

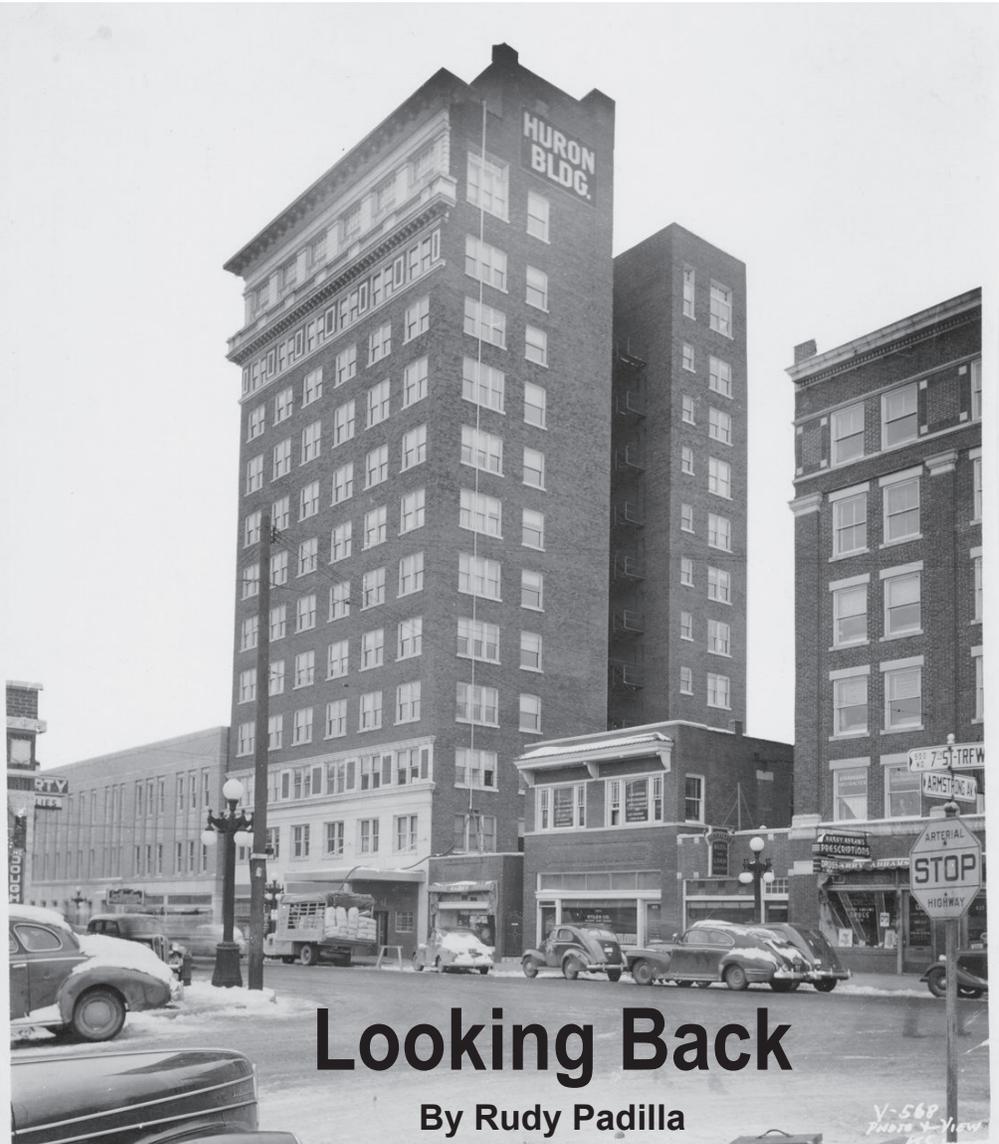


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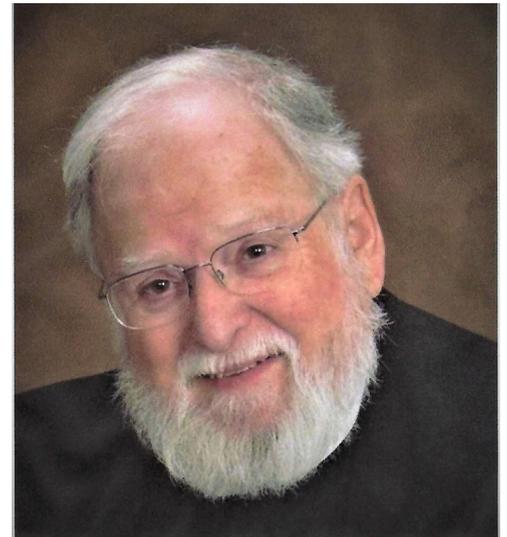


Looking Back

By Rudy Padilla

When we moved to Kansas City, Kansas I was going to start the seventh grade. I got to know the Walichek brothers, when I was trying to learn how to play baseball at Splitlog Park. They talked me into enrolling at Holy Family Catholic grade school – at 5th and Ohio Avenue. The first day of school, Dennis Gergick, who would later be my best friend, asked me to play for them. I had to let them know that in my previous school we did not have sports teams. Also, I had never saw a football game nor even held a football. Dennis said they would teach me. After, my first day working very hard at practice, I was told I had to visit a doctor and take a physical test before I could play on the football team.

There used to be a Huron Building, just south of 7th and Minnesota avenue. I was told the school doctor was there on the fourth floor. I had never been by myself on an elevator, so I asked the first person I saw to help me get to the doctor upstairs. After the doctor, I had a good time using the elevator to go down to the first floor – I was no longer a country boy.



The Rev. Evan Ash

St. Paul's Church to Focus on Environmental Responsibility

By Murrel Bland

The clergyman practices what he preaches. Simply stated, that describes the practices of The Rev. Evan Ash, an assisting priest at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Kansas City, Kansas. Father Evan heads up the Creation Care effort for the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas. Creation Care is an initiative of the national Episcopal Church.

Father Evan has some practical suggestions people can do to be better stewards of the environment.

- Buy things in paper instead of plastic packaging.
- Buy locally grown foods; this takes less transportation and thus less pollution.
- Take your own bags to the store, thus reducing the use of paper and plastic bags.
- Reduce travel time; use gasoline with ethanol.
- Buy clothes made of natural fabrics such as

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Sue's Sudsy Soapbox



By Sue Reich

Takin' a short break... Don't go anywhere! Hope to be back soon!

AG Derek Schmidt: Consumer Protection Division Recovers \$12 million in 2021

TOPEKA – The attorney general's Consumer Protection Division recovered more than \$12 million for Kansas consumers and taxpayers last year, Attorney General Derek Schmidt announced today.

In its annual report filed today with the governor and Legislature, Schmidt's office reported more than \$12 million in savings and recoveries to Kansas consumers and the public treasury in calendar year 2021. During Schmidt's administration, the division has recovered a

total of more than \$266 million, by far the most in state history.

"As the challenges brought on by the pandemic began to wane, our Consumer Protection Division worked hard to return to Kansans money that was wrongfully taken," Schmidt said. "Assisting consumers who were scammed, ripped off or defrauded in getting their money back remains a top priority for our office."

In a sign of a return to more normal business operations, two

perennial categories – identity theft and general services – ranked among the top categories for both investigations requests received and closed. In addition, the office launched a special investigation related to dramatic increases in natural gas prices charged to consumers during the unprecedented February cold weather storm.

Charitable organizations, fundraisers and solicitors' filing requirements transferred from the Kansas Secretary of State to the Office of the Attorney General in late May 2021. In the last six months of the calendar year, more than 2,500 charitable organizations registered with the office.

The Consumer Protection Division also continued its efforts to educate Kansas consumers about avoiding scams. Schmidt and his staff participated in 14 public education events, including presentations to civic groups, providing information at county fairs, and speaking at other community events. Many of the events at which the office traditionally provides consumer education and outreach continued to be impacted by the pandemic. Nearly 37,000 unique users accessed the consumer protection website, www.InYourCornerKansas.org, in 2021. The site provides a user-friendly way for Kansas consumers to learn how to protect themselves and file complaints. Additionally, the Consumer Protection Division staff fielded more than 11,000 phone calls and answered more than 21,000 emails last year.

Deputy Attorney General Fran Oleen leads the Consumer Protection Division, and Special Agent in Charge Tonya Hutchings leads the team of investigators. Schmidt is a former assistant attorney general for consumer protection, a position he held during the administration of former Attorney General Carla Stovall.

The 2021 Consumer Protection Annual Report is available online at <https://bit.ly/3Ugznr3>.



Joe III and Jenny Steineger are the owners of Lavender Hill Farm.

St. Paul's Church... ...from page 1

- cotton and linen; this reduces the use of synthetics.
- Use distilled water made at home instead of buying it in plastic bottles.
- Set your thermostat at 78 degrees to reduce use.
- Buy high efficiency replacement heating and cooling units and appliances.
- Use solar-power attic fans.
- Take the advice of the National Wildlife Federation to support a backyard that is friendly toward wildlife.
- Plant shade trees to save on energy costs.
- Use a book of daily devotions to remind us of our connection to God.

As part of his effort to support the Creation Care effort, Father Evan will lead an outdoor service at 10 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 2 at Lavender Hill Farm, 112 N. 63rd St., in the Muncie community of Kansas City, Kansas. The farm is just south of 63rd Street and Riverview Avenue. The public is invited and refreshments will be served after the service. Dress will be casual.

The farm is owned and operated by Joe Steineger III and his wife Jenny. Joe is a third generation Wyandotte County farmer; the Steinegers are longtime members of St. Paul's parish.

For information about Creation Care check out the following links <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/creation-care/or> <https://episcopal-ks.org/care-of-creation/>

For more information, telephone Father Evan Ash at 913-244-0772.



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Policy On Opinion

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By Sharon Hoover

After 100 degree weather at the beginning of the week, I find myself dressed in sweats and it's 55 degrees outside. Tomorrow the temp is supposed to reach 85. When does one put away their summer clothes? Never! Luckily, I scheduled the heating and cooling people to come out today, so when fall/winter arrives we will be prepared. All OK!

Comin' & Goin' Turner Style

Meanwhile, I'm checking out upcoming October events. The K-State Garden Hour has scheduled Professor DeAnn Presley, Professor & Extension Specialist for Environmental Soil Science Management to present a program on "Improving Soil Health in Your Landscape and Garden". The Zoom meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 5 from noon to 1pm. For the link, contact Horticulture Agent Lynn Loughary at 913 299-9300 ext. 104 or lloughar@ksu.edu.

On Thursday, October 6, Pam Hubbard, home gardening coach and Penn State Extension Master Gardener Emeritus will present "Creating a Sensory Garden". She believes children learn about the environment through their senses, acquiring knowledge of the natural world. She imparts how she created a sensory garden with her little friend,

Lucy. This Zoom program will be from 11:30 am. -1:00 pm. Contact Lynn Loughary for the link.

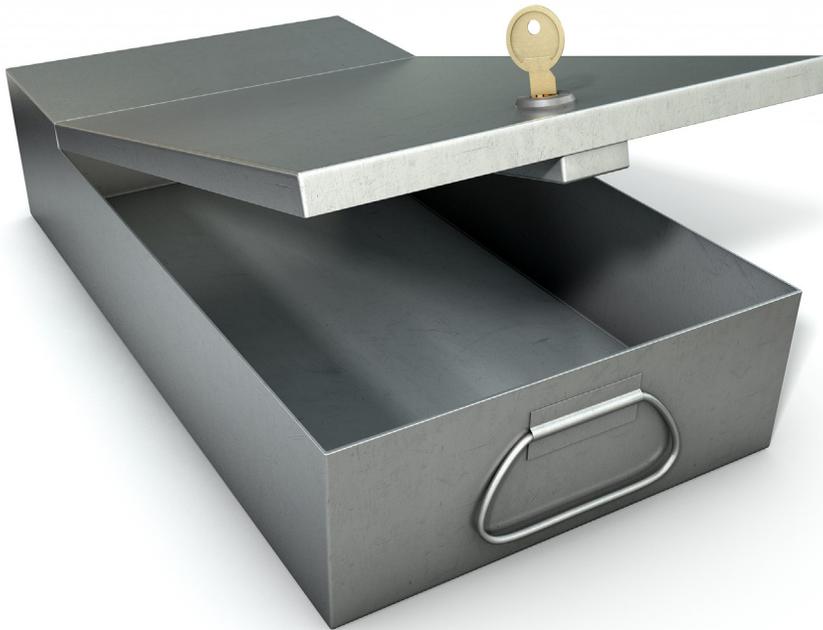
KCK Women's Chamber Foundation is holding "2022 Purses with a Purpose" on Thursday, October 20 from 5:30pm -7:30pm at the KCKCC Tech Center, 6565 State Ave. Tickets are \$30, and seating is limited. Special Guest Speaker is Jessica Lynn. Register at <https://charityautiooon.bid/kckwcf>. Proceeds benefit scholarships for non-traditional women students.

Last time I noted that the KCKPD and Fire Department were hiring. I see now that the WYCO Sheriff's Department is also recruiting. They are looking for the positions of Deputy, Court Security, Records, Juvenile Detention and Juvenile Intake (JIAC). Benefits include college incentives & tuition reimbursement, sick time & comp time accrual, and lateral pay

eligibilities. For more information on available positions, benefits and incentives visit flow.page/wyandotte-countysheriffsoffice.

I haven't mentioned Keeler Women's Center for a long time. They offer free classes and services to women in the community on a variety of subjects and activities, including support groups, financial advice, women's health, Medicare, aging, nutrition, legal advice, and burial information. Before Covid, I attended several women's health and nutrition classes and receive their monthly schedules. To find out more call 913-689-9375 or www.keelerwomenscenter.org.

Until next time stay safe and be kind to those around you. Please pray for those who have lost loved ones and continue to pray for the brave Ukrainians fighting for the right to remain free.



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AG Derek Schmidt Calls on FCC to Require More Voice Service Providers to Put in Place Anti-Robocall Protections for Consumers

TOPEKA – Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt yesterday called on the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) to require telephone providers that route calls across the U.S. telephone network to implement more rigorous measures to prevent illegal and fraudulent robocalls from bombarding Americans.

Schmidt joined 50 other state and territory attorneys general in sending a comment letter to the FCC supporting stricter regulations aimed at cracking down on robocalls. The FCC proposal would expand rules to those few phone companies that, although largely invisible to the

public, are exclusively responsible for routing these fraudulent and illegal calls across the U.S. phone network, regardless of where the calls originate.

“Illegal robocalls cost law enforcement, the telecommunications industry, and, most importantly our constituents approximately \$13.5 billion every year,” the attorneys general wrote. “In 2021, American consumers, including seniors, persons with disabilities, and other vulnerable populations, were bilked out of \$830 million via fraud perpetrated over the phone and/or through text messages. In many

cases, the perpetrators of this fraud are foreign actors gaining access to the U.S. phone network through international gateway providers. Based upon consumer complaints filed with our offices, these fraudulent, foreign-originated robocalls often involve caller ID spoofing of U.S.-based phone numbers. Yet, without assistance from willing domestic providers to deliver illegal robocalls, these calls would never reach Americans.”

In their letter, the attorneys general support the FCC’s proposal to extend the implementation of STIR/SHAKEN, a caller ID authentication technology that helps prevent spoofed calls, to all “intermediate” phone providers in the United States. Currently, only providers

that originate call traffic are required to implement STIR/SHAKEN.

The coalition also urges the FCC to require providers to adopt these protections and additional measures to cut down on illegal and fraudulent robocalls, including responding to law enforcement traceback requests within 24 hours and blocking illegal traffic, as soon as possible. If all telecom companies have the same robocall mitigation practices, bad actors will not be able to exploit inconsistencies among providers and law enforcement will be better able to identify and prosecute the bad actors who try profit from illegal robocalls.

The letter is the latest effort by

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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Linda I. Kemp, Property Supervisor

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YOU are invited

Anyone who believes in the mission of The League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC is eligible to join us. Being part of the conversation will bring us together with all of society.

Wikipedia:

The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the largest and oldest Hispanic and Latino civil rights organization in the United States.[2] It was established on February 17, 1929, in Corpus Christi, Texas, largely by Hispanics returning from World War I who sought to end ethnic discrimination against Latinos in the United States. The goal of LULAC is to advance the economic condition, educational attainment, political influence, housing, health, and civil rights of Hispanic people in the United States. LULAC uses nationwide councils and group community organizations to achieve all these goals. LULAC has about 132,000 members in the United States.

Council 11085 has LULAC members in the counties of Douglas, Johnson and Wyandotte (Kansas) – Clay and Jackson (Missouri).

Join us in monthly Zoom meetings – the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Rudy Padilla Email opkansas@swbell.net

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Ticket information:

To purchase a ticket email Melissa Bynum at Melissab@sckck.org or call 913-281-8908.



Guest Editorial

Quotes to Ponder

“Peril” By Bob Woodward and Robert Costa, Washington Post

By Tom Valverde

A brief discussion on the subject of their new book, “Peril” on an MSNBC news program gives a chilling account of what was happening in the Trump White House after the presidential election:

Bob Woodward, Political editor at the Washington Post:

The situation during the weeks after the 2020 election turned into a National security crisis that Trump brought. Countries such as China, Russia and Iran took stock of what was happening in the United States. Prior to the November election, many of Trump’s speeches were unsettling for these and other countries. China particularly, ignited on Trump’s words. It required that the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs at the Pentagon, General Mark A. Milley, to make calls to Chinese military

leader, General Li Zao Cheng. General Milley was confronted by a very practical problem. He had very sensitive intelligence that China thought the US was going to attack them. That’s the most dangerous environment internationally. So General Milley speaks with his counterpart in China and tried to tamp down the situation. General Milley made it crystal clear that the United States had no intention of attacking China. He told General Li, “If we’re going to attack, I’m going to call you ahead of time!”

There were concerns that the former president had declined mentally and might spark a war. A Pentagon spokesman issued a statement at the time saying General Milley’s calls to China in the final months of the Trump presidency were in keeping with his duties and responsibilities

to maintain strategic stability.

Peril co-author, Robert Costa, Associate editor at the Washington Post then made the following remarks about what he witnessed at the Trump White House during the final days:

We have some echoes of Nixon talking to pictures in our book. On January 5, on the eve of the Insurrection, the riot at the Capitol. We have the scene of President Trump not only pressuring Vice-president Pence in the Oval Office, but then opening the door to have the cold air come into the Oval Office.

Trump is talking with his aides saying those are my supporters outside, he’s talking to these people as he hears them out in the street, on a cold, almost freezing night, hours before the rally that ultimately led to the riots.

In writing “Peril,” we found that it was a National Security crisis, a National Security Emergency as well. What is so impactful about this scene with Trump being so enthralled with the mob he hears outside the Oval Office, it reminded me of Nixon talking to the portraits of former presidents, on the wall at the moment Watergate was crack-

ing and crushing his presidency. The equivalent isn’t that Trump is talking to George Washington or Abe Lincoln, like Nixon was. Trump is talking to this mob. This is his base; this is what he gets excited about! And who is Trump talking with that night?

Steve Bannon at the Willard Hotel where Trump tells Bannon, “We need to kill the Biden presidency in the crib!” That was the phrase he used based on our reporting.

More from the days leading up to January 6 from Robert Costa:

White House lawyer, John Eastman and his team were trying to convince Pence to decertify President-elect Biden’s victory at that time. Pence was instructed to “simply walk away” from the lectern. That could have been a Constitutional crisis had Pence followed Eastman’s direction.

Fortunately, former Vice-president Dan Quayle spoke with Pence in a phone call. Quayle reads him the Constitution and the law and tells Pence, “You are not an actor in this. You simply and mechanically count the votes, that is all.

Vice-president Pence is under lots of pressure from Trump.

Anti-Robo Calls... ...from page 4

Schmidt to combat illegal robo-call practices and protect Kansas consumers from being scammed or harassed.

In 2019, Schmidt joined attorneys general from 49 states and the District of Columbia in reaching an agreement with 12 major telecom companies, outlining a set of eight principles to fight illegal robocalls through both prevention and enforcement efforts. The agreement included implementing technologies to authenticate that callers are coming from a valid source. Portions of this agreement were later codified by Congress in the TRACED Act.

In Kansas, the attorney general’s Consumer Protection Division works to enforce do-not-call laws and protect Kansas consumers from being harassed and scammed by robocalls.

Kansas Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt and Securities Commissioner Dan Klucas today announced the launch of the newly redesigned SmartInvestKS.com. The website is part of an investor education initiative designed to help Kansans invest wisely and avoid investment fraud. SmartInvestKS.com’s sports-themed twist on fraud prevention and investor education is designed to promote integrity within the investment industry and empower rookie & veteran investors alike.

“Over a century ago, Kansas became the first state in the country to pass laws protecting consumers and their investments,” said Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt. “The investment world looks different than it did back then but our commitment to protecting Kansans remains steadfast.”

SmartInvestKS.com educates

Kansans by mimicking the life of a football player from drafted rookie to on-field pro. Whether an investor is just coming off the bench or a seasoned professional, SmartInvestKS.com coaches individuals on ways to safeguard their personal wealth by chalking up the X’s & O’s of fraud prevention.

“The financial damage inflicted by investment fraud can rarely be undone,” said Securities Commissioner Dan Klucas. “Protecting your hard-earned savings needs to happen before the fact, not after. SmartInvestKS.com is designed to combat deceptive behavior by giving Kansans the tools needed to recognize and reject fraud attempts.”

Outhustle the opponent and invest like a champion today! Visit SmartInvestKS.com to learn more about growing and protecting wealth. If you or someone you know have

trouble with an insurance claim, please contact the Kansas Insurance Department’s consumer assistance division toll-free at 1-800-432-2484 or online at insurance.kansas.gov for any claims-related questions or concerns.

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