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The Record

Governor, Senate Majority Leader Announce Compromise Proposal to Lower Healthcare Costs

TOPEKA—After weeks of negotiations, Democratic Governor Laura Kelly and Republican Senate Majority Leader Jim Denning today announced a compromise proposal to expand Medicaid while lowering health insurance premiums for Kansas families.

“This process is far from over, as there are still several critical steps to be taken by the Kansas Legislature,” Kelly said. “But today, Senator Denning and I are proud to stand together to propose a bipartisan compromise that will expand Medicaid and lower healthcare costs for Kansas families. This proposal includes elements of my plan, of Senator Denning’s plan, of the 2019 House plan, and of the bipartisan plan that passed both chambers in 2017.”

The compromise proposal includes key elements to address concerns raised from both parties, in both chambers:

- **Full Medicaid Expansion:** The proposal includes a full expansion of Medicaid to 138% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) with a 90/10 match, to be effective no later than January 1, 2021.

- **Reinsurance:** Pending Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approval of a 1332 waiver and release of funding by the State Finance Council, the proposal includes a reinsurance

program to be effective no later than January 1, 2022. The agreement also requires the Kansas Insurance Department to complete an actuarial study of the reinsurance proposal and submit to the State Finance Council.

- **Medicaid Funding:** The proposal includes an annual hospital Medicaid expansion support surcharge of up to \$35 million, which has been endorsed by the Kansas Hospital Association, to be effective July 1, 2021. This compromise proposal does not require a tax increase.

- **Promoting Personal Responsibility:** The agreement includes a robust work referral program that promotes self-reliance for non-working Medicaid beneficiaries, while limiting costly administrative red tape that drives up overall costs to taxpayers. Enrollees within the expansion population will make a modest contribution for health services through monthly premiums of up to \$25 per month, or \$100 for a family of four, as proposed in House Bill 2066. The bill does not contain any lockouts. Instead, it collects unpaid premiums through the state’s debt setoff program. A hardship provision is also included.

- **Rural Health Care Innovations:** The proposal creates an

advisory committee within the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to support rural hospitals in assessing viability and identifying new delivery models, strategic partnerships and implementing financial and delivery system reform to improve the health of rural communities.

“My top priority is to lower the cost of healthcare for Kansans across the board. We want to give as many Kansans health care coverage as we can, in the Medicaid market and the non-Medicaid market,” Denning said.

While this proposal is the most sweeping compromise offered since the debate over Medicaid expansion began in 2013, both Kelly and Denning underscored that more work remains.

“We’ll both be working with our respective caucuses in the coming days to get their feedback and buy-in,” Denning said. “But all sides can find something in this bill to like. That means it’s probably about as middle of the road as it can get.”

“This compromise was an important first step, but our work is not over yet,” Kelly said. “Legislators, many of whom were here today, have the ability to bring this over the finish line in the early days of the 2020 session. I am calling on them to do just that.”

Iran Smokescreen

By Dr. Jim Haas

On November 16th, 2011, as President Obama was beginning his reelection campaign, failed casino owner Donald Trump went on TV and said this:

Our president will start a war with Iran because he has absolutely no ability to negotiate. He’s weak and he’s ineffective. So the only way he figures that he’s going to get reelected—and as sure as you’re sitting there—is to start a war with Iran. I believe that he will attack Iran sometime prior to the election because he thinks that’s the only way he can get elected. Isn’t it pathetic?

Trump was wrong, of course, but these twisted remarks tell us something about why he chose to assassinate a top Iranian government official (and failed to kill another). Impulsive and famously uninformed, Trump evidently sees war as a way to unite people behind a leader. And the timing was right for a smokescreen to distract from his impeachment.

This sorry episode reminded me of German chancellor Otto von Bismarck’s comments, more than a century ago, about Kaiser Wilhelm II. Bismarck, the most successful statesman of his time and a shrewd judge of character, disliked Wilhelm’s high opinion of his own abilities, the “toadies” he gathered around him, and his short attention span: Wilhelm would “take a little peek ... learn nothing thoroughly and end up believing he knew everything.” Wilhelm’s grandmother, Queen Victoria, thought him “hotheaded, conceited, and ... devoid of all feeling.” Change the names and the times, and you have Trump.



Kaiser Wilhelm II

The Kaiser, too, spoke of “my generals” and often made belligerent speeches. When the heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne was assassinated in 1914, Wilhelm beat the drums of war but discovered that mass emotions and war plans, once launched, control events. A month later, he tried to bail at the last minute, but it was too late. Events controlled *him* and the World War began. Millions were killed, great empires fell, and the consequences trouble us today, notably in the Middle East.

So what did Trump accomplish by flirting with war? He got rid of a terrorist responsible for much bloodshed, and good riddance to him, but he’s been replaced by another able organizer. On the downside, Trump ...

- caused Iraq to vote to expel U.S. forces from that strategic area
- caused NATO to stand down against ISIS
- insulted Persian Gulf and European allies by not informing them in advance
- gave Iran an excuse to restart its nuclear program halted by the 2015 agreement with the Western allies, China, and Russia
- strengthened the Iranian government by uniting the people behind a martyred hero
- increased the danger to Americans and to U.S. facilities vulnerable to cyber attacks

Overall, America lost much more than it gained, and that’s why presidents Bush and Obama, and the Israeli security service, skipped opportunities to take out General Suleimani.

Iran plays the long game, and its careful response to the assassination allowed Iran to appear as both victim and peacemaker, and to move closer to its long-term goal of seeing the U.S. out of the Middle East.

Trump tried to justify his reckless adventure by citing an “imminent threat,” but when Secretary Pompeo briefed senators days later, even some Republicans were unconvinced. Mike Lee (R, Utah) called it “insulting” and “probably the worst briefing I’ve seen, at least on a military issue” in his nine years as a senator. Career diplomats and other experts are often ignored by the White House, so it’s Amateur Hour. It’s dangerous. And it’s not over.

Jim’s columns are online at <http://greatsociety2point0.blogspot.com>

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Sue's Soapbox

By: Sue Reich



Hope everyone had a great New Year. As I said last time, we went to bed early, but the k-booms woke me up. Yes, just as I thought, our new 2020 started out the same way 2019 ended.

Our little Pugapoo is a diabetic and mama gives him his insulin every night and guess what, he is blind and now has to wear diapers. Fun, fun, fun. Like I don't have anything to do but take care of a blind dog. We don't mind, we love that little guy and he is starting to find his way around the house. He knows where to go outside and can manage the steps to get in and out of the house. Sometimes though we take off his soiled diaper and he pees before we get the dry one on. I understand diabetic dogs do that a lot.

Our Domino Dottes finally got together today after the holiday vacation. I was really glad to see all of them. Good snacks, coffee, laughter and who cares who won? We just love to get together and talk about our exciting lives. Pastor Steve Neal came through and it was nice to see him. Just love Steve and Laurie. Darlene got a call which upset her. Her neighbor's fur baby had lymphoma and had to be put down. Her little guy visited her when she had her daily walk. We all go thru that. Every single dog we have had broken our hearts when their

time came to an end.

Did you notice on 55th street that a new business is going in? It is going to be some kind of eatery. Can't hardly wait. They need something like that there. BP has a new deal too; it is a buffet and has all kinds of goodies. I haven't tried it yet, always in a hurry. Sure looks good though. Mr. Ed and I are losing some weight. He has some kind of thing going on and he just doesn't get hungry. So therefore, I eat what he eats which isn't much. So I can get into my jeans again and even my socks fit better. lol. But that's ok, I needed to drop some of that stuff hanging on me here and there.

Guess what people, we are having our first meeting at the library in Argentine to start planning the all class reunion in February. the reunion is in June. Hey, it will be here quicker than you can say Clem Kadiddlehopper. If you don't know who Klem is, you have really missed something. I sure miss ol' Klem.

Now this is a good one. I went into a local store and BEFORE the new year was even here, the Valentine stuff was already out. It wasn't even 2020 yet. Can you believe that? Anymore, I don't know which holiday we are celebrating. Gotta go around the Halloween stuff to get the Christmas stuff and go around that to get to the Valentine stuff. No wonder we think the time flies. How old am I? Heck I don't know. It is getting so I don't know one month or even one year from the next.

Well my darlins' hope you all are getting use to this new 2020. by the way, when you fill anything out, put 2020, not 1-15-20. Put Jan. 15, 2020. See why? It can be changed to 2019, 2018, like that. Just trying to help you

out. There are too many scammers out there. Be good, be kind, love your neighbors, your fur babies, please treat those fur babies good. K? Lvya all, take care. Your little ol' gal from Argentine. Sue. "You have to go through the thorns to get to the Rose."

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Blood Drive at TRC

By: Sue Reich

On Saturday, January 4th, the annual blood drive was held at TRC in honor of Jessie Gentry. Quite a few potential donors showed up for the event. There were some people there that I knew and talked to them while they were being prepped. One of the donors was Josh Markley and he looked quite pleased to be doing his good deed. Monta, who used to be the photographer for TRC was there also. I talked to Bruce Gentry, Connie Baker, Ruth Ann and several other donors that was there. It really was presented so beautifully,



A table seup as a tribute to Jessie.

with pictures, a video, a table with cookies, candy, drinks and all sorts of snacks so the people could replenish their system. The Gentry's and the

Bakers are really nice people and it was a pleasure to be there to watch a real blood drive. Hope they made their quota.



This is Monta. She was the great photographer in Turner for many years. She is doing her good deed



Josh looks really happy helping with the annual blood drive. He really is a good guy.

Comin' & Goin' Turner Style



By Sharon Hoover

Little Turner Libraries are sprouting up in several locations in the Turner Community. Thanks to the Turner High School Building Trades class under the direction of Scott Hughes, Building Trades Teacher, we now have little libraries to visit in their neighborhood. The school district is providing some books and residents can feel free to add their own. The four Little Libraries are located at The Farm on Gibbs at 4223 Gibbs Road; New Story Church at 5500 Woodend; Turner Walking Park at 53rd Street & County Line Road; and Turner Community Garden's entrance at



667 S. 55th. The fellows who installed the libraries also designed and built them. They did a great job. I attended the installation at the garden and was very impressed with the professionalism of the group. Speaking of libraries, the Kansas City Kansas Public Library is again sponsoring the Adult Winter Reading Challenge. Any adult over the age of 18 can read and log 8 items during the month of January and February to earn prizes. Read 4 books and get a KCKPL logo mug. Read

4 more and get a KCKPL logo blanket, Any reading counts - books, eBooks, audiobooks, magazines, graphic novels and more. Prizes available while supplies last. Sign up at kckpl.beanstack.org or ask a librarian for a log and start reading. Final date of program is February 29, 2020. I already started my log, but I haven't picked up my mug yet.

Until Next Time - Keep Warm and Stay Safe

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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Red Cross and NFL team up to offer donors a chance to win a trip to the Super Bowl

Critical need for blood and platelet donors after the holidays

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - The American Red Cross currently has a critical need for blood donors of all blood types – especially type O – to make an appointment now to give and help replenish the blood supply after the holiday weeks. Right now, the Red Cross has less than a three-day supply of type O blood. To help tackle the critical need, the Red Cross and NFL are working together to offer one lucky winner a trip to Super Bowl LIV in Miami.

During the weeks of Christmas and New Year's, about 500 fewer blood drives were hosted by volunteer sponsor groups than required to meet patient needs. Many groups postpone blood drives during the winter holidays when travel and holiday activities may make it challenging for many donors to give. In fact, AAA estimated that a record 115.6 million Americans traveled during the holiday period of Dec. 21 through Jan. 1.

"Lifesaving medical treatments and emergencies never take a holiday," said Paul Sullivan, senior vice president, Red Cross Biomedical Services. "Declines in donations can affect patient care. That's why the Red Cross is encouraging eligible donors to make an appointment to give now and help those sidelined by illness and trauma."

Donors are urged to make an appointment to give now using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

As a special thank-you, those who come to give blood Jan. 1-19, 2020, will automatically be entered for a chance to experience the Super Bowl live. The Red Cross and NFL have teamed up to offer one winner two tickets to Super Bowl LIV, entry to the official NFL Tailgate, tickets to Super Bowl Experience at the Miami Beach Convention Center, round-trip airfare to Miami, three-night hotel accommodations at The Alexander®

- All Suite Oceanfront Resort (Jan. 31 to Feb. 3), and a \$500 gift card for expenses.* Additional details are available at RedCrossBlood.org/SuperBowl.

"The Red Cross appreciates the NFL's support during this crucial time of year when every donation – and every donor – matters. We hope this may inspire some to make regular blood and platelet donation one of their New Year's resolutions," said Sullivan.

Who blood donations help This fall, 13-year-old Josh Roy and his family learned the importance of blood donations firsthand. In October, Josh contracted a severe case of influenza B and necrotizing staph pneumonia. He was transported to the hospital, was put on an extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) machine that circulates blood through an artificial lung and eventually needed a tracheostomy tube. Josh has received multiple blood transfusions during his treatment.

"You never know when someone you love might end up needing a blood transfusion," said Jaqueline Bakehorn, Josh's aunt. "We are so thankful for those who have given blood and would love to see more people donate."

Josh is still hospitalized but is making slow, gradual progress. He faces a long road to recovery and may need additional blood transfusions along the way.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities:

Johnson County

Leawood

1/27/2020: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., JoCoLibrary-Leawood Pioneer - Meeting Room, 4700 Town Center

Lenexa

1/17/2020: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Worldwide Beverage, 17501 W 98th Street, #3538

1/19/2020: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Hope Worldwide KC Chapter, 10250 Quivira Rd.

Merriam

1/27/2020: 2 p.m. - 7 p.m., Johnson County Library - Antioch, 8700 Shawnee Mission Parkway

Olathe

1/8/2020: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., U.S. Army Recruiting Station, 15258 W 119th St

1/8/2020: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m., Bass Pro Shop Olathe, 12051 Bass Pro Drive

1/17/2020: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Aberdeen Village, 17500 West 119th Street

1/20/2020: 1 p.m. - 7 p.m., Olathe Indian Creek Library, 16100 W 135th St Overland Park

1/20/2020: 1:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., Bob Hamilton Plumbing, Heating, AC, Rooter & Electrical, 7899 Frontage Road

1/21/2020: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Ad Astra, 6900 W 80th Street, #300

1/24/2020: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Overland Park Racquet Club, 6800 W 91st St

1/25/2020: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., New Haven Seventh-day Adventist Church, 8714 Antioch Road

1/31/2020: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., JoCoLibrary - Blue Valley, 9000 W 151st Street

1/31/2020: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., JoCoLibrary - Central Resource Center, 9875 W 87th St

Prairie Village

1/28/2020: 12 p.m. - 4 p.m., Johnson County Library - Corinth, 8100 Mission Road

Shawnee

1/15/2020: 12 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., Monticello Trails Middle School, 6100 Monticello Rd.

1/30/2020: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Johnson County Library, 22435 W. 66th St

Leavenworth County

Leavenworth

1/16/2020: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., The Guidance Center, 500 Limit St.

Wyandotte County

Kansas City

1/17/2020: 2 p.m. - 6 p.m., Village West Luxury Apartments, 11024 Delaware Pkwy

How to donate blood

All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh

at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App.

About the American Red Cross: The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org or cruzrojaamericana.org, or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.



Obituary

Marcelline G. Rodriguez

Marcelline G. Rodriguez, 100, of Kansas City, Kansas passed away Friday, January 3, 2020 at home. She was born on October 30, 1919 the daughter of Seferino and Maria Garcia in Turner, KS.

On February 10, 1951 she was united in marriage Leonard L. Rodriguez at St. John the Divine. Marcelline enjoyed crocheting blankets. She loved to listen to Mexican music. She was outgoing, friendly, and loved to help out and advocate for those in need. She was very strong in her catholic faith while also being a progressive thinker for her generation. She cherished time with family, especially grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; a daughter, Carmelita; four brothers and two sisters. She is survived by her husband of 68 years, Leonard L. Rodriguez; five children, Victoria Mendoza of San Diego, CA, Gloria Rodriguez of Mission, KS, Leonard R. Rodriguez (Martha) of Lee's Summit, MO, Rebecca Rodriguez of Kansas City, KS, and Carmelita Rodriguez of Kansas City, KS; a sister, Rose M. Garcia of Kansas City, MO; fourteen grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren.

A visitation was held, with a rosary service, on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at Maple Hill Funeral Home. A funeral mass took place at St. John the Evangelist (2910 Strong Ave, Kansas City, KS 66106)

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REAL ID: Time for air travelers to get real

Kansas Department of Revenue and AAA Kansas suggest ways to prepare for the changes Kansas travelers will face next year.

TOPEKA, Kan. – REAL ID has arrived in Kansas, and the Kansas Department of Revenue and AAA Kansas advise that travelers consider their options now ahead of this year’s nationwide enforcement of the federal program. Beginning October 2020, all U.S. residents will need a compliant license/ID or an acceptable form of ID to board a domestic flight, access a Federal facility, or enter a nuclear power plant. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) considers a current passport or military ID acceptable identification for boarding an aircraft.

“The requirement for REAL ID to fly will be here before we know it,” says Shawn Steward, manager of public and government affairs for AAA Kansas. “To avoid being caught off-guard, now is the time for Kansans to decide whether they’ll upgrade to a REAL ID-compliant license or whether they’ll use a passport instead.” Since 2007, the Kansas Department of Revenue’s Division of Vehicles has been preparing for implementation of Real ID. In 2017, the Division began issuing driver’s licenses and identification cards with the Real ID symbol at the top of license or identification cards.

If you provided the needed documentation since 2007, you may already be ready for Real ID. To see if you are already in the system, simply go to <https://www.kdor.ks.gov/Apps/DLStatus/login.aspx> to get a driver’s license status check. If you don’t have the Real ID logo on your credential



but it has a “yes” next to Real ID on the status check website, you are compliant and ready to obtain your new indicator. Take your unexpired license or identification card, two proofs of address, and if you have it your renewal card to a driver’s license office to get the Real ID.

If it has a “no” next to Real ID, present the documents listed below to receive Real ID.

Kansans have a choice as to obtain a REAL ID driver’s license or identification card, or a standard driver’s license or identification card. For anyone who decides to upgrade to a REAL ID, outside of their renewal period, they’ll pay a one-time fee of \$8. Kansans have the ability to renew a license or identification card a year in advance of its expiration date.

To obtain a REAL ID:

- Visit any Kansas Driver’s License Office to have documents verified and imaged. Then, the REAL ID will be received in the mail within 45 business days.

Federal regulations require that the Division of Vehicles must verify the following documents for a customer before

issuing a REAL ID-compliant product:

- Proof of identity (Original or certified copy of a birth certificate with a raised seal or valid U.S. Passport).
- Proof of Social Security number (Card must be original and the name on the S.S. card must match the identity document).
- Proof of all legal name changes (Marriage certificate or court order issued by your county’s family court).
- Two proofs of current, physical Kansas address (examples include a current, unexpired Kansas driver’s license or ID and a no more than 90-day-old bank statement or utility bill).

While AAA Kansas retail branch offices are not REAL ID centers, AAA Travel Agents are on hand to discuss any questions that AAA members or the general public may have about the program. AAA Kansas retail travel offices have REAL ID information cards available for travelers. Additionally, travelers can consult the Kansas Department of Revenue’s REAL ID web page for additional information.

AAA provides automotive, travel, and insurance services to 60 million members nationwide and nearly 349,000 members in Kansas. AAA advocates for the safety and mobility of its members and has been committed to outstanding road service for more than 100 years. AAA is a non-stock, non-profit corporation working on behalf of motorists, who can now map a route, find local gas prices, discover discounts, book a hotel, and track their roadside assistance service with the AAA Mobile app (AAA.com/mobile) for iPhone, iPad and Android. For more information, visit www.AAA.com.

Hoover.. from page 3



Sue Lyon, age 73, passed away on December 26, 2019. She was an actress in movies and TV. She starred in “Lolita”.

Gene Bell, age 97, passed away on December 31, 2019. He was a 1940 graduate of Wyandotte High.

Passings...

By: Sue Reich

Burton Wake, age 85, passed away on November 6, 2019. He was a 1952 graduate of Wyandotte High.

James Sherbon, age 83, passed away on January 2, 2020. He taught band and orchestra at Argentine High.

Don Larsen, age 90, passed away on January 1, 2020. He was a baseball player who pitched a perfect game in 1956, New York Yankees vs. Dodgers.

Marcelline Rodriguez, age 100, passed away on January 3, 2020. She attended St. John the Evangelist Catholic church.

Plant Propagation Class

**Thursday, January 23, 2020
10:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

Presented by Lynn Loughary, Wyandotte County, Kansas, Extension Horticulture Agent

In this class, Ms. Loughary will cover the various vegetative propagation methods including cuttings, air layering, and plant division. This presentation, sponsored by the Wyandotte County Extension Master Gardeners, will be held in the Sunflower Room of the Wyandotte County Extension Office, 1208 North 79th Street, Kansas City KS. Registration is not required. Fee: \$5.00 (waived for certified master gardeners). Please call 913-299-9300 if you need further information.

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CHECK A SUBSCRIPTION LENGTH

1-Year Subscription
\$15.00

2-Year Subscription
\$28.50

3-Year Subscription
42.00

CARD NUMBER

EXP. DATE ____/____/____

Name as it appears on card _____

Signature _____

Please make checks payable to: *The Record*

Mail to or drop off at The Record
PO Box 6197
Kansas City, KS 66106