

# The Record

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## Police Officer Warns About Financial Fraud

By Murrel Bland

When Jason Vaughn became the detective assigned to financial crimes for the Kansas City, Kansas, Police Department, he had a backlog of about nine months of cases. As of late August, that caseload has been reduced to about 1.5 months.

Vaughn spoke to members of the West Patrol Police Advisory Committee at its monthly meeting Thursday, Aug. 25.

Vaughn said there are many scams that rob people of their money. He told the story of a scam artist who tells a person he or she has won money, but needs a bank account number to send the money. Other frauds include the “sweetheart scam” that preys on lonely single persons; the scammer will lure a person into believing he or she needs money.

Vaughn said other scam artists will use to telephone to threaten cutting off BPU service unless a bill is paid immediately.

Vaughn encouraged persons to report information about any fraudulent financial crime. He can be reached at 913-573-6028.

In other matters, Major Dustin Dungan, the West Patrol Commander, said the number of homicides for Kansas City, Kansas, for 2022 is down at 28 compared to 33 for the same period during 2021. He said there has been an officer who has been assigned to the Legends Outlet.

Some 15 to 20 vehicles at the Legends Outlet were burglarized Sunday afternoon Aug. 28. Police located a suspect vehicle near 98th Street and Parallel Parkway and a chase ended in the 8400 block of Kansas Avenue. Two suspects were apprehended.

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By Dr. Jim Haas

Nearly 30 years ago, I had my first experience with people who wanted to insert their political ideology into school civics courses. The Kansas Department of Education had assembled a committee of about 15 citizens from around the state to update the state history, geography, and civics curricula. Half the members were K-12 teachers, I was a principal, one was a superintendent, a couple were businessmen, and the rest were local board members and interested parents.

All went well until we got to civics. A board member and a parent from districts out west wanted the curriculum to minimize the role of the federal government in “social issues” like voting rights. One of them launched into a states-rights speech that could have been made in the 1850s.

At that point, I went into full history mode and spoke of the American experiment as our gift to the world with a constitution that is a living document whose interpretation changes with changing times. I mentioned Social Security, Medicare, and the Supreme Court decision desegregating schools that resulted from injustice right here in Kansas and that benefitted countless millions of American students. Ultimately, the committee voted to keep the federal role prominent in the state curricula.

Today, right-wing politicians are pushing for civics courses to promote judicial originalism,

the belief that courts should decide the meaning of the Constitution based on what it would have meant to an ordinary person in 1787 when a national government wasn’t yet fully formed and expectations were low. Only 2.5 million people lived in the original 13 states, most living off the land. It’s a different country today with 350 million people of whom only 2% live on farms or ranches while 82.7% live in cities and their suburbs.

Originalism is the opposite of a living Constitution and acts as a drag on responding to a changing world. The drafters of the Constitution not only didn’t have electricity but never imagined the World Wide Web, assault rifles, or global warming. Originalism is a conservative’s dream because it tends to shift government functions to states as in the recent Supreme Court decision canceling the federal right of women to make their own childbirth decisions. (At least three current Justices are originalists.) Having some states guarantee a basic right while others don’t will lead to a Disunited States of America.

Originalism is a dead end, described by Pulitzer Prize winning legal scholar Louis Menand as “an absurdly unworkable and manipulable doctrine” that gives “something Alexander Hamilton wrote in a newspaper column” the power of a sacred text. For politicians to try to inject this right-wing ideology into schools

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## Sue's Sudsy Soapbox



By Sue Reich

**W**e recently celebrated Lenny the Cool day. Can't believe he is gone. But he is up there with a lot of "great ones." Seems funny how time passes so fast and we really don't realize until IT happens. I think of all the things I should have, would have and could have done. I get so involved in things I overlook things that are really important. Then you get my age and whoa, where did those years go? But getting to our daily events that are finally coming back: Argentine parade, Turner parade, schools, ballgames, all kinds of activities. My sister Carolyn and I used to go to the Greek Festival, always doing things like that. We really had a good time. When mom and her four daughters got together we really got wound up.

Remember last week when I mentioned the few celebrities I met? Forgot Kathy Quinn. I was with her a couple of times (as a reporter), when she gave the money to people and met Gary Lezak every year at the cancer banquet at Pierson Park. My fave is Fred Broski, oh yeah, Colonel Sanders. Can't forget that sweet man.

Is everyone getting back to normal? Whatever normal was. What was normal? All these idgets going around with weapons shooting everyone. What next?

Well sweet people, guess I will sign off. Gotta get some things done and hit the sack. Please keep alert, mind your p's and q's. Lvya all, your friend, Sue.

## Haas...

...from page 1

insults teachers whose hard-earned expertise determines what they teach just as doctors' expertise determines how health issues are treated.

There is a nationwide teacher shortage caused partly by political interference along with COVID challenges, historically low pay, and poor working conditions in some places. "There are so many

dire working conditions that have been decades in the making," said Karen White of the National Education Association. "And they've been exacerbated by COVID and right-wing extremists."

According to The Bureau of Labor Statistics, 300,000 teachers left the profession between February 2020 and May 2022. New college grads typically earn 33% more than the average teacher who has seen just a \$29 annual increase over the past 25 years when adjusted for inflation.

## Financial Fraud...

...from page 1

Citizens helped by providing descriptions of the stolen vehicle.

Major Dungan said the Police Department is about 40 officers short of its authorized strength of 369. There is also a critical shortage of dispatchers, Major Dungan

said; there was only one dispatcher during a recent weekend. There should have been four dispatchers during this period. Major Dungan blamed the residency requirement on this shortage.

The Police and Sheriff's departments will combine for a family day celebration from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17 at Piper

The Biden administration is encouraging states to increase teacher pay using emergency funds from the American Rescue legislation of 2021 and \$350 billion in state and local fiscal recovery funds, has begun establishing paid teacher apprenticeships, and is improving access to teacher loan forgiveness. The Education Department will work with online job recruiters ZipRecruiter, Handshake, and Indeed.

Like so much else, none of this was foreseen by the Founders in 1787.

Creek Elementary School, 13021 Leavenworth Rd. Those attending will be able to visit with officers and see vehicle and equipment displays. Field games will be offered. A complimentary lunch will be served.

*Murrel Bland is former editor of The Wyandotte West and The Piper Press*

## AG Derek Schmidt: States need authority to hold airlines accountable for customer complaints



TOPEKA – Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt today asked congressional leaders to enact legislation that will give states greater authority to investigate customer complaints against airlines as the nation sees a dramatic rise in passenger dissatisfaction.

In a letter signed by Schmidt and 37 other state and territory attorneys general, Schmidt asked Congress to pass a law removing federal restrictions that give central jurisdiction to investigate and prosecute airline complaints to the U.S. Department of Transportation. Schmidt and the other attorneys general argue that states have robust consumer protection units and, if the federal preemption were removed, could

help ensure passengers are treated fairly by the airlines.

"The mistreatment of airline consumers is a bi-partisan issue — one that requires immediate action from federal lawmakers," the attorneys general wrote. "Flying is essential to millions of Americans as they go about their personal and professional lives and is critical to our local, state, and national economies. Customers booking airline tickets should enjoy a reasonable expectation of being treated fairly, respectfully, and consistently under the law throughout all interactions during their experience with the airline industry. Consumer confidence in the air travel experience is paramount to a thriving economy."

The letter urges Congress to pass legislation that would authorize state attorneys general to enforce both state and federal consumer protection laws governing the airline industry. It also encourages Congress to consider shifting the authority for federal investigations of airline patron complaints from the U.S. Department of Transportation

to an agency more primarily focused on consumer protection, such as the U.S. Department of Justice or the Federal Trade Commission.



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# Comin' & Goin' Turner Style



By Sharon Hoover

I don't believe in coincidences but sometimes the stars align, and it happens. As the Artemis rocket is about to begin its voyage to the moon, I find myself just finishing a historical novel, "The German Wife" by Kelly Rimmer. The novel covers the period from 1930 to 1950 in Texas and Berlin. It is about two women whose different points of view are formed

by their environment, obligations, and life choices. Their lives intersect and clash in Huntsville, Alabama in 1950 in the race to develop a rocket that will travel to the moon. (This is during the Cold War and the race for space with Russia.)

At the close of World War II, the United States Government implemented "Operation Paperclip" which brought over 1600 German scientists, engineers, and chemists because of their expertise in rocket building. None of the Germans were to have belonged to the Nazi party but if one was, his history was whitewashed. Many were first imprisoned at Ft. Bliss but eventually sent to Huntsville to work and later able to bring their families. This group of scientists were responsible for the Apollo rocket that went to the moon. Now Apollo's twin sister Artemis is about to embark on her journey.

The development of the autocratic state and loyalty to Hitler was just not overnight. It came in a series of edicts, one after another. German children were indoctrinated and adults who did not follow the rules were imprisoned, beaten, or killed. We think this cannot happen in our country, but it can if we allow anyone to spread lies, incite riots, pit one against another, demand loyalty, and select those who would do his bidding.

PBS is premiering the Ken Burns documentary series "The U.S. and the Holocaust" starting Sunday, September 18, 19, and 20 at 7pm. It examines the rise of Hitler and Naziism in Germany in the context of global antisemitism and racism, the eugenics movement in the United States and race laws in the South.

For those who voted in the Kansas primary election, continue to make your voice be heard and vote in the

general election. An amendment on the ballot to be voted on is to allow Kansas legislators to decide our fate with only a simple majority to pass legislation that would bypass our governor. This is another attempt to allow them to pass an abortion ban. Vote NO.

Lisa Jewell has written a sequel to "The Family Upstairs" entitled "The Family Remains". The first novel came out a few years ago and I read it but didn't remember that when I requested this new one. Slowly, it started coming back to me. Both are excellent psychological thrillers and I suggest you read the first one before attempting the second.

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 remain free.



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# Governor Kelly Urges Kansas Small Businesses to Prepare for COVID-19 Retail Storefront Property Tax Relief Program

TOPEKA – Governor Laura Kelly announced that her administration is launching the application process for the COVID-19 Retail Storefront Property Tax Relief program in October. She urged Kansas small business owners to verify they are registered for a federal Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) ahead of the application process opening.

“The financial assistance provided through this program will give Kansas entrepreneurs resources to continue to grow and invest in their businesses,” said Governor Laura Kelly. “Proactively verifying UEI registration will help small

business owners receive this relief quickly and efficiently once the program’s application portal opens in October.”

In June, Governor Kelly signed bipartisan House Bill 2136, investing \$50 million to help small businesses recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 Retail Storefront Property Tax Relief Program is funded through the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), which requires a UEI registration to be completed for a business to be eligible to receive assistance. UEI registration ensures the accuracy

of information and the security of funding being used for this program.

The UEI is a unique 12-character identifier assigned to all entities and is used as the primary means of entity identification for Federal awards and for those doing business with the federal government. The UEI is issued at no cost through the federal System for Award Management website (SAM.gov).

If a business is already registered in SAM.gov, no additional action is needed to obtain a UEI. UEI registration can be confirmed by logging into SAM.gov and verifying that the business’ Entity Status states “Active Registration.”

Please note that due to recent increases in the number of entities registering with SAM.gov it may

take up to 25 business days for new registrations to be processed.

For any issues related to registering with SAM.gov or obtaining a UEI the Federal Service Desk can be reached at 866-606-8220.

Information detailing the application process and dates for the COVID-19 Retail Storefront Property Tax Relief Program is forthcoming from the Kansas Department of Revenue. The application will provide definitions, explain the assistance process in detail, and will specify exactly what information must be submitted in support of the application.

Claimants will have until April 15, 2023, to file an application for this financial assistance.

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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](mailto:opkansas@swbell.net)

Candice Cruz Email [CandiceCruz1016@Gmail.Com](mailto:CandiceCruz1016@Gmail.Com)

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# Guest Editorial

## Quotes To Ponder

By Tom Valverde

We know from the returns that have already been made public, prior to what is spelled out in these portions of the search warrant affidavit that has just been released, that the Department of Justice and FBI obtained Top secret and Compartmented information.

We know Trump's lawyers were lying that they had turned over all the documents taken from the White House. They had been given every chance in the world to return these vital, sensitive, documents...which essentially means that the crime that Trump committed is established.

Trump was lying, he was denying he had these documents. Trump forced the FBI to get the search warrant and the FBI found the Top secret, compartmented information—that Trump was hiding, that he was obstructing. We also know that there is an Espionage/Counter-intelligence official involved in the DOJ's investigation...

What else was Trump doing with these documents? Was Trump taking these Top secret, Classified, National Defense information and was he sending them to foreign countries? Was he selling it or using it to extort people? All of that we don't know because there are heavy redactions."

Ben Meiselas, co-founder Midas Touch news network

Based on the foregoing facts and circumstances, I submit that probable cause exists to believe that evidence, contraband, fruits of crime or other items illegally possessed in violation of 18 usc, Sections 798e, 2071, or 1519 will be found at the premises. Further, I submit that this affidavit supports probable cause for a search warrant to search the premises and seize the items described. FBI agent assigned to the Washington field office, specifically trained in Counter-intelligence and Espionage investigations addressing the Magistrate.

Judge Reinhardt in the FBI's search warrant affidavit

Mr. Meiselas reported on August 26, 2022 about the release of the redacted search warrant exacted at Mar a Lago on August 8th, with more of what was said in the newly released FBI affidavit:

The Government is conducting a criminal investigation into Donald Trump, based on a referral from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) on February 9, 2022. This following the retrieval of 15 boxes from Mar a Lago that the National Archives had been trying to get back since January of 2021...

With a CBS-Miami news article about moving trucks that were taking Boxes and boxes of documents from the White House to Mar a Lago, after many attempts, 15 boxes were finally delivered to the National Archives.

The staff at the National Archives then go through the contents of the boxes and to their horror and dismay, intermingled among news articles and other miscellaneous items are our nation's most Top secret Information, Sensitive compartmented information and National Defense information. These documents must be viewed in secure bunkers and all of these documents were just dispersed in random boxes.

With this, the National Archives had reason to believe in its DOJ referral, that there were more records were still at Mar a Lago. Then, a criminal investigation was begun by the Justice Department into obstruction, into the mutilation and destruction of documents, and into Espionage Act violations that Trump was committing at Mar a Lago...

Recall 18usc, 793e, violations of the Espionage Act carry up to 10 years, for each document held as the penalty. Section 2071 is a 3 year penalty for mutilation and destruction of government documents and 1519 is a 20 year prison sentence for Obstruction of Justice.

Trump signed into law a mandatory 5 year sentence for the mishandling of government documents. While much has been said about Trump's having declassified all of these documents, it really is

a moot point as Attorney General Merrick Garland was astute in only citing those Statutes in which the classified status of the documents did not matter.

Another quote from a former US Prosecutor, Jill Wine Banks, reveals more of the damning evidence found at Mar a Lago: "Some of these boxes were found in the hallway leading to the public pool. Anyone could have gone past them! And aside from the National security implications, all of these materials belong to the American people and the National Archives..."

They, at first, removed 15 cartons of Classified documents and now, after claiming there were no more, they've retrieved 15 cartons more," she said.

At this point, on August 26, 2022, we are 3 weeks into the search and the former president has still never explained once, what in the world was he doing with all these highly Classified, sensitive documents.

That is what I'm my mind makes it very hard to avoid a Criminal indictment, if you are Donald Trump. He stole these documents, he lied about it, he then hid the documents and kept them hidden from the Na-

tional Archives.

Now, Trump thumbing his nose at the Justice Department and FBI, sending his henchmen like Lindsey Graham to come out to threaten the public with violence.\* It's very hard for the Justice Department to look the other way.

Neal Katyal, Former Acting Solicitor General

Senator Graham was interviewed last weekend and he warned that, "If the DOJ tries to prosecute Trump for mishandling Classified information.. there literally will be riots in the streets. Graham is also under investigation by the Department of Justice. And David Jolly, a former Republican member of Congress then had this to say regarding Graham's un-Senator-like remark. The opportunity in that moment during his talk with Trey Gowdey is not to say, "Oh, it's inevitable that there will be riots. It's to say that there should not be riots." Graham's words are a "Warning that the Trump regime is one that must be stopped. Americans must exercise their right to do this at the ballot box." Mr. Jolly, said.

Everyone's vote is needed to have the US remain a Democracy.

## Governor Laura Kelly Places First Legal Sports Bet in Kansas

Laura Kelly traveled to Hollywood Casino in Kansas City, Kansas to kick off legal sports betting in Kansas. The Governor placed the first legal sports wager in Kansas, betting \$15—the same as Patrick Mahomes' jersey number — on the Kansas City Chiefs to win Super Bowl LVII

"Every day I hear from Kansans across the state who are eager to finally place legal wagers on sports. I'm glad we were able to move quickly to get this bipartisan effort done in time for football season," Governor Laura Kelly said. "Now, casinos, restaurants, and other venues will have another way to attract Kansans to their establishments—creating jobs and driving economic growth. And I'm willing to bet on that. Go Chiefs!"

"We are so grateful for the leadership of Governor Kelly and the legislature to finally get legalized sports wagering over the goal line this year," said Lydia Garvey, Vice President and General Manager of Hollywood Casino at Kansas Speedway. "We have been waiting anxiously for this day to arrive, and I'm confident many of our customers will follow her lead in betting on Kansas City to emerge as champions once again."

The four casinos contracted with the state to offer sports wagering through independent platforms are Boot Hill Casino & Resort; Ford County near Dodge City; Kansas Star Casino in Mulvane; Hollywood Casino at Kansas Speedway, Kansas City, KS; and Kansas Crossing Casino & Hotel in Pittsburg.?

Tribal casinos are also working to align on contracts with the State of Kansas for sports wagering. These casinos will be authorized to launch as soon as they are ready.



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