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The Record

Governor Kelly Announces November Total Tax Collections \$18.9 Million Over Estimate

Governor Kelly announced that total tax collections for November were \$626.8 million. That is 3.1%, or \$18.9 million, more than the estimate. Those collections are \$70.1 million, or 12.6%, more

than last November.

"While our state revenue numbers continue to be encouraging, maintaining fiscal responsibility is paramount moving forward," Governor Kelly said.

Governor Kelly's statement on Passing of Senator Dole

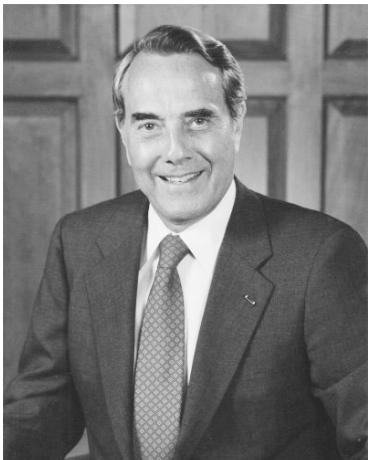
TOPEKA – The following statement is attributed to Governor Laura Kelly regarding the passing of Senator Bob Dole:

"I was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Bob Dole this morning. Senator Dole was many things -- a war hero, a father, a husband, a public servant; and to Kansans, a man who embodied everything good and decent about Kansas and about America.

"In public office, Senator Dole was always a voice for Kansas. However, his work in the Senate also had a profound impact on all Americans. Most notably, his efforts to protect Social Security in 1983 and to ensure passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990, which transformed the lives of those living with a disability.

"Senator Dole's legacy goes far beyond the walls of Congress. He was a larger-than-life presence in our nation's politics and demonstrated a decency, a humility, and a civility that should serve as a model for those of us in public life.

"My thoughts are with his wife, Elizabeth, his family and all those who loved Bob Dole."



Revenue numbers come after the Consensus Revenue Estimating Group made up of state financial advisors, researchers, and university economists, by statute, met to evaluate the estimates for the remainder of the fiscal year.

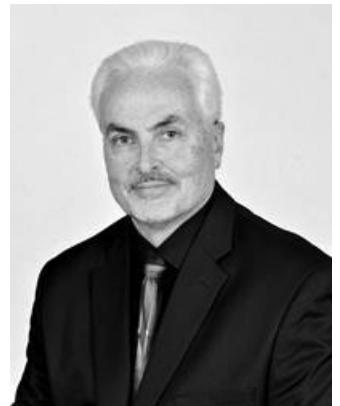
Individual income tax collections were below the estimate for the month by 1.6%, or \$4.6 million, with \$288.9 million collected. These collections were below estimate for the month due to remittance due dates. Even with that, these collections saw a growth of \$13.5 million, or 4.9%, above last November. Corporate income tax collections were \$5.4 million, or 64.1%, more than the estimate with \$13.7 million collected. That is a \$8.5 million, or 165.5%, more than last November.

Sales and use tax collections were 13.8%, or \$34.5 million, more than last November. These collections were \$285.4 million for the month, which is \$8.5 million or 3.1% more than the estimate. To break that down, retail sales collections were \$223.6 million. That is \$6.6 million, or 3.0%, more than the estimate for the month and \$21.9 million more than last November.

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Brett Deichler Appointed as UG Clerk

The Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas is pleased to announce Brett A. Deichler, previously the Interim County Clerk since January 2021, as the newly appointed Clerk. The Clerk's office serves as the official records custodian for the Unified Government Commission, city and county records of the Unified Government, while also levying special assessments and maintaining the County's tax rolls.



A lifelong Wyandotte County resident with nearly 34 years of experience working with the Unified Government, Mr. Deichler brings a well-established background in information technology and professional services at both the regional and county levels. During his professional tenure, Brett Deichler has served in the Public Works Department as a mechanical, civil, and county storm water engineer, and has also served as the Senior Director of Business Development for Taxation & Delinquency, and the 3-1-1 Business Operations Center. More recently, he served as the single point-of-contact for the development and installation of Google Fiber across Wyandotte County, Kansas.

"The Clerk's position not only requires a leader who can lead their department, but a leader who can also drive success across multiple departments," said Mr. Deichler. "I look forward to supporting our operations as an organization through listening, prioritizing, and building critical relationships and trust across our community."

Brett Deichler holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Pittsburg State University and a Master of Business Administration Degree from Baker University. In March of 2009, he received his global Project Management Professional (PMP) certification through the Project Management Institute. Brett Deichler also holds technical certifications as a Project Manager in the State of Kansas and received the Certified Public Manager's Award from the University of Kansas in December of 2005. To support technical advancements in today's digital & cyber development space, Brett Deichler also holds certifications in Fiber Optics, Biometrics, and WIFI from the Stam Institute, and is certified in Geospatial Intelligence by Penn State University.

"We are grateful to have Mr. Deichler serve as our Clerk," said County Administrator Doug Bach. "This is a dynamic role that ensures transparency in our public meetings, record keeping, and administration of key programs."

Brett Deichler is also an avid live-music fan, and on average, still attends 60+ concerts per year throughout the world. In supporting his love of live music, Mr. Deichler builds custom guitars and electronic effects in search of the ultimate live sound. Congratulations, Brett!

2021 Knights of Lights

Knights of Lights is in its second dazzling weekend at the Kansas City Renaissance Festival grounds. Tickets are on sale at kcrenfest.com and will be available at the box office. Advance tickets are \$14.95 for adults and \$9.95 for children 5-12. At the gate, prices are \$18 for adults and \$13 for kids 5-12. Get coupons for \$3 off at any Kansas City area Minsky's Pizza location. Children 4 and under are always free! Bring your dog for \$5 and get free treats!

Correction:

Dr. Jim Haas' column last week stated this year's defense budget is \$7.1 billion. It is actually \$705 billion or \$7.1 trillion over ten years compared to the \$1.7 trillion over ten years of the Build Back Better bill now in Congress.

Sue's Sudsy Soapbox By: Sue Reich



mulched all the leaves that had fallen.

I don't know where all these wonderful people come from, but I sure am glad that we are in their neighborhood. We will be here 23 years next June.. We are still trying to downsize. Going to take our washer and dryer upstairs and this computer, so we don't have to go up and downstairs all the time. My wonderful daughter-in-law is going to set up the computer upstairs. Two of my nephews and son are going to come over and move the washer and dryer up. Everyone lives in Missouri, two in Raytown and two in Independence.

Guess we have another virus lurking around. We got our shots and booster and hope that those take care of it. But you never know. Back to the old masks again. We never took ours off and when we go anywhere we always have ours on. But the ones I wear makes my nose run and I have to have tissues all the time. Denny, the barber on Maple Hill gave me a half gallon of hand sanitizer yesterday. We have enough to last us a lifetime.

I tell you, all my customers are so nice. They are the only people that I get to see and talk to once a week. Boy I miss people. If it wasn't for them, I would be stir crazy. lol. But all of our people in Argentine and Turner are nice. Wish I could talk to you and see you more often. But, oh well, wishful thinking.

By the way, the Turner First Baptist Church has put their winter clothes out for the needy and they also would like some grocery items. A table and chairs are needed for one family. Those people, Steve, James and Laurie are hard-working people and really do a lot for our community. If you want to volunteer or donate anything go down and check it out. Take care all my dear friends in Argentine, Rosedale, Armourdale and Turner.

Mind your p's and q's, be kind, OK???? Love and miss all of you.

Your little friend, Sue

A clean conscience, is a soft pillow. "Apples of Gold"

When we were finished, we were in the middle of the 5 o'clock rush hour. Whew, I was sure glad we made it home ok.

How was everyone's Thanksgiving? We had a nice one because our sweet neighbor up the hill behind us brought ours down to us. She is a darn good cook. Bless her heart. Then her husband, Denis, mowed our front yard yesterday and



Plaza lights are now turned on. Beautiful as usual.



Remember when the old Shalinski's burned down in Argentine? Lots of memories went with it.



This is my buddy, Fred in the snow a couple years ago. Think he'll do it again?

Comin' & Goin' Turner Style



By Sharon Hoover

Before the break in the weather, I was holed up doing what I do best, read. I finished the historical novel "The Hidden Child" by Louise Fein. The story takes place in the United Kingdom in 1928 & 1929. It is the story of a mother's quest to protect her four year old epileptic daughter amid family turmoil because of the father's involvement in the eugenics movement.

The roots of the eugenics movement were based on Darwin's Survival of the Fittest and at first promoted arranged marriages for wealthy families to produce

children of a higher quality and mentality thru heredity. The premise was that heredity played a part in inherited IQ. "Legislation was proposed for compulsory sterilization and incarceration of those considered weak minded, a catch-all phrase for those with learning difficulties, as well as epileptics, criminals, those with behavior difficulties, alcoholics, and anyone considered undesirable and ruinous to the health of the population in general." In England the main driving force was class, while in the United States, it was race (people of color, immigrants, in addition to the above categories). Mrs. Fein goes into the history of the eugenics movement in her author's notes at the back of the book. The story was engaging, the history was appalling because it has relevance to the future of generic engineering (designer babies.)

I've added D.J. Palmer as another favorite author of mine, "The New Husband" published in 2020. It follows the story of a woman whose husband has mysteriously disappeared and the new man

who comes into her life. He seems to be a dream come true, but is he? One child is skeptical, the other accepting. It all plays out dramatically. This is the third book I've read from Mr. Palmer; each novel is different, and each is suspenseful. This was another book I couldn't put down.

The last book I tried to read was the newest novel from Karen White entitled "The Attic on Queen Street". I didn't realize when I picked it up that it was the seventh in a series (The Tradd Street Series). There was too much convoluted history to absorb, and the main character talked to ghosts who help her in whatever her situation. I'm afraid I got burned out reading Iris Johanson's Eve Duncan and her otherworldly series' that followed. I will not finish this book, my apologies to those who follow this author.

Hope you are enjoying this beautiful weather because winter is just around the corner.

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

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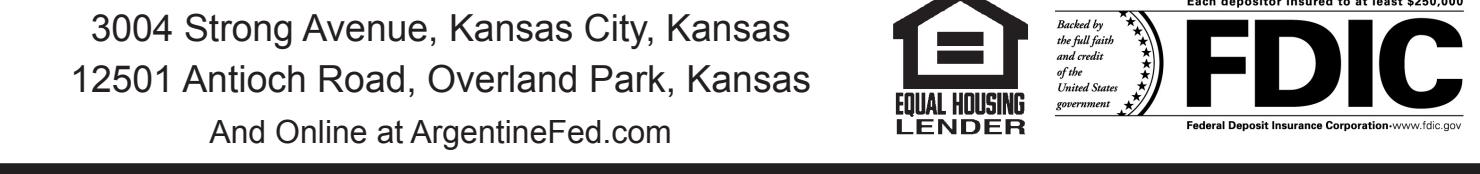
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Tom's Tasty Treats

By Tom Valverde

For lovers of anything chocolate, this week's tasty treat is for you. I found this recipe in my Mom's recipe folder and thought it would make a great tasty treat.

Here, cocoa powder is added to a gingerbread cookie and is then topped with a Brandy glaze while the cookies are still warm. When the glaze sets, it highlights the design that is pressed into each cookie, prior to baking.

Even though this recipe doesn't call for it, plain rounds or diamonds that have been glazed would be even more scrumptious with a drizzle of melted dark or semi-sweet Chocolate!

Hope you will try:

BRANDY-GLAZED CHOCOLATE GINGERBREAD

Ingredients:

2 sticks Butter
1 c Light Brown Sugar
1/3 c Light Corn Syrup
1/4 c Molasses
2 lg. Eggs at room temperature
2 t Vanilla
5 c Flour
2 t Baking Powder
1 t Baking Soda
1 t Salt
3/4 Cocoa powder
4 t Ginger
3 t Cinnamon
1/2 t Nutmeg
1/2 t Black Pepper
1/4 t Cloves
1/4 t Allspice*

* Feel free to adjust all the spices to your taste.

In a saucepan combine the butter, light brown sugar, corn syrup and molasses. Stir over medium heat until the sugar is dissolved. Set aside to cool. Next, combine and whisk together the flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt and the cocoa. Finish by stirring with a large spoon. Once the butter mixture is cooled, whisk in the eggs and Vanilla. Add the butter mixture to the flour mixture and stir until combined. Flour work surface and turn out the dough. Knead it until it forms a stiff dough. If too dry, wet hands with water and if too sticky, dust with a little flour. Cut two large pieces of parchment paper and roll the dough between them by pressing to 1/2" in thickness. Wrap together with the parchment paper in plastic wrap. Chill for two to three hours, or overnight. Set oven to 350°. Line 2 cookie sheets with parchment paper. Roll the chilled dough between the two sheets of parchment paper to 1/4" in thickness. Emboss the dough with a cookie stamp, if using and cut out with a round cookie cutter or coffee cup. Leave the cookie on the work surface and pull away the excess dough scraps. Chill again before re-rolling.

A faster method that avoids the scraps is cutting the gingerbread cookies with a sharp knife, in squares or in diamond shapes. Place the gingerbread on the cookie sheet and space 1 1/2" - 2" apart. Bake at 350° for 9 - 11 minutes.

Prepare the Brandy Glaze:

2 c Powdered Sugar, sifted

4 T Brandy

2 t Vanilla

2 t Milk, or as needed.

Mix together until smooth.

Use all milk instead of

Brandy if preparing for children: Brandy extract may also be used. 1/2 t is enough to produce the flavor of Brandy and is non-alcoholic. Brush the glaze on the gingerbread while warm. Let them cool completely then, store in air-tight container for up to two weeks.

Remember the drizzle of melted chocolate, even white chocolate would work. Makes the gingerbread cookies that much better!

Your home will smell like Christmas as the gingerbread bakes. So traditional to have to serve guests at Christmas time. Gingerbread cookies soft and spicy make great gifts. Remember your live-alone friends and relatives. Sharing homemade treats is a gift of love and is so meaningful at Christmas time.

Merry Christmas!



Passings...

By Sue Reich

Alan Kostus, age 72, passed away on November 23, 2021 Washington High School, 1967.

Bill Kincaid, age 96, passed away on November 24, 2021. He graduated from Wyandotte High School in KCK in 1943. Bill proudly served during WWII in the US Navy as a Gunners Mate aboard the USS Tingey. After returning from the war, he married his high school sweetheart Evelyn Mae McIntire. They spent 62 years together raising 6 children, and were blessed with 28 grandchildren, 35 great grandchildren, and 4 great-great grandchildren.

William Floerke, age 78, passed away on November 19, 2021. Teacher and Administrator for athletic programs in the Turner, Olathe and Shawnee Mission School Districts. He retired in 2004. Amongst a family of athletes, he forged his own path early on developing an affinity for javelin throwing that began in high school and spanned the next few decades. Fielding scholarship offers, he selected K-State University where he became an All-American and record setter in the Kansas Relays. The peak of his athletic success was joining the Olympic Team in 1980, the year US participation was unfortunately boycotted in Moscow. Nevertheless, his achievements were nothing short of spectacular and led him to coaching and mentoring later in life.

Johnnie Roach Jr., age 56, Turner High School, 1983. Member of St. John the Evangelist.

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Small dog, short hair, about 15 lbs. I have a rat terrier. Middle age. He is lonely. His mix collie sister, Lady, had to be put down. His brother Bo Bo put down 3 weeks before. Bo was my gentle giant. Moose needs a companion. Female(spayed) or gentle male (neutered). Sue Reich lmadotte76@gmail.com

KCKFD K9 Zoom Aftermath Awards Presentation

The K9 Aftermath awards presentation to KCKFD K9 Zoom and Handler Mike Searcy was a great success! The presentation took place Wednesday, December 1st, 2021 at 10:00am at Station 6, 9548 State Avenue, Kansas City, KS 66111. This year's Aftermath K9 competition had over six hundred ten K9 competition entries and over 500,000 votes across the country. The \$500.00 honorable mention grant awarded to Zoom and handler Mike Searcy will be used to purchase new collars, harnesses, and a specialized tactical repelling harness. Zoom will continue to provide assistance throughout the city and surrounding areas.

\$9 million available to qualifying Kansas households

TOPEKA – Kansas households adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic may benefit from a new program to help restore or prevent disconnection of drinking water and wastewater services.

The Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) is the administering agency for the Emergency Water Assistance Program (EWAP), a new temporary federal program authorized by the American Rescue Plan of 2021 and the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021.

"The program's sole focus is to restore or prevent disconnection of water to Kansas households," DCF Secretary Laura Howard said. "Kansas was awarded \$9 million to support hardworking Kansas households who have gotten behind on their water bills because of the pandemic."

Once the funding is exhausted, the program will end. Households may apply only one for the program and it is separate from other DCF assistance programs such as the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP).

Applications for EWAP will be available Dec. 1. Kansans are encouraged to visit www.dcf.ks.gov/EWAP for information about qualifying and applying for the program. They may also contact their local DCF Service Center, Office Locator Map - Services (ks.gov).

An EWAP qualifying Kansas household:

- Currently disconnected from drinking water and/or wastewater services or have received a disconnection notice.

- At least one adult household member must be responsible for drinking water and/or wastewater costs incurred at the primary residence payable to either the landlord or to the water utility vendor.

- At least one household member must be a US citizen or meet the lawful residency requirements.

- Combined gross income equal to or less than 150% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

An important partner for the successful distribution of the funding are water utilities companies in Kansas.

"Public water utility partnership is vital to the success of the water assistance program," said Howard. "DCF is required to pay the public water utility provider, not the household. The sooner the utility company is in the system, the faster payment will be made on behalf of the household by DCF."

Water partners are asked to submit a signed water vendor agreement and tax documents that can be found on www.dcf.ks.gov/EWAP.

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