

# **Cover Model** The Woman Who Helped Make America Great

By Dr. Jim Haas rances Perkins wasn't on the cover of the August 14, 1933, *Time* because of her ravishing beauty or her designer clothes. She was on it because she was the first woman cabinet member in American history and because of her record as a leader in progressive causes from workplace safety

to women's suffrage.

Appointed Secretary of Labor by President Franklin Roosevelt, Perkins would serve in the cabinet from 1933-1945, through the Great Depression and World War II. Perkins came by her social activism the hard way. Born in 1880, she earned a degree in chemistry and physics, taught high school chem-



istry, and was a social worker before completing a master's in economics and sociology at Columbia then heading the New York office of the National Consumers League.

Tragedy changed Perkins's life. Visiting nearby in 1911, she witnessed Manhattan's Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire, which killed 146 garment workers trapped on the top floors of the ten-story building, mostly women and girls as young as 14. The only fire escape collapsed, the freight elevator stuck, and the owners had locked most stairwell doors to deter theft. Many died jumping from windows to escape the flames.

The horror shocked the country, and New York City formed a Committee on Public Safety. As an eyewitness, Perkins was named its head. Partly through her efforts, New York State passed sixty laws regulating workplace safety and sanitation, child labor, working hours, and more, and became a leader in labor reforms for the working class.

Perkins was so successful that in 1919 New York Governor Al Smith appointed her to a state commission to weed out corruption in enforcing labor laws, and ten years later, as the Depression worsened, Governor Roosevelt made her head of the state's labor department. When FDR was elected President, he asked her to be his Labor Secretary. She accepted on condition that he support her goals: unemployment, health, and old-age insurance; a 40-hour work week; a minimum wage; and abolition of child labor. A startled Roosevelt asked if it could be done. She promised to find out.

Perkins not only found out, she became a force behind the New Deal's massive investments in public projects to create jobs, spending \$3 billion on schools, roads, housing, and post offices, and employing more than a million workers by 1934. The next year, FDR signed the Social Security Act, providing ordinary citizens with old-age security; unemployment insurance; aid for homeless, dependent, and neglected children; funds for maternal and child welfare; and public health services. Three vears later came the Fair Labor Standards Act establishing a minimum wage and maximum hours.

The New Deal shored up America's economy, helped tens of millions in need, and began to create the modern middle class. And Perkins wasn't done. She

## **KCKCC to Host Spring Career & Transfer Fair**

Looking for a new career? Want to learn more about the job opportunities available in the Kansas City area? Interested in gaining new skills to find your dream job? Want to transfer to a four-year college or university? Then make plans to attend the KCKCC Spring Career & Transfer Fair.

The fair is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 12 at the KCKCC Fieldhouse, which is north of the KCKCC Main Campus, 7250 State Ave. The career fair is open to all current KCKCC students, alumni and community members.

Attendees are encouraged to bring an updated resume and dress professionally. They will have the opportunity to complete job applications, and in some instances, interview for jobs or internships with companies at the career fair.

For more information about the Spring Career & Transfer Fair, contact KCKCC Career Services at 913-288-7235 or email at careerservices@kckcc.edu.



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Employers attending the career fair include - A.B. May; AbilityKc; All City Transport; Americo Services, Inc.; Anthony, Plumbing, Heating, Cooling & Electric; Associated Wholesale Grocers, Inc. - Kansas City, Kan. Division; Balls Food Stores; Brookdale Senior Living; Burnett Automotive; Camp Fire Heartland; Catholic Schools-Archdiocese of Kansas City; Chelsey Brown International Inc. Children's Mercy Kansas City; City of Olathe; City of Overland Park; City of Shawnee, Kan. - Fire Department; City of Shawnee; City Union Mission -Camp Department; Club Carwash; Cohen-Esry, LLC; Cosentino's Food Stores: Cristo Rev Kansas City; DH Pace Company, Inc.; Embark Behavioral Health; Engineered Air; Ensign Services, Inc.; Ervin Cable Construction; Eudora USD 491; Favorite Healthcare Staffing; Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City; FedEx Ground; FEMA Regional Offices; FosterAdopt Connect, Fresenius Medical Care North America; FTI; Garmin; Great Clips; Great Western Mfg Co.; Great Wolf Lodge; HCA Healthcare – Mid America Division; HCA Healthcare – Research College of Nursing; Heartland Community Health Center; Heidelberg, USA; Indian Hills Country Club; Interim Healthcare: International Rescue Committee - Wichita; Jay Wolfe Acura; Job One; Johnson County Kansas - Department of Health & Environment; Johnson County Mental health Center; Johnson County Park & Recreation District; Johnson County wastewater: Jovie; Kansas City Board of Public Utilities; KCKCC - Human Resources; Kansas City Kansas Police Department; Kansas City Kansas Public Schools - Human Resources Department; Kansas City Kansas Public Schools-USD 500 Police Department; Kansas City Monarchs; Kansas City Public Library; Kansas City VA Medical Center; Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services; Kansas Department of Health & Environment; Kansas Department of Labor; Kansas Department of Transportation; Kansas Highway Patrol; Kelly Educational Staffing; KidStrong;

Kohl's; Kraft Tool Company; KVC Health System's; Labconco Corporation; Lansing Correctional Facility; Learning Club; LifeStreams; Literacy Lab; LMH Health; Long Motor Corporation; Mar's, Inc.; Mazuma Credit Union; McLane Foodservice; Merck & Co., Inc.; Mid-America Carpenters Regional Council; Minds Matter, LLC; Mirror, Inc.; Mission Health Communities; Napa Auto Parts: Nebraska Furniture Mart; New York Life Greater Kansas City; Northwestern Mutual; Olathe Health; Orange EV; Piedmont Airlines; Pivotal Health Care; Prime Healthcare; R/S Electric Corp.; Redwood of Blue River; RNS Private Duty Care; Rose Brooks Center: Saint Luke's Health System; Senior Benefit Services; SERVPRO of Kansas City Midtown; Sew Me Hair Salon; Siemens; Smith & Boucher Engineers; Smithfield; Spectrum; Stericycle, Inc.; Synergy Services, Inc.; Textron Aviation; Tiger - Rock Martial Arts International; Truman Medical Centers; Turf Design, Inc.; Turner USD 202; U.S. Navy Officer Programs; Unified Government of Wyandotte County; United Rentals, Inc.; United States Postal Service; Unity Village; UPS; Velociti Services; Village Shalom; WaterOne; Wellpath and Workforce Partnership.

Colleges present include - Avila University; Baker University; Bellevue College; Bethel College Campus Employment; Cleveland University-Kansas City; Columbia College; Emporia State University, Hesston College; Kansas State University; KCKCC; Missouri Western State University; Nebraska Wesleyan University; Northwest Missouri State University; Ottawa University; Park University; Pittsburg State University; Rockhurst University; Southwestern College; Truman State University; University of Missouri-Kansas City; University of Central Missouri; University of Kansas Edwards Campus; University of Kansas Medical Center; University of Kansas School of Health Professions; University of Nebraska-Omaha; University of Saint Mary Graduate Healthcare Programs; Webster University; Western Governors University; Wichita State University; William Jewell College and William Woods University.

### Kansas Dep. of Rev. Announces Expansion of Online Renewal

### iKan App Now Includes Identification Card Renewal

TOPEKA – Today, the Kansas Department of Revenue (KDOR), in partnership with PayIt, announced the addition of identification (ID) card renewal services to iKan.

iKan is the State of Kansas' award-winning digital government platform that delivers services from numerous state agencies in a single, end-toend experience for Kansas residents, with web, mobile, and native Apple and Android apps available.

ID renewal joins the growing list of online services available to Kansas residents through iKan, including renewing driver's licenses and vehicle registrations, ordering birth, death, and marriage certificates, and purchasing annual park passes.

"Since starting our journey with PayIt in 2018, our commitment to serving residents with an accessible, convenient digital experience has remained a top priority," David Harper, KDOR Division of Vehicles Director, said. "We're proud to add another service to the platform, enabling ID holders of all ages to have the option to renew online. We will continue to invest in delivering digital services that make Kansans' lives a little easier."

As of March 2023, more than 1 in 3 Kansas residents are registered with iKan, and the addition of ID renewal enables iKan to serve over 10,000 additional residents each year.

To explore iKan, visit https://ikan.ks.gov/.



### By Sharon Hoover

The weather the last few days has been perfect. Time to start cleaning out those garden beds and prepare for new plants if you haven't done so already. The Wyandotte County Master Gardeners Annual Plant Sale will be on Friday, April 28 from 9am to 5pm and Saturday, April 29 from 9am to 2pm. Tomatoes, peppers,

# **Comin' & Goin' Turner Style**

herbs, berries, hanging baskets, annual and perennial flowers will be available. The sale is their only money-making event and provides funds for all their horticulture projects and programs in the county. Location of sale: 1200 N 79<sup>th</sup> St., KCK.

Perhaps you would like to take a day trip. The Amelia Earhart Hangar Museum was dedicated on April 14, 2023, honoring Miss Earhart's trailblazing legacy and as an inspiration to all generations in pursuit of flight. On display is the last remaining Lockheed Electra 10E- Muriel. It was named for Ms. Earhart's younger sister and is identical to the plane Earhart flew on her final mission. The museum contains photos and several interactive activities for all ages. Admission fees: Adults \$15 (plus tax), Seniors 60+ and Military \$12 (plus tax), children ages 4-12 \$8 (plus tax) children 3 and under free. Virtual Navigational Reality Flight \$5 per person (plus tax). Group rates for groups of 20+. (913-372-0021) Days & hours are Wednesday-Saturday 10am-5pm, Sunday 12pm-5pm and closed on Monday & Tuesday. Located at the Amelia Earhart Memorial Airport, 16701 286 Rd., Atchison, Ks.

When the wind dies down, you might want to do some open burning (after you cleaned up the yard). Open burning dates are April 1 – April 30, 2023. Apply on the KCKFD website, <u>www.kckfd.org</u> and search "Burn Permits".

Calvin tells me that Enright

Gardens will be setting up shop in the Community Gardens Bldg. this coming week. They will be offering planters, perennials annuals, baskets, vegetables, herbs, soil, and hard goods. They are hiring for open positions, check out their website enrightgardens. com or call 913 893-6842.

I just received notice the Rosedale Cleanup on April 22 has been rescheduled but no new date was given, and I cannot contact anyone since their office is closed. New date next time.

Anyway, my green thumb is starting to itch so I 'm heading out for fun in the sun.

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.

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By Sen. Pat Pettey

### LEGISLATURE REACHES FIRST ADJOURNMENT

The 2023 Legislative Session reached its first adjournment on Thursday, April 6. After a short, unpaid break, legislators return April 24 for Veto Session. During Veto Session, the Legislature must pass a budget. Exempt bills, conference committee reports, and any vetoes by the Governor can be considered as well.

questions about any of the legislation being considered, feel free to contact me at pat.pettey@senate.ks.gov. I am also happy to set up a Zoom to discuss any questions or concerns.

BUDGET PASSES THE LEG-**ISLATURE** 

On Friday, the Legislature passed our initial budget. It passed by a vote of 24 to 12, and I voted YES. There are some issues that I am concerned about and plan to further address in the veto session:

\* STATE EMPLOYEE AND JUDICIAL PAY RAISES: The current US inflation rate is at 6.04%, nearly double the long-term average of 3.28%. It is unconscionable to Over the break, if you have any me to remove Governor Kelly's



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

recommended 5% pay increase for state employees, who are already paid under market rate. Our judicial branch has requested pay raises year after year to reduce caseloads for judges and state attorneys. These were also deleted from the budget.

\* IDEOLOGICAL PURITY TESTS: Senator J.R. Claeys - who also works as a senior advisor for Attorney General Kris Kobach inserted a provision in the budget prohibiting Kansas universities from asking questions about diversity, equity, and inclusion. Asking applicants about their experience working with students from diverse backgrounds is the Legislature's attempt to stoke the culture wars, rather than promote campuses that can be a welcoming space for diverse student bodies.

\* FUNDING ANTI-ABORTION COUNSELING CENTERS: The budget includes \$2 million for the State Treasurer (whose campaign the Senate Ways & Means Vice-Chair consulted on) to create an "Alternatives to Abortion" program. The treasurer would choose one nonprofit (such as Kansans for Life) to subcontract the program with existing anti-abortion counseling centers to "provide program services to promote childbirth instead of abortion." Further, it requires the Department of Children and Families to match funds with federal, public, and private money to supplement the Alternatives to Abortion program. This includes Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds, diverting them from families who need them for rent, food, and childcare, and instead direct them to centers to spend as they please as long as they state they are using it to prevent abortions. They can use this funding to promote anti-abortion counseling centers through TV, radio, newspapers, and internet advertisements.

\* NO MEDICAID EXPANSION: Yet again, the budget fails to expand Medicaid. As a reminder, Kansas taxpayers have paid more than \$6 billion for affordable health care coverage through federal taxes but have yet to see a penny of that investment due to our failure to expand. If Medicaid is expanded, Kansas could receive up to \$450 million in federal dollars over the next two years, sufficient to cover the state's share of expansion costs for up to 8 years. And failure to expand will result in the loss of \$70 million in State General Fund savings for the next fiscal year.

The budget notably does not include K-12 education funding. For the third year in a row, the House proposed that budget separately from the larger budget, and the House K-12 Education Committee tied funding to controversial policy pieces that jeopardize our standing under the Gannon school funding ruling and create inequality in the public school system.

#### ACTION ON THE FLOOR

The final week of the legislative session is generally dedicated to debate on conference committee reports, which I dive into below. The Senate also has the ability to consider exempt bills - those that come out of Assessment & Taxation, Federal & State Affairs, or Ways & Means - on general orders, or, as was the case this week, by suspending Senate rules to debate, amend, and vote on bills outside of the committee of the whole.

After failing to earn enough votes on the Senate floor last week, Kansas Republicans returned this week with a new constitutional amendment on property taxes. Constitutional amendments require a 2/3rds majority by both chambers of the Legislature before being put before Kansas voters on the ballot.

The constitutional amendment creates a cap on property valuations, limiting annual valuation increases to 4% for real property for purposes of property taxation. While this sounds good in theory, it sells Kansas homeowners a false bill of goods. For many Kansans, this will be a state-mandated, annual 4% property tax hike. And for all Kansans, it will slash local budgets, forcing our communities to raise taxes elsewhere or go without essential services such as the police.

The original amendment, SCR 1610, failed by a vote of 26 to 14. This week's version passed by a vote of 28 to 11.

### Motions to Concur

Pettey...

For a bill to become law, it must go through the committee and deliberation process in both the Senate and the House. Naturally, bills that come out of one chamber often end up looking much different by the time they make it out of the other chamber. Sometimes those differences need to be worked out, and that's where conference committees come in. But when a bill's house of origin is alright with the version that came out of the second chamber, the committee's chair will make a motion to concur.

The Senate considered five motions to concur this week on bills we had addressed earlier in the session. I did not prefer the House position on any of the bills I had originally found problematic, and my votes on these bills remained the same as when I first voted on them.

**Conference Committee Reports** 

The rest of the time on the floor this week was spent considering Conference Committee Reports (CCRs). Conference committees are formed when there are differences between the Senate and the House's versions of a bill, requiring negotiations. The committees are made up of the chair, vice-chair, and ranking minority member of the committee in which the bill was originally worked. In theory, these 6 legislators work out those differences and bring a compromise bill to their respective chambers for consideration. Often, though, these conference committees are opportunities for legislative leadership to bundle bills or replace them outright with their legislative priorities. Once these CCRs come to the Senate floor, they are not subject to amendment. Below are a few CCRs of interest that passed this week:

\* PROTECTING KANSAS WA-TER: The Senate passed two conference committee reports – HB 2279 and HB 2302 – that are great steps in preserving and protecting water in Kansas. The Ogallala Aquifer is used by farmers across Kansas to irrigate crops, but researchers find that water quantity is rapidly depleting. HB 2302 funds the state water plan, and HB 2279 requires groundwater management districts to submit plans to the state to conserve water, which will help the state allocate resources to priority areas.

\* PROHIBITING RESPON-SIBLE INVESTING: Though it originally failed by a vote of 18 to 20, a motion to reconsider the conference committee report on HB 2100 ultimately passed by a vote of 27 to 12. This bill is the Legislature's attempt to force companies to do what they want when it comes to the environment, renewable energy, and social issues, or risk losing our investments. This won't hurt these companies, but this will harm Kansans' retirements. This legislation would require an extreme restructuring of KPERS' entire \$24 billion investment portfolio, which is estimated to earn \$3.6 billion less over the next 10 years when compared to the current investment portfolio. This is irresponsible, short-sighted, and frankly, immature.

\* PUTTING LEGISLATORS IN STUDENT HOTEL ROOMS: The conference committee report on HB 2138 inserts language requiring school districts to provide separate accommodations for students of each biological sex on overnight, school district-sponsored trips. This bill takes an issue that can be - and currently is - solved at the level closest to the student to a level that inherently cannot include nuance and grace that our kids deserve. The most likely outcome if this bill becomes law is that school districts will be forced to curtail student activities because they will need to pay for (or have families pay for) single-occupancy rooms for each student participating in an overnight trip. That's an unfunded mandate, and it's untenable in a state that tries to defund public education at every turn. It also codifies a heteronormative view of student dynamics. In tying the hands of school administrators, field trip supervisors, and parents, we are prohibiting them from using their knowledge of student interpersonal relationships to make responsible

rooming arrangements, not those dictated by the legislature.

\* EXPANDING FOOD INSECU-RITY: The conference committee report on HB 2094 includes one bill that the Senate hadn't heard before, along with a bill that was defeated last week. That bill would require parents who do not have custody of one or more of their children to cooperate with Child Support Services or be disgualified from receiving food assistance. It would also disgualify non-custodial parents from food assistance for missing or only partially paying child support payments and for having arrearages. This bill is a harsh, ineffective, and costly punishment that ultimately will make low-income families even less financially stable and increase the likelihood that children and parents cannot make ends meet. The bundle also includes a requirement for registrants in SNAP who are aged 50-59 without dependents to participate in an employment and training program.

\* WHO REMEMBERS AU-GUST 2ND?: The conference committee report on HB 2264 amends the Woman's-Right-to-Know Act – which already requires physicians to lie to their patients-to add a notification requirement about reversal of abortion operations. This bill attempts to undermine Kansans' right to bodily autonomy by willfully forcing blatant misinformation into a healthcare environment. This is an attempt to sway a woman away from making the decision that the people of Kansas resoundingly said she has a right to make on her own. It is bad public policy to require physicians to lie to their patients because members of this body think they know better than them. We all want women to be empowered to make the best decision for themselves and their families. Lying to them does not empower them; it endangers them. This – combined with the language of SB 297, which amends the definition of abortion in statute - are transparent attempts by politicians who want to have the ultimate authority to decide when we think a D&C counts as an abortion and when it doesn't: to decide when a woman can be trusted to make decisions for

herself and when she can't; to craft definitions for future court cases, future amendments, future attempts to take away fundamental rights.

\* IRRESPONSIBLE TAX POLI-CY: Because the Kansas Legislature apparently learned nothing from the failed Brownback tax experiment, we passed the conference committee report for SB 169 by a vote of 24 to 13. This bill replaces individual income tax brackets with a single rate of 5.15%-an effective increase for many low- to middle-income taxpayers - and reduces the corporate income tax. It would also move up the total elimination of the state sales tax on food from January 2025 to January 2024. We've seen this film before. We know what happens when we cut taxes on the rich at the expense of hardworking Kansans. We should not let it happen again.

\* KICKING TRANS KIDS WHILE THEY'RE DOWN: In the wee hours of the morning on Good Friday, the Senate debated the conference committee report on SB 26. This legislation allows individuals to bring a civil cause of action against physicians who performed gender reassignment services on them as children. It also requires the Kansas Board of Healing Arts to revoke the license of physicians who have performed a childhood gender reassignment service. Evidence-based standards on gender-affirming care have existed for decades. They require medical professionals to carefully evaluate each patient and make individualized decisions in the patient's best interest, made in conjunction with the patients, their families, and a team of medical professionals. This bill effectively bans the only evidence-based healthcare options available to young Kansans experiencing gender dysphoria. And it would result in the forced medical detransition of young Kansans some of whom have been safely relying on this medical care for years. Everyone should have the right to access the healthcare they need to survive and thrive without government interference. And we should want medical professionals to provide medically necessary care without fear of revocation of their medical license.

<sup>...</sup>from page 4



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#### Page 7

## Annual crime victims service awards open for nomination

TOPEKA–Five awards that recognize service to victims of crime are open for nomination, Kansas Attorney General Kris Kobach announced today.

The awards are made each year to recognize agencies, organizations and individuals who provide exemplary service to victims of crime in Kansas.

Nominations are open in the following award categories:

Criminal Justice (Law Enforcement Officer, Prosecutor, Judge, Probation/Parole) – Individuals who made a positive contribution regarding the needs of victims or offender accountability within the criminal justice response should be nominated for this award.

Community Champion (Individ-

### Cover Model ...from page 1

oversaw critical labor relations during the war, including the challenge of integrating women into the workforce to replace men in the services. When FDR died in office, President Truman replaced the cabinet, as was customary, but appointed Perkins to the U.S. Civil Service Commission where, among other things, she tried to stop the practice of many government officials hiring only attractive women for office jobs.

When her husband died in 1952, Perkins left government service and returned to teaching labor relations and industrial policy until she died in 1965. A decade later the Department of Labor building in Washington, D.C., was renamed in her honor. As the architect of many policies that still benefit us today, Frances Perkins deserves the last word: "The people are what matter to government, and a government should aim to give all the people under its jurisdiction the best possible life."

ual, Employer or Business, Organization or Other) – This award recognizes an individual or group that made a significant difference for victims of crime.

Outstanding Victim Service Organization – This award recognizes a victim service organization for outstanding work in improving the lives of victims of crime.

Outstanding System-Based Vic-

tim Advocate – This award recognizes a system-based victim advocate for outstanding work in improving the lives of victims of crime.

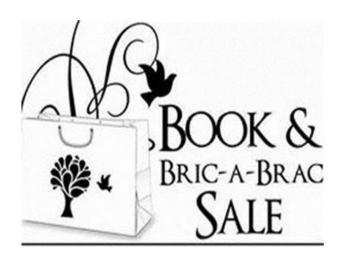
Outstanding Community-Based Victim Advocate – This award recognizes a community-based victim advocate for outstanding work in improving the lives of victims of crime.

The deadline for receiving nom-

inations is May 12. Nomination forms and detailed information on the nomination process for each of the award categories can be found at https://ag.ks.gov/victims-awards.

Awards will be presented by Attorney General Kobach during an awards luncheon held June 9. These awards are administered by the attorney general's office Victim Services Division.

### The Shepherd's Center of Kansas City, Kansas



Annual Used Book and Bric-a-Brac sale benefitting the Shepherd's Center of Kansas City, Kansas

(an interfaithorganization helping older adults in Kansas City, Kansas)

# Bargains galore! Books, household items, jewelry, décor and much more!

FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2023 – 8am to 4pm SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2023 – 8am to 3pm GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, 3333 WOOD AVENUE, KANSAS CITY, KS

Donations will be accepted at the church beginning at &am on Thursday, May 4, 2023.

### No clothing or magazines will be accepted.

Call 913-281-8908 with questions or to schedule donation pick-up. Donations are tax deductible.

PS: We need volunteer help to organize and run the sale! Can you give us an hour or two on Thursday toset up, or Friday and Saturday of the sale? Call Melissa at

the Shepherd's Center office, 913-281-8908 to sign up for a shift!

### THE AHS REUNION COMMITTEE IS HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE ANOTHER ANNUAL REUNION ALUMS VERY PROUD OF THEIR HERITAGE CELEBRATE THE FINAL GRADUATING CLASSES OF ARGENTINE HIGH SCHOOL



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

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