



The Record

Looking Back

By Rudy Padilla

When living on our farm, off highway 32 close to the Wyandotte CO line, I was outside on that summer day and noticed a young man riding a paint-colored horse on the gravel road toward our home. What really caught my attention was that he was holding onto the reins of another horse that had no rider.

I was approximately 9 years of age then and a true lover of horses, especially at that time when the movies with the cowboys and their flashy horses were highly popular.

About then, my father came out of the house, and he greeted the young man. The man on the horse returned his greeting enthusiastically and said, "here he is – all yours!" He handed the reins of the horse to my father.

At the moment I was shocked to hear that we were actually going to own a horse...a family riding horse...a great looking quarter horse.

When the young man left, I was told to take the horse to the pasture and let him get accustomed to his new home.

I could not sleep that night, just thinking of the horse. When in the morning; I realized

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Democracy Wins!

By Dr. Jim Haas

You may be ready, as I am, to move beyond election news, so after a few final observations here, I'll be moving on next time. But first, let's rejoice that voting across the country went smoothly and, as in past elections, with no fraud worth mentioning. Furthermore, the absence of talk of conspiracy theories (except from a few scattered cranks) suggests that voters have learned to spot and ignore the crackpot garbage online.

The two issues that voters thought most important were the economy and a woman's right to choose, and both were partly responsible for the GOP's poor showing. The economy is strong except for inflation, although it declined nearly 1% in October, a sign that the Federal Reserve's interest increases are beginning to work. Infrastructure, climate, CHIPS, and other recent legislation will boost the economy for years. Last week, the stock market had its biggest gains since 2020.

By opposing a woman's right to choose, Republicans bet on a lame horse. Since August, all six states that had right-to-choose ballot initiatives, led by Kansas, have voted to protect that right, most by large margins, and pro-choice candidates nationwide did much better than expected.



Democrats gained from a much higher than usual youth vote where choice and climate change drove participation.

Republicans also suffered from lack of a policy platform. What, exactly, did the GOP stand for? Other than tax cuts for the rich and for corporations, it was hard to tell. Complaining about inflation or crime or immigration means nothing unless the Party offers detailed policies to help solve those problems. No detailed plans were offered, while the Democrats not only had plans, they, with the advantage of being in power, had enacted many of them.

This was only the second midterm in more than 40 years when the president's party lost only a handful of Congressional

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Chamber examines election results, looks to 2023

By Murrel Bland

The Public Policy Committee of the Kansas City, Kansas, Area Chamber of Commerce met Friday, Nov. 11 to assess the recent General Election results and worked on its Legislative Agenda for 2023.

U.S. Rep. Sharice Davids, the incumbent Democratic Congresswoman for the Third District, was successful in winning a third term. She was able to defeat Republican challenger Amanda Adkins for a second time. Rep. Davids won despite Republicans who gerrymandered the Third District by stripping out traditionally Democratic areas of Wyandotte County and putting it in the Second Congressional District.

Wyandotte County will be represented by two congress members. U.S. Rep. Jake LaTurner, a conservative Republican incumbent, defeated Democratic newcomer Patrick Schmidt by more than 35,000 votes,

U.S. Senator Jerry Moran, the Republican incumbent, had little trouble defeating Mark Holland, a Democratic former Kansas City, Kansas, Mayor, whom lost by more than 200,000 votes statewide.

Third party candidates played an important role in the race for Governor and Lt. Governor. The incumbent, Democrat Laura Kelly and her running mate, Democrat David Toland, were able to edge by, defeating Republicans, Attorney General Derek Schmidt and his running mate, Katie Sawyer. State Sen. Dennis Pyle, an independent candidate, and Seth Cordell, a Libertarian, attracted more than 30,000 votes. Had they not been in the race, most political observers believe Schmidt would have won. Pyle was upset that his Kansas Senate District had been gerrymandered.

Democratic legislative candidates were successful in Wyandotte County except for Bill Hutton who lost to Republican Mike Thompson.

In reviewing its Legislative Agenda, the Chamber probably will keep many of its existing agenda items as its looks to 2023. The Chamber has traditionally supported STAR bonds, a finance method that uses sales tax to pay for infrastructure, the efforts of the District Attorney to enforce business licenses, expanded Medicaid, origin-based sales tax, early child education, workforce development, sports book gaming and affordable child care.

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

Haas...

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seats (the other was 2002 shortly after 9/11) and Democrats won the most governorships since 1986. Many voters were clearly put off by 2020 election deniers and by the right-wing terrorists who tried to intimidate voters in Arizona, who tried to kidnap and kill the governor of Michigan, who tried to murder Nancy Pelosi's husband, and who attacked Congress on January 6th. Political violence doesn't sell well.

The Daily Show's Trevor Noah made a constructive suggestion about candidate TV ads, saying they would be more informative—and civil—if they focused on what the candidate stands for and his or her policy proposals rather than trashing the opponent. Toyota ads stress their cars' strengths, not Honda's shortcomings. Nearly all product ads do this for successful products. Too many political ads were downright nasty, often painting opponents as an enemy instead of a competitor.

And there were too many ads. This was by far the most expensive midterm election ever, telling us that too many winning candidates are beholden to rich individual and corporate donors. Congress needs to enact campaign finance reform to strictly limit donations and require that large donors be publicly identified.

Before saying goodbye to the election (except for the Georgia U.S. Senate runoff December 6), let's give a vote of thanks to the election workers and officials in all 50 states who worked long hours to turn the wheels of our democracy. Many of them worked for low, or even no, pay, and some showed up in the face of threats from wannabe terrorists. Thanks also to everyone who voted. Our collective voice is the sound of freedom.

Looking Back...

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there was no one to help me catch the horse and place the saddle on him. Mama was scared, and did not want me to try, but I pleaded. Soon, I had the horse right next to the porch. I had placed the bridle on correctly but needed mama to help me put on the saddle. This was not an easy task; mama was not any taller than I was. Soon the saddle was placed on top of the blanket, and I was getting very excited. During the next step, I made a huge mistake. The cinch is the large belt that goes under the horse's stomach and is tightened to keep the saddle secure on the horse. Only, horses will puff out their stomachs and not let the cinch be secured very-well. I was supposed to know this.

Soon, I slid onto the saddle, and we were off. Mama just shook her head and went inside the house. After a minute we were getting

close to the cornfield. This second year there, we had a cornfield. The horse suddenly turned right and took off at a fast gallop running up a small hill between two fields of corn. I grew a bit scared. Something did not seem right, so I pulled him to a stop with the reins. The horse turned and started running very fast down the same hill. I soon became aware that the saddle was slipping and moving from side to side.

I grew more scared as each second passed. I knew if I did not jump, I could fall under his flying hoofs. So, I made a desperate dive off of the saddle on the left side. I remember rolling forward a few times and then coming to a skidding stop. I sat there on the ground, not able to catch my breath and, hoping no one had seen me. I sat there for a minute, with my clothes a mess. This was not a good start to my cowboy career. But after a few weeks, I realized that the horse was super-fast, and a bit wild.



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By Sharon Hoover

Comin' & Goin' Turner Style

buds. What is really strange is that same cactus had a bloom last March and another in April. He will be up this weekend and I can hardly wait to show him that little cactus.

Eighteen months ago, we noticed a mother feral cat and a kitten living under our boxwoods. Our neighbor's cat Charmer would visit us each morning and we fed him. We leave fresh water out year round. Eventually, mom and baby would join in for that morning meal. They stayed together most of the time, but mom started to leave the kitten for hours and that kitten would never move from that spot. Soon the little one began venturing out and when I was sitting on the patio she would come by. To make a long story short, her mom left her alone for several days and "Kitty" became our cat. She's been spayed, litterbox trained, and comes in when

she is called (sometimes). She is mostly an outdoor cat. In the summer, she wants to be outside, but I don't like her to be out at night because of the predators. However, oftentimes when she has come into the house to eat and has eaten, she goes a little crazy and runs through the house like she's on fire. Calvin thinks she claustrophobic but recently I came across a word cleithrophobia which means "fear of being trapped". I'll stick with that label. Right now, she is sleeping my mom's old recliner. It's 36 degrees out.

I spent several days while the weather was nice washing my windows and my reading suffered but I managed to squeeze in a few books. I turned to Amor Towles who wrote "The Lincoln Highway". Two of his earlier books were "Rules of Civility" and "A

Gentleman in Moscow". I liked the Moscow novel better which covered a period from the 1920's through 1950's. It revolved around an aristocrat who was confined to a hotel for life by the Bolsheviks.

I have read James Patterson's novels for more years than I care to remember and enjoyed them. What better to read than the memoir "James Patterson" by James Patterson. It is in his style; chapters are short maybe one or two pages. He is the master storyteller, and this book is full of them.

Until next time stay safe and be kind to those around you. Please pray and help those who have been devastated from the ravages of hurricane Ian. Continue to pray for the brave Ukrainians fighting for the right to remain free. Have a Happy Thanksgiving.

Last year about this time, my son Jon and his family, who live in southwest Kansas, came up one weekend and brought me a small blooming Christmas cactus. I had never heard of a Thanksgiving cactus, but I now believe they exist because there are ten new buds on that thing. A couple are pretty large, and the rest are just little teeny



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Continued KDOT Staffing Shortages Could Impact Highway Snow, Ice Removal Efforts

The Kansas Department of Transportation is committed to keeping the highways cleared when inclement weather impacts the state, but staffing shortages continue to affect the agency with not enough snowplow operators in many areas. These ongoing shortages could affect KDOT's ability to clear snow and ice from highways in a timely manner.

"We want motorists to know ahead of time - it's not a matter of if the highways will be cleared this winter, but when," said Transportation Secretary Julie Lorenz. "KDOT

crews will be proactive by shifting crews and pretreating surfaces whenever possible but having fewer employees could cause delays in removing snow and ice from all the affected roadways."

The agency is about 24% short of snowplow operators needed to be fully staffed in offices across the state. However, all KDOT field offices have made preparations in September and October to be ready for winter - employees participated in regional meetings with several days of hands-on snowfighter training exercises. Salt, sand and

other materials are fully stocked, and pre-maintenance work on snowplows and other equipment is complete.

"Our maintenance crews always do their best to serve the public as they work 12-hour shifts in their efforts to clear the highways," said Secretary Lorenz. "But motorists can help by checking on road conditions and weather forecasts in advance and possibly delaying travel plans. It's important to plan ahead, stay informed and travel safe."

Before traveling, check www.KanDrive.org, KDOT's road condition website - it is updated 24/7 for highway conditions, short-term closures and general traffic alerts, and provides camera views to see

current road conditions in that area. KanDrive now has a new App available for download on iOS and Android phones with a hands-free/eye-free feature to announce upcoming traffic events while traveling. The Kansas 511 phone system also has been updated and provides reports on a specific route, in a city or between two cities.

The agency also will deploy all employees who have a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) to plow snow and hire seasonal employees. KDOT will assist selected applicants in obtaining a CDL upon hiring, which includes providing training. For people interested in working at KDOT, go to the state's employment website at <http://jobs.ks.gov/>

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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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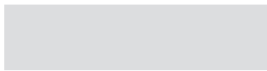
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Thanksgiving: Have an Attitude of Gratitude

By Bryan Golden

Thanksgiving is much more than a big meal with family and friends. It's a time to reflect on, and be thankful for, all of the good things you have. It's important to be grateful, not just on Thanksgiving, but each and every day. Rather than lamenting what you feel is lacking in your life, begin each new day by developing an attitude of gratitude. Take inventory of your blessings and you will be surprised at just how much you have to be thankful for.

If you have enough to eat, a place to live, a way to get around, people who care about you, or people you care about, then you are wealthy. If you lack any of these elements, you must still be grateful for what you do have, while striving to obtain whatever is absent.

Focus on all positive aspects of your life. Take nothing for granted. Every morning, recharge your appreciation. Be happy for everything there is, not upset over what you feel is missing.

Dreams of the future shouldn't diminish appreciation for the present. If all you do is concentrate on what you want, you won't enjoy today. Don't be jealous of others; what they do or have has no bearing on you.

You can feel bitter or resentful for a variety of reasons. Perhaps you feel something is missing from your life, things aren't going your way, or you have been treated unfairly. You may wonder, "why do these things always happen to me?"

Life's problems tend to dominate your thoughts, turning your focus to what you feel is wrong. You may start to resent those who appear to be better off. You're apt to dwell on things you think would make your life better if you had them. If only you had more money, more time, a bigger house, a different car, a different job, a different boss, had picked a different career, etc.

Once your attitude becomes one of deficiency instead of abundance and appreciation, you can become overwhelmed by feelings of frustration and feel like a victim. As this happens, a consuming vicious cycle starts.

Being bitter or resentful blows situations out of proportion. People who are bitter frequently find that their situations deteriorate and their mental and physical health decays.

It's difficult, if not impossible, to achieve your goals while you are bitter or resentful. Regardless of what challenges might befall you, bitterness makes finding solutions much more elusive.

There is no point to feeling bitter since it accomplishes nothing, harms you and makes things worse. Filling yourself with gratitude on a daily basis makes you feel good, while driving out negative feelings.

Begin your practice of gratitude each morning as soon as you wake. Every day is a great day. If you have any doubts, try missing one. Take inventory of everything, no matter how small or seemingly insignificant, that is good in your life.

If it helps, make a written list of all things you are grateful for. Read your list every day. As you do this, you will build and reinforce your attitude of gratitude. Don't waste any time with what you feel you don't have.

Keep things in perspective. Consider all the people who have overcome difficulties far worse than yours. Don't be consumed by your problems, there is always a solution. Maintaining an attitude of gratitude allows your mind to devise a resolution for your circumstances.

Make everyday a day of Thanksgiving and you will be amazed how much better your life will become.

Bryan is the author of "Dare to Live Without Limits." Contact Bryan at Bryan@columnist.com or visit www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com Copyright 2022 Bryan Golden

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Bidding Documents may be viewed and/or obtained electronically at www.smartbidnet.com. Contact Kedra Burcham (kedra.burcham@jedunn.com) to receive an invite to this project via SmartBidNet.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held virtually at 9:00 am on November 14, 2022 for the purpose of answering any questions from prospective Bidders regarding the Scopes of Work on the Project.

Electronic bids will be received December 1, 2022 before 3:00 PM CST via SmartBidNet.

JE Dunn invites M/WBE subcontractors to call if any assistance is required or questions arise. Questions should be directed to Kedra Burcham (kedra.burcham@jedunn.com), Project Manager, or by phone at (816) 292-8595.

All potential bidders must be pre-qualified with Port KC located at <https://portkc.com/request-qualifications-form-registered-contractors-list/>.

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