



The Record

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Comin' & Goin' Turner Style



By Sharon Hoover

Last week, I had a bit of a scare! I looked out my porch window and saw a red fox on the patio. He (She) ran when I opened the porch door and reappeared for the next two days. My concern was for my cat who spends most of her time outdoors. Fortunately, all three times she was asleep on the porch. The fox looked healthy with a beautiful tail. I just hope it found new territory in which to roam.

Summer has finally arrived, and several organizations are planning some great outdoor activities. The Wyandotte West Library is hosting a Block Summer Party on Wednesday, July 19, 2023, from 3pm-7pm. Enjoy fun community time. Sidewalk Chalk and Inflatables will be available with Face Painting from 3pm-5pm and Balloon Twisting from 5pm-7pm.

The Organization for Community Preservation is holding its 2nd Annual Summer Shake event at Klamm Park, 2511 N. 27th on July 22, 2023, from 2pm until 5:30pm. Enjoy food, games, music and more. The event will be secured by KCKPD Community officers.

Speaking of the KCKPD, the Police Athletic League at 800 N 5th ST. is hosting a Personal Safety Training for females ages



13 and older on July 8, 2023, from 8am-12pm. Those under 18 must have a waiver from their parents. This free training incorporates lectures & hands-on exercises to empower women to take charge of personal safety through awareness, prevention, and self-defense skills. Comfortable clothing, such as shorts and tennis shoes requested. You must register, the UG newsletter offered online registration. You might try <http://www.kckpl.org>.

Federal Student Loan payments will be restarting in the Fall. On July 13, 2023, the KCK Public Library is sponsoring a zoom workshop - Information on Student Loan Forgiveness. Jason Anderson, CPA, CFP, CSLP will guide you through the complex world of repaying student loan debt. This is a long link <https://kckpl.library.com/event/more-student-loan-forgiveness>.

I just ran across one of my favorite authors. Dennis Lehane's newest novel is

entitled "Small Mercies". Like some of his earlier works, it is set in Boston in 1974. The main character is an Irish American mother who has spent her entire life residing in public housing in South Boston. Her teenage daughter stays out late one night and doesn't come home. That same evening a young Black man is found dead under mysterious circumstances, struck by a subway train. Are these events related? As the mother searches for her daughter, she asks questions which bother the head of the Irish mob and his business associates. Desegregation also plays a part as racism raises its ugly head. The language is a little rough, but it is a really good thriller. If you don't feel this is the book for you try "Shutter Island", my favorite Lehane novel.

Until next time, stay safe and be kind to those around you. Continue to pray for the brave Ukrainians fighting for the right to remain free.

Nominations Now Open for 2023 To The Stars: Kansas Business Awards

TOPEKA – The Kansas Department of Commerce is accepting nominations for the 2023 To The Stars: Kansas Business Awards. The popular annual awards program recognizes companies and individuals around the state for the positive impact they make to their communities and to the Kansas economy.

This year's banquet and award ceremony will be held October 12th at the B-29 Doc Hangar, Education and Visitors Center in Wichita.

"It is important to celebrate the successes of Kansas companies and businesspeople who not only are driving the state economy but uplifting their local communities," Lieutenant Governor and Secretary of Commerce David Toland said. "To The Stars recognizes the entrepreneurial spirit and achievement that are on display daily throughout our great state. I would encourage

everyone to nominate a company or individual for this notable honor."

Companies, organizations and individuals can be nominated in the following categories:

- * AgriBusiness – companies that stand out in the agribusiness industry – including agricultural production, products and services, and agri-tourism

- * Apprenticeship Champions and Partners – companies and other entities that excel providing registered apprenticeship programs in Kansas

- * Business Innovation – companies from any sector incorporating innovative technologies in their business

- * Healthcare/Nonprofit – noteworthy services provided by either healthcare facilities or nonprofit organizations

- * Manufacturing/Distribution – outstanding achievement for companies large and small involved in manufacturing and distribution

- * Non-Traditional Talent Pools – companies that have gone above and beyond to hire those with prior

involvement in the justice system, youth, seniors or individuals with disabilities

- * Retail/Service – exceptional performance by businesses selling goods, products and/or services

- * Under 30 Entrepreneurs – young entrepreneurs achieving business success under the age of 30

- * Welcome Back – entrepreneurs and businesspeople who once left Kansas but have returned to make their mark in the Sunflower State

The Department of Commerce also will announce both the prestigious Governor's Award of Excellence winner and the 2023 Exporter of the Year during the banquet and awards ceremony.

"There is no shortage of success stories in Kansas communities large and small," Commerce Assistant Secretary of Business Development Nadira Hazim-Patrick said. "Spotlighting the best of the best is what To The Stars: Kansas Business Awards is all about."

To learn more about To The Stars: Kansas Businesses Awards award

categories, view past winners and to nominate a business or businessperson, including your own, click here. The nominations portal will accept nominations through July 20.

About the Kansas Department of Commerce:

As the state's lead economic development agency, the Kansas Department of Commerce strives to empower individuals, businesses and communities to achieve prosperity in Kansas. Commerce accomplishes its mission by developing relationships with corporations, site location consultants and stakeholders in Kansas, the nation and world. Our strong partnerships allow us to help create an environment for existing Kansas businesses to grow and foster an innovative, competitive landscape for new businesses. Through Commerce's project successes, Kansas was awarded Area Development Magazine's prestigious Gold Shovel award in 2021, 2022 and 2023, and was awarded the 2021 and 2022 Governor's Cup by Site Selection Magazine.



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Congresswoman Helps BPU Secure Funding

By Murrel Bland



Dave Mehlhaff wants everyone to know that they should appreciate the work that Congresswoman Sharice Davids does for the community.

Mehlhaff, who is the chief spokesman for the Kansas City Board of Public Utilities, expressed that sentiment at a meeting of the Congressional Forum when it met Friday, June 16 at Donnelly College. Rep. Davids was the featured speaker. The Forum is a function of the Kansas City, Kansas, Area Chamber of Commerce.

Mehlhaff, who is also Chairman of the Chamber, praised Rep. Davids for helping secure \$3.7 million in federal funds for a backup generator. Without this backup, BPU would have had to spend millions to provide service if the first-line of generation would have gone down.

Rep. Davids serves on the U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. She said serving is something that affects the lives of everyone in the Third District.

Rep. Davids also serves on the U.S. Agricultural Committee; she said this provides an opportunity to help assure that basic federal nutrition programs

are effective.

Another of Rep. Davids' concerns is expanding broadband service to underserved communities in rural and urban areas.

Rep. Davids voted yes recently to increase the federal debt limit. This allowed the federal government to continue paying its obligations, including Social Security and Medicare.

More than 60 persons, including business and community leaders, attended the Forum.

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

WyCo firefighters receive over \$765,000 from Insurance Department

Topeka, Kan. – Kansas Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt, today, announced, that the Kansas Insurance Department has made its annual distribution to local Firefighter Relief Associations (FRAs). Pursuant to the Kansas Firefighters Relief Act, \$765,621.98 has been distributed among three local FRAs in Wyandotte County.

“Firefighters put their lives on the line to keep us safe, and the Kansas Firefighters Relief Act acknowledges that by providing additional protections for firefighters and their loved ones,” said Schmidt. “The Act not only gives first responders needed safety nets, but it also allows local communities to provide their citizens with improved firefighting equipment and resources.”

The funds from the Kansas

Firefighters Relief Act are generated by a two percent tax paid by insurance companies on fire and lightning insurance premiums written in Kansas. Associations primarily use their distributed funds for insurance premiums and safety enhancements. The relief funds may pay for the health, accident, disability, and life insurance premiums of local firefighters. Safety enhancements such as new firetrucks, fire station building improvements, and firefighting gear can be purchased via relief funds loaned to local governing entities.

This year’s statewide distributions totaled over \$16.8 million, distributed to 554 FRAs. The statewide distribution of the 2023 Kansas Firefighters Relief Act funds can be viewed at insurance.ks.gov/otherservices/firefighters/

fra-relief-distributions.php. Kansas can learn more about the

Firefighter Relief Act by visiting insurance.kansas.gov/firefighters.

2023 KS Notable Books Grant

The State Library of Kansas, funded through an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Grant, is announcing a non-competitive grant opportunity for libraries in Kansas to purchase books from the 2023 Kansas Notable Books list, which was announced earlier this month. The State Library of Kansas is committed to promoting literacy, lifelong learning, and access to library materials throughout the state.

Each participating Kansas library will be reimbursed for the purchase of one copy, in any format, of any or all books on the 2023 Kansas Notable Books list. Grant information for 2023, including the application and checklist, is available at <https://kslib.info/1521/2023-Kansas-Notable-Books>.

To be eligible, public, academic or school libraries must be a participant in KICNET and/or OCLC interlibrary loan and agree to the terms listed within the Grant and Subgrant Eligibility Policy and Assurances documents available at <http://kslib.info/LSTA>.

Please see <https://kslib.info/1521/2023-Kansas-Notable-Books> for grant application, checklist, and other information, under the “Grants and Purchasing” tab.



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How We Serve People Who Have Limited English Proficiency

We strive to deliver great customer service and helpful information to everyone. That includes improving access for underserved communities. We aim to reduce language barriers and increase access to Social Security programs, services, and benefits. If you're assisting a client with limited English proficiency (LEP), know that we have the resources available to help them in their preferred language.

What resources are available?

We encourage you to learn about

the resources that are available to serve LEP communities. We provide benefit information online in Spanish – including Retirement, Disability, and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) at Seguro-Social.gov.

Our free interpreter services are available, by telephone and in person, in more than 200 languages, to your clients who prefer to conduct business in a language other than English. These services are accessible by calling our toll-free

number at 1-800-772-1213 or by visiting a local office and asking for an interpreter in their preferred language.

If your clients need information about our programs, we offer publications in languages other than English. Please check out our non-English publications and other resources available in more than 12 languages at www.ssa.gov/multilanguage. These include:

* A sample Social Security Statement and 10 supplemental fact sheets.

* Social Security Number for Non-Citizens.

* Understanding the Benefits.

Our Language Access Plan showcases our commitment to increase access to benefits and services for people who prefer a language other than English. For more information, we encourage your clients to review the updated plan at www.ssa.gov/pubs/LAP2022-23.pdf.

Diversity is one of our nation's greatest strengths. We want to ensure an inclusive environment for everyone we serve.

Trip Planning Survey

Summer is finally here! And with July 4th weekend coming up, more than a third (36%) of Americans are planning a trip for the USA's birthday.

That's according to a recent survey conducted by TopCashback.com

The survey polled a cross-section of 1,758 adults, aged 18 and over.

Below, please find a selection of summer travel stats from the survey. You're more than welcome to attribute us and relay these results to your audience.

Are you planning to travel this summer?

* Yes (70%)

* No (30%)

Do you prefer the window, aisle or middle seat when traveling?

* Window (65%)

* Aisle (33%)

* Middle (2%)

Would you pay more to avoid the middle seat?

* No (60%)

* Yes (40%)

Would you rather vacation to relax/unwind or to seek adventure?

* To relax/unwind [i.e. lounging at beach/pool, etc.] (60%)

* To seek adventure [i.e. visit museums, sightseeing tours, etc.] (40%)

Would you rather rent a summer home or stay in a hotel?

* Stay in a hotel (51%)

* Rent a summer home (49%)

Summer travel can get expensive, making it difficult to swallow the cost of summer fun. That's where TopCashback comes in. At the core of its business, TopCashback values fairness and honesty, guaranteeing the highest cash back rates at over 7,000 stores nationwide, including Booking.com, Priceline and Expedia.

TopCashback really is generous, as it's the only cash back site in the USA that gives 100% of the commission received from retailers back to members who purchased through its site. By using TopCashback for online purchases, members can earn an average of \$400 cash back each year with no minimum payout requirements and over 25 payout options, including PayPal, direct deposit and gift cards.



Stars And Stripes Picnic July 4, 2023

Join the celebration for this year's Stars and Stripes Picnic at the Museum and Memorial – Kansas City's official fireworks and Independence Day celebration! Grab a bite to eat at one of the dozens of local food and beverage vendors, go shopping at the local craft fair and enjoy live music and entertainment. Once the sun goes down, watch the fireworks go up around the iconic Liberty Memorial Tower!

Country music star and Kansas City native Casi Joy will headline, along with other local KC performers like the Marching Cobras and Kadesh Flow.

Plants Gone Wild! Controlling Invasive Plants

Given the opportunity, certain plants can take over your landscape, woods, and pastures. Join Lynn Loughary, Wyandotte County Extension Horticulture Agent, as she helps you to know which plants to keep a close eye on. Learn about a few of our most invasive plants, and management strategies for their control. Discover which weeds are also regulated by law, through Kansas's noxious weeds program. The class will be held in the Sunflower Room of the Wyandotte County Extension Office, 1208 North 79th Street, Kansas City KS. Registration is not required. Questions? Call 913-299-9300.



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Poetry Corner

Life Changes!

“Life changes,
 You lose friends,
 You lose pieces of
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 imagined would be gone.
 And then, without realizing it, these pieces come back.
 New love enters,
 better friends come along.
 And a stronger, wiser,
 You is staring back
 in the mirror.
 No matter how bad it
 gets, better days are
 always waiting,
 hoping you’ll make it to
 accept the smiles and
 joy they’re offering”

The Spiritual Library

Guest Editorial

Quotes To Ponder

By Tom Valverde

First of all, I won in 2020, by a lot. Okay? Get that straight, I won in 2020!

Donald Trump,
 Former president

I understand, all fair things but, you lost the 2020 election. There were recounts in all of the swing States. (Multiple recounts in most cases.) There was not significant, widespread, fraud. There was not a sense of widespread corruption. You lost your cases of appeal brought by your lawyers, some in front of judges you appointed. They came up with no evidence of “rigging.” (The idea of saying that the election had been rigged goes back to before the November 3 election and later, it was Rudy Giuliani who was proposing that it was Italian satellites used by the Biden campaign to switch Trump votes over to Biden, by taking remote control of the voting machines!)

They’ve investigated cases of voter fraud in 6 battleground states and fewer than 475 cases were found.

Bret Baier, FOX News interview of ex-president Trump June 2023

Latest news poll shows that 59% of all Americans say that Trump should end his campaign, now that he’s been indicted. And 85% of non-GOP voters say that Trump should end his campaign now that he’s been indicted.

Morning Joe program
 MSNBC
 June 2023

It’s astounding to think that in spite of the many Federal felony and civil lawsuits that the former president faces that there are some die hard followers who are still support criminal defendant Trump as a candidate in the 2024 election. His case is set to go to trial in August.

But, the chances of a 100% conviction by a Florida jury is slim. All that Trump needs to be found “not guilty” is just one juror to disagree with the majority of the other jurors. Should Trump be found “guilty” he will, no doubt, take the case before the Supreme Court.

But, the stolen Top Secret Documents case is just one of Trump’s worries! There’s the New York Attorney General who has looked into his business practices and his fraud and non-payment of taxes. Trump was fined \$5 Million dollars in the E Jean Carroll sex abuse case.

A recent development in the US Attorney General Merrick Garland’s probe into the January 6 attack on the US Capitol was announced last week.

Trump’s former Chief of Staff, Mark Meadows has agreed to plead “guilty” to several Federal felonies in exchange for his testimony. As a first-hand observer, he can provide many answers about Trump’s involvement in the planning and strategizing into the violent attack. With so many Criminal indictments ahead and with the many trials where he was found to be “guilty”, the question remains as to why any political party would continue with its support of such a corrupt man? Many believe that Trump has names of those now serving in Congress who were involved and supported Steve Bannon’s Green Bay Sweep plan to halt the certification of the Electoral College ballots on January 6.

This would be evidence of their breaking their Oaths of Office to uphold and defend the US Constitution. The Department of Justice has much to discover and charge to return the US to be once again, be one of law and order.

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