



The Record

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Why We Need Big Government

By Dr. Jim Haas

For nearly a century after the Constitution was ratified in 1789, a federal government of modest size worked well enough because the nation's scattered population was governed mostly by states and because the agrarian economy changed little. Then came the Industrial Revolution, the Gilded Age, and the infamous robber barons. Captains of industry amassed huge fortunes, and, during the last years of the 19th century, states and the federal government became more beholden to the wealthy and less responsive to the needs of ordinary citizens. Equality was distorted as workers lost political leverage.

Theodore Roosevelt (pictured), president from 1901-1909, understood the change. Historian Heather Cox Richardson has explained that "the danger for individuals ... was not that the government would crush them but that industrialists would." Roosevelt regulated businesses and broke the power of the corporate trusts.

Roosevelt saw that industrialization would inevitably increase adding to the wealth and power of the few. He also saw that only a robust government could defend the people's interest by balancing the power of concentrated wealth. To Roosevelt, government was a referee between workers, consumers, and businessmen (virtually all men in those days). He also guided America's emergence as a world power which required yet more government to maintain the armed forces and an extensive diplomatic corps.

In 1913, Congress established a federal progressive income tax to provide revenue for expanded government services. Business tycoons, frightened by what they

wrongly labeled "socialism," understood that collective action with government support would compete with the power of their wealth. They feared unions—organized citizens whom they couldn't dominate—and hated income taxes.

In 1932, America was in the Great Depression and Theodore's cousin Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal helped end the Depression with government programs that directly helped people: Social Security, bank and Wall Street regulation, the National Labor Relations Board, and more. Soon after, World War II required a much more costly military that continued through the subsequent Cold War and beyond.

FDR's successor, Harry Truman, authorized the G.I. Bill to help veterans with college and home purchase costs, federal money which led directly to the rise of an educated, prosperous middle class. His successor, Dwight Eisenhower, steered the Interstate Highway bill through Congress. Lyndon Johnson's Great Society programs gave seniors Medicare and Medicaid as well as civil rights for millions, including women, long deprived of them. The Nixon Administration created the Environmental Protection Agency in response to poisoned rivers, oil spills, and other ecological disasters.

Decades later, Obamacare allowed millions to have affordable healthcare long provided by governments in nearly every other developed country. More recently, the Biden Administration's Bipartisan Infrastructure Act is creating jobs and upgrading roads, bridges, and fast internet access in poorly served areas. Biden is also saving home buyers billions annually by ending the real estate industry's violation



of anti-trust laws, workers will profit from a ban on noncompete agreements, and major corporate mergers are being challenged as monopolies.

All these popular programs made government bigger to better serve Americans, all cost money, and nearly all were opposed by many of the wealthy, who objected to helping pay to benefit others. And government naturally grew as the population grew: Theodore Roosevelt's America had about 76 million people while Joe Biden's has about 327 million.

We now find ourselves in a new Gilded Age where many tycoons are so rich that the power their money buys is a clear and present danger to the wellbeing of the rest of us. Only a powerful government acting as a people's union can balance their influence but only if we elect leaders who will vote not for special interests or for big donors, but for the common good.



By Sharon Hoover

Every year about this time the WYCO Master Gardeners start contacting friends, family, and neighbors to recruit a new class of volunteers. I got a chance to see the new recruiting flyer this week and Turner's own Jim Jarsulic is pictured in the large hoop house at the Turner Community Garden along with some of our kids. Classes will be held on Thursday afternoons at the K-State Research and Extension office September 5

Comin' & Goin' Turner Style

through December 5. Applications are open July 1 and the deadline to apply is August 1. Online tinyurl.com/4avs7pt3.

Speaking of Volunteers, AmeriCorps RSVP-KC are looking for seniors 55 and older to make a difference in the community. This program offers a variety of opportunities tailored to one's skills and interests. At one time, KCK had this program and as a volunteer I went to Quindaro Elementary school and helped youngsters learn to read. To find out more call 785 802-8122 or rsvp,kcmo@gmail.com.

"Pancakes, Pipes, and Parks" is a free public meeting for community members on June 22 from 9am to 11am at Memorial Hall, 600 N 7th. Have you noticed the lush greens

at WYCO Park Lake or Waterway Park? Learn about stormwater and park improvements at 8th St. Park, Spitlog Park and Northrup Park. Pick up tips on starting your own rain garden or installing a rain barrel. There is no formal presentation, come and go as you please.

Parks and Rec has issued a Spring/Summer Guide- "Explore WYCO/KCK Parks" listing all the services and attractions offered, whether it be fishing, playing golf, community center events, and park info. It's available to download online at wycokck.org.

If you want a little libation you might want to go to the Strawberry Hill 2024 Pub Crawl. It is also on Saturday, June 22 from 11am-5pm. Visit the historic neighborhood and

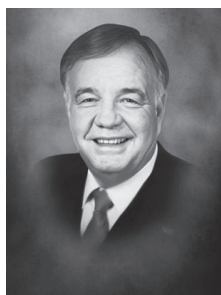
the 11 bars. Tickets are \$40 per person, which includes a pub crawl t-shirt and goody bag. Register online at strawberryhillkck.org.

The Turner Community Garden will start the Market on the Saturday after July 4 if they have produce available. In the meantime, visit the Merc on Saturday mornings, and the Farm School on Gibbs Road on Wednesday evenings for fresh vegetables.

As a final thought, visit any KCK Public Library branch and pick up the monthly guide, our library system offers so many activities for adults and kids of ages and the programs are free.

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

Unified Government Leaders Honor the Life and Service of Former Mayor Joseph E. Steineger Jr.



KANSAS CITY, KS - The Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas (UG) is saddened to

hear about the recent passing of former Mayor Joseph (Joe) E. Steineger Jr. Steineger served as the last seated full-term Mayor for Kansas City, Kansas from 1987-1995.

On behalf of the Office of Mayor Tyrone A. Garner, Elected Officials, Unified Government County Administration, and the entire UG staff, we would like to extend our heartfelt condolences to the Steineger family.

"Our city lost a true Dotte and statesman in the passing of Former Mayor of Kansas City, Kansas, the Honorable Joseph E. Steineger Jr. Both personally, and professionally, he touched countless lives through dedicated community and public service," expressed Mayor/ CEO Tyrone A. Garner. "As current may-

or, I would like to personally send sincere condolences and deepest sympathy to his family and loved ones. I ask that all Kansas City, Kansas residents take a pause to reflect on his legacy and join me in keeping the family of the Honorable Mayor Joseph E. Steineger Jr. in both thought and prayer."

Joseph (Joe) E. Steineger Jr., 90, of Kansas City, Kansas, passed away on June 8, 2024.

A visitation was held on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at Maple Hill Funeral Home. A Holy Eucharist Service took place on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Kansas City, Kansas. Burial followed at Highland Park Cemetery.

Joseph was born on March 7, 1934, to Joseph E. Steineger, Sr. and Tessa Faye Munday in Kansas City, Kansas. He graduated from Washington High School in 1952. Shortly after, he met Gloria Irene Krump, and they married in 1954. They enjoyed 45 years of marriage and together raised four children: Joseph (Jenny) Steineger III, Kathie Steineger, Christy Haycraft, and

David Steineger.

Joseph was a lifelong member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. He was also a dedicated and accomplished farmer, cultivating over 3,000 acres a season. His exceptional contributions to agriculture led to his induction into the Agriculture Hall of Fame, where he also served on the board. Joseph was actively involved in several organizations, including The Lions Club, Shriners, Jaycees, and the National Antique Tractor Pullers Association, along with many other civic organizations. He was recognized as the Young Farmer of the Year and Outstanding Man of the Year.

Joseph's commitment to community service was unwavering. He served on the Turner School Board for 35 years and the Kansas State School Board. His leadership extended to public office, where he served as the Mayor of Kansas City from 1987 to 1995.

Joseph E. Steineger Jr. will be remembered for his dedication to his family, his church, his community, and his remarkable contributions to agriculture.



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The State Library Announces the 2024 Kansas Notable Books

TOPEKA –This year’s list of Kansas Notable Books continues the tradition of celebrating the rich stories and culture of Kansas.

“The 2024 Kansas Notable Books list recognizes 15 books written by Kansans or about Kansas,” said Ray Walling, State Librarian. “ From historical figures like abolitionist James Montgomery, to the remarkably resilient residents of Udall, to people reflecting on grief and personal struggles through poetry, the authors introduce readers to a variety of Kansans. The selections also take readers on a geology field trip across the state, to Kansas City’s Montgall Avenue, into a classroom as seen through the eyes of a child on the autism spectrum, inside a murder mystery, and beyond to other worlds. With something for everyone, I hope all Kansans will visit their local public library to check out these wonderful titles.”

Each year, the Kansas Notable Books list features 15 books, published during the previous calendar year, which are about or set in Kansas, or written by a Kansas author. This year’s selection committee includes representatives of public, university, and regional libraries, academics, and writers.

Kansas Notable Books authors will be awarded their medals at the Kansas Book Festival on September 27 at Washburn University.

Kansas Notable Books is a project of the Kansas Center for the Book, a program at the State Library of Kansas which is the state affiliate of the Library of Congress Center for the Book. The mission of the Kansas Center for the Book is to highlight the state’s literary heritage and foster an interest in books, reading, and libraries.

For more information or questions about Kansas Notable Books program, visit kslib.info/notable-books or contact the State Library of Kansas at 785-296-

3296 or email infodesk@ks.gov.

2024 Kansas Notable Books

Abolitionist of the Most Dangerous Kind: James Montgomery and His War on Slavery, by Todd Mildfelt and David Schafer, University of Oklahoma Press

Daughter of Chaos, by Sarah Edgerton (Tonganoxie), Elizabeth Hawk Publishing

Doomed by Blooms, by Anna St. John (Haysville), Level Best Books

Grief Said “Have a Seat”, by Amanda G. Elsbury (Wichita), Elite Publications

Henry, Like Always, by Jenn Bailey (Leawood), Chronicle Books

I’ve Been Fighting This War Within Myself, by Antonio Sanchez-Day (Topeka) and edited by Brian Daldorph (Lawrence), Meadowlark Poetry Press

Into the Sunset: Emmett Dalton and the End of the Dalton Gang, by Ian Shaw, University Press of Kansas

The Jayhawk: The Story of the University of Kansas’s Beloved Mascot, by Rebecca Ozier Schulte (Lawrence), University Press of Kansas

Kansas City’s Montgall Avenue: Black Leaders and the Street They Called Home, by Margie Carr (Lawrence), University Press of Kansas

Orion O’Brien and the Spirit of

Quindaro, by Fran Borin (Mission Hills), Mission Point Press

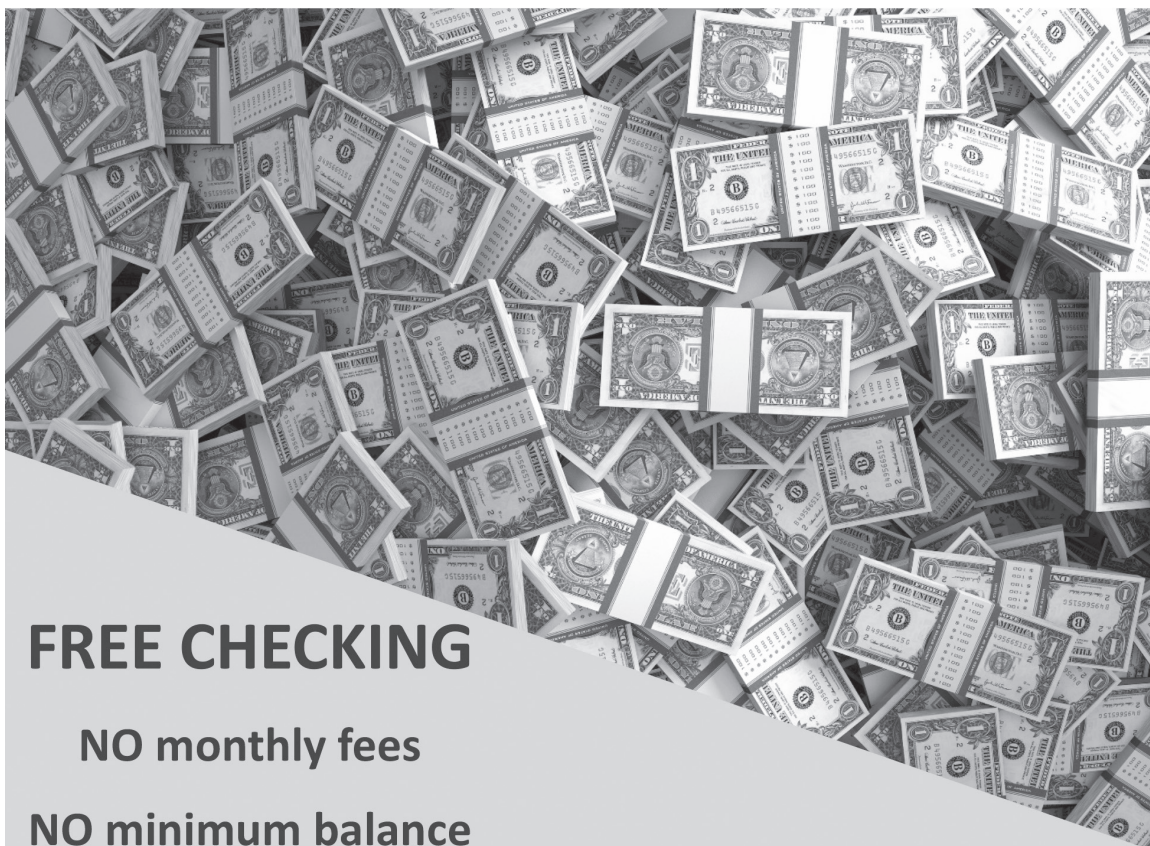
Proclaiming the Good News: Mennonite Women’s Voices, 1972-2006, by Lois Y. Barrett and Dorothy Nickel Friesen, Institute of Mennonite Studies

Red Rabbit, by Alex Grecian (Topeka), Tor Nightfire

Roadside Geology of Kansas, by James S Aber (Emporia), Susan E. W. Aber (Emporia), and Michael J. Everhart (Derby), Mountain Press

We’re Safe When We’re Alone, by Nghiem Tran (Wichita), Coffee House Press

Without Warning: The Tornado of Udall, Kansas, by Jim Minick, Bison Books



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Guest Editorial

Quotes To Ponder

By Tom Valverde

I'm a former Trump supporter and today I find myself wondering why any Republican would vote for Donald Trump. Donald Trump is the anthesis of every value Republicans have stood for: The Constitution, a Strong Rule of Law, Accountability for your actions, a strong Military; Respect for those who serve. But, I think people may be abandoning their principles and their morals and even, their Faith. Because they are angry, they are frustrated and afraid and Donald Trump is the only one saying the things they want to hear. I'm not buying it! We've seen what Donald Trump really is, and it disgusts me to my core! So, for the first time in my life, I will be voting for a Democrat for President and believe me, this is not easy for me to do. I voted straight Republican all my life. But, my moral compass and love of country tells me that voting for Biden is the right thing to do right now. Because the only thing Trump wants to do is to burn down our Democracy and rule in its ashes!

Jeff, member, Republican Voters Against Trump

I'm from St. Louis and I voted for Trump in 2016 and in 2020. But, that, of course, was the big point when he denied the election results! I'm military and I swore an Oath to protect the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic and he undermined that. Trump undermined that; he went too far. And if he gets back into office, he'll go even further, I suspect. What happened on January 6th was a dry run -- he's even committed to being a dictator on his first day back in. Have you ever known of a dictator who only was a dictator for one day? It just doesn't happen! He's communicating to you who he wants to be and that is a terrifying nightmare for our country and our Republic. Troops cannot support

Trump and that says a lot!. Trump refers to military as "suckers and losers!" That documents thing, irks me because I was an Intel analyst. That's what pissed me off about Hilary. But, Trump did like, "here hold my beer, I can do it even better." And for the first time in my long life I'm going to vote for a Democrat, Joe Biden."

Scott, member, Republican Voters Against Trump

"I'm a lifelong Republican, I have voted Republican every time I could vote. But, I am not voting for Donald Trump this Fall and never will. The accusation, that I don't think he has denied, that he kept all those documents at his home down in Florida. And he showed things he shouldn't have to a foreign dignitary. That's not someone you want running your country! How can we put up someone as a candidate for the president of the United States, who, put it mildly, cozies up to dictators and authoritarian regimes around the world? He jokes about being a dictator. That is not funny! I also don't believe that he wouldn't try to use the FBI and whatever else to get back at the people he's upset with. I have never voted for anyone else but a Republican. But, this time, I am so convinced that the last thing we need is a Donald Trump presidency. I can't just stay home and vote for no one. I am going to vote for the opposition. Because, I know that is vote against Trump and helps him not be in power. And that is my main concern, this time, is that he not regain power in America."

Nancy, member, Republican Voters Against Trump

I'm from Encino, CA and I refuse to vote for this man, ever again! Based on how he handled the pandemic and how he handled losing the election. Leading up to January 6th, his behavior was unacceptable, reprehensible and vile. As far as I'm concerned, he's a criminal and

he's been indicted, I think with 88 indictments. I plan to vote for President Joe Biden. Biden is the best choice for America, based on this binary choice. But, right now, if the choice is between Jimmy Carter and Benito Mussolini, I'm voting for Jimmy Carter, it's that simple! Voting for Trump is a non-starter for me. And, hopefully for millions and millions of other Americans that can go self-reflect and realize the absolute horrible mistake that we made by supporting Trump in any way!

Carter, member, Republican Voters Against Trump

For several weeks, many former Republican voters have recorded their messages on You Tube. They are the last of the legacy Republicans. They are critical thinkers and see through the miasma of Trump's obstructions and deliberate lies. "Republican Voters Against Trump" hope they are able to change some of their fellow Republican voters minds by being so forthright in discussing their thoughts about another Trump administration. They are fed up and tired of him.

Trump was in Las Vegas last week in the broiling heat of 100°+. He actually told the crowd at his

rally, "I don't care about you, all I want is your vote!" This was too much even for the MAGA people as many were seen leaving while Trump was still going on and was speaking.

Many of the people who were his base of voters are now thinking about the wisdom of electing a convicted felon to be in the White House during these turbulent times.

It seems as if his MAGA people have forgotten that Trump played golf for almost an entire year out of his 4 year term. And when not at Mar a Lago, he was at reelection rally somewhere. But, he wasn't doing the "people 's business!" With all of this down time.

Trump is a danger to public safety at all times and locales around the country. The MAGA people are there with their support and only need to be called up for another January 6th kind of violent event to occur.

Trump has said on multiple occasions that should he not win, he is calling for a second Civil war. Yes, this is happening in the second decade of the 21st Century! Amazing and truly unbelievable and unacceptable for a presidential candidate in the United States. We need honorable and sane leadership and President Joe Biden is that man.

YOU are invited

Anyone who believes in the mission of The League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC is eligible to join us. Being part of the conversation will bring us together with all of society.

The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the largest and oldest Hispanic and Latino civil rights organization in the United States.[2] It was established on February 17, 1929, in Corpus Christi, Texas, largely by Hispanics returning from World War I who sought to end ethnic discrimination against Latinos in the United States. The goal of LULAC is to advance the economic condition, educational attainment, political influence, housing, health, and civil rights of Hispanic people in the United States. LULAC uses nationwide councils and group community organizations to achieve all these goals. LULAC has about 132,000 members in the United States.

Council 11085 has LULAC members in the counties of Douglas, Johnson and Wyandotte (Kansas) – Clay and Jackson (Missouri).

Join us at the monthly Zoom meetings – the second Saturday of each month at 2 p.m.

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