

Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City (NSDKC) Announces Annual Awards

The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City (NSDKC) is announcing its annual awards to individuals who have contributed significantly to the promotion and or preservation of a recognized historical site and/or location within the 10 counties where the majority of the organization's members reside. NSDKC was founded in 1932.

The James Anderson Historic Preservation Award is being presented to Mr. Chester C. Owens, Jr. Mr. Owens has a long record of civic involvement in Kansas City, Kansas and the region that spans six decades. Owens' career was in insurance. He was elected county wide to serve on the Unified Government Board of Commissioners of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas and served on the board of directors of the former Douglass State Bank, one of only two African-American-owned banks that ever existed in Greater Kansas City.

Mr. Owens has an extensive record of involvement with the NAACP and has been recognized many times for his leadership efforts. He is a driving force behind the preservation of the history of Sumner High School. Sumner



was Kansas' only all-black high school throughout its storied existence between 1905 and 1977, when a federal designation order forced its closure. Many of its graduates went on to have professional careers in law, medicine, sports and business. The school reopened as the Sumner Academy Arts and Sciences. The Chester C. Owens Sumner Alumni Room was established to preserve the original school's history. He is a graduate of Pittsburg State University.

In recent years, Mr. Owens has been heavily involved in the development of the Old Quindaro Museum adjacent to 1-635 and Leavenworth Road in Kansas City, Kansas. The Quindaro Ruins Overlook provides a dramatic view of



the Missouri River looking toward Paxkville, Missouri where many slaves are believed to have escaped to freedom between 1859 and 1862. The ruins of Western University and a statue of abolitionist John Brown are near the Overlook. (Please go to: <https://www.visitkansascityks.com> OR to <https://freedomfrontier.org> to learn hours of operation, driving routes and related information about the area.)

The NSDKC's Special Recognition Award was presented to Anna Marie Tutera of Kansas City, Missouri. Tutera is executive director of the newly restored and renovated Kansas City Museum, located at 3218 Gladstone Boulevard.

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7 Tips for Planning an Extended Vacation

(Family Features) If you're making the most of this year's vacation by planning an extra-long trip, you're not alone. Whether it's extra vacation days that accumulated due to pandemic restrictions or pent-up desire for a change of scenery (or both), travelers are planning longer getaways.

In fact, Vrbo data indicates travelers are 34% more likely to book a stay of at least seven nights and 31% less likely to book a three-night stay this summer.

"After a year of storing away vacation days, this summer is quickly shaping up to be the season of PTO for many employees," said Melanie Fish, Vrbo's travel expert.

If you're considering an extended getaway, consider these tips help ensure your trip meets your expectations.

1. Adjust your budget to accommodate the needs of a longer trip. A longer getaway obviously means more days of lodging and more meals away from home, but don't forget to account for other costs that come with an extended vacation like more days of parking at the airport and more entertainment expenses as a result of those extra days you'll get to fill with fun.

2. Choose a destination where you'll find plenty to explore and enjoy over an extended period. Popular options this season on Vrbo include Outer Banks, North Carolina; Oak Island and Southport, North Carolina; Cape Cod, Massachusetts; Rehoboth Beach and Fenwick Island, Delaware; and Jersey Shore, New Jersey. All of these coastal destinations offer a mix of entertainment and relaxation for a chance to truly refresh and recharge.

3. Create an itinerary, even if it's loosely outlined, so you can make the best use of your vacation days. Keep an eye on the weather as you plan which days to spend on the beach or at the pool and when it might be better to see some sights indoors. Try to build in activities that appeal to each member of your travel party and aim for a balance between adventure and relaxation.

4. Look for extended-stay amenities that offer convenience for your trip. When you're away for a longer period of time, look for amenities that make your time more comfortable, like kitchens where you can prepare some of your meals.

5. Shop for discounts to make a longer stay more affordable. For example, some Vrbo hosts offer discounts for new listings as well as week- or month-long stays. Travelers can use filters to find these discounted properties when searching for a place to stay.

6. Avoid overpacking for an extended getaway. You may be tempted to pack extra clothes and other belongings, but that can weigh you down. Instead, choose outfits you can mix and match, and look for accommodations with laundry facilities so you can wash and re-wear clothing.

7. Make arrangements to ensure your home life is in order. Being away for an extended period may mean a little extra work to maintain things back home. For example, you may need to arrange for someone to water your plants, take care of your pets, check your mail and receive deliveries.

Start planning your extended getaway at Vrbo.com.

Photo courtesy of Getty Images



Sue's Sudsy Soapbox By: Sue Reich



Before I start in on my soapbox, I would like for my readers to know that I am only the messenger. Please don't shoot the messenger if you do not agree with some of the articles printed in this wonderful community paper. I did not write some of the opinions that some of you don't agree with. OK? Now, here we go with some community news.

Went to my 18-year-old granddaughter's combination graduation/18th birthday party on the 12th. She was homeschooled as most of her friends were. Her mom and dad went all out for her. Congratulations Gracie, you did a great job. There was a mother/daughter team there that did caricature drawings of everyone. Gina Jackson is a wonderful artist and can draw just about everything. We all enjoyed her and her mom.

We watched a story on tv the other night about a gal that snuck one of the prisoners out of Lansing in a dog cage. David McKune was the warden then. My sister, Gayle and I used to go to said prison and would do a program for the fallen. It was usually pretty somber. Our cousin, Duane Hurd of Argentine was a guard there and was murdered by one of the prisoners. The inmate came up behind him and nearly decapitated him. The prisoner was sent to another institution where he then proceeded to start a riot. After David left, another warden was chosen and wanted us back but by then Gayle had already moved back to the Pacific Northwest. Duane graduated in 1959 from AHS. Speaking of AHS, Larry Libeer (of Argentine) was a PE teacher and used to come to Harmon and do gymnastics with our students. He had taken a trip to Australia and told me about the host

family where they stayed. He decided to help with the dishes after the evening meal. When he was going to dry them, he asked where the rinse water was. Well, they didn't rinse their dishes. Every time I do dishes, I think of not rinsing the dishes, hey I think that is pretty weird. I love to do dishes by hand. When sister Gayle and I were kids, we would do dishes after supper. She would tell me that the washer had to take the garbage out of the sink. When I dried, she would tell me the drier had to clean the garbage out of the sink. The gal was a trickster all right.

Ms. Deb came over again today and we dug in the "disaster room". Boy, she has been such a big help. We put things in one box or bag for the good will, another for a high-rise for seniors, she took some things home. Guess what we found, our "POOL TABLE." Man, I couldn't believe it. Mr. Ed even came down to see what such good work we did. The pool table needs a new home. It is a regulations size with all the equipment, if you want a pool table, it is FREE. Oops, one thing, you need to do is take it apart and find a way to take it home or wherever. I went out in the garage at 6:30 a.m. and cleaned the work bench and boxed up some tools that I donated to the guys in the "Depot" building. They have been really happy to get all those goodies. Guess I will get this wrapped up and head for the hills. I worked 8 hours just here at home. Thanks Deb. You are an angel.

So ya'all take care and keep sanitizing and mind your p's and q's. Your Sunflower Sue. Lol Here is a little something in memory of my three sisters, Gayle, Carolyn and Marilyn Larson all of Argentine. A sister remembers times when you were almost perfect and times when you were anything but, and she loves you all the more for both. *Heart to Heart.*

Short Stuff

By: Sue Reich

What happened at the station at 42nd and Metropolitan? My friend's Mini cooper got stolen, has eyelashes (no kiddin').

One year ago little Olivia was murdered.

Harmon: Kenly Nicolas Estrada ranked 5th in varsity letters, team captain in track, Link Crew Leader, National Honor Society, 20/20 Leadership, Community Service, (Wichita State)

Turner: Clyra Chronister, 15th in 171, 4 Varsity letters, Cross Country, track and field, all conference in track

and field. (Kansas)

Wyandotte: ranked 6th out of 315, 4 varsity letters, baseball and cross country. (Kansas University.)

Vendor Applications for Turner Community Garden Farmers Market Vendor applications are available for Turner Community Garden, Farmers Market. Talk to Mary at the

Turner at the Turner "Depot". Your crafts must be homemade or plants, vegetables, etc. home grown only. The Depot is on the corner of Klamm and 55th street. You can't miss it. This will be the first market, on Saturday July 10th. Please make this a fun affair. Bring your homemade goods or crafts. Depot is on the corner.



A caricature artist, Gina, and her mom were drawing pictures of guests at Gracie Reed's combination graduation/birthday party. A caricature drawing of Sue and Mr. Ed.



The group from Turner & Argentine finally got together after a year and a half.



Little tyke pulling a wagon of plants for mommy. It is located at 55th and Klamm in Turner.

Comin' & Goin' Turner Style



By Sharon Hoover

Finally, after months of toiling, the large hoop house now has a shade cover. It took a lot of work, the ground had to be leveled so soil was pulled from many parts of the garden. The guys planted tomatoes several weeks ago both in the large hoop house and the regular garden area. The hoop house tomatoes have not been doing as well those planted outside. Although it is late in the season to get a soil sample, it's always a good idea to get one if you are going to plant in a new area. Since the soil was from the surrounding area, we didn't think we would need one. Wrong! We submitted a

sample to Lynn Loughery, K-State's Horticulture agent in Wyandotte County who will send it to K State for evaluation. We should get the results in a few weeks and amend the soil as needed.

The July 4th Fireworks in Pierson Park are back! Turner Recreation is hosting a fireworks display on Saturday, July 3, at 9:45 pm (weather permitting). For more information and a map showing parking areas go to their website www.turnerrecreation.org/fireworks.

The K-State Garden Hour has concluded their Spring webinar series, all topics are now available at ksre-learn.com/kstategardenhour. The Fall series begins on August 4, 2021. The last topic about bees and native plants was very interesting. I have been involved with Master Gardeners for many years and continue to learn something new about gardening with every class I attend.

It will be Christmas in July at Wyandotte County Lake on July 17. There will be family activities and a pontoon boat parade in the evening. Pontoon boats should be decorated in a Christmas theme

to win the contest. Festivities begin with a Fishing Derby from 3-6 pm, then Boat Judging 6-8pm and at 8:30 pm the Boat Parade and fireworks. Register at the Lake Marina, Parks & Recreation Office at 5033 State Avenue or 3488 West Drive. For more information call 913-573-8327.

Somehow, I have become enamored with historical fiction, I guess it is because it awakened an interest in me how life was in the past and its significance today's world. The latest book I read was "The Girl in His Shadow" by Audrey Blake. The medical establishment in the 1830's in Great Britain forbade women from practicing or even being educated in the medical field. It was illegal, punishment was severe for not only the women but any doctor who allowed it. The story itself was okay but it gave me a sense of accomplishment that there were brave women who forged ahead, dared to buck the system, and eventually earned a place in a man's world no matter what profession or cause.

Until next time, stay safe and please be kind to those around you.

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Attract More Birds to Your Backyard — Basic tips for feeding wild birds

(Family Features) With all the constraints people lived through in 2020, many turned to their own backyards - nature, in particular - for hope, solace, wonder and even entertainment. Despite the worldwide crisis, nature's normalcy remained intact; flowers continued to bloom, bees continued to pollinate and birds continued to fly and forage food.

Native Sons and Daughters

... from page 1

The Museum is owned and operated by the City of Kansas City, Missouri.

Tutera plans to restore the facility's tradition of varied program offerings for visitors. At the peak of its prominence from the 1940s through the 1970s, generations of school children from across the metropolitan area were bused in field trips to view its vast collections of regional artifacts on display. For more information, go to: www.makingmuseumkc.org.

Ms. Tutera received her BS degree from Northwestern University in Evanston, IL, and then earn an MS in Museum Studies at John F. Kennedy University. Previously, she was executive director of the John Wornall/Majors House Museums in Kansas City, Missouri.

For additional information, contact:

Joe Vaughan, NSDKC Awards Committee Chair (913) 642-4321

An Association of women and men, 21 years of age and older, either born within the Greater Kansas City area or interested in the history and heritage of the community.



Passings...

By: Sue Reich

Norma Jean Kerr, age 83, passed away June 10, 2021. Argentine High graduate class of 1955.

Ned Beatty, age 83, passed away June 13, 2021. Played in "Deliverance".

Feeding birds can be enjoyable for any age group and provide stress relief for all who partake. A University of Exeter study, focused on nature's impact on humans in suburban and urban areas, found lower levels of depression, anxiety and stress were associated with the number of birds people saw during afternoons at home. The benefits of birdwatching come from seeing lots of birds - quantity not "quality" - the study found.

People "felt relaxed and connected to nature when they watched birds in their gardens," researchers said. These feelings increased with the level of bird feeding in the yard. For millions working and schooling from home, this stress reduction was an unintended bonus.

Data from 2020 shows sales of bird feed, feeders, nesting boxes and bird houses spiked as interest in backyard birds soared while people spent more time at home.

Interest in birding isn't slowing down. If you haven't tried attracting birds to your backyard, now is a perfect opportunity to start. The experts at Cole's Wild Bird Products Co. offer these bird feed and feeder basics to attract more birds to your backyard.

Feeders

A variety of bird feeder types placed at different heights attract more birds than one feeder featuring one seed type. Start with two feeder types that accommodate most feed options. Bowl feeders serve not only seeds but also dried mealworms, fruit and suet. An option like Cole's Bountiful Bowl Feeder comes with an adjustable dome cover you can raise or lower to prevent larger birds and squirrels from getting to food and protect it from rain.

Traditional tube feeders are all-purpose options for bird feeding, especially for small birds that cling. For example, the Terrific Tube Feeder is made with state-of-the-art materials to prevent warping and discoloration and includes a quick-clean, removable base to make cleaning fast and easy. Just push a button and the bottom of the feeder pops off for easy access to the inside. Rinse the feeder with soapy water, dunk it into a water-bleach solution at a

concentration of 9-to-1, rinse, dry and reattach the bottom. Regular cleaning of feeders is essential for preventing mold, germs and disease.

Popular Foods

Birdseed: Not all birdseed is created equal. Look for quality blends without cheap filler like red millet and oats. All-natural seed containing no chemicals or mineral oil is safe and more appealing to birds. Top seed picks include all-natural black oil sunflower and Cole's "Hot Meats" (sunflower meats infused with habanero chili peppers that birds love and squirrels dislike). Or an option like Special Feeder blend, packed with favorites including black oil sunflower, sunflower meats and pecans, attracts the greatest number of wild birds. Offering a wide variety, Cole's feed is researched and specifically formulated to attract certain bird species, the largest number of birds and the greatest variety of birds.

Insects and Worms: A healthy, lush lawn is one of the best ways to feed birds that prefer insects and worms. You can supplement birds' diets by serving dried mealworms in a packaged variety that's easier to feed and less messy than live mealworms. Mealworms are packed with energy and contain essential nutrients, fat and protein.

Fresh Fruit: Apples, orange halves and bananas are fa-



vored fruits.

Suet: Perfect for insect-eating birds, suet is a high-fat food that provides abundant calories, rich nutrition and is a high-energy treat.

Using the right feeders

and high-quality feed can enhance your backyard and entice more birds, bringing stress relief and enjoyment. For more information on attracting birds to your backyard, visit coleswildbird.com.

QUOTES TO PONDER

By Tom Valverde

"It's an incredibly perilous point where we are at here, and it's incumbent upon all of us, to speak the truth and to do whatever we can, in whatever way we can, to defend our Country!"

Matthew Dowd, fmr. Chief Strategist to Bush/Cheney

"People at the highest levels of Government, tried to destroy Democracy."

Josh Shapiro Attorney General for Pennsylvania

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