

The Record

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Senator comments on various issues

By Murrel Bland

The way Roger Marshall sees it, there are three main issues facing Americans today. They are inflation, inflation and inflation.

That was the message the junior U.S. Senator from Great Bend delivered to members of the Congressional Forum who met Friday, July 15 at Davis Hall at Wyandotte County Lake. The Forum is a committee of the Kansas City, Kansas, Area Chamber of Commerce.

Sen. Marshall, a Republican, said he fears that the economy will suffer a recession. He blamed the Biden Administration for too much unnecessary spending.

High gas prices are a result of limited supply; he said that it takes two years for any new oil drilling effort to become operational. The senator has encouraged the use of biofuels.

Sen. Marshall is a medical doctor who has delivered more than 5,000 babies. Affordable healthcare has been one of his concerns.

The senator told of the need for immigration reform; he also said it is important to have a secure border.

Sen. Marshall spoke about the need for a qualified workforce and praised the efforts of Kansas City, Kansas, Community College and Donnell College for helping meet those needs.

Sen. Marshall said he is opposed to eliminating the filibuster rule in the U.S. Senate that requires 60 votes before a bill can be passed. Democrats have criticized that rule.

Murrel Bland is the former editor of The Wyandotte West and The Piper Press. He is a member of the Board of Directors of Business West.



Unified Government Looks to Change

By Murrel Bland

The Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas, is marking its 25th anniversary by having consultants explain how it can do a better job of governing about 165,000 persons.

I am not opposed to the Unified Government trying to do a better job. However, it is important to respect history in charting the course for the future.

Ashley Hand, the UG's Director of Strategic Communications, writing in a recent UG newsletter, said the present top-to-bottom study effort has never been done since the city and county governments were unified. That may be the case. However, it is important to examine what happened during the years before consolidation.

In the late 1970s, a volunteer Chamber of Commerce committee of professionals, including an accountant and senior private sector management personnel, did a very extensive study of city government. The committee's conclusion was that the city could save a considerable amount of money if it had a central personnel director and a central finance director. Both those positions were instituted; considerable

savings were realized

In 1981, a 15-member volunteer committee spent a year studying local government here and elsewhere. (I was a member of that committee.) The conclusion was that the city here could save considerable money with a professional city administrator. That came about after an election in 1982.

Consolidation of city and county government came about in 1997 after a volunteer committee

studied the situation extensively. There had been various attempts at consolidation dating back to 1937. However, the community approved it in an election in 1997.

Presently groups of paid consultants, The Meriwether Group, Management Partners and The Robert Bobb Group, are making suggestions about how the Unified Government can do a better job. That could cost the UG as much as \$118,000. I had considerable problems getting that cost information and finally did receive it with the help of Ashley Hand. Maybe one of the consultants will make a recommendation on how to improve open records requests.

Previous successful efficiency studies have originated and were driven by very responsible and committed volunteers. That is not the case with the present study. A strong volunteer base would have helped assure the study would have been successful. Besides, it would have saved the UG a considerable amount of money.

Murrel Bland is a former editor of The Wyandotte West and The Piper Press. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of Business West.



Sue's Sudsy Soapbox



By Sue Reich

Well, guess what? I am learning to play my ukelele again. Put it away for a few years and when Matilda brought it to me, I tuned it and knew all the chords and even did several songs on it.

At least the pandemic didn't take that away from me. This pandemic really messed a lot of things up, right? But we are still plugging along. Prices of everything are going up out of this world.

What's with all these murders lately and killing cops? So many families are being shattered, losing their kids at school, losing their dads and moms who are cops, losing spectators at stores, parades, people just minding their own business getting shot. I noticed a lot of businesses have extra precaution, not just against Covid but against people. What a world we live in now. Laws are getting overturned, women are losing their rights, (Roe vs. Wade). Russia fighting Ukraine, prices are going up, up, baby food with arsenic it, some have died. What a pity our country has become.

My precious niece in Oregon and her husband Bill were in a horrible wreck coming back from a leisurely fishing/camping trip. A semi was passing cars and clipped Andrea and her husband, Bill's car. Rolled them over and they both got hurt badly. The truck kept going. Andrea had Piper, their dog and all she could think hold on to it. Piper didn't get

hurt but Andrea and Bill did. Totaled their car, camper and boat also. Truck drivers aren't as courteous as they used to be. In fact no one is. Before I sign off, here are the list of our dear policemen and policewoman that we

have lost.

Daniel Vasquez, Brad Lancaster, Robert Melton, Gary Michael, Christopher Morton, Patrick Rohrer, Teresa Sue King, Mike Mosher, Blaize Evans, last but not least, Deanna

Rose. Deanna got ran over and has a beautiful garden named after her, in her memory. These were human beings just doing their job. Take care, be kind, Ivya and miss you too. You little ol gal from Argentine/Turner



Everyone that came to this bakery in Argentine had their favorite pastry. Finkemeier's owned it, Bill and Bonnie Crum bought it and ran it 18 years using Finks recipes. My son even worked for them. They are all gone now, but left us all wonderful memories.



Fred Broski would send me Hollyhock seeds, so I sent him 4 O'clock seeds. He even gave me a book that he authored; and brought our domino group some ribs he made. Sure miss those fun days.

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By Sharon Hoover

Have you eaten any fresh sweet corn lately? Your opportunity is right around the corner. On July 30, the Agricultural Hall of Fame is hosting "An Amaizing Sweet Corn Festival". They have partnered with After The Harvest to harvest 50,000 ears of fresh sweet corn to be donated to

Comin' & Goin' Turner Style

food pantries, community kitchens and other agencies that feed those in need. Prior to this event, After the Harvest held a contest in which teams had a 3-hour window to pick as much sweet corn as they could. Join the crowd at Ag Hall for the scarecrow contest, train rides, corn shucking & watermelon eating contests, gleaning competition awards, kids' games, face painting, live music, food trucks and much more. Purchase sweetcorn to eat or take home. The event is open to the public with free admission: activity tickets can be purchased on site (\$1.00 for each activity, cash preferred). 620 N.126th St. Bonner Springs, KS.

Also, on July 30 and closer to home is "Saturday at the Park" at Pierson Park, 1800 S. 55th St., Shelter #2. Join the KCKPD, Wyandotte

County Sheriff's Office and WYCO Parks & Rec. for a fun Saturday in the park. Visit with officers and deputies: free hamburgers/hot dog lunch, filed games, equipment & vehicle displays, meet recruiters and more. It's happening from 10 am to 1 pm.

K-State's Garden Hour's topic this month (August 3) is "Landscaping for Wildlife" presented on Zoom by Chuck Otte, Gear County Extension Agent. Chuck will impart basic landscaping concepts to encourage wildlife into visiting your yard. He will recommend native plants to utilize as well as key management techniques to benefit the many different species. The K-State Garden Hour is held on the first Wednesday of each month from 12pm -1pm. If you sign up for one session, you are

automatically enrolled in the series.

On August 4, Lori Trojan, Douglas County Extension Agent will present "Healing Herb Gardens: Growing Herbs for Optimal Health" from 11:30am -1:00 pm on Zoom. She will discuss the healing properties of herbs and how to plant your own medicinal garden. Contact Lynn Loughary, WYCO Horticulture Agent for the link. (913) 299-9300.

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. Remember to VOTE ON August 2. Make your voice be heard, we already fought to be free over two hundred years ago. Let's keep our democracy.



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Mayor Garner Selected to Participate in Sixth Class of Bloomberg

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS - Mayor Tyrone Garner is one of 40 mayors selected to participate in the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative's intensive leadership and management program.

Mayor Tyrone Garner joins an accomplished class of mayors who will attend in-person and virtual classes taught by faculty from Harvard Kennedy School and Harvard Business School and featuring experts from across the Bloomberg Philanthropies network.

Participants have identified top policy priorities including equitable growth, jobs and economic development, and poverty reduction; af-

fordable housing and homelessness; transportation and infrastructure; and climate, resiliency, and resource management. The mayors expect to grow in their capabilities to lead change and advance equity, innovate to tackle complex problems, build city-wide collaboration, and improve community engagement to inspire action and better serve residents.

The in-person portion of the program begins on Monday, July 18, 2022. Mayor Tyrone Garner is attending at no cost to the city. Based on teaching cases developed at Harvard, sessions will focus on research-backed management and

leadership practices and cover a range of topics from developing new policy and driving government performance to leading civic and resident engagement.

"I'm looking forward to joining this year's class of mayors to exchange ideas and discuss how to best approach the concerns we share," Mayor Tyrone A. Garner said. "When it comes to tackling priority issues for the UG like government efficiencies, economic development and our infrastructure needs, my team is invested in engaging our citizens, using data to diagnose problems, and collaborating across sectors to address these challenges in a way that makes the most sense for our community."

According to Mayor Garner, "I believe that this program will en-

hance my capabilities in these and other areas and will also provide access to other mayors with innovative approaches to social and economic recovery in their own cities."

Mayor Tyrone Garner will bring the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative's expertise to the city via learnings from some of Harvard University's top educators, coaching from experts, a network of peers, and technical assistance. The program provides an opportunity to share promising approaches and learn from fellow mayors about the ideas that are already helping to enhance the quality of life in cities around the world. It focuses on teaching leadership, organizational, and problem-solving capabilities, rather than specific policy recommendations, and it is non-partisan.

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Linda I. Kemp, Property Supervisor

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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.

Wikipedia:

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 in monthly Zoom meetings – the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Rudy Padilla Email opkansas@swbell.net

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Guest Editorial

Quotes To Ponder

By Tom Valverde

"I think a strong case can be made that Trump committed 5 counts of manslaughter on January 6 by recklessly causing the unintended deaths of others."

Barbara McQuade, former US Attorney for district of Michigan Professor of Law at University of Michigan Law School

Professor McQuade spoke on MSNBC to add this charge of manslaughter to the other pending charges alleged by the January 6 Committee. It's an incredible thing to consider that a former president of the United States could face manslaughter charges -- in the 21st century!

Add this to the other possible charges that have been discussed:

1. Conspiracy to Defraud the United States
2. Obstruction of an official proceeding
3. Dereliction of Duty
4. His call for Civil War on January 6*

Many have questioned how he is still out free spreading Mis-information about the election and how it is possible that such a man could still be able to run for the highest office in the US.

Still others question whether Trump will ever be held accountable and are concerned that the Department of Justice isn't working fast enough to indict him. Recall the 3 hours of the siege at the Capitol when it was the Vice President who made all the call for support for the Capitol police. Trump sat and watched as the mob he incited attacked our center of Government and he who was Commander in Chief, did Nothing to protect the members of Congress or his loyal Vice President.

This is a betrayal to his Oath of Office. *And just last week, a former

White House staffer said that on January 6 Trump was asking for civil war. His Cult of Pro-Trump followers had been on YouTube ever since November after his loss calling for civil war. And all because of Trump's "Big Lie" about a stolen election.

Regarding Trump's dereliction of duty, Professor McQuade said, "So, during the time that Donald Trump sat there for 3 hours and people urged him to "do something" to stop this, he didn't send in the National Guard, he didn't go on television in the Briefing room to make a statement, he didn't even Tweet they should stand down.

In fact, he tweeted just the opposite, about how Mike Pence didn't have the courage to do what he needed to do."

"All of those things could put together the elements of a manslaughter case. People died, he could have stopped it and he failed to do that—a manslaughter case."

There's more, to indict the former president namely for obstruction of justice. When the Select Committee was first formed with the charge of investigating January 6, Trump told his former staffers, "To simply ignore any Congressional subpoenas that they might receive."

Now it seems the January 6 Committee is considering whether to subpoena Trump. Republican representative Adam Kinzinger said this past weekend on "Face the Nation".

"But, I'm not sure we really need him there, we already know a lot. Donald Trump has made it clear that he doesn't mind Not telling the truth... He lies all the time. I wouldn't put it past him to lie under oath. This investigation is not winding down. We may be towards the end of this tranche of hearings -- we may

have more hearings in the future. But if we get more information the American people need to know, we may end up with more hearings in the future."

On his podcast, Brian Tyler Cohen remarked, "Trump and his party were hoping that these hearings would be largely ignored. Instead, more people have tuned in than normally watch the World Series! The hearings have hurt Trump with GOP mega-donors now abandoning him. Trump defrauded his supporters, knowing full well that there was No Fraud in the election and there was no path for victory for him. Trump was so hell-bent on installing himself as the winner and he chose to knowingly lie to the people who trusted him."

The vast majority of the information that the January 6 Committee has gathered, has all been from Republican sources. They have come forward to testify and tell the truth of what the former president of the United States conspired to do with Republican Congressmen and Senators in the days leading up to the Insurrection on January 6th.

They have provided a minute by minute account of Trump's inaction while so many people called, texted and tweeted that he do something to stop the attack. This week's final public hearing will focus on the three hours that he did nothing to protect the members of Congress and his loyal Vice-president and his family.

Like Nero, Trump watched the storming of the Capitol with a crazed delight and was never concerned about his role as Commander in Chief; his sworn duty to protect the US Constitution. Rather, he acted only in his self-interest which will ultimately be his downfall. Five years ago, I wrote that Trump was unfit for the office of president of the United States and sadly, he has proven me correct. Hope is that justice will be done by the Department of Justice to indict him for his myriad of crimes.

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Passings...

By Sue Reich

Ross Evans Abercrombie, age 82, passed away on July 8, 2022. Attended Turner High School

Bettie (Douthat) Ehret Buckner, age 96, passed away on July 15, 2022. Attended Rosedale High School, graduating in 1944.

Billie Lee Shull, age 92, passed away on July 15, 2022. Bill graduated from Argentine High School in 1947, and Kansas City Junior College in 1950. After serving one year in the U.S. Army, Bill spent six years in the active reserve. Bill's professional career spanned forty years in the plumbing industry, and he is fondly remembered for the contributions he made to Lexington Plumbing and Heating.

Ivana Trump, age 73, passed away on July 14, 2022. Ex-wife of former president.



COMMUNITY FORUMS ON HEALTH IN WYANDOTTE COUNTY



Join us for community forums on the Wyandotte County Community Health Assessment (CHA 2022). Give your input on health challenges facing our community and ideas on how to make Wyandotte County a healthier place to live for everyone.

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The forums are part of a Wyandotte County 'Community Health Assessment' (CHA). A CHA gathers information on important health needs and issues in a community. Input from the CHA is used to create a 5-year Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

ASL interpreting available on request. If you would like to request an ASL interpreter, please email healthcomms@wycokck.org at least 2 days in advance of the event you plan to attend.

Unified Government Public Health Department of Wyandotte County
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