# Recorc

Volume 135 July 7, 2022 Number 27

#### Santa Fe Trail played key role in development of commerce

#### By Murrel Bland

The Santa Fe Trail played a very significant role in the development of trade routes. That was the message that Dr. Gene Chavez presented at the summer quarterly meeting of the Wyandotte County Historical Society Saturday, June 25 at the Wyandotte County Museum.

The Santa Fe Trail started at Independence, Mo., and stretched southwest to Santa Fe, N.M.

Dr. Chavez said the trail became active in 1821 when Mexico gained its independence from Spain along with Guatemala, El Salvador and Costa Rica. That same year, The United States gained control of what is now the State of Florida.

Before 1821, El Camino Real was used as a trade route for several hundred years by Plains and Pueblo Indians.

Dr. Chavez said that when Christopher Columbus discovered America in 1492, his sponsor, Spain, claimed territory in North and South America. However, as nations gained independence, those who controlled commerce changed.

The Indian Removal Act of 1830 pushed many indigenous tribes out of their ancestral lands. The Indian Appropriations Act of 1851 authorized the establishment of reservations in what is now the State of Oklahoma.

Dr. Chavez told of William Becknell, an Indian trader, who found a market for goods in Mexico. Becknell encouraged the widening of the trail so it could accommodate wagons; previously pack horses and mules were used to move goods.

Dr. Chavez told of the importance of the Grinter Ferry to cross the Kansas River for those seeking to connect to the Santa Fe Trail.

The Santa Fe Trail was used until 1880 when railroads became the main mode of transportation. The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad replaced wagon trains.

Murrel Bland is the former editor of The Wyandotte West and The Piper Press. He is a trustee of the Wyandotte County Historical Society.



Dr. Gene Chavez

THE X A S

SANTA FE TRAIL

SAN

The Santa Fe Trail stretched from Independence, Mo., to Santa Fe, N.M.

Three re-actors who camped on the grounds of the Wyandotte County Museum from June 24 through June 26 were (left to right) Joe Amos, Topeka; Aaron Racine, Overland Park; and Tom Sprague, Fall City, Kan. (Photo by Murrel Bland.)



Re-enactors, portraying U.S. Army Dragoons who participated in an encampment, shot a cannon. The re-enactors were observing the 165th anniversary of the Utah Expedition; President James Buchanan had ordered the soldiers to Salt Lake City to quell errant Mormon settlers. The encampment was June 24 through June 26 on the grounds of the Wyandotte County Museum. (Photo by Amy Loch.)

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#### Sue's Sudsy Soapbox



By Sue Reich

hat a time of disasters we have been going through. The latest was the horrible accident of the Amtrak train hitting that truck and four people ended up being killed. A troop of boy scouts happen to be going home from a camping project and bless their hearts, they pulled together and helped the passengers out and took care of them. One young man held the truck driver and the driver died in the scouts arms. We know for sure that is an incident those scouts and the other passengers will never forget.

The volunteers at the community garden are doing a wonderful job on the building that was purchased from Dr. G. Bigger rooms, bigger ideas, but they still need volunteers. Some donations would help a lot too. Jim and Calvin are putting so much effort by trying to get it done soon. They need all the volunteers with muscle and stamina they can get. It is for the community you know. I realize that Covid scare stopped a lot of things. We are all anxious to get some normalcy (?) back in our lives. Well, golly gee, guess I prattled enough. Hope everyone has a safe 4th of July. So many tragedies has happened I wonder if we should celebrate our freedom. Guess we should while we have it. Sure seems like a weird time in this world. Lvya all and miss you too. Be kind, love thy neighbor.

Your little ol' gal from Argentine/ Turner, Sue



The Community Garden in Turner is having a great sale. Stop by and buy.



These Geese were having a hey-day blocking the road in Pierson Park.



First Baptist church of Turner was due for a touch-up. Hope it wasn't hot that day.



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By Sharon Hoover

y sources tell me that Enright Gardens has closed for the season at the Turner Garden. The leftover plants are being sold by Jim and Calvin at the Garden for ridiculously low prices. As long as annuals, pepper, melon, and cucumber plants are available, cost is \$1.00 apiece

## Comin' & Goin' Turner Style

(example: 4-pack) or \$10.00 a flat. Bargains are to be had.

Monarch butterfly larvae have arrived and have been placed in the aquaponics hoop house and the garden. We are getting an early start on production and should have more Monarch butterflies to tag in September.

The plants in the Aquaponics hoop house have really taken off. Wy-andotte County Master Gardeners Theodore and Elisabeth Kasckow have taken over the day-to- day responsibility of caring for the tilapia. They have previous experience with fisheries and their expertise has really paid off. Theodore is pictured tying up the cucumbers.

The TRC summer camp kids

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 6** 





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# Governor Kelly Announces Statewide Effort to Coordinate Billions in Federal Infrastructure Funds Coming to Kansas

TOPEKA – Governor Laura Kelly today announced the creation of the Kansas Infrastructure Hub, which will coordinate Kansas state agencies and local entities as they administer and apply for funding available through the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The Hub will identify statewide and regional infrastructure priorities, strategize as to how to maximize investment opportunities, and promote best practices in securing and distributing funding.

Kansas is set to receive close to \$3.8 billion in direct funds for

transportation, water, energy, and broadband projects. Kansas could potentially receive more by applying for competitive grants.

"Infrastructure creates opportunities, powers businesses, keeps us safe, and connects people to places and each other. It's the backbone of a healthy economy," Governor Kelly said. "By working to ensure we bring the most money possible to Kansas—and that, once we have it, we distribute it effectively and efficiently—the Kansas Infrastructure Hub will have lasting impacts on our state."

The Hub will be led by Kansas Department of Transportation Secretary Julie Lorenz. Its core is a state agency subcabinet working group comprised of representatives from the Kansas Departments of Administration, Agriculture, Commerce, Health and Environment, and Transportation; the Kansas Corporation Commission; and the Kansas Water Office. The working group will first focus on the direct funds going to state agencies and will then work with business leaders to apply for the competitive grants.

The Hub will also have an advisory group made of public and private sector leaders and stakeholders across the state that will help determine funding priorities, identify barriers to distributing funds, and communicate the Hub's work to community members.

"BIL is an opportunity to solve long-term Kansas infrastructure issues," Transportation Secretary Lorenz said. "We can do that by harnessing the power of collaboration between public and private sectors, eliminating red tape, and strategically applying for grant funds. Working together, we'll accomplish great things for all Kansans."

"The bipartisan infrastructure law is monumental because infrastructure touches every part of our lives, whether we realize it or not," said Rep. Sharice Davids (KS-03). "These new investments will not only bring immediate change, but also set the foundation for long-term growth felt by generations of Kansans to come. I'm proud to have helped bring these federal dollars home to our state, and will keep working to make our communities safer, stronger, and more resilient."

The Hub will provide resources and a point of connection for Kansas state and local agencies as they track funds and grant opportunities. It is not a governing body, nor will it distribute funds to individual entities.

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# Johnson/Wyandotte County firefighters receive over \$4.2 M from Kansas Insurance

Topeka, Kan. - The Kansas Insurance Department recently made its annual distribution to local Johnson and Wyandotte County Firefighter Relief Associations (FRAs). Pursuant to the Kansas Firefighters Relief Act, \$4,273,520.72 has been distributed among 11 local FRAs within Johnson and Wyandotte county.

The funds from the Kansas Firefighters Relief Act are generated by a two percent tax paid by insurance companies on fire and lightning insurance premiums written in Kansas. Associations primarily use their distributed funds for insurance premiums and safety enhancements. The relief funds may pay for the health, accident, disability, and life insurance premiums of local firefighters. Safety enhancements such as new firetrucks, fire station building improvements, and firefighting gear can be purchased via relief funds loaned to local governing entities.

"Firefighters work to keep us safe, and the Kansas Firefighters Relief Act acknowledges those efforts by providing additional protections for firefighters and their loved ones," said Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt. "The Act not only gives first responders needed safety nets, but it also allows local communities to provide their citizens with improved firefighting equipment and resources."

The statewide distribution of the 2022 Kansas Firefighters Relief Act funds can be viewed at insurance.ks.gov/otherservices/firefighters/fra-relief-distributions.php. Kansans can learn more about the Firefighter Relief Act by visiting insurance.kansas.gov/firefighters.

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#### Turner...

...from page 3

visited the garden on Wednesday. Lynn Loughary, Wyandotte County Extension Horticulturist, presented a class on plant parts using each section of a daylily to illustrate each part of any plant (flower or vegetable) and the role it plays in its life cycle.

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



#### Social Security to Offer Self-Attestation of Sex Marker in Social Security Number Records

By Modesta Hawver

Social Security Management Support Specialist In Kansas City, Ks

We will offer people the choice to self-select their sex on their Social Security number (SSN) record. We anticipate this option will be available in the fall of 2022.

"The Social Security Administration is committed to reducing barriers and ensuring the fair treatment of the LGBTQ+ community by updating our procedures for Social Security number records," says Acting Commissioner Kijakazi. "This policy change will allow people to self-select their sex in our records without needing to provide documentation of their sex designation."

People who update their sex marker in Social Security's records will need to apply for a replacement SSN card. They will still need to show a current document to prove their identity. However, they will no longer need to provide medical or legal documentation of their sex designation once the policy change goes into effect. SSN cards do not include sex markers.

In February 2022, we issued guidance instructing employees to accept evidence documents that contain non-binary identifiers (e.g., "X") for original SSN and replacement SSN card applications. This guidance applies to other updates to our internal SSN records. We are exploring possible future policy and systems updates to support an "X" sex designation for the SSN card application process. You can also learn more about our programs and how we are there for same-sex couples and the LGBTQ+ community at www.ssa.gov/people/same-sexcouples.

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## Guest Editorial

#### **Quotes To Ponder**

By Tom Valverde

Donald Trump was at the center of the conspiracy and ultimately, Donald Trump, the president of the United States spurred a mob of domestic terrorist to march down the Capitol and subvert American democracy.

Any legal jargon you hear about seditious conspiracy, obstruction of an official proceeding, conspiracy to defraud the United States, boils down to this: January 6 was the culmination of an attempted Coup.

A brazen attempt, as one writer put it shortly after January 6, to overthrow the Government.

The violence was no accident. It represents President Trump's last stand, most desperate chance to halt the transfer of power.

> Rep. Bennie Thompson Chairman, January 6 Select Committee

In my interaction with the former president about January 6, he sort of doubled down on the position that, [The violence on January 6], was almost an expected result because he believed that the election was stolen. So, those who were going into the Capitol were, using his words, "Smart".

Alex Holder British filmmaker who spent hours interviewing the ex-president for a documentary

We have a governor [In Georgia], I mean the poor guy doesn't know what's happening. He lost control of the state, it's run by Stacy Abrams. And the secretary of state, this guy is like a hard headed rock! He can't move! All I want is signature verification and it's a total win. They didn't want to do it and it's a total win. And they're Republicans! Now, what's their problem? They're stupid, okay? They're stupid people.

Former president, Donald Trump Interviewed by Alex Holder

He certainly said things that were quite extraordinary for a sitting president of the United States to say.

That clip [The quote above], now illustrates a moment that is just astonishing. There I am, sitting in the White House, I'm a British filmmaker, I don't have any skin in the game politically. And he's looking at me in the eye - this is the Diplomatic reception room and he's the sitting president of the United States and he's telling me that the election officials in Georgia are stupid people! So, it is certainly, I mean the realm of possibility as to what could happen, [The Insurrection on January 6], was certainly evident, sure.

> Alex Holder British filmmaker

Now, after Testimony by Cassidy Hutchinson it is known that the mob that attacked the US Capitol was the ultimate goal of the former president. In calm and deliberate testimony before the January 6 Select Committee, Cassidy the former aide to Mark Meadows the former chief of staff to the ex-president, left no doubt of the criminal intentions of Trump on January 6.

She explained how just before he was to go on stage, he was told about how heavily armed members of the crowd were. "They had knives, guns, pistols, and flags outfitted with spears.

Ms. Hutchinson said "He wanted it [the rally], "full," and he was angry and felt the mags [metal detectors] were at fault for not letting everybody in... he was very concerned about the photographs because the rally wasn't full. Trump said, "I don't effing care that they have weapons. They're not to hurt me, take the effing mags away!"

These comments by the ex-president show his responsibility in overt acts to advance violence and the attempted Coup. This is evidence of sedition and Trump's multiple White House planning sessions for January 6 are a Con-

spiracy to overturn the outcome of the election. There were plans to use Alternative slates of Electors from key battleground States also evidence of his Conspiracy against the United States Constitution.

Finally, these White House efforts to halt the certification of the Electoral College ballots were supported and backed by 100 Republican Congressmen and a dozen REPUBLICAN Senators. With so many legislators Involved, it's easy to see why they did not find Trump guilty at the second Impeachment.

They know that Trump would throw them all "under the bus," to keep himself from going to prison. So what appears as support is really FEAR of his retribution.

The next January 6 Committee hearing is scheduled for after the Fourth of July. Remember these are hearings to gather evidence about possible crimes. They are not a Court of Law. The Department of Justice will take the evidence

gathered by the Committee and then decide to bring Indictments. Justice is more important than ever to help so many understand just how unfit the ex-president is for the presidency.

P.S. On the evening after Cassidy Hutchinson's testimony it was reported that the January 6 Committee had issued a subpoena to the former White House legal counsel, Mr. Pat Cipollone. He is expected to appear before the Committee on the Wednesday after the Fourth of July. It's been suggested that it was the revelations of Hutchinson's testimony that compelled the Committee to issue its subpoena.

Could Cipollone be the "John Dean" for this Committee that will provide damning evidence of Conspiracy or Sedition to give the Department of Justice the most needed evidence for it to bring Indictments for the participants of Trump's Conspiracy?

### Tom's Tasty Treats By Tom Valverde

A plain and simple tasty treat and one that's simple to make, is what Summer-time baking is all about.

A great dessert any time of the year, but served a la mode with a scoop or two of the best Vanilla ice cream and you have a great Summer-time treat! I know you will love:

#### TOM'S APPLE RAISIN CRISP

Ingredients:

8 Granny Smith apples, peeled and sliced

1 t Lemon rind, finely grated

3/4 c Raisins

1/2 c Brown Sugar

1 1/2 c Flour

1 t Cinnamon

1/2 t Nutmeg

1/4 t Salt

3/4 c Butter at room temperature

Set oven to 350°. Butter a 9x13" pan. Spread the apple slices and the raisins evenly in the baking dish. Sprinkle the top with the lemon rind.

In a bowl combine the brown sugar, flour, cinnamon, and nutmeg stir until blended. Cut in the butter until coarse crumbs are formed. Sprinkle the crisp topping evenly over the fruit. Press down lightly. Bake at 350° until golden brown, 40-45 minutes. Serve warm with Vanilla ice cream.

Variation:

Replace the raisins with dried cherries or with dried cranberries. Add 1/3 c chopped pecans or walnuts, or sliced almonds. So easy to make the hardest part is peeling the and slicing the apples! Your family and friends will look forward to another crisp the next time they visit. Try this on the 4th of July this year.

Enjoy!

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