



# The Record

## Death of Meredith Roberts Schraeder is a Loss to the Community



By Murrel Bland

I was saddened to learn of the recent death of Meredith Roberts Schraeder. She had suffered for several years from leukemia and complications following a bone marrow transplant. She was a few days from her 74<sup>th</sup> birthday.

I first met Meredith in the early 1970s when she was public information officer for the City of Kansas City, Kansas. It was a very challenging time for her as the newly elected Mayor, Richard Walsh, was on a political house-cleaning binge; the mayor fired Meredith's predecessor, Nancy Jack, who was aligned with the previous Mayor, Joe McDowell. Nancy was very

popular with reporters and a very trusted source.

Meredith was a quick learner and rose above the political fray. It didn't take long for her to win the confidence of reporters. When Jack Reardon defeated Mayor Walsh in 1975, he chose to keep Meredith. During her stint at City Hall, she and Larry Hancks of the City Planning Department, co-authored a book entitled "Roots" which told of the architectural history of Wyandotte County; it was a project of the Kansas City, Kansas, Bicentennial Commission.

In the late 1970s, I helped Meredith found the Grand Central, a newspaper serving the 10,000 homes on and near Central Avenue. She also was a public relations counselor with a company aptly named "MRS."

During the mid-1990s, Meredith served as the first

Executive Director of Business West. In the late 1990s, she was part of a reform slate that was elected to the Kansas City, Kansas, Board of Education.

Meredith was an active volunteer with several organizations including the Wyandotte Players, the Historic Westheight Neighborhood Association, the Junior League of Wyandotte and Johnson Counties and Trinity United Methodist Church.

Surviving family members include her husband Jim, her daughter, Laura Schraeder Madden and her husband Justin Madden and their daughter Lydia.

The family is planning a memorial service this fall. The family has suggested that memorial contributions be made to the National Marrow Donor Program. That would be most appropriate.

## Kansas Legislature faces many issues

By Murrel Bland

The Kansas Legislature is in high gear these days as more than 600 bills have been introduced this session. The Legislative Committee learned the details of

several bills Friday morning Feb. 11 as it met via ZOOM. The Committee is part of the Kansas City, Kansas, Area Chamber of Commerce.

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# Kansas x 13

By Dr. Jim Haas

Here's a fun fact: The 50 Democrats in the U.S. Senate represent 41.5 million more people than the 50 Senate Republicans. That equals 13 states with the population of Kansas and means that when you learn that a Senate vote was, say, 50 Democrats for and 50 Republicans against, the Democrats spoke for a lot more people—and that's not counting .72 million residents of the District of Columbia and 3.6 million in territories who have no senators.

This imbalance is growing worse as more people move to cities and their suburbs where opportunities are greater and out of rural areas where they aren't. Numbers paint the picture: in 1900, 40% of Americans lived in cities and 60% in rural areas; in 2000, we were 78% urban and 22% rural; in 2020, the ratio was 81 to 19.

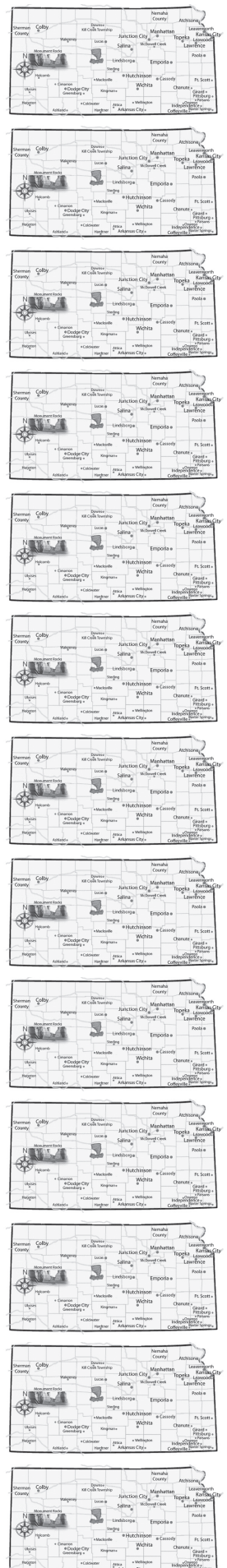
Urbanization will continue, so the question is how long Americans in our larger states should put up with growing political inequality. The problem is the Senate, with two members per state regardless of population, and the Electoral College where Senate seats give an outsized voice to small states. Changing the Constitution to correct these imbalances is unlikely, so other steps are needed.

An obvious step would be to admit D.C. as a state, and bills to do so are now in the House and Senate. The Electoral College can be fixed by the Compact of the States, an agreement among states to cast all their electoral votes for the winner of the presidential popular vote. Currently, states with 196 of the necessary 270 votes have signed on. A more radical step could be to turn cities beyond some minimum size into states. New York City, L.A., Chicago, and Houston each have more than two million people, more than many states.

"One person, one vote" is the foundation of our freedom. Without that, we're doomed to live on George Orwell's *Animal Farm*, a satire on Stalinism where "All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others."

For now, we have to live with the Senate we have. In coming weeks, senators will consider major bills including the Biden-Harris request for pandemic relief to individuals and small businesses.

Also before the House and Senate is the For the People Act that would expand voting rights, limit money in politics, limit partisan gerrymandering, and strengthen ethics rules for federal officials. In federal elections, the act would require automatic voter registration, 15-day early voting, optional mail-in voting, online registration, voter-verified paper ballots, and easier voting access for the disabled and military and others overseas. The act would strictly limit foreign lobbying, require "dark money" organizations to disclose their donors, and require presidents, vice presidents, and candidates for those offices to disclose their last ten years' tax returns.



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# Sue's Sudsy Soapbox By: Sue Reich



**W**ell, I guess they are finally getting around to our vaccine shots. I heard 6 weeks but who knows? Hopefully sooner. I really have a complaint and I think it should be looked into. Mr. Ed needs the blue handicap placard that hangs on a vehicle's rear-view mirror. I am not kidding. I have been trying for a few months now calling the place at 87th and State Ave. to "get an appointment." Our doctor wrote a letter stating Mr. Ed's condition. Every single time I call that number, something like, "Sorry, our lines are messed up and we can't assist you" or some malarky. How in the heck can we get an appointment if we can't get through on the phone to make one? Should I call "Call for Action" on tv or what? So, we put the envelope on the dash, park in a handicap place. We wrote on the envelope that the placard is pending. Can't get it at the auto license dept. we tried that. Is there anyone out there that knows what the tarnation is going on? Please, we need that placard. Anyone know anybody that works there?

Did my laundry today and was going to take up the last load and I'll be darn if I didn't shut the door to the laundry room on my little furbaby's tail. You never hear such screaming from a dog in your life. Poor little fella. I thought I broke his tail. He went upstairs with it hanging down and I sat the load down and picked him up and put

him on my bed. Got some tape, gauze pads, peroxide because it was then bleeding. Omgosh, what to do? I put a gauze pad loaded with peroxide and gave him one of his pain pills he had. Oh, please don't let it be broken. I laid there beside him and cried and kept apologizing to him. He finally went to sleep and then later he woke up and was wagging his pretty little tail. I was so thankful. Poor little fella, he follows me everywhere and I love him so much that I didn't even think about him right behind me when I came out. They follow me everywhere I go.

Our buddies at the new building, don't know what they are going to call it, are going to have a worm farm. boy, they come up with more ideas. Be glad when this weather breaks so we can start using it. Everything sounds so great that they have planned. What are they going to call it anyway? Got any ideas? But it really sounds like it is going to be a wonderful addition to Turner. I don't know about you all, but losing all three of my sisters, has been very hard on me. the oldest, Gayle, and the youngest Marilyn, a twin, passed three months apart. I feel like I need to call one or both every day. While I was cleaning out things around here, I found a little book called, SISTERS. I read it all the way through and cried thinking of my three that are no longer with me. The first one is called, GIRLS TOGETHER: "Growing up, sisters weave a unique bond that ties them to each other with silken skeins of love, laughter and memories." If you have a sis that you might have lost, I am going to write a page a week in honor of all our sis' that are in heaven now. Anyway, you all take care, watch your p's and q's. Wear a mask, wash those hands, lvyva all, really! Sue



Mr. Dorr, vice principal at Harmon. Let me tell you, he is a "hoot".



We used to get together and enjoy ourselves at TRC.



See the Superbowl ring that Dave Lindstrom has on? He let me try it on. So neat. I should have taken a picture of me

# Comin' & Goin' Turner Style



By Sharon Hoover

It feels like January weather is sliding into February. I wonder if it has anything to do with climate change. I wouldn't be getting out in these frigid temperatures even if there wasn't any covid-19. I've picked up a few local items off the internet that may be of interest to you, a family member or someone you know.

Kansas State Extension is starting a new season of the K State Garden Hour. Zoom meetings will held the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 12:00 -1:00 CST. Each presentation will run 45 minutes with 10-15

minutes for questions. The first session begins February 17, "Planting a Vegetable Garden; the second on March 3, "Best Plants for a Beginner's Landscape" and so on. You only need to register once for the whole year and will be notified before each session. The link is <https://ksre-learn.com/kstategardenhour>. I enjoyed all the sessions I attended last year in addition to learning more about horticulture.

The second item I found on the Livable Neighborhoods Newsletter – a job training opportunity. Go Green Get Green is a fully funded career program. Participants will receive training that will prepare them for environment-focused training for a new career. Trainees will have access to a financial coach to focus on building financial goals and creating a family legacy as well as an employment coach that will support them on a future career path. Training will last four weeks Monday thru Friday, 8:30-5:00 from March 29- April 23, 2021. Upon completion participants will receive an

industry recognized and in-demand certification. Examples of jobs are Asbestos Worker and Lead Abatement Worker. For more information call (913) 677-0100 extension 205. The Director of Economic Improvement is Sasheen Cutchlow.

The third item I found at Livable Neighborhoods was about Women on the Move. The organization is looking for youth ages 12-18 interested in an innovative empowering program. The program started in January has weekday and weekend sessions available. For more information contact Brenda or Laurie (913) 602-8116 or email [brenda.ywomkck@gmail.com](mailto:brenda.ywomkck@gmail.com).

I've been a little lazy this week watching the impeachment hearing when I'm not reading "A Promised Land" by former President Barak Obama. It's a great read but a big book to haul around and I probably will have to renew it to finish it.

Time for me to go, so...

Until next time, stay safe and please be kind to those around you.

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# SENATE NEWS

By Sen. Pat Pettey

## Black History Month

February is Black History Month, a time devoted to celebrating and recognizing the central role of Black Americans in U.S. history. The Senate Democratic Caucus highlighted the following pioneering Black Kansans in our caucus on our Facebook and Twitter pages this week:

Senator Oletha Faust-Goudeau made history when she was elected to the Kansas House of Representatives in 2004. She became the first Black woman to represent the 84th district. Then, in 2008, she was elected as the first Black woman to ever serve in the Kansas Senate in Kansas history. She is also the first Black woman in state history to serve as Assistant Minority Leader.

Our most senior Senator David Haley is the son of the late Ambassador George Haley, who was the first Black man ever elected to the Kansas Senate. David's uncle, Alex Haley, is the author of *Roots* and co-author of *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*.

Carolyn Wims-Campbell in 2008 became the first Black woman elected to the State Board of Education, where she served two, four-year terms. She continues working during the Legislative session in the office of Senate Democratic Leader Dinah Sykes.

## Treasurer's Notes

It's scholarship season! As the students in our lives prepare for their next steps after high school, don't let them get discouraged by the rising cost of education. There are many scholarship opportunities. The Kansas State Treasurer's Office offers all Kansas students with the opportunity to search a database of more than 5 million scholarships.

ScholarShop is a partnership with Sallie Mae that includes more than \$24 billion in scholarships. Start your search today at <https://www.kansasstatetreasurer.com/ScholarShop.html>. For additional information, contact [treasurer@treasurer.ks.gov](mailto:treasurer@treasurer.ks.gov).

National Unclaimed Property Day:

February 1 was National

Unclaimed Property Day. The State of Kansas currently has more than \$400 million in unclaimed property. Types of property include bank accounts, wages, stocks, dividends, and utility deposits. Does any of it belong to you? Take a minute to find out by searching at [www.kansascash.ks.gov](http://www.kansascash.ks.gov). Be sure to search your current name, your maiden name, or any previous name you have used. This service is provided by the Kansas State Treasurer, and it is completely free. If you are asked to pay any kind of fee, then it is not the official Kansas website.

## Kansas Framework for Growth

Governor Laura Kelly and Lieutenant Governor David Toland were joined this week by former Kansas Governors John Carlin and Mike Hayden to unveil the state's Framework for Growth. The plan emphasizes:

- Talent development and retention
- Harnessing the state's colleges and universities for job and business creation
- Innovation as a driver of new business opportunity
- Community assets and regional approaches to economic development
- Policies to support long-term growth

Through the Framework for Growth, Kansas will be one of the first states in the nation to take a comprehensive look at the new normal beyond COVID-19 and develop a holistic strategy to guide state-level economic development policy.

## Medicaid Expansion

On Monday, Governor Kelly announced her proposal to pass Medicaid expansion this session. Medicaid Expansion is critical to Kansas' COVID-19 recovery. Expansion creates jobs, supports a healthy workforce, and improves struggling rural hospitals' bottom lines. If we don't expand Medicaid, we will forgo over \$10 billion in economic output in the next five years. For years, opponents to Medicaid Expansion have used the price tag as a scapegoat. Governor Kelly's bill addresses their problem by creating a medical marijuana program.

Medical marijuana would help Kansas recovery by bringing in sufficient revenue to Kansas and will

cover the cost of Medicaid expansion – while creating Kansas jobs. Kansas is one of three states left that does not permit some form of medical marijuana use, which leaves us less competitive and at a disadvantage. Medical marijuana helps Kansans with a chronic illness, children with seizures, and veterans suffering from PTSD, and it has been shown to reduce opioid use and drug-induced mortalities. With medical marijuana we can pay for Medicaid Expansion in Kansas with money left over.

## Unemployment Resources

This week, the Kansas Department of Labor deployed a new security system to fight unemployment insurance fraud. Under this updated system, every claimant will be required to verify his or her identity by answering questions specific to the person's credit history. Once an identity is verified, the system will prompt the claimant to set up two-factor authentication for her or his benefit account moving forward. This additional layer of security is an important factor in protecting KDOL unemployment insurance.

KDOL is continuing to aggressively monitor claims for fraudulent activity and is actively working with federal law enforcement officials to bring criminals to account. Since deploying this update, KDOL has successfully stopped over 576,000 suspected fraud logins. If you have received a 1099-G Tax Form and you did NOT receive unemployment benefits in 2020, you may be a victim of identity theft. Report this fraud to KDOL at [uiassistance.getkansasbenefits.gov](http://uiassistance.getkansasbenefits.gov) by selecting "Dispute my 1099" and make sure to include a copy of the Unsworn Declaration.

Since March 15, 2020 KDOL has paid out over 3.9 million weekly claims totaling over \$2.6 billion between regular unemployment and the federal pandemic programs. For more information, or to apply for unemployment benefits, go to [www.GetKansasBenefits.gov](http://www.GetKansasBenefits.gov).

## Find My Vaccine Tool

Governor Laura Kelly announced the launch of the "Find My Vaccine" mapping tool, designed to help Kansans locate sites that are administering vaccines in

their communities. The tool is available now on <https://kansasvaccine.gov>, Kansas's COVID-19 vaccine website. Kansans in vaccine phase 1 and 2 are recommended to use this tool as a resource for finding providers who are or will be offering the vaccine. "The 'find my vaccine' mapping tool allows any Kansan, regardless of where they live, to find the closest vaccine provider to their community.

Vaccines are being delivered to all 105 Kansas counties on a weekly basis, but not all providers may be listed on the map at this time. If you do not see an active location in your area -- and you are in Phase 1 or 2 --- ask your local health department how to access the vaccine. Weekly vaccine allocations for each county are available on the KS COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard.

## National Wear Red Day

February 5, 2021

National Wear Red Day is designated to raise awareness among women about heart disease and stroke. My colleagues and I showed our support.

2020 Heart Disease & Stroke Statistics on Females and Cardiovascular Diseases (CVD):

- Among females age 20 and older between 2013 and 2016, 44.7% had some form of cardiovascular disease.

- Among females age 20 and older between 2013 and 2016, 43.4% of non-Hispanic (NH) whites had CVD; 57.1% of NH blacks, 42.6% of Hispanics, and 37.2% of NH Asians.

- In 2017, CVD was the cause of death in 418,665 females (all ages). Females represented 48.7% of deaths from CVD.

- In 2017, CVD was the disease with the highest percent of total deaths for all subgroups of females; 30.3% of all NH white female deaths, 32.6% of NH black female deaths, 28.5% of Hispanic female deaths, and 31.8% of NH Asian female deaths.

- In 2016, CVD was the first listed diagnosis of 2.2 million females discharged from short-stay hospitals.

- In 2014, 25.3% of bypass and 32.3% of percutaneous coronary intervention patients were female.

Contributing factors that add to a woman's vulnerability for heart disease and strokes:

- Smoking
- Physical Inactivity
- Overweight and Obesity
- Diabetes

## What is Sexual Violence

Sexual violence is any sexual act that is perpetrated against someone's will.

Sexual violence includes a range of offenses, such as a completed non-consensual sex act (rape), an attempted non-consensual sex act, abusive sexual contact (unwanted touching), and non-contact sexual abuse (threatened sexual violence, exhibitionism, verbal sexual harassment).

All types of sexual violence involve victims who do not consent, or who are unable to consent, or who refuse to allow the act.

Refer victims to the Kansas Crisis Hotline at 888-END-ABUSE (888-363-2287) and the local sexual and domestic violence victim advocacy organization serving their community.

## Important State Phone Numbers

Here is a list of numbers I often receive requests for during the Legislative Session. I hope you will find this information helpful.

Attorney General  
(888) 428-8436

Child Abuse Hotline  
(800) 922-5330

Consumer Protection  
(800) 432-2310

Crime Tip Hotline  
(800) 572-7463

Crime Victim Referral  
(800) 828-9745

Department on Aging  
(800) 432-3535

Driver's License Bureau  
(785) 296-3963

Fraud Hotline  
(800) 432-3919

KPERS  
(888) 275-5737

Governor's Office  
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## Haas...

...from page 1

The For the People Act passed the House last year but Mitch McConnell ignored it in the Senate. Now that Democrats set the agenda, it will be considered, but current Senate rules require 60 votes for most bills. Why? Because the filibuster, long used to preserve racist state laws, requires 60 to overcome, enabling the minority party to block majority legislation. When the

majority fails to get much done, voters throw them out and bring in the minority. Then, the cycle repeats in the opposite direction.

Changing a Senate rule requires only a simple majority. Those liking the filibuster claim it's traditional and promotes compromise. Traditional, yes; promotes compromise, no. It promotes inaction, blockade, and polarization. It's time to end the filibuster rule so the majority can rule, especially because they represent 41.5 million more of us.

## Facing Issues...

...from page 1

The Kansas Chamber of Commerce has proposed one of the more controversial bills which would provide tax relief to Kansas businesses and also provide relief to Kansans paying higher state taxes because of federal tax changes. Governor Laura Kelly vetoed a similar bill two years ago. Critics, including Democrat and moderate Republicans, have said this reminds them of the disastrous tax cuts of the Governor Sam Brownback era. The present issue has passed the Kansas Senate earlier this year.

There are two bills that focus on sports betting. One is backed by casino interests; the other is broader and would allow convenience stores to benefit.

Mike Taylor, a lobbyist for the Unified Government, said the chairman of the committee handling STAR bonds legislation, State Senator Rob Olson from Olathe, favors the use of STAR bonds for economic development. Legislators

have criticized STAR bonds because they have been abused. However, the proper use of the bonds has been demonstrated with such developments as Legends Outlets.

Taylor said any legislation that might restrict the use of STAR bonds would not affect those being used for the Homefield development; those bonds were grandfathered. Homefield is being developed on property where Schlitterbahn was. With STAR bonds, developers use sale tax revenue to pay for infrastructure.

There was discussion about the cyberattack on the Kansas Department of Labor. Hackers broke into the computerized records of thousands of Kansans, acquiring their Social Security numbers and have filed false claims. Estimates are that more than \$70 million has left the state. Many people with legitimate unemployment claims have been shut out.

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

## AAA: Important to Protect Home Pipes from Deep Freeze

With the coldest temperatures of the season in the forecast this weekend and next week, and families in a work/school from home routine, frozen or burst pipes can be a frustrating disruption. With periods of brutally cold weather, pipes are at risk of freezing due to sudden temperature drops, poor insulation or incorrect thermostat settings.

"Freezing temperatures put your pipes at risk, and recovery can be difficult and costly," said Dan Scroggins, managing director of AAA Insurance. "Copper, iron and plastic pipes can burst. A crack as small as 1/8-inch can spew up to 250 gallons of water per day, causing flooding, serious structural damage, and the potential for mold."

With two months of winter left and more frigid weather likely in the weeks ahead, AAA offers the following tips to prevent pipes from freezing and bursting and for managing home insurance claims should the problem occur:

### Preventing Frozen Pipes:

- Make sure everyone in your family knows where the water shut-off valve is and how it works.
- Insulate pipes in your home's crawl spaces and attic.
- Seal gaps around pipes that allow cold air inside. You also should look for air leaks around electrical wiring, clothes dryer vents and pipes. Use caulk or insulation to keep the cold out.
- Disconnect garden hoses. If possible, use an indoor valve to shut off and drain water from pipes leading to outside faucets. This reduces the chance that pipes inside the house will freeze.
- If a freeze is expected, consider allowing warm water to drip slightly overnight, preferably from a faucet on an outside wall. Even a slight trickle may keep your pipes from freezing.
- When there is the possibility of a freeze, don't turn down the thermostat at bedtime. Instead, maintain the same setting day and night. Drops in temperature, which are more common overnight, could freeze your pipes.
- Open cabinet doors. This will allow heat to reach uninsulated pipes located under sinks.
- If you're going on vacation or leaving your home for an extended period of time, consider maintaining minimal heat to prevent freezing.

### Recovering from Frozen Pipes:

- If you turn on your faucets and nothing comes out, your pipes are likely frozen.
- You may be able to use a hair dryer to thaw a frozen pipe. Begin by warming the section of pipe closest to the faucet, then work your way out toward the coldest part of the pipe.
- Never use a hair dryer or any electrical appliances in areas of standing water. You could be electrocuted.
- Never try to thaw a pipe with a torch or other open flame. It could cause a fire.
- If your water pipes have already burst, turn off the water at the main shutoff valve in the house, leave the water faucets turned on, and call a plumber.

### Managing Home Insurance Claims

- Make a list of the damaged articles and take photos.
- Save the receipts for what you spend—including additional living expenses if you must leave your home until repairs are completed—and submit them to your insurance company for reimbursement.
- Standard homeowners policies will cover most of the kinds of damage that result from a freeze. For example, if house pipes freeze and burst or if ice forms in gutters and causes water to back up under roof shingles and seep into the house. You would also be covered if the weight of snow or ice damages your house.
- If your home sustains water damage, it is important to make sure that it is properly dried and repaired to prevent any potential problem with mold. Remember, mold cannot survive without moisture.
- Check with your agent or insurance company to be sure of what your policy covers.

"Prevention is the key to protecting your home this winter—especially with more families at home due to COVID-19 closures. A few simple steps can help you avoid a frozen pipes nightmare," continued AAA Insurance's Scroggins. "For added peace of mind, it's a good idea to make sure you have adequate homeowners insurance should the situation arise."

To find out more about homeowners or renters insurance, contact your local AAA insurance agent, call 866-AAA-4YOU or visit [www.aaa.com/insurance](http://www.aaa.com/insurance).

### About AAA

AAA provides automotive, travel, and insurance services to 61 million members nationwide and nearly 347,000 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](http://AAA.com/mobile)) for iPhone, iPad and Android. For more information, visit [www.AAA.com](http://www.AAA.com).



## Passings...

By: Sue Reich

Shirley Jones, age 74, passed away January 31, 2021. She worked for USD #500 for over 20 years in Special Education. Graduate of Wyandotte High School

Christopher Shannon Roark, age 53, passed away February 5, 2021. Turner graduate, class of 1986.

Meredith Roberts Schraeder, age 78, passed away January 28, 2021. Wyandotte High School graduate. Had many jobs with the KCK Board of Education. Honored by KCK Public schools in 2012. Meredith held many other civic jobs.

Frank Ingels, age 78, passed away February 6, 2021. Argentine High School graduate, class of 1960

Christopher Plummer, age 91 passed February 5, 2021. Starred in movies, "Sound of Music".

Marty Schottenheimer, age 77, passed away February 8, 2021. He was the head coach of KC Chiefs, Washington Redskins, San Diego Chargers, Cleveland Browns.

Mary Wilson, age 76, passed away February 8, 2021. Lead singer of The Supremes. "Baby Love", "Stop! In the Name of Love" and many other hits.

Leon Spinks, age 67, passed away February 5, 2021. World heavyweight boxing Champion in 1978 that beat Muhammad Ali. USMC.

LEGAL PUBLICATION

LEGAL PUBLICATION

### ACCEPTING SEALED BIDS

The Board of Education, Unified School District No. 500, Kansas City, KS will accept sealed bids for: IFB 21-002 – RETAINING DEMOLITION AND REPLACEMENT OF RETAINING WALL

FAIRFAX LEARNING CENTER. Sealed bids should be addressed to: Purchasing Department, Board of Education, 2010 N. 59th Street, Room 370, Kansas City, KS 66109 - "IFB No. 21-002 – Fairfax Retaining Wall"

Pre-Bid Conference/Site Visit 3016 N 9th St, Kansas City, KS 66101: 02/19/2021 @ 10AM

Proposals will be opened 03/02/2021 @ 1:30 PM by Zoom Conference.

(First published 2-18-21)

1t-The Record-2-18-21

# Guest Editorials

## Fox Business Network Cancels "Lou Dobbs Tonight"

By: Tom Valverde

Friday February 8th, the FOX News network said it was cancelling the "Lou Dobbs Tonight," from its line-up of business and financial news programs. This came one day after FOX, Dobbs and two other program hosts were named in a \$2.7 Billion dollar lawsuit brought by Smartmatic, the voting machine manufacturer. Lou Dobbs, Maria Bartiromo and Jeannine Pirro, all vocal supporters of former president Trump. "Lou Dobbs Tonight," had high ratings; and he always pandered to what

the Pro-Trump people wanted to hear and was one of the former president's most vocal on-air supporters. But in doing so, Dobbs was losing some advertisers, they were not willing to be associated with his program's misinformation and repetition of Trump's rhetoric.

Some examples of Dobbs' statements on his evening show: "Smartmatic's technology was used to commit, "Massive voter fraud" USA Today noted these false statements by Dobbs: "It's Smartmatic, which is a company that was founded in 2005 in Ven-

ezuela for the specific purpose of "Fixing Elections." (Lou Dobbs, FOX Business Nov. 18, 2020). Another spurious accusation made by Dobbs: "Smartmatic and it's CEO, Antonio Mugica worked to flip votes. It was done via a backdoor in its voting software (a non-existent backdoor!) to carry-out a "Massive Cyber Pearl Harbor," the complaint alleged. "Defendant's story was a lie," the complaint said. "But it was a story that sold." Reporter Brian Seltzer wrote, "I think it's safe to say that Smartmatic's against FOX is not a nuisance suit, and it has little to do with news. It's going to be hard for FOX to wrap its hosts in a "Press Freedom flag."

"This case is about entertainers who gave fuel to lies in a desperate bid to keep Trump in power." Smartmatic's lawyer, Erik Connolly thought that the lawsuit would be beneficial to news organizations. "I think it's the type of case that had to be brought right now to get away from all the disinformation." Disinformation has a free rein right now...Courts can deliver, "Let's get back to Reality. Let's get back to factual reporting." Smartmatic has a strong argument--the Lies are explicit and easily debunked. That's why it may not be difficult to prove that FOX and its hosts knew or should have known they were telling lies---which is the actual malice" standard that public figures have to meet in Defamation cases."

As a direct result of former president Trump's and FOX host disinformation and their lies, Smartmatic has suffered many varied ramifications: A wave of Threats to its employees, including death threats against an executive's 14-year-old son, a "Meteoric rise" in Cyber Attacks, increased Security personnel costs and "Hundreds of millions" in projected revenue losses from contract cancellation Mr. Antonio Mugica said, "There was no choice the company had, it had to file the lawsuits. They knew these truths just as they knew the Earth is round and two plus two is four, as was stated in the lawsuit. "But they also saw an opportunity to capitalize on then President Trump's popularity by inventing a story." "The disinformation campaign that was launched against us is an obliterating one. For us, this is existential, and we have to take action." This quote reported by Oliver Darcy, CNN Business. Another of Dobbs' election Fiction: "We have reams and reams of factual documents from Smartmatic and Dominion including evidence that they "Planned and Executed" all of this...We have evidence of

how they flip the votes, how it was designed to flip the votes. (Lou Dobbs, FOX Business, December 10, 2020). USA Today reported that, "FOX aired at least 13 falsely implying reports of the company (Smartmatic) having "Stolen 2020 votes" in cahoots with Venezuela's Socialist government."

Dobbs should have known better than to repeat the outrageous Conspiracy Theories and crazy rhetoric of the former president. But he continued with allegations of a "Rigged and Stolen Election." Dobbs repeated Trump's claims of "Dead People" having voted, of large-scale "Ballot Dumps," with All the ballots marked for Biden! Dobbs also revealed that officials in "Battleground States had burned ballots, and these, of course, they were All marked for Trump! Sheer lunacy! Any person with a questioning mind would be very doubtful of such a bizarre and unprecedented Election story, unfortunately for Dobbs, his was not one of those minds. A sycophant rarely questions an authority figure, there's is to be of service and to believe without question! Lies and misstatements have resulted in a divided country. In "Alternative Facts" being accepted as reality and Factual News being only "Fake News," and never to be believed. Trump's speech with assurances that "I will be with you" led to the attack on the US Capitol, leaving 5 people dead. And the Pro-Trump protesters even chanted "Kill Pence" they were armed to take away members of Congress on the day they were there to observe the peaceful transition of power to the new president. The mob Believed Trump and Dobbs, they thought the Election had been stolen, well after two months of hearing this, they were sure it was the truth. But it served only these purposes; to maintain Trump in power, and to increase television program ratings! FOX News put out this statement prior to the announcement of Lou Dobbs removal; FOX News media is committed to providing the full context of every story with in-depth reporting and clean opinion. We are proud of our 2020 Election coverage and will vigorously defend against this, "meritless" lawsuit in Court. Well, most legal experts say that they believe that the lawsuit has strong standing. Professor Roy Guttermen of Syracuse University said, "This complaint establishes a compelling narrative in its 270-plus pages." The second Impeachment of former president Trump will hopefully be successful in finally holding him to account. Many Courtrooms are in Trump's Future!

LEGAL PUBLICATION

### STATE OF KANSAS, ex rel. KANSAS HIGHWAY PATROL V. \$2,380.00 in U.S. CURRENCY

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF WYANDOTTE COUNTY, KANSAS  
CIVIL DIVISION  
STATE OF KANSAS, ex rel. KANSAS HIGHWAY PATROL,  
Plaintiff,

v.  
Case No. 2020CV000671  
\$2,380.00 in U.S. CURRENCY, m/l;  
12 GRAMS OF METHAMPHETAMINE;  
AND  
56 DOSAGE UNITS OF HYDROXYZINE,

Defendants.

Pursuant to the Kansas Standard Asset Seizure and Forfeiture Act, K.S.A. 60-4101 et seq.

**NOTICE OF PENDING FORFEITURE Pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4109**  
STATE OF KANSAS TO ANY PERSON WHO HAS AN INTEREST IN THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT(S).

You are hereby notified that civil asset forfeiture proceedings have been filed in the District Court of Wyandotte County by the State of Kansas, ex rel. the Kansas Highway Patrol, praying for a decree forfeiting the above named defendant property to the Kansas Highway patrol as items that were used or intended to be used to facilitate a violation of the Controlled Substances Act, were the fruits of such a violation, or are contraband in and of themselves. You are required to send your claim or petition for recognition of exemption to both the below attorney and the Kansas Highway Patrol no later than 41 days after the 11th day of February 2021. Should you fail to file a sufficient claim pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4111 or a Petition for Recognition of Exemption pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4110, a decree forfeiting any interest in the above defendant property, \$2,380.00 in US Currency, m/l, will be entered in due course thus granting the Plaintiff's request.

Sarah E. Washburn #24687  
Legal Counsel / Special Assistant Attorney General  
Kansas Highway Patrol  
122 S.W. 7th Street  
Topeka, Kansas 66603-3847  
(785) 296-6800  
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Sarah.washburn@ks.gov  
(First published 2-11-21)  
3t-The Record-2-25-21

## Quotes To Ponder

By: Tom Valverde

*"The evidence is clear. When other attempts to overturn the presidential election failed, former president Trump Incited an attack on the Capitol."*

*"Trump's refusal to concede the election to Joe Biden encouraged the riot."*

*"Trump is directly responsible for inciting the deadly attack on the Capitol."*

*"Trump's statements at the "save the steal" rally, turned his 'wild' rally into a powder keg, waiting to blow."*

*"Trump aimed" the mob down Pennsylvania Ave., like a loaded Canon."*

*"At base, the Riot was Trump's last-ditch effort to hold onto power."*

*"The Senate should disqualify Trump for office and make certain that he can never harm our country again."*

*"This is not a routine Corruption charge. Trump has committed an Impeachable offense of Historic proportions."*

*"President Trump's conduct must be declared unacceptable in the clearest and most unequivocal terms. This is not a partisan matter. Trump's actions directly threatened the very foundation on which all other political debate and disagreements unfold."*

*"Trump and his supporters cannot hide behind the process complaint."*

Quotes from House Impeachment Managers  
Pretrial Briefs, 02/02/2021

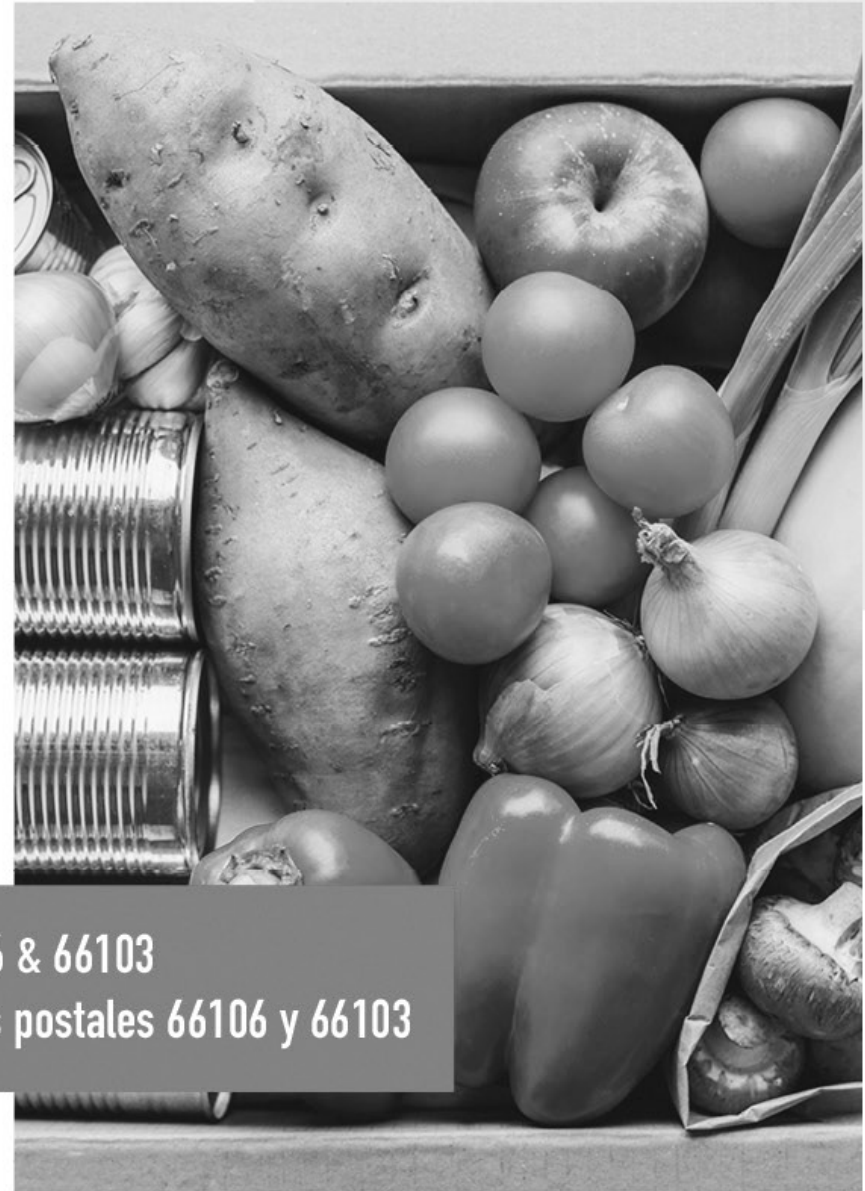
Some who still support the former president have falsely claimed that as a private citizen, he cannot be impeached. This is incorrect for the following reasons:

1. Trump committed the offense while he was still president.
2. He was impeached while still president.
3. The US Constitution gives the Senate the authority to try all impeachments and there

exists precedent for trying impeachments of former elected officials. The framers of the Constitution "Clearly intended for the impeachment process to reach former officials in 1798. Ever since,, that has been in the Rule book of the Senate." The president must be held accountable for his actions while in office. He is not above the Law, and when impeached, Trump was a sitting president. His first team of defense lawyers all quit. They may have realized that it is a Federal crime to tell a lie in the Senate chamber. They also disagreed with Trump's initial plans for his defense, namely just how election and voter Fraud should be used as a defense. And with the history of 60 Courts throwing out Trump's suits for lack of any evidence, it would not have been a successful strategy for the defense. Left with nothing to support the case for the defense, they were left with no option but to quit, only days before the start of the Second impeachment of the former president.

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