



# The Record

## Governor Laura Kelly Announces \$2 Billion in New Capital Investment in 2020

TOPEKA – Governor Laura Kelly today announced that the State of Kansas has officially surpassed \$2 billion in new capital investment in 2020. This investment is brought by new economic development projects driven by Governor Kelly’s administration and the Kansas Department of Commerce.

“The arrival of COVID-19 threatened to undermine the significant progress my administration has made to rebuild Kansas’ economic development recruitment efforts,” Governor Kelly said. “But with the assistance of Secretary David Toland and the dedicated team at the Department of Commerce, we have continued to bring in new projects or grow existing businesses. This significant milestone in investment illustrates our strong momentum, which will allow us to continue creating jobs and strengthening our state’s economic foundation.”

As of Tuesday, Governor Kelly’s administration has closed 86 projects in 2020, worth nearly \$2.15 billion in capital investment and creating more than 8,100 jobs. Since Governor Kelly has been in office, her administration has closed 179 projects worth more than \$3.47 billion in

capital investment and which promise to create nearly 19,000 jobs.

“This achievement would have been impossible without the hard work and dedication of our team at the Department of Commerce,” Secretary Toland said. “We have the best economic development team in the country thanks to Governor Kelly’s commitment to rebuilding this agency and her belief in smart, transparent economic development. Expect much more from Commerce – we’re not slowing down.”

To celebrate the investment numbers, Governor Kelly and Secretary Toland today visited and toured Plastikon Healthcare in Lawrence.

The company, a plastic and contract manufacturer, recently expanded its facility to produce test tubes for COVID-19 testing. The expansion will bring nearly \$6 million in capital investment to Kansas and create about 40 jobs.

“Plastikon is an innovative, forward-thinking company with a strong record of responding quickly and efficiently to pressing health care needs,” Governor Kelly said. “Its ability to incorporate new technologies will aid the state in the production of much-needed testing supplies to mitigate the spread

of COVID-19 and keep our businesses and schools open. I thank them for their dedication to our state.”

Capital Investment Highlights:

The Plastikon expansion joins the ranks of approximately 86 new economic development projects completed across the state this year, including:

- Urban Outfitters, Inc., whose new 880,000-square-foot omnichannel distribution center in Wyandotte County will create up to 2,000 new jobs and invest over \$400 million in Kansas over the next several years;
- Amazon’s two new fulfillment centers in Kansas City, Kansas, and Park City, which will create more than 1,000 full-time jobs;
- Great Plains Manufacturing’s new manufacturing facility in Salina, which will result in more than \$43 million in capital investment and create 130 full-time jobs;
- The new Nor-Am Cold Storage facility in Dodge City, which will bring 90 new full-time jobs and \$30 million in capital investment;
- And the new Peerless Products production facility in Iola, which will create up to 120 new full-time jobs with a capital investment of \$10.35 million

## Walmart Launches New Pet Care Services, Continues to Expand Full Suite of Pet Offerings Leading Pet Retailer Brings Customers Affordable Pet Insurance, Pet Sitting and Dog Walking Services

BENTONVILLE, Ark. – Walmart understands pets aren’t just pets, they’re family. That’s why today, Walmart is announcing its continued expansion of its full suite of Pet offerings with the launch of Walmart Pet Care – a full-service, omnichannel pet care offering that makes holistic care easy, simple and affordable for the 90 million pet owners who shop at Walmart. The retailer is leveraging industry-leading providers to bring customers trusted pet care programs in one place, including Walmart Pet Insurance and convenient pet care services like dog-walking and pet sitting.

“We’re on a mission to help families live better – and that goes for pets, too,” said Melody Richard, merchandising vice president, Pets. “Especially as adoption rates soar as a result of the pandemic and more people become pet owners, this was the perfect time to launch expanded services in Walmart Pet Care for our customers. As the most shopped omnichannel retailer for pet products, our new pet care services and support offer our customers trusted, convenient services that provide the exceptional care their pets deserve.”

In the U.S., 98% of pets remain uninsured\*, even though one-third of Americans cannot cover an unexpected medical bill over \$100\*\*. As every pet parent’s trusted companion, Walmart offers Walmart Pet Insurance, an accessible insurance solution in the same place customers buy their pet food and fill their pet’s prescriptions. In collaboration with Petplan, North America’s most comprehensive pet insurance provider^, Walmart customers can save up to 10% on their policies and can sign-up for an insurance plan that provides coverage for veterinary fees due to accident, injury or illness, including chronic and hereditary conditions. Walmart Pet Insurance also makes it easy for customers to file claims and schedule appointments through Petplan’s digital service. Each policy also includes access to \$1000 worth of online virtual vet appointments at no additional charge.

Walmart Pet Care will also include new pet sitting and dog walking services through Rover, an easy-to-use website and app that provides access to trusted neighborhood care. Through Rover, pet parents can quickly and easily book pet sitters and dog walkers from over 300,000 providers in their communities across the country. Walmart is working with Rover to provide customers with convenient pet sitters and dog walkers that match each pet, lifestyle and budget. As a perk for pet owners who book services through Rover, Walmart customers will receive a \$20 Walmart gift card for their first completed service and another \$20 Walmart gift card if they complete their fifth services within six months.

Walmart Pet Care includes Walmart PetRx, in-store and online pharmacy services introduced by Walmart in 2019, that give customers the opportunity to fill pet prescriptions at prices significantly below competitors. Walmart Pet Care is just one of the recent investments the retailer has made in the Pet category, joining its growing assortment of over 1,800 premium and specialty pet products and the expansion of in-store vet clinics that offer Walmart customers quality pet care, conveniently where they shop.

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# Sue's Sudsy Soapbox By: Sue Reich



It's baaaack. No, not the poltergeist, that darn virus. They say it will be coming back with a vengeance. So, a vaccine has supposedly been found and it will be 90 % effective. But, who is going to be the first in line to try it out? Not me. No sireeeee. Who are the lucky people that are willing to be the guinea pig? We'll see. I heard one politician a few months ago that said that old people should be the guinea pigs. We don't have that much longer to live anyway. Pffftttt. I can't remember about how old he was but that is some nerve. All lives matter, that's for sure.

Did everyone get thru Halloween okay? Now Thanksgiving is coming up and we have to figure out if we are going to be "familized" or eat alone. Our group is going to get together for a pre-dinner and hopefully we all can make it and we are "up in years" lol. Hey, why not? We have been thru the swine flu, the polio, the German measles, the chicken whatever that was, wars, nuclear junk, tornados, earthquakes, you name it, we experienced it so what is a vaccine going to hurt? Okay, who's first? I know, let's make some old people cut-outs and try it out on them.

Well, today was Veteran's day and a whole bunch of my relatives were in the service. I had uncles, cousins, a son, nieces, great niece, brothers in law, plus several more in the Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force, and of course the Marine Corp. We had quite a family that went thru puredehell and some fought, some didn't. My son, John went to the Marine Corp as soon as he graduated from Turner High school, (one week), then when he got out, he joined the Army National Guard

and now is a RN. That guy had some get up and go and still does.

Well, anyway, hope everyone stayed safe and enjoyed another holiday. The programs at WWII, Memorial Museum looked good with music, exhibits, just a beautiful day to get out and honor all the men and women that gave us their service. So many usual events have been cancelled that it just doesn't seem the same. Not just seem the same, because it isn't the same. It is hard for me to get use to all the changes that have been made since this pandemic. I hope and pray that our wonderful doctors and or scientists really find something to remedy this terrible time of our lives.

Well, dear readers, friends, neighbors, relatives, whom-ever you may be, hope you all stay safe, mind your p's and q's, wash your hands, be kind. Here is a little ditty that I saw on tv the other day. It was quoted by Bishop Curry of the Episcopal Church. "We all came over on different ships, but we're in the same boat now." Clever, right? Take care, lvyaa all, from your little ol' gal from Argentine, Sue.

"Creation of woman from the rib of man: She was not made of his head to top him nor out of his feet to be trampled up by him but out of his side to be equal with him. Under his arm to be protected and near his heart to be beloved." from: *Apples of Gold*

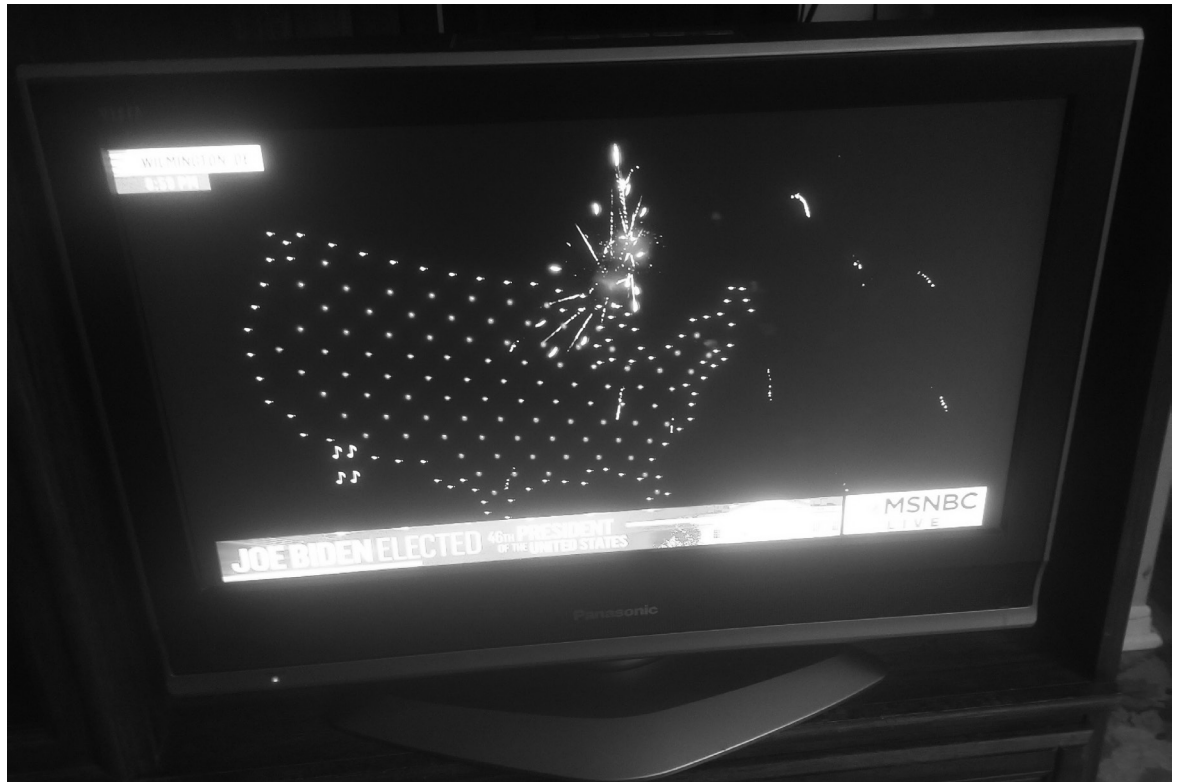
## Television Icon Alex Trebek

By: Sue Reich

Another television icon has gone after 36 years doing game shows. Alex Trebek, was 80 years old and passed away after battling pancreatic cancer for about two years. Canadian born, he sported a beautiful head of hair with a matching moustache that drew him to the public and the world of tv. Alex will be missed, but he fought hard and stayed with his hosting the game show of Jeopardy His last televised show will be shown on Christmas day, this year. As of this writing, a new host has not been picked. Nevertheless, it will not be the same without Alex Trebek.



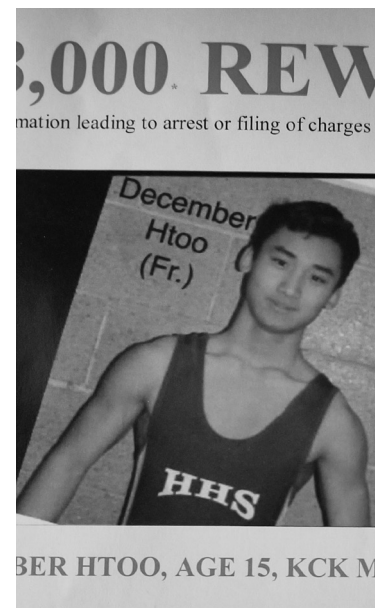
President-Elect, Joe Biden



Celebratory fireworks in the shape of United States of America for President-Elect Biden.



Does this hippie look familiar?



Three years now. Does anyone remember me?

# Comin' & Goin' Turner Style



By Sharon Hoover

Several weeks ago, I wrote about an upcoming webinar presented by the Kansas City Kansas Public Library with author Libby Copeland about her book "The Lost Family: How DNA Testing is Upending Who We Are."

I sat in on the webinar along with 144 other people. The moderator had a prepared list of questions and then took questions from the audience. According to Ms. Copeland there are three types of seekers

interested in what is in their genes. The first are genealogists who had already researched their ancestors through family history and public records. The second group are adoptees looking for a biologic parent or those questioning their parentage. The last category is those who test to find out where their forbearers came from. Some DNA tests end verifying family history, others end in surprises - some good or some bad. Only a small percentage have their worlds turned upside down. Now DNA testing is being used to solve cold case crimes. We all were able to pick up assigned copy and I've read a third of it. Pretty interesting. This program was recorded and can be seen at <https://youtu.be/2h-Hp9gBoWhs> I hope the library holds more of these book review webinars.

I'm in the middle of an-

other one of Dean Koontz's otherworldly suspense novels "Elsewhere". According to the inside jacket - "The fate of the world is in the hands of a father and daughter" who have the key to open doors that on one else can. The key takes the reader to parallel worlds, a possible 180. I've only been to one so far and it was not pleasant. The government (?) is on their trail. The father and daughter can destroy the key, but the girl's mother walked out on the family seven years earlier and disappeared without a trace. Could she be in one of these other worlds - should they try to find her? I have to finish the book to find out.

Until next time please be kind, wash your hands, practice social distancing, and wear a mask and get a flu shot. Try to have a Happy Thanksgiving.

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## Business West Bulletin Mid-November 2020

### Business West elected officers, directors

Business West elected officers and directors at its 35th Annual Meeting Wednesday, Oct. 21 via ZOOM. Pam Rowe was elected President.

Pam and her husband Marc Rowe own and manage Rowe Ridge Vineyard and Winery in the Piper Community. The vineyard started in 2007 as a part-time project; it became a fulltime venture in 2010. Pam had various careers including a representative for pharmaceutical companies. Marc spent 37 years working for the City of Kansas City, Kansas, retiring as a battalion chief with the Fire Department. The couple have five children, nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Pam is a graduate of Oak Park High School in the Northland of Kansas City, Mo. She also graduated with a degree in business

administration from William Jewell College and a Master's in Business Administration from Rockhurst University, Kansas City, Mo.

Other officers elected include Kim Singleton, First State Bank, President-elect; Donna Tilden, Benefit Design Group, Immediate Past-President; and Brent Lathrom, First State Bank, Treasurer.

Board members elected for two-year terms include Michelle Hereford, American Family Insurance; Dr. Jane Winkler Philbrook, an Optometrist; Mary Thurber, KC Bowl; Nathan Reasons, RHC Consulting; and Linda Wolford, West Wyandotte Library. Board members who will serve out one year of two-year terms will include Tami Bartunek, Kansas City, Kansas, Community College; Kathleen Meyers Baska, Mary Butler Meyers Family Funeral Home; Sheryl Raglow Beck-

er, Becker Properties; and Rusty Roberts, Real Living KC Realty.

### Library adds music service

The Kansas City, Kansas, Public Library has added The Freegal Music Service. Registered cardholders can download at no direct cost three weekly songs or three steaming hours weekly. The library pays for access to the music. For more information, see the website [kckpl.org](http://kckpl.org).

### Turner Diagonal Interchange work completed

Gov. Laura Kelly attended a recent ceremony that marked the completion of work on the Turner Diagonal Interchange. The governor mentioned that the new interchange will open up nearly 300 acres of new development and more than 2,500 new jobs for the area. The Interchange was possible because of a federal grant of \$13 million along with funds from the Kansas Department of Transportation, the Unified Government and Northpoint Development. The Diagonal is about a two-day drive from 85 percent of the U.S. Population.

### Ag Hall plans Santa's Express

The National Agricultural Hall of Fame has transformed its popular Santa's Express into a drive-through wonderland of lights with music and a nativity scene with barnyard animals. Santa Claus and his elves will greet visitors. The suggested donation will be \$10 per car. The site will be open from 5:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. Dec. 4, 5, 11 and 12. For more information, telephone 913-721-1075 or see the website [www.AgHallOfFame.com](http://www.AgHallOfFame.com).

### BPU Manager honored

Ingram's magazine recently honored Bill Johnson as one of its annual list of 250 most powerful business leaders in the Kansas City Region. He is the General Manager of the Kansas City Board of Public Utilities. He worked his way up from an entry-level position. He is active in various voluntary organizations including the Kansas Municipal Utilities and the American Public Power Association.

For questions or comments, telephone 913-766-4300 or 913-406-6266 (cell) or email [murrel@mcbconsultinginc.com](mailto:murrel@mcbconsultinginc.com).

## 5 Vital Facts About Signing Up For Coverage at HealthCare.gov

#1: Sign up by December 15th. Open Enrollment starts on November 1st, but you must take action by December 15th, no matter if you're returning or this is your first time getting covered. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused the greatest health insurance losses in American history. Demand for coverage will be significantly higher this year, so beat the rush and sign up early.

#2: Coverage could be cheaper than you think. Last year at HealthCare.gov, 9 in 10 people qualified for financial help to make their monthly premiums more affordable. 4.7 million uninsured people were eligible for a plan with a \$0 monthly premium.

#3: Shop and save. If you had coverage through HealthCare.gov for 2020, you should come back to update your information and compare your options for 2021. Every year, plans and prices change; you could save money by switching to a new plan that still meets your needs.

#4: Accidents happen, and people get sick. Health insurance protects you from the unexpected.

#5: Free help is available. If you have questions about signing up or want to talk through your options with a trained professional, free help is just a quick call away. Call 1-800-318-2596, visit [localhelp.healthcare.gov](http://localhelp.healthcare.gov), or make a one-on-one appointment now.

## Business West learns of development at Annual Meeting

By Murrel Bland

Despite the coronavirus pandemic, Wyandotte County continues to attract new and expanded development. That was the message that Katherine Carttar and Greg Kindle brought to the Annual Meeting of Business West via ZOOM Wednesday, Oct. 21.

Carttar is Director of Economic Development for the Unified Government and Kindle is President of the Wyandotte Economic Development Council. They said that so far this year Wyandotte County has attracted \$849 million in development. They told of the following projects:

- Old Dominion Freight Line. This truck terminal will be at K-7 and Speaker Road in Bonner Springs and will have 300 employees with more than 154,000 square feet of floor space. It will be a \$45-million project and include cross-dock and office space. There will also be space on the 11 acres for related retail and commercial development.

- Urban Outfitters. This will be on the southeast corner of 118th Street and State Avenue on Kansas Speedway property that NASCAR will sell. The company will have 880,000 square feet of floor space and employ 2,000 persons. Childcare and internships will be available. This will be a \$403 million project.

- Homefield. This will be at the Schlitterbahn site and offer a youth softball and baseball complex and a synthetic turf training field. Retail and a hotel are planned. The estimated cost would be \$330 million.

- Woodlands Redevelopment. This former horse and dog track will become a development of Scannell Properties. The initial project is estimated to cost \$110 million and employ 1,000 persons. It will be a warehouse and fulfillment center. Amazon is committed as the first tenant.

- Turner Logistics Center. This company expects to have two of five buildings operational by the end of the year; the cost of the project will be \$32 million. It will have more than 590,000 square feet of floor space. Space will be used for warehouse and fulfillment purposes. Construction on the divergent diamond interchange on the Turner Diagonal is

## Tom's Tasty Treats

By: Tom Valverde

This week's tasty treat is one that I tasted for the first time at a good friend's house, and was so impressed, that I asked her for the recipe, that same night! I know these bars will soon become a traditional treat for many of you:

### Pecan Pie Bars

#### Ingredients:

Crust:

1 3/4 c Flour  
3/4 c cold Butter, cubed  
1/4 t Salt  
1/4 c Sugar

1/3 c Pecans, finely chopped

Filling:

2/3 c Brown Sugar  
1/3 c Flour  
1 t Salt  
1 1/2 c Corn Syrup\*  
4 Lg. Eggs  
2 t Vanilla

1 1/2 c Pecans, chopped

\*Light or dark will work.

#### Directions:

Set oven to 350°.

Combine the flour, butter, salt, and sugar. Beat until the mixture has the texture of small crumbs. Add the finely chopped pecans, and mix well.

Press into an ungreased 9x13" pan.

Bake at 350° for 20 minutes, until set. The edges will be a light golden brown. Test using a knife, 1" from the edge.

Have the filling prepared for when the crust is ready. In a large bowl, combine and whisk together the brown sugar, flour, and salt.

Add and beat in well, the corn syrup, eggs, and vanilla. Stir in the pecans. Spread the filling evenly over the hot crust.

Bake for 30 minutes until set. Test using a knife, 1" from the edge.

Let cool completely, then chill for 30 minutes.

The bars will be ready to be cut.

Store in an air-tight container, for up to 4 days, Chilled. These are so good with a hot cup of coffee or as a take and go snack. Enjoy!

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# Guest Editorial

By: Tom Valverde

The Washington Post gave its Impression of Donald Trump's downward slide; "Trump's Campaign began on a gold escalator- it may have ended at Four Seasons landscaping!" Trump began this episode as he's always done, by going on Twitter on a Saturday morning to announce that there would be a press conference at the Four Seasons in Philadelphia. And while most assumed it would be at the beautiful Four Seasons hotel

in downtown Philadelphia, a later Tweet clarified, not at the hotel, but rather, Four Seasons landscaping in the outskirts of the city.

"I have no idea why they wanted it here. I don't know how government works. Maybe they saw it on Satellite, and noticed that we have a big back lot, and proximity to I-95." This was the remarks made by a person from Four Seasons landscaping.

President Trump's intent was to give attention to his unsubstantiated claim that

the election had been stolen. But what gave newspapers from across the country such as The Washington Post, The Atlantic, The Independent, USA Today, The Philadelphia Inquirer, and Politico inspiration for reporting, was the truly odd location for the press conference.

Four Seasons landscaping is tucked next to a city crematorium and an adult bookstore called the Fantasy Island adult books. "The 78-year-old employee manning the counter at the sex shop said: "The phone has been ringing off the hook since Saturday, with callers asking, "Is Rudy Giuliani

there?"

An eyewitness said, "About 5 minutes before Mr. Giuliani came out, the Presidential race was called for Joe Biden, and journalists began to leave this big parking lot, it was a very strange thing to see. And immediately, people were starting to celebrate, then Trump supporters began clashing with Biden supporters. It was a very strange place to hear the result!" Photos of the scene also show a woman with a large sign which said, "DID I WIN YET?"

No one understands how the President's Press Conference could have been held in

such an unlikely location. The setting was stark, a wooden podium placed in front of a wall covered with Campaign signs. And even the podium, which would have the Presidential Seal displayed on its front, only had a red Trump sign.

So, a campaign that began 5 years ago in Trump Tower, finds its end in an industrial section of Philadelphia, with no glitz, no glamour, but with a sex shop across the street that deals in what Trump is known for, hanging around strippers and shady ladies.

A fitting end to a corrupt - filled Administration. Fact is stranger than fiction!

## American Viewpoints

By: Tom Valverde

After the Election, people were asked to provide an answer to the following question: Amidst all the divisions that we see today around politics, race, culture, lifestyle, religion, and urban vs rural, what do you believe it is, that binds us as Americans? What is it that holds us together as a country? People from all walks of life, both locally and from across the country, gave their views:

"America has always been a Frontier land, with a frontier mentality. Whether it was coming to the United States, or whether it was wagon trains, Americans have had to work, Together, in order to survive. I believe that's the moment we're in now."

"God, our Sincere Faith in God. He is the reason for all good things."

"We have always been a people who have pushed into New territory, with new ideas, new lands and in order to do that, we've needed to work together --- We've needed to lean on one another."

"What Should hold us together as a Nation, is to Love one another as we love ourselves. You don't have to Like everyone, but you should always Love them, and care about them, as if they were family, because, they are."

"The concept of our needing one another's help is what brings us together."

"On the whole, people want to do what's right."

"There are tons and tons of good people."

"For people with children, it's the hope of a better and brighter future for them."

"Today more than ever, we see how much character matters, having empathy for other people is so very important, and being decent with each other helps us. to prosper together."

"We have Always been a Nation that is known for its caring about people in other countries who are suffering, and we always have been there to help. So, we as Americans do have a sense of purpose, and a sense of Responsibility for doing what we can to help. That's why so many people make every effort to come here to build new lives, and then they too, will become part of the American fabric."

"It's the Will of the American people; those who arrived on the Mayflower, to seek religious freedom, and all the new, waves of new immigrants, all seeking a better life in a new Country. The Irish, the Italians, who populated New York. Then Latinos from Puerto Rico, Cuba, Central and South American countries. And the people of Mexico, who escaped their own Revolution, and the steady stream of more families, who worked on Ranches and on Farms, harvesting crops and producing much of our fresh meat.

Everyone arrived with their own dreams for themselves and their families. But they all joined forces to help grow their Cities and towns

So, it's the American Dream that binds us all together, and may it always be so.

## Things Like This, Can't Be Made Up! The Strange End Of Trump's Campaign



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## Business West... from page 4

also expected to be completed by the end of the year.

•Community College Housing. Kansas City, Kansas, Community College will build 100,000 square feet of student housing which will be part of a larger college master plan. The estimated cost will be \$20 million.

•Scavuzzo's Food Service. This is to be built in four phases and will include 266,000 square feet of floor space. Other retail and commercial development is planned. This will be a \$115- million project and be built on the former Indian Springs Shopping Center site.

•American Royal. This is to include 164,000 square feet of floor space for a livestock expo arena, 250,000 square feet of floor space for a livestock exhibition hall, 5,000 square feet of office floor space and 6,500 square feet of floor space for an Agriculture Education Center. This would be a \$200 million investment. This would be in Village West, just west of Legends Outlet.

•Bonner Crossing. This would include an esports stadium, an amphitheater and retail and residential development. The estimated cost would be \$500 million; it would be at the southwest corner of 118th Street and State Avenue.

Kindle said all of this development does not include anything from two traditional sources—General Motors and the University of Kansas Medical Center.

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



## Passings...

By: Sue Reich

Ronald Letcher, age 76, passed away November 10, 2020. He was a Ward high school graduate, class of 1962.

Albert Lawler. Graduate of Argentine High School, class of 1959.

William Hooker, age 81, passed away November 7, 2020. He was an Argentine High school graduate, class of 1957. William was the Mayor of Basehor many years ago.



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