



The Record

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Number 09

Mayor Comments on Unified Government's Status



By Murrel Bland

Mayor Tyrone Garner came to the Congressional Forum Friday, Feb. 17 to give a talk. He was careful to let the more than 50 persons who attended know that his presentation was

not a speech.

The Forum is a committee of the Kansas City, Kansas, Area Chamber of Commerce that meets monthly, usually at Children's Mercy Park.

The mayor's talk covered a wide range of subjects including economic development, tax base, the Unified Government's budget, infrastructure, and the finalist for County Administrator.

Western Wyandotte County continues to attract development including warehouses in the Turner community. Areas that need attention include the former Indian Springs Shopping Center. He said a developer has shown in the Reardon Center; such a development would be the gateway to the city. Residents of the 18th Street and Quindaro Boulevard area need a grocery store.

The Mayor said it is important that there is adequate housing for all people. He said Tom Lally is doing a study of the homeless population.

The Mayor said it is most important to in-

crease the tax base. Projections indicate that unless there is an increase in revenue soon, the Unified Government will be facing severe cutbacks in service. Attempts by the Mayor to cut taxes have met with opposition from the Unified Commission. The Unified Government is seeking federal grants to fund various infrastructure projects.

Mayor Garner said the hope, subject to the approval of the Unified Commission, was to have a County Administrator chosen by Mid-March. The three finalists of 42 candidates are John P. Curp, former interim manager of Cincinnati, Ohio; Elke Doom, former interim manager of Royal Oak Township, Mich.; and David W. Johnson, former city manager of Covington, Ky.

Mayor Garner said all of the final candidates have been vetted properly and are qualified to serve.

Murrel Bland is the former Editor of The Wyandotte West and The Piper Press. He is Recording Secretary of Business West.

Kansas Talking Books Week highlights Braille, Specialized Services

TOPEKA—Each spring, the Kansas Talking Books Service dedicates a week to highlighting the program's progress and innovation in its mission of ensuring that all may read. The service, a division of the State Library of Kansas, operates with the support of the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled, providing services and support to qualified Kansans with a print disability.

For 2023, Kansas Talking Books Week will be held March 6th through 10th. Activities for the week include a webinar, highlighting the many Braille resources and services offered to eligible patrons including downloadable books, book clubs, reading challenges, and more.

"Our readers' advisors assist patrons in personalizing their library services by maintaining and adjusting their author, series, and subject reading preferences and exclusions so patrons get the books and magazines they want or need," said Maggie Witte, Outreach Librarian and Lead

Reader's Advisor said. "Patrons can request the reading materials they want and make the decisions on what and how they receive them so that it is a custom, personalized experience in library services."

Far more than a repository for accessible materials, the Talking Books program is housed on the campus of Emporia State University. Kansas Talking Books has an on-site recording studio that allows volunteers and staff to record books and magazines of local interest and make them available in accessible formats for our readers.

More than 1,000 books, many about Kansas and by Kansas authors, have been produced by Kansas Talking Books and more than 500 are available for talking book patrons across the country via the BARD download service.

"Since 2005, through the support of an anonymous donor, we have been able to make the stories of Kansans available and accessible to print-disabled Kansas residents in the Gerald

Kopp Studio. Many of these books aren't considered for production on the national level, so it's really important that we record as many as possible for our readers," Director Michael Lang said.

Kansas Talking Books free library services are available to all Kansas residents with a qualifying print disability: blindness, low vision, physical impairment, or reading disability. Patrons can access over 120,000 books and subscribe to over 80 magazines.

Patrons, caregivers, and community members can find more information and the application for services online at kslib.info/talking. Those in the Emporia area can call 620-341-6280. Other regions in Kansas can call toll-free at 800-362-0699.

Talking Book Week programming and events, including registration, will be posted online at kslib.info/talking and on social media at <https://www.facebook.com/kansas.talking.books.service>.

Governor Kelly Announces Qualifying Families Can Now Apply for \$1000 per Student for Learning Recovery

TOPEKA—Governor Laura Kelly today announced that the Kansas Education Enrichment Program (KEEP) is open to applications from qualifying parents and guardians of Kansas students. KEEP provides a \$1,000 award per student to pay for various educational goods and services that promote learning recovery and facilitate academic enrichment opportunities.

“This program will provide Kansas students with new opportunities and resources to help them thrive in the classroom,” Governor Laura Kelly said. “I encourage all families that qualify to apply for KEEP.”

KEEP funds may be used on various enrichment and educational activities, including:?

- * Day and overnight camps with academic-related curriculum such as music, arts, science, technology, agriculture, mathematics, and engineering

- * Curriculum and educational materials, including certain technological devices

- * Language classes
- * Musical instruments and lessons
- * Tutoring

The funds are not eligible for private school tuition.

Eligibility for KEEP funds is determined by financial need, and funds will be distributed to actively enrolled K-12 Kansas students between the ages of 5-18. Students whose household income is less than 185% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines are eligible.

Subject to funding availability, future waves of funding may be provided with expanded household income eligibility parameters.

Families can learn if they qualify, apply for the program, read the full handbook of rules and instructions, and browse the marketplace of

qualified service providers at www.keep.ks.gov. Program participants will have access to a web and mobile app for using their awarded funds.

Earlier this year, businesses that offer educational opportunities and services were invited to join the KEEP Marketplace to assist students and families. Parents and guardians can now search for those opportunities across Kansas on the KEEP Marketplace. Parents and guardians may also submit requests for additional businesses to be added to the Marketplace if they know of a business that would qualify.

KEEP is being offered through a contract between Merit International, Inc. and the Kansas Office of Recovery to provide educational activities and learning opportunities

to students across Kansas to promote educational learning recovery in response to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is funded with American Rescue Plan Act dollars approved through the SPARK process.

Consumer Connection: What to know about cryptocurrency and securities

Topeka, Kan. - Cryptocurrency, or “crypto,” has been featured in many headlines and TV ads as it continues to grow in popularity, both as a new technology and as an investment tool. But the term itself is imprecise and has a broad meaning. Many cryptocurrency tokens are not themselves securities, but they can be used as the basis for the offer and sale of crypto-related securities. The Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner, a division of the Kansas Insurance Department, does not directly regulate cryptocurrency. However, the Department does have regulatory jurisdiction over securities products that are related to cryptocurrencies.

What does this mean? Here is an example of a security that features cryptocurrency: the crypto-interest account. These “crypto-interest accounts” offer returns on deposited cryptocurrency, similar to a more traditional bank account most of us are familiar with. Unlike your bank account however, these crypto-interest accounts lack the protections of traditional financial institutions such as financial transparency and insured deposits. Often these types of crypto products are marketed nationwide and attract billions of investor capital just like a traditional security, yet the companies themselves fail to register with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or state securities regulators.

Bottom line: Cryptocurrency or



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.

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 at the monthly Zoom meetings – the second Saturday of each month at 2 p.m.

Rudy Padilla Email opkansas@swbell.net

Maria Cristina Herrera MariCriszap@gmail.com



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By Sharon Hoover

Comin' & Goin' Turner Style

Turner Recreation Commission is now taking registrations for the following sports: Spring Soccer, Travel Volleyball, Coach Pitch, Softball, Baseball, Leisure Summer Ball, Fishing Club, and S.A.R.S. For more information and to get on their mailing list, go to www.turnerrecreation.org which takes you to the home page. On the upper right hand corner there is Mailing List, click on it and complete your info. Easy peasy.

The upcoming Turner Recreation's Elder Bearies (50+) Potluck Luncheons have been scheduled for the following Wednesdays: March 15, April 19, and May 17 at 12:00pm. Hope to see you there.

Speaking of the 50+ Club, a Day Trip has been scheduled for

March 16 to the National Museum of Toys & Miniatures & Jacob L. Loose Park. Cost is \$6.00. Register at the TRC office.

Join in a brand new TRC event at 6:30pm on March 21, 2023. "All Hands on Deck" is a free American Sign Language class for family and friends. This introductory program is a precursor to a 6-week American Sign language course. Munch on snacks and refreshments while having an enjoyable time.

On March 9, the KCK Wyandotte West Library is hosting the "KCKCC Spring Jazz Showcase", a special concert featuring jazz combos, vocal jazz ensembles and the funk band. Music starts at 6:00 pm.

Another music event at South Branch Library is the "Bucket Bri-

gade Boot Camp", an interactive workshop where youth will learn about the role of music in various cultures and their connection to today's music. Registration is required at this March 13 event. Activity starts at 1:00 pm.

Kids and teens can enjoy the "Spring Break Nature Escape at Mr. & Mrs. F.L. Schlagle Library" learning all about the natural world. Classes start at 10am. Registration is required. Topics on each day include 3/14-Fungi Foray, 3/15- Learning about Birding, 3/16- Signs of Spring on the Bridle Trail and 3/17- Archery. Registration is required.

Until next time, stay safe and be kind to those around you. Continue to pray for the brave Ukrainians fighting for the right to remain free.

Darn that auto correct, I just read last week's column and it's "Healthy Yards Expo" not "Hardy Yards Expo" at the Shawnee Civic Center on March 11. I found a few other errors, but no misinformation. My proofreading skills leave a lot to be desired. Not to be deterred, I will list some new announcements.



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SENATE NEWS



By Sen. Pat Pettey

THIS WEEK AT THE CAPITOL

This week is turnaround – the midway marker for session and the deadline for most bills to clear their house of origin. With a few exceptions, bills that do not make it out of their first chamber will remain in committee and are considered “dead” for the session.

It is truly an honor to serve you. If you have any questions,

feel free to contact me at 785-296-7375 or pat.pettey@senate.ks.gov. I am also happy to set up a Zoom to discuss any questions or concerns.

GENERAL ORDERS

The Senate met three days last week to consider 8 bills. We also unanimously approved two resolutions: one recognizing the members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and another congratulating and commending award-winning Kansas educators.

The bulk of the debate occurred on Thursday, when we took up SB 116. An identical bill

passed in 2021 and was vetoed by Governor Laura Kelly. The bill requires the State Board of Education to establish curriculum guidelines for a standardized firearm safety education program based on the NRA’s Eddie Eagle Gunsafe program, which school districts could then choose to adopt. School districts can already add a gun safety curriculum if they choose.

Curriculum is best addressed by the State Board of Education and local school boards, not legislators whose campaigns are influenced by the special interest group promoted by this legislation. And I am very concerned by placing the onus on schools and, ultimately, children to ensure gun safety training when no training is required for adults to carry firearms. I voted NO.

* A study by the American Academy of Pediatrics found that the Eddie Eagle GunSafe program was not effective in teaching children to perform gun-safety in a real-life situation.

* In Kansas, an average of 45 children and teens die by guns every year – a 22 percent increase from 2019 to 2022.

* Firearms are the leading cause of death among children and teens in Kansas (48% suicides & 48% homicides).

I was very glad to support SB 59, which designates the Thursday preceding Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a holiday in the Capitol. The Kansas African American Affairs Commission hosts an annual program on that day, and this bill will encourage more people in the statehouse to participate.

COMMITTEE UPDATE

This year, I serve on the following committees:

- * Education
- * Public Health and Welfare
- * Ways and Means

You can click on the hyperlinked committee names to access the upcoming agendas.

Some committee work to keep an eye on next week as we wrap up meetings on Monday and Tuesday:

* **MAKING POLITICS WORK FOR FAMILIES:** Senator Ethan Corson’s bill allowing campaign contributions to be used for family caregiving services for candidates and elected officials will be voted on by the Senate Transparency and Ethics committee on Monday.

* **RESTRICTING THE VOTE:** Senate Federal and State Affairs will hear a bill on Monday that would restrict the number of remote ballot boxes that may be used in each county and require certain monitoring conditions for them. Our Republican Secretary of State has repeatedly emphasized that Kansas elections are safe and secure, and that these ballot drop boxes are a reliable way to help more Kansans vote.

* **GENESIS GYM HAND-OUTS:** Genesis Health Club owner Rodney Steven is back at it again. Senate Tax has a hearing on Tuesday on SB 252, which would exempt gyms from property and sales tax because they compete with “governmental entities” such as community centers. A similar measure was defeated in the 2021 session. According to the Kansas Reflector, Steven would have avoided an estimated \$2.5 million annually in property taxes under the previous proposal. The exemption would have siphoned \$1.1 million per year from Johnson County property tax revenue and between \$273,000 to \$366,000 from Sedgwick and Riley counties.

Committee hearings and legislative proceedings are live-streamed from the Kansas Legislature’s website and YouTube channel

You can also track bills on the Legislature’s website by

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The person named below has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in the Department of Housing and Urban Development’s regulations implementing Section 504 (24 CFR, part 8 dated June 2, 1988).

Carla Schubert, Section 504 Coordinator
Young Management Corporation 22602 State Line Road
Bucyrus, KS. 66013
913-947-3131 - TTY: 711

Petty...

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clicking on the Bills & Laws link. You are welcome to testify before a committee – in person or remotely via WebEx – on any issue important to you. A written copy of your testimony is required at least 24 hours prior to the committee hearing.

SENATE DEMOCRATS IN THE NEWS

KS bills ban gender-affirming care and bar bans women from female designated spaces
2/13/23 Kansas City Star

Sen. Pat Petty, a Kansas City Democrat and ranking Democrat on the Public Health and Welfare Committee, called the bill an example of “extreme ideology of unacceptance.”

“I don’t think anyone comes lightly to making some sort of choice about their not naturally born gender identifications,” she said, “I think people just want to live a natural life and be accepted within their community.”

GOVERNOR KELLY ANNOUNCES NEARLY \$20 MILLION FOR SERVICES THAT KEEP FAMILIES TOGETHER, REDUCE NUMBER OF KIDS IN FOSTER CARE

Reinforcing her commitment to children and families, Governor Laura Kelly this week announced a new set of Family First Prevention grants totaling nearly \$20 million. The grants will create and grow programs designed to keep families together and prevent children from entering the foster care system. Current Family First Prevention programs have been a proven success, helping more than 3,000 Kansas children remain with their families and avoid entering foster care.

In 2019, Kansas became one of the first states in the country to implement the Family First

Prevention Services Act, bipartisan federal legislation that allows states to direct federal foster care funds into prevention programs focused on keeping families together. The Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) has put the funds toward mental health treatment; parent skill building; substance use prevention; and assistance for family members who serve as primary caregivers for grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

The new grants:

- * Expand the number of providers from 11 to 14
- * Expand statewide an intensive mental health program called Multisystemic Therapy
- * Fund new substance use disorder services
- * Fund new parent-skill building partners
- * Include new primary prevention programs, including a partnership with the Sedgwick County Sheriff’s Department

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February is Black History Month, a time devoted to celebrating and recognizing the central role of African Americans in U.S. history.

* Mae Jemison was the first African American woman who orbited into space aboard the shuttle Endeavour in 1992. The team made 127 orbits around the earth over the course of eight days. Jemison is also a physician, teacher, a Peace Corps volunteer, and president of a tech company, the Jemison Group.

* Fritz Pollard was the first African American head coach in the National Football League (NFL). He was 5 feet, 9 inches and 165 pounds, what most would consider small for the sport. He attended Brown University and was the school’s first Black player.

KANSAS INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

Kansas Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt wants to share some of the ways her Department can assist constituents who may need assistance with filing an insurance claim after a storm or flood causing property damage.

Please contact the Kansas department of Insurance—consumer assistance representatives are always standing by to help! Call 785-296-3071 or email KID.webcomplaints@ks.gov or visit the Department’s website insurance.kansas.gov for more information.

FOLLOW OUR WORK

In addition to watching legislative proceedings live, you can always stay up to date with legislative matters by following our caucus’s social media accounts. Our staff live-tweets Senate session daily, provides updates on legislation regularly on Facebook, and shares resources to help you advocate for your issues on Instagram.

IMPORTANT STATE PHONE NUMBERS

Here is a list of numbers I often receive requests for during the Legislative Session. I hope you will find this information helpful.

Attorney General
(888) 428-8436

Child Abuse Hotline
(800) 922-5330

Consumer Protection
(800) 432-2310

Crime Tip Hotline
(800) 572-7463

Crime Victim Referral
(800) 828-9745

Department on Aging
(800) 432-3535

Driver’s License Bureau
(785) 296-3963

Fraud Hotline
(800) 432-3919

KPERS
(888) 275-5737

Governor’s Office
(877) 579-6757

Highway Conditions
(800) 585-7623

Housing Hotline
(800) 752-4422

KanCare Consumer Assistance
(866) 305-5147

Kansas Jobs
(785) 235-5627

Kansas Lottery
(785) 296-5700

Kansas State Library
(800) 432-3924

Legislative Hotline
(800) 432-3924

School Safety Hotline
(877) 626-8203

Social Security
(800) 772-1213

DCF
(785) 296-1491

Suicide Prevention Hotline
(800) 273-8255

Tax Refund Status Info
(800) 894-0318

Taxpayer Assistance
(785) 368-8222

Unclaimed Property
(800) 432-0386

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National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
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Consumer Connection...
...from page 2

not, if it meets the definition of a security and it is being offered in Kansas, it needs to be registered.

“Regulation of the emerging market of crypto-related securities is essential to protecting Kansas investors,” Kansas Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt said. “The Department will continue investigating unregistered crypto-currency securities and pursue any violations of the Kansas Uniform Securities Act.”

As more companies offer crypto-related securities products, the Department has increased enforcement efforts by actively participating in North American Securities Administrators Association (NASAA) multistate taskforce groups focused on crypto-interest accounts. Last year, the Department entered a consent order with Block-Fi as a result of these cooperative, multistate investigations.

For more guidance on crypto-related securities, visit www.nasaa.org and www.finra.org. If you suspect you have been a victim of securities fraud, please contact the Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner at 785-296-3071 or file a complaint online here. All investments carry risk, so visit SmartInvestKS.com to learn more about different types of investment and how to avoid fraud.

The Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner, a division of the Kansas Insurance Department, regulates investment sales in Kansas--the birthplace of “Blue Sky Laws.” In 2017, the Office was merged with the Kansas Insurance Department.

LEGAL PUBLICATION

ACCEPTING SEALED BIDS

The Board of Education, Unified School District No. 500, Kansas City, KS will accept sealed bids for: IFB 23-009 Toilet Partition Replacement & Upgrades (Various Locations) . Sealed bids should be addressed to: Purchasing Department, Board of Education, 2010 N. 59th Street, Room 370, Kansas City, KS 66109 - “IFB No. 23-009-“Toilet Partition Replacement & Upgrades (Various Locations)”

Bids will be opened 03/16/23 @ 10:00 AM 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

(First published 3-2-23)
 1t-The Record-3-2-23

LEGAL PUBLICATION

MBE / WBE / LBE SOLICITATION OF INTEREST SPECIAL INSPECTIONS SERVICES

Lacy & Company, the Owner’s Representative for the future American Royal Complex, is soliciting proposals for Special Inspections Services. We are interested in identifying Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) / Women Business Enterprise (WBE) / Local Business Enterprise (LBE) firms with special inspections capabilities for consideration.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The new American Royal Complex, located at 118th & State Avenue in Kansas City, KS will include nearly one million square feet of programmed space, including 400,000+ square feet of climate-controlled barn/exhibition space, 2 climate-controlled show arenas and one outdoor arena with roof, Food and Agricultural Education Center and exploration space, Administrative offices / meeting facilities, Maintenance and storage facilities, Roads, utilities, and parking infrastructure.

SPECIAL INSPECTIONS SCOPES OF WORK

Earthwork Compaction, Asphalt, Site Concrete, Structural Concrete, Concrete Floor Slabs, Structural Steel Connections, any other city required special inspections.

Contact Pete Lacy (pete@lacykc.com or 913-236-7000) if you are interested in receiving more information about this project.

(First published 3-2-23)
 1t-The Record-3-2-23

LEGAL PUBLICATION

Important State Phone Numbers

Attorney General
 (888) 428-8436

Child Abuse Hotline
 (800) 922-5330

Consumer Protection
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ARGENTINE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI

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TIME: 11:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.
MEAL SERVED at 12:30

LOCATION: EMBASSY SUITES, OLATHE
10401 S. RIDGEVIEW ROAD
OLATHE, KS 66061

MENU: Buffet - Beef Tri Tip & Smoked Chicken Breast, two sides, roll, dessert & beverages (water & iced tea)
(Absolutely No Food or Beverages are to be brought into the Reunion Event)
Cash Bar Available

COST: TICKET PRICE: \$50 PER PERSON

DRESS: CASUAL (JEANS AND SHORTS ACCEPTABLE)

REGISTRATION: MAY BE COMPLETED ONLINE OR BY RETURNING
THE REGISTRATION FORM BY APRIL 1, 2023

Due to the large attendance expected early registrations are encouraged by April 1, 2023. Reservations will be accepted no later than June 1, 2023. **NO DAY OF RESERVATIONS ARE POSSIBLE FOR THIS EVENT.**

WOULD YOU LIKE TO ATTEND?

ONLY AHS GRADUATES THROUGH 1973 ARE ELIGIBLE

PLEASE CONTACT US FOR A RESERVATION FORM

AHS 2023 REUNION COMMITTEE

PO BOX 860124

AND WEBSITE INFORMATION

Shawnee, KS 66286-0124

913-850-0105