

The Record

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Number 03

Cheryl Harrison-Lee, New Interim County Administrator Committed to Transformation through Collaboration



CEO/Mayor Tyrone A. Garner of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas, officially introduced Ms. Cheryl Harrison-Lee as Interim County Administrator. Harrison-Lee was confirmed unanimously by the Board of Commissioners on Thursday, January 6.

At a news conference held in Memorial Hall, Mayor Garner expressed confidence in Harrison-Lee's qualifications to lead the Wyandotte County organization.

"Ms. Harrison-Lee brings a wealth of experience and expertise in her knowledge of management, administration, leadership and effective governance," said Mayor Garner. "I have no doubt that Ms. Harrison-Lee is the best choice for our community moving forward. I know that she will bring engaged leadership, competent management and so much more, in order to help us all facilitate making Wyandotte County a

great and safe place to live, work and raise a family."

Harrison-Lee brings more than 35 years of professional experience as a nationally-recognized public and private sector executive at a time when the Unified Government anticipates making generational investments in the community while managing a public health response to a global pandemic.

"Thank you, Mayor Garner and Commissioners, for your confidence in me to lead this organization during a critical time of transition for Wyandotte County," said Harrison-Lee.

Harrison-Lee, the first Black woman appointed to the role of interim county administrator, unveiled her vision to lead the County. Reflecting on the Unified Government's 25-year anniversary, the former Gardner City Administrator and current CEO of Harrison-Lee Development Consulting focused on a four-pronged plan to improve the quality of life for Wyandotte County citizens.

"I've seen what happens when confidence in leadership is restored," said Harrison-Lee. "I've seen the smiles on the faces of residents who can actively engage their leaders and know that promises will be kept, and I've witnessed what it looks like when equitable opportunities are given to all residents of the community."

In her plan coined, "Vision 2022: Transformation through Collaboration" Harrison-Lee highlighted four areas of focus for her work forward.

1. Discover ways to strengthen engagements among residents, local government and the business community;
2. Evaluate the current organization and identify areas for improvement
3. Identify Economic Development opportunities that create access, equity, and shared prosperity; and,
4. Focus on superior customer service as a daily practice

"It is important that this administration be the catalyst for a forward-thinking vision which supports a high standard of governance and establishes a strong community with long-term sustainability," said Harrison-Lee.

As the technical advisor for the City of Kansas City, Missouri on the \$100M Central City Sales Tax she addressed historically disadvantaged neighborhoods through new, catalytic investment. She was appointed by Governor Laura Kelly to establish the framework, strategic priorities, and financial reporting for \$1.034B CARES Act federal allocation to the State of Kansas to counter the economic and health impacts of COVID-19. She is also the Chair of the Kansas Board of Regents, working on statewide higher education issues.



Argentine Federal Savings, in the Kansas City, Kansas office, supports the Kansas City Chiefs! Left to right: Jeannie, Wendy, Roger, Lisa and Holly.

Sue's Sudsy Soapbox



By Sue Reich

Before I get started on this nonsense I am going to write about, what do you all think of the new, shiny, bright, RECORD? We have had more wonderful remarks about the brightness of it, can read it better, the pictures are so much clearer. Know what? I like it too. I am keeping the last issue of the year 2021 and the first issue of 2022. Just for old times' sake.

Mr. Males told me I have been with the RECORD for 27 years. Never wrote as much as I do now or took pictures, but I love it and it keeps me busy... as if I have nothing

else to do, (lol).

This year has started off just like our last year ended. Celebs passing away, friends also. Do you believe in 3's? You know, things happening in threes? Of course we lost beautiful Betty White, the 31st of December. Then look what happened the beginning of this year. Same-o same-o. First, Sidney Poitier, then Dwayne Hickman and Bob Saget. I have heard of the things happening in threes. Guess it is true in some cases. Then a good friend of mine passed away and I was quite shocked. Our birthdays were about 2 or 3 weeks apart and I used to tease him about being an old man. He called me Clownlady and I called him Mr. Bakerman. Such a really nice guy too. My son worked for Bill Crum and was his son's best man when Billy got married. Quite a long time ago.

How about this crazy weather? Can't make up its mind what it is going to do. Birdbath freezes up and I put warm water in it, then it melts the next day and then it is frozen the next. Poor birds beat it with their beaks and can't get through it.

Oh, guess what? Tuesday, Mr. Ed and I were about halfway through delivering The Record and I got a phone call from my daughter in law who said there were cops at my house. So I turned back west and when we got there, one was just about ready to knock on the front door. By then the alarm had stopped. So we went in through the garage and he put on his mask, got his flashlight and went in first. The porch door was ajar and my little furbaby was in the back yard; lucky the yard he was in was fenced in.

He went through the house in every nook and cranny. Apparently the wind we had, blew the door open and set off the alarm. So actually my whole world was upside down and backwards after that because I was running late. Missed getting LaVonne's paper to her, and two of my neighbors because the area where they are was all blocked off, so couldn't get to their mailboxes.

BPU is digging and doing some-

thing there, don't know if neighbors even get their mail. Our roads here are very narrow and a lot of mailboxes get knocked down. School busses, trash trucks, just everything has to pull over to let the other vehicle by. One school bus tipped over in a ditch. But there weren't any students in it.

Well y'all, guess I will sign this off, and just hope everyone likes our new Record. I am very proud of it and I hope you all are too. Love all of you, please be really careful. I see a lot of people without masks. I still wear mine and so does Mr. Ed. We have lost quite a few of our citizens for taking a chance. Mind

your p's and q's, K? Your little ol gal from Argentine.

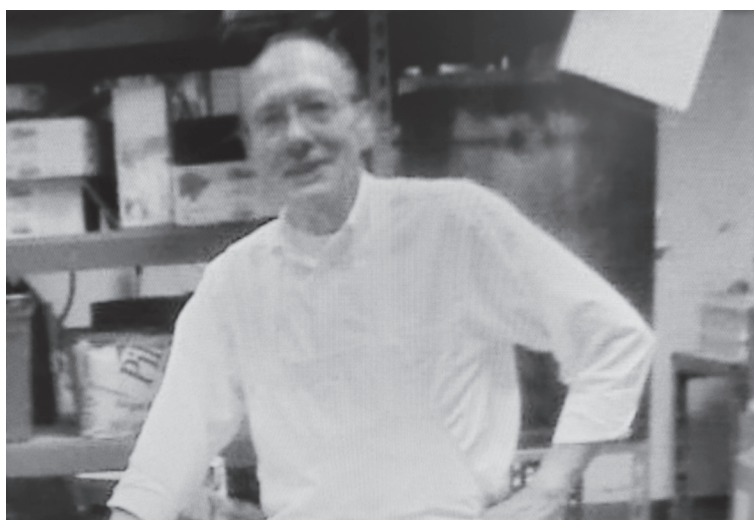
Sue

BREATHE

The bad days are still here, the bad memories are still here, I just want everything to go away.

I want the things that hurt me, everyone around me is a predator, I'm still here but they always manage to find me. To go away, I am their prey, I want to get away, what should I do? But then I realize I'm stressing out over nothing, I am just having a bad day, not a bad life. I just need to,

BREATH



Bill Crum, passed away recently. His wife Bonnie passed away a year ago. As the owner of Finkemeier Bakery, he had the best bakery products around. Bill bought the shop and the recipes and will probably never be duplicated.

Remember when the BIG CHIEF stood somewhere on State Ave? We used to go there for good ol' fashion root beer.



Trucks, trucks everywhere at 73rd and Holliday drive. Keeping our tax money busy.



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By Sharon Hoover

“Life is like a book, some chapters are sad, some are happy, and some are exciting but if we never turn the page, we will never know what the next chapter holds for us.” (Quote from Friends and Fiction)

On that note, I suggest the following novel “Cloud Cuckoo Land” by Pulitzer Prize Winner

Comin’ & Goin’ Turner Style

Anthony Doerr. It weaves three time periods - the past, present, and future revolving around an ancient fantasy book with the above title. The reader follows the lives and adventures of those trying to figure out their worlds: two young people on opposites of the city walls during the 1453 siege of Constantinople; two men during an attack of a public library in present-day Idaho and a pre-teen traveling to a new world decades from now. I didn’t know anything about this book when I ordered it. I had read Doerr’s “All the Light We Cannot See” and enjoyed it. His books tend to be on the lengthy side and can be intimidating. I plodded through the first several chapters and at one point thought this book was not for me, but I continued, and I am glad

I did. It shows our connections to each other and to those who were before us and those who will be here after we are gone.

For the younger set, the National Agricultural Hall of Fame is hosting its Farm Tales program on January 20, from 10:30 – 11:30 am. The free program is geared for children ages 3-6. January’s theme is Sleep Tight Farm about getting the farm ready for winter from the book of the same name. The little ones will be able to watch and listen to the story, create their own special farm light for dark winter nights, and build their own farm model. You must pre-register, call 913-721-1075 or online at info@aghalloffame.com. Additional programs will be held on the third Thursday of the month, February 17, and March 24, 2022.

The K-State Garden Hour’s subject on February 2, 2022, will be “Starting Seeds Indoor” from 12 to 1. If you signed up for the series earlier this year, you don’t have to re-register. The program is recorded and will be on their website as early as the next day.

Wyandotte County Master Gardener Elizabeth Kraskow will be presenting a program on how to start your own Aquaponics project on January 3, from 10:30 – 1:00. Elisabeth and her husband Theodore volunteer at Turner Community Garden’s Aquaponics project. Both have previous experience in the fishery industry. Preregister with Lynn Loughary, 913-299-9300 ext. 104 or lloughary@ksu.edu.

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



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Governor Kelly Announces Fiscal Year 2023 Budget

TOPEKA – Governor Laura Kelly today announced her fourth budget recommendation. This budget builds on years of work by the Kelly Administration to restore the state's fiscal prosperity, grow the state's economy, expand the state's workforce, and invest in the health and safety of the people of the state of Kansas.

"Fully funding K-12. Closing the Bank of KDOT. Balancing our budget. This is what the people of Kansas elected me to do," Governor Laura Kelly said. "This budget not only restores state funding for critical services, it cuts the state sales tax on food. I encourage the Legislature to

waste no time and send me a clean bill to Axe the Food Tax."

The Governor's budget fully funds K-12 for a fifth straight year and makes historic investments in workforce training and higher education to ensure that Kansans are ready to enter the workforce. By expanding Medicaid, the state of Kansas not only nets millions of dollars of enhanced federal matching funds, it allows more people to remain in the workforce and boosts local economies.

Recognizing that some revenues may be one-time only, the budget makes several one-time investments to reduce debt and increase struc-

tural balance, including paying off KPERs and other debts accrued under previous administrations, providing Kansas taxpayers with a \$250 rebate, and making one-time investments and capital improvements in the state's public safety, corrections, and juvenile justice systems.

Other highlights of this budget include:

- * Responsibly cutting taxes for every Kansan: Unlike proposals that have focused the greatest benefit of tax reform on a small number of Kansans, cutting the state sales tax on food and providing a rebate for every Kansas taxpayer will ensure tax relief goes to the hardworking Kansans that power our state's economy.

- * Recognizing the service of law enforcement and other state employees: This budget calls for a minimum 5% pay increase for all state employees and includes funding to help recruit and retain State Highway Patrol officers, nurses, corrections officers, public defenders, Community Corrections, home and community-based service providers, child protection specialists, and others. It also includes funding to enhance pensions and new protective equipment and facility improvements for those working in secure facilities.

- * Sustaining the state's record-breaking economic growth: Kansas has continued record-breaking economic growth for a second straight year—bringing the two-year total of economic investment to over \$7.6 billion. This budget builds on the Governor's previous efforts to restore the Department of Commerce by fully returning the Economic Development Initiatives Fund to its intended purpose—economic development. In addition to efforts to enhance the state's workforce through training and apprenticeships, the budget intends to capitalize on broadband development, encourage small business innovation, and develop and renovate new moderate-income housing.

- * Achieving and maintaining school funding: This budget includes adequate school funding to meet the

requirements of the Gannon settlement for a fifth straight year, ensuring that as students, parents, and teachers continue to learn and overcome the unprecedented challenges of the pandemic, schools have resources to help keep our kids on track to graduate, earn postsecondary degrees and certificates, and ultimately join the workforce.

- * Fully closing the Bank of KDOT: This budget not only fulfills the Governor's promise to close the Bank of KDOT, it ends other extraordinary transfers out of the State Highway Fund. These transfers for non-infrastructure programs such as Mental Health Grants and debt service on bonds will now be funded out of SGF, returning needed infrastructure dollars to their original purpose.

- * Promoting workforce readiness and competitiveness: funding for postsecondary education has not recovered to pre-Great Recession levels in over a decade. This budget not only restores higher education funding and freezes tuition at four-year institutions, it includes additional funding for need-based aid, Excel in CTE, and National Guard scholarships so that more Kansans can seek the education and training they need to qualify for in-demand jobs. It also provides capital investment funding to ensure that all institutions remain engines of economic growth with new facilities and technology to increase the state's competitiveness.

- * Reducing fees and making payments on-time: Under previous administrations, "one-time" and "temporary" measures were put in place that added to KPERs debt, increased fees for vehicle registration, and delayed the final school payment into the next fiscal year. Coming off the recent repayment of the PMIB loan, this budget ends the DMV surcharge, pays off KPERs debt early, and returns the 12th school payment to the current year. It also pays bonds early, improving the state's structural balance and securing Kansas' finances in the event of future national or international economic challenges.

- * Strengthening Access to Mental

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2023 Budget... ...from page 4

Healthcare: With the lifting of the moratorium at Osawatimie State Hospital, this budget continues the work of ensuring mental health access closer to home by providing funding for regional crisis services and hospital beds, suicide prevention grants for local agencies, and expanding access to mental health teams in the state's schools. It also provides new substance use treatment options for those in state hospitals and corrections facilities.

* Promoting healthcare affordability: expanding Medicaid is not only a good deal for the state of Kansas, it helps Kansans remain in the workforce and keeps local health providers in business. Our healthcare providers are essential to keeping local economies strong. This budget also funds enhanced post-partum Medicaid coverage for up to 12 months, improving mental and physical health for mothers and young families.

* Protecting the state and safe-

guarding our future: After the state experienced significant natural disasters in recent years, this budget provides funding for staff and one-time funding for upgrades of facilities and equipment for our National Guard and state health and environment lab.

* Fully funding the state water plan: for too many years, the state's radical tax policies led the state to defund efforts to protect one of our most valuable resources: water. This budget fully funds the State Water Plan Fund for the first time since FY 2008—providing irrigation technology and other water-saving resources that will promote the resilience and abundance of our rural communities and ag industry for generations to come.

* Saving for tomorrow: Until this budget, Kansas has been unique among states to have either a small or non-existent budget stabilization fund. This budget ensures that Kansas has a real "Rainy Day Fund" in case national and international events threaten to harm our sustained economic growth.

ACCEPTING SEALED BIDS

The Board of Education, Unified School District No. 500, Kansas City, KS will accept sealed bids for: IFB 22-002 Window Replacement at Whittier Elementary and North Central Office Early Childhood Center . Sealed bids should be addressed to: Purchasing Department, Board of Education, 2010 N. 59th Street, Room 370, Kansas City, KS 66109 - "IFB No. 22-002 – "Window Replacement at Whittier Elementary and North Central Office Early Childhood Center "

Bids will be opened 2/9/22 @ 2:00 PM in the Purchasing Office.

Bid Documents are available at the Purchasing Department Office, at the above-address between 8 AM and 4 PM, M-F. Bid Documents are posted at <http://www.kckps.org/index.php/invitation-for-bids> .

(First published 1-20-22)
1t-The Record-1-20-22

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Turner Unified School District Board of Education is accepting applications to fill a term of office on the Turner Recreation Commission, Position #3; the term of office is February 2, 2022 to June 30, 2022. Recreation Commission members serve in a voluntary capacity.

Application forms may be obtained at the Turner Administrative Service Center, 800 South 55th Street, Kansas City, KS 66106, or online at www.turnerusd202.org. Deadline for applications is Thursday, January 27, 2022.

(First published 1-20-22)
1t-The Record-1-20-22

AG Schmidt announces partnership with Rotary to combat human trafficking

TOPEKA – The Kansas Office of the Attorney General will partner with Kansas Rotary International districts to increase awareness of and compliance with the new state law enacted last year that requires certain establishments to post information about how to contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline, Attorney General Derek Schmidt announced.

During the 2021 legislative session, a new law was passed requiring posting of the National Human Trafficking Hotline in certain businesses and public places where the information can be readily available to victims who are being trafficked. The hotline number is 1-888-373-7888. Posting of the hotline number helps connect victims to services and encourages the public to report potential trafficking so an appropriate response can occur. The new law is a result of recommendations made by the attorney general's Human Trafficking Advisory Board (HTAB), which includes members of law enforcement, prosecutors, court personnel, advocates, state agency representatives and survivors of human trafficking who have expertise in this field.

Combating human trafficking in Kansas has been a priority for Schmidt. Victim services toll-free hotline at (800) 828-9745 M-F.

MBE / WBE INVITATION TO BID

JE Dunn has been preselected to bid the Early Bid Packages for Raymore-Peculiar 2021 Bond - Ninth Grade Center project. This portion of the project is for the following scopes only: Earthwork, Site Utilities, Precast & Steel. All other scopes of work will be bid in early February. Overall project is a ground up construction of a new 9th Grade Center for the freshman of Ray-Pec School District. Project is located next to existing East Middle School in Raymore, MO. Project will include classrooms, music room, Gym/locker rooms, cafeteria and main entry. Building skin will be precast concrete panels (both architectural & structural), curtain-wall, storefront, metal panels and masonry. Sitework will include rammed aggregate piers under foundations, new parking lots and a connection to the existing drive lane at the middle school. Work will start in Spring 2022 and building will be open for classes in Fall 2023. MBE/WBE participation is encouraged.

Bidding Documents for the Early Package may also be viewed and/or obtained electronically at

www.buildingconnected.com Bids for the Early Package will be received until 2:00 PM on 01/27/2022 by JE Dunn at Raymore-Peculiar School District 21005 S School Rd, Peculiar, MO 64078. Please direct all Bids to the attention of Molly Lyons. Bids can also be submitted via Building Connected with the exception of precast, which must be delivered in a sealed envelope.

A Pre-bid Conference will be held virtually at 10:30 AM on 01/18/2022 for the purpose of answering any questions from prospective Bidders regarding the Early Package Scopes of Work on the Project. Attendance is strongly recommended. No other

Pre-Bid Conference will be held. Please email molly.lyons@jedunn.com for a link to the invitation.

Bid Opening will start at 2:00 PM. on January 27, 2022, via YouTube if you would like to join.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmvxertsjnZp2jLCUO-QIXkA>

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