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Manhattan Free Press



VOLUME 25, NUMBER 50

An Award Winning Weekly Newspaper

Thursday, May 18, 2017

Ready on the Left?

Ready on the Right?

NOT Ready On The Firing Line!

Editorial By Jon A. Brake

The Riley County Police Department (RCPD) is ready to move their Firing Range from South of Zeandale to Fort Riley.

In fact Monday, the Riley County Commission approved an agreement with Fort Riley to allow RCPD to use Range 27. The Riley County Law Board also approved the agreement Monday.

But there is more to the move than meets the eye, it hit the pocket book.

Last week the State of Kansas was in Manhattan to give a brochure to the City of Manhattan, Riley County and the Riley County Police Department. The brochure is called "Do You Use Best Management Practices for Lead at Your Outdoor Shooting Range?"

What does that mean to the Taxpayers of Manhattan and Riley County? Money! Your Money!

In about 1993 Riley County signed a lease with Howard Seymour for about 10 acres for property that at one time had been a quarry. The lease called for the County to pay Seymour \$1,500 a year. Not a large sum for 10 acres over 25 years.

On his death, Howard Seymour's land with the Firing Range went to his son James. James Seymour has requested more money for a new lease.

The way the Riley County Police Department is set up, the City and County split the expenses but Riley County must provide land and buildings.

The Free Press could not find out the amount of money the County spent building the Firing Range but there are several structures.

We understand that many officers spent off duty time working to build the Range but the County paid for the materials.

Many Firing Ranges look like dumps. The Riley County

Range looks like it was well laid out but no money has been spent on up keep for the past 25-years.

Now with RCPD wanting to move to Fort Riley, it may get costly. Riley County will again put up the money for a new range. The agreement with Fort Riley calls for no cost to the County or RCPD for the use of the range but there is nothing on the range, so everything must be rebuilt.

In the mid 1990's the Free Press attended a Riley County Commission meeting when Howard Seymour told the Commissioners that the RCPD had been breaking their lease buy bringing officers from other communities to the range.

The Free Press called the RCPD and asked about the problem and was told that people read a lease in different ways.

The following week the Commission room was filled with Police Officers.

It was a short meeting.

An attorney for Seymour told the Commission how he read the lease. The lease said the range could only be used by RCPD.

Riley County Counselor Dan Myers lessened and said he agreed with Mr. Seymour's attorney. And that was it.

RCPD may not have been happy with the hearing but they lived with it.

The first thing that needs to be done is that an Environmental Impact Study must be made. That will cost the County \$10,000 or more. And then, depending on the study, Riley County must remove everything from the site, including the lead from the hillside. You can look for a price tag from \$100,000 to a million dollars.

And then the County will pick up the cost of the new Fort Riley Range.



The Control Tower is in need of repair. Nails in the stairs have worked themselves up about a half inch and they stairs are weak. The Free Press was surprised to find out that RCPD is still using the range.



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City of Manhattan Commission Minutes

**MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION
MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2017
7:00 P.M.**

The Regular Meeting of the City Commission was held at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Room. Mayor Usha Reddi and Commissioners Linda Morse, Michael L. Dodson, Wynn Butler, and Karen McCulloh were present. Also present were the City Manager Ron R. Fehr, Deputy City Manager Jason Hilgers, Assistant City Manager Kiel Mangus, City Attorney Katharine Jackson, City Clerk Gary S. Fees, 8 staff, and approximately 105 interested citizens.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Reddi led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITION

Mayor Reddi recognized and congratulated the 43rd Annual Riley County Spelling Bee winner Abrar Nasser, Seventh-Grader at Susan B. Anthony Middle School.

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Reddi proclaimed May 6, 2017, Poppy Day. Linda McClung, Second Vice President/Poppy Chair, and Susan Bergsten, American Legion Post 17 Auxiliary, were present to receive the proclamation.

Mayor Reddi proclaimed May 7-13, 2017, National Travel and Tourism Week. Karen Hibbard, Vice-President, and Taylor Egan, Intern, Manhattan Convention and Visitors Bureau; Neal Farmer, Senior Vice President of Commercial Loans, Community 1st National Bank; and Evan Grier, Managing Partner, Harry's and Bourbon & Baker, were present to receive the proclamation.

Mayor Reddi proclaimed May 13, 2017, Letter Carrier Food Drive Day. Fred Stork, Food Drive Coordinator, Branch 1018 National Association of Letter Carriers, was present to receive the proclamation.

Mayor Reddi proclaimed May 2017, Bike Month. Mark Lee, Traffic Engineer, and Emma Rearick, Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator, City of Manhattan Public Works; and Wendy Schlessener and R. J. Youngblood, Members, The Manhattan Project; and many bicycle enthusiasts were present to receive the proclamation.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Morse recognized Mayor Reddi for receiving the Susan M. Scott Community Leadership Award from the Staley School of Leadership Studies at Kansas State University. She stated the Parks and Recreation Department and Code Services Division also received recognition from the Staley School of Leadership

Studies for their involvement with the Furniture Amnesty Day and the annual Spring Clean-Up community event. She informed the community that she attended the League of Kansas Municipalities Leadership Summit and Kansas Mayors Conference April 21 and 22 in Dodge City and congratulated Mayor Reddi for being nominated as Mayor of the Year. She stated that she stood in for Mayor Reddi at Northview School for Arbor Day and planted several replacement trees with City Forester J. David Mattox.

Mayor Reddi stated that she and Commissioner Morris attended the Leadership Summit and Kansas Mayors Conference in Dodge City. She congratulated City of Altamont Mayor Herb Bath, recipient of the Kansas Mayor of the Year for 2017.

Commissioner Dodson thanked those involved with the dedication ceremony of Kansas State University's World War I Memorial Stadium on Friday, April 21, 2017, to honor the 48 Kansas State University students and faculty fallen soldiers who died in World War I. He stated that there were approximately 1,000 boy scouts and their leaders on the campus of Kansas State University on Saturday, April 29, 2017, to earn their merit badges with many volunteers providing teaching opportunities for the scouts to earn their merit badges. He informed the community that Friday, May 5, 2017, is customer appreciation from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Manhattan Regional Airport Terminal to recognize the arrival of the larger aircraft with service to Dallas.

Jesse Romo, Airport Director, stated that on Friday, May 5, 2017, the first larger aircraft from Dallas-Fort Worth will arrive at the Manhattan Regional Airport (MHK) at 10:19 a.m. He stated they plan to have the Fire Department shooting off water cannons upon the arrival of the aircraft and will have snacks and refreshments at the MHK Terminal from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA
(* denotes those items discussed)

MINUTES

The Commission approved the minutes of the Regular City Commission Meeting held Tuesday, April 18, 2017.

CLAIMS REGISTER NO. 2851

The Commission approved Claims Register No. 2851 authorizing and approving the payment of claims from April 12, 2017, to April 25, 2017, in the amount of \$1,807,925.24.

LICENSE

The Commission approved an annual Cereal Malt Beverages Off-Premises License for Short Stop #12, 2010 North Tuttle Creek Boulevard.

ORDINANCE NO. 7281 – AMEND – TRASH AND REFUSE CONTAINERS ENFORCEMENT

The Commission approved Ordinance No. 7281 amending Section 16-2 of the Code of Ordinances relating to trash and refuse containers and clarifying the process to enforce various nuisance violations.

ORDINANCE NO. 7282 – AMEND – NUISANCE ENFORCEMENT

The Commission approved Ordinance No. 7282 amending Sections 21-12 and 21-16 of the Code of Ordinances relating to nuisances and clarifying the process to enforce various nuisance violations.

ORDINANCE NO. 7283 – AMEND – WEEDS ENFORCEMENT

The Commission approved Ordinance No. 7283 amending Sections 21-26, 21-27, and 21-29 of the Code of Ordinances relating to weeds and clarifying the process to enforce various nuisance violations.

ORDINANCE NO. 7284 – REPEAL – ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

The Commission approved Ordinance No. 7284 deleting Sections 21-40 and 21-41 of the Code of Ordinances relating to Environmental Regulations and clarifying the process to enforce various nuisance violations.

ORDINANCE NO. 7285 – AMEND – INOPERABLE VEHICLES ENFORCEMENT

The Commission approved Ordinance No. 7285 amending Sections 31-122 and 31-124 of the Code of Ordinances relating to inoperable vehicles, and clarifying the process to enforce various nuisance violations.

* REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – BROKER AGENT OF RECORD

Mayor Reddi stated that Commissioner Dodson will be the Commissioner representative on the Selection Committee.

The Commission authorized City Administration to solicit proposals for a Broker "Agent of Record" for the City's Commercial Insurance Programs and Risk Management Services, and appointed Commissioner Dodson to serve on the Selection Committee.

AGREEMENT – PROFESSIONAL SERVICES – SUNRISE CEMETERY SURVEY AND STREET DESIGN (PR1701, CIP #CP222P)

The Commission authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute an agreement for professional services in an amount not to exceed \$33,326.00, with Schwab-Eaton, P.A. of Manhattan, Kansas, for the Sunrise Cemetery Survey and Street Design project (PR1701, CIP #CP222P).

AGREEMENT – PROFESSIONAL SERVICES – HOUSTON STREET/5TH STREET STORM SEWER IMPROVEMENTS (SM1701, CIP #SW052P)

The Commission authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute an agreement for professional services in an amount not to exceed \$403,820.00 with

Olsson and Associates, of Manhattan, Kansas, for the Houston Street and 5th Street Storm Sewer project (SM1701, CIP #SW052P).

* AWARD CONTRACT – RILEY COUNTY SENIORS' SERVICE CENTER KITCHEN IMPROVEMENTS (CD1616)

The Commission accepted the Architect's Opinion of Probable Cost in the amount of \$278,250.00 for the Base Bid, and awarded and authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a construction contract in the amount of \$267,800.00, for the Base Bid only, to R. F. Benchmark, Inc., of Manhattan, Kansas, for the Riley County Seniors' Service Center Kitchen Improvements.

* CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 – RILEY COUNTY SENIORS' SERVICE CENTER KITCHEN IMPROVEMENTS (CD1616)

The Commission approved and authorized the Mayor to execute Deduct Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$12,000.00 for the Riley County Seniors' Service Center Kitchen Improvements (CD1616).

* AGREEMENT - CONTRIBUTION OF FUNDS - RILEY COUNTY SENIORS' SERVICE CENTER KITCHEN IMPROVEMENTS (CD1616)

The Commission authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute an agreement with the Riley County Seniors' Service Center for its \$153,250.00 contribution for the Riley County Seniors' Service Center Kitchen Improvements (CD1616).

* AWARD CONTRACT - AIRPORT ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING RE-MODEL PROJECT (AP1701)

Jesse Romo, Airport Director, presented an overview of the item. He then responded to questions from the Commission.

Ron Fehr, City Manager, responded to questions from the Commission regarding financing.

The Commission accepted the Architect's Opinion of Probable Cost in the amount of \$332,679.00, awarded and authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a construction contract in the amount of \$287,450.00 with Trinium Construction, of Manhattan, Kansas, for the Airport Administrative Building Remodel Project (AP1701).

* AGREEMENT - CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION SERVICES - AIRPORT ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING RE-MODEL PROJECT (AP1701)

Jesse Romo, Airport Director, presented an overview of the item. He then responded to questions from the Commission.

Ron Fehr, City Manager, responded to questions from the Commission regarding financing.

The Commission authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a construction administration services agreement in the amount of \$9,865.00 with Ben Moore Studio, LLC, of Manhattan, Kansas, for the Airport Administrative Building Remodel Project (AP1701).

PURCHASE – AIRCRAFT RESCUE FIRE FIGHTING VEHICLE AND ANCILLARY EQUIPMENT (CIP #FR030P)

The Commission authorized the purchase of an Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Vehicle (CIP #FR030P) in the amount of \$787,880.00 from Oshkosh Aircraft Products, LLC, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and the Ancillary Equipment in the

See City page 3

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"Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."
- Thomas Jefferson, 1787

Expert who beat cyberattack says he's no hero

ILFRACOMBE, England (AP) -- A young British computer expert credited with cracking the WannaCry cyber-attack told The Associated Press he doesn't consider himself a hero but fights malware because "it's the right thing to do."

In his first face-to-face interview, Marcus Hutchins, who works for Los Angeles-based Kryptos Logic, said Monday that hundreds of computer experts worked throughout the weekend to fight the virus, which paralyzed computers in some 150 countries.

"I'm definitely not a hero," he said. "I'm just someone doing my bit to stop botnets."

The 22-year-old computer whiz from the south coast of England, discovered a so-called "kill switch" that slowed the unprecedented outbreak on Friday. He then spent the next three

days fighting the worm that crippled Britain's hospital network as well as computer systems around the world.

WannaCry paralyzed computers running mostly older versions of Microsoft Windows by encrypting users' computer files and displaying a message demanding anywhere from \$300 to \$600 to release them; failure to pay would leave the data mangled and likely beyond repair.

Hutchins said he stumbled across the solution when he was analyzing a sample of the malicious code and noticed it was linked to an unregistered web address. He promptly registered the domain, something he regularly does to discover ways to track or stop cyber threats, and found that stopped the worm from spreading.

Salim Neino, CEO of Kryp-

tos Logic, said Hutchins took over the "kill switch" on Friday afternoon European time, before it could fully affect the United States.

"Marcus, with the program he runs at Kryptos Logic, not only saved the United States but also prevented further damage to the rest of the world," Neino said. "Within a few moments, we were able to validate that there was indeed a kill switch. It was a very exciting moment. This is something that Marcus validated himself."

He said the company was not able to identify "Patient Zero," the first system infected, which would give researchers more information about who was behind the attack. Nevertheless, he said the worm was "poorly designed" - patched together and a "sum of different parts" with an unsophisticated pay-

ment system.

Kryptos Logic is one of hundreds of companies working to combat online threats for companies, government agencies and individuals around the world.

Hutchins himself is part of a global community that constantly watches for attacks and works to thwart them, often sharing information on Twitter. It's not uncommon for members to use aliases, to protect from retaliatory attacks and ensure privacy.

Hutchins has long tweeted under the handle MalwareTech, which features a profile photo of a pouty-faced cat wearing enormous sunglasses. But he realizes his newfound fame will mean an end to the anonymity.

After all, now he's a computer celebrity. He's been in touch with the FBI, as well as

British national cyber security officials.

"I don't think I'm ever going back to the MalwareTech that everyone knew," said the curly-haired young man, shrugging and flashing a winning smile.

It is likely to be a big adjustment. Hutchins lives with his family in this seaside town, where he works out of his bedroom on a sophisticated computer setup with three enormous screens. He will soon become a local hero - but if you ask him, his life of celebrity will be short lived.

"I felt like I should agree to one interview," he said. But even that made the fame-averse Hutchins so nervous that he initially misspelled his last name, leaving out the letter "n" when doing a sound-level for the cameras.

His mother Janet, a nurse,

couldn't be prouder - and was happy to have the veil of anonymity lifted.

"I wanted to scream, but I couldn't," she said.

Many will be following his next moves though. CyberSecurity Ventures, which tracks the industry, estimates global spending on cybersecurity will jump to \$120 billion this year from just \$3.5 billion in 2004. It forecasts expenditures will grow between 12 percent and 15 percent annually for the next five years.

After more analysis, Hutchins, an avid surfer, plans to take a vacation - traveling to Las Vegas and California on the company dime.

One guess on what he'll be doing:

Yes, surfing. On waves this time.

City of Manhattan Commission Minutes from page one

amount of \$29,832.00 from Ed M. Feld Fire Equipment Co., of Carroll, Iowa, upon receipt of a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Grant Offer, and authorized the disposal of the 1980 Oshkosh T-6 upon delivery of the new ARFF vehicle.

GRANT AGREEMENT - AIRCRAFT RESCUE FIRE FIGHTING VEHICLE AND ANCILLARY EQUIPMENT (CIP #FR030P)

The Commission authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a FAA Grant Offer (AIP 3-20-0052-048-2017) in the amount of \$735,940.00, if received, for the Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Vehicle and Ancillary Equipment (CIP #FR030P).

PURCHASE - COMPACT EXCAVATOR (CIP #SW079P)

The Commission authorized City Administration to purchase a Compact Excavator (CIP# SW079P) from White Star Machinery, of Manhattan, Kansas, in the amount of \$61,000.00, to be paid from the Stormwater Fund.

* RECOMMENDATION - SSAB UTILITY DONATION FUND

Hillary Badger, Assistant Director of Finance, presented an overview of the Social Services Advisory Board (SSAB) Utility Donation Fund in the amount of \$34,305.00.

The Commission approved the 2017 capital improvement requests (See Attachment No. 2) from the Social Services Advisory Board (SSAB) Utility Donation Fund in the amount of \$34,305.00.

BOARD

APPOINTMENTS

The Commission approved the following appointments by Mayor Reddi to various boards and committees of the City.

Historic Resources Board

Appointment of Matthew McCrane, 530 Moro Street, to a three-year History term. Mr. McCrane's term begins immediately, and will expire April 30, 2020.

Human Rights and Services Board

Appointment of Annie Cook, 2834 Oregon Lane, to the remainder of a three-year term. Ms. Cook's term begins immediately and will expire March 9, 2019.

Special Alcohol Funds Advisory Board

Appointment of Jurdene Coleman, 510 Stonemont Drive, to fill the unexpired term of Danielle DeCuir. Ms. Coleman's term begins immediately and will expire June 30, 2019.

Mayor Reddi opened the public comments.

Hearing no other comments, Mayor Reddi closed the public comments.

After discussion and comments from the Commission, Commissioner Butler moved to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Dodson seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, motion carried 5-0.

GENERAL AGENDA

FIRST READING - VACATE - SOUTH 8TH STREET BETWEEN FORT RILEY BOULEVARD AND EL PASO LANE

Commissioner Butler moved

to remove the item from the table. Commissioner Dodson seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, motion carried 5-0.

Brian Johnson, City Engineer, provided an overview of the item. He highlighted the vacation request and site map of the area to be vacated.

Mayor Reddi opened the public comments.

Greg Wilson, owner of the property, asked the Commission if they had any questions. He stated that they would be responsible for mowing the grass on their property.

Hearing no other comments, Mayor Reddi closed the public comments.

After discussion and comments from the Commission, Commissioner Butler moved to approve first reading of an ordinance vacating portions of South 8th Street from El Paso Lane to Fort Riley Boulevard and that the utility easement within the boundaries of said vacated South 8th Street is hereby dedicated to the public. Commissioner Dodson seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, motion carried 5-0.

ACCEPT - PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITY FEASIBILITY REPORT; RESOLUTION NO. 050217-A - SET BALLOT LANGUAGE - QUALITY OF LIFE SALES TAX QUESTION

Eddie Eastes, Director of Parks and Recreation, presented an overview of the item. He highlighted the proposed action items for the Commission to accept the Parks and Recreation Feasibility Report as previously presented, to consider a draft

ordinance to rescind the 2009 .25% sales tax for the Pools and the Zoo Education Building, and to approve a resolution setting ballot language for the Quality of Life Sales Tax Question in November 2017. He also highlighted the proposed projects for 2017-2027; the future home of the Asia exhibit at Sunset Zoo and estimated budget; and the Park and Recreation Quality of Lifesales tax timeline.

Jason Hilgers, Deputy City Manager, responded to questions from the Commission regarding the date to start collections of the new tax, if approved, and highlighted the draft ordinance. He provided an overview on feedback received from the Kansas Department of Revenue and the process that will occur with the State of Kansas and retailers regarding the sales tax collections.

After comments from the Commission, Jason Hilgers, Deputy City Manager, and Eddie Eastes, Director of Parks and Recreation, responded to questions regarding the use of excess sales tax funds and the strategies planned at Sunset Zoo.

Eddie Eastes, Director of Parks and Recreation, informed the Commission that the education piece will be critical in working and communicating with the public regarding the sales tax question and timing of the components.

Jason Hilgers, Deputy City Manager, stated that City staff would continue working with the USD 383 Board of Education and respective legal counsels to construct the facilities on their property and to work

through shared use agreements. He stated that options for phasing the projects will continue. He then responded to questions regarding temporary notes, financing and future actions for the City Commission.

Eddie Eastes, Director of Parks and Recreation, highlighted the projects for the Northeast Recreation Center (located at Eisenhower Middle School), the Northwest Recreation Center (located at Anthony Middle School), the CiCo Park Renovation, and the Trails as well as proposed costs. He asked the Commission to consider approval of the Parks and Recreation Feasibility Study and stated that Bruce McMillan was present if there were any questions regarding the Study. He also asked the Commission for their input on the draft ordinance to rescind the previous 2009 Quality of Life Sales Tax and dedicate funds to the Expedition Asia Exhibit as well as approval of the Resolution setting Ballot Language for the November 2017 election.

After additional comments and questions from the Commission, Jason Hilgers, Deputy City Manager, and Eddie Eastes, Director of Parks and Recreation, responded to additional questions from the Commission and highlighted the proposed ballot question.

Eddie Eastes, Director of Parks and Recreation, responded to questions from the Commission regarding the long-term operational costs of the facilities and economic opportunities that these facilities will provide.

Jason Hilgers, Deputy City Manager, stated that recreation has a revenue and an expense

and it is interesting to see how much revenue the City's programs generate and the costs to provide programs. He said the challenge will be to put resources in these facilities without stretching and busting the budget and will need to be creative. He informed the Commission that there is flexibility in the budget to accommodate this growth.

Mayor Reddi opened the public comments.

Hearing no comments, Mayor Reddi closed the public comments.

After additional comments from the Commission, Commissioner Butler moved to accept the Parks and Recreation Facility Feasibility Report, and approve Resolution No. 050217-A calling a special question during the general election in November 2017 for construction of two multi-purpose gymnasiums/neighborhood centers, along with parking facilities and access roads, adjacent to Anthony and Eisenhower Middle Schools; the renovation of ballfields and tennis courts within CiCo Park; the establishment of a 12-court tennis layout; and, the acquisition of necessary right-of-way for, and the design and construction of, new recreational trails and the improvement of existing recreational trails; and authorizing the imposition of the identified special city-wide retailers' sales tax, as more specifically set forth in the resolution. Commissioner Dodson seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, motion carried 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:37 p.m., the Commission adjourned.

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Huffy City Officials Plead for Removal of Tax Lid

The Sentinel

The McPherson Mayor and plenty of his cohorts in municipal government are gearing up for a snit fit over the property tax lid. The tax lid law limits the ability of local governments to spend like everyday is a vacation.

City officials are stompy mad that Kansas legislators are requiring them to live within their means, whereas previously, every year was another chance to belly up to the taxpayer buffet and pork, pork, pork.

Here's how tax increases locally used to work: The county appraiser would assess properties. The city overall valuation of the city would increase by an amount determined by the appraiser. In some cases, like the difference between last year and this year, property values may have skyrocketed. For instance in some parts of Johnson County, property valuations increased by 14 percent. City councils (and the county governments) would use those figures to set their budgets. If property values increased, a municipal government could keep the same tax rate while increasing their spending. Individual property owners would still pay significantly more than they had the year before, but local politicians could pop the champagne and announce they didn't raise taxes.

In the years when assessed property values were stagnant, or worse, decreased, local officials would increase the mill rate. Property owners would pay more, politicians would express their deep sadness the tax increase was necessary to keep the lights on, and remind voters that although they were paying more year after year, the politicians hadn't increased tax rates in those years when the assessed valuations increased. Rinse. Cycle. Repeat. The con-

Not in Manhattan, Ks

The Manhattan Commission work session confirmed the value of the Tax Lid. Basically the finance staff has figured out a way to exempt everything. We do not have any constraint on the spending. It can go up 3 million dollars. The city is advocating a 3 plus mil increase. Add that to the 4 mil increase over the past two years and we get a total 7 mil increase in three years. That is on top of the sales tax increase to support the streets. I am sure that we can reduce the actual number before the final budget is put in place. What troubles me is the philosophy that is clearly on display. The tax lid was not viewed as a constraining factor on spending, but as an obstacle to get around. I think the majority of the commission will use the tax lid as a justification for raising the mil levy, claiming we are under the tax lid, and bill it as frugal fiscal constraint. The November election will determine if enough votes are on the commission - three needed - to really constrain spending.

Winn Butler, Manhattan City Commissioner

stant? Whether assessed valuations increased or decreased, property owners almost always paid more every single year, and in many instances they paid more than inflation.

The Kansas Legislature finally put a stop to that madness by adopting a tax lid policy that ties tax revenue to a five-year-average of CPI. Local officials can raise taxes beyond that, but only if they ask the voters first. Who could oppose such a reasonable solution?

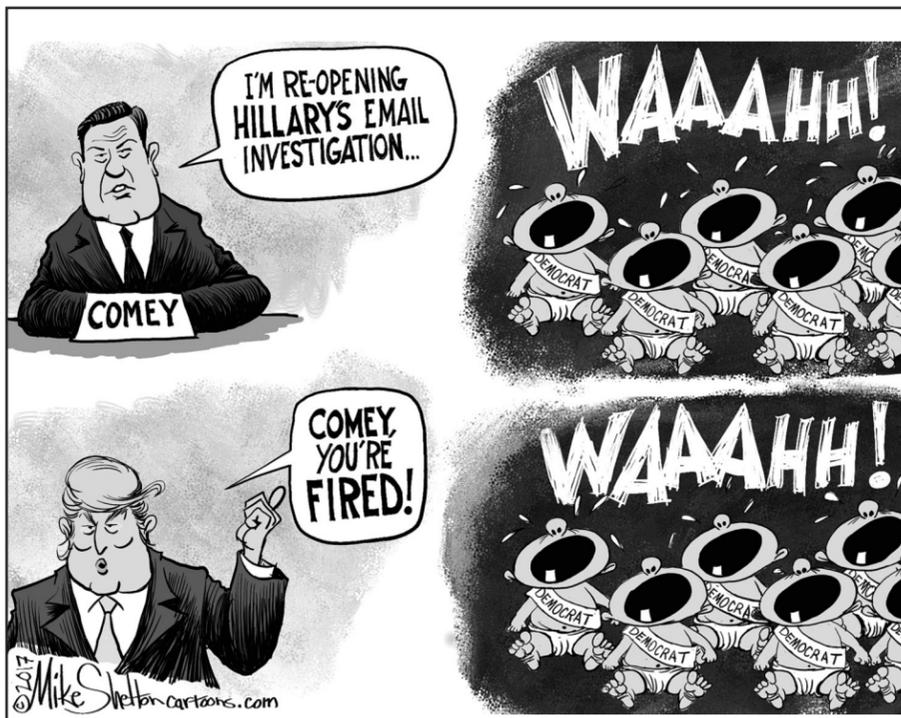
It turns out, city officials everywhere. They want the ability to abscond as much money as possible from property owners whenever and however the urge strikes. The Hutchinson News trots out the McPherson Mayor Thomas Brown to bemoan the tax lid in a May 10 article.

Brown told a legislative committee that health insurance premiums, workers' compensation and other items exceeded the current CPI-average of 1.4 percent. Brown said the city "has been very responsible" with citizens' money and will make cuts instead of asking voters' permission to increase taxes above the lid. He said the city only increased its mill levy rate

by .28 mills in the last eight years but didn't mention that McPherson increased tax collections by 115 percent since 1997, while inflation and population combined was just 43 percent. In other words, City Council could have reduced the mill rate to keep up with inflation but chose to raise taxes on citizens.

The Hutch News story insinuates that potential business owners may shy away from opening plants or other businesses in McPherson if the city can't raise taxes to fund luxurious benefit packages for city staff.

This argument is laughable. One would be pardoned for thinking businesses might feel more incentivized to locate in places where their property taxes aren't outpacing CPI every year to fund excess government employment.



Boys State of Kansas Leadership Academy Set for June 4-9

Approximately 500 young men from across the State of Kansas, all of whom will be entering their senior year of high school this fall, are anticipated to participate in the 2017 session of the The event, in its 80th year, will be held Sunday, June 4, through Friday, June 9, at Kansas State University in Manhattan.



Bryan Yungeberg will represent Valley Heights High School at Boys State. Bryan is the son of Jenny and Tony Yungeberg.

The ALBSKLA provides a relevant, interactive, problem-solving experience in leadership and teamwork that develops self-identity, promotes mutual respect and instills civic responsibility. Boys State is a "learning by doing" political exercise that simulates elections, political parties and government at the state, county and local levels, providing opportunities to lead under pressure, showcasing character and working effectively within a team. It's also an opportunity to gain pride and respect for government and the price paid by members of the military to preserve democracy.

Among the major events and special speakers during the week (the following are open to the public and members of the media are invited to attend, unless noted):

"Peace is not absence of conflict, it is the ability to handle conflict by peaceful means." - Ronald Reagan

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Lawmakers Ask Attorney General to Take Second Look at Lerner's Case

By Rachel del Guidice
The Heritage Foundation
Congressmen are asking Attorney General Jeff Sessions to reexamine the case of IRS division chief Lois Lerner.

"We believe that she targeted people based on their political philosophy which is a crime and secondly, we believe that she has lied to the inspector general when that was being investigated," Rep. Peter Roskam, R-Ill., told The Daily Signal in a phone interview. During her time at the IRS, Lerner reportedly targeted tea party groups.

Lerner "admitted that the agency put additional scrutiny into the applications for non-profit tax status of conservative and Tea Party groups," according to NPR.

Roskam, who is chairman of the Ways and Means Tax Policy Subcommittee, wrote a letter in April with Rep. Kevin Brady, R-Texas, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, asking Sessions to reopen Lerner's case for investigation.

"We think it is important that the Justice Department thoroughly review it because in our view the Obama administration was dismissive," Roskam told The Daily Signal. "They just dismissed it out of hand and never took it seriously which is a mistake."

In 2014, the House Ways and Means Committee sent a letter

to President Barack Obama's Department of Justice, detailing the findings of their investigation of Lerner.

Obama's Department of Justice held a two-year investigation into Lerner's case, but closed it on Oct. 23, 2015 with no charges.

The April 2017 letter states that the House Ways and Means Committee found that "... Lerner used her position to improperly influence IRS action against conservative organizations, denying these groups due process and equal protection rights under the the law."

The findings of the committee's investigation also show that Lerner "impeded official investigations by providing misleading statements in response to questions from the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration."

Lerner may also have potentially leaked private taxpayer information by using her personal email on the job, according to the 2017 letter.

In a 2014 interview, Lerner told Politico, "I didn't do anything wrong,"

"I'm proud of my career and the job I did for this country," she added.

Jay Sekulow, chief counsel of the American Center for Law and Justice, a legal and legislative organization which seeks to promote religious and constitutional freedoms, told The Daily Signal a second look must be taken.

"I think it was pretty clear that the administration was going to do everything it could, the Obama administration was going to do everything it could to keep the whole IRS scandal under wraps," Sekulow said. "So for the Department of Justice under President Obama to go after Lois Lerner would have created a bad scenario for their position."

Roskam said he "cannot speak to the procedure," of how the Department of Justice may act if they choose to reopen Lerner's case, but that he is hopeful that Lerner will be "brought to justice."

A senior official at the Department of Justice told The Daily Signal that the department "received the letter and are reviewing it."

Double jeopardy, a second prosecution for the same offense, would not apply in Lerner's case, Sekulow said in a statement provided to The Daily Signal "as Lerner has not yet been charged with any crime."

Additionally, Sekulow said statute of limitations, which dictates when legal action can be taken, "could begin to apply the longer the [Department of Justice] waits to reopen an investigation and potentially charge Lerner," adding:

Prosecution for many fed-

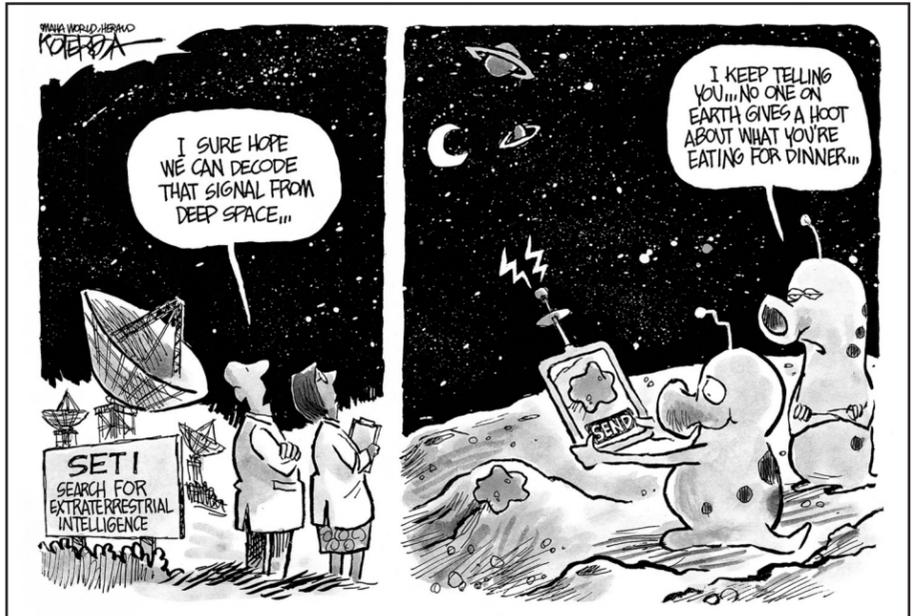
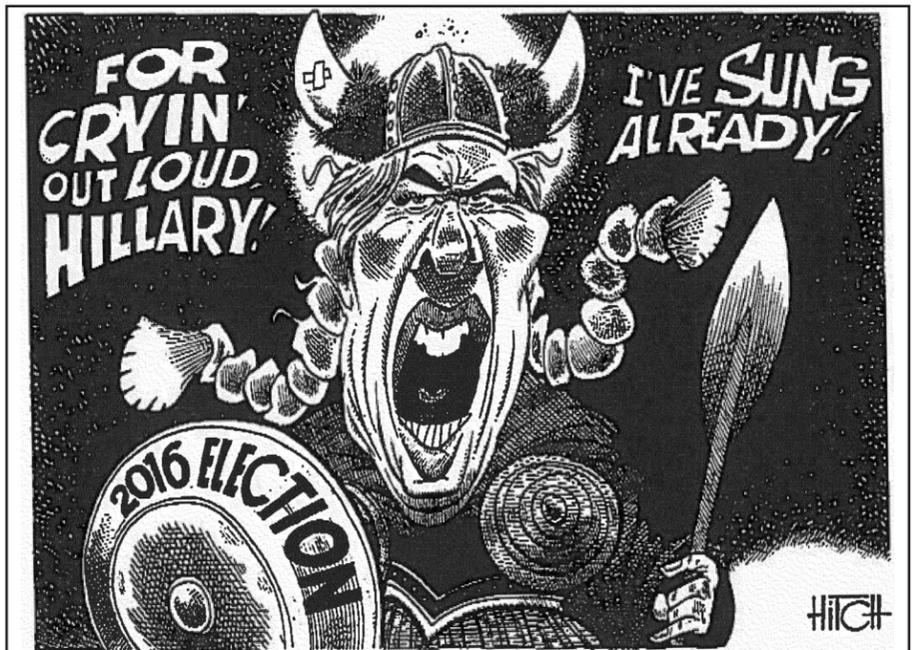
eral crimes is five years from the commitment of the offense. However, the clock does not begin to run until the crime has been completed. Arguably, here, the targeting is still ongoing under the exact scheme that Lerner designed and intention-

ally implemented.

Brady said justice might be brought to Lerner's case with new leadership.

"Our committee found troubling evidence that Lois Lerner willfully deceived the American people and abused her IRS au-

thority to discriminate against taxpayers for their political beliefs," Brady said in a statement provided to The Daily Signal. "With a new administration—one that hasn't prejudged the issue—these allegations deserve a fresh look."



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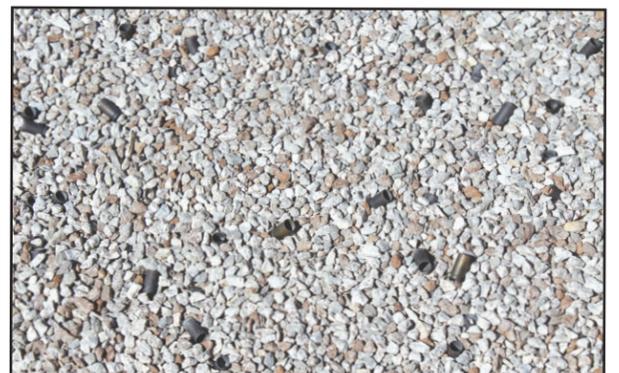
Or this...



They had better watchout, if the EPA sees this standing water, they will call it "wetland".



Or this...



Someone needs to take better control of the range.

NOT Ready On The Firing Line!

Letter Tells Of Law Boards Communications

Monday, 16 December, 2013

To: Board of County Commissioners Riley County, Kansas

At four separate regularly scheduled meetings of the Riley County Law Enforcement Agency (Law Board) between September 2011 and June 2013, the Riley County Police Department presented to the Law Board plans for a proposed range/training facility. These discussions were

occasioned by concerns from adjacent landowners regarding bullets escaping the current facility. As a result, the Department has modified some of its range procedures and curtailed others, thus hampering training.

Further, it is the Law Board's understanding that the current range lease is set to expire in 2019, thus precipitating conversations concerning the extension of said lease which have to date proven to be contrary to the

County's financial interests.

Finally, we understand that the Director of the Riley County Police Department has been in communication with the Board of County Commissioners and County Staff to further discussions concerning this matter and that, for its part, the county has already instructed staff to commence work toward resolution of the matter; said work to begin in early 2014.

The Department and the Law Board respectfully re-

quest that you take steps to alleviate this concern by considering construction of a range/training facility for the Department's use.

We appreciate your consideration in this matter.

John Matta
Chair
Riley County Law Enforcement Agency

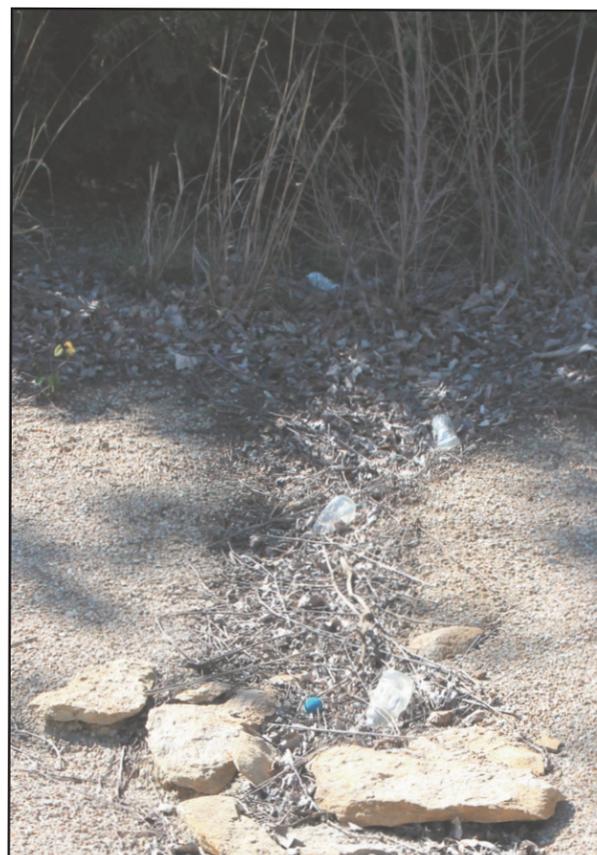
Brad Schoen
Director
Riley County Police Department



A steel target has had some use.



This old U.S. Army Floodlight has not been used in years.



Beer? Water? Anyone? Oh! You have already had one.



Small arms targets are placed in these forms and then turned when firing begins.



It doesn't look like this old pop-up target works.

Know Your Rights When Stopped by Police

By Tim Lynch
CATO Institute

Most people don't know how to handle themselves during a police encounter. They know they have constitutional rights, but they also know that they can get into trouble by disobeying an officer. Not knowing where the lines are drawn, the vast majority of people capitulate to whatever the police want from them.

Some officers get so accustomed to such behavior that they react angrily when someone has the temerity to invoke his rights. In a case last month in Texas, Lionel Alexander sued officer Marciano Garza for roughing him up in a hotel parking lot. Alexander said he was parking his car when Garza activated his emergency lights. When the officer asked for his license and registration, Alexander turned over his pa-

pers, but when Garza asked him about what he had been doing before the stop, Alexander declined to answer. That made Garza radio for backup.

After more officers arrived, they asked Alexander to exit his vehicle. Alexander said he did not believe he was legally required to exit, at which point the police lost all patience and got physical, pulling him out of his car and pinning him down on the pavement to put on the handcuffs. Alexander was arrested on "resisting a search," but he was released the next day, and the charge was then dropped.

Even lawyers sometimes fare no better. In 2015, Philadelphia attorney Rebecca Musarra was pulled over by New Jersey state troopers on suspicion of speeding. Musarra turned over her license and registration upon the

trooper's request, but declined to answer his question, "Do you know why you're being pulled over?" Flustered by Musarra's calm assertion of her right to remain silent, troopers yelled at her and then pulled her from her car and arrested her for "obstruction." The charge was dropped, but she suffered the indignity of an arrest and a brief stay in jail.

These cases are disturbing. The Constitution is supposed to be the "law of the land," yet people can get arrested for invoking their legal rights. If such incidents happen with some frequency — and they do — it exposes a serious flaw in our legal system. Out on the streets, the police have all the power and we're at their mercy.

Even the most professional officers use tactics to get around constitutional rights. For exam-

ple, they might say, "We can get a warrant to search your purse, or you can save us both some time by allowing us to search it right now." Most people are unaware that the police can exert pressure with bluffs and lies, so they will often cave. If the matter gets into court, the judge will say they "consented" to the search by not objecting and asserting their rights.

Yet as the Alexander and Musarra cases show, asserting rights is no guarantee against arrest. Some officers make false arrests and conduct illegal searches. Our rights can be vindicated only in court, meaning that when criminal charges are dropped, any associated constitutional violations will typically never be addressed by judges or juries.

Individuals with similar experiences to those of Alexander

and Musarra may file civil lawsuits when there are physical injuries or serious property damage. But government lawyers typically settle such lawsuits with money from the treasury, and the officers involved rarely face discipline or other adverse consequences.

Don't be fooled by police

One way that policymakers can improve existing law and prevent this abuse of power is by requiring the police to use written consent forms. By requiring a signature before a search, there will be far less trickery because people will be reminded that they have a choice in the matter.

Some jurisdictions have had such a policy in place, but it should be in place all around the country.

Just because law enforcement have us at a serious disad-

vantage does not mean we should let them walk all over us. The wise course is to obeying police encounters is to obey commands, but to also politely and calmly decline requests. Here's the key point: Law enforcement are trained to blur that distinction. For example, they may knock on your door and say, "Let's talk." In such cases, individuals have to seek the clarification by asking, "Are you ordering me to open my door and allow a search?"

If it isn't an order, the choice is ours to make. If you give the police permission to search your home without a warrant, that's your prerogative. If you decline to give your permission, that's your prerogative also.

Our Constitution is incapable of enforcing itself. It is just words on paper unless we calmly but firmly assert our rights. Use them or lose them.

Straight Shooters participate in Kansas 4-H Shooting Sports State Match

Eleven members of the Riley/Pottawatomie 4-H Straight Shooters club participated in the Kansas 4-H Shooting Sports State Match held in Alma, KS. Over 250 youth from across the state competed in the disciplines of BB Gun, Air Pistol, and Air Rifle.

The club had nine shooters participate in the BB Gun discipline. In the Junior Division, Dylan Zeit, Wamego, placed 1st in prone, 2nd in standing, and 2nd overall, and Alexis

Haeusler, Manhattan, placed 5th in standing. Jessie Blankley, Westmoreland, placed 10th in prone, 10th in kneeling, and 8th overall in the Senior Division. Others competing were Bryce Beckman, Manhattan, Joe and Liz Efken, Manhattan, Dane Louderback, St. George, Elle Retzlaff, Westmoreland, and Logan Schanks, Randolph. The team of Beckman, Blankley, Louderback, Retzlaff, and Zeit placed 4th.

In Air Pistol, Beckman and E. Retzlaff competed in the Jun-

ior Sporter Division. Beckman placed 4th in paper target, 2nd in metal silhouette, and 1st overall. E. Retzlaff placed 2nd in paper target, 10th in metal silhouette, and 7th overall.

Dylan Anderson, Leonardville, Abby Retzlaff, Westmoreland, and Blankley competed in Air Rifle.

The 4-H Straight Shooters club is looking forward to the upcoming matches this summer, where they will have shooters competing at the National 4-H Shooting Sports

Championship Match held in Grand Island, NE, and the Daisy National BB Gun Championship Match held in Rogers, AR.

Members of Team Kansas competing at the National 4-H Match are Christopher Becker, Manhattan, Muzzleloading, Will Duloherly, St. George, Recurve Archery, and Cade Schanks, Randolph, Hunting Skills. They will join 33 other shooters from across the state, competing in the 9 disciplines of Air Pistol, Air Rifle, Recurve Archery, Compound Archery, Hunting Skills, Muzzleloading, Shotgun, Small Bore Pistol, and Small Bore Rifle.

The Riley/Pottawatomie 4-H Straight Shooters BB Gun Team members competing at the Daisy National BB Gun Championship Match are Bryce Beckman, Jessie Blankley,

Alexis Haeusler, Dane Louderback, Elle Retzlaff, Logan Schanks, and Dylan Zeit.

The Straight Shooters are sponsored by Riley and Pottawatomie County Extension Councils, Riley County Fish and Game, Kansas State University Military Science Department, Boone's Outdoors, Daisy Outdoor Products, Kansas State Rifle Association,

Kaw Valley Muzzleloaders Association, Kansas Muzzleloaders Association, National Wildlife Turkey Federation, Flint Hills Pheasants Forever, Justin Corbet Foundation, Friends of NRA, Fancy Creek Shooting Range, Oregon Trail Trading Post, Manhattan Wrecker, local businesses, and all Shooting Sports parents, families and instructors.



Riley/Pottawatomie 4-H Straight Shooters 4th place BB Gun team: Joe Efken, Alexis Haeusler, Logan Schanks, Elle Retzlaff, Liz Efken, Dylan Zeit, Dane Louderback. Not pictured: Bryce Beckman, Jessie Blankley

Former MLB umpire Palermo dies at 67; shooting ended career

By BEN WALKER
AP Baseball Writer

Mention the name of Steve Palermo around baseball and those who worked with him, knew him or had only heard of him usually bow their heads, lower their eyes and simply nod.

An umpire with Hall of Fame potential, all cut short on that summer night in Texas a long time ago.

Palermo, whose accomplished career ended when he was shot trying to break up a robbery in 1991, has died. He was 67.

Major League Baseball announced Sunday that Palermo had died. Palermo, who lived in the Kansas City area, had been ill with cancer.

"I remember when he came up," Hall of Famer George Brett said at the Orioles-Royals game. "Obviously, it didn't take him long to be respected as one of the finest umpires in the game."

"At the time of his unfortunate shooting in Dallas, trying to save some girl, he was definitely regarded as probably the best umpire in baseball. It's very sad," he said.

After a rapid five-year ascent through the minors, Palermo broke into the majors late in the 1976 season and joined the American League staff the next year. He worked the 1983 World Series, the playoffs several times and an All-Star Game.

On July 7, 1991, Palermo was having a late-night meal in Dallas when two servers who had just left the restaurant were mugged. Palermo chased the attackers and was shot, leaving him paralyzed from the waist down.

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Cyberattack wave ebbs, but experts see risk of more

By JILL LAWLESS and DANICA KIRKA

LONDON (AP) -- The "ransomware" cyberattack that has hit companies and governments around the world ebbed in intensity on Monday, though experts warned that new versions of the virus could emerge.

Thousands more infections were reported Monday, largely in Asia, which had been closed for business when the malware first struck Friday. The cases were more contained, however, than the systemic outbreak that last week paralyzed computers running factories, banks, government agencies and transport systems around the world.

Many of the 200,000 victims in more than 150 countries were still struggling to recover

from the first attack of the so-called "WannaCry" virus.

Carmaker Renault said one of its French plants, which employs 3,500 people, wasn't re-opening Monday as a "preventative step."

Britain's National Health Service said about a fifth of NHS trusts - the regional bodies that run hospitals and clinics - were hit by the attack on Friday, leading to thousands of canceled appointments and operations. Seven of the 47 affected trusts in England were still having IT problems that disrupted services Monday. Thirteen health bodies in Scotland that were hit were up and running Monday, Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said.

As cybersecurity firms

worked around the clock to monitor the situation and install a software patch, new variants of the rapidly replicating malware were discovered Sunday. One did not include the so-called kill switch that allowed researchers to interrupt the malware's spread Friday by diverting it to a dead end on the internet.

Ryan Kalember, senior vice president at Proofpoint Inc., which helped stop its spread, said the version without a kill switch could spread. It was benign because it contained a flaw that prevented it from taking over computers and demanding ransom to unlock files but other more malicious ones will likely pop up.

"We haven't fully dodged this

bullet at all until we're patched against the vulnerability itself," Kalember said.

Lynne Owens, director-general of Britain's National Crime Agency, said there was no indication of a second surge of the cyberattack, "But that doesn't mean there won't be one."

Tim Stevens, a lecturer in global security at King's College London, said the incident should be a wakeup call to both the public and private sectors to incorporate security into computer systems from the ground up, rather than as an afterthought.

"This thing cannot be brushed under the carpet," he said. "It is so visible and so global. There is going to have to be change at levels where change can be made."

On Monday, Chinese state media said 29,372 institutions there had been infected along with hundreds of thousands of devices.

Universities and other educational institutions in the country were among the hardest hit, possibly because schools tend to have old computers and be slow to update operating systems and security.

On social media, students complained about not being able to access their work, and people in various cities said they hadn't been able to take their driving tests because some local traffic police systems were down.

Railway stations, mail delivery, gas stations, hospitals, office buildings, shopping malls and government services also were reportedly affected.

In Japan, 2,000 computers at 600 locations were reported to have been affected. Companies including Hitachi and Nissan Motor Co. reported problems but said they had not seriously affected their operations. In Indonesia, the malware locked patient files on computers in two hospitals in the capital, Jakarta, causing delays.

In Britain, the government denied allegations that lax cybersecurity in the financially stretched, state-funded health service had helped the attack spread.

Prime Minister Theresa May said "warnings were given to hospital trusts" about the Microsoft vulnerability exploited by the attackers.

NHS Digital, which oversees U.K. hospital cybersecurity, said it sent alerts about the problem - and a patch to fix it - to health service staff and IT professionals last month.

Experts urged organizations and companies to immediately update older Microsoft operating systems, such as Windows XP, with a patch released by Microsoft Corp. to limit vulnerability to a more powerful version of the malware - or to future versions that can't be stopped.

The attack held users hostage by freezing their computers, popping up a red screen with the words, "Oops, your files have been encrypted!" and demanding money through online bitcoin payment - \$300 at first, rising to \$600 before it destroys files hours later.

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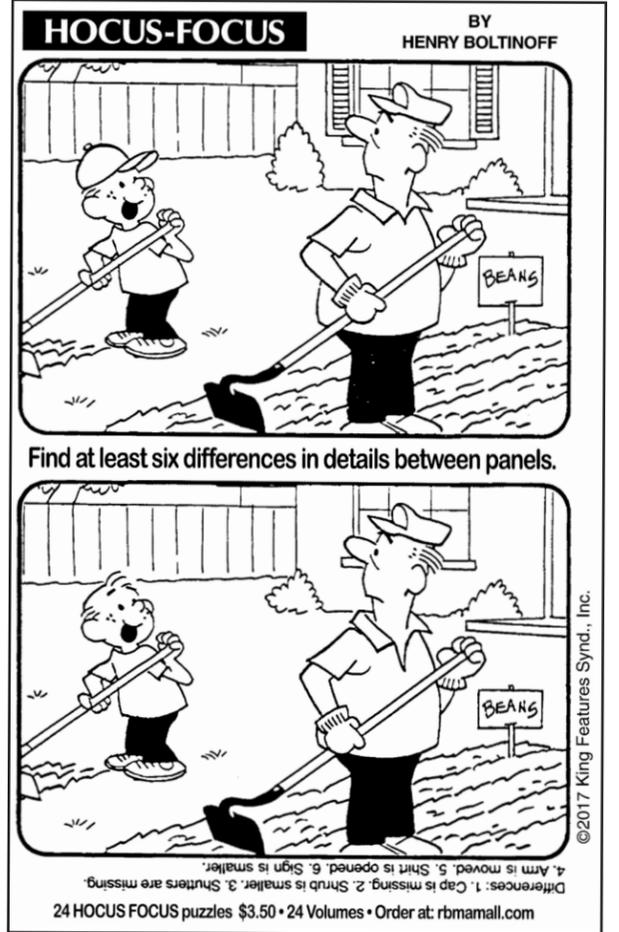
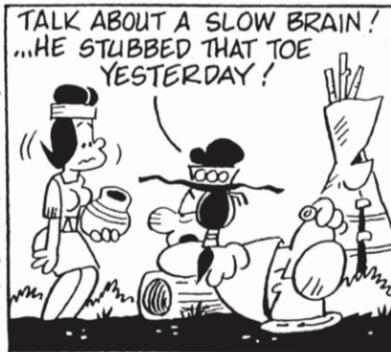
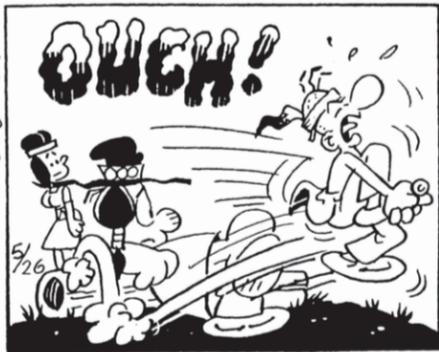
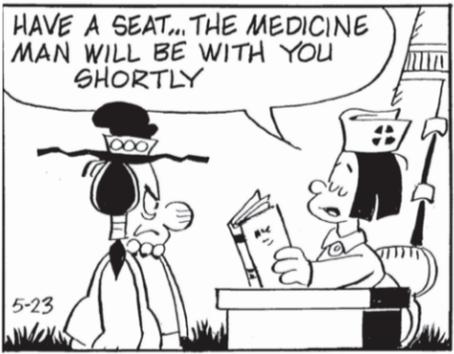
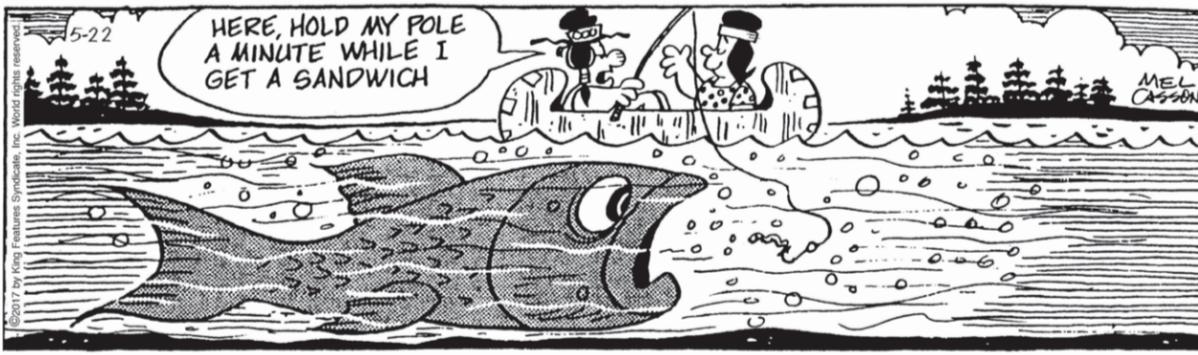
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King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Listen to
 - 5 Arias symbol
 - 8 Clenched hand
 - 12 Part of the foot
 - 13 Clean air org.
 - 14 Division word
 - 15 Stead
 - 16 One walking proudly
 - 18 Mathematician famed for his "last theorem"
 - 20 Lacking vigor
 - 21 Pesky kid
 - 23 "— Town"
 - 24 Criminal in tent?
 - 28 Jump
 - 31 Huge star
 - 32 Mideast nation
 - 34 Hot tub
 - 35 Candle string
 - 37 Go every-where, as spilled liquid
 - 39 Mouth part
 - 41 Droplet of
- DOWN**
- 1 50 percent
 - 2 Great Lake
 - 3 Computer brand
 - 4 Ballroom dance (Var.)
 - 5 Paraphrases
 - 6 Suitable
 - 7 Filly's mom
 - 8 Irregular
 - 9 Account extra
 - 10 Don't dele
 - 11 Ripped
 - 17 Venusian vessel?
 - 19 Bohemian
 - 22 Dangle a carrot
 - 24 Away from NNE
 - 25 On the — vive
 - 26 Removes the cover
 - 27 Brushes up on
 - 29 Gorilla
 - 30 Standard
 - 33 Indian flat bread
 - 36 Put the — on (stop)
 - 38 Clan-related
 - 40 Household pooch, e.g.
 - 42 "Yeah, right!"
 - 43 Sandwich shop
 - 44 Goblet feature
 - 46 Double agent
 - 47 Commotions
 - 48 Caustic solutions
 - 50 Always, to a bard

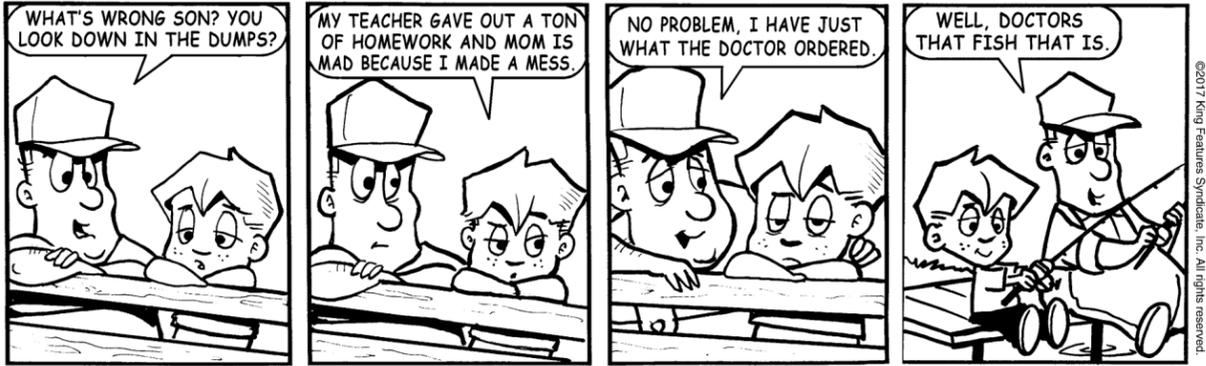
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Answers page 2

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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R.F.D.

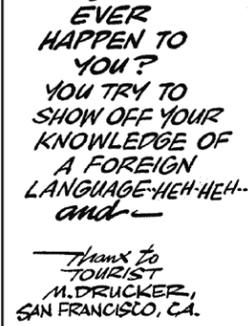
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This building was put in years ago for the Range Manager's Office and for storage.



A sign on the first gate.



The Range was built on a hill and the drainage is very poor, some standing water needs to be removed.



The dirt hillside is to keep stray bullets inside the range.



Another target but it does not have much of a stand.



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