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Kansas Ranked 6th for State School Funding

By Dave Trabert, president of Kansas Policy Institute

New data from the U.S. Census Bureau shows Kansas had the 6th highest share of school funding provided by state government in 2015. State school funding comprised 66 percent of total funding in Kansas, while the national average for state school funding was 47 percent. The national average for local taxpayer support was 45 percent but Kansas local taxpayers only provided 26 percent of funding. The federal taxpayers' share of funding was 8 percent in Kansas and across the nation.

No other regional state comes close to Kansas for state school funding. The

are a little lower than Kansans are used to seeing.

At \$12,418 per-pupil, Kansas is ranked #25 for total spending and is #32 for current spending (excluding Capital Outlay, Debt Service, Interest and other amounts designated by Census) at \$10,040 per-pupil. Kansas had the 14th highest per-pupil Cash & Securities holdings in the nation, which, as explained recently, includes a little over \$1 billion in unspent bond proceeds.

Kansas also has relatively high rankings for growth rates since 2001. Total spending per-pupil growth of 70 percent was ranked #16 and far exceeded the national average of 51.6 percent. The

Metric	Amount Per-Pupil			National Rank	
	US Average	Kansas	Missouri	Kansas	Missouri
Total Spend Per Pupil	\$13,181	\$12,418	\$11,678	25	34
Current Spend Per Pupil	\$11,392	\$10,040	\$10,147	32	31
Capital Spend Per Pupil	\$1,075	\$1,939	\$973	5	30
Debt Per Pupil	\$8,928	\$10,865	\$7,795	8	19
Cash & Securities Per Pupil	\$4,189	\$5,539	\$5,357	14	15

Source: US Census; per-pupil amounts are lower shown on Kansas Dept. of Ed. Data as they based on headcount enrollment instead of full time equivalent enrollment. Cash & Securities includes unspent bond proceeds.

next highest share among neighboring states is Oklahoma at 49 percent, followed by Colorado (45 percent), Missouri (42 percent) and Nebraska (32.5 percent).

Kansas also made the Top Ten list for Capital Outlay spending per pupil and Bonded Indebtedness per pupil. Kansas' \$1,939 per pupil on Capital Outlay was the 5th highest spend in the nation and almost double the national average of just \$1,075 per pupil. Kansas was #8 nationally for Bonded Indebtedness at \$10,865 per pupil. Census uses headcount enrollment rather than full time equivalent enrollment as does the Kansas Department of Education for its per-pupil calculations, so the averages

growth in current spending was just below the national average (54 percent versus 56.4 percent) but Kansas could easily exceed it if local school boards hadn't put so much money into cash reserves.

Kansas added \$781 million to its Operating and Capital reserves between 2001 and 2015; diverting just 10 percent of that increase to current spending would have increased current spending per-pupil to the national average and still left \$775 million in operating reserves and \$412 million in capital cash reserves. And Kansas would still have had the 2nd highest Cash & Securities growth rate in the nation.

Metric	% Change 2001-2015			National Rank - % Chg	
	US Average	Kansas	Missouri	Kansas	Missouri
Total Spend Per Pupil	51.6%	70.0%	51.6%	16	31
Current Spend Per Pupil	56.4%	54.0%	53.9%	32	33
Capital Spend Per Pupil	3.7%	935.2%	24.2%	3	24
Debt Per Pupil	109.1%	112.1%	124.0%	2	19
Cash & Securities Per Pupil	80.8%	270.0%	76.7%	2	26

Source: US Census; per-pupil amounts are lower shown on Kansas Dept. of Ed. Data as they based on headcount enrollment instead of full time equivalent enrollment. Cash & Securities includes unspent bond proceeds.

New study of Seattle's \$15 minimum wage says it costs jobs

(AP) Seattle's \$15-an-hour minimum wage law has cost the city jobs, according to a study released Monday that contradicted another new study published last week.

A University of Washington team studying the law's effects found that the law has boosted pay in low-wage jobs since it took effect in 2015, but that it also caused a 9 percent reduction in hours worked, The Seattle Times reported (https://goo.gl/G1Vr64). For an average low-wage Seattle worker, that's a loss of about \$125 per month, the study said.

"If you're a low-skilled worker with one of those jobs, \$125 a month is a sizable amount of money," said Mark Long, one of the authors. "It can be the difference between being able to pay your rent and not being able to pay your rent."

There would be about 5,000 more low-wage jobs in the city without the law, the study estimated.

Seattle was one of the first U.S. cities to adopt a \$15 minimum wage law, and its experience is being closely watched as other cities have followed

similar to Seattle. By comparing the "synthetic Seattle" where no minimum wage increase took effect with Seattle itself, the researchers tried to figure out the minimum wage law's effect on Seattle's economy.

But Reich took issue with how University of Washington team compiled its "synthetic Seattle." It was based on areas that "do not at all resemble Seattle," Reich warned in a letter to the city Monday.

By contrast, the Berkeley study compared Seattle to a statistical model based on areas around the country — not just within the state — and was thus a "more representative" comparison, he said.

The University of Washington report excludes "multisite businesses," such as large corporations, restaurants and retail stores that own their branches directly. Single-site businesses, though — which are counted in the report — could include franchise locations that are owned separately from their corporate headquarters.

Reich said multisite businesses employ a large percentage of Seattle's low-paid workers. That meant workers who left single-site businesses to work at multisite businesses were counted as job losses, not job gains in the UW study, he said.

No immediate ruling on fate of Texas' 'sanctuary cities' law

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A federal judge Monday questioned the reach of a new Texas "sanctuary cities" law supported by the Trump administration but that four of the nation's largest cities, some police chiefs and immigrant-rights groups are trying to stop taking effect in September.

Hundreds of protesters, waving flags and carrying signs that read "Stop Separation of Families," packed the plaza outside a San Antonio courthouse where U.S. District Judge Orlando Garcia will decide whether Texas can carry out the law that President Donald Trump's Justice Department says is in-line with its crack-down on immigration.

A daylong court hearing about the constitutionality of the law — the first hearing since Republican Gov. Greg

Abbott signed the bill known as SB4 in May — ended without Garcia ruling whether he will let Texas enforce the law. He did not set a timetable for a decision.

The law allows police officers to question people about their immigration status during routine stops and threatens police chiefs and elected officials with jail time and removal from office if they don't comply with federal immigration requests to detain immigrants in the country illegally.

The four largest cities in Texas — San Antonio, Austin, Houston and Dallas — are suing to block the measure and their attorneys told Garcia that his ruling could determine if other states to pursue copycat measures. Lawyers for the Texas attorney general's office responded that the new law has

less teeth than Arizona's "Show Me Your Papers" measure in 2010 that the was partially struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court.

"I'll suggest that what we had in Arizona was a far more aggressive piece of legislation," said Darren McCarty, special county to the Texas attorney general.

Garcia pushed attorneys on both sides over how exactly the law would play out on the streets. Would an officer during a traffic stop question the immigration status of every passenger, or just the driver? What would happen if a rank-and-file police officer who determined that someone wasn't in the country legally didn't turn over that information to U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement?

The answer to the second

questions is that nothing would happen, said McCarty, but he went on to contend that a police chief or sheriff who told his officers not to ever press people about their immigration status would be in violation.

"Texas must know what they're doing," said Lee Gelernt, an attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union. "They're setting up a system that incentivizes people to enforce immigration law to the maximum."

The four Texas cities — all of which are among the top 15 in the nation in population — accuse the Republican-controlled Texas Legislature of passing a law that is unconstitutional, vague and would have a chilling effect on immigrant communities. Abbott has said only lawbreakers have anything to worry about.

Supreme Court Will Review Revised Travel Ban

Today, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to hear the government's appeal of the so-called travel ban shortly after it reconvenes on Oct. 2, 2017.

The Court tipped its hand, indicating that it is likely to side with the administration and uphold the traditional deference that it has accorded the other branches of government when it comes to immigration and national security issues.

That should be welcome news for those who value the rule of law and separation of powers.

In Section 212(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, Congress explicitly granted the president the authority to "suspend the entry of all aliens or any class of aliens ... for such period as he shall deem necessary," when he "finds that the entry of any aliens or of any class of aliens ... would be detrimental to the interests of the United States."

Acting on this authority, President Donald Trump issued an executive order on Jan. 27 titled, "Protecting the Nation From Foreign Terrorist Entry Into the United States."

On March 6, after a district court judge in Hawaii entered a nationwide restraining order against implementation of that

executive order, Trump issued a revised executive order:

Directing the secretary of homeland security to conduct a global review to determine whether foreign governments provide adequate information about nationals applying for visas to enter the United States;

Entering a temporary 90-day suspension on the entry of nationals from six countries—Sudan, Syria, Iran, Libya, Somalia, and Yemen—that had previously been designated as state sponsors of terrorism or "countries of concern" by Congress and by officials in the Obama administration (subject to waivers on a case-by-case basis);

Suspending decisions on pending applications and all travel by refugees under the United States Refugee Admissions Program for a period of 120 days, during which time the secretary of state is to review the adequacy of current procedures; and

Capping the number of refugees admitted to this country at 50,000 during fiscal year 2017.

Lawsuits were immediately filed in Hawaii and Maryland challenging the legality of the revised executive order.

Courts have traditionally ac-

corded great deference to the executive branch when it comes to national security issues. After all, the president—our commander-in-chief—receives daily classified intelligence briefings about the many threats we face. Federal judges do not.

Presidents are given primary responsibility for protecting our homeland. Again, federal judges are not.

Moreover, in *Kleindienst v. Mandel* (1972), the Supreme Court held that when the executive branch makes a decision to exclude an alien from admission into the country "on the basis of a facially legitimate and bona fide reason," the courts may "neither look behind the exercise of that discretion, nor test it by balancing its justification against the constitutional interests of citizens the visa denial might implicate."

The Court reiterated this conclusion just two years ago in *Kerry v. Din*.

Undeterred by binding precedent, the Fourth Circuit and the Ninth Circuit entered the "Resist" movement and upheld nationwide injunctions that district court judges had entered against implementation of the revised executive order.

The Fourth Circuit did so on the grounds that it could discern—primarily from a handful of tweets and statements by campaign surrogates—that the president's order was motivated primarily by a desire to exclude Muslims from the United States, not national security concerns, thus violating the First Amendment.

The Ninth Circuit did so on the grounds that the president exceeded his authority under the Immigration and Nationality Act by not entering, in the court's opinion, sufficient findings that entry into this country by those temporarily excluded under the order would be detrimental to the interests of the United States.

Now, the Supreme Court has entered the fray and decided to resolve this critical issue. In doing so, the Court in a per curiam decision (meaning it was an unsigned order which, in this case, was joined by all the justices) lifted most of the nationwide injunctions that had been entered by the lower courts.

The plaintiffs in the Hawaii case consisted of individuals who were seeking the admission of close family members, and the state of Hawaii, which was seeking the admission of students who had been admitted to the University of Hawaii.

The Court let the injunction stand as it pertained only to those plaintiffs and those who are "similarly situated" to them—meaning individuals seeking admission from the designated countries who have "a close family relationship," or who have been admitted as a student or lecturer at a university, or accepted an offer of employment by an American company.

The Court made clear that this should be narrowly construed, stating that such a relationship "must be formal, documented, and formed in the

ordinary course, rather than for the purpose of evading" the revised executive order.

As to foreign nationals lacking such a connection to the United States—which is the vast majority of people covered by the executive order—the Court acknowledged that the government's "interest in preserving national security is an urgent objective of the highest order" and that the government should be permitted to pursue its objectives by implementing the travel order.

While today's order was not a decision on the merits, at least three justices indicated how they are likely to come out on the issue once the case is argued in October.

Justice Clarence Thomas wrote a brief opinion, joined by Justices Samuel Alito and Neil Gorsuch, stating that the lower court injunctions should have been lifted in their entirety.

In doing so, he stated that the government "has made a strong showing that it is likely to succeed on the merits" and that the "failure to stay the injunctions will cause irreparable harm by interfering with its compelling need to provide for the Nation's security."

Presidential authority to protect our homeland should not be second-guessed by courts of law on the basis of some hidden intent divined from tweets and statements made by surrogates in the heat of a presidential campaign.

The Supreme Court should reverse the lower court decisions and uphold the president's authority to implement his revised executive order. A contrary result would needlessly imperil our national security and do great damage to the structure of our Constitution.

Lawyers prepare to defend travelers to US at airports

NEW YORK (AP) -- When the Trump administration's travel ban takes partial effect this week, immigrant-rights lawyers plan to head to the nation's major airports to make sure eligible foreigners are able to get into the country.

But attorneys say few people are likely to be affected, and they don't expect a repeat of the mass confusion that resulted earlier this year when President Donald Trump rolled out his original ban on travel from a group of mostly Muslim countries.

"Our hope is unlike the chaos that previously occurred, there will be a much smoother and much less traumatic result," said Caitlin Bellis, an attorney at Public Counsel in Los Angeles.

The Department of Homeland Security hasn't offered any guidance on how this week's Supreme Court ruling on the ban will be interpreted, so attorneys are preparing for anything and will monitor airports from Los Angeles to New York in case they are needed to assist foreigners held for questioning or denied entry by customs and border agents.

Advocates have a hotline and email addresses where relatives can seek help if family members get stuck. There's also an app that routes information about troubled travelers to lawyers monitoring the airports.

On Monday, the Supreme Court said it will hold a full

hearing on the ban in October, but until then, the Trump administration can bar travelers from Syria, Sudan, Iran, Yemen, Libya and Somalia if they lack a "credible claim of a bona fide relationship" with someone or some institution in the U.S.

Immigration lawyers said they believe that visas already issued to travelers from the six countries will probably still be considered valid for entry into the U.S. But for those who are seeking a visa from here on in, there are many unknowns.

Exactly what constitutes a "bona fide relationship" could become a matter of dispute, though the justices suggested that a close family member such as a spouse or a mother-in-law, a job in the U.S., a speaking invitation or enrollment at a university could qualify. Others, such as would-be tourists or some scholars, could find themselves shut out.

The partial ban is expected to take effect Thursday. When Trump's earlier, broader ban was announced in January, travelers found themselves detained for hours and in some cases sent back, prompting large demonstrations outside airports and a flurry of lawsuits.

Trina Realmuto, litigation director for the National Lawyers Guild's national immigration project, said the government's guidance on how it plans to implement the order is key.

Homeland Security said the

order will be carried out "professionally, with clear and sufficient public notice."

Nicky Smith, executive director of the International Rescue Committee's Seattle office, said she worries about refugee children traveling to the U.S. for medical care.

"If kids can't get into the country, some of the cases that we've had over the past few months, if they had been delayed by a week, they wouldn't have made it," she said.

At Dulles Airport outside Washington, lawyers are planning to be there to assist travelers as necessary and also show customs and border agents they are watching, said Sirine Shebaya, a board member with the Dulles Justice Coalition.

She said it's too early to know whether lawyers will be needed there long term.

"One of the best ways to know that is just to be there," she said.



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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

Facing defections, Senate GOP leaders delay health care vote

WASHINGTON (AP) -- In a bruising setback, Senate Republican leaders shelved a vote on their prized health care bill Tuesday until at least next month, forced to retreat by a GOP rebellion that left them lacking enough votes to even begin debate.

"We will not be on the bill this week," Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., told reporters in what was

a remarkable reversal of plans to push one of President Donald Trump's and the GOP's top priorities through the chamber this week.

"But we're still working toward getting at least 50 people in a comfortable place," he said. That's the number of GOP senators who must back the bill for it to survive, with all Democrats opposed.

"We're got a lot of discus-

sions going on, and I'm still optimistic we're going to get there," he added.

Minutes earlier, McConnell divulged the decision to GOP senators at a private lunch also attended by Vice President Mike Pence and White House chief of staff Reince Priebus.

GOP senators planned to travel to the White House later Tuesday to meet with Trump.

McConnell had hoped to push the measure through his chamber before an Independence Day recess that party leaders fear will be used by foes of the legislation to tear away support.

The bill, which would roll back much of President Barack Obama's health care law, has been one of the party's top priorities for years, and the delay is a major embarrassment to Trump and McConnell. At least five GOP senators - conservatives and moderates - have said they would vote against even beginning debate, and the bill would be derailed if just three of the 52 Republican senators voted against it.

GOP defections increased after Congress' budget referee said Monday the measure would leave 22 million more people uninsured by 2026 than Obama's 2010 statute.

Utah's Mike Lee became the fifth Republican senator to oppose letting the chamber for-

mally begin considering the proposal.

Lee was among four conservatives who announced last week that they were against the current version of the legislation.

Still, House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., told reporters, "I would not bet against Mitch McConnell."

The Congressional Budget Office analysis suggested some ammunition GOP leaders could use, saying the Senate bill would cut federal deficits by \$202 billion more over the coming decade than the version the House approved in May. Senate leaders could use some of those additional savings to attract moderate votes by making Medicaid and other provisions more generous, though conservatives would rather use that money to reduce government red ink.

Minutes after the CBO report's release, three GOP senators threatened to oppose beginning debate. Moderate Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, said she would vote no. She tweeted that she favors a bipartisan effort to fix Obama's statute but added, "CBO analysis shows Senate bill won't do it."

Conservative Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., said he would op-

pose the motion to open debate unless the bill was changed.

And fellow conservative Ron Johnson, R-Wis., said he had "a hard time believing" he'd have enough information to back that motion this week. Moderate Sen. Dean Heller, R-Nev., said Friday he'd oppose the procedural motion without alterations.

Lee and other conservatives have favored a fuller repeal of Obama's statute than the Senate bill would enact.

The 22 million extra uninsured Americans were just 1 million fewer than the number the budget office estimated would become uninsured under the House version. Trump has called the House bill "mean" and prodded senators to produce a package with more "heart."

The budget office report said the Senate bill's coverage losses would especially affect people between ages 50 and 64, before they qualify for Medicare, and with incomes below 200 percent of the poverty level, or around \$30,300 for an individual.

The Senate plan would end the tax penalty the law imposes on people who don't buy insurance, in effect erasing Obama's so-called individual mandate, and on larger businesses that don't offer coverage to workers.

It would let states ease Obama's requirements that insurers cover certain specified services like substance abuse treatments. It also would eliminate \$700 billion worth of taxes over a decade, largely on wealthier people and medical companies - money that Obama's law used to expand coverage.

It would cut Medicaid, which provides health insurance to over 70 million poor and disabled people, by \$772 billion through 2026 by capping its overall spending and phasing out Obama's expansion of the program. Of the 22 million people losing health coverage, 15 million would be Medicaid recipients.

CBO said that average premiums around the country would be higher over the next two years - including about 20 percent higher in 2018 than under Obama's statute - but lower beginning in 2020.

The office said that overall, the Senate legislation would increase consumers' out of pocket costs. That's because standard policies would be skimpier than currently offered under Obama's law, covering a smaller share of expected medical costs.

US to Syria: 'Heavy price' awaits any chemical weapons use

WASHINGTON (AP) -- The Trump administration threatened Tuesday that Syria will pay "a heavy price" if it follows through on what the U.S. says are preparations for another chemical weapons attack - warning of action that could plunge America deeper into a civil war alongside the fight against Islamic State militants.

The chemical threat and sudden White House warning illustrate the challenging complexities of the fighting in Syria, a country whose territory was used by IS to march into Iraq in 2014 and prompt a U.S. return to the Middle East's battlefield. Washington now has more than 5,000 troops in Iraq and about 1,000 in Syria.

President Donald Trump has said he won't stand for Syria's use of chemical weapons, which are banned under international law and are particularly worrisome in the Arab country because they could fall into extremists' hands.

The Pentagon on Tuesday said it detected "active preparations" by Syria for a chemical attack from the same air base where Syrian aircraft embarked on a sarin gas strike on April 4, killing almost 90 people. Days later, Trump ordered a cruise missile attack against the base in retaliation.

The Syrian government has denied it ever used banned chemicals, and it rejected Washington's latest allegation Tuesday.

Syria's two main allies, Russia and Iran, joined in bashing Washington. Iran's foreign minister called the U.S. threat a "dangerous escalation." A senior Russian lawmaker accused the U.S. of a "provocation."

It was unclear if the U.S. saw a Syrian attack as imminent. Nevertheless, the White House showed it wouldn't turn a blind eye. Since Trump's inauguration, U.S. involvement in Syria has deepened. Earlier this month, the U.S. shot down a Syrian fighter jet for the first time. It has twice downed Iranian drones.

The U.S. cruise missile strike in April was the first intentional

American assault on Syrian President Bashar Assad's government or military.

The White House issued a brief written statement Monday night saying it had detected potential preparations for another chemical attack and emphasizing the Syrian government would "pay a heavy price" if it proceeded. Hours later, the Pentagon elaborated without offering many specifics.

"We have observed activities at Shayrat air base that suggest possible intent by the Syrian regime to use chemical weapons again," a Pentagon spokesman, Marine Maj. Adrian Rankine-Galloway, said. He said Assad's "brutality" threatens the region and U.S. interests, and any Syrian attacks with weapons of mass destruction risk prompting others to use similar weapons.

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Scenario #6 is being recommended by BG Consultants, and includes RAZING the 1884 Historic Courthouse and Historic Jail, RAZING the current County Administrative Office Building (1910 School) for overflow parking, RAZING the County Shop, and selling the Health Department Building.

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Nonprofit Tracker to Remove 'Hate Group' Labels on Conservative Groups for 'Time Being'

By Rachel del Guidice
Heritage Foundation

The nation's leading source of information on U.S. charities announced it will modify its use of a controversial "hate group" designation in listings for some well-known and broadly supported conservative nonprofits.

"We have decided to remove the SPLC annotations from these 46 organizations for the time being," read a statement posted Friday on GuideStar's website. "This change will be implemented during the week of June 26, 2017. In the meantime, we will make this information available to any user on request."

GuideStar, which calls itself a "neutral" aggregator of tax data on charities, recently incorporated the "hate group" labels produced by the left-wing Southern Poverty Law Center, which inspired 41 conservative leaders to protest the move, asking GuideStar in a letter last week to remove the flagging.

In an interview with The Daily Signal last week, William G. "Jerry" Boykin, a retired Army general who is executive vice president of the Family Research Council, said GuideStar's messaging is not neutral.

"GuideStar says that they are neutral, but they are anything but neutral. In fact ... I would say at this point, they are becoming an arm of the ultra-left," Boykin said.

The conservatives' letter, dated June 21 and directed to GuideStar President and CEO

Jacob Harold, who is described on GuideStar's website as a social change strategist, asked the website to drop the "hate group" labels put on 46 organizations.

Before joining GuideStar, Harold worked for the Hewlett Foundation's philanthropy program as a "climate change campaigner" for Rainforest Action Network and Greenpeace USA, and as an organizing director at Citizen Works.

Organizations represented on the letter included the Family Research Council, the American Freedom Defense Initiative, the Immigration Reform Law Institute, the American College of Pediatricians, the National Task Force for Therapy Equality, the American Family Association, the London Center for Policy Research, and the Jewish Institute for Global Awareness.

Signers of the letter pointed to recent history and noted the "hate group" designation propagated by the Southern Poverty Law Center and adopted by GuideStar can have serious implications.

Floyd Corkins, the man convicted of a 2012 attempt to massacre employees at the Family Research Council, was inspired by SPLC's description of the Christian pro-family research organization as a hate group.

In an interview with the FBI, Corkins said a list on the Southern Poverty Law Center's website motivated his attack, a connection which the SPLC has acknowledged.

The signers also note that

that James T. Hodgkinson, the man who police say tried to gun down Republican lawmakers June 14 during practice for a congressional baseball game just outside Washington in Alexandria, Virginia, liked the Southern Poverty Law Center on Facebook.

House Majority Whip Steve Scalise, R-La., was gravely wounded in the gunman's attack. Four others were injured.

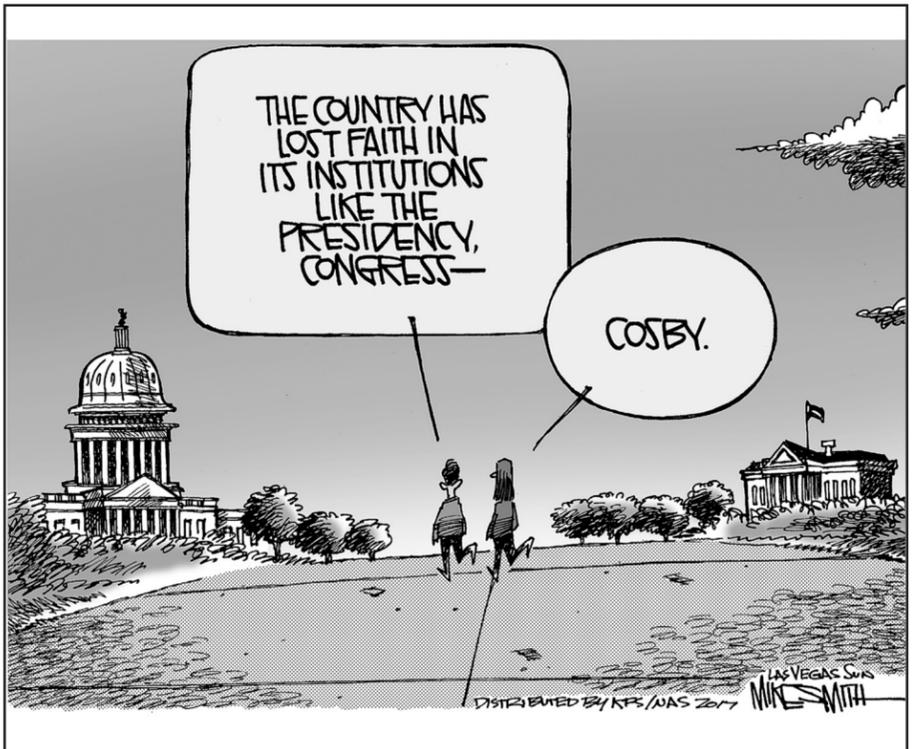
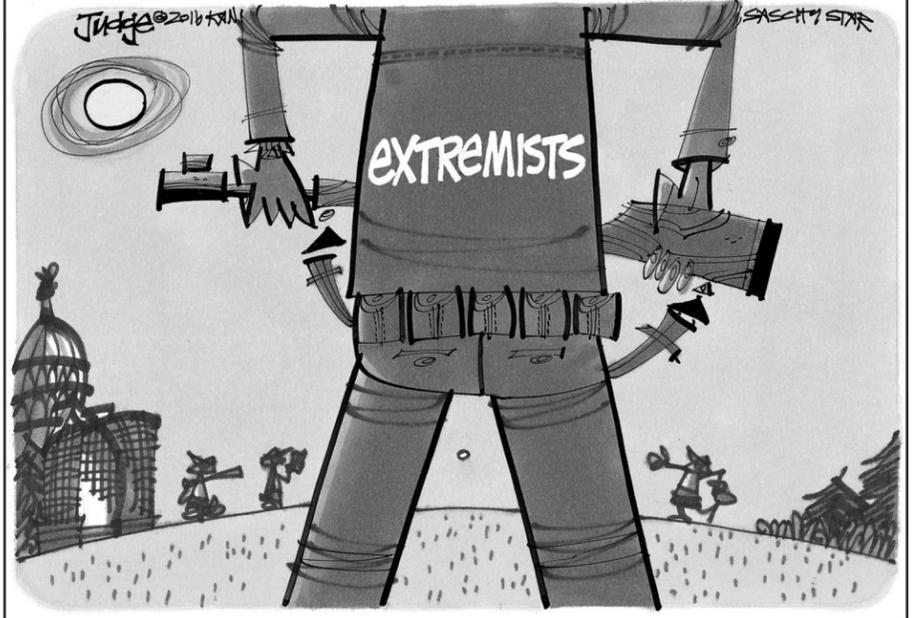
Among the signers of the June 21 letter was Edwin J. Feulner, founder and president of The Heritage Foundation, the parent organization of The Daily Signal. Two other fixtures of the conservative think tank, Heritage board member Edwin Meese III and Heritage Action for America CEO Michael Needham, also signed the letter. Heritage is not labeled a hate group by either SPLC or GuideStar.

The signers asked Harold "that GuideStar return to its prior, nonpolitical approach to evaluating nonprofit organizations. Please send your reply within one week of receipt of this letter."

The self-described "neutral" aggregator announced it would continue to navigate the "political spectrum" and evaluate how to move forward.

"We hope to engage in a constructive dialogue with experts from across the political spectrum to help us determine the best way to fulfill this need," GuideStar's press release said.

THE PROBLEM IS NOT REPUBLICANS OR DEMOCRATS OR CONSERVATIVES OR LIBERALS...SO WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?



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Florida in focus: Half of Florida's legislators rate 'F' or 'D' in their support for open records

By Watchdog News

Miami Herald: Half of Florida's legislators rate 'F' or 'D' in their support for open records

Half of Florida's legislators failed or nearly failed in a review of their support for public records and meetings given by Florida newspapers and an open-government group after this year's legislative sessions.

In a "scorecard" produced by the Florida Society of News Editors and based on information provided by Florida's First Amendment Foundation — which tracked a priority list of public records exemptions — the 160 legislators totaled three Fs, 77 Ds, 71 Cs, and 9 Bs.

Each year FSNE completes a project devoted to Sunshine Week, a nationwide initiative to educate the public about the importance of transparent government. This year FSNE members created a scoring system to grade legislators on their introduction of bills and their final votes.

"As an advocate for open government, the grades of course, are disappointing," said Barbara Petersen, president of the First Amend-

ment Foundation, a non-profit supported mostly by newspapers and broadcasters.

After Donald Trump's election, so many people started showing up at monthly Pinellas County Democratic Party meetings, the group had to start forking out more money for a bigger room.

The Orange County Democratic Executive Committee changed venues to accommodate bigger crowds of fired-up Democrats. And within the fast-growing Hillsborough Democratic Party, activists have launched New Tampa and Temple Terrace clubs, the Democratic Progressive Caucus of Tampa Bay and Labor and Caribbean caucuses.

"People are coming out of the woodwork," said Palm Beach County Democratic Party chairwoman Terrie Rizzo, a Democratic National Committee member.

The unprecedented surge in grass roots energy and activity should bode well for downtrodden Florida Democrats heading into the 2018 midterms, but it belies

a grimmer reality: The state party that won one of the past 13 Florida Cabinet races and zero of the past five governor's races, remains as much of a dark horse as ever, with fundamental questions about resources and competence.

Florida Times-Union: Local officials to consider toll for Florida Keys highway

Local officials in the Florida Keys are launching a study into whether a toll could be placed on the highway that connects the chain of islands to the Florida mainland.

The Miami Herald reported Sunday that Monroe County Commissioners have endorsed a resolution calling for a study. The resolution says the tolls would apply to non-residents only.

U.S. 1 is the primary road that runs from the peninsula all the way to Key West.

One county commissioner said the idea of putting a toll on U.S. 1 has been around for 30 years. The paper reported some residents and businesses are fearful tolls could scare away tourists.



Waterville Golf Course

Public Welcome - 9 hole grass green course.
Green Fees are \$12.00 a day, plus cart rental fees are posted.



The clubhouse is available to rent.
Member and Guest cost is \$50.00.
There is a required deposit of \$50.00 for all renters.

Memberships:
\$325 single membership,
\$375 family membership.
Monthly bank draft available.
Call Terry Roepke
at 785-363-2224 or Alan Yungeberg
785-363-7444

Farmers Cooperative holds Grand Opening for Train Shuttle Loader in Frankfort

Frankfort, Kansas - Approximately 450 people were in attendance for the Farmers Cooperative Open House and Dedication of their new Grain Shuttle Loading Facility. The Grand Opening was held June 13 at the site just north west of Frankfort, Kansas. The facility will load 110 unit trains with grain for shipment over the entire U.S and into Mexico.

The event included facility tours, meal, program, and gift for those in attendance. The program included a welcome from Ernie Hroch, Farmers Cooperative Area Kansas Branch Manager. Ron Velder, general manager and CEO for Farmers Cooperative introduced special guests and provided remarks about the project. Ron also presented a photo to honor Hub Roeder who owned the tract of land that the facility sits on. Hub is 102 years young. Galen Kuska, Board of Directors Vice President talked about why the facility was needed. Dennis Kenning, Sales & Marketing Director provided the Presentation of Funds for the Kansas Fire Relief Effort. Farmers Cooperative and its patrons raised over \$17,000 to help with the Kansas Fire Relief Project. The check was presented to Matt Teagarden with the Kansas Livestock Association who has been administering these funds. Mr. Teagarden is the CEO for



Ron Velder, general manager and CEO for Farmers Cooperative gave the welcome to a very large group of area farmers and businessmen.

the Kansas Livestock Association. Dale Hayek, Farmers Cooperative Grain Department Manager provided the closing remarks about the project. A ribbon cutting ceremony was

held with previous land owner Hub Roeder cutting the ribbon. The site has a total storage capacity of over 4.2 million bushels. This state-of-the-art grain handling facility includes

both inbound and outbound scales as well as two 17,000 bushels per hour legs and a 15,000 bushels per hour leg for receiving grain. The facility also includes 7,500 bushels per

hour dryer and a 60,000 bushel per hour loadout leg. The facility contains 11,298 feet of rail track, over 18,000 cubic yards of concrete in the bins, and contains 2.8 million pounds of

rebar. The facility will serve producers in northeast Kansas and southeast Nebraska with a goal of speeding up the harvest time for producers. The first train was loaded on the 6th of June.



A check for \$17,000.00 was given to Matt Teagarden (center) Kansas Livestock Association for the Kansas Fire Relief Project. Dennis Kenning, Sales & Marketing Director made the presentation, Teagarden administers the fund.



Ron Velder, general manager and CEO for Farmers Cooperative is walking past Hub Roeder who cut the ribbon.



Visitors were given a tour of the site that has a total storage capacity of over 4.2 million bushels.



Hub Roeder who owned the tract of land that the facility sits on, who is 102-years young, was given a photo of the new facility.



Free Press Travel

Manhattan Free Press

Thursday, June 29, 2017

7

Places To Go And Things To See

Kansas Office of Tourism & Travel (785) 296-2009

Daily Guided Prairie Tours

Recurring daily
Times: From: 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Location: Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve Strong City, KS

Address: 2480 B Kansas Hwy 177

Phone: 620-273-8494
Admission: free

Experience wide open spaces and solitude, while learning about bison, prairie, and more. This 90-minute bus tour is available daily from the last Saturday in April through the last Sunday in October. Reservations not required but helpful. Call 620-273-8494 (hit 0). Buses are air conditioned and ADA accessible. All bus tours are free.

Bus Tour Schedule: April 29, 2017 through October 29, 2017 Mon - Fri -Daily at 11 a.m.

Sat -Sun - Daily at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is located two miles north of Strong City on Kansas State Highway 177 (the Flint Hills National Scenic Byway) and is a unique public/private partnership between the National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy. For additional information on Tallgrass Prairie National preserve, please visit email call the preserve at (620) 273-8494, or visit the preserve's facebook page at To learn more about The Nature Conservancy in Kansas, visit the Conservancy's website at or Facebook page at .

Design Zone Exhibit

Recurring daily
Times: From: 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM

Location: Flint Hills Discovery Center Manhattan, KS

Address: 315 S 3rd

Phone: (785) 587-2726

Admission: \$9 adult; \$7 military, college students, seniors; \$4 youth

Design Zone (May 27 to Aug. 6) explores mathematical concepts used by artists, architects, engineers, musicians and

innovators; produced and toured by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry.

Exquisite Miniatures: The Art of Wes & Rachelle Siegrist

Recurring daily
Times: Tue-Sat 9-12 1-4:30 Sun 1:30-4:30

Location: 111 N Aztec St, Montezuma, KS 67867

Address: 111 N Aztec St

Phone: 620-846-2527

Admission: Donations gratefully accepted!

Sixty-five exquisite miniature paintings by Wes and Rachelle Siegrist are currently featured in an unprecedented and history-in-the-making national traveling museum exhibition curated by David J. Wagner, Ph.D. One is struck by the size and scope of the Siegrist's work: it's tiny. The paintings can be as small as 1Yi inch in diameter. But what they lack in size is made up for in substance.

The detail of a dog's solemn eyes, foliage on a fall tree, the

color of a mountain scene is all there in all its glory. The Siegrists provide a magnifying glass just to prove it. One doesn't need a magnifying glass to appreciate the immense talent in Wes and Rachelle's paintings." The exhibition includes portraits, landscapes, wildlife and still lifes. The paintings are not small. Small is too big. They are tiny. Pick up a ruler and see what 3.5x3.5 looks like in size. Then imagine there is a detailed painting within its borders. Tiny! The paintings typically measure less than nine square inches and appear even more detailed when viewed under magnification. Produced by David J. Wagner, L.L.C.

NSA Learn To Sail, Junior Sailing 2017

Recurring daily
Times: From: 09:00 AM to 04:00 PM

Location: Cheney Reservoir, State Park and Wildlife Area Cheney, KS

Address: 16000 N.E. 50th St.

Phone: 316-691-2710

Admission: Vehicle Permit required, \$5 a day or \$25 for an annual

This sailing camp is put on by the Ninescah Sailing Association and is for Children ages 8 to 17. Boats are provided and the kids will have fun while learning boating and water safety, basic sailing and racing techniques.

Summer On Kansas 1-70

Recurring daily Times: various

Location: Kansas 1-70 Goodland, KS

Address: 1510 W Spruce

Phone: (785) 890-3515

Admission: Admission Varies Per Location

Kansas summer means hot sunny days, starry nights, and tons of fun! From fishing to festivals to county fairs, summer brings events for all ages and interests. We hope you bring yourself and your family to Kansas this summer! Take some time today to explore the many events and attractions this season . We are certain there is something for everyone!

Hutchinson Municipal Band Concerts

Recurring weekly on Tuesday

Times: Varies

Location: Farmer's Market Pavilion Hutchinson, KS

Address: W 2nd Ave

Phone: 620-694-2677

Admission: Free

Bring your lawn chair, find a shady spot, and enjoy the weekly concert by the Hutchinson Municipal Band. Concerts will be held at 8 p.m. Tuesdays June & July at the Farmer's Market Pavilion, 2nd & Washington.

Kansas City T-Bones vs. Lincoln Saltdogs

Recurring daily

Times: Starting: 07:05 PM

Location: Kansas City T-Bones Kansas City, KS

Address: 1800 Village West Pkwy

Phone: (913) 328-2255

Admission: \$6.00-16.00

Catch the Kansas City T-Bones as they take on the Lincoln (NE) Saltdogs at CommunityAmerica Ballpark for a great night of affordable family fun!

Tuesday, June 27th - Thursday, June 29th All games at 6:45 PM.

Abilene & Smoky Valley Railroad Excursion

Times: Varies
Location: Abilene & Smoky Valley Excursion Train Abilene, KS

Address: 200 SE 5th

Phone: 7852631077

Admission: Adults (age 12 and over): \$15.00 Children (age 3-11): \$7.50 Children 2 and younger: Free

Located in historic Abilene, Kansas, the Abilene & Smoky Valley Railroad offers a unique chance to experience early American travel. You and your family can enjoy an educational adventure down the rails of history on an excursion train comprised of antique railroad equipment. Enjoy many original features along the tour, which create a memorable outing for everyone! Most of our excursion trains operate using the 1945 ALCO S-1 (former Hutchinson & Northern Railroad), with it's 660 hp diesel-electric engine that was originally designed for WWII submarines. The normal Abilene & Smoky Valley excursion train consist includes a 1902 wooden KATY passenger car that has been converted to a dining car, two open air gondola cars with canopy tops, and a former Union Pacific caboose. The train departs Abilene east-bound for a 10% mile round trip through the Smoky Hill River Valley to the neighboring community of Enterprise, KS. Reserve your tickets online or call us at 785-263-1077!

May thru October:
Saturday - Departures at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM Sunday - Departure at 2:00 PM

Memorial Day thru Labor Day

Wednesday thru Saturday - Departures at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM Sunday - Departure at 2:00 PM



HAPPY 4th of JULY in Marysville, KS

Walk - Run - Ride 4th

Blue River Rail Trail - 9:00 a.m.



1.5 mile Walk/Run
5K Walk/Run/Ride
Fun Family Bike Ride up to 23 miles

Pre-register at Marysville Health & Fitness
\$25/person by June 27



Children under 12 free with a paid adult!
On-site registration available at 8:00 a.m. - \$30

Proceeds benefit the Blue River Rail Trail

Road Rally

Historic UP Depot - 11:00 a.m.



Fun for the Whole Family!
Cold Drinks Available!

Start & Finish at the Historic UP Depot

Follow the clues on a tour of the countryside while answering questions along the way. Scores are based on overall time, mileage & answers.

\$5 per person or \$20 per car maximum

Proceeds benefit the Historic UP Depot
Call 785-747-6305 for more information

Free Swimming

Marysville Aquatic Center

1:00 p.m. to close



Sponsored by The City of Marysville

Black Squirrels on Parade

Interpretive Site Unveiling

Marysville City Park 7-8 p.m.

Unveiling - 7:15 p.m.



Sweet Treats, Kids Activities, Comments by Mayor Grund & BSOP Committee

Sponsored by the Marysville Convention & Tourism

Ice Cream Social - 7:30 p.m.

Lakeview Sports Complex



Serving Ice Cream, Popcorn & Drinks until the fireworks start!

Sponsored by the Marysville Chamber of Commerce

Fireworks - 9:45 p.m.

Lakeview Sports Complex



Sponsored by The City of Marysville & Marysville Convention & Tourism

Fireworks by Ariel FX, Inc.

Rain Date - July 7

For more information contact:
Marysville Chamber of Commerce
785.562.3101

Blue Rapids Chamber of Commerce

4th of July Celebration July 4th

Fireman's Bar-B-Que -- 5 pm to 7 pm

4-H Achievement Building on the Fair Grounds

Good will Offering



Duck Race - 7:15 pm

At the Fairgrounds

The First Place Duck in the duck race WILL win a 55" flat screen TV

2nd place \$125 3rd Place \$75

1 Duck \$5 3 Ducks \$10 7 Ducks \$20

Available at Gator's Home Town Foods
Blue Rapids Auto
State Bank of Blue Rapids

Human Tractor Pull starting after Duck Race

\$20 per adult team
\$1 per pull child single
\$15 per child team

A team must consist of 4 people

For more Info contact Heather Anderson @ 970-531-5942

Kick Ball Tournament starting at 10:00 am

Adult Teams and Kid Teams

\$30 a team

Blue Rapids Ball Field

Contact Kristin Bigham for info @ 785-363-7183

Fireworks at dusk at Fairgrounds

Manhattan City Commission Minutes of June 19, 2017

Riley County Commission Minutes for June 19, 2017
8:30 AM

Call to Order

Business Meeting

3. Bid Recommendation for Multi-layer Polymer Concrete Overlays 2017

Hobson reported KDOT has agreed to the cost. Hobson stated there may be a delay in repayment from KDOT for the work.

Move to approve the bid submitted by Wildcat Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$297,748.00.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

4. Sign a Tax Roll Correction

Move to approve the Tax Roll Correction.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

5. Review memo forwarded from the Riley County Planning Board regarding the annual review of the Comprehensive Plan.

Isaac presented the memo from the RCPB for the annual comp plan review.

Move to receive the memo forwarded from the Riley County Planning Board regarding the annual review of the Comprehensive Plan.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

6. Sign Riley County Personnel Action Form(s)

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Personnel Action Form for Derick Schroller, for a promotion, as a Customer Service Rep II, in the Treasurer's Office, at a grade H step 1, at \$15.50 per hour.

8. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Jun 15, 2017 8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

9. Tentative Agenda

10. Discuss Press Conference

Stampede update - David Adams

9:00 AM Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

11. Administrative Work Session

Move to add an executive session to the agenda.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

9:00 AM Executive Session

Move that the County Commissioners, including Chairman Wells, Commissioner Ro-

driguez and Commissioner Wilson, recess into executive session with Clancy Holeman, County Counselor, attorney for the commission, and Cindy Volanti, Human Resource Manager, pursuant to the non-elected personnel matters exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, on a performance matter, in order to protect the privacy of the employee, the open meeting to resume in the County Commission Chambers at 9:20 a.m.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

9:20 AM Move to go out of the executive session.

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

No binding action was taken during the executive session.

12. Pending County Projects County Counselor

13. Public Notice - Leon Hobson (1-2 minutes)

Hobson said the tree removal project on Silver Creek Road is scheduled to begin Tuesday, June 20, 2017. The project is located on Silver Creek Road approximately ¼ mile south of N. 52nd Street. Silver Creek Road will be closed to through traffic during the project from N. 52nd St. to Silver Creek Road. The project is expected to be completed by June 22, 2017 weather permitting.

14. Crop update - Greg McClure (3 minutes)

McClure reported wheat harvest had started last Thursday locally. McClure said yields should be good. McClure said corn was planted in April and May. McClure stated some corn and soybeans have been replanted due to excessive rain. McClure said a lot of the soybean crop got planted the second week of May and the first week of June. McClure said grain sorghum should all be planted. McClure stated we are in good shape, but due for some rain.

McClure said the alfalfa crop needs to be hayed. McClure said broom should be cut by now.

10:00 AM Craig Cox, Deputy County Counselor

Move the Board grant a variance from Sanitary Code Section 2-3.5 that allows multiple residential connections to the Bridgeview Heights lagoon.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

Move the Board grant a variance from Sanitary Code Section 2-6.1.2 that allows construction of the Bridgeview Heights lagoon on less than (3) acres of area.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

Move to approve "Resolution No. 061917-36, A Resolution authorizing creation of the Bridgeview Heights Sewer District in Riley County, Kansas

and the construction of certain sanitary sewer improvements in the Bridgeview Heights subdivision located in Riley County, Kansas."

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

15. Bridgeview Heights Sewer Benefit District

Cox presented the Bridgeview Heights Sewer Benefit District formation resolution. Cox discussed the formation of the district.

Johnson presented the feasibility assessment and projected cost of \$318,660. Through a KDHE Revolving Loan with an interest rate around 2.5%.

Cox discussed the legalities of forming the sewer benefit district.

Move the Board find that 100% of the property owners in the proposed sewer district signed the petition and a public hearing notice is not required.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

10:30 AM Cindy Volanti, Human Resource Manager /Deputy Clerk; David Adams, EMS Director; and Tami Robison, Budget and Finance Officer

16. Comparison of 3rd Party Billing for EMS/Ambulance Department to Staffing In-House

Volanti presented information on the 2018 insurance and consultant items for consideration.

Adams discussed the comparison of 3rd party billing for EMS/Ambulance department to staffing billing personnel.

Adams stated he would recommend Riley County use Omni for the EMS/Ambulance billing services based on service and cost.

Robison presented the estimated cost for the two billing services.

Volanti said if the Board approves the 3rd party billing

service for EMS/Ambulance it would eliminate the need for the 1.5 biller/coder positions and the Administrative Analyst/Billing Manager position.

Move to remove the Biller/Coder positions, as well as the Administrative Analyst/Billing Manager from the 2017 and 2018 EMS/Ambulance and Health Department personnel budgets in order to obtain the billing services from a 3rd party vendor.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

Move to approve the selection of OMNI EMS Billing Company as the provider of the 3rd party vendor EMS/Ambulance Services billing.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

17. 2018 Budget Work Session

Volanti reviewed the 2018 in-

surance and consultant items for consideration.

Robison presented the Economic Development and appropriations request.

Move to include a 4% increase in the employer portion of the employee health insurance plan.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

The Board agreed by consensus to not budget funds in 2018 for Insurance Consultant fees.

Move to budget \$35,000 for a Riley County Classification and Compensation Study, with McGrath Consulting, for 2018.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Wells, Wilson, Rodriguez

11:32 AM Adjournment

12:00 PM Law Enforcement Agency Meeting



AUCTION

LOCATED: 410 N. Main Street, Blue Rapids, KS

SATURDAY, JULY 1, 2017 — 10:00 A.M.

CAR & PICKUP — TOOLS — COLLECTIBLES — HOUSEHOLD

2013 Chrysler 200 Sedan, auto-2.4L-4dr (43,500mi); 1985 Dodge Ram 250 Pickup, auto-5.9L- 8ft bed (73,000orig. mi) **vehicles sell at 12 Noon; Lawn & Garden:** Troy-Bilt Bronco Tiller; Murray 22in Push Mower w/ Big Rear Wheels; 4HP/18in 2Wheel Weed Whip; Craftsman 9in Gas Edger; 3HP/20in Snow Blower; Poulan 18HP/42in Riding Mower; Earthway Garden Seeder w/ Plates; HD Utility Cart; Lawn Cart; 2 Wheelbarrows; Weed Eater; Ele. Leaf Blower; Scotts Lawn Seeder; Garden Hose; BBQ Smokers & Gas Grills; Long Handle Tools; Fiskars Fiberglass Limb Trimmer; Tomato Cages; Bird Bath; Patio Furniture; Bug Zapper; **Tools:** King 16spd Floor Drill Press; Craftsman Router Table; Tradesman 8in Drill Press & 10in Table Saw; 1/2 in Ele. Drills; Craftsman 19.2 Cordless Drill w/ Charger; Drill Bit Sharpener; Craftsman 4-in-1 Laser Level; Dremel Tool; Skil Jig Saw; Skil Saw; Milwaukee Sawzall; Ele. Impact Wrench; Air Chisel; 2 Planes Incl. Stanley; Stanley #150 Miter Box; Hand Tools Incl: Hammers, Screwdrivers, Wrenches, Snip, Pliers, Hack Saws, Framing Squares, Tape Measures, C-clamps, Nail Pullers, Files, Vise Grips, Sockets, Ratchets; 122pc Tool Set; 3in Bench Vise; Tap & Die Set; Bernzomatic Torch; Floor Jack; Handyman Jack; 6ft Metal Step Ladder; Post Driver; Ext. Cords; Pipe Threader & Cutter; Brace & Bits; Grease & Caulk Guns; Jump Pack; Battery Charger; Port. Workbench; Saw Horses; Bar Clamps; 6Gallon Shopvac; Metal Car Ramps; Few Auto Parts, Fluids & Acc; Paint Gear; Plumbing Items; Log Chain; 16in Chain Saws - Poulan & Wizard; 2 Canvas Tarps; 21 Drawer Metal Bolt Bin; Nut & Bolt Cabinet; Wood Nail Tray; 3x5 ½ ft Metal Storage Box; Metal Shelf; Trash Containers; Appliance Dolly; **Collectibles:** Griswold Cast Iron #8 Waffle Maker; Cast Iron Skillets; Crocks - 6Gal. Macomb Pottery & 10Gal Other; Small Trunk; IH Metal Corn Sheller; Well Pump; 3 Metal Gas Cans; 10ft Wood Ladder; Metal Tubs; Wet Stone; 4-Tine Pitch Forks; Dehorners; Sad Iron; Shoe Last; Bottles & Jars; Ammo Case; DuPont Explosives Wood Box; Wood Crates; Wicker Baskets; Wisconsin Refrig. Co. Wood Ice Box (missing back); Dry Compound Fire Ext; Washboard; Smoker Stand; 30+ Cookie Jars Incl: Snoopy, Mother Goose, Humpty Dumpty, Santa; 20+ Angels; Oil Lamps; 9 Old Portraits; Childcraft Annual ('69-75); 2 Crystal Lamps; Sewing Basket; Burroughs Adding Machine; All Wave Band Radio; Baby Carriage; Barbie Dolls w/ Case & Clothes; Doll House; Wind-up Toys; '64 Fisher Price Wind Music Clock & Movie Camera; Raggedy Ann & Andy Items; Tire Ashtrays; 2 Arched Windows; 10cent US Defense Savings Bond Album; **Household:** Whirlpool Side by Side 25ft Refrigerator; Whirlpool 15ft Uprt Freezer; Hotpoint Washer & Ele. Dryer; Kenmore Humidifier; Microwave; Bissell; Wood Dining Table w/ 6 Cushion Chairs & Leaf; Dinette Table; Glass-front 6ft Lighted Hutch; Roll-top Desk; 4pc Qu. Bed Set - Dresser w/ Mirror, Armoire & Nt Stand; 3pc Full Bed Set; Reclining Love Seat Couch; Lift Chair; Recliner; Glass-top Coffee & End Tables; Wood Arm Chairs; Jewelry Cabinet; Quilt Rack; 5Gun Glassfront Cabinet; Entertainment Center; Bar Stool; 2 Touch Lamps; 4ft Column Water Lamp; 4Drawer File Cabinet; Metal Folding Chairs; 3pc Wood Bench Set; Hoveround #FY4101 Ele. Scooter w/ Charger; Bruno Wheel Chair Lift; T-Fal Pots & Pans; Slow Cookers; Food Processor; Pyrex; Coming Ware; Vision Ware; Glasses; Bowls; Tupperware; Silverware; Ele. Filet Knife; Freezer Containers; Cake Carrier; Ironstone Dishes; China Set; Colander; Fruit Jars; Cook Books; S&P Shakers; Knick Knacks; 10+ Steins; Wall Décor; Art. Flowers; Few Coin Banks; 20+ Wind Chimes; Bedding; Towels; 33 Records; 8-Track Player & Tapes; Treadmill; Exercise Bike; Aquarium; Rods & Reels; Fish Nets; Minnow Bucket; Fish Basket; Coleman Camp Stove; 10x13ft Screen Tent House; Camo Coveralls; Hunting Vest; Fold-up Lawn Chairs; Coolers; X-mas Décor & Outdoor Figures; Other Items; **See Websites for Photos.**

REAL ESTATE — Sells at 12 Noon

Legal Description: Main Street, Lots 76 & 78, Section 20 Township 04 Range 07 in Marshall County, KS

General Description: Modern 1 ½ story 3 bedroom, 1 bath home with a detached 28x36ft Garage that is located near the center of town. Main level has a living room, dining room, kitchen, bedroom, full bathroom, laundry/mudroom, and a front enclosed porch. Upstairs has 2 bedrooms. The home features central air & heat, approx. 1,282sq ft of living space, backyard deck, large level lot, and all city utilities.

Terms: Cash with 10% down payment/earnest money day of sale with the full balance due on or before August 1, 2017. Full possession is given at closing. Seller & Buyer will equally split the cost of title insurance and standard attorney fees (contract, deed & escrow).

All Prospective Bidders: Property will sell in its present existing condition without any warranties or inspections provided by the Sellers or Auctioneers. Prospective purchasers are urged to inspect the property and to have any inspections, including lead based paint, radon, structural, mechanical, electrical and plumbing completed prior to auction day. Information given is from sources deemed reliable but not guaranteed by the Sellers or Brokers. Brokers are acting as agents for the Sellers.

TERMS: Cash Sale Day
Statements Sale Day
Take Precedence

www.olmstedrealestate.com
www.marshallcountyrealty.com
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WILLIAM MELVIN "BILL" NEMECHEK & FAMILY

Rob Olmsted Tom Olmsted
 785-353-2210 970-231-6107

 —AUCTIONEERS— 

Tim Olmsted Jeff Sandstrom
 785-353-2487 785-562-3788

Supreme Court rules for Missouri church in playground case

By MARK SHERMAN and SAM HANANEL Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) -- The Supreme Court ruled Monday that churches have the same right as other charitable groups to seek state money for new playground surfaces and other non-religious needs.

By a 7-2 vote, the justices sided with Trinity Lutheran Church of Columbia, Missouri,

which had sought a grant to put a soft surface on its preschool playground. The church was denied any money even though its application was ranked fifth out of 44 submissions.

Chief Justice John Roberts said for the court that the state violated the First Amendment by denying a public benefit to an otherwise eligible recipient solely on account of its religious status. He called it "odi-

ous to our Constitution" to exclude the church from the grant program, even though the consequences are only "a few extra scraped knees."

The case arose from an application the church submitted in 2012 to take part in Missouri's scrap tire grant program, which reimburses the cost of installing a rubberized playground surface made from recycled tires. The money comes from a fee

paid by anyone who buys a new tire. The church's application to resurface the playground for its preschool and daycare ranked fifth out of 44 applicants.

But the state's Department of Natural Resources rejected the application, pointing to the part of the state constitution that says "no money shall ever be taken from the public treasury, directly or indirectly, in aid of any church, sect or denomina-

tion of religion."

A recycled scrap tire is not religious, the church said in its Supreme Court brief. "It is wholly secular," the church said.

In dissent, Justice Sonya Sotomayor said the ruling weakens the nation's longstanding commitment to separation of church and state.

"This case is about nothing

less than the relationship between religious institutions and the civil government - that is, between church and state," she said, joined by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. "The Court today profoundly changes that relationship by holding, for the first time, that the Constitution requires the government to provide public funds directly to a church."

Donors to GOP: No cash until action on health care, taxes

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP) -- At least one influential donor has informed congressional Republicans that the "Dallas piggy bank" is closed until he sees major action on health care and taxes.

Texas-based donor Doug Deason has already refused to host a fundraiser for two members of Congress and informed House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., his checkbook is closed as well.

"Get Obamacare repealed and replaced, get tax reform passed," Deason said in a pointed message to GOP leaders. "You control the Senate. You control the House. You

have the presidency. There's no reason you can't get this done. Get it done and we'll open it back up."

Indeed, there was a sense of frustration and urgency inside the private receptions and closed-door briefings at the Koch brothers' donor retreat this weekend in Colorado Springs, where the billionaire conservatives and their chief lieutenants warned of a rapidly shrinking window to push their agenda through Congress and get legislation to President Donald Trump to sign into law.

No agenda items mattered more to the conservative Koch network than the GOP's prom-

ise to overhaul the nation's tax code and repeal and replace President Barack Obama's health care law. At the moment, however, both are bogged down by GOP infighting that jeopardizes their fate.

At least one Koch official warned that the Republican Party's House majority could be in jeopardy if the GOP-led Congress doesn't follow through.

"If they don't make good on these promises ... there are going to be consequences, and quite frankly there should be," said Sean Lansing, chief operating officer for the Koch network's political arm, Americans For Prosperity.

Deason, who is keeping the "Dallas piggy bank" closed for now, said he was recently approached by Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C. and Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio, about hosting a fundraiser.

"I said, 'No I'm not going to because we're closing the checkbook until you get some things done,'" Deason said, noting he's encouraged nearly two dozen major Texas donors to follow his lead.

"There is urgency," said AFP president Tim Phillips. "We believe we have a window of about 12 months to get as much of it accomplished as possible before the 2018 elections grind

policy to a halt."

The window for action may be even smaller, some Koch allies warned at the three-day donor retreat that drew roughly 400 participants to the base of the Rocky Mountains. The price for admission for most was a pledge to give at least \$100,000 this year to the Kochs' broad policy and political network. There were also at least 18 elected officials on hand.

Some hosted private policy discussions with donors while others simply mingled.

In between meetings, Rep. Dave Brat, R-Va., predicted dire consequences in next year's

midterm elections should his party fail to deliver on its repeated promises.

"If we don't get health care, none of us are coming back," he said in a brief interview. "We said for seven years you're gonna repeal Obamacare. It's nowhere near repealed."

It's the same for an overhaul of the tax code, Brat said: "We don't get taxes through, we're all going home. Pack the bags."

While some donors threatened to withhold campaign cash, Koch's team outlined a broader strategy to help shape the debate.

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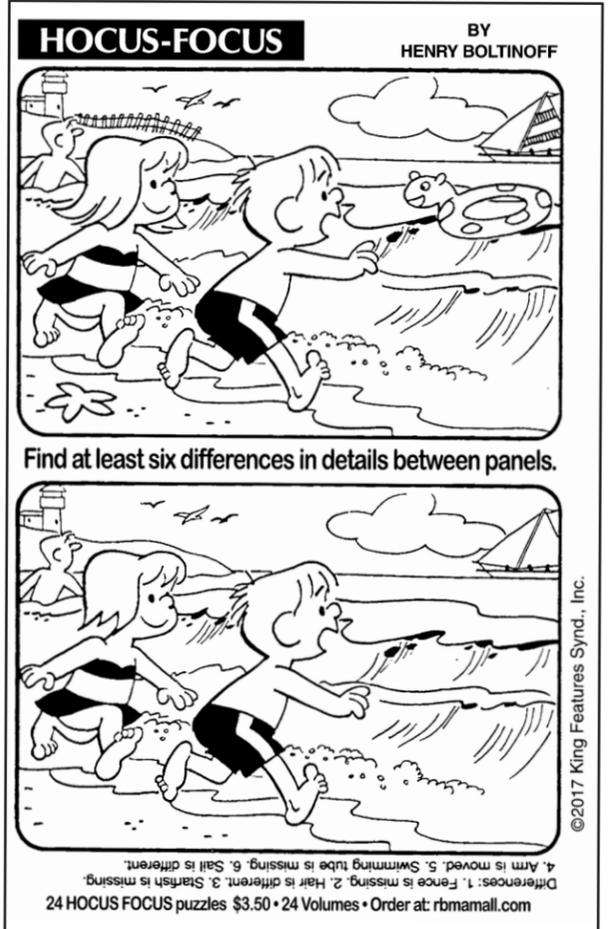
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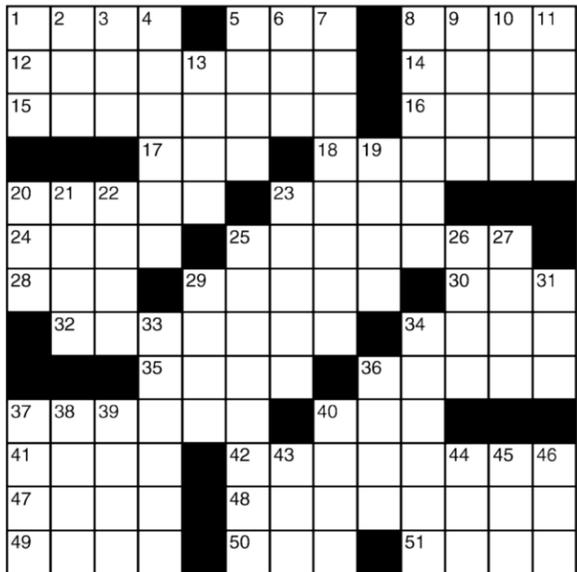
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King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 One of the Three Bears
 - 5 Unhappy
 - 8 Stare
 - 12 Exhibit "A," e.g.
 - 14 Figure-skating leap
 - 15 Give a home a makeover
 - 16 Actress Sorvino
 - 17 18-wheeler
 - 18 Toxin
 - 20 Support for a painting
 - 23 Plant with fronds
 - 24 Small salamanders
 - 25 Went back on a promise
 - 28 Put (down)
 - 29 Partners
 - 30 Churchill's gesture
 - 32 Changed the title
 - 34 Tempo
 - 35 Matterhorn's
- DOWN**
- 1 Apiece
 - 2 "Hail, Caesar!"
 - 3 Bowling target
 - 4 Worships
 - 5 Unseen problem
 - 6 Performance
 - 7 Intensified
 - 8 Casino doings
 - 9 Center of rotation
 - 10 Nil
 - 11 Verve
 - 13 Satan's spe-
 - 19 Raw minerals
 - 20 Moray, for one
 - 21 In the distance
 - 22 Eyelid woe
 - 23 Big parties
 - 24 "O'er the — we watched ..."
 - 26 Divisible by two
 - 27 Out of play
 - 29 Masculine
 - 31 Greek vowel
 - 33 Not wide
 - 34 One of the bunch?
 - 36 Pocket bread
 - 37 Fellow
 - 38 War, to Gen. Sherman
 - 39 Approximately
 - 40 Make a sweater
 - 43 Before
 - 44 Hollywood trickery, for short
 - 45 The whole enchilada
 - 46 In medias —

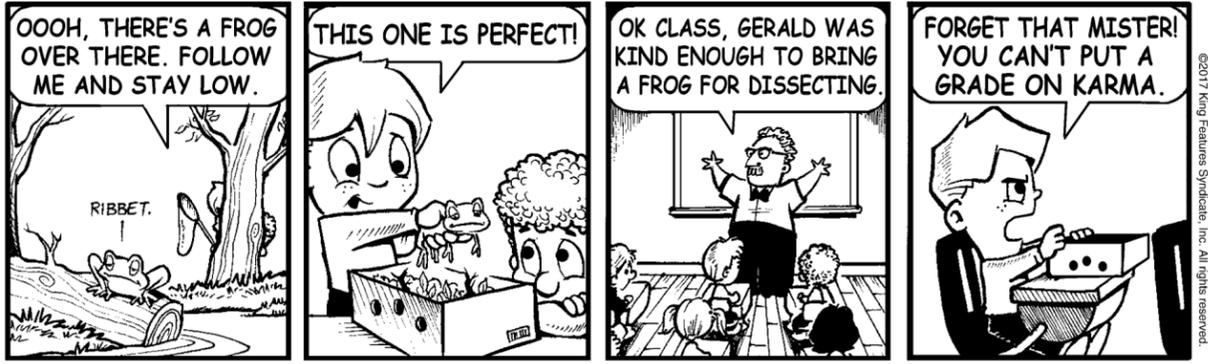


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Answers page 2

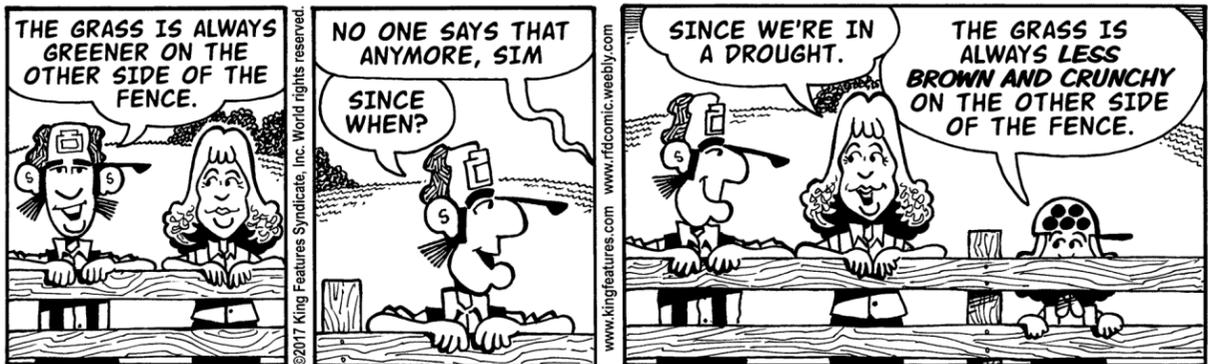
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Day 11, Kansas Wheat Harvest Report

By Brooke Haas, Communications Intern

This is day 11 of the Kansas Wheat Harvest Reports, brought to you by the Kansas Wheat Commission, Kansas Association of Wheat Growers and the Kansas Grain and Feed Association.

According to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, for the week ending June 25, 2017, winter wheat harvest was in full swing across the state. Winter wheat condition rated 8 percent very poor, 15 poor, 31 fair, 40 good, and 6 excellent. Winter wheat mature was 85 percent. Harvested was 48 percent, behind 53 last year, but near 47 for the five-year average.

Harvest has been going since June 15 in Larned, Kansas, according to Kim Barnes, CFO and Grain Merchandiser of Pawnee County Coop Association. Although there has been some severe weather in the area like hail damage, farmers have taken in over two million

bushels of wheat to the elevator and are more than 60 percent finished.

"We've been test cutting today due to a rain delay, but we should get back in the field hopefully tomorrow," Barnes said.

Proteins have been ranging around 10 to 11 in the area, he reported. Disease has been an issue for many counties in Kansas this year, and two big ones have been leaf rust and wheat streak mosaic virus.

"I've seen a little bit of everything for disease," said Barnes.

He said yields have been above average this harvest, even with the severe weather, and moisture has jumped up quite a bit.

"Overall, harvest has been above average this year. Prices have been better compared to last year. Last week we saw prices up to \$3.80 and even hit \$4.01," he said.

In Luray, Kansas, Jennifer Princ, branch manager at Midway Coop, said harvest has

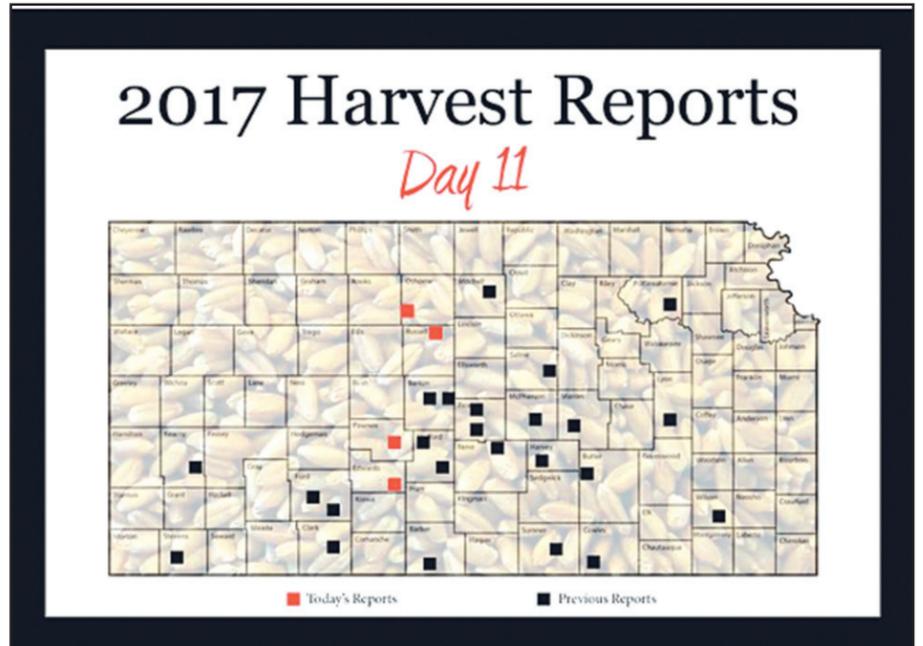
In Natoma, Kansas, Dale Beisner, Location Coordinator at Midland Marketing, said they are about halfway done with harvest.

"Yields have gone anywhere from 20 to 70, so you take your pick," said Beisner.

Test weights have been averaging 61 1/2, and proteins have been around 10.5 for the area. Harvest in Natoma has been rolling since Monday, June 19. Beisner also reported wheat streak mosaic virus.

"Mosaic has been our main disease issue in the area for sure," said Beisner.

Brian Bigler, branch manager of ADM Grain in Trousdale, Kansas, said they have only had to stop harvest twice, due to long days and a rain delay. He reported yields have been ranging in the mid 40's, and test weights were 59-60. 160 percent of the average for wheat in the area has already been taken in, so he believes they will be



been going on since June 13.

"Harvest has seemed to drag on this year due to the scattered showers," she said.

Around 60 percent of wheat

has been taken in, and Princ is hopeful they will be done with harvest soon. Yields have been averaging 55, but she said she has heard anywhere from 15 to 85.

Test weights have been a lit-

tle scattered due to rain, but before the big rain hit, they were averaging around 61. Proteins have stayed around 10.95 all throughout harvest, she added. Princ said she has seen a lot of wheat streak mosaic virus and barley yellow dwarf in her area.

Trump takes another swipe at CNN following resignations

NEW YORK (AP) -- President Donald Trump used the resignations of three CNN journalists involved in a retracted Russia-related story to resume his attack on the network's credibility Tuesday.

The story was about a supposed investigation into a pre-inaugural meeting between a Trump associate and the head of a Russian investment fund. CNN accepted the journalists' resignations Monday.

Trump wrote in a Tuesday morning tweet, "Wow, CNN had to retract big story on 'Russia,' with 3 employees forced to resign. What about all the other phony stories they do? FAKE

NEWS!"

A message seeking comment was left at CNN.

The story was posted on the network's website Thursday and was removed, with all links disabled, Friday night. CNN immediately apologized to Anthony Scaramucci, the Trump transition team member who was reported to be involved in the meeting.

The story's author, Thomas Frank, was among those who resigned, according to a network executive who requested anonymity because the person was not authorized to discuss personnel issues. Also losing their jobs were Eric Lichtblau, an assistant managing

editor in CNN's Washington bureau, and Lex Harris, head of the investigations unit.

CNN, in initially taking down the story, said it didn't meet its editorial standards. The episode is a damaging blow for a network that Trump has frequently derided as "fake news," and for a story that never even made it onto any of CNN's television networks.

The story had been quickly questioned both internally and externally, including by the conservative site Breitbart News. It was determined that the story was posted without going through the expected checks and balances for a story of such sensitivity, the

executive said.

The failure to follow proper procedures is what led to the resignations, the CNN executive said.

It's not immediately clear what in the story is factually incorrect, or whether CNN will continue to report on the issue. The retracted story had said the Senate investigations committee was looking into a Jan. 16 discussion between Scaramucci and Kirill Dmitriev, whose Russian Direct Investment Fund guides investments by U.S. entities in Russia. Scaramucci, in the story, said he exchanged pleasantries in a restaurant with Dmitriev. The report also said that two Dem-

ocratic senators wanted to know whether Scaramucci had indicated in the meeting whether sanctions against Russia would be lifted, a decision that could impact the investment fund.

Following the retraction, Scaramucci tweeted that CNN "did the right thing. Classy move. Apology accepted. Everyone makes mistakes. Moving on."

Harris, in a statement to CNN's "Reliable Sources," noted that he'd been with CNN since 2001, "and am sure about one thing: This is a news organization that prizes accuracy and fairness above all else. I am leaving, but will carry those principles wherever I go."

Justice Thomas Calls Out the Supreme Court

By Thomas Phippen
Heritage Foundation

Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas had stern words for his colleagues when the court declined to hear a case challenging California's handgun laws, saying that the jurists do not understand the importance of self-defense.

The case, supported by the National Rifle Association, involves San Diego resident Edward Peruta, who challenged his county's refusal to grant him permission to carry a concealed firearm outside of his home.

"For those of us who work in marbled halls, guarded constantly by a vigilant and dedicated police force, the guarantees of the Second Amendment might seem antiquated and superfluous," Thomas wrote after most members of the court declined to hear the California case.

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"But the Framers made a clear choice: They reserved to all Americans

the right to bear arms for self-defense. I do not think we should stand by idly while a State denies its citizens that right, particularly when their very lives may depend on it," Thomas said.

Justice Neil Gorsuch, the court's newest member, joined Thomas' statement on the court's refusal to hear the case, calling the decision by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Peruta v. San Diego "indefensible."

A case needs to be approved by at least four justices in order to get on the Supreme Court's docket.

"The Second Amendment's core purpose further supports the conclusion that the right to bear arms extends to public carry," Thomas wrote. "Even if other Members of the Court do not agree that the Second Amendment likely protects a right to public carry, the time has come for the Court to answer this important question definitively."

The San Diego County Sheriff's Department has very narrow restrictions for concealed carry permits. Only those who can prove they have

a regular need for self-defense against a specific threat are granted concealed permits.

"The whole point of the Sheriff's policy is to confine concealed-carry licenses to a very narrow subset of law-abiding residents," Peruta's attorneys wrote. "And because California law prohibits openly carrying a handgun outside the home, the result is that the typical law-abiding resident cannot bear a handgun for self-defense outside the home at all."

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