

The Record

Volume 135

April 7, 2022

Number 14

Robin Hood Censored?

By Dr. Haas

When I was a boy in the early 1950s, my mother took me to Akron's historic Loew's Theatre to see the 1938 technicolor movie *The Adventures of Robin Hood* starring the swashbuckling Errol Flynn and set in 13th century England. We rarely went to a movie because money was scarce, my mother didn't drive, and my dad worked six or seven days a week, so taking a streetcar downtown to Loew's was a real treat. Loew's was designed to evoke a Moorish garden complete with statues imported from Europe and drifting clouds and twinkling stars on the ceiling. Very posh.

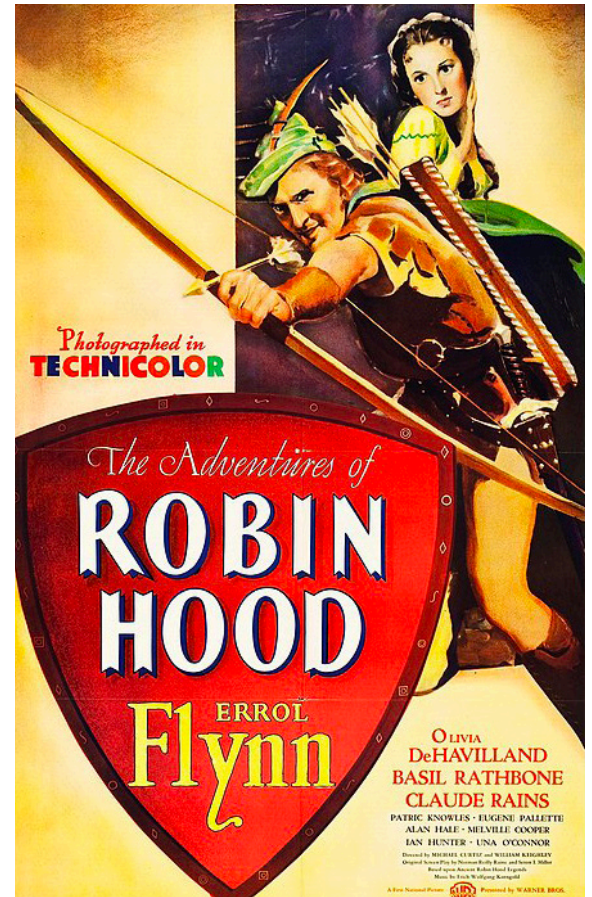
We sat in the spacious balcony and watched Robin and his merry men outsmart and outfight the nasty Sheriff of Nottingham from their hideout in Sherwood Forest, all in the cause of helping the poor and Robin's squeeze Maid Marion. It was a good story with arrows flying, choreographed swordplay, and the age-old conflict between the rich and powerful and the common people. The movie whetted my appetite for medieval history that I later studied in college.

Shockingly, about the time I saw the movie, Mrs. Thomas White, a Republican on the Indiana Textbook Commission, tried to have Robin Hood banned from all the state's teaching materials. It was 1953, Senator Joe McCarthy's anti-communist crusade was at its rabid, dishonest height, and Mrs. White wanted to be part of it, saying, "There is a Communist directive now in education to stress the story of Robin Hood. They want to stress it because he robbed the rich and

gave it to the poor. That's the Communist line." And that, dear reader, was a classic crackpot conspiracy theory—in Shakespeare's words, "full of sound and fury, signifying nothing."

White's effort failed and McCarthy was eventually exposed as a fraud, but White's impulse to not allow school students to learn about things of which she disapproved lives on in Republican attempts to ban information about evolution, the history of race relations, and LGBTQ issues, and literary classics from *To Kill a Mockingbird* to 1984 to *Huckleberry Finn*. Censorship has no place in a free country (except for material meeting the Supreme Court's 1973 definition of obscenity), and people prone to conspiracy theories have no place making school policies.

There's little historical evidence of a Robin Hood as painted in the myth. There was, however, a real 13th century archer named William of Cassingham, known as Williken of the Weald, who became a legend in his own time. In those days, the Weald was a dense forest covering most of Kent between London and England's southern coast and with few residents and fewer paths. When a French army invaded England, Williken recruited a band of local woodsmen who were expert bowmen devoted to King and country. Like today's heroic Ukraine defenders, Williken's men were heavily outnumbered but knew the land. Their tactic was to ambush French units from the cover



of the trees, slaughtering them with arrows. They killed thousands, driving the French army back to the coast to be rescued by the French fleet. A grateful King gave Williken a lifetime pension.

History tells of many instances when smaller armies or guerilla fighters defeated superior forces: the French, then the Americans, failed to defeat the Vietnamese; Russians were in Afghanistan for ten years and Americans for twenty before the locals prevailed. In 1776, American colonists took on the mighty British Empire, but the Redcoats were often poorly led, and London's support was weak while the colonists had the help of French troops and its navy. Like Robin Hood, the colonists were fighting for justice and freedom.


Sue's Sudsy Soapbox



By Sue Reich



Thanks to all of you for your condolences for the loss of my Mr. Ed. He will be truly missed.



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Publishers of *The Record*
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Jon A. Males
Owner/Publisher/Editor

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The Record (USPS No. 002269) is published weekly every Thursday by The Record Publications at PO Box 6197, Kansas City, Kansas 66106. Newsstand price, single copy, 35 cents; subscription price per year, \$16.13. For editorial, display, and classified advertising information call 362-1988. Periodical postage paid at Kansas City, Kansas 66110. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Record, P.O. Box 6197, Kansas City, Kansas 66106-0197

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The father of Olivia who was murdered at the age of three, was sentenced to 29 years in prison. Personally, I think he should have gotten life.

Unified Government Public Health Department (UGPHD) Issues Information on Second mRNA COVID-19 Booster Shots for Select Groups

Announcement Follows FDA Recommendations on Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna Booster Doses

The Unified Government Public Health Department (UGPHD) today provided additional information on who is eligible for second booster doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccine and where to get those additional doses in Wyandotte County.

This announcement follows information released on Tuesday announcing that the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) has authorized booster doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccine for older people and certain immunocompromised individuals.

“This means that a second booster shot of protection against the COVID-19 virus is now available to populations at higher risk for a more severe infection from the virus,” said Dr. Allen Greiner, Chief Medical Officer with the Unified Government Public Health Department.

According to the FDA statement

issued on Tuesday, “emerging evidence suggests that a second booster dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine improves protection against severe COVID-19 infections and is not associated with new safety concerns.”

Who is eligible for a second booster shot now:

- Individuals 50 years of age and older, at least 4 months after they received their first booster shot of any authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine.
- Individuals 12 years of age and older with certain kinds of immunocompromise can receive a second booster shot of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, at least 4 months after they received their first booster dose of any authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine.
- These are people who have undergone solid organ transplantation, are receiving treatment for solid tumor or blood cancers, or who are living with conditions that are considered to have an equivalent level of immunocompromise.

• Individuals 18 years of age and older can get a second booster shot of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine if they have the same certain immunocompromise.

About the Decision

The FDA based its recommendation upon current evidence, which suggests some waning of protection over time against serious infections from COVID-19 in older and immunocompromised individuals.

The action taken by FDA on Tuesday only applies to the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines. The agency said it will continue to evaluate data and information as it becomes available when considering the potential use of a second booster shot in other age groups.

Second Booster Shots in Wyandotte County

Second booster shots will be available at the Unified Government Public Health Department at 619 Ann

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



By Sharon Hoover

Comin' & Goin' Turner Style

roses are sprouting leaves and I can see the beginnings of my peonies.

Its time to get out and about. I may be getting ahead of myself but several events popping up this month include the following:

The Mobile Food Truck will be at Bristol Hills Methodist Church on April 12, 2022, from 3pm to 5 pm. They are scheduled the second Tuesday of every month. The church is at 4826 County line Road. KCK.

Turnerites, you will get a chance to meet our new Mayor Tyrone Garner. He will be guest speaker on April 18, 2022, at Turner Community Connection's Community Meeting from 6:30pm - 7:30pm at Bristol Hills Methodist Church.

You have another chance to get rid of unwanted items. Turner Community Connection is sponsoring Dumpers and Donuts on April 30, 2022, at New Story Church, 5500 Woodend Ave. from 8am to 12pm. No hazardous materials; animal or medical waste, aerosol cans, or electronic equipment. Pick up a donut on your way out.

Ag Hall of Fame is opening on April 23, 2022, with its annual Barnyard Babies Family Festival. Hours are from 10am-4pm. Fees are \$5 for ages 3 & up, and free for ages 2 & under. In addition to all those cute baby animals, are free train rides, food trucks, many activities, & demonstrations including how to harvest honey and learning how to milk a cow.

Calvin and I worked this event in the past and it was fun to see all the little ones and their families enjoy all the activities.

I just finished reading "The Golden Couple" by Greer Hendricks and Sarah Pekkanen. This novel was so full of red herrings I was completely stymied several times. It "was a deep dive into a marriage where what you see on the surface is not necessarily the truth." The therapist uses unconventional methods to try to save this marriage while dealing with her own issues. It was a guessing game from the getgo and another one of those thrillers I could not put down.

Until next time, stay safe, and be kind to those around you. Pray for the brave Ukrainians.

I guess I was right to question if March would go out like a lion since it came in like a lamb. Glad that month is behind us. Looking forward to a much pleasanter April. Plants are starting to raise their heads: although the crocuses are gone, the yard is greening, daffodils are blooming,



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SENATE NEWS



By Sen. Pat Pettey

UNDERMINING PUBLIC EDUCATION

On Monday, the Senate considered two bills that undermine Kansas public schools in two distinct but equally dangerous ways.

A bill that would allow students to attend any public school with “open capacity” in the state, regardless of whether the student is a resident of the district, passed the Kansas Senate by a vote of 23 to 16. I voted NO. Our state has a shaky

history with adequately funding our public schools, and this bill would take us back to potentially violating the constitution’s requirements for equitable funding of our public schools. The Gannon ruling that forced the Legislature to adequately fund our public schools states that “school districts must have reasonably equal access to substantially similar educational opportunity through similar tax effort.” Under this bill, taxpayers in growing districts will pay higher taxes to support nonresident students. This bill is also one of many considered by the Legislature that opens the door to create problems for our public schools that anti-education advocates can capitalize on

to push for privatization.

I requested to let the record show that I concurred with the “Explanation of Vote” offered by Senator Sykes on SB455.

I will not support legislation that furthers inequality in our schools or that threatens whether we are meeting our constitutional obligation to provide “equal access to substantially similar educational opportunity.” I voted NO.

SB 496 a so called Parental Bill of Rights is such an insult to parents and the educational community. Education is a partnership and parents entrust their children to our public schools to provide their children to be academically and social-emotional successful. When a child walks into my classroom I look forward to a positive, learning and nurturing relationship with the child and their parents family. This bill sets us up to be adversaries before the child walks in the classroom. Kansas kids deserve an education that enables them to learn from our past and help create a better future, and to develop critical thinking and interpersonal skills that will allow them to stay competitive as they enter the workforce and interact with their peers. This bill undermines that goal, which is why I joined 14 of my colleagues in voting NO.

I requested to let the record show that I concurred with the “Explanation of Vote” offered by Senator Sykes on SB496.

“This “Parents’ Bill of Rights” capitalizes on national figures’ successful manipulation of parents’ anxieties around learning and growing by suggesting that our public schools – which are subject to strict oversight by the state – are hiding nefarious materials used to brainwash our children. Really, this is a list of demands modeled after national legislation that co-opts civil rights language in order to undermine our public school teachers and districts that teach and care for Kansas kids. In the committee hearing on this bill, I asked for Kansas examples that this bill addresses, and Kansas public school parents that believe

this is an urgent problem facing our schools. I have not received a single response to that request. Children deserve an honest and accurate education that enables them to learn from our past and help create a better future, and politically motivated legislators have no business stoking fears that will lead to further legislation undermining that goal.” I voted NO.

THE SUPERMAJORITY RADICALLY ALTERS THE CONSTITUTION

The Kansas Senate considered four constitutional amendments this week. The two that passed out of the Senate have already been approved by the Kansas House. This means that Kansas voters will have two amendments on the August primary election ballot and one on the November general election ballot.

One constitutional amendment would require that a sheriff be elected in each county. This passed by a vote of 36 to 2. I voted YES.

Another addresses the process by which Kansas Supreme Court justices are selected. Currently, nominees to the Kansas Supreme Court are identified based on merit by the Supreme Court Nominating Commission, and the governor chooses from that pool. This process was adopted in 1958 by constitutional amendment (by over 70% of voters), in response to Governor Fred Hall’s “Triple Play” scandal.

Governor Fred Hall lost his primary for re-election in 1956 and the Republican nominee was beaten in November. A Kansas Supreme Court Justice at the time was a political ally of Governor Hall’s, who was looking to retire. He did not want his seat to be filled by a Democrat, so he retired on December 31st. Governor Hall resigned on January 3rd and then was appointed by his Lt. Governor as a Supreme Court Justice 11 days before the new governor took office.

This process has served all political ideologies well since its adop-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

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Petty... ...from page 4

tion. The judiciary is designed to be insulated from rapid shifts in public opinion, whereas the legislature is (in theory) designed to reflect current public opinion. Merit-based selection ensures that nominees are identified based on their professional qualifications and jurisprudence, not where the political winds are blowing.

Recent efforts to politicize judicial retention elections have been unsuccessful because Kansans recognize the importance of an impartial judiciary that is independent from the political games played in this building. The politicians advocating for this proposal aren't winning under the current system, so they're trying to change the rules. I don't support playing games with our constitution or with our judiciary. I voted NO, and the resolution failed to reach the supermajority threshold required to pass.

Proponents call a third constitutional amendment considered by the Legislature this week the "Taxpayer Bill of Rights." It would require a supermajority for passage of certain bills containing new or increased state taxes. A supermajority in the House is 83 votes; a supermajority in the Senate is 27 votes. Republicans currently hold 86 and 29 seats in the respective chambers, and have held comfortable majorities in both chambers for decades.

This amendment is not necessary for the majority party to advance their agenda when it comes to tax policy in our state. This amendment is a clear attempt to ensure they retain total control no matter where the political winds blow. If a supermajority of the Legislature is required to raise taxes—but not cut them—the state will eventually be forced to cut spending in a variety of areas, making it harder to fund schools, repair our roads, ensure our state is safe to live in, and invest in state agencies in order to serve Kansans efficiently and effectively.

The impact will disproportionately fall on low- and moderate-income Kansans. Kansas knows better than any state in the country what happens when we try to score easy political points by destroying our state government. Common sense prevailed last time we played this game; fixing the mess this constitutional amendment would create will be much more difficult. I voted NO, and the resolution failed to reach the supermajority threshold required to pass.

And a fourth constitutional amendment would provide for legislative oversight of rules and regulations adopted by executive branch agencies and officials. The Legislature already has oversight over agencies in the executive branch. We have exercised this oversight relentlessly over the past several years—most notably with regard to the Department of Labor.

During the debate on the floor, Senator Marci Francisco proposed an amendment clarifying the language that will appear on the ballot to reflect the fact that the Legislature already has this authority. The carrier of the amendment, Senator Kellie Warren, urged the body to vote against this amendment because the House has already passed a version of this constitutional amendment containing the misleading language. Senator Francisco's amendment failed by a vote of 11 to 27.

The Legislature has demonstrated an uncanny ability to curb executive power under the existing constitution. This is yet another power grab by the Legislature ahead of the 2022 gubernatorial election, and I voted NO. The resolution narrowly passed, however, by a vote of 27 to 12. If the amendment is adopted by voters and Governor Kelly is reelected, legislators will use this power to undermine her administration with surgical precision. If the amendment is adopted and Derek Schmidt is elected as governor, they will wield this power sparingly, if at all.

INVITING THE PLAGUE TO KANSAS

The Kansas Senate spent a significant amount of time this week debating legislation that will bring back contagious diseases that have been all but eradicated; that will ensure that our communities can do nothing to stop the spread of those diseases; that will allow charlatans who've duped the public into thinking they have a miracle cure—to the diseases they've encouraged to resurface—to prescribe whatever drugs they want, and require pharmacists to fill those prescriptions in spite of their professional training. All of these possibilities were introduced in four bills debated by the Senate this week.

One of the bigger bills allows politics to even further control our response to public health crises, and it passed by a vote of 24 to 14. I voted NO. Of many provisions, it strips the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, local health departments, and other local governmental entities from responding to a contagious or infectious disease.

It also broadens the definition of a "religious exemption" in terms of vaccine requirements. The new definition would allow virtually anyone to refuse to comply with wellness vaccines for childcare and school entry. This same exemption would be applicable to reasonable safety and disease-mitigation measures. The current statutory language on vaccination exemptions does not require any validation of sincerity of the belief but does ask that the parent/guardian designate the specific "denomination whose religious teachings are opposed to such tests or inoculations." This statute has been in place for over 50 years with minimal revisions or issues, and attempts to remove this language on the Senate floor were rejected along party lines.

To ensure that every child has the opportunity to catch mumps, polio, measles, diphtheria, whooping cough, chicken pox, and meningitis, the Senate narrowly passed S Sub for HB 2280,

by a vote of 21 to 16. This bill also includes a religious exemption provision that requires schools to grant the exemption without inquiring into the sincerity of the request. It also delivers on the deal Senator Mark Steffen made with Senate leadership in exchange for his vote on the gerrymandered congressional redistricting map: it would allow prescribers to prescribe hydroxychloroquine, ivermectin, and other off-label drugs to "treat" COVID-19. It would also ban pharmacists from refusing to fill those prescriptions.

S Sub for HB 2416 was originally part of the mega bill, but it was removed in committee, and the Senate considered the bill on its own, adding a number of tax-related amendments. The underlying bill would require local and state governments to compensate businesses on which restrictions were imposed during a public health crisis, including local ordinances regarding masking. This bill would force governments to choose between what is best for public safety and not going bankrupt by frivolous civil action for taking those steps. I voted NO.

Just to make absolutely sure that our state is completely unable to address any future public health crises involving contagious or infectious diseases, SB 489 strips the Secretary of Health of their ability to take action to prevent the introduction of infectious or contagious disease into Kansas and prevent its spread. It would also revoke powers to limit public gatherings to control the spread of disease. The bill passed by a vote of 24 to 15, and I voted NO.

I hold no illusions that our nation or state have navigated this pandemic perfectly, and I understand that we have learned many lessons from the strategies we've employed to try to keep our communities safe. That said, politicians are capitalizing on frustration, fatigue, and insidious misinformation surrounding vaccines in order to score points on fighting for their narrow definition of freedom, and the resulting legislation puts all of us at risk.

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Booster Shot...
 ...from page 2

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Schmidt urges TikTok, Snapchat to give parents more control

TOPEKA – Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt is urging the owners of social media platforms TikTok and Snapchat to make necessary modifications in the applications to give parents more control over the frequently harmful content that reaches children.

In a letter sent this week by 44 attorneys general, Schmidt asked TikTok and Snapchat officials to take steps to allow parents greater ability to monitor their children’s social media usage as a means for protecting them from online threats.

The attorneys general noted that research has concluded that social media usage can have a negative impact on the physical, emotional and mental well-being of children and teenagers. These range from decreased self-esteem and greater body-image dissatisfaction to increased exposure to cyberbullying and sexual predation.

The attorneys general do not advocate for specific parental control apps, but encourage TikTok and Snapchat to collaborate with existing developers to implement stronger parental controls and greater ability to moderate content on the social media platforms.

LEGAL PUBLICATION

LEGAL PUBLICATION

Request for Proposal Advertisement

Turner Unified School District No. 202 is seeking Bid Proposals to conduct parking lot repairs at several buildings throughout the School District.

Documents pertaining to this Request for Proposal will be provided to any qualified contractor free of charge by email request sent to crockettc@turnerusd202.org

Turner USD 202 Facility Supervisor, Chris Crockett will host the blind bid opening Thursday April 14, 2022 at 12:00 pm. The location of the bid opening will be the Facility and Grounds Building located at 5800 Metropolitan, Kansas City, KS 66106. Turner USD 202 will announce the vendor that is awarded the bid Wednesday April 20, 2022.

(First published 4-7-22)
 2t-The Record -4-14-22

Request for Proposal Advertisement

Turner Unified School District No. 202 is seeking Bid Proposals to renovate restroom at Turner Middle School.

Documents pertaining to this Request for Proposal will be provided to any qualified contractor free of charge by email request sent to crockettc@turnerusd202.org

Turner USD 202 Facility Supervisor, Chris Crockett will host the blind bid opening Thursday April 14, 2022 at 11:00 am. The location of the bid opening will be the Facility and Grounds Building located at 5800 Metropolitan, Kansas City, KS 66106. Turner USD 202 will announce the vendor that is awarded the bid Wednesday April 20, 2022.

(First published 4-7-22)
 2t-The Record -4-14-22

Guest Editorial

Quotes To Ponder

By Tom Valverde

The main catalyst of shortages everywhere is the on-going scarcity of labor. The number of food supply workers needed to maintain the US food chain is in the hundreds of thousands. In California alone, the Consumer-Packaged goods industry is short over 120,000 workers -- and only 1,500 were added last month!”

The National Grocers Association said that many of its grocery store managers were operating with Less than half of their workforce capacity. To lure back workers grocers have greatly increased workers’ wages, resulting in higher food prices. Additionally, coast to coast shipping cost have increased from \$7,000 to over \$21,000.

Katie Dennis, Vice-president of Communications and Research, Consumer Brand Association

Tariffs are taxes and Americans, on average, are going to pay \$800 more a year, because of Trump’s tariffs.

Pete Buttigeig Secretary of Transportation

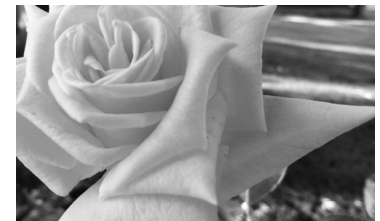
On the same week of Trump’s announced decision to impose \$200 Billion on imports from China, US soybean prices fell to a 10 year low. The day is soon to arrive when the US is in the midst of a food crisis and the ex-president’s lack of understanding the far-reaching implications of his decision to impose tariffs are greatly to blame. Soybean oil has seen an increase of 40%. Palm oil is priced 50% higher.

The United Nations food agency, US and other international agencies have issued warnings of an impending food Global food crisis that will certainly affect the nutrition in third world countries and also here in the US, the UK, and the EU.

The recent UN alert said that supplies of food grade oils, staple grains, and fertilizer are now in “extreme” stress in the market. The prices for food grade oils, staple grains, and fertilizer are now in extreme stress. The

World Bank warns that the COVID Pandemic will slow economic growth in 2022.

The new Variant will wreak havoc on supply chains. All food prices are expected to increase this year and into the next. A major concern for grocers is the extremely high number of grocery store workers who have become Infected with the new variant. Regular staffing is a big problem with workers calling in sick for the past several weeks. With sick workers in the supply chain, many remaining at home, puts a great strain on food production, and the distribution of food staples and needed household items, all across the country. The World Bank sees the new Variant as an agent that is sure to impact all areas of the US economy. All the chaos in the market for acquiring basic necessities will be of some duration. It’s best to plan for any shortages and to buy what is most needed to not be caught without them and prevent a big rush to hoard in the future.



Passings...

By Sue Reich

Susan Lynn Metz, age 78, passed away on March 7, 2022. Worked many years at USD#500. Argentine High School graduate, class of 1961.

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