

The Record

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Social Media Needs Regulation

By Dr. Jim Haas

Social media is a Jekyll and Hyde phenomenon beneficial in some respects and dangerous in others. On the bright side, these humorous gems were posted before the Super Bowl:

- “On Groundhog Day, Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow, so we’ll have two more weeks of Kelce and Taylor Swift.”
- “Thanks to @taylorswift13 for finally making a practical “if a plane leaves Tokyo at 11:30” problem that students will care about.”
- “I don’t know anything about football, but Taylor Swift must be good because he sounds fast.”

Social media keeps us in touch with our friends—its original purpose—and, through them, with their friends and their friends’ friends, ad infinitum. Because of how the algorithms work, they also connect us with like-minded persons and organizations around the world, many of them educational. YouTube videos show us how to replace a wall switch or teach us basic organic chemistry.

On the dark side, the Senate Judiciary Committee held a hearing January 31 with the CEOs of Meta (Facebook, Instagram), TikTok, Snap, X, and Discord to discuss the effects of social media on the lives and mental health of young people (The CEO of Google, that owns YouTube, by far the most popular site among teens, did not attend.). From online bullying, sexual predators, unrealistic beauty standards, eating disorders, and suicide to the addictive features built into social media to maximize profits, parents testified to their concerns.

Committee members of both parties clearly agreed about these dangers and

grilled the CEOs about what they are doing to make their sites safe for youngsters. Chairman Dick Durbin (D, Illinois) said social media companies “are responsible for many of the dangers our children face online.... Their design choices, their failure to adequately invest in trust and safety, their constant pursuit of engagement and profit over basic safety have all put our kids and grandkids at risk.”

Senator Lindsey Graham (R, South Carolina) said, “After years of working with [Durbin] and others, I’ve come to conclude the following: social media companies as they’re currently designed and operate are dangerous products.... You have blood on your hands.” Missouri Senator Josh Hawley (R) asked CEO Mark Zuckerberg if he’d take responsibility for the harm Meta has caused, but Zuckerberg’s reply was that his company’s job is to “build industry-leading tools” and empower parents. Hawley interrupted with “To make money.” Exactly. The bipartisan Kids Online Safety Act has been proposed in the Senate.

The Senate isn’t alone in its concern. Forty-one states and D.C. are suing Meta in federal or state courts. The federal complaint claims “Meta has harnessed powerful and unprecedented technologies to entice, engage, and ultimately ensnare youth and teens. Its motive is profit, and in seeking to maximize its financial gains, Meta has repeatedly misled the public about the substantial dangers of its social media plat-



forms. It has concealed the ways in which these platforms exploit and manipulate its most vulnerable consumers: teenagers and children.” The states seek damages, restitution, and an end to harmful company practices, and are considering suing other social media, as well.

Social media is not just dangerous to the young. Because it’s a news source for millions where anyone can post anything no matter how crazy, it’s chock full of “fake news”—rumors, crackpot conspiracy theories, and deliberate lies promoting an agenda, often political. Social media is a misinformation superhighway because its algorithms dramatically magnify misinformation.


Unlike reliable news media, social media has no editors or management legally responsible for protecting young users or for not misleading the public. Government regulation strict enough to stop the harm will require social media platforms to adopt new and possibly less profitable business models. So be it.

And so be this: The Kansas City Chiefs are now a dynasty! Great game by a great team.



By Sharon Hoover

Attention all Turner High School Seniors! Are you planning to continue your education after graduating? Turner Community Connection provides \$500 scholarships for Turner USD 202 students. Applications are available in the Turner High School Counselor's Office. The deadline is March 22, 2024. See the form for additional information. Questions? Contact Alexa Coenen (913) 288-3322 or coenena@turnerusd202.org.



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Comin' & Goin' Turner Style

[org](http://turnerusd202.org).

Free tax preparation is available at the Kansas City Kansas Community College, 7250 State Ave., Flint Bldg. upper level - Room 3632 from now until April 13. Days & Times available Wednesdays 5pm-8pm (except March 13); Saturdays 9am-noon (except March 16) and 1pm-4pm. * Saturday afternoon hours may be reduced or eliminated after March 2nd depending on demand.

Parks and Recreation have announced their first delivery of 3500 Trout to Wyandotte County Lake. That's approximately 2345 fish.

Two more deliveries are scheduled before the March 2 Opening Day of the lake. More information to follow.

The Argentine Betterment Corporation is hosting Family Game Night on February 22, from 6pm-7:30pm at the Ground Sole Coffee House, 3417 Strong Ave. Join them for fun games and a chance to win fun prizes.

Lewis Diuguid, award winning author, columnist, lecturer, and former vice president of the Kansas City Star, will be appearing February 25 from 2pm-4pm at the

KCK Main Public Library location, 625 Minnesota Ave. to promote his new book "Exploring Cuba: Erasing Fears through Multicultural Education".

Speaking about books, I recently finished one entitled "The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store" by James McBride, another award winning author. It is the story of immigrants and blacks struggling to survive on the margins of white society in the 1920s who come together to help a deaf black boy. The grocery is their common ground- heaven is their community and earth sustains them. This book was recommended to me, and although some of it was disturbing, I enjoyed it.

Currently I am reading the non-fiction book "The First Migrants" another part of our history that didn't make it into our high school history books. It tells how Black homesteaders' quest for land and freedom heralded America's Great Migration. Beginning in 1877 until 1920, many Black people exercised their rights under the Homestead Act settling in all the Great Plains states. Some created Black homestead communities and others homesteaded alone. Nicodemus, Kansas is the only one still in existence. Authors Richard Edwards and Jacob K Friefield make this a must read in fascinating detail.

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

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The person named below has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's regulations implementing Section 504 (24 CFR, part 8 dated June 2, 1988).

**Carla Schubert, Section 504 Coordinator
Young Management Corporation 22602 State Line Road
Bucyrus, KS. 66013
913-947-3131 - TTY: 711**

Important State Phone Numbers

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

SENATE NEWS



By Sen. Pat Pettey

This Week at the Capitol
Greetings friends and neighbors! I'd like to wish you a belated Happy Kansas Day. To commemorate the day, Kansas Tourism released a new video inviting audiences to reclaim their vacation in Kansas. You can watch the video here.

Wednesday afternoon, my colleague Senator Jeff Pittman recognized the 4x National Champions Leavenworth High School JROTC RAIDERS Team on the Senate floor. In a field of over 100 teams, these cadets have won the national Raiders competition for the fourth straight year in a row!

On Thursday, my colleague Senator Oletha Faust-Goudeau spoke on the senate floor about the fight against heart disease and stroke in honor of National Wear Red day. Senators from both sides of the aisle wore red to show their support for the awareness of heart disease.

Welcome Turner High School Pages

I had the privilege of welcoming my first pages of the 2024 Legislative Session this week. Caitlyn Gouvion, freshman, and Laryn Young, sophomore, toured the capitol, attended my committees, and went to the Senate session. Their commitment to civic engagement is exemplary!

The World Cup is Coming to Kansas!

It was nice to have this photo opportunity with legislators from Wyandotte County, including Representative Pam Curtis and Senator Jeff Pittman, who are pictured alongside Joe Reardon, Executive Director of Greater KC Chamber and former mayor/CEO of KCK/WYCO. Joe was at the capitol to share information about the World Cup coming our way in 2026.

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.

Every day this month, executive assistant Ms. Carolyn Campbell showcases trailblazing Black Americans in the Minority Leader's Office. For the first day of the month she featured Linda Brown, a historic figure central to the Brown v. Board of Education case that declared segregated schools unlawful. We'll be showcasing her selections on Facebook and Instagram this month, so be sure to follow along!

Equality Day in the Statehouse

This Wednesday was Equality Day at the Capitol. Kansans of all ages rallied to protest anti-LGBTQ bills that make our state a less welcoming place. Senate Democrats were proud to attend and listen to Kansans fighting for fundamental

rights! I had the privilege of visiting with students from Harmon, Piper, and Schlagle high schools that day.

Committee Updates

Many of the bad bills being pushed by Republican politicians have something in common: they strip away local control on critical issues facing our communities. Here are some to look out for:

- Blocking protections for LGBTQ Kansans: Republican Senator Mike Thompson introduced a bill to ban counties or cities from passing legislative protections for the LGBTQ+ community. Not only does this bill override the authority of local governments, it also makes our state a less welcoming place.

- The bill to ban plastic bans: Senate Federal and State Affairs held

a hearing on a bill blocking local bans on plastic bags. I support local control and the right of communities to enact their own policies. This bill takes away the right of local officials to protect their environment.

- Banning ranked choice voting: Senate Federal and State Affairs held a hearing on a bill to ban the use of any form of ranked-choice voting method for the conduct of elections. I don't support this bill, because it strips away local control from county officials.

I welcome your input on any of the issues being discussed in this legislative session. Please feel free to contact me at 785-296-7375 or pat.pettey@senate.ks.gov.

Committee hearings and legisla-

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- ◆ Community Events – dates, times & locations... news you can use.
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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 24-005 Dishwasher Machine for Arrowhead Middle School . Sealed bids should be addressed to: Purchasing Department, Board of Education, 2010 N. 59th Street, Room 370, Kansas City, KS 66109 - "IFB No. 24-005- "Dishwashing Machine for Arrowhead Middle School"

Bids will be opened 02/16/23 @ 10:00 AM in the Purchasing Office.

Bid Documents are available at the Purchasing Department Office, at the above-address between 8 AM and 4 PM, M-F. Bid Documents are posted

(First published 2-15-24)
1t-The Record-2-15-24

ACCEPTING SEALED BIDS

The Board of Education, Unified School District No. 500, Kansas City, KS will accept sealed bids for: IFB 24-006 Asphalt Repair Work . Sealed bids should be addressed to: Purchasing Department, Board of Education, 2010 N. 59th Street, Room 370, Kansas City, KS 66109 - "IFB No. 24-006- "Asphalt Repair Work"

Bids will be opened 03/12/24 @ 2:00 PM in the Purchasing Office.

Bid Documents are available at the Purchasing Department Office, at the above-address between 8 AM and 4 PM, M-F. Bid Documents are posted

(First published 2-15-24)
1t-The Record-2-15-24

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL ADVERTISEMENT

Turner Unified School District No. 202 is seeking Bid Proposals for the Installation of Promethean Interactive Displays at Turner Elementary and Midland Trail Elementary.

Documents pertaining to this Request for Proposal will be provided to any qualified contractor free of charge by email request sent to crockettc@turnerusd202.org

Turner USD 202 Facility Supervisor, Chris Crockett will host the blind bid opening, February 28, 2024, at 10:30 am. The location of the bid opening will be the Facility and Grounds Building located at 5800 Metropolitan, Kansas City, KS 66106. Turner USD 202 will announce the vendor that is awarded the bid Wednesday March 6, 2024.

(First published 2-15-24)
2t-The Record-2-22-24

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL ADVERTISEMENT

Turner Unified School District No. 202 is seeking Bid Proposals to Replace the Intercom at Turner High School.

Documents pertaining to this Request for Proposal will be provided to any qualified contractors free of charge by email request sent to crockettc@turnerusd202.org

Turner USD 202 Facility Supervisor, Chris Crockett will host the blind bid opening, February 28, 2024, at 10:00 am. The location of the bid opening will be the Facility and Grounds Building located at 5800 Metropolitan, Kansas City, KS 66106. Turner USD 202 will announce the vendor that is awarded the bid Wednesday March 6, 2024.

(First published 2-15-24)
2t-The Record-2-22-24

Petty

...from page 3

tive proceedings are live-streamed from the Kansas Legislature’s website and Youtube channel.

Governor Kelly Vetoes the Flat Tax Bill

Last Friday, Governor Laura Kelly vetoed the flat tax bill, House Bill 2284. The bill would benefit the wealthy at the expense of working Kansans: 70% of the tax cuts would go to the top 20% of income earners in Kansas.

On Wednesday, the Senate tax committee held a hearing for Governor Kelly’s bipartisan tax proposal that would deliver relief for working families. You can watch Adam Proffitt (Budget Director) explain the proposal here.

Governor Kelly is dead set on making sure Kansans see a tax cut this year. She has said that she’ll even call a special session if necessary. I support her veto decision, and I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to pass tax relief that supports working families.

Kansans Make Their Voices Heard for Medicaid Expansion

On Monday, the Kelly administration announced that since calling for a hearing on the Cutting Healthcare Costs for All Kansans Act, 1,020 Kansans have sent 23,710 emails to legislators to demand the House and Senate hold debates on Medicaid expansion. I have received over 1200

emails in my office!

We must keep up the pressure. So please continue to encourage your organization’s members, your friends, and your neighbors to take action. We can get this done – but only if everyone speaks up.

If you haven’t already, you can send an email to GOP leadership and ask them to hold a hearing using this link: <https://secure.everyaction.com/QjV8i6u9DEiRqH-Q8PyMeew2>

McGinn Announces Retirement from Senate

Republican state Senator Carolyn McGinn of Sedgwick announced Tuesday that this would be her last term in the Kansas Senate after 20 years. McGinn said she wants to return home to tend to her 1,000-acre farm where her family grows grain, soy beans, and wheat.

Operating Engineers Local 101 Apprenticeship Program

The Operating Engineers Local 101 is offering an apprenticeship program for students interested in a career as a Heavy Equipment Operator. The Operating Engineers Pathway program provides in-class and hands-on learning opportunities for high-school students interested in the construction industry. The courses are offered through a partnership between Tonganoxie High School - USD 464 and Operating Engineers Local 101. The program is available to any high school student in grades 9-12 enrolled at Tonganoxie High School. To learn more, visit IUOELocal101.org.

Guest Editorial

Quotes To Ponder
By Tom Valverde

This ruling cuts to the heart of accountability in our system; an imperfect but still not functioning democracy. The people still have the most powerful check on such presidents with their vote.

For the purpose of this criminal

trial, former president Trump has become citizen Trump, with all the defenses of any other criminal defendant. But any executive immunity that may have protected him while he served as president, no longer protects him against this prosecution.

I think that we all understood

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Guest Editorial... ...from page 6

that their decision was going to come out this way. The argument coming from Trump’s lawyers was so outlandish; this would be a decision against Donald Trump.

The legal ruling is so sweeping and so resounding and so unanimous and clear in its upholding what it means to be a country governed by the rule of law... You have someone who is running to be president to whom a unanimous court said at bottom: “Former President Trump’s stance would collapse our system of separated powers by placing the Executive beyond the reach of all three Branches.”

Andrew Weisman,
Former FBI General Counsel
and former
FBI Division Chief and
MSNBC legal analyst

Their decision shows that no person is above the law... That criminal statutes should apply to anyone who violates these laws. This is criminal because it’s much more than rhetoric. It’s a multi-prong, intentional plan as we laid out in the Select Committee’s report. It was a design to disrupt the transfer of power...It was the combination of the Fake electors, pressure on State election officials and the vice-president; together, this shows intent to disrupt the joint session of Congress.”

Tim Heaphy, Lead
Investigator on the
January 6 Select Committee

The case before DC Judge Tanya Chutkan has former president Trump facing four felony charges:

1. Conspiracy to defraud the United States.
2. Conspiracy to obstruct an official proceeding; the certification of the Electoral College ballots by Congress.
3. Conspiracy against the rights; making sure that everyone’s vote counts.

Trump attempted, by several means to overturn the 2020 presidential election results and steal

the election win from Joe Biden. The unanimous decision by the DC Court of Appeals says that Trump is now a regular citizen and he does not have any sort of presidential immunity. The appeal court wrote in its ruling that the former president actions, “are an unprecedented assault on the structure of our government.

Trump allegedly injected himself into a process in which the president has no roll -- the counting and certifying of the Electoral College votes-- thereby undermining Constitutionally established procedures and the will of Congress...

We cannot accept former

president Trump’s claim that a president has unbounded authority to commit crimes that would neutralize the most fundamental check on Executive power -- the recognition and implementation of election results. Nor can we his apparent contentions that the Executive has carte blanche to violate the rights of individual citizens to vote and to have their votes count.

DC Court of Appeals
February 6, 2024.

Trump was given just one week to submit an appeal to the Supreme Court. Most legal scholars

have said that the Court’s ruling is “air-tight” and that it is unlikely that the Supreme Court would take up his appeal.

How such a corrupt man is the leading candidate for the White House by the Republican party is an amazing thing. We must all vote to keep such a person from ever serving as president. Many of his former followers are now convinced that Trump is unfit to be president. It’s taken his being charged with 91 felony indictments in four jurisdictions but, it’s finally opening some eyes as to the real danger Trump poses for the United States.

A.H.S. 2024 REUNION RESERVATION FORM

Please RETURN YOUR CHECK and this registration form to:

AHS 2024 REUNION COMMITTEE

P. O. Box 16076

Shawnee, KS 66203

By May 15, 2024

Early registrations are encouraged by March 1, 2024

Name: _____
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Super Senior (please check) _____

Name: _____
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2024 REUNION**



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DATE: SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2024

TIME: 11:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.
MEAL SERVED at 12:00

LOCATION: SHAWNEE CIVIC CENTRE
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SHAWNEE, KS 66216

BUFFET: Fried & Oven Roasted Chicken, Shredded BBQ Brisket, 4 sides, roll, dessert & beverages (iced tea, coffee & water). **(ABSOLUTELY No Food or Beverages can be brought into the Reunion Event!)**

COST: TICKET PRICE: \$40.00 PER PERSON
Super Seniors – Ages 89-95 will be our guests at no cost. Please checkmark the Registration Form on page 2 if attending. Super Senior Guests, unless a Super Senior themselves, are required to pay.

DRESS: CASUAL (JEANS AND SHORTS ACCEPTABLE)

Due to the large attendance expected, early registrations are encouraged by March 1, 2024. Reservations will be accepted no later than May 15, 2024.
NO 'DAY OF' REGISTRATIONS ARE POSSIBLE FOR THIS EVENT.

TO REGISTER: COMPLETE THE FORM ON PAGE 7 AND MAIL BOTH THE FORM AND CHECK TO THE ADDRESS LISTED BELOW. NO ONLINE REGISTRATION WILL BE AVAILABLE THIS YEAR!

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