

The Record

Volume 136

April 25, 2024

Number 17

The Loyal Opposition

By Dr. Jim Haas

Speaking in the British parliament in 1826, John Hobhouse coined the term “His Majesty’s Loyal Opposition” meaning that members of a legislature may oppose government policies while still respecting the higher authority of the state and—when applied in the U.S.—the overall framework of the Constitution. In America, with no “Majesty,” the term has long been shortened to “the loyal opposition,” a characteristic of a healthy democracy that allows a party out of power to dissent from government policies without being accused of treason.

With a loyal opposition, disagreeing with the party in power is not only allowed but is respectable and even essential, giving voters a choice in every election. Dissent gives us options, which is good if the options are based on facts and conform to our democratic traditions and to the Constitution.

Fundamental to the concept of a loyal opposition is the agreement that democracy is rooted in compromise, which is likewise rooted in mutual respect among legislators who trust that the same rules apply to all. Michael Ignatieff, former leader of Canada’s Liberal Party, has written that “in the house of democracy, there are no enemies.” If there are, “legislatures replace relevance with pure partisanship. Party discipline reigns supreme ... negotiation and compromise are rarely practiced, and debate ... becomes as venomously personal as it is politically meaningless.”

“No enemies” is a lesson that seems to have been lost by many members of our Republican Party. President Nixon kept an enemies list and late-90s House Speaker Newt Gingrich signed a 1990 memo to GOP legislators

recommending they describe Democrats with negative words such as “sick,” “radical,” and “traitors.” Gingrich encouraged a combative approach by the GOP, including hateful language and extreme partisanship, and often questioned Democrats’ patriotism. He compared them to fascists.

Gingrich saw the GOP as in a war for power, an attitude that took root then blossomed during the Obama Administration. This “war” led directly to the claim, with no evidence, that President Biden didn’t win the 2020 election, to a scheme to appoint fake electors, and ultimately to the violent January 6 assault on the Capitol attempting to stop the official electoral count. All of this disregarded the Constitution and the 224-year tradition of a peaceful transfer of power. The loyal opposition had become a disloyal opposition.

Thankfully, there were Republican heroes, notably Vice-president Pence and several state officials who hadn’t drunk the party-first poison and followed the law despite heavy pressure from the former president. The poison ran deep, though: GOP leaders in the House and Senate blocked a bipartisan commission to investigate the January 6 assault, no doubt afraid that an investigation would expose many of their party as conspirators disloyal to America.

And the party-before-country poison is still at work. Last month, former Republican National Committee (RNC) Chair Ronna McDaniel tried to justify her support for



the disgraced former president’s promise to pardon those convicted of participating in the January 6 Capitol assault by saying, “When you’re the RNC Chair, you kind of take one for the whole team.” In a democracy, the team is America, not any party. A loyal opposition would know that.

The party-first poison is so potent that House Republicans are now at war with each other with right-wing extremists threatening to throw out yet another Speaker of their own party for doing his job by cooperating with Democrats to pass vital legislation. Meanwhile, the former president is on trial for election interference and, along with three other pending cases, faces nearly 90 felony charges. He is estimated to have accumulated \$100 million in legal fees so far. Early this year, President Obama posted a contrasting observation: “Eight years. Never had to hire a lawyer.”



By Sharon Hoover

It's turned a little cool this week, but that's no excuse for not planning to buy some plants at the WYCO Extension Master Gardener Plant Sale on May 3 (9am -5pm) & May 4 (9am-2pm). 1200 N. 79th St KCK. This event is their main fundraiser and supports all their projects in Wyandotte County for the year.

Beginning on Thursday, April 30 and continuing every Tuesday and Thursday thereafter join "Seniors in the Dotte" at Beatrice Lee Com-

Comin' & Goin' Turner Style

munity Center, 1310 N 10th St from 2pm-5pm. Play Bid Whist, Spades, Tonk Bingo, Dominoes, etc. Learn line dancing and the basics of computer usage. Get all your health info. For more information contact Sylvia King or sylvieii@aol.com. Jackie Browne jaquelinebrowne103@yahoo.com 913 283-2141.

The Unified Government will be partnering with the USD 500 KCK Public School District for the "Building the Dream" event on May 4 from 9am-3pm. If you are a parent, teacher, or caregiver of an individual with a disability, please join them for a day full of great information and resources for those transitioning from school to adult life. Lunch will be provided for those who register by April 29. <https://buildingthedreamkck.com>.

eventbrite.com. The program will be held at the School District office 2010 N 59. For more info contact Kasey Sanders at 913-6903-4203 or kasey.sanders@kckps.org.

Wyandotte Landlord Education Training Webinar is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1 from 10am to 12 pm. Learn more about the Kansas Residential Landlord and Tenant Act, including landlord and tenants' rights and responsibilities, landlord best practices, Fair Housing Act, protected classes, tenant screening, discrimination, reasonable accommodations/modifications. Training will be by the Tenant/ Landlord Program Manager for the Housing and Credit Counseling, Inc. To sign up for this free zoom link go to wycokck.org, home, engage with us, UG Calendar and look for

Landlord Training or for more info call UG Human Relation Division 913 573-5460.

The Armourdale Renewal Association is offering summer employment for youth ages 14-17. This six week program provides valuable workforce development with a paycheck. Limited spaces are available. Program starts on Tuesday, May 28. Located at 730 Osage Ave. KCK 66105. Youth will be exposed to job readiness training, life skills activities, financial education. It's a fun, safe, and productive way to spend part of the summer. For more info Contact 913-371-5696 ara@armourdale.org or www.armourdale.org.

That's all for now. Until next time, stay safe and be kind to those around you.

New Ethics Commission Member Named for UG

The Ad Hoc Ethics Commission Appointment Panel appointed Paris Clark to the Unified Government Ethics Commission and will be sworn in on April 18th, 2024, at the ethics commission monthly meeting. Members of the Ethics Commission are unpaid and must be a Wyandotte County resident of good moral standing and reputation.

The purpose of the Ethics Commission is to recommend ways to improve the Unified Government's Ethics Code, to review and report on any and all violations of the Code of Ethics, to render advisory opinions on questions of ethics, conflicts of interest and the applicability of the Code of Ethics. The appointees are Wyandotte County residents who will serve a four-year term.

A native of Wyandotte County, Ms. Clark is a proud graduate of Sumner Academy of Arts & Sciences and is dedicated to serving the community she has always called home. She completed her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology & Spanish (2014), as well as her Master of Arts in Counseling & Guidance at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (2018). Professionally, Ms. Clark is a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor and has worked in the mental health field for 6 years.

In her community, Ms. Clark actively serves in ministry at the Mt Carmel Church of God in Christ in Kansas City, KS through leadership, teaching, and community outreach. Prior to her current role managing a youth outpatient therapy team, Ms. Clark has served as a Bilingual Child Therapist and Bilingual Case Manager. Additionally, Ms. Clark has served as a Teaching Assistant for the Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools Early Childhood Program. She has provided special live and televised presentations on such topics as self-care and trauma to the general public and local church settings.

The Ad Hoc Ethics Commission Appointment Panel is comprised of Robert P. Burns, Chief Judge of the Wyandotte County District Court; Mark A. Dupree Sr., District Attorney of Wyandotte County, and Reed Partridge, Legislative Auditor of Wyandotte County. Ruth Benien, Ethics Administrator of the Unified Government, serves as staff to the Ethics Commission.

KCEE students receive financial scholarships from the Kansas Department of Insurance

Topeka, Kan. – Kansas Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt, today, announced three participants in Kansas Council for Economic Education (KCEE) programs as winners of a financial literacy essay scholarship contest sponsored by the Securities Division of the Kansas Department of Insurance.

The Department granted \$10,000 to KCEE designated for a financial literacy essay contest in which the top three KCEE student essays split a share of the grant in scholarship funds.

The scholarship winners are:

1st Place, \$5,000 – Morgan Allen, Centralia High School

2nd Place, \$3,000 – Anusha Chaturvedi, Olathe North High School

3rd Place, \$2,000 – Parker Koch,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



**The Record
Publications, LLC**

Publishers of *The Record*

(913) 362-1988

Jon A. Maless

Owner/Publisher/Editor

Policy On Opinion

All statements of implication or opinions contained in editorial, columnist, or advertising materials in this publication represent only the view of the author or advertiser.

The Record (USPS No. 002269) is published weekly every Thursday by The Record Publications at 14690 Parallel Rd, Basehor KS 66007. Newsstand price, single copy, 35 cents; subscription price per year, \$16.13. For editorial, display, and classified advertising information call 362-1988. Periodical postage paid at Kansas City, Kansas 66110. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Record, P.O. Box 6197, Kansas City, Kansas 66106-0197

© 2024 by The Record Publications, LLC. Kansas City, Kansas. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form or by any means without expressed written consent from the publisher.

SENATE NEWS



By Sen. Pat Pettey

Legislation Passed This Month

HB 2453 (Passed 38-2): Enacting the dentist and dental hygienist compact to provide interstate practice privileges for dentists and dental hygienists. I voted YES.

HB 2527 (Passed 35-2): Establishing cost recovery mechanisms for public utilities that construct certain electric generation facilities, revising the determination of rate base, capital structure and return on equity in utility rate proceedings and revising the provision of economic development electric rates. I voted YES.

Sub Bill for HB 2047 (Passed 40-0): Prohibiting entering or remaining on and knowingly making false statements to gain access to animal facilities and field crop production areas, removing the intent to destroy property in the farm animal and field crop and research facilities protection act. I voted YES.

S Sub HB 2436 (Passed 27-11): Creating the crime of coercion to obtain an abortion and providing enhanced criminal penalties for offenses committed with the intent to coerce a woman to obtain an abortion. I voted NO.

HB 2588 (Passed 32-6): Increasing the capacity limitation for the total amount of facilities subject to net metering that may operate within the service territory of investor-owned electric utilities, requiring facilities to be appropriately sized based on the customer's average load and establishing requirements for exporting power to a utility from a facility subject to net metering. I voted YES.

SB 367 (Passed 28-12): Prohibiting the use of funds provided by the United States government for the conduct of elections and election-related activities unless approved by the legislature. I voted NO.

HB 2784 (Passed 40-0): Transferring authority for certification of continuing care retirement communities from the Kansas insurance de-

partment to the Kansas department for aging and disability services. I voted YES.

HB 2570 (Passed 40-0): Makes various amendments to law related to unemployment compensation including defining benefit year, temporary unemployment, and wages, requiring electronic filing for certain employers, establishing qualifications for employment security board of review candidates, extending the deadline for new accounts following business acquisitions, making certain changes to the employer rate schedules, enabling employers to report claimant work search issues, confirming legislative coordinating council oversight for the new unemployment insurance information technology system implementation, authorizing the secretary to grant

temporary unemployment, requiring the secretary to annually publish certain data, abolishing the employment security interest assessment fund and providing relief for negative account balance employers. I voted YES.

SB 426 (Passed 39-1): Creating a crime and penalties for injuring or causing death of certain authorized emergency vehicle operators, and increasing penalties for unlawful passing of stationary authorized emergency vehicles. I voted YES.

SB 544 (Passed 40-0): Establishing a Kansas academic excellence scholarship program to replace the Kansas ethnic minority scholarship program. I voted YES.

HB 2618 (Passed 29-9): Requiring specific intent as an element of the crime of false representation of an election official. I voted NO.

HB 2549 (Passed 40-0): Changing the lists of persons who are required to be given notice of the hearing on a petition for an independent or stepparent, private agency or public agency adoption and limiting a petition to terminate parental rights to adoption proceedings and setting requirements for such petitions filed separately from petitions for adoption. I voted YES.

HB 2491 (Passed 40-0): Abolishing the law enforcement training center fund; all liabilities are transferred to and imposed on the state general fund; moneys previously credited to such fund shall be credited to the state general fund. I voted YES.

SB 457 (Passed 38-0): Prohibiting

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



FREE CHECKING

NO monthly fees

NO minimum balance

Bank where you live and open an account today at



ARGENTINE FEDERAL SAVINGS
We Care!

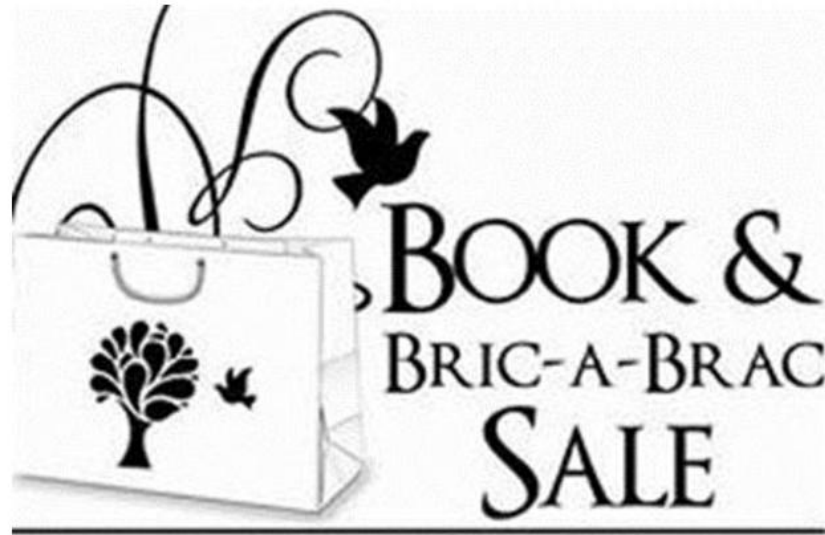


3004 Strong Ave | Kansas City, KS | 913-831-2004

12501 Antioch Rd | Overland Park, KS | 913-402-1500

Economy Checking is Argentine Federal Savings' Free Checking product, it has a \$25 minimum opening deposit.

The Shepherd's Center of Kansas City, Kansas



Annual Used Book and Bric-a-Brac sale benefitting the Shepherd's Center of Kansas City, Kansas

(an interfaith organization helping older adults in Kansas City, Kansas)

**Bargains galore! Books, household items,
jewelry, décor and much more!**

FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2024 – 8am to 4pm

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024 – 8am to 3pm

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, 3333 WOOD AVENUE,
KANSAS CITY, KS**

**NEW THIS
YEAR!**

Enjoy our
“Meal
Deal”

before or
after your
shopping
– hotdog,
chips and
drink
ONLY \$5!

Donations will be accepted at the church beginning at 8am
on Thursday, May 2, 2024.

No clothing or magazines will be accepted.

Call 913-281-8908 with questions or to schedule donation
pick-up. Donations are tax deductible.

*PS: We need volunteer help to organize and run the sale! Can
you give us an hour or two on Thursday to set up, or Friday and
Saturday of the sale? Call Melissa at
the Shepherd's Center office, 913-281-8908 to sign up for a shift!*



Give Food. Give Time. Give Money.

Thanks to you, we are feeding 1 in 8 people in our community who are hungry.

Keep making a difference.

Learn more at www.harvesters.org



Your Hometown Business Directory

"AT YOUR SERVICE"

CHILD CARE/DAY CARE

EL CENTRO ACADEMY FOR CHILDREN
 Ages 2 1/2 to Preschool - all day
 1330 S 30th, Kansas City KS 913.677.1115

FINANCIAL

ARGENTINE FEDERAL SAVINGS
 Deposits Federally Insured
 3004 Strong Ave.831-2004

HEALTH CARE

EAST ARGENTINE NURSING SERVICE
 Clinic Tu/Th 3:00-5:30 p.m.
 14th & Metropolitan

CHURCHES

USHINDI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 Sunday Service 9:30 am
 3730 Metropolitan Ave.....831-4531

FUNERAL SERVICES



MAPLE HILL
 FUNERAL HOME
 CEMETERY
Family Owned Since 1945
**Complete Funeral, Cemetery,
 Cremation & Pre-arranged Services**
 3300 Shawnee Dr.
 Kansas City, KS 66106
 Funeral Home Cemetery
 (913) 831-3345 (913) 262-6610
www.maplehillfuneralhome.com

PET CARE/GROOMING

BUBBLES & BOWS BOUTIQUE
 2500 S 34TH ST..... 722-0177 or 406-2379
 Grooming • Training • Boarding • Apparel

PLUMBING HEATING/COOLING

SCHULER HEATING/COOLING, LNC.
 Visit our showroom & parts dept.
 3400 Shawnee Dr.262-2969

RESTAURANT

BIG 'Q' BAR-B-Q
 Wed. & Sunday Special
 2117 S. 34th Street362-6980

Are you planning a new project involving digging?
Do the smart thing!

**CALL 811 -- 48 hours
 Before digging.**

Prevent power outages and personal injuries.
 Please share this with your family and friends

Health Care And Community Prevention Centers

VIBRANT HEALTH
 Argentine location:
 1428 S. 32nd St.
 Monday - Friday, 8-5 pm
 All locations phone,
 913*342*2552

Partnership for Drug-Free Kids
 855*378*4373

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
 800*273*8255

KC Care Health Center
 816*753*5144

Senior-focused Health Care,
 Partners in Primary Care
 Medicare-Advantage Care
 Center
 7527 State Ave.
 913*355*6986

Petty...

...from page 3

public utilities from exercising eminent domain for the siting or placement of solar facilities. I voted YES.

SB 552 (Passed 34-6): Enacting the Kansas campus restoration act to address deferred maintenance and demolition of facilities at post-secondary educational institutions, establishing the Kansas campus restoration fund and authorizing certain transfers from the state general fund to such fund. I voted YES.

SubBill for SB233 (Passed 27-13): Bans lifesaving gender-affirming care for transgender youth. Requires the Kansas Board of Healing Arts to revoke the license of physicians who have performed a childhood gender reassignment service

Allows individuals to bring a civil cause of action against physicians who performed gender reassignment services on them as children. I voted NO.

What to Watch

Next week, conference committees will meet. In anticipation of this, House Republican leadership pulled two bills intended to restrict abortion access out of the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs. This means there could be a quick hearing or informational session with little public notice early in the week so Republican leadership can add them to a conference report. Below are the bills:

* HB 2181: Prohibiting abortion procedures and creating the crimes of unlawful performance of an abortion and unlawful destruction of a fertilized embryo.

* HB 2492: Prohibiting abortion procedures except when necessary to save the life of the pregnant woman and providing a private cause of action for civil enforcement of such prohibition.

The bills represent more attempts to ban abortion in Kansas, after voters made it crystal clear in 2022 that they want abortion protections to stay. While Republican leadership continues to fly directly in the face of the will of Kansans, my Democratic colleagues and I will continue to fight for the protection of fundamental freedoms.

Scholarships...

...from page 2

Centralia High School

"This year's winners demonstrated a strong connection between their personal financial goals and investing," said Commissioner Schmidt. "The essays show that KCEE students are obtaining practical money skills that will serve them well in adulthood."

"We appreciate the support of the Kansas Department of Insurance in honoring these deserving students and their teachers as they demonstrate their understanding of financial literacy through this essay

contest," said Charlene Nichols, Executive Director of KCEE. "The skills they have gained will serve themselves and all of Kansas for many years to come."

The first-place essay will join two other winners from Junior Achievement and Jobs for America's Graduates-Kansas to compete for the overall winner of the essay contest and an additional scholarship of \$5,000.

For more information about the Kansas Department of Insurance or to learn more about making smart investment decisions, visit insurance.kansas.gov and SmartInvestKS.com.

The Kansas Council for Economic Education (KCEE) was founded in 1959 on the campus of Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas and is currently housed at Wichita State University's Barton School of Business. KCEE provides KansasK-12 students with the economic knowledge and financial skills needed to thrive in the dynamic economy. By providing quality training and up-to-date resources, KCEE partners with teachers and schools to help students develop decision-making skills needed to be informed consumers, productive employees or innovative entrepreneurs, thoughtful investors, and reasoned voters.

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: _____

First Name, Maiden Last Name, Last Name Class Member Grad Year _____
Super Senior (please check) _____

Name: _____

Guest(s) or Spouse (Maiden Name if AHS) Class Member Grad Year _____

Name: _____

First Name, Maiden (Maiden Name), Last Name AHS Student/Non-Grad Year _____

Name: _____

Guest(s) or Spouse First Name, (Maiden) Last Name if AHS/Non-Grad _____

My Email Address is: _____ My phone number is: _____

My Home Address is: _____

My Check Includes: REUNION Meal(s) \$40 x _____ = \$_____ Total (Meal served at Noon)

Donations accepted, please specify amount \$ _____

Dietary Restrictions (please list if any) _____



**ARGENTINE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI
2024 REUNION**



INVITEES: CLASSES 1946 – 1973

DATE: SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2024

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

LOCATION: SHAWNEE CIVIC CENTRE
13817 JOHNSON DRIVE
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!**

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: *AHS 2024 REUNION*

**AHS 2024 REUNION COMMITTEE
P. O. Box 16076
Shawnee, KS 66203**