justice-involved youth and children in foster care.

• Closing the "Bank of KDOT": When Governor Kelly entered office, she promised to close the "Bank of KDOT" by the end of her first term. This budget keeps that promise, reducing transfers from the State Highway Fund to \$133.7 million in FY 2021 and \$66.9 million in FY 2022. In a difficult budget year, Governor Kelly's budget recommendation to phase out the reliance on the State Highway Fund for general fund purposes will provide the resources necessary to continue critical investments in the comprehensive Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Plan approved during the 2020 Legislative Session.

• Investing in the State's Digital Infrastructure: Updating our digital infrastructure is critical to both economic growth and increasing the transparency and accessibility of Kansas' public services. The Governor's budget makes substantial investments to improve the state's IT systems, including leveraging \$37.5 mil-

lion in federal funds to begin to modernize and improve the state's unemployment insurance systems. It also makes a number of other critical IT investments, including \$2 million for Electronic Health Records support to the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services, \$3.1 million for replacing the state's Juvenile and Offender Management Information Systems, and \$4.1 million in funding for the Office of Informational Technology Services to make capital improvements in IT security and underlying systems.

• Protecting State Retirees by Stabilizing KPERS: The Governor's Budget Recommendation also proposes the reamortization of the legacy unfunded actuarial liability of KPERS for 25 years. This is an inevitable, fiscally responsible step that will both stabilize the state's KPERS system and create \$158.7 million in savings to the State General Fund. Reamortization is a frequently used tool to manage pension systems in other states and better positions Kansas to make full, timely KPERS payments now and into the future. Stabilizing the KPERS system through reamortization is especially critical in FY 2022 to continue the important investments in economic development, infrastructure, and healthcare that will help the state recover.

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## Plead for Help... from page 2

similar to that used by agriculture, has been suggested.

The Chamber supports a "comprehensive pipeline" of high-quality education from early learning to post-secondary.

The Chamber opposes any increase of the state sales tax rate and lowering the food sales tax.

The Chamber supports the expansion of Medicaid to serve an estimated 120,000 low-income Kansans. This would leverage federal funds.

The Chamber supports federal legislation that would streamline the forgiveness process for amounts of \$150,000 or less in the Paycheck Protection Program.

Murrel Bland is the former editor of The Wyandotte West and The Piper Press. He is executive director of Business West.

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# Guest Editorials

## Anarchy At The Us Capitol Leaves 50 Police Officers Injured; 1 Officer Dead

By: Tom Valverde

As a result of engaging with the Pro-Trump protesters, 50 police officers suffered injuries, with several hospitalized with serious injuries. As of the Friday after the riots, there are now five people who have died in as a result of the Capitol riots. The latest death is that of an officer with the U.S. Capitol Police (USCP), Brian Sicknick. Officer Sicknick died from injuries sustained while he was physically engaged with a Pro-Trump protester. Prosecutors in the US Attorney's office plan to open a Federal investigation into the officer's death. They released a statement that said that they will be "looking at all actors," this includes President Trump as charges are filed against the Capitol protesters.

On Wednesday, Officer Sicknick returned to his division, then collapsed. He was then taken to hospital, where he died the following day at about 9:30pm. The officer was a 12-year veteran of the police force. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi ordered the flags at the Capitol to be flown at half-staff to honor the fallen hero of the Capitol riots. Ms. Pelosi said in a statement on Friday: "The perpetrators of Sicknick's death must be brought to justice. The violent and deadly act of insurrection targeting the Capitol, our Temple of American Democracy, and its workers was a profound tragedy and stain on our nation's history. But because of the heroism of our First Responders and the determination of the Congress, we were not, and will never be diverted from our duty to the U.S. Constitution and the American people."

The FBI has posted photos of several of the Pro-Trump protesters asking for help in identifying them. There is as a photo of a man who, on Wednesday morning had placed pipe bombs at the Democratic National Committee and the Republican National Committee headquarters. The police were notified of the suspected pipe bombs with wires at around 1pm. The police responded and the devices were disabled and

turned over to the FBI. The mob insurgence is a direct result of Trump's and Rudy Giuliani's speech to the rally of Pro Trump supporters on Wednesday morning, to "take back" the Election. Trump for 2 months he falsely claimed that he had won in a "landslide victory" But like 90% of what Trump says, it was all a lie.

Ms. Pelosi and the new Democratic leader of the Senate, Chuck Schumer released a joint statement: "The President's dangerous and seditious acts necessitate his immediate removal from office." Vice-president Mike Pence has said that he would not convene the Cabinet to invoke the 25th Amendment. Therefore, Speaker Pelosi indicted that she would convene the House to launch a second impeachment proceeding against Trump. And according to a *New York Times* report, which quoted anonymous sources, "Trump has been suggesting to aides that he was considering granting a pardon to himself in the final days of his presidency. The legality of such a move is untested."

In total, 5 people have died after their participating in the Capitol protests. Trump has lost several members of his Cabinet and White House staff since the insurrection. Betsy DeVos, Education Secretary wrote a letter of resignation: "There is no mistaking the impact your rhetoric had on the situation, and it is an inflect point for me." Transportation Secretary, Elaine Chao stepped down from her post saying that she had been, "Deeply troubled by the rampage at the Capitol." Special envoy, Mick Mulvany, also quit. First lady Melania Trump's Chief of staff has quit, and a Senior National Security official had left his post as well. At the State Department, an Adviser was dismissed after he tweeted that, "Trump is unfit for office."

In Government telling the truth can sometimes be used against a person. What a shame that it has taken all of Trump's time in office for Some to recognize just how unfit he is to be president. Better late, than never!

## Will Your Kids Squander Their Inheritance?

Wealth is wonderful for families to have, but it can be lost quickly if those handling the money aren't prudent. It's estimated that 70% of wealthy families will lose their wealth by the second generation, and 90% will squander it by the third, according to a study by the Williams Group wealth consultancy.

Fortunes collapse because of family squabbles and other mistakes that could have been avoided with proper planning, says John Smallwood ([www.johnsmallwood.com](http://www.johnsmallwood.com)), president of Smallwood Wealth Management and author of *It's Your Wealth—Keep It: The Definitive Guide to Growing, Protecting, Enjoying, and Passing On Your Wealth*.

"Enduring wealth, the kind that transcends generations, boils down to teaching family members at an early age the principles of saving and hard work," Smallwood says. "When these principles are emphasized, preparing the next generation for responsible financial management has a decent chance of being successful."

"But strategically optimizing family wealth for generations also comes down to communication between the generations, and there seems to be a real disconnect between the generations when it comes to talking about wealth. And

there is a fundamental misunderstanding of how to pass money well. Saving and protecting multigenerational wealth requires alignment among all family members."

Smallwood offers these three tips to help families protect and grow their wealth across generations:

- Open conversation between generations. Money is often a subject that families avoid, and as a result family member don't understand how to protect and grow the wealth that has been worked for. "It requires open communication with family members, addressing topics that are personal in nature," Smallwood says. "The successful families I've worked with over the years have had a willingness to be open with each other about the wealth that they've created. The more open the conversation, the better future generations will be able to avoid pitfalls and traps that place wealth under attack."

- Learn wealth-sustaining/growing financial strategies. Smallwood emphasizes that preserving wealth from generation to generation is about education and the protection pieces that are put in place. That may require a financial planner, but with each generation having different financial philosophies and priorities, it's first up to the parents to emphasize the importance for the next generation to

sustain financial growth. "The baby boomer generation, much of which is now retiring, usually had steady jobs and an abundance of material niceties," Smallwood says. "Since then, there's a generation that has seen tremendous growth in incomes and lifestyles. Kids born into that lifestyle have become accustomed to it. But when those kids try to leave the nest, they're shocked to find out just how much money it takes to run a household."

- Pay special attention to tax ramifications. "Historically, estate taxes have been known to devastate wealth," Smallwood says. "It's impossible to know what the trends will be in the future. And maybe you've accumulated a lot of your own personal wealth, then inherit money on top of that. Then you could end up in a higher tax bracket. With poor planning, you could be looking at 40 to 50% drains of wealth over multiple generations. Financial planners can help you be strategic and set up layers of asset protection—wills, revocable trusts, spousal lifetime access trusts, life insurance—in order to protect inherited money for you and following generations."

About John L. Smallwood, CFP®

John L. Smallwood is a senior wealth advisor ([www.johnsmallwood.com](http://www.johnsmallwood.com)) and president of Smallwood Wealth Management and affiliated companies, providing investment consulting and financial plan design for corporate executives, entrepreneurs, and professionals. He is the author of *It's Your Wealth – Keep It: The Definitive Guide To Growing, Protecting, Enjoying, And Passing On Your Wealth*, and a previous book, *Five Ways Your Wealth is Under Attack*.

## McConnell Votes To "Respect The People's Decision"

By: Tom Valverde

With a number of his colleagues ready to try for the first time in U.S. history to overturn the November Election, Senator McConnell gave an impassioned speech on the floor of the Senate, last Wednesday. McConnell attempted to convince his rebellious Senate colleagues that President Trump's claims of his having the election win, "stolen" from him, was all pure fantasy. He pointed to the "dozens of lawsuits" that had already been rejected by the courts, over and over again. Including by "all-star" judges whom the president himself had nominated.

McConnell said, "But my colleagues, nothing before us proves illegality anywhere near the massive scale, the massive scale that would have tipped the entire election." "Nor can public doubt, (stirred up continuously ever since the election by President Trump) justify a radical break, when doubt itself was incited without any evidence." "The voters, the courts, and the States have all spoken. They've all spoken" he added for emphasis. "If we overrule then it would damage our Republic forever" "If this election were to be overturned by mere allegations from the losing side, our Democracy would enter a death spiral." Adding, "We'd never see the nation accept an election again. Every four years would be a scramble for power, at any cost." He reminded the Senate of past criticisms from the Republicans of, "Democratic efforts to question the results of previous elections. McConnell harshly rebuked his colleagues for attempting a double standard, "We must not imitate and escalate what we repudiate!" The Senate must have a higher calling than an endless spiral of partisan vengeance." "I will vote to respect the people's decision and defend our system of Government as we know it."



## Passings...

By: Sue Reich

Jesse Ibarra, age 85, passed away December 29, 2020. Lived in Armourdale, moved to Argentine, member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church.

Siegfried Fischbacher, age 81, passed away January 13, 2021. He was half of the performing duo, Siegfried and Roy. He suffered from pancreatic cancer. His partner, Roy Horn, passed in May of 2020.



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