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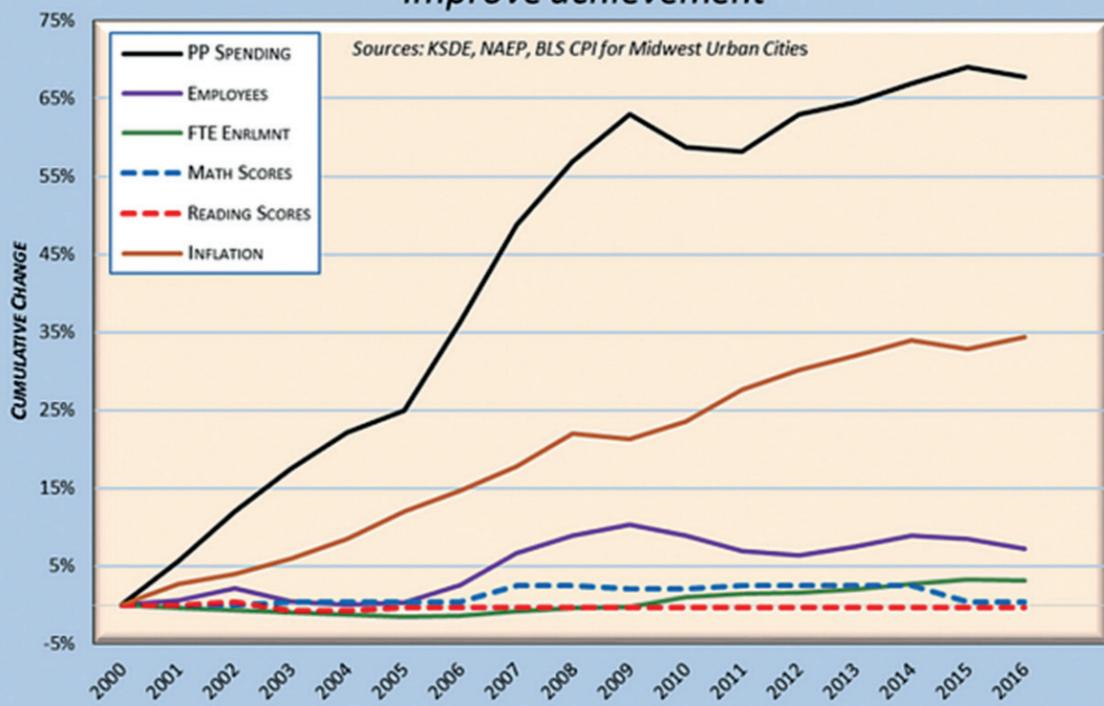
VOLUME 26, NUMBER 2

An Award Winning Weekly Newspaper

Thursday, June 8, 2017

Student Outcomes Not Improving Despite Huge increases in Education Spending

Huge increases in Kansas education spending fail to improve achievement



As the Kansas Legislature decides just how many hundreds of millions of dollars more to give to K-12 education, keep this in mind: using history as a guide, all that money will not improve student outcomes.

The graphics are a testament to that. Combining per pupil spending, employment and enrollment data from KSDE with NAEP reading and math scores it is clear that despite significant increases in spending – a rate nearly double that of inflation – student achievement has been flat as a western Kansas landscape. There is an old saying that a picture is worth a thousand words. In this case it only needs to be worth six: More money does not improve outcomes. Going back to 2000 – the earliest reliable outcome data is

Changes in key education indicators 2000 to 2016			
	2000	2016	% Change
Per Pupil Spending	\$7,767	\$13,025	67.7%
Employees	63,770	68,372	7.2%
FTE Enrollment	448,610	462,595	3.1%
NAEP Math Scores	283	284	0.4%
NAEP Reading Scores	268	267	-0.4%
Inflation (CPI)	168.3	226.1	34.3%

SOURCES: KSDE, NAEP, BLS CPI MIDWEST URBAN CITIES

available – reading and math scores are virtually unchanged, even though per pupil spending over that pe-

riod has increased by over two-thirds.

This information and

much, much more on spending and outcomes is available at Kansas Policy Institute's latest education Fact Book.

Cities push back as Trump aims to cut anti-terrorism funding

LAS VEGAS (AP) -- Cities are pushing back on the possibility of losing millions of dollars in U.S. anti-terrorism grants under President Donald Trump's spending plan - the third straight White House that has moved to cut the funding.

The proposed budget would cut cash for the program from \$605 million to nearly \$449 million for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1 and require cities such as New York, Los Angeles and Las Vegas to pay 25 percent of the grants.

The administration says it is proposing the cost-share system, similar to other grant programs, to "share accountability" with states and cities.

But lawmakers and local officials argue that reducing funding for the Urban Area Security Initiative would undercut efforts to maintain safe communities. Cities have spent the money on command centers, active-shooter training and personnel to patrol airports, transit hubs and waterways.

Big cities have been down this road before, with funding fluctuating over the years.

President George W. Bush created the grant program after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, but scaled it back in his second term. President Barack Obama's proposed 2017 budget suggested slashing the funding from \$600 million to \$330 million.

In each instance, local politicians reacted with outrage and questioned the wisdom of taking away money in the fight against terrorism. This year, Congress ignored Obama's guidance and increased funding by \$5 million.

But some cities that have received grants in previous years have not spent all the money, another reason the White House says the changes are needed.

The proposed cuts came a day after the deadly Manchester, England, concert bombing and the same day authorities in Las Vegas tried to ease concerns about the city being targeted in a recent Islamic State propaganda video. It encouraged

knife and vehicle attacks and featured images of Sin City, Times Square in New York and banks in Washington, D.C.

Law enforcement officials in Orlando, Florida, told a congressional committee weeks after a nightclub became the site of the worst mass shooting in modern U.S. history that central Florida had missed out on needed training and opportunities to buy equipment because it had not made the cut to receive funding.

Grants are awarded to the highest-ranked urban areas on a list determined by risk of terrorist threats based on past plots or a known presence; whether its infrastructure is a valuable target; and the consequence of an attack on the population, economy or national security.

Last year, the 29 highest-ranked metro areas that applied for a grant received funding.

The Las Vegas area has spent the money on training and equipment for bomb and hazardous-material squads along with computer software and hardware at a law enforcement command center.

Las Vegas received almost \$3 million in fiscal year 2016. Irene Navis, planning coordinator and assistant emergency manager in Nevada's Clark County, said the area would be able to meet the proposed 25 percent cost-share requirement.

"Fortunately, not one agency is going to get the whole amount; it's split up," Navis said. "So, for one agency, it might be that they get \$25,000 for equipment and the match is really small. Agencies that get a large amount of money, that's something that they would have to consider. But, in general, in our urban area, it would not be a problem."

U.S. Rep. Dina Titus, a Democrat whose district includes the Las Vegas Strip, called the funding change a "pay-to-play scheme."

"It is unimaginable that the administration believes southern Nevada's security will be improved by cutting vital programs that protect residents and travelers in our community,"



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Candidates For Cities And School Districts

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Three Positions Open**

Brian Thomason
1204 Stoneridge Court
Manhattan KS 66503
(785) 713-2537
City Commissioner

Wynn Butler
3600 Windsong Court
Manhattan KS 66503
(785) 317-2819 City
Commissioner

Kaleb James 5536 Stone
Crest Court Manhattan
KS 66503 (785) 307-2067
City Commissioner

Jerred McKee
740 Crestwood Dr #5
Manhattan KS 66502
(785) 317-1179
City Commissioner

Usha Reddi
1801 Westbank Way
Manhattan KS 66503
(785) 313-1531
City Commissioner

Trent McGee
720 Crestwood Dr. Apt. 9
Manhattan KS 66502
(913) 568-7896
City Commissioner

**Manhattan
School District 383**

Three Positions Open

Katrina Lewison
1025 Mill Valley Cir
Manhattan KS 66503
(785) 477-0762
School Board #383

Karla Hagemeister
4650 S Dwight
Manhattan KS 66502
(785) 565-9583
School Board #383

Jurdene Coleman
510 Stonemont Dr.
Manhattan KS 66503
(785) 408-7224
School Board #383

Dr. Jennifer Prewitt
3608 Dickens Ave. Man-
hattan KS 66503
(847) 630-5373
School Board #383

**Ogden
City Election
Mayor – 2 Year Term No
Primary in Ogden City
5 Council Members – 2
Year Term**

Mayor
Robert R. Pence
215 S. Elm
P.O. Box 224
Ogden KS 66517
(785) 556-0169

City Council
Edward A. Burch

314 S. Walnut St.
P.O. Box 524
Ogden KS 66517
(785) 313-4166
City Council

Kenneth W. Carroll
302 S. Walnut St.
P.O. Box 60
Ogden KS 66517
(785) 341-0002
City Council

Roger D. Graham
612 S. Elm St.
P.O. Box 541
Ogden KS 66517
(785) 539-2391
City Council

Quinn Jacobs
513 Mustang Dr.
P.O. Box 9
Ogden KS 66517
(785) 817-4017
City Council

Charles McMullen
325 12th St Lot #9
P.O. Box 263
Ogden KS 66517
(785) 209-2283
City Council

Eladio Reid Jr
225 William Dr.
P.O. Box 245
Ogden KS 66517
(785) 341-2266
City Council

Russell T. Rohlman
328 Shetland Circle
P.O. Box 1012
Ogden KS 66517
(785) 313-5421
City Council

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2 Council Members: (4
Year Term) 1 Council
Member (2 Year Term)**

Jack L. McCarty 101
Whitney Circle Apt. G
Leonardville KS 66449
785-293-5757
Council Member

Larry Wendland
107 N. Florida
Leonardville KS 66449
785-340-5460
Council Member

**Randolph
City Council
Mayor -- 2 Year Term
5 Council Members – 2
Year Term**

Donna Baer
308 E. Stockdale St.
P.O. Box 178
Randolph KS 66554
785-293-2232
City Council

**Riley City Council
3 Council Members – 4
Year Term No Primary**

in Riley

Greg McKinley
414 N Main
Riley KS 66531
(710) 410-7804
City Council

**Riley County
School District 378
Positions 4,5,6 Open**

Samantha Brown
329 N. Iowa St. same
Riley KS 66531 (785)
761-5329 Position 4

Lane Howe
12780 Madison Rd
Riley KS 66531
(785) 410-0280
Position 4

Michael D. McCoy

16045 Barton Rd.
Leonardville KS 66449
(785) 477-5745
Position 5

Justin Ricketts
508 E. Allen St.
Leonardville KS 66449
(785) 770-7473
Position 5

Nathan A. Mead
5504 Anderson Ave
Manhattan KS 66503
(785) 210-9921
Position 6

**Blue Valley
School District 384
Position 4,5,6 Open**
Tim Innes 206 S First St
Olsburg KS 66520
(785) 564-1045
District 3 Position 6

Chinese Vaccine Company Selects KC Animal Health Corridor As site for new Research Facility

Jinyu Bio-technology Co., Ltd., the largest animal vaccine company in China, announced today that it will open a vaccine research lab and office at the new K-State Office Park Phase II building in the KC Animal Health Corridor. The company will focus its Corridor location on research and design of vaccines for swine and cattle, as well as continuing education materials for Chinese companies and veterinarians.

"The addition of Jinyu Bio-technology to the KC Animal Health Corridor is truly a partnership of innovation and expertise," said Kansas Commerce Secretary Antonio Soave. "We are proud to be home to such a tremendous location for animal health, and prouder still that a globally-respected company like Jinyu recognized this. We look forward to working with Jinyu as it continues its success right here in Kansas."

Jinyu USA will partner with Kansas State University, the City of Manhattan and the State of Kansas to develop new animal health products that can be marketed in China, Asia, Africa and the U.S. The company is also considering the addition of future manufacturing facilities in the Corridor.

"Manhattan and Kansas State University are at the forefront of animal health research that is relevant to the Chinese animal

agriculture industry and the world," said Mr. Chongyu Zhang, chairman, Jinyu Bio-technology Co., Ltd. "Jinyu is the largest animal vaccine company in China and is fast growing internationally. We are looking forward to developing a long-term, mutually beneficial relationship with partners in the region."

Jinyu plans a 2,400-sq. ft. lab facility, three offices and 800-sq. ft. of clean room space at the K-State Office Park Phase II building, employing four to six scientific researchers. The KSU Foundation will break ground on the Phase II building in July 2017 and the company's space will become available in 2018.

"When university-focused companies like Jinyu Bio-technology Co., Ltd., locate adjacent to K-State's campus, partnerships develop with faculty expertise and research to promote real-world application and discovery," said Greg Willems, KSU Foundation president and CEO. "The K-State Office Park advances opportunity for these current and future collaborations to boldly move K-State — and the needs of a global community — forward."

"Kansas State University has many partnerships with the industry, though this partnership is the first one with a Chinese animal health company," said Jishu Shi, professor and direc-

tor, U.S. China Center for Animal Health at Kansas State University. "It will accelerate the commercialization of novel discovery and development generated by K-State scientists."

KCADC was proud to work with a number of regional partners in attracting Jinyu to the region: State of Kansas; Kansas Department of Commerce; City of Manhattan, Kansas; Manhattan, Kansas Area Chamber of Commerce; Kansas State University; Kansas State University Institute for Commercialization; Kansas State University Research Foundation; Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine; Kansas State University US-China Center for Animal Health; and the KC Animal Health Corridor.

"The KC Animal Health Corridor's international reputation is a strategic advantage for more and more animal health

companies. We are thrilled to welcome Jinyu to our Corridor community and look forward to the company's leadership in the effort," said Kimberly Young, president of the KC Animal Health Corridor.

King Crossword
Answers
Solution time: 25 mins.

S	L	I	M	P	E	G	A	C	M	E	
N	A	T	O	H	E	R	G	O	A	T	
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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

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The Manhattan City Commission

Manhattan City Commission Minutes of May 16th

**MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION
MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 16, 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, Legal Counsel Bill Frost, City Clerk Gary S. Fees, 12 staff, and approximately 25 interested citizens.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Reddi led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Reddi proclaimed May 21-27, 2017, National Public Works Week. Rob Ott, Director of Public Works; Brian Johnson, City Engineer; Randy DeWitt, Assistant Director of Public Works for Water and Wastewater; and Jeff Davis, Street and Fleet Superintendent, City of Manhattan Public Works; Matthew Kohls, BG Consultants; Mark Bachamp, Olsson Associates; and Brad Waller, Alfred Benesch & Company, were present to receive the proclamation.

Mayor Reddi proclaimed May 2017, Building Safety Month. Brad Hartenstein, Executive Officer, Flinthills Area Builders Association, and Ryan Courtright, Senior Plans Examiner, and Darren Emery, Senior Code Services Officer, City of Manhattan, were present to receive the proclamation.

Mayor Reddi proclaimed May 2017, National Preservation Month. Dr. Suzanne Orr, Former Chair/Member; Betty Mattingly-Ebert and Kevin West, Members, Historic Resources Board; Sara Fisher, President; Barbara Poresky, Treasurer; Catherine Roy, Vice President; and Kathy Dzewaltowski, Former President, Manhattan/Riley County Preservation Alliance; and John Adam, Senior Long-Range Planner, City of Manhattan, were present to receive the

proclamation.

Mayor Reddi proclaimed May 2017, Mental Health Month. Robbin Cole, Executive Director, and Stan Wilson, Board Member, Pawnee Mental Health Services, were present to receive the proclamation.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Mayor Reddi informed the community that the pools will be open soon and that pool tags can be purchased on the City's website. She stated that life-guard positions are still available and if interested, contact the Parks and Recreation Department. She also encouraged everyone to sign-up for the reading program at the Manhattan Public Library.

CONSENT AGENDA

(* denotes those items discussed)

MINUTES

The Commission approved the minutes of the Regular City Commission Meeting held Tuesday, May 2, 2017.

CLAIMS REGISTER NO. 2852

The Commission approved Claims Register No. 2852 authorizing and approving the payment of claims from April 26, 2017, to May 9, 2017, in the amount of \$2,877,951.66.

ORDINANCE NO. 7286 - VACATE - SOUTH 8TH STREET (EL PASO LANE TO FORT RILEY BOULEVARD)

The Commission approved Ordinance No. 7286 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.

ORDINANCE NO. 7287 - ISSUE - GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND SERIES 2017-A

The Commission approved accepting the best bid from Robert W. Baird & Co., of Red Bank, New Jersey, for selling the bonds and Ordinance No. 7287 issuing \$1,235,000.00 in General Obligation Bonds (Series 2017-A) to finance the following 11 special assessment projects: Grande Bluffs at Mill Pointe Addition, Unit Three - Sanitary Sewer (SS1316), Street (ST1321), and Water

(WA1320); Ledge Stone Addition - Sanitary Sewer (SS1317) and Street (ST1323); Northlake Addition, Unit 2 - Sanitary Sewer (SS1321), Street (ST1326), and Water (WA1322); and Western Hills Addition, Unit Fourteen, Phase 2 - Sanitary Sewer (SS1314), Street (ST1320), and Water (WA1316).

RESOLUTION NO. 051617-A - DELIVERY OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND SERIES 2017-A

The Commission approved Resolution No. 051617-A authorizing delivery of the Series 2017-A bonds to the low bidder Robert W. Baird & Co., of Red Bank, New Jersey.

ORDINANCE NO. 7288 - ISSUE - GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND SERIES 2017-B

The Commission approved accepting the best bid from Robert W. Baird & Co., of Red Bank, New Jersey, for selling the bonds and Ordinance No. 7288 issuing \$3,120,000.00 in General Obligation Bonds (Subject to AMT) (Series 2017-B) to finance the City's Share of the of the Airport Terminal Expansion Project, Phase I (CIP AP040P, AIP-3-20-0052-44).

RESOLUTION NO. 051617-B - DELIVERY OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND SERIES 2017-B

The Commission approved Resolution No. 051617-B authorizing delivery of the Series 2017-B bonds to the low bidder Robert W. Baird & Co., of Red Bank, New Jersey, in General Obligation Bonds (Subject to AMT) (Series 2017-B) to finance the City's Share of the of the Airport Terminal Expansion Project, Phase I (CIP AP040P, AIP-3-20-0052-44).

ORDINANCE NO. 7289 - ISSUE - GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND SERIES 2017-C

The Commission approved accepting the best bid from Bernardi Securities, Inc., of Chicago, Illinois, for selling the bonds and Ordinance No. 7289 issuing \$1,075,000.00 in Taxable General Obligation Bonds (Series 2017-C) to finance the Fixed Based Operator Facility (FBO) (AP1501).

RESOLUTION NO. 051617-C - DELIVERY OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND SERIES 2017-C

RESOLUTION NO. 051617-D - ISSUE - TEMPORARY NOTE SERIES NO. 2017-02

The Commission approved accepting the best bid from Hutchinson, Shockey, Erley & Co., of Chicago, Illinois, for selling the notes; and Resolution No. 051617-D issuing Temporary Note Series No. 2017-02 in the amount of \$1,135,000.00 to finance the Denison Avenue Waterline Project (WA1612) and the 2016 Waterline Improvement Projects (Grand Mere Parkway Waterline (WA1610); Sunset Lane Waterline (WA1611); and Berkshire Watermain (WA1631).

*** FIRST READING - TERMINATE - 2009 QUALITY OF LIFE SALES TAX**

The Commission approved first reading of an ordinance terminating the special 2009 quarter-cent sales tax effective March 31, 2018, by repealing Ordinance Nos. 6761, 6762, and 6763.

*** REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES - AGGIEVILLE INFRASTRUCTURE ANALYSIS (SP1703)**

Mayor Reddi announced that Commissioners Morse and Butler would be serving on the Selection Committee.

*** REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES - COLLEGE HEIGHTS ROAD AND QUIVERA DRIVE STORM SEWER IMPROVEMENTS (SM1616)**

Rob Ott, Director of Public Works, responded to questions from the Commission and provided additional information on the item.

*** REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS - PROFESSIONAL SERVICES - CAMPUS PERIMETER TRAFFIC FLOW AND PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALK IMPROVEMENTS (CIP #CU038P)**

The Commission authorized City Administration to seek qualifications for professional services for the Aggieville Infrastructure Analysis (SP1703), and appointed Commissioners Morse and Butler to serve on the Selection Committee.

Ron Fehr, City Manager, responded to questions from the

Commission and provided additional information regarding the use of City/University Funds.

The Commission authorized City Administration to seek qualifications for professional services to conduct a Campus Perimeter Traffic Flow and Pedestrian Crosswalk Improvements Study (CIP # CU038P).

CHANGE ORDER NO. 3-FINAL - 2016 STREET MAINTENANCE CONCRETE PANEL (ST1607)

The Commission approved and authorized the Mayor to execute the final as-built Change Order No. 3 for the 2016 Street Maintenance Concrete Panel project (ST1607), resulting in a net increase in the amount of \$53,293.51 (+30%) to the contract with T&M Concrete Construction, of Junction City, Kansas.

CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 - 2017 WELL REHABILITATION (WA1704)

The Commission approved and authorized the Mayor to execute Change Order No. 1, resulting in a net increase in the amount of \$42,306.00 (+94.5%) to the contract with Layne Christensen Company, of Wichita, Kansas, for the 2017 Well Rehabilitation project (WA1704) for additional treatments and repairs required to return City of Manhattan Public Water Supply Wells 20, 23 and 25 to service.

*** AWARD CONTRACT - COLLEGE HEIGHTS ROAD AND QUIVERA DRIVE STORM SEWER IMPROVEMENTS (SM1616)**

The Commission accepted the Engineer's Opinion of Probable Cost in the amount of \$324,510.00, and awarded and authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a construction contract in the amount of \$229,784.58 to Josh Connert, LLC, of Manhattan Kansas, for the College Heights Road and Quivera Drive Storm Sewer Improvements (SM1616).

FIRST READING - ISSUE TEMPORARY NOTES - COLLEGE HEIGHTS ROAD AND QUIVERA

The Commission accepted the Engineer's Opinion of Probable Cost in the amount of \$1,690,700.00; awarded and authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a construction contract in the amount of

DRIVE STORM SEWER IMPROVEMENTS (SM1616)

The Commission approved first reading of an ordinance authorizing the issuance of temporary notes to finance the College Heights Road and Quivera Drive Storm Sewer Improvements (SM1616).

*** AWARD CONTRACT - ALLEN ROAD SANITARY SEWER (SS1613, CIP #WW003P), WATER (WA1613, CIP #WA132P), AND STORMWATER (SM1612, CIP #SW071P) IMPROVEMENTS**

The Commission accepted the Engineer's Opinion of Probable Cost in the amount of \$693,676.90; accepted the explanation of Director Ott as to why the bids exceed the Engineer's Opinion of Probable Cost; accepted the bid of Middlecreek Corporation; awarded and authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a construction contract in the amount of \$802,816.75 with Middlecreek Corporation, of Peabody, Kansas, for the Allen Road Sanitary Sewer (SS1613, CIP #WW003P), Water (WA1613, CIP #WA132P), and Stormwater (SM1612, CIP #SW071P) Improvements.

FIRST READING - ISSUE TEMPORARY NOTES - ALLEN ROAD SANITARY SEWER IMPROVEMENTS (SS1613, CIP #WW003P)

The Commission approved first reading of an ordinance authorizing the issuance of temporary notes to finance the Allen Road Sanitary Sewer Improvements (SS1613, CIP #WW003P).

*** AWARD CONTRACT - THE HIGHLANDS AT GRAND MERE/PRAIRIE VILLAGE AT THE HIGHLANDS - STREET (ST1705), WATER (WA1710), AND SANITARY SEWER (SS1714, SS1715) IMPROVEMENTS**

The Commission accepted the Engineer's Opinion of Probable Cost in the amount of \$1,690,700.00; awarded and authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a construction contract in the amount of

See City page 8

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Is an Allowance for All Americans as Crazy as It Sounds?

By Michael D. Tanner
CATO Institute

Looking for the next big political idea? How about this: Let's scrap our entire social welfare system, including all of our anti-poverty programs, unemployment insurance, Medicare and even Social Security. In its place, just send every American a no-strings-attached check for enough money to ensure that no one falls below the poverty line.

Controversial? Absolutely. Politically explosive? Almost certainly. Crazy? Maybe not. In fact, a growing and diverse group of people from across the political spectrum have been debating just such an approach to revamping the safety net. The latest is Facebook founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg, who told graduating Harvard students last week that we should blow up the existing New Deal-based social contract and replace it with a universal basic income (UBI).

In calling for a universal basic income, Zuckerberg joins a growing number of Silicon Valley entrepreneurs who back a UBI.

To be sure, there is a fair degree of self-interest in the tech community's call for a universal basic income. There has been growing concern in some arenas that advances in automation and artificial intelligence could lead to widespread job loss, especially for low-skilled workers. The fear is that politicians may respond by limiting technology or imposing other burdens on the industry.

Already, San Francisco is debating a ban on robotic delivery vehicles. A UBI is seen as a way to ameliorate the pain of a changing work environment without retreating into luddism.

But there may be other reasons to consider replacing the existing welfare state with a universal basic income. The most obvious one is that current welfare programs have so clearly failed to help people escape poverty. The federal government currently funds more than 100 separate anti-poverty programs, at an annual cost of nearly \$700 billion per year.

State and local governments spend another \$300 billion per year on anti-poverty programs. Yet, despite this roughly \$1 trillion investment, poverty rates (even using more accurate alternative measures) have not significantly improved since the 1970s, and economic mobility among the poor remains stagnant.

A universal basic income would have several advantages over the current welfare system. It would obviously be simpler and far more transparent than the hodgepodge of existing anti-poverty programs. With different, often contradictory, eligibility levels, work requirements and other restrictions, our current welfare system is a nightmare of unaccountability that fails to effectively help people transition out of these programs and escape poverty.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, a UBI would provide far better incentives when it comes to work, marriage and savings. Because current welfare benefits are phased out as income increases, they, in effect, create high marginal tax rates that can discourage work or marriage. In contrast, a universal basic income would not penalize someone who left welfare for work.

For those who believe in getting government out of people's

lives, a UBI would also be far less paternalistic, expecting the poor to budget and manage their money like everyone else. It all adds up to a strong case, yet there are also serious trade-offs.

For example, a recent study from scholars at the American Enterprise Institute suggests that the only way to afford a universal basic income would be to replace not just anti-poverty programs and unemployment insurance, but also middle-class entitlements, such as Social Security and Medicare. The poor would be big winners under such a shift, but politically powerful seniors would lose out. That seems like a political nonstarter.

A negative income tax, which limited the basic income to lower-income people, would be more affordable, but would also import all the complexity, fraud and abuse of the current U.S. tax code. For example, how would a negative income tax handle someone who had little income but substantial assets? It would also recreate many of the same incentive problems we see in the current welfare systems, imposing high effective marginal tax rates, which discourage work.

Moreover, as with other government programs, there would be constant pressure to expand benefits. Once we've established the idea that people are "entitled" to an income, it becomes much harder to say "no" in the future. How long would it be before we heard that no one can live on whatever benefit the UBI provides at the moment?



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McCaleb: Public pensions in some ways mirror Madoff's Ponzi scheme

By Dan McCaleb
Watchdog

"In a world full of lies, the most dangerous ones are those we tell ourselves."

— Diana B. Henriques

HBO debuted its original movie on Ponzi-schemer Bernie Madoff over the weekend. Based on Henriques' book "The Wizard of Lies," the film (and book) tells the chilling tale of Madoff's fraudulent investment scheme in which more than 2,200 people lost almost \$20 billion in retirement savings.

That is a lot of victims losing a lot of money.

But it's peanuts compared to what public pensioners — in Illinois, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and elsewhere — stand to lose if drastic reform measures aren't taken soon. More on this in a moment.

A Ponzi scheme is a form of fraud in which early investors see quality returns, not because their money was invested wisely as the investors are led to believe, but because new investors fund the payouts. The cycle perpetuates itself — more and more new investors are needed to continue to fund previous investors' returns at an unbeknownst higher risk to themselves — until it inevitably collapses.

In Madoff's case, the collapse occurred in 2008, after almost 30 years, when the housing bubble burst and the economy was sent into the Great Recession. Simplistically, far fewer new investors could be found, and prior investors, many hurting because of the turn in the economy, asked for their full investments back.

Madoff was sentenced to 150 years in prison after pleading guilty to multiple counts of fraud. His victims suffered untold losses.

What's the point of my Madoff history lesson?

A strong case can be made that public pensions are eerily similar to a Ponzi scheme, and that a similar collapse in some of the most underfunded systems in the country might be inevitable. That would mean an untold number of new victims that would make the Madoff case seem relatively minor by comparison.

The difference between a Madoff-like Ponzi scheme and the public pension crisis is that government is complicit in the latter, and that dedicated public servants, state retirees and taxpayers are the ones at risk.

I think we all can agree that taxpayers and state workers who have spent their careers serving residents, teachers included, don't deserve that.

Doubt that will happen? Let's start with Puerto Rico.

The U.S. territory in the eastern Caribbean declared a form of bankruptcy (after Congressional approval) earlier this month because of massive debt that included \$50 billion in underfunded pensions. In a story headlined "In Puerto Rico, pension fund works like a Ponzi scheme," the New York Times reported the following:

"Puerto Rico, where the money to pay teachers' pensions is expected to run out next year, has become a particularly extreme example of a problem facing states including Illinois, New Jersey and Pennsylvania:

As teachers' pension costs keep rising, young teachers are being squeezed — sometimes hard. One study found that more than three-fourths of all American teachers hired at age 25 will end up paying more into pension plans than they ever get back."

For pensioners in Puerto Rico, where a recovery plan is still being devised, it could mean pennies of the dollar of what they were promised.

For current and future public pensioners, a similar fate awaits if drastic reforms don't happen.

Take Illinois, whose five state pension funds are now underfunded by more than \$130 billion, worst in the nation. At that deficit, the pension funds have in hand just about 37 cents of every dollar they will owe to current and future pensioners.

But it actually could be much worse than that.

Money set aside to fund pensions — from taxpayers and public employees — is invested to grow the dollar pool. But most pension systems have over-estimated the rate of returns on these investments. As recently as 2014, Illinois' Teachers Retirement System projected an inflated 8 percent annual return rate. That projection was dropped to 7.5 percent three years ago. Just last year, Illinois' State Employees Retirement System downgraded its rate of return estimate to 7 percent. Each of these downgrades cost Illinois taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars annually because the taxpayers are legally required to make up the difference.

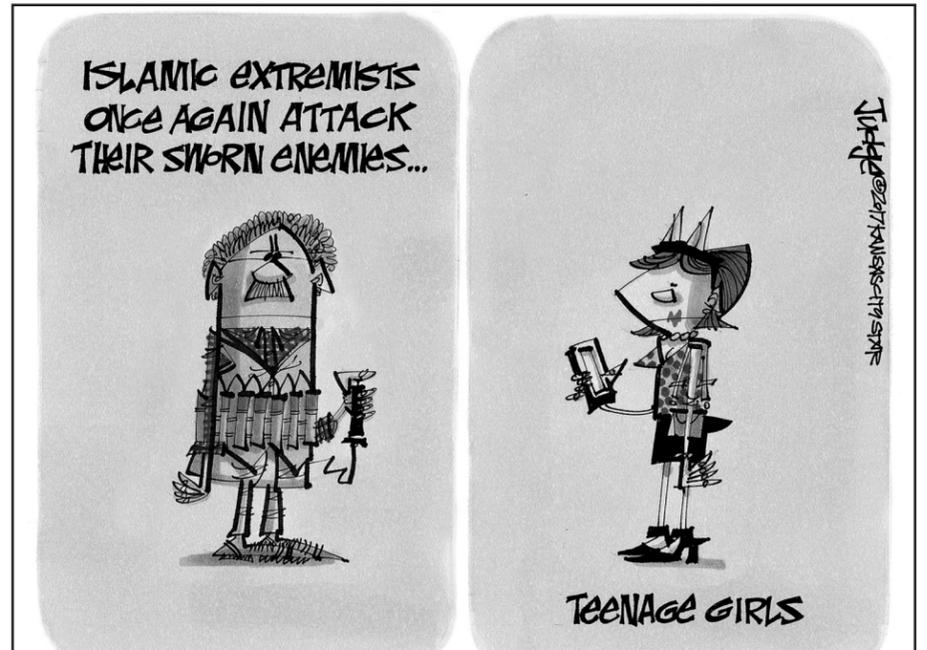
What's worse is that many investment professionals and

ratings agencies say a more realistic rate of return is in the 3 to 4 percent range. If that's the case, Illinois' already staggering pension debt would balloon by tens of billions of dollars more. That could be devastating

to younger state employees who still have decades to go before they retire. A younger teacher who is funding current retirees' bloated pensions faces a potential collapse in the system, risking much or all of her

retirement nest egg.

And as return estimates continue to drop, taxpayers are forced to pick up the ever-growing tab.



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Riley County Commission Minutes For May 25, 2017

Riley County Commission Minutes 5/25/2017
8:30 AM Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance
1. Public Comments

Hobson reported part of a tree went down on Silver Creek Road adjacent to a bridge. Hobson stated Wildcat Township has asked for assistance to remove the rest of the tree, which appears to be failing.

Wells suggested splitting the cost with Wildcat Township.

The Board agreed by consensus the County is willing to assist Wildcat Township with the removal of the cottonwood tree.

2. Commission Comments

Wilson's Comments:

Wednesday I talked with the director of the Junction City and Geary County consolidated Fire Department and EMS. He said they collect 60-65% of what they bill for ambulance services. He also strongly recommended hiring a 3rd party billing company rather than doing it in-house.

This week I also caught up on some non-county related projects.

Rodriguez's Comments:

Tuesday and Wednesday I visited with constituents in the northern part of the county.

Wells' Comments:

Wells said he worked on family business matters.

Wells stated he has been watching the State Legislation.

Business Meeting

3. 2017 Asphalt Overlay Program - Green-Randolph Road

Move to approve the contract for the 2017 Asphalt Overlay Program - Green-Randolph

Road (Alternate No. 1) with Shilling Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$932,330.00.

RESULT:

ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

4. A Resolution reappointing the County Appraiser

Move to approve "Resolution No. 052517-31, A Resolution reappointing the County Appraiser".

ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

5. Sign a letter of support for CASA's application to Attorney General's Office for the Crime Victim's Assistance Fund for Child Abuse and the Child Exchange and Visitation Center Fund

Move to sign a letter of support for CASA's application to Attorney General's Office for the Crime Victim's Assistance Fund for child abuse and the Child Exchange and Visitation Center Fund.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

6. Approve payroll/accounts payables (when completed)

Move to approve the payroll vouchers in the amount of \$407,439.46 and the following warrant vouchers for May 26, 2017:

2017 Budget	
County General	\$815,814.67
Health Department	71,995.03
P.A.T.F.	440.00
Motor Vehicle Operations	4,442.60

Community Corrections

12,220.12

Capital Improvements Fund

321.82

Emergency 911 3,997.00

Solid Waste 177,875.42

County Building 11,131.96

Road & Bridge Cap Project 68,828.82

RCPD Levy/Op 7,690.61

Landfill Closure 5,481.12

Riley Co Fire Dist #1 20,804.13

University Park W&S 1,388.38

Hunters Island Water Dist 2,213.07

Carson Sewer Benefit Dist 970.57

Deep Creek Sewer 254.07

Moehlman Bottoms 972.45

Valleywood Operations 23.06

Terra Heights Sewer 253.88

Konza Water Operations 5,388.28

Lakeside Heights Sewer 75.09

TOTAL... \$1,212,582.15

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

7. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - May 22, 2017

8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes.

RESULT: ACCEPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

8. Tentative Agenda

9. Discuss Press Conference

Brian McNulty - Lake elevation update & road construction above the flood gates

Chamber - financial impact from Country Stampede

9:00 AM Shelly Williams, Community Corrections Director

10. Kansas Department of Corrections FY18 Juvenile Services Comprehensive Grant Application

Hubbard presented the FY18 Juvenile Services Comprehensive Plan.

Move to approve the KDOC FY18 Comprehensive Plan grant for Riley County Community Corrections Juvenile Services

\$116,889.69 Juvenile Intake & Assessment

\$105,959.81 Juvenile Intensive Supervision

\$92,929.80 Juvenile Offender Case Management

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

Move to approve the Juvenile Justice Comprehensive Plan State Block Grant Award Conditions.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

9:15 AM **Craig Cox, Deputy Counselor/Director of Administrative Services**

11. Administrative Work Session

Cox discussed the Lakeside Heights Addition.

12. Ambulance Service—Approval of Letter Accepting Hospital's Termination Date or Accepting Increased Management Fee

Cox presented the draft letters to Via Christi regarding the termination of service.

Wilson recommended some changes to the letter.

Move to the Board sign Attachment "A" as amended.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

9:35 AM Kevin Howser, IT/GIS Director

13. IT/GIS Staff Update - May 2017

Howser presented the IT/GIS staff update.

9:50 AM Gregg Eystone, County Extension Agent

14. 2017 Garden Tour

Wells stated he made a comment about a Montana congressman's actions today. Wells stated after his comment the Mercury reporter tried to create headlines today by having Wells state he believed the activity was appropriate. Wells

said the reporter should be here to report on County business and not to create stories to sell papers. Wells stated he does not appreciate the Mercury reporter's questions.

Eystone discussed the 29th Annual Garden Tour, Sunday, June 11, 2017 from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

10:00 AM Bob Isaac, Planner

15. Rezone an unplatted tract of land from "C-PUD" (Commercial Planned Unit Development) to "C-PUD" (Commercial Planned Unit Development).

Isaac presented the Buchanan rezoning.

Move to approve the request to rezone an unplatted tract of land from "C-PUD" (Commercial Planned Unit Development) to "C-PUD" (Commercial Planned Unit Development) and "Resolution No. 052517-32, Resolution amending the zoning map of Riley County concerning the use of certain real estate located in Grant Township".

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

10:10 AM Monty Wedel, Planning/Special Projects

See County page 7

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY AUCTION

SATURDAY, JUNE 17 — 10:00 AM

314 Grove Street — GREENLEAF, KANSAS
(Formerly Twin Valley Assisted Living Facility)

OPEN HOUSE: SUNDAY, JUNE 4 • 1-3 PM

Investors, Innovators and Entrepreneurs, a rare opportunity is coming up for auction June 17, 2017. This property features a 2,555 sq ft structure on 3 1/2 lots in Greenleaf, Kansas.

The exterior comes complete with mature trees, shrubs, a concrete patio and marked parking spaces.

The interior includes:

UPPER LEVEL: Nice-sized Kitchen (includes refrigerator, dishwasher and stove); Spacious Dining Room with sliding patio doors to the grill area; Roomy Living/TV Area and two separate outside access doors; 4 Bedrooms, 4 1/2 Baths.

LOWER LEVEL: Apartment including Kitchen/Dining/Living Area, Bathroom, Bedroom; 2 Bedrooms; 2 Bathrooms; 1 Bonus Room; Storage Area with shelving; 4-5 Separate individual storage closets.

This building has a Fire Alarm/Sprinkler System and is Handicap Accessible. It has previously been used as an assisted-living facility but could be easily converted into a comfortable home for a growing family. **Let your imagination inspire you to transform this into a place of your choice, and turn your dreams into reality! For a private showing, call Cindy at (785) 541-1094.**

For a VIRTUAL TOUR of this property visit
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TWIN VALLEY DEV. SERVICES, SELLER

Terms & Possession: Seller to pay 2016 taxes. 2017 taxes will be prorated to day of closing. Title insurance, escrow and closing costs to be split equally between buyer and seller. Possession upon closing on or before July 28, 2017. Property to be sold as-is, where-is. This is a cash sale and will not be subject to financing, have your financing arrangements made prior to Auction. Midwest Land and Home is acting as a Seller's Agent. All information has come from reliable sources; however, potential buyers are encouraged to verify all information independently. Bolton & McNish Law Office will act as title, escrow and closing agent. Announcements made the day of sale take precedence over all other information.



Mark Uhlik — Broker/Auctioneer - 785-325-2740
Cindy Allerheiligen - Real Estate Agent - 785-541-1094
www.MidwestLandandHome.com

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AUCTION

LOCATED: Inside at the Fairgrounds in Blue Rapids, KS.

SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2017 - 10:00A.M.

COLLECTIBLES — HOUSEHOLD — GUNS — CAR — TOOLS

Guns & Car Sell at Noon: U.S. Springfield Armory #1903 Mark 1 .30-06 Cal. Bolt-Action w/ Elevated Sight; Remington Matchmaster #513T 22 Long Rifle Bolt-Action w/ Bull Barrel & Adj. Rear Sights; High Standard .22 Cal. Sentinel 9 Shot Pistol; 1981 Pontiac Bonneville Diesel 4dr Car, 5.7L, Sun Roof (Runs, 180k+Mi.); **Collectibles:** Glass-Front China Cabinet; Oak Oval Table w/ 2 Bentwood Chairs; Qu. Anne Style Table; 2 Oak Dressers w/ Mirror; Oak Stands; 3 Full Brass Beds; Murphy Full Metal Bed; 3 Oak Desks Incl. S-Roll Top & School; Library Table; Victorian Folding Chair; Spindle Leg Stands; Oak Tea Cart; Oak Washstand; Ornate 2x4ft Framed Mirrors; Wall Tapestries; Matching Oak Framed Pictures; Hand Made Clocks; Cast Iron Painted Bed; **Aladdin Lamps:** 20+ Oil-Table & Brass Hanging, 20+ Chimneys, 10+ EL, Metal Thermos; **Incolay Stone Items:** Plates, Bells, Clock & Phone Box; **Griswold Cast Iron:** Skillets #3-10, Patty Molds w/ Box, #11 Corn Bread, #32&33 Ash Tray, Stove Dampers; 20+ Cast Iron Fly Ash Trays; Cast Iron Trivets, Pestle & Mortar; Small Sets of Old Ivory China (Germany); Gold Trim Glass Set- Forget Me Not; Henry Watson Pottery (England); Pittsburg Pottery Stone Feeder; Stone Qt Jar; Dazey #60 Churn; 40+ Napkin Rings; Wooden Sausage Stuffer; Condiment Caddies; Coffee Grinder; Apple Peeler; Match Holder; Labeled Tins Incl. Maytag Oil; Sprinkling Can; Tin Cups; Bird Cage; Kansas Car Tags - 1950s, 60s, 70s; 2 Blue Rapids Centennial Plates; 1946 Blue & Gold Annual; Yard Sticks; Toy Horse w/ Cart; W.P. Brown, Blue Rapids Broom Holder; Mens Hats & Boxes; El. Ash Tray; Old Magazines: 1950s Life, Farm Journal, Nature, Ladies Home Journal, 1930s Better Homes & Garden, 1940-50s Sat. Eve. Post; 10+ Albums of Old Records: Big Band, Blues & Swing - RCA Victor, Columbia, Capital; 5 Big Binders of Stamps Incl. Golden Replica of the Century, Celebrating the 20th Century, America the Beautiful; Danbury Mint Plates: Farming the Heartland, Kids- Gentle Friends, Pets- Faithful Friends; 1912 NY Times Titanic Sinks; Cast Iron Cauldron; **Household:** Maytag 25ft Side by Side Refrig. (Almond); Magic Chef El. Range; Frigidaire HD Washer (Newer); Whirlpool El. Dryer; Samsung 55in Flat Screen TV; LaZBoy Recliner; 3-Cushion Couch; 2 Swivel/Rockers; Drop-leaf Coffee & 2 End Tables; Side Table; Card Table & Chairs; Office Chair; Floor Lamps; El. Heater; Microwave; Toaster Oven; Small Appliances; Food Dehydrator (New); Pots & Pans; Corolle Dishes; DVD/VHS Player; Lots of VHS Sets - WWII, Battlefield, American Experience, World at War; Sea Shells; Char Broil Gas Grill; Projector & Screen; Xmas Décor; Golf Clubs; Luggage; Handmade by Ivan Wood Boxes; Books Incl. Children Learning & Sets of Successful Gardening; Woodsmith Magazines; **Tools:** Craftsman Power Tools: 17in Drill Press, 12in 2Spd Band Saw, 16in Scroll Saw, 10in Table Saw, 12 1/2in Thickness Planer, Compound Miter Saw, Oscillating Sander, Bench Grinder, Table Top w/ Router, 4x36in Belt/6in Disc Grinder/Sander, 2Wheel Band Saw, 6in Joints Planer; Delta Drill Press; Bosch Router; Ryobi Detail Sander; Dremel in Case; El. Drills; 3in Anvil; Nut Cracker; Workmate; 4HP/11Gal. Port. Air Compressor; 10Gal ShopVac; Hand Tools Incl. Wrenches, Screwdrivers, Hammers; Bar & C-Clamps; Shop Light; Metal Shelves; Creeper; Long Handle Tools; Wood Ladders-Step & Straight; Step Stool; 2Wheel Dolly; Wheelbarrow (New); Weed Eater; El. Leaf Blower; Auto Fluids; Lots of Clock Parts; Scrap Boards; Walking Corn Planter; Steel Wheels; Other Items.

See Websites for Other Photos. **Auction Note:** Ivan was a life-long collector of quality items.

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Kansas Guidebook 2 shares 4,500 places to visit

Co-authors Marci Penner and WenDee Rowe spent four years traveling to every one of the 626 incorporated cities in Kansas in addition to visiting several hundred spots in the country. The result is The Kansas Guidebook 2 for Explorers, a project of the Inman-based Kansas Sampler Foundation.

The 480-page, coil-bound book weighs over two pounds and is chock full of information that will keep Kansas road trip enthusiasts busy for quite a long time. Along with 4,500 entries that provide descriptions, directions, hours, and contact information, there are also more than 1,600 color pictures. Rowe says, "Many people will be interested in the 843 restaurants, cafes, drive-ins, and soda fountains."

The book is designed to help achieve the mission of the Kansas Sampler Foundation which is to preserve and sustain rural culture. Penner says, "Though the book reads like a travel guide, it's intended to help people get to know the state and learn about towns of every size." Among the diverse entries, guidebook users will find historic bridges, beautiful statues, specialty shops, quirky sites, little known points-of-in-

The Kansas Guidebook was used by the Free Press publishers several years ago when doing a Travel Page for the Free Press.

Jon A. Brake

terest, cemetery finds, and back road scenic drives statewide. Rowe said, "There really is something for everyone whether you are looking for outdoor sites or ways to get to know a town. The more a person interacts with the locals the more special a road trip can become."

To find retail stores that carry the book or to order online, go to kansassampler.org.

FACTS AT A GLANCE

Kansas Guidebook 2 for Explorers

Co-authors – Marci Penner and WenDee Rowe

Number of entries – 4,500

Number of restaurants in those 4,500 entries – 843

Number of pictures – 1,700+

Number of incorporated Kansas cities – 515 of the 626

Number of unincorporated towns/ghost towns - 97

Published by the Kansas Sampler Foundation, Inman, Kansas, 2017.

Contact – marci@kansassampler.org, 620.585.2374

The book is a project of the Inman-based public non-profit Kansas Sampler Foundation, a 501c3.

Research – Marci and WenDee traveled to every one of the 626 incorporated cities in Kansas from 2012-2015.

Previous guidebooks by Kansas Sampler Foundation: 8 Wonders of Kansas Guidebook (2011); Kansas Guidebook for Explorers (2005).

Retail price - \$29.95

Wholesale – 40% discount

Case – A case holds 12 books

Summary – The mission of the Kansas Sampler Foundation is to preserve and sustain rural culture and though this book reads like a travel book it's really a guide to knowing Kansas. Directions, hours, phone numbers and web sites are included. Our goal is to make it easy to know what there is to see and do around the state and easy to get there. All entries fit in our eight rural culture element categories of architecture, art, commerce, cuisine, customs, geography, history and people.



Marci Penner & WenDee Rowe

The Kansas Guidebook 2

for explorers



The 480-page, coil-bound book weighs over two pounds and is chock full of information that will keep Kansas road trip enthusiasts busy for quite a long time.

Riley County Commission Minutes

from page 6

Acts Director

16. Public Hearing to Consider Naming a Private Road Otto Ranch Lane and Re-addressing Affected Properties

Wells opened the public hearing.

No public comment.

Wells closed the public hearing.

Move to approve "Resolution No. 052517-33, Resolution naming a private road and the numbering or renumbering of existing business and residence addresses in the unincorporated area of Riley County, Kansas."

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

10:20 AM Jan Scheideman, Child Care Facilitator/Manager

Move to recess as the Board of County Commissioners and convene as the Board of Health.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

17. Approval to Submit for Caroline Peine Charitable Foundation Grant

Scheideman presented the Peine Foundation Grant Application for the Raising Riley Program.

Move to approve the application and sign the letter of commitment for the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation, Caroline Peine Charitable Foundation.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

driguez

Move to recess as the Board of Health and reconvene as the Board of County Commissioners.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

10:30 AM Lori Feldkamp, Big Lakes Developmental Center Director

18. Letter of Support
Feldkamp presented the letter of support for Big Lakes Developmental Center.

Move to approve the Letter of Support for Big Lakes Developmental Center.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

10:45 AM Tami Robison, Budget and Finance Officer

19. 2018 Budget Work Session

Robison discussed the 2018 budget work session.

The Board agreed by consensus to approve recommendations from the Budget & Finance Officer as follows:

—Recommend transferring an additional \$3,000,000 to the CIP fund from the General fund for projects that are not currently activated and adjusting the 2017 estimated budget in the General-General capital outlay line item to \$1,500,000, leaving a 2018 beginning cash balance of \$3,275,550 which includes the recent 2017 transfer to the General fund from the Motor Vehicle fund.

—Recommend adjusting the

2017 RCPD estimated budget by \$574,200 to include the storage facility project, leaving a 2018 beginning cash balance of \$133,704.

—Recommend approving the carryover in the CIP fund be used for future project requests.

—Recommend using the Health Department's remaining funds for 2017 personnel budgeting, to subsidize the immunization program with the loss of funding, to fund the purchase of an Electronic Health Record system in 2018 and any additional equipment needs.

11:15 AM Executive session

Move that the County Commissioners, including Chairman Wells, Commissioner Rodriguez, and Commissioner Wilson, recess into executive session with Craig Cox, Deputy County Counselor, attorney for the County Commission, pursuant to the non-elected personnel matters exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act in order to protect the privacy of the employee, the open meeting to resume in the County Commission Chambers at 11:30 a.m.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

11:30 AM Move to go out of executive session.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

Wells stated there was no binding action taken during the executive session.

11:32 AM Adjournment

Citizens State Bank

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June 23, 2017

9 am – 3 pm

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Kansas struggles with Osawatomie State Hospital's future

OSAWATOMIE, Kan. (AP) — Kansas officials are struggling with how to improve care for some of the state's most desperately mentally ill residents in a state hospital that has suffered from years of neglect and staffing shortages.

In April, lawmakers toured the campus of the Osawatomie State Hospital, which lost its federal Medicare certification more than a year ago after a patient allegedly raped a staff member in late 2015. Federal inspectors noted the hospital's outdated facilities and said they found gaps in safety that they said put patients and staff at risk, The Kansas City Star reported (<http://bit.ly/2qKcSeY>).

"I think getting decertified sort of opened our eyes wide to where we are," said Tim Keck,

secretary of the Kansas Aging and Disability Services.

Osawatomie was founded more than 150 years ago about 50 miles southwest of Kansas City. It serves the eastern half of the state and can house 206 patients, although the number of patients has been capped at 146 since June 2015 because of short staffing. The agency plans to add back 12 more patient beds in July.

The loss of federal certification cost the state \$1 million a month in federal aid. The state's other psychiatric hospital in Larned retained its certification but also struggles with low staffing.

In May, federal inspectors conducted a preliminary review in Osawatomie after the state spent \$2.9 million upgrading its

acute care unit. Keck and other state officials are optimistic that 60-bed unit will regain certification and the state will recapture a part of the monthly federal payments.

Even if that happens, state officials have to decide the best way to use a campus where the most recent buildings were built in the 1960s.

Gov. Sam Brownback wants the state to partner with a private company to build a new hospital and allow the company to operate it, which he believes would save money and improve treatments. Keck said the age of the campus is part of the problem because the buildings are "cramped and outdated and just not very therapeutic for a patient with mental health issues."

Some lawmakers and mental

health advocates are concerned allowing a private company to run the hospital would reduce state oversight of care at Osawatomie.

"You've got to get that profit somewhere, and it's going to have to impact patient care," said Rocky Nichols, executive director of the Disability Rights Center of Kansas. "That's a serious concern of ours."

Keck said the state can build a new facility or spend an estimated \$5 million remodeling buildings that house patients to get an additional five years of use. The third option is to "keep doing what we've been doing for a long time and led us to where we are now. And I'm not a fan of that," he said.

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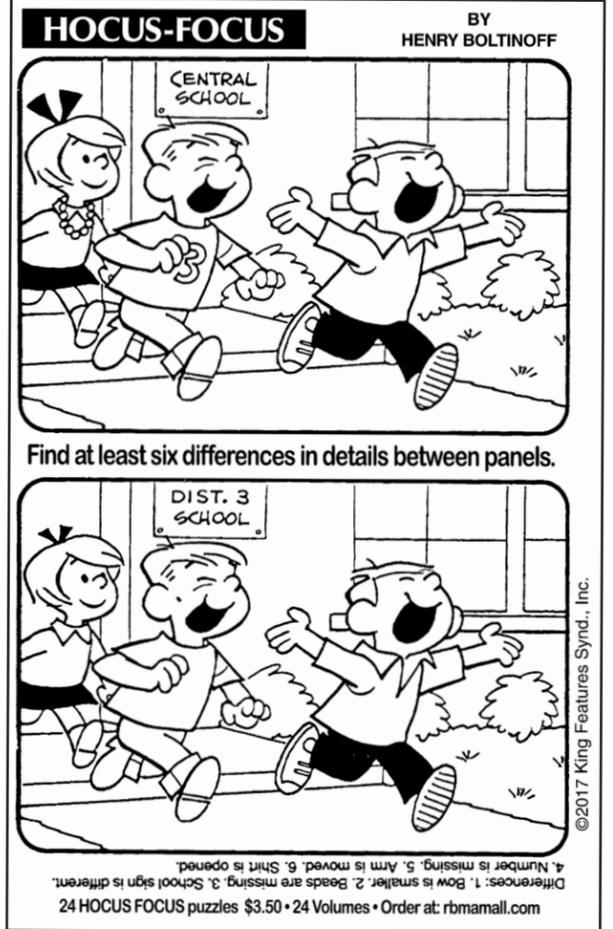
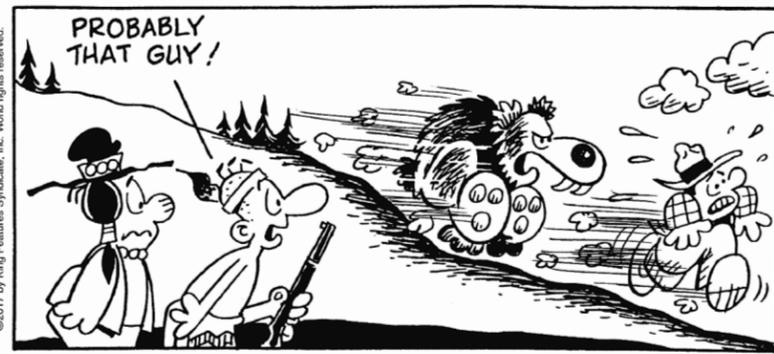
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- ACROSS**
- 1 Slender
 - 5 Cribbage scorer
 - 8 Pinnacle
 - 12 Defense acronym
 - 13 Yon maiden
 - 14 Capricorn
 - 15 Portent
 - 16 Yoko of music
 - 17 Juli Inkster's org.
 - 18 Lament
 - 20 Sea greeting
 - 22 Complete win
 - 26 Coral structure
 - 29 Allow
 - 30 24 horas
 - 31 Bear lair
 - 32 Rowing need
 - 33 Obsolete letter opener?
 - 34 PC file extension
 - 35 Jewel
 - 36 Silences
 - 37 1967 Lee Marvin movie,
- DOWN**
- 1 Uppity one
 - 2 Weak, as an excuse
 - 3 Thing
 - 4 Eyeglass
 - 5 Cell, e.g.
 - 6 Poetic time of day
 - 7 Bad pun
 - 8 Radiant
 - 9 Work on manuscripts
 - 10 Periodical, for short
 - 11 Greek vowel
 - 19 Every iota
 - 21 White House monogram
 - 23 Texas mission
 - 24 Green land
 - 25 Just say no
 - 26 Scored 100 on
 - 27 Urban transport
 - 28 Take too much medicine
 - 32 Solver of the Riddle of the Sphinx
 - 33 Old timer?
 - 35 Workout locale
 - 36 Chaps
 - 38 Entice
 - 39 Very quick
 - 42 Sans siblings
 - 43 Stench
 - 44 Memorization method
 - 45 "Eureka!"
 - 46 Bill
 - 48 Devil's minion

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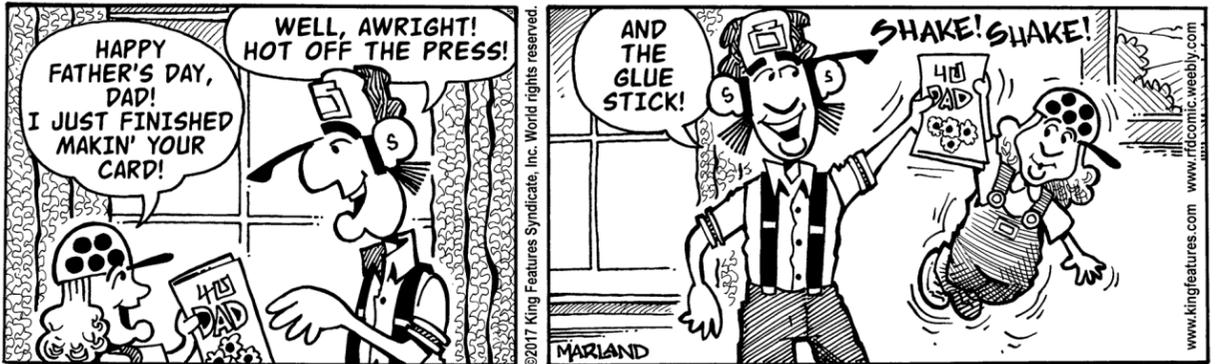
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Kansas Legislature to Citizens – let them eat cake

Dave Trabert
Kansas Policy Institute

With the 2017 Kansas Legislature careening toward a close, the majority of legislators in both chambers are doubling down on efforts to gouge citizens and leave generations of students behind so that those who profit from excessive and inefficient government can prosper. For those who might think that statement hyperbolic, consider the evidence:

As shown separately by the Kansas Truth Caucus and Kansas Policy Institute, the budget can be balanced without a tax increase, but both chambers insist on gouging citizens with upwards of \$600 million more in income taxes annually.

A tax increase greater than \$393 million would put Kansans in worse shape than before 2012 tax reform because



of sales tax hikes and other tax increases imposed since 2012.

Low income citizens and business owners would be hit

hard by higher income taxes and still have to pay the higher sales tax.

The only tax incentive for

small business – the pass-through exemption – is driving the vast majority of job growth, but legislators want to kill it.

Kansas spent 27 percent more per resident in 2015 than the states without an income tax, but most legislators have no interest in reducing the bloated cost of government.

The Supreme Court says improving outcomes is more important than money, but both education bills fail to hold schools accountable for improving outcomes. Schools refuse accountability and without it, generations of students will continue to be left behind.

The Supreme Court says adequacy is met when funding is “reasonably calculated” so that students can meet the Rose standards, but both education bills fail the “reasonably calculated” test. A math error in the Senate bill will overcharge citizens by \$83 million per year but the Senate declined to fix the error. Today KPI found a simi-

lar error in the House bill that overcharges citizens by \$140 million per year beginning in FY 2019; using a proper weighted average to calculate average spending, Base State Aid Per Pupil should be \$3,920 instead of \$4,128.

The majority preference for government over citizens is clearly reflected in preliminary scores on the Kansas Freedom Index; all Democrats and a majority of Republicans in both chambers of the Kansas Legislature register below 50 percent on votes already cast, meaning they voted more frequently against limited government, personal freedom and student-focused education matters.

Ronald Reagan could have had this Legislature in mind when he said, “The nine most terrifying words in the English language are: I’m from the government and I’m here to help.”

K-State alumni assume new leadership positions on board of directors

MANHATTAN, KAN. – The K-State Alumni Association board of directors transitioned its membership and leadership June 3 during the board’s annual meeting in Manhattan, Kansas.

Alan Fankhauser, Garden City, Kansas, who was named chair-elect last year, assumed his leadership position as 2017-18 chair at the annual meeting. Fankhauser earned his bachelor’s degree from K-State in 1982. Most recently, he spent 10 years in events marketing for Harley-Davidson Motor Company and is transitioning back to Kansas. He succeeded Dan

Yunk, Manhattan, who now fills the immediate past-chair position until June 2018. Yunk earned his bachelor’s, master’s and doctorate degrees from K-State in 1971, 1975 and 1987, respectively, and is the owner of Yunk Consulting.

Board member Sylvia White Robinson, Kansas City, Kansas, will serve as chair-elect. She will become the chair in June 2018. A 1971 K-State graduate, Robinson is a retired educator and former member of the Kansas Board of Regents, which governs the state’s six universities.

In a general election this

spring, members of the Alumni Association approved a slate of five new members of the board of directors. These alumni also began their four-year terms at the board’s annual meeting and will continue to June 2021.

They are Dr. Jeff Luty ’89, Abilene, Kansas, owner of an optometry practice in Abilene; Debbie Leckron Miller ’75, Council Grove, Kansas, a contributing writer for Midwest Living magazine; Frank Hernandez III ’92, Houston, regional sales director for the Spectranetics Corporation; Laura Propp ’06, San Antonio,

senior communications partner for USAA; and Cmdr. Tim Oswald ’93, Washington, D.C., U.S. Naval Attaché to Pakistan at the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad.

Additional board leadership includes Rand Berney ’77, Round Rock, Texas, chairman, Kansas State University Foundation board of directors; Curt Frasier ’73, Beloit, Kansas, treasurer; Amy Button Renz ’76, ’86, Manhattan, president and CEO of the Alumni Association and board secretary; Greg Willems, Manhattan, president and CEO of the KSU Foundation; and K-State President

Richard Myers ’65, Manhattan.

Two K-State students filling yearlong standing appointments also assumed their seats on the board. They are Matthew Grosdidier, Lenexa, Kansas, Student Alumni Board president, and Jack Ayres, Overland Park, Kansas, K-State student body president.

Outgoing members recognized for their service to the Alumni Association’s board of directors were Michelle Swim McGuire ’93, Bentonville, Arkansas; Jada Allerheiligen Hill ’88, Cincinnati, Ohio; Steve Johnson ’75, Lawrence, Kansas; Mel Kopf ’61, Topeka, Kansas; and Travis Lenkner ’01, exiting past-chair, Chicago.

Jessica Van Ranken ’17,

Lindsborg, Kansas, 2016-17 K-State student body president, and Taylor Fry ’17, Great Bend, Kansas, outgoing student members, also were recognized for their service.

“On behalf of the Alumni Association, I would like to extend our utmost appreciation for the leadership these volunteers, both past and present, have given to the organization,” Renz said. “These K-Staters provide us with their time, talents and experiences which allow us to be better stewards of our mission to ‘to lead and inspire lifelong involvement that will benefit Kansas State University and all members of our Wildcat Community.’”

Kansas lawmakers pursuing single plan on taxes, school aid

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) – Republican legislators in Kansas cooked up a plan Sunday for breaking an impasse over raising new revenue to fix the state budget by tying income tax increases to higher spending for the state’s cash-strapped public schools – and doing it in a single package.

GOP negotiators for the House and Senate agreed on a plan that would raise more than \$1 billion over two years by increasing income tax rates and eliminating an exemption for more than 330,000 farmers and business owners. It would roll back the bulk of past income tax cuts championed by Repub-

lican Gov. Sam Brownback.

The same Republican lawmakers agreed on another proposal to phase in a \$285 million increase in education funding over two years. The plan is a response to a Kansas Supreme Court ruling in March that the \$4 billion a year in aid to the state’s 286 school districts is inadequate, though many lawmakers question whether the measure would satisfy the justices.

The GOP negotiators then agreed to put the tax plan and the school funding measure into the same bill for a single up-or-down vote in each chamber. The House planned to vote first on the package, though not until

Monday morning because of the time staff needed to draft it.

The tactic would be highly unusual: Kansas legislators historically have kept tax proposals separate from spending or policy proposals so all can be vetted individually. But GOP leaders believed the income tax increase would have a better chance of passing if it were tied to education funding – and that Brownback might feel compelled to accept the undoing of his signature policies.

“We’re hoping that this would give him another reason not to veto,” said Senate Majority Leader Jim Denning, a con-

servative Overland Park Republican.

In addition to the court mandate on education funding, the state faces projected budget shortfalls totaling \$889 million through June 2019. Kansas has struggled to balance its budget since GOP legislators slashed personal income taxes in 2012 and 2013 at Brownback’s urging, and the state later experienced slumps in agriculture and energy production.

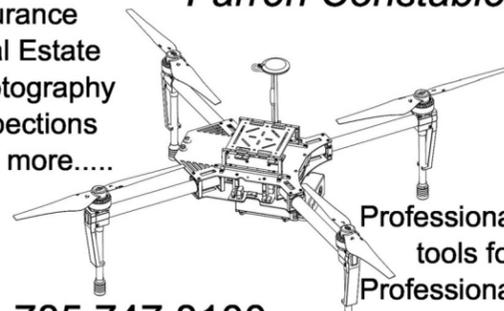
Majority Republicans in the House have been deeply divided over tax issues and GOP leaders haven’t attracted enough Democratic votes to pass a tax plan. The impasse had lawmakers meeting Sunday in the 107th

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