

Small Business Benefits From SBA Efforts

By: Murrel Bland

The Small Business Administration made about 50,000 loans during the Fiscal Year 2019. Compare that to 1.1 million loans forgiven by the Paycheck Protection Program as of January 2021.

Michael Barrera, the District Director for the SBA, commented on these factors as he told how the SBA helped small businesses and non-profit organizations during the coronavirus pandemic. He was the featured speaker at the monthly meeting of the Congressional Forum Friday, June 18 at the Vox Theater in the Rosedale community. The Forum is a committee of the Kansas City, Kansas, Area Chamber of Commerce.

Barrera, who was appointed in February earlier this year, is responsible for an agency that has oversight of about \$861 million of annual federal contracting and \$338 million in annual lending guarantees. The SBA District includes 89 counties in Eastern Kansas and Western Missouri.

Barrera said it is important for those wishing to receive SBA loans to keep good financial records and to keep current on taxes.

Barrera said the qualified small businesses and nonprofit organizations who are experiencing a temporary loss of revenue can apply for Eco-



nomic Injury Disaster Loans. The maximum amount of such EIDL loans is \$500,000.

Barrera is a native of Kansas City, Mo. He received a bachelor's degree from Kansas State University at Manhattan and a law degree from the University of Texas at Austin. His father owned and operated a restaurant in Kansas City, Mo.

The Chamber announced its annual golf tournament will be Wednesday, July 14 at Dub's Dread Golf Course with morning and afternoon flights. The Chamber's annual meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 23 at Memorial Hall.

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

experiencing a temporary loss Mr. Barrera is an expeof revenue can apply for Eco- rienced attorney with over

30-years of business, government, legal, and non-profit experience. Mr. Barrera has an extensive history with the small business community. He previously served as the SBA's third National Ombudsman from 2001 to 2005, where his office assisted small businesses who were subject to overburdensome federal regulations. He also served as the first director of the agency's Business Match Making program from 2003 to 2005. Mr. Barrera served as an internal Ombudsman for SBA's Office of Disaster Assistance employees, subsequent to the hurricanes that devastated Puerto Rico, Florida, and Texas in 2017 and 2018.

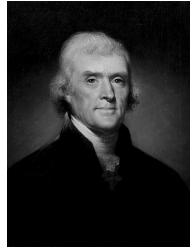
In addition to his SBA experience, Mr. Barrera served as the President and CEO of the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (Washington DC); Director of Entrepreneurship for the LIBRE Institute (Denver, CO. and Kansas City, MO); and President of the National Business Information Clearinghouse (Denver, CO).

Mr. Barrera received his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law and a bachelor's degree from Kansas State University. He was also educated at Harvard Business School and the Marshall School of Business at USC. He is a native of Kansas City, Missouri.

In CONGRESS, July 4, 1776

By Dr. Jim Haas

While other members of the Second Continental Congress debated on the fourth day of July whether to issue his Declaration of Independence from Great Britain, Thomas Jefferson sat quietly taking temperature readings from the new thermometer he had bought for three pounds, fifteen shillings the day before. He recorded a cool summer day in Philadelphia: "6 A.M., 68 degrees; 9 A.M., 72 and ½ degrees; 1 P.M., 76 degrees; 9 P.M., 73 and ½ degrees."



Jefferson was no speaker, and his friend John Adams, who debated

on Jefferson's behalf, later wrote, "During the whole time I sat with him in Congress, I never heard him utter three sentences together." Jefferson had other abilities. He could "calculate an eclipse, survey an estate, try a cause, break a horse, tie an artery, dance a minuet, and play the violin." He was 6'3" with flaming red hair, possibly the most learned and certainly the most respected writer in the Colonies. He was 33 years old.

A month earlier, Congress had asked Jefferson to write a declaration. He and his pen spent 17 days together carving and polishing each word and finishing on June 28. The Congress cut 460 words, including a condemnation of slavery that Southern delegates refused to approve, changes that Jefferson resented. The Declaration was approved July 2 and 200 printed copies were issued to the Colonies July 4 (26 are known to survive). Fifty-six delegates began signing a calligraphic version on August 2. Jefferson's original draft survives at the Library of Congress; the copy signed August 2 is on public view at the National Archives.

While the Declaration of Independence announced a revolution, most of its ideas were not revolutionary. Educated gentlemen in Europe and the Colonies believed in a social contract between ruler and ruled, allowing disobedience if the ruler failed to keep his or her part of the bargain. What *was* revolutionary was Jefferson's second sentence, especially the last three words:

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.

The "pursuit of happiness" was a new concept in political doctrine, expanding government's traditional role of protecting life and property. It was Jefferson's contribution to the unique character of the United States.

The sentence did something else, as well. By focusing on the individual, it implied a social contract among all citizens and placed equal responsibility for sound government on each one. As Jefferson knew, that responsibility would require every citizen to become well educated, and he devoted much of his life to promoting public elementary and high schools and to founding the University of Virginia as an example for other states to follow.

Three months to the day before Jefferson finished his Declaration, on March 28, Spaniard Juan Batista de Anza and 13 men who had traveled up the Pacific coast of colonial New Spain arrived at the shores of a magnificent bay. He named the place San Francisco, after St. Francis, and chose sites for a presidio (fort) and a mission. Eventually, the western Spanish and eastern British colonies would be united.

On July 4, 1826, the nation celebrated its fiftieth birthday. At 12:50 p.m., Jefferson died peacefully in his hilltop home at Monticello overlooking his beloved University. His friend John Adams died five hours later in Quincy, Massachusetts. Not having the news, his last words were, "Thomas Jefferson still survives." Jefferson's ideas still survive today.

riodical Postage Pai Kansas City, Kansa Page 2 The Record - July 1, 2021

Sue's Sudsy Soapbox By: Sue Reich



ave you ever worked your heinie off every day until you didn't think you could do anymore? Well, I have. If it wasn't for an angel that was sent to me to help me lift, box, scoot, sort, repackage, label, tape, throw away and all that stuff, I couldn't do it without her. Like I said in my last soapbox, it is so great to have someone younger, smarter, stronger, etc, to work with me, I would still be doing this until next year. Even found some stuff that belonged to the residents that lived here before. I even had some stuff that Deb could use too, so as she helped me, I helped her. I have even found time to paint two rooms. I started in the kitchen, get tired of it then started in on my bathroom. I just go back and forth. I get bored easy and have to keep busy. So, I have two rooms I am working on. Busy, busy, busy.

Mr. Ed had a heart attack last weekend and ended up calling 911 at about 1:30 a.m. Saturday morning. Ended up at Providence for about three days. He is home now and is on meds. He had a choice of a bypass, stints or meds so he chose meds. After they got him pretty much stabilized, he got to come home. With his dementia and heart, I have my hands full. Then BoBo (my fur baby, (Bull Mastiff/ Brindle boxer) got sick. But I think he is ok now.

This is funny, anyway, I think so. I thought we were going to move and even had the papers drawn up for a smaller house. I started getting boxes, and boxes and boxes and boxes and more boxes. Guess what? We decided not to, so now I have all these boxes. (Thanks to Nigro's on Merriam and 34th). They would set them outside and

I would take them. Now, I have to find a place for all these boxes. Want them? I will bring them to you at Argentine or Turner or you can pick them up. I have some furniture to sell, let me know and I'll see if I have what you need. Been taking a lot of stuff to the "Depot" on 55th street. Even our garage looks better. Tools and stuff like that because Mr. Ed won't be using those anymore. Jim, Calvin, and the others really appreciate the stuff I take to them. Jim said he will go thru them this winter since there won't be any gardening to do but they will be working on the building. Have you seen the flowers and plants at the Community on 55th street? They have done a wonderful job and are selling a lot of their wares. Mary and Larry are always there. Bless their hearts. They really like that job. I really need to get down there and get busy on Digger. Poor little guy is beginning to peel. David Young is going to help me. (He said anyway.)

Well, school is out, and people need some employees, so you kids that are looking for jobs, they are out there. I see help wanted signs everywhere. Be good, be kind, be helpful, too. The fellow that does my lawn brings his sons with him and they do my yard in nothing flat. The churches seem to be picking up again. That's good. Steve Neal asked me the other day when our domino group is going to come back. Soon, I hope! lvya all, in our little towns. Miss seeing you all. I still wear my mask. Lots of people do. Anywhoooo, take care of yourself and your pets. They need love and tender care too. Your little Argentine gal Sue. Here is another remembrance of my sisters, Gayle, Carolyn and Marilyn Larson all of Argentine High school. Hand in Hand Sisters count on each other, unfailing support, honest advice, little favors, impossible impositions and whatever else is required.

Short Stuff: What are the bicycle pictures doing on Strong Avenue? I named my Hollyhocks, "Fred's Flowers". They are razing the schools in Turner. Hopefully the politics are over by now.



This was the original Turner High school then it became Turner Middle school. It is being razed and rebuilt



Another school being razed. What used to be Junction Elementary is being torn down. There has to be a reason for all of this.



These are on both sides of Strong Ave. Hmmm, wonder why?

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Comin' & Goin' Turner Style



By Sharon Hoover

Busy, busy, busy. Activity has picked up in the garden This week eight students from Youth Volunteer Corps spent three days laying an irrigation system in the orchard. They were scheduled to be here for four days but got rained out on Thursday. On Tuesday, the Turner Library started holding craft classes in the Shady Grove. They plan to have an activity in the garden weekly for the rest of the summer. Days and times will be posted on NextDoor, the TRC website, the KCK Public Library website or call 913-295 8250 ext.4 for more information. The TRC summer



camp kids planted onions, toured the bee habitat, and the new hoop house. The youngest group also visited the aquaponics area since they missed it last week. Janet pick five cucumbers to take back to TRC to wash, slice and share for lunch or snack in the afternoon.

Farm Tales is back at Ag Hall at 10:30 am on July 15, 2021, sponsored by Wyandotte County Farm Bureau and the Wyandotte County Conservation District. The event is free, but you must pre-register. To reserve your spot(s) call 913-721-1075 or email info@aghalloffame. com. The topic is Food, Farm, and Fun. Activities include "Learn along with Kailey" (a book about jobs that farmers do by Dan Yunk; "Hear the Tale of Farmer Fred" (help him run his farm for a day); "Play the Crop is Right" (match the crop with your shopping bag); "Create your

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

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AAA: More than 47 million Americans to Celebrate Independence Day Getaway

More than 47.7 million Americans will take to the nation's roadways and skies this Independence Day (July 1–5), as travel volumes are expected to nearly fully recover to pre-pandemic levels. In fact, this will be the second-highest Independence Day travel volume on record, trailing only 2019. Overall, just 2.5% fewer Americans are expected to travel this year compared to Independence Day in 2019. This represents an increase of nearly 40% compared to last year, when total travel fell to 34.2 million.

While all modes of travel will see increased demand this Independence Day, road trips continue to dominate this summer. Despite the highest gas prices in seven years, more than 91% of holiday travel will be by car. An expected 43.6 million Americans will drive to their destinations, the highest on record for this holiday and 5% more than the previous record set in 2019. With 3.5 million people planning to fly, air travel volumes this Independence Day will reach 90% of pre-pandemic levels and increase 164% compared to last year.

"Travel is in full swing this summer, as Americans eagerly pursue travel opportunities they've deferred for the last year-and-a-half," said Paula Twidale, senior vice president, AAA Travel. "We saw strong demand for travel around Memorial Day and the kick-off of summer, and all indications now point to a busy Independence Day to follow."

Another 620,000 Americans are expected to travel by other modes this Independence Day, an increase of over 72% compared to last year, but 83% lower than in 2019. This includes travel by bus and train, and also the return of cruising. Cruise lines have announced limited sailings resuming from U.S. ports beginning in late June. For those who make the personal decision to take a cruise. AAA reminds them that a travel agent can help advise on cancelation policies, what you can expect on your cruise, and travel insurance options to help protect your health and travel investment before and during your vacation

Top Destinations & Resources to Plan Your Trip

AAA Travel booking data also indicate a strong travel recovery for summer. Theme parks in Orlando and Southern California, as well destinations including Denver, Las Vegas and Seattle are topping the list of Independence Day destinations this year

Top Independence Day Travel Destinations:

- 1. Orlando, FL
- 2. Anaheim, CA
- 3. Denver, CO
- 4. Las Vegas, NV
- 5. Seattle, WA
- 6. Chicago, IL

7. New York, NY

8. Atlanta, GA

9. Boston, MA

10. Kahului, Maui, HI
•Based on AAA Travel advance air and tour bookings, July 1–5, 2021

When planning a trip, refer to the new AAA Digital TourBook guides, now available for destinations across the U.S., Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean at TourBook.AAA.com. Available on smartphone, tablet or desktop, the new interactive guides feature detailed destination information, must-see attractions, sample itineraries and more.

To meet the needs of today's travelers, AAA is enhancing its Diamond inspections. Hotels that meet AAA's standards for cleanliness, condition and new surface cleanliness testing will now be recognized as 'Inspected Clean' and then assigned a Diamond designation. AAA inspectors will start conducting testing to identify Inspected Clean properties later this month. In the meantime, travelers can look for AAA's Best of Housekeeping badge for peace of mind. Prior to any hotel stay, call ahead to ensure your hotel is open and ask what precautions they are taking to protect guests.

Long Delays Expected for Drivers INRIX, in collaboration with AAA, predicts drivers will experience the worst congestion heading into the holiday weekend as commuters leave work early and mix with holiday travelers, along with the return trip on Monday mid-day. Major metro areas across the U.S. could see nearly double the delays verses typical drive times, with drivers in Boston and San Francisco likely to experience nearly three-times the delays.

"With travelers eager to hit the road this summer, we're expecting nationwide traffic volumes to increase about 15% over normal this holiday weekend. Drivers around major metro areas must be prepared for significantly more delay," says Bob Pishue, transportation analyst, INRIX. "Knowing when and where congestion will build can help drivers avoid the stress of sitting in traffic.

Our advice is to avoid traveling on Thursday and Friday afternoon, along with Monday mid-day."

Travelers: Prepare for Higher

While AAA found average airfares have declined 2% compared to last Independence Day, travelers can expect to find higher prices for hotels and car rentals as demand climbs. Mid-range hotel rates have increased between 32% and 35%, with average nightly rates ranging between \$156 and \$398 for AAA Two Diamond and AAA Three Diamond hotels, respectively.

Daily car rental rates have in-

creased 86% compared to last Independence Day, topping out at \$166. Consumers have experienced high costs and limited availability of rental cars in some markets, due to the chip shortage impacting auto manufacturers. This production delay has presented a domino effect as rental car companies work to increase their inventory of new vehicles in time to meet the increased demand for domestic road travel.

The 43.6 million Americans expected to travel by car this Independence Day can expect gas prices to be the most expensive since 2014 with the national average likely to remain above \$3 per gallon.

"Higher gas prices won't deter road trippers this summer. In fact, we're expecting record-breaking levels of car travel this July Fourth," said Jeanette C. McGee, AAA spokesperson. "Though prices will remain above \$3 a gallon, travelers are likely to look for more free activities or eat out less, but still take their vacations as planned."

AAA members can save on gas by joining the Fuel Rewards at Shell program. Save 30 cents per gallon on your first fill-up at Shell when you join between July 1 and August 31, 2021. Join now at AAA.com/Shell.

More Tips for Travelers

While many aspects of daily life start to return closer to a pre-pandemic normal, AAA cautions that the travel landscape has changed. Remember to exercise caution while traveling, and consider working with a travel agent to plan your trip. They can help if you need to make any last-minute changes to travel plans, explore travel insurance options and help you plan a vacation that meets your needs and comfort-level this summer.

Although the CDC advises that fully vaccinated people can travel domestically at low risk to themselves, it's important to keep in mind that some local and state travel restrictions may still remain in place. Travelers can refer to AAA's COVID-19 Travel Restrictions Map and TripTik.AAA.com for the latest information to help plan their trip.

For travelers who are not vaccinated but choose to travel, CDC recommends that you practice social distancing, wear a mask, wash your hands and get tested for COVID-19 before and after travel.

Regardless of vaccination status, masks are required on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations.

Make Sure Your Car is Road Trip-Ready

Before hitting the road, AAA reminds motorists to plan their route in advance and ensure their vehicle

is ready, to help avoid a breakdown along the way. Nationwide, AAA expects to rescue more than 460,000 Americans at the roadside this Independence Day weekend.

AAA makes it easy to request assistance—by phone or text (1-800-AAA-HELP), app or online—and members can track the service technician's progress en route to their vehicle. Also, don't leave home without an emergency roadside kit and continue to pack extra snacks or meals as well as cleaning supplies, including disinfecting wipes.

Regardless of how you plan to get to your destination, AAA advises travelers to seek the advice of a knowledgeable travel agent to help plan their trips this Independence Day. To get started and to learn more, visit AAA.com/Travel.

Methodology

AAA's projections are based on economic forecasting and research by IHS Markit. For the purposes of this forecast, the Independence Day holiday travel period is defined as Thursday, July 1 through Monday, July 5. When the Fourth of July falls on any day of the week other than a Wednesday, it is considered to be a five-day holiday period. The travel forecast was prepared the week of June 1, 2021.

In cooperation with AAA, IHS Markit developed a unique methodology to forecast actual domestic travel volumes, using macroeconomic drivers such as employment, output, household net worth, asset prices including stock indices, interest rates, housing market indicators,

and variables related to travel and tourism, including prices of gasoline, airline travel and hotel stays. For the 2021 Independence Day holiday travel forecast, IHS Markit also examined changes in the IHS Markit containment index regarding COVID19–related restrictions and activity.

About INRIX

INRIX is the global leader in connected car services and transportation analytics. Leveraging big data and the cloud, INRIX delivers comprehensive services and solutions to help move people, cities and businesses forward. INRIX's partners are automakers, governments, mobile operators, developers, advertisers, as well as enterprises large and small.

INRIX Media contact: Mark Burfeind - (425) 284-3825, mark. burfeind@inrix.com

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KCKPL to transfer from Axis 360 content to Hoopla

Kansas City, Kansas Public Library will be canceling the Axis 360 digital book service and transferring all ebook and eaudiobook items to Hoopla. The library is hopeful that moving current content to Hoopla and purchasing new titles strictly within that platform will simplify things for patrons and lead to a better overall experience.

Hoopla offers two ways to check out items, the instant model and the flex model. The previous Axis 360 titles will be available under the flex model, which allows for one patron at a time to check out an item. Items are checked out for 21 days, and patrons can have 5 items checked out at a time. Flex titles can be placed on hold if the title is currently checked out by someone else. Instant titles can be checked out by multiple people at the same time, and the checkout time varies based on item type. Patrons are allowed 20 instant checkouts a month.

The process will begin on July 12, when no new checkouts will be allowed on Axis 360. On August 1, Axis 360 will be shut off. On September 1, the transfer will be finalized, and items will be available in Hoopla. Any current holds in Axis 360 will be transferred over to Hoopla.

Patrons who are not currently using the Hoopla app are encouraged to download it prior to the transfer. The app can be found in the Apple, Google Play, and Amazon Fire stores, or on the library's eCommunity website at ecommunity. kckpl.org. For more information, contact econtentlibrarian@kckpl.org.

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Comin' & Goin' Turner Style...

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own Salad Bowl) (plant a garden of greens; and take home a farm adventure activity book to share.

The Wyandotte County Fair is right around the corner. It will be held from July 13 through 17. Four-H Exhibits will be on display on July 13. In the open class, there will be a recycled materials contest, Lego contest, and pie contest for cash prizes. You must register for the Lego and recycled materials contest on July 10 from 9am-4pm. The pie contest is on July 17, entry time is

from 10am – noon. For more info on contests call Wanda at 913-956-9595. Veterans & Military will be honored on Tuesday night, Latino Night is Thursday night. Hours for the fair are Tuesday-Thursday 5pm-11pm; Friday 5pm-midnight and Saturday 2pm-midnight. Music will be provided by local bands. The Rodeo will be at 7pm on Saturday. The address is 13700 Polfer Rd. KCK. Hope to see you there!

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

Kansas Insurance Distributes \$15 million to local firefighters

Topeka - The Kansas Insurance Department made its annual distribution to state and local firefighter relief organizations, pursuant to the Kansas Firefighters Relief Act. More than \$15.1 million will be distributed among 554 local Firefighters Relief Associations (FRAs) across the state.

"While many Kansans may not be aware of this fund, it plays a critical role in assisting firefighters and their families when an accident or death occurs in the line of duty," said Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt. "We cannot thank our firefighters and their families enough for the sacrifice they make to keep us safe."

The funds are generated by a two percent tax paid by insurance companies on fire and lightning insurance premiums written in Kansas for the previous calendar year. It is collected by the department, pursuant to the Kansas Firefighter Relief Act, and distributed to the FRAs, as required by Kansas law.

Local FRAs use the funds for purchasing accident and health, disability, and life insurance premiums to assist fire-fighters and their families. To learn more about the Kansas Firefighter Relief Act, visit insurance.kansas.gov/firefighters.

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Guest Editorials

Quotes To Ponder

By: Tom Valverde

"I never get vaccinated for diseases that I've never had!" "I take care of myself and I have been around people who had COVID, and never got it. So, I don't need to be vaccinated."

Quotes from two different people at a recent home gathering.

Tom's Tasty Treats

By: Tom Valverde

Nothing can beat a cake that is made from scratch, and there's no easier or more delicious a treat than a homemade chocolate cake! There's no need to bring out the electric mixer and it's a simple matter of combining the wet with the dry ingredients. And then, what makes this a super-moist cake is the addition of sour cream, stir it in and the batter is ready to pour into two eight-inch cake pans. Hope you will try:

Tom's Easy To Make Chocolate Cake Ingredients:

1 1/2 sticks Butter,

melted

1/2 c Canola oil

1 1/4 c Iced Water

1/2 c Cocoa

1 t Instant Espresso powder

1 1/4 c Sugar

1/2 c Brown Sugar

3 1/4 c Flour

2 t Baking Powder

1 t Baking Soda

1-8 oz. Container of

Sour Cream

3 Lg. Eggs, room temperature

2 t Vanilla

Directions:

Set oven to 350°

Line the bottoms of the cake pans with parchment paper and butter the sides.

In a small bowl combine and mix together the butter, oil, and water. In a large mixing bowl combine and whisk together the cocoa, espresso powder, sugar, brown sugar, flour, baking powder and baking soda.

In a four-cup measuring cup combine the sour cream, eggs and Vanilla and mix until blended. Add the cocoa mixture to the butter mixture and stir until blended. Stir in the sour cream mixture, stir just to blend well. The batter will be a moist one.

Divide the batter evenly between the two pans and bake at 350° for 50-59 minutes.

Cool the cakes on wire racks.

Prepare the frosting.

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 c Chocolate bar, cut into small pieces and melted. Use best quality dark Chocolate. Semisweet chips can also be used.
 - 2 sticks Butter
 - 2 1/2 c Powdered Sugar
 - 2 t Vanilla

Melt the chocolate. In the bowl of a mixer, beat the butter until smooth. Sift the powdered sugar to remove any lumps and to aerate it. Add the sugar slowly by large spoonfuls. When all the sugar has been beaten in, add the cooled melted butter and the vanilla. Beat until blended well.

Frost cake as you desire. 1/3 each for the center layer, the top, and the sides. Make this your go to, chocolate cake for any occasion or for a special birthday cake! Delicious as is and even better served a la mode, with some old-fashioned vanilla ice cream. A wonderful Summertime treat! Enjoy!

"Globally, Delta is the most serious in terms of the evolution of the virus. The real danger will be to the people who have chosen not to get vaccinated."

William Hanage, Epidemiologist at the Harvard T.H. Chang School of Public Health

"If Delta takes off, that choice, (to not be vaccinated) looks worse and worse!"

Dr. Robert Wachter, Chair, Department of Medicine University of California, San Francisco

It's truly a shame and a very perilous one, that some people continue with their bias against being vaccinated. The new Delta variant of the virus is said to be more contagious and even deadlier, this was explained, but made no difference to the two people with the absurd logic above shown by the people at the recent home gathering.

In Kansas City, a great number of people have been vaccinated and that has proven to help slow the spread of the COVID pandemic here. It also will protect these people from the Delta variant. This Fall, cases of the Delta variant of COVID is expected to increase, as the Flu does, with the season.

Some Southern States have very few vaccinated people and the Centers for Disease Control, (CDC) has issued dire predictions for those who still are not vaccinated, as this variant virus is more easily transmitted. The *New York Times* had an article about the increased incidence of



Passings...

By: Sue Reich

Arthur Dean Garrison, age 96, passed away June 12, 2021. A teacher in the KCK school district for many years.

Patricia Wurster, age 91, passed away June 12, 2021. Wyandotte High school and Kansas State student

Nancy (Hughes) Bailey, age 91, passed away June 17, 2021. Rosedale High.

COVID in rural areas of the Country. Missouri leads the states in new cases with the exception of the Kansas City area. According to a CDC report, people living in rural towns and areas, "may be at higher risk for suffering severe illness from COVID-19. It gave the reasons for this determination:

- 1. Rural residents are older than the non-rural population.
- 2. Rural residents have higher rates of underlying chronic diseases.
- 3. In the U.S., Adults with disabilities are 3 times more likely to have heart disease, stroke, diabetes, or cancer, as those living without disabilities. One third of Adults in rural areas report having a disability. This is 9% higher, than those living in urban
 - 4. Medical services are not

as readily available to people living in rural areas.

Dr. Wachter is now convinced that Delta will take over as the main cause for COVID-19 for the reason of it's being more highly contagious. Source: *USA Today*.

For those people who are still unvaccinated, time is of the essence. New studies now indicate that it takes a minimum of 5-6 weeks to reach full level of protection, after the second vaccine dose. Act quickly, be vaccinated. Protect your health, that of your family, and also, that of your community. We all have an important part to play in defeating Delta. The vaccine is cost-free and is readily available at health department sites, many pharmacies and at some doctor's offices. Please take action, take control of your life, get vaccinated.

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