

The Record

Volume 136

June 25, 2026

Number 26

Comin' & Goin' Turner Style



By Sharon Hoover

Thanks to Turner Community Connection and the BPU Summer Work program in supplying us with teenage workers. Our original group of volunteers has dwindled down to only two or three. WYCO Master

Gardeners have stepped in to include several areas of the garden as demonstration gardens and are preparing signage. We welcome all visitors and have since our inception. We have provided the venue for birthday parties, receptions, library events, school parties, and celebrations of life. Most of the people who visit the garden are thoughtful and leave the garden as it was. Unfortunately, being so close to the rail yard, we have found articles of clothing, other miscellaneous articles and liquor bottles

strewn periodically throughout the garden. Last week Calvin found 18 small liquor bottles around the 54th Terrace fence. We think this person or persons are residents. Since Waste Management has given us barrels to dispose of trash, we would suggest to whoever is doing this, please stop. Now that I've got that off my chest, on to other pleasantries.

KC Farm School has their Market calendar out for the summer. The monthly Wednesday Markets will be on the following dates: July 8 – Bean Fest; August 12- Tomato Fest & Fall Plant Sale; September 16 - Fall Equinox Celebration; October 28 - Treats on the Farm in the Greenhouse and November 23 (Monday) - Holiday Market. Hours are from 3pm-7pm. The Farm Shop is open on Thursdays and Saturdays from 9am-1pm in the Blue Farmhouse. 4223 Gibbs Road.

I recently learned of a Bi-weekly Saturday Farmer's Market at 1739 Quindaro Blvd from 8am-1pm. The rest of the dates for this year are June 27, July 11 & 25, August 8 & 22, September 5 & 19, and October 3 & 17.



A little closer to home, the Turner Community Library is hosting "Mad Science: It's Electric Show" for kids in the Turner Recreation Gym on June 29 at 2pm-2:45pm. Dive into an electrifying high-voltage experience where energy and excitement collide in a spectacular display of surprises. Witness hair-raising static stunts that will leave one buzzing with anticipation and a shocking finale that will keep one on the edge of his seat. No registration is needed.

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

UG Announces Organizational Changes and Promotions

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



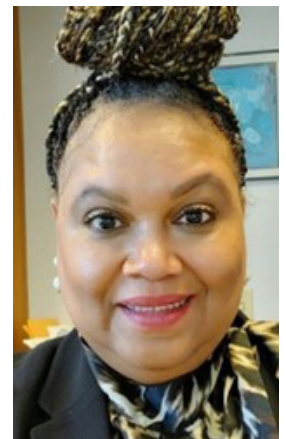
zational changes and department promotions. Earlier this month, Ruth Jones, Director of the Area Agency on Aging, retired after a 33-year career with the Unified Government and over 40 years of service to the senior population. The UG deeply appreciates the many years of dedicated service and hard work Ms. Jones poured into Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas.

Human Services/ Area Agency on Aging Department

With Ms. Jones' retirement comes a leadership transition from the Area Agency on Aging Department. The Area Agency on Aging Department has been combined with the UG Human Services Department under the leadership of Director Phyllis Wallace. Ms. Wallace oversees three divisions: Community Developmental Disability Organization

(CDDO), Dispute Resolution/ Mediation, and Human Relations. Phyllis has worked for over 29 years in social services in a variety of roles and capacities. As an alumna of Emporia State University, she serves on multiple boards and associations and takes pride in giving back to her community.

"I embrace and wholeheartedly enjoy being



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of service to others,” said Wallace. “The merging of Human Services and the Aging department will provide a seamless pathway for vulnerable individuals in our community to receive the services and resources they need and deserve from our local government.” I truly live by the quote from Simon Sinek, “Leadership is not about being in charge. It’s about taking care of those in your charge!”

The Area Agency on Aging and the Human Services Department both receive significant funding from the same state agency, the Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services. The new Human Services and Aging Department aligns related functions and coordinate service delivery to some of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas’ most vulnerable residents.

Unified Government Legal Department



After filling the role of Acting Chief Counsel for years, the Unified Government would like to formally announce the recent promotion of Angela J. Lawson to Chief Legal Counsel. Ms. Lawson has served the community in various legal roles throughout a long career with the City of Kansas City, Kansas, and the Unified Government after consolidation. Angela began work in the Legal Department in 1995 as a municipal court prosecutor and moved to the civil division in 1997.

In 2005, Angela opened a private law practice while continuing to assist the Unified Government and the Board of Public Utilities (BPU) with projects and contract negotiations. Angela returned full-time to the Unified Government in 2012, as well as inhouse counsel for the BPU. Angela later served as Acting Chief Counsel for the Unified Government, providing legal guidance during Unified Government and BPU meetings and advising elected officials on a range of issues. This work included collaborating with department leadership on policy and legislative matters and coordinating with internal and external legal teams.

“I am honored to serve as Chief Counsel,” said Lawson. “I deeply appreciate the dedication and hard work of everyone in the UG Legal Department. It is a privilege to collaborate with other departments of the Unified Government and the Board of Public Utilities to advance the goals of our elected

officials and community. I look forward to continuing to work alongside such committed professionals to serve our community.”

Some of Ms. Lawson’s represented projects include Negotiations to bring Google Fiber to Wyandotte County/ KCK, the Nearman Creek Air Quality Control Project, and legal support for the transition to a Fire Department-operated medical transport system.

A lifelong Dotte, Angela graduated from Sumner Academy of Arts and Science, earned a Bachelor of Science from Kansas State University, and holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Kansas. During her lunchtime, Ms. Lawson enjoys volunteering with youth through the Lead to Read organization.

Unified Government Strategic Communications

Unified Government County Administrator David Johnston also recently named Krystal R. McFeders as the Director of Strategic Communications. Ms. McFeders is a KCK native who began her career with the Unified Government in 2021 as the Strategic Communications Public Information Officer, where she focused on building and maintaining internal and external relationships to enhance overall communication for Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas. Last March, Ms. McFeders answered the call to serve as Interim Strategic Communications Director, while also maintaining the role as Public Information Officer.

Krystal comes with a diverse background in strategic communications, community engagement, nonprofit operations, and education. She looks forward to continuing to raise the bar for communications across the UG and Wyandotte County/KCK by incorporating streamlined processes, key initiatives, and better community engagement and relationships.

“I feel truly blessed to be named Director of Strategic Communications and continue serving the UG and my community,”

expressed McFeders. “I am deeply honored to be able to use my skills, experience, and network to serve the community I grew up in and have such a passion for; I don’t take my role and responsibility lightly. I am grateful for the confidence placed in me, and I look forward to building on the positive momentum, elevating our communications, and continuing to help tell the stories from UG Departments as well as the great stories happening in Wyandotte County/ Kansas City, Kansas.”



She completed her undergraduate degree in Communication Arts and Public Relations from Park University. She also earned a Master of Business Administration from Keller Graduate School of Management and a Master of Teaching from Kansas State University.

“These promotions reflect the exceptional talent, dedication, and leadership that exist within the Unified Government,” said County Administrator David Johnston. Each of these individuals has consistently demonstrated a commitment to public service, operational excellence, and the values that guide our organization. Their expanded leadership roles position us well for the future as we continue to enhance services and meet the evolving needs of our residents. I am confident they will continue to make meaningful contributions towards our mission and help drive positive outcomes for our community.”



**The Record
Publications, LLC**

Publishers of *The Record*

(913) 362-1988

Jon A. Males

Owner/Publisher/Editor

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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, 78 cents; subscription price per year, \$40.50. 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

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Tom's Tasty Treats

By Tom Valverde

I must admit that the inspiration for this week's tasty treat came from a visit to a coffee shop. They have a wide selection of pastries and I selected their coffee cake. I could taste that it was sweetened with molasses. So I searched for a coffee cake made with molasses on Google. I made a few changes to make it mine so I could put it in the Record. Please try:

TOM'S TASTY COFFEE CAKE

Ingredients:

1 Egg
 1/8 c Lard*
 1/8 c Butter
 1/4 c Sugar
 1/8 c Molasses
 3 T Brewed Coffee
 1 c Flour
 1/2 t Baking Powder
 1/2 t Salt
 1 t Baking Soda
 1 t Vanilla
 1 t Cinnamon
 1/4 t Cloves

Topping:

3 T Sugar
 1 t Cinnamon

Or for Icing:

1/4 c Butter
 1 c Powdered Sugar
 1-2 T Brewed Coffee

* Equal amount of Butter can be used, but the texture won't be the same.

Set oven to 350°. Butter a 9" square pan. In the bowl of a mixer combine the Egg, lard and butter. Add the Vanilla, cinnamon and cloves. Beat on medium speed until creamy. Add the sugar, the molasses and the brewed coffee, beat until well blended. In another bowl combine and whisk together the flour, baking powder, salt and baking soda. Beat into the butter mixture. Beat just until blended. Pour into the pan. Smooth the top and bake for 25 minutes at 350°. Prepare the icing, if using.

The cake is topped with the icing just as soon as it comes out of the oven. Or just top with cinnamon sugar. The one I had at the coffee shop was topped with cinnamon sugar. The old fashioned version uses the powdered sugar icing. While the cake is baking, the house is filled with a wonderful aroma and like I said to a friend, the cake is scrumptious! Don't be concerned if the center of the cake falls a little bit. Cut the cake into large squares and if you want to "gild the Lily" serve with a scoop of soft serve Vanilla ice cream! It's delicious with a cup of coffee and is a great way to end a Brunch. Your family and friends will Thank you for making this cake. They probably will want the recipe, so print some out. Enjoy!



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- ◆ Area Schools – sports, activities and issues that affect parents, students and the community.

Quotes To Ponder

Tom Valverde

At the G7 meeting held in Évian-les-Bains, France, President Trump was asked whether he would consider blaming Vice President JD Vance if the memorandum of understanding intended to end the war with Iran failed.

Trump replied:

"I like that idea, sure. This way, if it works out, I'm going to take the credit. If it doesn't work out, I'm blaming JD. You better be careful, JD."

June 17, 2026

"People aren't looking for perpetual anger and division. They're looking for fairness and common sense and mutual respect, that deep in our gut we want to find a way to turn towards each other again, not further away."

Former President Barack Obama

At the opening of the Obama Presidential Center on the South Side of Chicago, June 18, 2026,

on the eve of the Juneteenth celebration.

The Obama celebration drew three former presidents and first ladies, along with stars, entertainers and large crowds gathered to honor the opening of the center. It was quite a contrast in presidential leadership: a message grounded in hope, decency and a real connection with the American people. You could see how much the former president is still respected and loved.

At the same time, many Americans are watching the Trump administration's memorandum of understanding with Iran with concern. The agreement reportedly includes a \$300 billion reconstruction fund supported by a coalition of Gulf Arab countries, along with other provisions intended to end hostilities and prevent Iran from advancing its nuclear program.

Whether that agreement succeeds or fails remains to be seen. But while hundreds of billions of dollars are being discussed

overseas, seniors here at home continue to worry about the future of Social Security.

The Social Security retirement trust fund is projected to be depleted in late 2032. If Congress does nothing before then, the program would still receive payroll tax revenue, but monthly benefits could be reduced because the trust fund would no longer be able to pay full scheduled benefits.

It would be good to see Con-

gress act now to strengthen Social Security before seniors are forced to worry about benefit cuts. Even a meaningful deposit into the trust fund, along with a serious long-term plan, would help reassure the millions of Americans who depend on Social Security every month.

Congress should not wait until the last minute. Seniors have earned these benefits, and they deserve certainty, not anxiety.

We can always hope.

Kansas Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt halts millions in Securities Act fees for second year in a row

Topeka, Kan. – Kansas Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt, announced that fees for securities registrants will be waived for fiscal year 2027, beginning July 1. Implementing this moratorium will yield an estimated reduction of fees by \$9 million, which the Department was set to collect from new and existing registrants.

"This moratorium continues the work I have done to lower the cost of doing business and right-size government," said Commissioner Vicki Schmidt. "When Kansans have more money in their pockets they can reinvest in Kansas, which helps us all."

The Department has drastically reduced the majority of fees payable under the Kansas Uniform Securities Act (KUSA), including a complete moratorium in fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2026 as well as a 50 percent reduction in fiscal years 2024 and 2025. These include the registration fees of broker-dealer firms, broker-dealer agents, investment adviser firms, investment adviser representatives, and other entities.

Including the reductions in fees under the KUSA, Commissioner Schmidt has reduced the cost of doing business in Kansas by over \$100 million dollars since 2019. For any questions about securities fees please contact KDOI@ks.gov.

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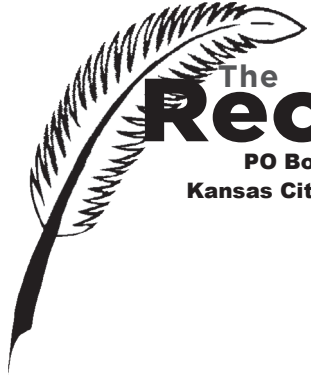
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