



# The Record

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## History, Yes; Tariffs, No

By Dr. Jim Haas

**H**istory is the record of what happened. It's the story of mankind's successes and failures—often inspiring, often depressing—but of little value unless it's as true as we can make it with the known facts. Trying to erase parts of our past that some may not like is a loser's game that distorts reality and spreads ignorance to serve someone's selfish purposes.

Last week, U.S. District Judge Cynthia Rufe, a George W. Bush appointee, was not having it, ruling that the Trump Administration had no right to remove a National Park Service display of information about nine slaves owned by George Washington from the Philadelphia house he, Martha, and the slaves occupied while he was president. Judge Rufe ordered that the exhibit be restored in its original condition and not in a way that explains the history differently. NPR reported that Rufe had warned Justice Department lawyers during an earlier hearing that arguing that Trump officials can choose which parts of our history to display at historic sites was both "dangerous" and "horrifying."

Rufe's written ruling opened with a bang: "As if the Ministry of Truth in George Orwell's *1984* now existed, with its motto 'Ignorance is Strength,' this Court is now asked to determine whether the federal government has the power it claims—to dissemble and disassemble historical truths when it has some domain over historical facts. It does not."

Orwell's Ministry of Truth routinely altered historical records to suit its own purposes, making what was history a self-serving pack of lies. Judge Rufe knows what the Administration is up to and won't allow it.

The City of Philadelphia sued the Trump Administration after Park Service workers pried the display off a brick wall, apparently following an order from the president to



restore "truth and sanity to American history" at federal museums, landmarks, and other sites by ensuring that exhibits do not "inappropriately disparage Americans past or living." Officials have removed other factual displays concerning enslaved people, LGBTQ+ people, and Native Americans. A sign removed at Grand Canyon National Park said that settlers pushed native tribes "off their land" for the park and to exploit the area for mining and grazing. Well, that happened.

Also last week, the Supreme Court (pictured), by a 6-3 vote, struck down Trump's sweeping tariffs, ruling that the Emergency Powers Act doesn't give a president taxation power. The Constitution gives that power to Congress. Trump's arbitrary and sometimes capricious tariffs (He slapped a tariff on Switzerland, saying he didn't like the "tone" of the Swiss president during a conversation with her.) have upended global trade, weakened America's respect and trust from allies, and raised prices for American consumers who have paid about 90 percent of the tariffs.

Tariffs have been, in effect, a national sales tax estimated to be between \$1,300 and \$1,700 on the average family during the past year. A question is how, or if, to refund the tariffs paid by businesses and consumers. The Court decision was announced February 20; by the end of that day, some businesses had already sued for refunds, and Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzger had sent Trump an invoice for \$8,679,261,600—\$1,700 payable to every state family.

Informed of the decision, Trump called it "disgraceful." What is disgraceful is a president failing to do the hard work of promoting legislation to achieve his goals through Congress—the Constitutional way. At a press conference, the angry president vowed to levy a 10 percent (later 15) tariff on the world using a different legal provision that will expire in five months unless Congress extends it. He called the Court "an insult to our nation" and called the six majority Justices, including two of his appointees, "fools and lap dogs," a tantrum unlikely to help him in future Court cases.



By Sharon Hoover

What a beautiful week we just experienced but this morning I woke up to below freezing temperatures. Supposedly, since Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow there will be six more weeks of winter. I looked to see exactly what date that is and it happens to be St. Patrick's Day. How convenient because that's when farmers can start planting their potatoes.

March 2, 2026, is the start of phase two of the Waste Management

# Comin' & Goin' Turner Style

Program which involves the Turner area. Residents who did not attend any of the three meetings should visit the website [wycokck.org/carts](http://wycokck.org/carts) or call 311 and ask to speak with the Solid Waste Team or call WM at 1-800-796-9696 to learn what changes have been made.

The Recycling & Yard Waste Center at 3241 Park Drive is open on Saturdays 10am-3pm on Saturday until March 15. After that and until November 15 on it will be open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10am-3pm. Free mulch available.

The Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Center at 2443 South 88<sup>th</sup> St. will accept items on April 18, May 16, June 13, July 18, August 15, September 19, October 17, in 2026 from 8:30am-1:00pm. Call

311 or visit [wycokck.org/waste](http://wycokck.org/waste) for a list of acceptable items.

Dumpster Days at Indian Springs, 47<sup>th</sup> & Orville will be May 1 & 3 from 8:30am to 12:30pm. This is an opportunity to recycle electronic items for a small fee and dispose of unwanted bulky items for free. Examples are mattresses, furniture, and appliances without Freon. Learn more online at [wycokck.org/DumpsterDays](http://wycokck.org/DumpsterDays).

Turner Library's class "Painting Like the Greats" inspirational artist this month is Gustave Dore and the project "Acrylic Plate Etching Print" on March 3. The location is The Windmill KC, 840 S.55<sup>th</sup>. Ages 14+ The fun begins at 10am and lasts until noon. Registration [kckpl.org](http://kckpl.org).

The STEM program from Turner

Library is on March 6 at Turner Garden, 667 S. 55<sup>th</sup> and is entitled "Electricity (Tesla Coil)" from 1:00-1:30pm. Unleash the electrifying secrets of power from lighting your room to how fire sparks. Ages 4 and up. Register at [kckpl.org](http://kckpl.org).

WYCO Master Gardeners Program, March 5, 11:30am-1pm at 1216 N.79<sup>th</sup>. The topic is "Soil Blocking". Soil blocking is a method of starting flower or vegetable seeds in individual soil blocks. Seeds grown with this method tend to be more vigorous and more resilient during transplanting and lessens transplant shock. The demonstration will be in the Sunflower Room. Cost is \$10 for non-Master Gardeners.

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

## UG Updates the Process for Short-Term Rentals

### Expanding Lodging Options for Visitors Coming to KCK

KANSAS CITY, KS - This week, the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas (UG) officially launched a resource webpage and updated guidelines for short-term rental (STRs) licenses in Kansas City, Kansas (KCK).

In 110 days, the Kansas City Region is expecting nearly 650,000 visitors for the FIFA World Cup, and with limited hotel accommodation, short-term rentals will be a crucial component to meeting the projected housing need. KCK is ready to meet this demand.

On February 5, 2026, the (UG) Board of Commissioners approved an ordinance to allow for an amended short-term rental process for the World Cup. The ordinance approved a major event period from May 4 to July 31, 2026, and a temporary licensing process for STRs in KCK. Beginning Wednesday, February 18, 2026, interested parties can apply for a 90-day license through the Rental Licensing division.

This process will allow for a faster, easier application process that is entirely digital through our online platform, Short Term Rental License World Cup Special Event. The process requires an application form, submission of a third-party home inspection, and other necessary documents. Applicants are expected to receive a decision on the application within 10 days, and they can check the online portal for the application status.

"We are excited to welcome the visitors from around the world to Kick it in KCK when the beautiful game is played on the world's biggest stage," said Assistant County Administrator Alan Howze. "Launching our new simplified online short-term rental application allows KCK residents who want to rent their homes during the World Cup to benefit from the thousands of fans coming to our community. Our process will require property owners to have a third-party home inspection for basic life-safety measures, ensuring that visitors have a safe stay in KCK."

In addition to the faster process, the ordinance also removed the limit on the number of STRs per block face for the 90-day major event period. Further, the license application fee will be \$50. It should be noted that the resolution also includes increased fines for noncompliance, and operating a STR without a license will result in fines of up to \$5,000 per day. If KCK residents have an existing SUP that will not expire during the major event period, they will not need to obtain a license.



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# SENATE NEWS



By Sen. Pat Pettey

**W**ith Week Five now finished, we are nearly at the halfway point of the 2026 session. Next week is Turnaround, which marks the deadline for bills to pass out of their chamber of origin (Senate bills must be passed by the Senate and sent to the House, and vice versa). Be on the lookout on our socials next week for a brief video explaining the Turnaround process!

Committee meetings continued this week, with several holding hearings on proposed legislation and receiving presentations from various agencies.

I encourage you to submit testimony (written or in-person) on legislation that is of interest to you. Testimony is due at least 24 hours before the hearing, and you can visit the Kansas Legislature website for

information on when hearings are being held and how to submit your testimony.

With Turnaround next week, most committees will only meet on Monday, February 16. Most committees will be spending their time working and passing out bills that they have held hearings on earlier in the session.

Some additional legislation to keep an eye on:

\* **The Big, Beautiful Bill: Kansas Edition:** It seems that some of our most extreme colleagues feel that the Big, Beautiful Bill didn't wreak enough havoc on Kansas that Kansas needs its own version. SB 363 would further restrict access to food, child care, and medical assistance for our most vulnerable Kansans. Punitive legislation like this only harms Kansans, and we must work together to defeat this bill. Opponents highlighted how SB 363 will only increase the error rate as it will require more administrative burden that agencies are not equipped to handle.

\* **Public Funds for Private**

**Schools: Vouchers are back again...** The House passed HB 2468 this week, which would increase the amount of public funds diverted toward private schools from \$10 million per year to \$20 million. I stand strongly opposed to voucher programs; our public dollars belong in our public schools. HB 2468 has been referred to the Senate Education Committee, so we can expect a hearing to occur after this upcoming week.

\* **Even more attempts at voter suppression:** SB 394 aims to get rid of voting by mail altogether. We know that people vote by mail for a variety of reasons – attending college, transportation difficulties, wanting to research the candidates while voting, etc. We also know that voting by mail is safe and secure. So why are Republicans so set on disenfranchising thousands of voters? I highlighted this bill earlier in the session when it first received a hearing. It has now been passed out of committee and will likely be debated on the floor early next week.

**On the Senate Floor**

The Senate debated and passed eleven bills this week. My votes on these pieces of legislation were as follows:

\* **Adding Red Tape and Barriers to Children Accessing Food:** SB 387 seeks to require local schools to verify the household gross income of students deemed "at-risk" under the school funding formula. This erects more barriers to children accessing free and reduced-price school meals and requires school districts to divert funds away from other educational programs and services to cover the cost of the increased administrative burden. Sen. Holscher proposed an amendment that would have covered the copay cost for 35,000 Kansas students currently on reduced-price lunches, but every Republican senator voted against it. We should be focused on supporting the health and success of our Kansas kids, not taking food out of their mouths. SB 387 passed

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



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## Petty...

...from page 3

22-18, I voted NO.

\* Prohibiting the State Bank Commissioner from becoming a receiver for TEFFIs: SB 300 was introduced by the Joint Committee on Fiduciary Financial Institutions Oversight. The bill seeks to protect the state from being appointed as a receiver for an insolvent TEFFI's debts. TEFFIs are technology-enabled fiduciary financial institutions. While this issue has never arisen in Kansas, it has occurred in New Mexico and has cost the state significant money and time. SB 300 passed 40-0, I voted YES.

\* Creating a combination hunting and fishing license for seniors and children: SB 364 requires the Kansas Dept of Wildlife and Parks to offer resident seniors over the age of 65 a combination hunting and fishing license at no more than 1/8 the price of a general combination lifetime license. This bill also provides for the department to offer a Kansas kids combination license for Kansas children younger than 15 years of age. Senator Francisco was able to get an amendment on the floor that standardized the cost for the Kansas kids' combination pass. SB 364 passed 40-0, I voted YES.

\* Permitting local governments to allow golf carts to be driven on sidewalks: SB 367 may seem like a scene out of a political comedy, but it's real. This bill provides cities with the authority to authorize those who are over the age of 16 and have a valid driver's license to drive a golf cart on city sidewalks. SB 367 does not require the cities do so, only provides them the opportunity to make a decision that best serves their community. SB 367 passed 40-0, I voted YES.

\* Regulating the Manufacture and Sale of E-Cigarettes: SB 355 will require the electronic cigarette manufacturers to be licensed in Kansas and bring e-cigarette regulation in line with the regulations on other nicotine products. This bill seeks to protect Kansas consumers from unregulated, potentially dangerous products. SB 355 also prohibits the marketing or advertising of

e-cigarettes in a manner that would appeal to children, including the use of cartoon-like fictional characters, mimicking trademarks that are primarily marketed to children, and designs that attempt to disguise the fact that the product is an e-cigarette. We need to ensure that our children are protected from the harmful and addictive effects of e-cigarettes. SB 355 passed 40-0, I voted YES.

\* Allowing Animal Shelters to Place Certain Neonate Animals in Foster Homes: SB 344 will allow animal shelters to place certain neonate animals in need of treatment or care in a foster home when the animal shelter cannot provide such care. Animal shelters will be required to display photos of the animals at the shelter and on the shelter's website. SB 344 passed 40-0, I voted YES.

\* Providing Certain Retailer Sales Tax Exemptions for Disabled Veterans: SB 434 amends state law to permit the use of the federal process for determining veteran disability status for the purpose of qualifying for certain sales tax exemptions. This bill was amended on the floor to add a "general discharge under honorable conditions" to a type of discharge that would qualify a veteran for exemption. SB 434 passed 40-0, I voted YES.

On Wednesday, the Senate approved the appointment of Christi Smith as Director of the Office of Early Childhood on a vote of 21-19. Ms. Smith is highly qualified to run this new agency, and I am looking forward to working with her to strengthen our childcare system and provide support to our Kansas families.

**THIS WEEK IN THE CAPITOL**  
Black Legislative Day at the Capitol

On Monday, Black Kansans came to Topeka to advocate for issues and causes important to them. The day was hosted by the Kansas Black Leadership Council in conjunction with other organizations, including the Kansas NAACP and the Kansas Black Legislative Caucus.

Governor Kelly signed a proclamation recognizing Black History Month, and we were honored to recognize several individuals on the Senate floor!

I was fortunate to have 6 sixth graders from Turner 6th Grade Academy join me for the day and get to experience the hustle and bustle of the legislature. I feel hopeful for the future of our state when I see our young people show interest in their government.

Armed Forces Appreciation Day

On Wednesday, members of our Armed Forces visited the Capitol for Armed Forces Appreciation Day and the Governor's signing of the Armed Forces Appreciation Day proclamation. It was an honor to be able to recognize the many sacrifices members of our armed forces have made for our country. Thank you to all of those who have served our

country for your dedication and sacrifice.

**KNOW YOUR RIGHTS**

With the influx of immigration raids across our country, it is important that we ensure our communities know their rights. It is clear that this administration has no respect for the rule of law.

Know Your Rights cards are an effective way to distribute information about the rights we all have – regardless of immigration status – when interacting with law enforcement officers. You can download these cards to print out and share with your friends and neighbors here. Cards are available in more than 50 different languages.

## Tom's Tasty Treats

By Tom Valverde

This week we celebrate the wonderful goodness of apples. The recipe calls for using Granny Smith apples, but with the many varieties of the fruit it's up to you. Some bakers use sweet apples, such as Gala and then cut the amount of sugar they use to bake this week's tasty treat:

### Apple Bundt Cake with Caramel Sauce

Ingredients:

2 1/2 c Flour  
1 t Baking Powder  
1/2 t Baking Soda  
1 1/2 t Cinnamon  
1 t Cardamon  
1/4 t Nutmeg  
1/2 t Salt  
1 c Brown Sugar  
3 lg Eggs  
1 c Sour Cream  
1/2 c Golden Raisins  
1 t Vanilla  
1/2 c Milk  
1/2 c Oil  
4 c Apples,  
Peeled and cut into 1" pieces

Caramel Sauce:

1 c Sugar  
1/2 c Heavy Cream  
1 t Vanilla

Butter Bundt pan and set the oven to 325°. In a mixer, combine the brown sugar and sugar. Add the sour cream, Vanilla and oil and beat until well blended. In another bowl combine and whisk together the flour, baking powder, baking powder, salt Cinnamon, nutmeg and ground cardamon. Add 1/3 of the dry mixture to the wet in-

gredients, on medium speed. Add the remaining thirds and finish by stirring to make sure that no dry ingredients remain in the bowl. Add the chopped apples fold into the batter to coat evenly.

Place the batter into the Bundt pan. Bake at 325° for 1 hour and 10 minutes. Test the cake with a toothpick. Cool in pan for 12 minutes. Then finish cooling on a plate. Make the glaze by heating the sugar, heavy cream and salt over medium heat. Bring to a boil to melt the sugar. Remove from the heat and add the Vanilla. Place the glaze in a heat-proof cup. Drizzle over the cake and let soak in prior to serving. For an extra treat add a scoop of Vanilla ice cream, yum.

You are sure to be asked to make this again and again. Apple cake is made traditionally in the Fall with the apple harvest, but it is such a tasty treat that you won't limit it to just one season. Apple cake can be made gluten-free, by substituting your favorite gluten-free flour. And top with a cup of walnuts if your family is not allergic. And, of course if your family hates raisins, just leave them out, it's just as good without them Truly a cake that every baker needs in their recipe file. Enjoy!

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**Request for Proposal Advertisement**

Turner Unified School District No. 202 is seeking Bid Proposals for Restroom Partition Replacements.

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](mailto:crockettc@turnerusd202.org)

Turner USD 202 Facility Supervisor, Chris Crockett will host the blind bid opening, February 24, 2026, at 11:00 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 4, 2026.

(First published 2-19-26)  
2t-The Record-2-26-26

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Turner USD 202 Facility Supervisor, Chris Crockett will host the blind bid opening, February 24, 2026, at 11:00 am. The location of the bid opening will be the Administrative Services Center located at 800 South 55th Street, Kansas City, KS 66106. Turner USD 202 will announce the vendor that is awarded the bid Wednesday, March 4, 2026.

(First published 2-19-26)  
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**Request for Proposal Advertisement**

Turner Unified School District No. 202 is seeking Bid Proposals for a Storefront Replacement Project located at Journey School of Choice.

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Turner USD 202 Facility Supervisor, Chris Crockett will host the blind bid opening, March 27, 2026, at 2:15 pm. 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, April 8, 2026.

(First published 2-19-26)  
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Turner Unified School District No. 202 is seeking Bid Proposals for Phase 1 of window replacements at Midland Trail Elementary.

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Turner USD 202 Facility Supervisor, Chris Crockett will host

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the blind bid opening, March 27, 2026, at 1:45 pm. 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, April 8, 2026.

(First published 2-19-26)  
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**Request for Proposal Advertisement**

Turner Unified School District No. 202 is seeking Qualifications for future renovations planned at the Administrative Services Center.

Documents pertaining to this Request for Qualifications will be provided to any qualified contractor free of charge by email request sent to [crockettc@turnerusd202.org](mailto:crockettc@turnerusd202.org)

Proposals of Qualifications will be held at the Administrative Services Center on March 5, 2026, no later than 3:00pm.

(First published 2-19-26)  
2t-The Record-2-26-26

**ADVERTISEMENT/NOTICE**

Kansas City Kansas Public Schools, McCownGordon Construction and LM2 Construction will be accepting sealed bids for a 118,318 sq ft new construction of Central Middle School at N. 11th Street and Riverview Avenue, Kansas City, KS 66102. Project scopes include, but are not limited to: final cleaning, building concrete, site concrete, polished concrete, precast concrete, masonry, structural steel, general trades, roofing, waterproofing/joint sealants, overhead doors, glass/glazing, drywall & acoustical, flooring, painting, signage, food service equipment, theatrical equipment, window treatments, seating, elevator, fire suppression, plumbing, HVAC, electrical, earthwork, asphalt paving, landscaping, and site utilities.

There are two pre-bid meetings scheduled; first will be onsite March 10, 2026, at 10:30 am and second will be virtual on March 17, 2026 at 3:00 pm. Please contact [tpiepergerdes@mccowngordon.com](mailto:tpiepergerdes@mccowngordon.com) for more information. Two Trade Partner Meet & Greet meetings will be held; first will be from 11:00 am – 12:30 pm on February 25, 2026 and second will be from 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm on March 12, 2026. Both will be held at 2510 N 59th Street, Kansas City, KS 66104.

Bids will be accepted by McCownGordon Construction until March 24, 2026, at 2:00 PM via Building Connected. This project is tax exempt.

(First published 2-19-26)  
3t-The Record-3-5-26

**Request for Proposal Advertisement**

Turner Unified School District No. 202 is seeking Bid Proposals for Switch Gear Repair at Turner High School.

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](mailto:crockettc@turnerusd202.org)

Turner USD 202 Facility Supervisor, Chris Crockett will host the blind bid opening, March 31, 2026, at 12:00 pm. 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, April 8, 2026.

(First published 2-26-26)  
2t-The Record-3-5-26

**Request for Proposal Advertisement**

Turner Unified School District No. 202 is seeking Bid Proposals for HVAC Projects.

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](mailto:crockettc@turnerusd202.org)

Turner USD 202 Facility Supervisor, Chris Crockett will host the blind bid opening, March 31, 2026, at 1:00 pm. 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, April 8, 2026.

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