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# Manhattan Free Press



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Thursday, August 17, 2017

## Miss Rodeo Kansas To Teach About Sport's Tradition

By Frank J. Buchman

"I really have a strong passion for educating others about rodeo, and its great Western heritage."

Miss Rodeo Kansas 2018 Mikhayla DeMott emphasized objective of her reign traveling the state on behalf of the sport.

"Rodeo has changed, been progressive, yet retained the very traditional values on which our forefathers built this country," Queen DeMott declared.

"While promoting this great sport, I intend to share those values which have always remained strong in rodeo cowboys and cowgirls," she said.

With a lifetime and continuing close involvement in all aspects of rodeo,

DeMott was crowned climax of the 54th annual Miss Rodeo Kansas Pageant.

Miss Rodeo Kansas 2017 Hannah Neuenschwander bestowed the tiara and sash as highlight of the Dodge City Roundup Rodeo.

Stringent competition before a panel of three judges tested queen contestants in six categories.



Mikhayla DeMott, Manhattan, (left) is the 2018 Miss Rodeo Kansas, and Jaylinn Pfeifer, Ellis, is the 2018 Miss Teen Rodeo Kansas. They were crowned at the pageant during the recent Dodge City Roundup Rodeo.

DeMott, 22, Manhattan, won four of those divisions: speech, modeling, horsemanship, rodeo knowledge, and tied in photogenic.

First runner-up to the queen is Brook Wallace, New Cambria, who topped the pageant promotion division while tying

for photogenic.

Sharon McLachlan, Pittsburg, was named second runner-up to Miss Rodeo Kansas.

Jaylinn Pfeifer, Ellis, was crowned Miss Teen Rodeo Kansas 2018 at that pageant also during the rodeo.

Active rodeo contestant,

Pfeifer topped congeniality, photogenic, speech modeling and horsemanship divisions.

Winning the rodeo knowledge competition, Emmie Noyes, Linwood, was first runner-up Miss Teen Rodeo Kansas 2018. Pepper Kay Splechter, Wichita, was second runner-up.

Originally from Rio, Illinois, DeMott moved to Kansas four years ago to attend Kansas State University.

"My family has ties to the state, and K-State offered unique opportunities for me in rodeo and for my career," DeMott said.

On the KSU Rodeo Team in National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association rodeos,

DeMott also served as the K-State Rodeo Club president.

Studying agriculture communications, emphasis in broadcast journalism, DeMott

graduated this spring. Working in the economics department while a student, she's now employed by the KSU Department of Communications and Agricultural Education.

Prolific writing agriculture news for the university, DeMott

has been an occasional guest host for "That's My Farm" television program two years.

"I've been competing in rodeos ever since I was in kindergarten," she said.

Barrel racing, pole bending, breakaway roping, team roping and goat tying,

DeMott qualified for the junior high and high school national finals rodeos.

"I also competed in high school cutting and qualified for nationals my last two years," the cowgirl added.

Participating in a junior rodeo pageant at an early age, queen competitions got in DeMott's blood. She served as Miss Teen Rodeo Illinois 2012-13.

"But, I hadn't been in any pageants since high school until the Miss Rodeo Kansas competition."

On the K-State Rodeo Team barrel racing all four years, DeMott served two terms as the club president. "I've been the rodeo club's Ag Student Council and Sport Club Council representative this past year," she added.

"Participation in the Miss

Rodeo Kansas pageant has always been on my agenda," DeMott admitted. "With school, rodeo and work, there wasn't time to serve the way I wanted to until now."

Longtime impressed with rodeo commentators, DeMott decided on a career in broadcast journalism. "I hope to become a spokesperson for all of rodeo and agriculture."

"Serving as host for the farm and ranch television program was actually my first broadcasting experience," DeMott said. "I really love it."

Again, the queen emphasized, "I have such a passion for educating young people about rodeo and all things agriculture."

As the state's rodeo queen, DeMott said, "It's a large platform to serve as a role model for the sport."

An all-around cowgirl, DeMott has competed in nearly every equine competition.

"However, I'm 'horseless' now," she said. "I've had several outstanding horses throughout my rodeo career. I'm looking to acquire a new 'project' horse."

## Deadly rally accelerates removal of statues

By JESSE J. HOLLAND  
Associated Press

In Gainesville, Florida, workers hired by the Daughters of the Confederacy chipped away at a Confederate soldier's statue, loaded it quietly on a truck and drove away with little fanfare.

In Baltimore, Mayor Catherine Pugh said she's ready to tear down all of her city's Confederate statues, and the city council voted to have them destroyed. San Antonio lawmakers are looking ahead to removing a statue from a prominent downtown park.

The deadly white nationalist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, is accelerating the re-

moval of Confederate monuments in cities across the nation in much the same way that a 2015 mass shooting by a white supremacist led to the end of the Confederate flag being flown on public property.

"We should not glorify a part of our history in front of our buildings that really is a testament to America's original sin," Gainesville Mayor Lauren Poe said Monday after the statue known as "Old Joe" was returned to the United Daughters of the Confederacy, which erected it in 1904.

Some people refused to wait. Protesters in Durham, North Carolina, used a rope to pull down a nearly century-old

statue of a soldier holding a rifle in front of an old courthouse.

Many officials who were horrified by the events that killed one person and injured dozens more Saturday in Charlottesville soon began publicizing plans to remove statues.

Not everyone is in favor of destruction.

A law professor and director of the Center for Terrorism Law at St. Mary's University in San Antonio called removal a "slippery slope," saying judging historical figures through a modern lens can be difficult.

"A healthy democracy and people within that democracy should be able to say, 'This is

our history.' And history is made up of actions of human beings, and human beings aren't perfect," said Jeffrey F. Addicott, who stressed he was speaking for himself and not the law school.

Statues, he added, can be moved, but he's opposed to them being "put in a warehouse never to be seen again because then you're kind of erasing or rewriting history."

The director of public history for Northeastern University in Boston suggested adding context to existing Confederate statues and adding new statues to mark prominent slavery or lynching sites throughout the

South.

"I think simply destroying them or removing them and turning them into junk metal, there's a nihilistic element to that. It's wiping out history," Martin Blatt said. "However, looked at from the perspective of African-Americans ... I can understand destruction."

In Jacksonville, Florida, City Council President Anna Brosche ordered an immediate inventory of all of the Confederate statues in her city in preparation for their removal.

"These monuments, memorials and markers represent a time in our history that caused pain to so many," she said Monday.

Lexington, Kentucky, Mayor Jim Gray moved up his announcement by a day in reaction to the weekend bloodshed. Memorials to John C. Breckinridge and John Hunt Morgan are perched outside a former courthouse that was the site of slave auctions before the Civil War.

San Antonio Councilman Roberto Trevino is promoting a measure that would remove the Confederate statue at the center of Travis Park, where for years people have mistakenly identified the figure as being that of Col. William Travis, a Texas hero who died at the Alamo.

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## City To Add On To Shops

**CITY COMMISSION AGENDA MEMO**  
**August 8, 2017**  
**FROM: Chad Bunger, AICP, CFM, Assistant Director of Community Development**  
**MEETING: August 15, 2017**  
**SUBJECT: Ordinance No. 7307 Authorizing an Expansion of a Municipally-Owned and Operated Facility for the Existing Traffic Operations Facility with Additional Storage and Parking Areas and Providing for Additional Fencing**  
**PRESENTER: Chad Bunger, AICP, CFM, Assistant Director of Community Development**

### BACKGROUND

This is the second reading of an ordinance authorizing the expansion of a Municipal Facility for the existing Traffic Operations Facility, generally located north of Fort Riley Boulevard and south of El Paso Lane, on the east and west sides of S. 11th Street and to the west of S. 10th Street. The applicant is the City of Manhattan Public Works Department.

### Existing Use on Proposed Site:

On the site is an 8,000 square foot one-story building for the City of Manhattan's Traffic Operations Facility. The Facility was approved in 2011 through a Municipal Facility Review process. This building houses office space, technician space and storage and maintenance space for equipment and vehicles for the City's Traffic Operations Department. Also on the site is a 75-foot-tall monopole tower with antenna for the City's Intelligent Transportation System (ITS). The monopole provides wireless line-of-sight to the Bluemont Water Tower to link to individual traffic signals.

The approved building plan for the site is designed to accommodate future eastern and western building expansions totaling 4,400 square feet in floor area. The future eastern 2,600 square foot expansion is for a mirror image of the proposed eastern bay and work space for storage, and the future western 1,800 square foot expansion towards S. 11th Street would be for additional office space that could be used as a consolidated dispatch center and also serve as back-up Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The architectural design of the expansions will be consistent with the existing building.

### Off-Street Parking

The site also provides fleet vehicle parking for the City and the Manhattan Traffic Division. Sixty (60) concrete parking spaces are on the site. Up to 14 City employees occupy the facility. Twenty-eight (28) spaces are provided to the immediate south of the building for Traffic Operation Shop vehicles and employees. The remaining parking spaces are located to the west of the building in an area that includes the formally vacated 11th Street right-of-way, which was vacated in 2017. This area provides for fleet vehicle storage for the

City. This area was paved in 2017.

### Summary of Proposed Facility:

The City acquired two (2) single-family lots in 2012. The homes were removed and the site has remained vacant since that time. The vacant land has been used as a storage yard for various public projects.

The City of Manhattan would like to enclose this area and the fleet vehicle parking lot with a 6-foot-tall chain link fence with sight obscuring screening inserts. The fence would be located approximately zero (0) feet from the front property lines of Fort Riley Boulevard, S. 10th Street, El Paso Lane and the edge of S. 11th Street. The new fence will connect to existing fencing around the Traffic Operations Shop site and will be similar in character. A proposed swing gate will be located at an existing curb cut on S. 10th Street. A rolling gate will be located at the access off of S. 11th Street to access both the fleet vehicle parking lot and the main entrance to the Manhattan Traffic Operations Facility. The fence will be angled away from the intersection of S. 10th Street and Fort Riley Boulevard to ensure a clear line of sight.

The location of the fence along the front yards does not conform to the minimum front yard setbacks of the R-2/TNO, Two-Family Residential District and Traditional Neighborhood Overlay District.

Municipal Facility Review Process: The Municipal Facility Review process is outlined in Section 3-412 of the Manhattan Zoning Regulations, which indicates that: "Any public utility, or facility, owned and operated by either the State or a Municipality is hereby authorized as a permitted use in any zoning district, subject to the remaining provisions of this section." The process requires that both the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board and the City Commission hold public hearings on the proposal. This process is not a rezoning action, but a process whereby the Planning Board and the City Commission consider the proposal by balancing the public interests to be served by the proposed Municipal Facility, as opposed to the impact upon public interests intended to be protected by the Zoning Regulations. In performing this balancing test and evaluating a proposed facility, the City Commission must consider the seven (7) factors listed under the Staff Report headings (see pages 3-5 of the Staff Report), as well as the recommendation and reasoning of the Planning Board.

The City Commission is not bound by the recommendations of the Planning Board, nor is it obligated to return the matter to the Planning Board for reconsideration, unless the City Commission chooses to do so. If the City Commission approves the request, it does so by adoption of an ordinance, following a public hearing. The City Commission cannot approve the request, unless it determines by a preponderance of the evidence, that the public interests to be served by the proposed Municipal Facility, outweigh the impacts upon the legitimate community interests, as such impacts are mitigated by requirements of the City Commission, (see Section 3-412 (J) of the Zoning Regulations). "Preponderance of the evidence" means that the issue being decided is more probably true than not true. The City Commission may establish such conditions, as it deems necessary to mitigate any impacts created by the proposed facility.

For complete information and analysis of the proposed Municipal Facility, see the Staff Report. The seven (7) specific review standards for Municipal Facilities are analyzed on pages 3-5 of the Staff Report.

### DISCUSSION

On July 6, 2017, the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board held a public hearing to consider the proposed expansion and fence enclosure of the Traffic Operations Facility. Rob Ott, Director of Public Works, spoke during the hearing to explain the project. The Board discussed with Ott the possibility of moving the existing and proposed fence to the north, away from Fort Riley Boulevard to allow for the planting of trees near the street. Ott discussed the limited possibilities of this because of the existing configuration of the parking areas.

Following discussion, the Planning Board, on a vote of 5-0, found that by a preponderance of the evidence the public interests to be served by the proposed Municipal Facility outweigh the impacts upon the legitimate community interests, and recommended approval of a Municipal Facility for the proposed expansion of the Traffic Operations Facility, generally located north of Fort Riley Boulevard, west of S. 10th Street, south of El Paso Lane and on the east and west sides of S. 11th Street, based on the findings in the Staff Report, as recommended by City Administration.

On August 1, 2017, City Commission found that the public interests to be served by the proposed expansion of a Municipal Facility for the existing Traffic Operations Facility, outweigh the impacts upon legitimate community interests; and, on a vote of 5-0, approved first reading of an ordinance authorizing the expansion the existing Traffic Operations Facility, generally located north of Fort Riley Boulevard and south of El Paso Lane, on the east and west sides of S. 11th Street and to the west of S. 10th Street, based on the findings in the Staff Report, as recommended by the Planning Board.

### ALTERNATIVES

It appears the Commission has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Commission may:

Approve Ordinance No. 7307 authorizing the proposed expansion of a Municipal Facility for the existing Traffic Operations Facility, based on the findings in the Staff Report, as recommended by the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board, with the one condition of approval.

Override the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board's recommendation and deny Ordinance No. 7307 authorizing the proposed municipal facility, for specifically stated reasons. (Note: The City Commission can override the Planning Board by a simple majority vote.)

Override the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board's recommendation and modify the site plan and/or conditions of approval, if any, to meet the needs as perceived by the City Commission, as deemed necessary to mitigate any impacts and approve a revised Ordinance No. 7307 authorizing the revised municipal facility, for specifically stated reasons along with any conditions.

Return the recommendation of the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board, together with a statement specifying the basis for the City Commission's failure to approve or deny Ordinance No. 7307 authorizing the proposed Municipal Facility, and provide further direction to the Board.

Table Ordinance No. 7307 authorizing the proposed Municipal Facility, for specifically stated reasons and provide further direction to City Administration.

### RECOMMENDATION

City Administration recommends that the City Commission:

Determine by a preponderance of the evidence that the public interests to be served by the proposed expansion of a Municipal Facility for the existing Traffic Operations Facility outweigh the impacts upon the legitimate community interests, as mitigated by any requirements, if any, of the City Commission; and, Approve Ordinance No. 7307 authorizing a Municipal Facility for the proposed expansion of a Municipal Facility for the existing Traffic Operations Facility, based on the findings in the Staff Report and the recommendation of the Planning Board.

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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

## City Commission: Start The Recreation Centers

**CITY COMMISSION  
AGENDA MEMO  
August 8, 2017**

**FROM: Chad Bunger,  
AICP, CFM, Assistant  
Director of Community  
Development**

**MEETING: August 15,  
2017**

**SUBJECT:**

**Ordinance No. 7306  
Authorizing a Municipally - Owned and Operated Facility for the Proposed**

**Southeast Neighborhood  
Recreation Center**

**PRESENTER:**

**Chad Bunger, AICP,  
CFM, Assistant Director of  
Community Development**

### BACKGROUND

This is the second reading of an ordinance authorizing a Municipal Facility for the Southeast Neighborhood Recreation Center (SENRC) and modifications to the Flint Hills Breadbasket, located at Douglass Park, generally located to the southeast of the intersection of S. 10th Street and Yuma Street and S. 9th Street and Yuma Street. The applicant is the City of Manhattan.

The existing use of the site is the Douglass Park. Within the City parkland are the following buildings or recreation uses:

Douglass Center Annex, a multi-use building used as recreational instruction space on the northeast side of the site, A metal workshop and storage building for the City's Park and Recreation Department that is located generally in the center of the site,

The Flint Hills Breadbasket food pantry in the southeast corner of the site, Off-street parking on the east side of the site,

A multi-use concrete court for basketball and tennis on the northwest corner of the site,

Outdoor playground on the north side of the site, and Landscaped open space throughout the site.

The City is proposing to construct a new 17,000 square foot indoor neighborhood recreation center, modify the Flint Hills Breadbasket site to relocate an outdoor walk-in freezer as well as construct new on-street and off-street parking and make landscape and open space improvements throughout the site.

### Southeast Neighborhood Recreation Center

The Southeast Neighborhood Recreation Center (SENRC) is proposed to be constructed on the site. The SENRC name will most likely change in the future with the final design of the building. Detailed final site and building designs have not been started for the proposed recreation center. The City is in the process of finalizing an agreement for final design services.

As proposed by the conceptual designs of the recreation center, the new building will have a footprint of approximately 17,000 square feet. The building will be located approximately zero (0) feet from the S. 10th Street front property line and the Fort Riley Boulevard front property line. The front door of the building will be on the north side, facing the basketball/tennis court on the site.

### Douglass Park

#### Environmental

Due to the limited space at Douglass Park, additional athletic fields are not recommended for this park. The total amount of available green space south of the basketball court and west of the parking lot is approximately 0.86 acres. For reference, a full size football field with necessary safety overrun requires 1.7 acres of land. In addition, an overhead power line runs east-west through the center of Douglass Park, further restricting athletic field usage. A smaller soccer pitch to accommodate youth soccer practices may be practical at this park south of the overhead power line, but may be more appropriate for drop-in uses.

#### Athletic Facility Improvements

CDBG funds have been used for past improvements at the park and should be considered in the future. A project to construct a new recreation center in Douglass Park potentially using CDBG Section 108 Loans is currently being evaluated. The addition of a recreation center at Douglass Park would reduce the amount of flexible open space in the park.



**Legend**  
● Park Utility  
▲ Park Amenity  
— Street  
— Existing Trail  
--- Park Fence & Wall  
--- Park Boundary (City Own)  
--- Park Boundary (County Own)  
--- City Boundary  
--- School Boundary  
--- Creek/Drainage

Basketball court improvements need to be accounted for in the mid-term planning for Manhattan Parks. This scenario is listed below.

#### Amenities

- The scope of this plan does not include improvement scenarios for the shelter, playground, storage unit or workshop. Playground synthetic turf was added in 2012.

Basketball Court	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	Mid-Term (5-15 Years)	Long-Term (>15 Years)
Basketball Court Remove and replace existing court with a tennis court with striping for basketball. Move two (2) existing goals and add two (2) additional goals. Lighting was installed in 2011.		\$130,000	
<b>Basketball Court Subtotals</b>	\$0	\$130,000	\$0

A page from the Strategic Facility improvement Plan

The building will be comprised of a full-size multi-purpose court that runs east-west. The full-size court can also be converted to two (2) non-regulation sized multi-purpose courts that run cross-wise (north/south). The recreation space will also include an interior walking track. Restrooms and locker rooms will be provided, as well as office space. A multi-purpose classroom is also proposed to allow for Parks and Recreation-sponsored classes and activities, as well as neighborhood meetings.

No final architectural designs for the exterior of the building have been submitted. The building will be less than 40 feet tall and will mostly consist of a metal-skinned steel structure building. Architectural design elements, such as brick or limestone, will most likely be included in the final design to make the building visually appealing to the neighborhood and the community.

An approximately 7,300 square foot building expansion is proposed for sometime in the future. This building expansion would occur to the east of the main building. No specific details of the building expansion have been provided at this time. It is the intent of City Administration to include this building expansion in the Municipal Review procedure to allow it to occur in the future without a separate process. The Community Development Department has proposed the following condition of approval for the future addition:

The building addition shall be designed with the same architectural style as the original building and shall use similar exterior materials.

#### Flint Hills Breadbasket

The vast majority of the Flint Hills Breadbasket site or building is to be unchanged with the development project. An exist-

ing walk-in freezer is located to the north of the building, where the redesigned off-street parking lot is proposed. The freezer is to be re-located to one of two places, depending on final design of the site and determination by the manager of the Breadbasket. One location is to the south of the existing building, approximately zero (0) feet from the Fort Riley Boulevard property line. The second location is to the west of the building. Both of these locations have pros and cons for access and needs to renovate the building.

As part of the Municipal Review process, City Administration is requesting that the building setbacks for the proposed SENRC building and the Flint Hills Breadbasket freezer be reduced to zero (0) feet.

#### On-street and Off-street Parking

The existing off-street parking lot is proposed to be re-striped and expanded to the west to allow for more off-street parking. The redesigned and expanded off-street parking lot will have a total of 68 spaces. The existing metal building used by the City's Parks and Recreation Maintenance staff will be removed for the parking lot expansion.

On-street parking is proposed on S. 10th Street and Yuma Street. At least 38 angled parking spaces are proposed along the street. These spaces have been reviewed by the Public Works Department to ensure conflicts at the street intersections are avoided.

A total of 106 spaces will be available on or adjacent to the site to serve the new building, the Flint Hills Breadbasket and the Douglass Center Annex building.

Based on the conceptual design occupancy of the SENRC building, the existing uses of

the Douglass Center Annex building and the Flint Hills Breadbasket, a total of 185 off-street would be required for the uses on the site. As part of the Municipal Review process, City Administration is requesting that the minimum number of off-street parking required for the proposed development at Douglass Park be reduced to 108 spaces.

#### Site Landscaping

Site landscaping will be completed with the final design of the project. Generally, the project will include landscape beds and plantings at the entrance to the building and around the foundation.

The northwest portion of the site will remain as a park area, with open space, the playground area and the multi-use concrete court.

The Municipal Facility Review process is outlined in Section 3-412 of the Manhattan Zoning Regulations (attached), which indicates that: "Any public utility, or facility, owned and operated by either the State or a Municipality is hereby authorized as a permitted use in any zoning district, subject to the remaining provisions of this section." The process requires that both the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board and the City Commission hold public hearings on the proposal. This process is not a rezoning action, but a process whereby the Planning Board and the City Commission consider the proposal by balancing the public interests to be served by the proposed Municipal Facility, as opposed to the impact upon public interests intended to be protected by the Zoning Regulations. In performing this balancing test and evaluating a proposed facility, the City Commission must consider the seven (7) factors listed under the Staff Report headings (see pages 4-7 of the Staff Re-

port), as well as the recommendation and reasoning of the Planning Board.

The City Commission is not bound by the recommendations of the Planning Board, nor is it obligated to return the matter to the Planning Board for reconsideration, unless the City Commission chooses to do so. If the City Commission approves the request, it does so by adoption of an ordinance, following a public hearing. The City Commission cannot approve the request, unless it determines by a preponderance of the evidence, that the public interests to be served by the proposed Municipal Facility, outweigh the impacts upon the legitimate community interests, as such impacts are mitigated by requirements of the City Commission, (see Section 3-412 (J) of the Zoning Regulations). "Preponderance of the evidence" means that the issue being decided is more probably true than not true. The City Commission may establish such conditions, as it deems necessary to mitigate any impacts created by the proposed facility.

For complete information and analysis of the proposed Municipal Facility, see the Staff Report and the supporting application documents. The seven (7) specific review standards for Municipal Facilities are analyzed on pages 4-7 of the Staff Report.

On July 6, 2017, the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board held a public hearing to consider the proposed SENRC building and modifications to the Flint Hills Breadbasket. The Planning Board asked questions about the proposal and discussed the appearance of the new recreation facility and the buildings impact on the appearance of Fort Riley Boulevard. It was the opinion of Nuss and Stith that the new building could be designed to improve the appearance of the major roadway.

Amanda Tross, 1000 Colorado Street, voiced concerns about on-street parking along Yuma Street and vehicular and pedestrian traffic safety in the area. Wyatt Thompson, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation, and Rob Ott, Director of Public Works, addressed Mrs. Tross's questions.

Cameron Tross, 1000 Colorado Street, raised additional concerns about vehicular and pedestrian safety in the area. Ott provided more information on the topic to the Planning Board. Mary Ann Fleming, 215 South 8th Street, expressed concerns on pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure quality in the area.

Anthony Williams, Pastor, Pilgrim Baptist Church, 831 Yuma Street, asked questions about the hours of operation of the recreation center, especially on Sundays. He was concerned about conflicts between his church service and the use of the recreation center. Thompson addressed his concerns. (See draft Minutes of the July 6, 2017, Planning Board meeting.)

Following discussion, the Planning Board, on a vote of 5-

0, found that by a preponderance of the evidence the public interests to be served by the proposed Municipal Facility outweigh the impacts upon the legitimate community interests, and recommended approval of a Municipal Facility for the proposed expansion of the SENRC facility and the modification to the Flint Hills Breadbasket site, located at Douglass Park, generally located to the southeast of the intersection of S. 10th Street and Yuma Street, based on the findings in the Staff Report with five conditions of approval, as recommended by City Administration and the Planning Board, which were:

1. The building addition shall be designed with the same architectural style as the original building and shall use similar exterior materials.
2. Exterior lighting shall be shielded to minimize glare on adjacent properties.
3. Evaluate pedestrian safety issues around the site.
4. Consider planting trees along Fort Riley Boulevard.
5. Add bicycle racks for the Facility.

On August 1, 2017, the City Commission found that the public interests to be served by the proposed Southeast Neighborhood Recreation Center and modifications to the Flint Hills Breadbasket, outweigh the impacts upon legitimate community interests; and, on a vote of 5-0, approved first reading of an ordinance authorizing the proposed Municipal Facility for the Southeast Neighborhood Recreation Center and Flint Hills Breadbasket, located at Douglass Park, generally located to the southeast of the intersection of S. 10th Street and Yuma Street and S. 9th Street and Yuma Street, based on the findings in the Staff Report and five conditions of approval, as recommended by the Planning Board.

It appears the Commission has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Commission may:

Approve Ordinance No. 7306 authorizing the Municipal Facility for the proposed Southeast Neighborhood Recreation Center and modifications to the Flint Hills Breadbasket, based on the findings in the Staff Report, as recommended by the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board, with the one condition of approval.

Override the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board's recommendation and deny Ordinance No. 7306 authorizing the proposed municipal facility, for specifically stated reasons.

(Note: The City Commission can override the Planning Board by a simple majority vote.)

Override the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board's recommendation and modify the site plan and/or conditions of approval, if any, to meet the needs as perceived by the City Commission, as deemed necessary to mitigate any impacts.

## Debt-Ceiling Fight Looms as next Big Test for Congress

By Michael D. Tanner  
CATO Institute

If you thought the recent fight over health-care reform was fun, get ready for the next big Washington circus: raising the debt ceiling.

In October of 2015, Congress chose to avoid the usual fight over setting a symbolic debt target by agreeing to waive any limit on the debt for 17 months, until March of this year. For the past few months, the Treasury Department has engaged in what it calls “extraordinary measures” to extend the deadline through the end of September. By that time, the U.S. national debt will officially exceed \$20 trillion.

As is almost always the case, the big fight will be over whether or not to pass a “clean” increase in the debt ceiling — i.e., one without any amendments. A bill to raise the debt ceiling will require 60 votes in the Senate, effectively giving Democrats veto power over any Republican proposal. If Republicans added a provision supporting Mom, the flag, and apple pie, Democrats could be counted on to oppose it unambiguously. Indeed, many Democrats are expected to back a proposal by Senator Brian Schatz of Hawaii to abolish the debt limit altogether.

Yet, many Republicans see this as one of their few opportunities for budget leverage. Wisconsin senator Ron Johnson is typical in warning, “I’ve been raising the issue of the debt ceiling

for months now, and certainly what I’d like to see is some meaningful, structural control enacted in conjunction with increasing [the debt limit].”

House Republicans are expected to take an even harder line against any bill that raises the debt ceiling without making an attempt to rein in future spending. Just this week, Representative Tom Cole of Oklahoma, never considered a firebrand, said that he could not see any scenario in which the House agrees to raise the debt ceiling without accompanying spending cuts. Meanwhile, the conservative House Freedom Caucus is backing a number of separate proposals, ranging from as much as \$50 billion in spending cuts to a demand that the federal government sell property to pay down the debt. Some also want to attach a partial repeal of Obamacare to the bill.

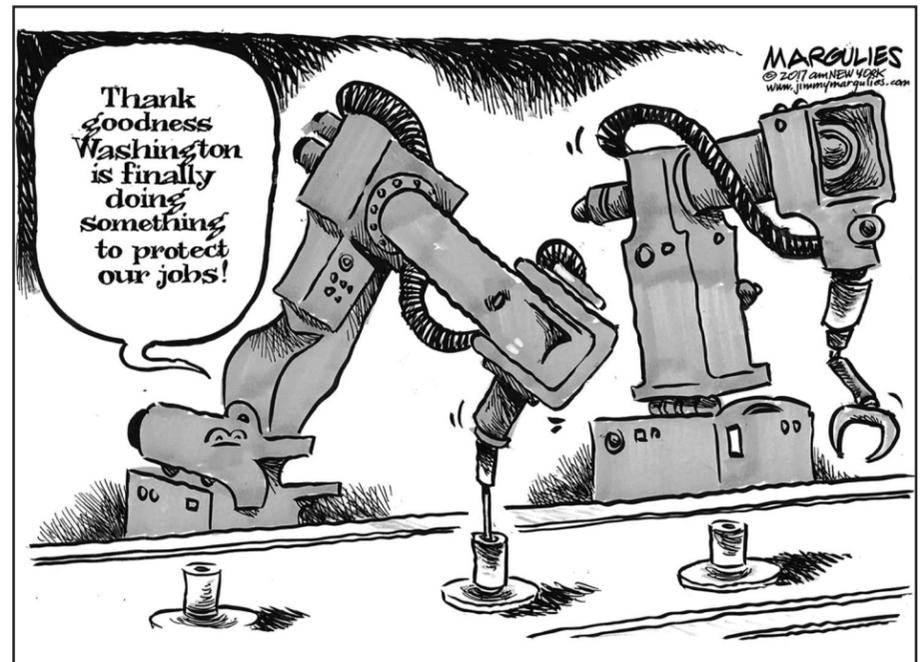
It should come as no surprise that the Trump administration is putting out conflicting signals about what it wants from this fight. Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin reportedly prefers a clean bill, as Treasury secretaries have since time immemorial. Office of Management and Budget director Mick Mulvaney is more ambivalent. He originally wanted spending cuts in exchange for increasing the debt limit, but has recently dropped that demand. He now says that the administration hopes for the “cleanest possi-

ble” bill. But he also remains one of the chief proponents of “prioritizing” debt payments, which would allow the federal government to avoid default if the debt negotiations drag on.

All of this will take place against a backdrop of apocalyptic commentary from much of the media and the business community. They will ignore the fact that the federal government actually did briefly default on its debt in 1979, in part as the result of a debt-ceiling impasse under a Democratic-controlled Congress. Since then, both Democratic and Republican Congresses have missed deadlines to increase the debt ceiling: Once in 1981, a second time in 1985, a third time in 1996, and a fourth time in 2002. In none of those cases did the world end.

Moreover, until fairly recently, it was considered routine to add all sorts of conditions to debt-ceiling legislation. Perhaps the most famous of these provisions was the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings amendment in 1995.

Of course, failure to raise the debt limit would not be a good thing. Financial markets could be expected to react badly. Increased uncertainty would slow economic growth. And we might even see another downgrade of the U.S.’s credit rating. But those consequences pale in comparison to the almost-certain calamity that will result from a failure to get control of runaway federal spending and debt.



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## Colorado in focus: Is Medicaid gobbling up Colorado's budget?

By Watchdog News

Denver Post: Is Medicaid gobbling up Colorado's budget?

Among Republican candidates to be Colorado's next governor, a common argument has emerged: Medicaid spending in Colorado, driven upward by the Affordable Care Act, is unsustainable.

Victor Mitchell talks about it in a campaign video. Doug Robinson references the concern on his website. George Brauchler spoke of it at the Western Conservative Summit last month: "We have lost the ability to prioritize any spending in our budget for roads, for education in rural areas because of what we've done with Obamacare," Brauchler said. "It has gobbled up so much of our budget."

Is Medicaid really eating the rest of the state budget alive? And could the state move large sums of money to other priorities by slashing Medicaid spending?

The answers are complicated — some yes and some no.

ABC 7: Denver businesses fed up with A-line delays, blaring horn

Every 15 minutes, the A-line

comes blaring down Smith Road in northeast Denver and businesses in the area are fed up with not only the noise, but the long delays at each crossing.

Sign-up for our Colorado Watchdog email list to receive the latest news and in-depth coverage.

"I don't know if there's a spot where you can't hear it, it does a really good job of being loud," said Kyle Raley who works near the tracks at American Paintball Coliseum.

"You just have to stop, watch — you can't talk," explained Tony Treash, owner of American Paintball Coliseum.

"If you've ever seen the movie Dumb and Dumber where he says you want to hear the most annoying sound in the world and then he makes that screeching sound in the car, this is probably three to four times worse than that," explained John Bell, who works across the street from a crossing at Holly Street and Smith Road.

The blaring horn and flaggers are required at each A-line crossing because they're still

not timed right.

The Cannabist: Colorado marijuana sales top \$750 million at 2017 midpoint

Halfway through 2017, Colorado's marijuana retailers amassed more than \$750 million in sales, according to The Cannabist's extrapolations of the latest tax data released by the state.

Covering both the medical and adult-use markets, the sales of flower, edibles and concentrates through June 2017 are up 25.7 percent compared with the first half of 2016, The Cannabist's calculations show.

The cumulative sales made through June equate to nearly \$116 million in tax revenue and license fees for the state.

The Colorado Department of Revenue on Thursday published the report for marijuana sales and excise taxes remitted in July. The receipts largely reflect sales made in June, but could include some variance based on incomplete or late returns from prior months.



## Appeals court upholds Nebraska funeral picketing law

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — An appeals court Friday agreed with a lower court's ruling upholding a Nebraska law requiring picketers to stay at least 500 feet from funerals — the latest decision in a yearslong legal dispute that could end up before the U.S. Supreme Court.

The U.S. 8th Circuit Court of Appeals said that all speakers, including members of Westboro Baptist Church, have a constitutionally protected right to express their beliefs at funerals. But the appeals court also said those rights "are not absolute and some time, place, and/or manner restrictions are allowed" to protect the privacy rights of funeral mourners.

Shirley Phelps-Roper, a prominent member of the Topeka, Kansas, based church, sued in 2009. She argued, among other things, that the Nebraska law is selectively enforced.

The church protests at funerals throughout the country using anti-gay chants and signs because it believes God is punishing the U.S. for defending a nation that tolerates homosexuality.

At trial in 2015, church members testified that they are often kept much farther from funeral services than counter-protesters. The church argued on appeal that the Patriot Guard Riders and others

groups that have served as a "buffer" between Westboro Baptist members and funeral attendees were allowed to get as close as they wanted to a 2011 service for a military service member.

But the appeals court agreed with the lower court that church members failed on that assertion.

"The PGR and other attendees were, as invitees, a part of the funeral itself, and thus they did not engage in 'protest activities' within the meaning of the statute," the appeals court said.

Nebraska Attorney General Doug Peterson applauded Friday's ruling.

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### Big 12 Standings

School	Big 12	Overall	Record
Oklahoma	0 - 0	0 - 0	.000
Okla State	0 - 0	0 - 0	.000
West Virginia	0 - 0	0 - 0	.000
Baylor	0 - 0	0 - 0	.000
Kansas State	0 - 0	0 - 0	.000
TCU	0 - 0	0 - 0	.000
Texas	0 - 0	0 - 0	.000
Texas Tech	0 - 0	0 - 0	.000
Iowa State	0 - 0	0 - 0	.000
Kansas	0 - 0	0 - 0	.000

### Kansas State Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time/ TV
Sat, Sept 2	vs Cent Arkansas	6:10 PM
Sat, Sept 9	vs Charlotte	11:00 PM
Sat, Sept 16	@ Vanderbilt	6:30PM ESPNU
Sat, Sept 30	vs Baylor	TBD
Sat, Oct 7	@ Texas	TBD
Sat, Oct 14	vs TCU	TBD
Sat, Oct 21	vs Oklahoma	TBD
Sat, Oct 28	@ Kansas	TBD
Sat, Nov 4	@ Texas Tech	TBD
Sat, Nov 11	vs West Virginia	TBD
Sat, Nov 18	@ Oklahoma State	TBD
Sat, Nov 25	vs Iowa State	TBD

### Kansas Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time/ TV
Sat, Sept 2	vs SE Missouri St	6:00 PM
Sat, Sept 9	vs Cent Michigan	3:00 PM
Sat, Sept 16	@ Ohio	1:00 PM ESPN3
Sat, Sept 23	vs West Virginia	TBD
Sat, Oct 7	vs Texas Tech	TBD
Sat, Oct 14	@ Iowa State	TBD
Sat, Oct 21	@ TCU	TBD
Sat, Oct 28	vs Kansas State	TBD
Sat, Nov 4	vs Baylor	TBD
Sat, Nov 11	@ Texas	6:00 PM L Network
Sat, Nov 18	vs Oklahoma	TBD
Sat, Nov 25	@ Oklahoma State	TBD

## Big 12 Schedule

Date	Away Team	Home Team	Location	Time (CT)	Media
Thu, Aug 31	Tulsa	Oklahoma State	Stillwater, Okla.	6:30 p.m.	FS1
Sat, Sep 02	Maryland	Texas	Austin, Texas	11:00 a.m.	FS1
Sat, Sep 02	UTEP	Oklahoma	Norman, Okla.	2:30 p.m.	FOX
Sat, Sep 02	Eastern Washington	Texas Tech	Lubbock, Texas	3:00 p.m.	FSN
Sat, Sep 02	SE Missouri State	Kansas	Lawrence, Kan.	6:00 p.m.	JTV
Sat, Sep 02	Central Arkansas	Kansas State	Manhattan, Kan.	6:00 p.m.	K-StateHD.tv
Sat, Sep 02	Liberty	Baylor	Waco, Texas	6:00 p.m.	FS2
Sat, Sep 02	Northern Iowa	Iowa State	Ames, Iowa	7:00 p.m.	Cyclones.tv
Sat, Sep 02	Jackson State	TCU	Fort Worth, Texas	7:00 p.m.	FSN
Sun, Sep 03	Virginia Tech	West Virginia	Landover, Md.	6:30 p.m.	ABC
Fri, Sep 08	Oklahoma State	South Alabama	Mobile, Ala.	7:00 p.m.	ESPN2
Sat, Sep 09	Iowa	Iowa State	Ames, Iowa	11:00 a.m.	ESPNor ESPN2
Sat, Sep 09	Charlotte	Kansas State	Manhattan, Kan.	11:00 a.m.	FSN
Sat, Sep 09	East Carolina	West Virginia	Morgantown, W. Vir.	11:00 a.m.	FS2
Sat, Sep 09	TCU	Arkansas	Foayetteville, Ark.	2:30 p.m.	CBS
Sat, Sep 09	San Jose State	Texas	Austin, Texas	2:30 p.m.	LHN
Sat, Sep 09	Central Michigan	Kansas	Lawrence, Kan.	3:00 p.m.	FSN
Sat, Sep 09	Oklahoma	Ohio State	Columbus, Ohio	6:30 p.m.	ABC
Sat, Sep 09	UTSA	Baylor	Waco, Texas	7:00 p.m.	FSN
Sat, Sep 16	Oklahoma State	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh, Pa.	11:00 a.m.	ABC/ESPN2
Sat, Sep 16	Iowa State	Akron	Akron, Ohio	11:00 a.m.	CBSSN
Sat, Sep 16	Delaware State	West Virginia	Morgantown, W. Vir.	11:00 a.m.	ROOT
Sat, Sep 16	Baylor	Duke	Durham, N.C.	11:30 a.m.	ACC RSN
Sat, Sep 16	Kansas	Ohio	Athens, Ohio	1:00 p.m.	ESPN3
Sat, Sep 16	SMU	TCU	Fort Worth, Texas	2:30 p.m.	ESPNU
Sat, Sep 16	Tulane	Oklahoma	Norman, Okla.	5:00 p.m.	FSN-PPV
Sat, Sep 16	Kansas State	Vanderbilt	Nashville, Tenn.	6:30 p.m.	ESPNU
Sat, Sep 16	Arizona State	Texas Tech	Lubbock, Texas	7:00 p.m.	FSN
Sat, Sep 16	Texas	Southern California	Los Angeles, Calif.	7:30 p.m.	FOX

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# Big rise in number of Justice Department active leak probes

**CITY COMMISSION AGENDA MEMO**  
**August 8, 2017**  
**FROM: Chad Bunger, AICP, CFM, Assistant Director of Community Development**  
**MEETING: August 15, 2017**  
**SUBJECT: Ordinance No. 7307 Authorizing an Expansion of a Municipally-Owned and Operated Facility for the Existing Traffic Operations**

**Facility with Additional Storage and Parking Areas and Providing for Additional Fencing**  
**PRESENTER: Chad Bunger, AICP, CFM, Assistant Director of Community Development**  
**BACKGROUND**  
 This is the second reading of an ordinance authorizing the expansion of a Municipal Facility for the existing Traffic Operations Facility, generally located north of Fort Riley

Boulevard and south of El Paso Lane, on the east and west sides of S. 11th Street and to the west of S. 10th Street. The applicant is the City of Manhattan Public Works Department.  
 Existing Use on Proposed Site:  
 On the site is an 8,000 square foot one-story building for the City of Manhattan's Traffic Operations Facility. The Facility was approved in 2011 through a Municipal Facility Review

process. This building houses office space, technician space and storage and maintenance space for equipment and vehicles for the City's Traffic Operation Department. Also on the site is a 75-foot-tall monopole tower with antenna for the City's Intelligent Transportation System (ITS). The monopole provides wireless line-of-sight to the Bluemont Water Tower to link to individual traffic signals. The approved building plan

for the site is designed to accommodate future eastern and western building expansions totaling 4,400 square feet in floor area. The future eastern 2,600 square foot expansion is for a mirror image of the proposed eastern bay and work space for storage, and the future western 1,800 square foot expansion towards S. 11th Street would be for additional office space that could be used as a consolidated dispatch center and also serve as back-up Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The architectural design of the expansions will be consistent with the existing building.

along the front yards does not conform to the minimum front yard setbacks of the R-2/TNO, Two-Family Residential District and Traditional Neighborhood Overlay District.  
 Municipal Facility Review Process: The Municipal Facility Review process is outlined in Section 3-412 of the Manhattan Zoning Regulations, which indicates that: "Any public utility, or facility, owned and operated by either the State or a Municipality is hereby authorized as a permitted use in any zoning district, subject to the remaining provisions of this section." The process requires that both the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board and the City Commission hold public hearings on the proposal. This process is not a rezoning action, but a process whereby the Planning Board and the City Commission consider the proposal by balancing the public interests to be served by the proposed Municipal Facility, as opposed to the impact upon public interests intended to be protected by the Zoning Regulations. In performing this balancing test and evaluating a proposed facility, the City Commission must consider the seven (7) factors listed under the Staff Report headings (see pages 3-5 of the Staff Report), as well as the recommendation and reasoning of the Planning Board.

### Off-Street Parking

The site also provides fleet vehicle parking for the City and the Manhattan Traffic Division. Sixty (60) concrete parking spaces are on the site. Up to 14 City employees occupy the facility. Twenty-eight (28) spaces are provided to the immediate south of the building for Traffic Operation Shop vehicles and employees. The remaining parking spaces are located to the west of the building in an area that includes the formally vacated 11th Street right-of-way, which was vacated in 2017. This area provides for fleet vehicle storage for the City. This area was paved in 2017.

### Summary of Proposed Facility:

The City acquired two (2) single-family lots in 2012. The homes were removed and the site has remained vacant since that time. The vacant land has been used as a storage yard for various public projects.

The City of Manhattan would like to enclose this area and the fleet vehicle parking lot with a 6-foot-tall chain link fence with sight obscuring screening inserts. The fence would be located approximately zero (0) feet from the front property lines of Fort Riley Boulevard, S. 10th Street, El Paso Lane and the edge of S. 11th Street. The new fence will connect to existing fencing around the Traffic Operations Shop site and will be similar in character. A proposed swing gate will be located at an existing curb cut on S. 10th Street. A rolling gate will be located at the access off of S. 11th Street to access both the fleet vehicle parking lot and the main entrance to the Manhattan Traffic Operations Facility. The fence will be angled away from the intersection of S. 10th Street and Fort Riley Boulevard to ensure a clear line of sight.

The location of the fence

The City Commission is not bound by the recommendations of the Planning Board, nor is it obligated to return the matter to the Planning Board for reconsideration, unless the City Commission chooses to do so. If the City Commission approves the request, it does so by adoption of an ordinance, following a public hearing. The City Commission cannot approve the request, unless it determines by a preponderance of the evidence, that the public interests to be served by the proposed Municipal Facility, outweigh the impacts upon the legitimate community interests, as such impacts are mitigated by requirements of the City Commission, (see Section 3-412 (J) of the Zoning Regulations). "Preponderance of the evidence" means that the issue being decided is more probably true than not true. The City Commission may establish such conditions, as it deems necessary to mitigate any impacts created by the proposed facility.

For complete information and analysis of the proposed Municipal Facility, see the Staff Report. The seven (7) specific review standards for Municipal Facilities are analyzed on pages 3-5 of the Staff Report.

## City Has Problems At The Discovery Center

### Monthly Operations Report

July 2017



Revenues	2014	2015	2016	2017		% of Budget *
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Actual	
Admission Fees	\$ 211,822	\$ 184,202	\$ 234,496	\$ 220,000	\$ 115,107	52.3%
Gift Shop	89,444	82,330	97,495	102,000	45,930	45.0%
Education	23,915	38,582	52,881	51,000	28,693	56.3%
Facility Rental	103,642	113,921	106,067	125,000	56,670	45.3%
Memberships	40,230	41,165	54,659	50,000	32,394	64.8%
Contributions / Donations	5,967	2,851	8,525	7,500	139	0.0%
Sponsorships/ Grants	18,725	3,725	-	10,000	1,660	0.0%
Transient Guest Tax Revenue	204,199	282,496	258,333	322,000	241,500	75.0%

\*58% of the Budget Year has Elapsed

**TOTAL REVENUES \$ 697,943 \$ 749,272 \$ 812,455 \$ 887,500 \$ 522,093 58.8%**

Depot Rental				32,000	15,313	47.9%
Blue Earth Plaza Rental				3,000	2,090	69.7%

Expenses	2014	2015	2016	2017		% of Budget *
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Actual	
Personnel Services	\$ 439,848	\$ 473,524	\$ 480,550	\$ 519,540	\$ 301,292	58.0%
Contractual Services	292,005	313,229	300,670	314,700	269,633	85.7%
Commodities	99,073	87,036	85,449	105,100	56,030	53.3%
Capital Outlay	6,366	7,854	6,519	5,500	9,957	181.0%

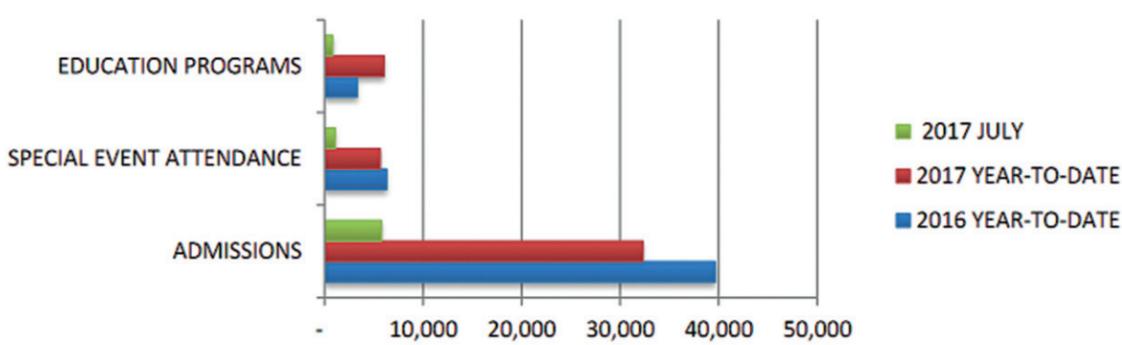
**TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 837,292 \$ 881,641 \$ 873,187 \$ 944,840 \$ 636,912 67.4%**

Depot Expenses				24,400	8,488	34.8%
Blue Earth Plaza Expenses				20,750	5,832	28.1%

\*FHDC staff is responsible for the Depot and Blue Earth Plaza facility rentals

[www.flinthillsdiscovery.org](http://www.flinthillsdiscovery.org)

### FLINT HILLS DISCOVERY CENTER ATTENDANCE



The City of Manhattan will not tell you but the Flint Hills Discovery Center is not paying it way. In the beginning the City was not to put money into the project but each year they have taken money out of the Transient Guest Tax (Hotel Tax) \$322,000 last year. Some say the Center is losing \$2,000 per day.

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## Manhattan Chambers Gives City Economic Report

July 2017  
**Report of Economic Development Director**

**Business Recruitment:**

The Chamber is presently interacting with seven companies who are considering a physical location in Manhattan or the immediate region.

Each interaction is in a different phase of due diligence but we are hopeful two to three of the companies will ultimately choose to expand into Manhattan.

We are also pleased to report the Manhattan Business Park is being considered by several of the companies.

**Market Street Services:**

The Greater Manhattan community visioning project has proposed five target sectors and market segments to pursue. They are:

- Agriculture and Animal Health
- Small to Medium Enterprise Manufacturing
- Professional and Technical Services
- Bio Defense and Security
- Travel & Tourism

The consultants feel these five areas play to Manhattan's strengths as a university research town and regional center for services and entertainment.

**Workforce:** The Business – Education Task Force has three programs it is working on for the Manhattan area:

- A USD 383 teacher meet - and - greet at MATC, to celebrate the new year and introduce district teachers to what MATC offers (August. 16)
- A high school "Classroom -

to - Career" program on four days off of school, to introduce high school students to unusual careers and local employers, as well as provide some soft - skill training (first meets Sept. 22, with employer tours to be scheduled in October, February, and April)

• An elementary "Classroom - to - Career Partnership" that will match sponsoring businesses with fourth - grade classes for a year - long collaboration to introduce kids to local employers/careers and establish new relationships in the community.

Accolades: Riley County was ranked "# 2 Mid - Sized (pop. 50,000 – 150,000) Community in the U.S." by Fourth Economy Consulting based on investment, talent, sustainability, place and diversity. Fourth Economy had studied Manhattan in 2014 on behalf of the state of Indiana to analyze communities with successful economic development programs. From their 2017 analysis:

Riley County, Kansas ranked # 2 among mid - sized counties....Its score revealed strengths in Talent as well as Place. In the past five years, Riley County has experienced a 9% increase in population.

The mix of older and younger people due to a military base and college help ensure a sustainable workforce and contribute to a healthy balance of educational attainment. Riley Kansas also boasts a short commute time, a high level of employment, and lots of arts and cultural activity. The relatively recent development of the Na-

tional Bio and Agro Defense Facility has helped promote more development and investment into the area.

**Sales Activity:** July 2017 sales were \$86.3 million; a decrease of 6.4% from year - ago levels. We do expect to gains in the second half with increased activity at Fort Riley and growth in the region.

January – July sales since 2013:

- 2017 -- \$618.6 million
- 2016 -- \$638.2 million
- 2015 -- \$628.2 million
- 2014 -- \$612.8 million
- 2013 -- \$608.4 million

**Kansas Labor Report:**

The Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) for June 2017 showed the following unemployment rates:

Manhattan: 3.2% (2nd lowest of cities listed; Leawood at 3.0%)

Riley County: 3.4%  
 Manhattan MSA: 3.4%

The Manhattan Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is Riley and Pottawatomie Counties. Geary County was removed from the Manhattan MSA as of 2015.

The MSA has a civilian workforce of 49,337 and employment of 47,658.

Also from the report:

- In January 2002 Manhattan had 22,325 people employed
- As of June 2017 Manhattan has 29,903 employed
- The net increase of 7,578 jobs places us fourth among the 17 cities included in the report
- The percentage increase of 34 % places us second among the 17 cities

The 17 cities tracked in the

KDOL report based on populations over 25,000 are:

Dodge City, Emporia, Garden City, Hutchinson, Junction City, Kansas City KS, Lawrence, Leavenworth, Leawood, Lenexa, Manhattan, Olathe, Overland Park, Salina, Shawnee, Topeka and Wichita. We keep track from January 2002, when the first Advantage Manhattan campaign began.

Junction City was included starting in 2012 so historical data is not available.

**Fort Riley:** By mid - July the 11D Division Headquarters had redeployed from Iraq after a successful tour liberating Mosul from ISIS with the Iraqi Army. Now, all 1st Infantry Division soldiers are in Garrison through the fall when Second Brigade deploys to Europe.

An ecstatic WELCOME HOME to all 11D soldiers who deployed in the past year, Manhattan is glad to have you back!

Summer is moving season and July 2017 has been a busy month!

• On July 7th, the Combat Aviation Command changed Brigade Commanders: COL John Cyrulik has moved on to be the Army ROTC Professor of Military Science at the Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina. The new Commander is COL Chris Black.

• Also on July 7th, the Air Force unit on Fort Riley, the 10th Air Support Operations Squadron (ASOS), changed Commanders from Lt. Col. Jason Grumbaugh to Lt. Col. Daniel Heely.

• The 1st Armor Brigade Combat Team Changed Commanders on July 12th. COL

Timothy Haden is off to Washington DC. Welcome to incoming Commander, COL Charles Armstrong and family!

• The Division has a new Chaplain, the third ever Division Level Chaplain of the Jewish faith, welcome to Chaplain (LTC - P) Shmuel Felzenberg and family.

• On July 17th, there was a Victory with Honors Ceremony for outgoing Brigadier General – Maneuver, Scott Efflant. BG Efflant will be the Deputy Commandant of the Command and General Staff College in Fort Leavenworth.

• On July 21st, the 11D Sustainment Brigade Changed Command. COL Allen Cassell handed the Brigade guidon to COL Jay McGuire at a ceremony on Cavalry Parade Field. Welcome!

July means Rodeo here in Manhattan and this year's Military Family Appreciation Night at the Kaw Valley Rodeo did not disappoint. The stars certainly aligned for this year's event, the weather was perfect, maybe 90 degrees, the Division was back from deployment, and Garrison Command, MWR and the USO coordinated to make sure Rodeo tickets were distributed. At the 5:30pm start time there was a 50 - person line to get into the picnic tent – a first for the Pre - Rodeo Picnic. The tent stayed at capacity for almost the entirety of the hour and a half event. Blue Ribbon Sponsors BriggsAuto and Chick-fil-A kicked off Military Family Night with an awesome picnic for 250 with a delicious meal of chicken tenders and chicken sandwiches and soda and water from Pepsi of Man-

hattan. The rockin' music of the First ID Brass Band, BRO Brass, kept the soldiers and families entertained and our corps of volunteers from the Flint Hills Volunteer Center, First Command, Navy Federal, Prime Lending and the community kept the evening running smoothly.

Our wonderful ticket sponsors BriggsAuto, Cox Communications, Navy Federal Credit Union, Hi -Tech Interiors, Manhattan Regional Airport, AUSA, the Riley County Fair Board and the Kaw Valley Rodeo Association helped the Military

Relations Committee distribute 1000 rodeo tickets to Fort Riley Soldiers and their families for a great family friendly, affordable evening out.

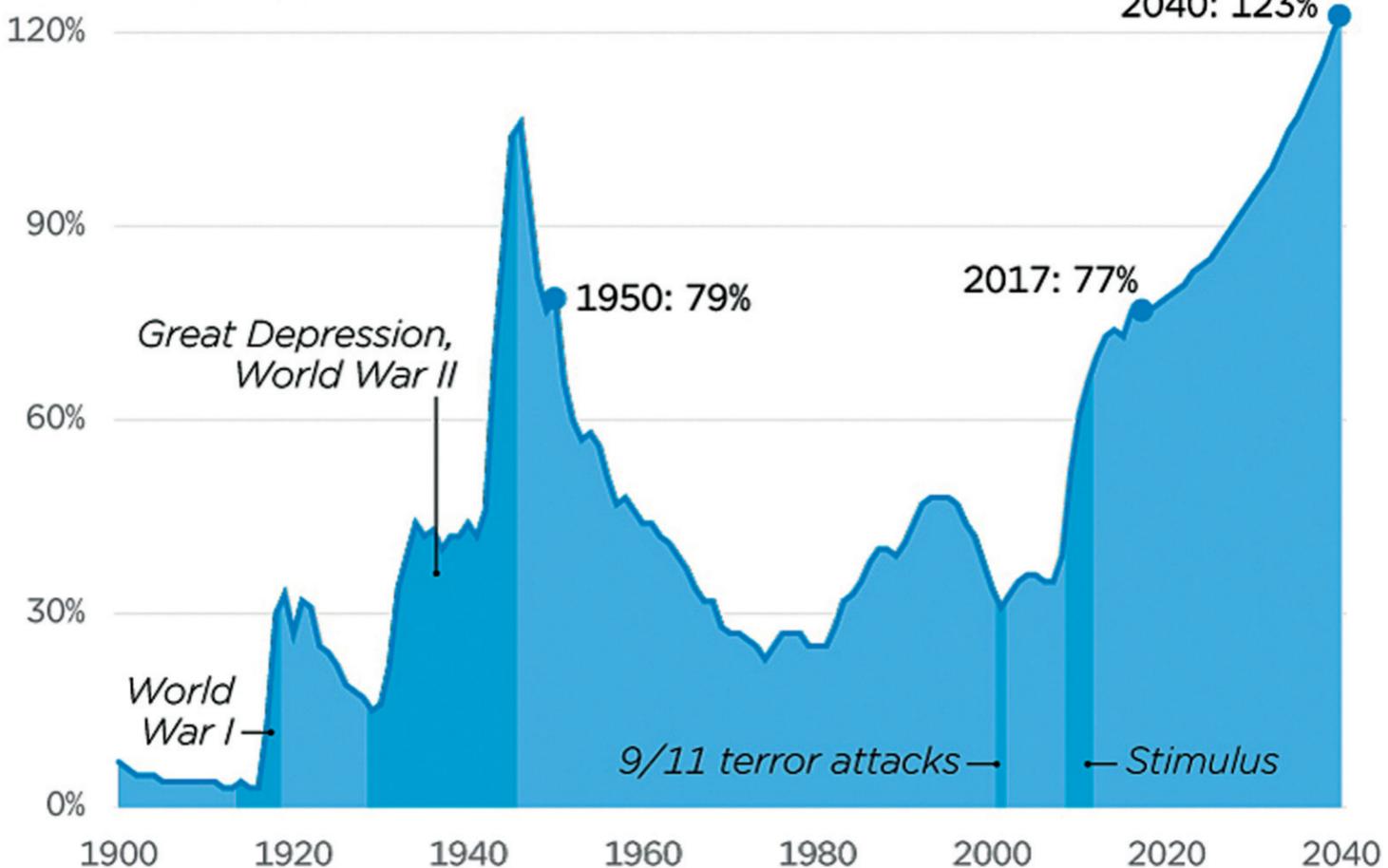
The MRC Also participated in the Regional Partnership Meeting, the JLUS Update, and Operation Homefront's Backpack Brigade, distributing backpacks containing school supplies to 600 military connected USD 383 students.

Manhattan welcomed 491 soldiers to the area this July at the Weekly BRO Welcome. Of the 10 soldiers retiring out of Fort Riley 6 stayed in Kansas: 1 in Manhattan, 1 in Junction City, 1 in Leavenworth, 1 in Enterprise, 1 in Wakefield, 1 in Randolph, plus 1 in Kansas City, MO.

The Military Relations Committee's next Luncheon will be cohosted with Junction City Military Affairs on Wednesday August 23rd at Riley's Conference Center during Fort Riley's VICTORY WEEK. Our Guest Speaker will be 1st Infantry Division Commanding General, MG Joseph Martin.

### PUBLIC DEBT AT 66-YEAR HIGH

PERCENTAGE OF GDP



Source: CBO.

heritage.org

# Where Are They Getting All The Money?



Did you ever vote on the new Recreational Centers? No, but the City has plans to start construction on one of the buildings. (See page 3) "The City is proposing to construct a new 17,000 square foot indoor neighborhood recreation center, modify the Flint Hills Breadbasket site to relocate an outdoor walk-in freezer as well as construct new on-street and off-street parking and make landscape and open space improvements throughout the site." Where is the City of Manhattan getting all of

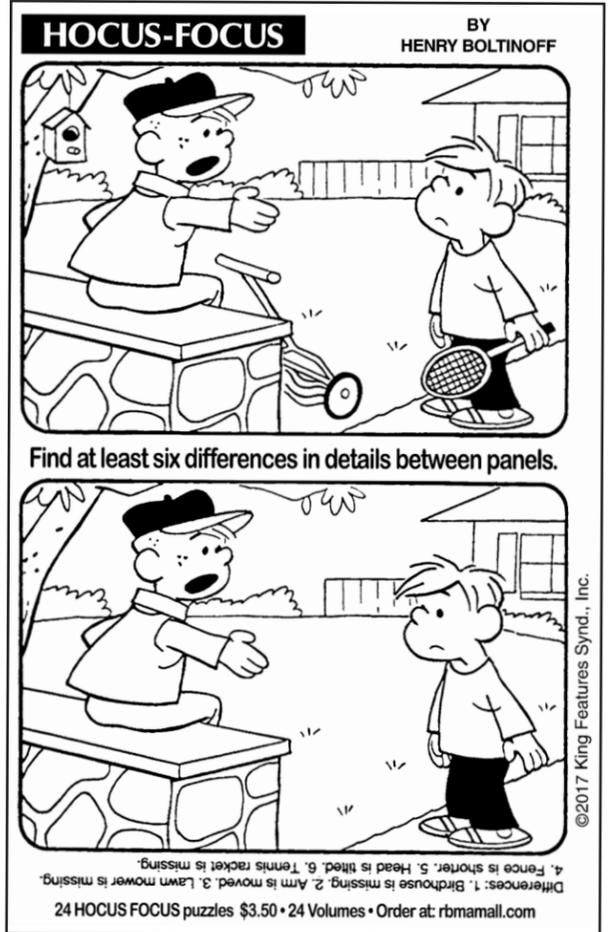
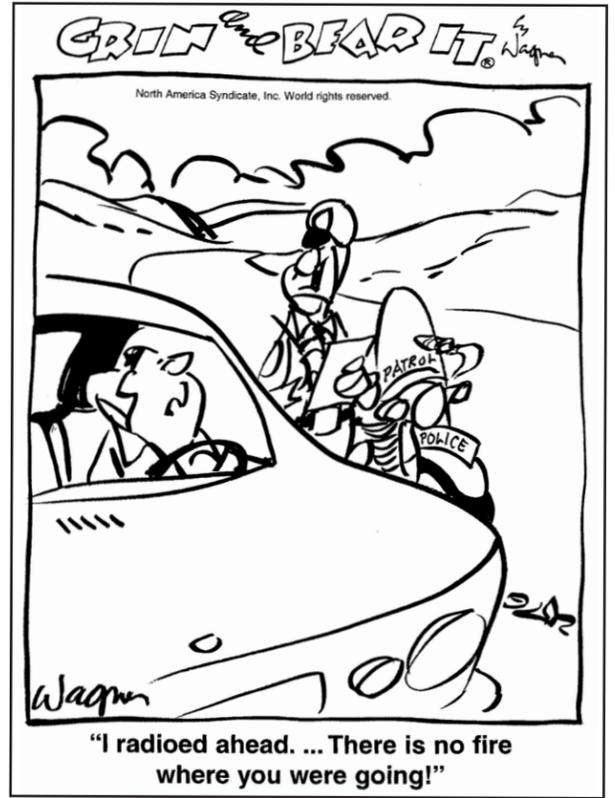
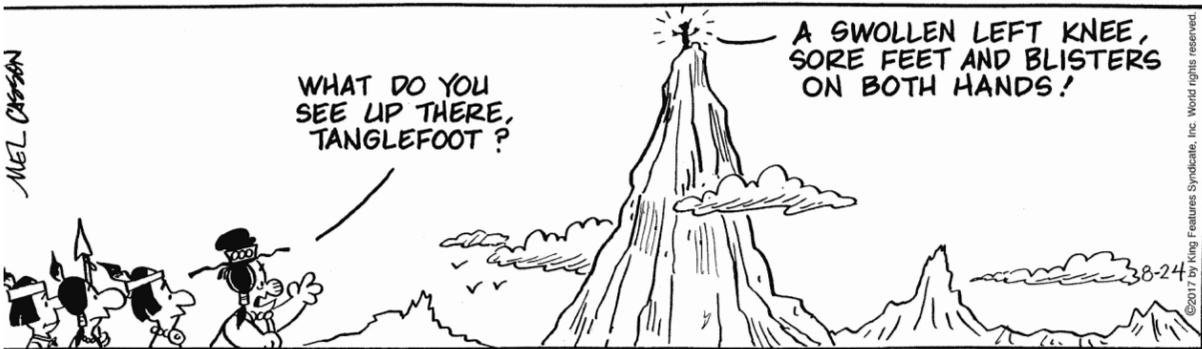
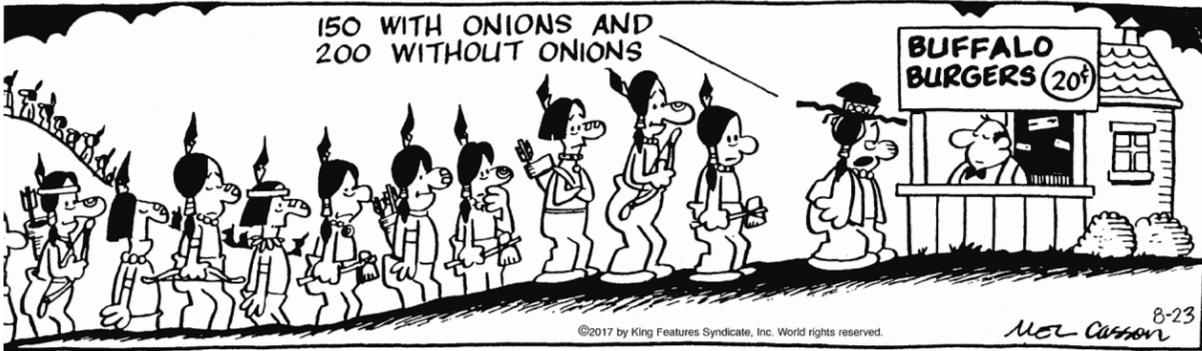
the money for the new construction? Oh! Yes! The City has been over taxing residents for years. The new 2018 City Budget is over \$148.5 million, up almost \$60 million in the past 10-years. Remember the only way to stop the spending is to vote in November for new City Commissioners who will cut the run-a-way spending.



Remember last year when the Free Press reported that the City of Manhattan was going to put several properties that they own up for sale? All of the properties had large new building and we could not understand why they wanted to sell. We found out that the City wanted to go east on Highway 24 and build one large building to house everything. It looks like they have changed their minds. One of the properties was the City Traffic Operation Facility located on Ft. Riley Blvd. (pictured above) Now the City says: "The approved building plan for the site is designed to accommodate future east-

ern and western building expansions totaling 4,400 square feet in floor area. The future eastern 2,600 square foot expansion is for a mirror image of the proposed eastern bay and work space for storage, and the future western 1,800 square foot expansion towards S. 11th Street would be for additional office space that could be used as a consolidated dispatch center and also serve as back-up Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The architectural design of the expansions will be consistent with the existing building."

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# Jayhawks hope to build on 2-win season in Year 3 under Beaty

By DAVE SKRETTA  
AP Sports Writer

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) — David Beaty fought back tears last season when Kansas, after enduring a winless and disheartening debut season under him, finally beat lower-level Rhode Island for his first win with the Jayhawks.

If that represented a baby step, a legitimate grown-up step came later in the season.

The Jayhawks had lost 19 straight Big 12 games when Texas rolled into town. They hadn't beaten the Longhorns since 1938, and trailed 21-10 in the fourth quarter. But a spirited comeback forced overtime, and

a field goal gave them just their second conference victory in 29 tries.

It was the highlight of a 2-10 season — and a crucial building block for the future.

"Obviously, we weren't satisfied last year with our record," Beaty said, "but we're extremely encouraged by the progress that our team has made. We've got a lot of work to do, but I love the energy and enthusiasm this team and our coaching staff shows."

The rebuilding job Beaty inherited from Charlie Weis was arguably the most challenging in major college football. Kansas was well below scholar-

ship limits and many of those on scholarship hardly had Division I ability. The result was lopsided losses just about every time they took the field.

But after a few painstaking years on the recruiting trail, where Beaty mined not only deep contacts in talent-rich Texas but also the transfer market, the Jayhawks finally have a legitimate Big 12 roster.

They have legitimate Big 12 expectations now, too. Qualifying for a bowl game tops the

list.

"This team knows that it has to earn everything that it gets. Nothing's going to come easy in this league," Beaty said. "It never does because it's one of the finest leagues on the face of the planet. But these guys that we have, they're committed to getting better every day."

The biggest question heading into the Jayhawks' opener Sept. 2 against Southeast Missouri State is who will be under center. Carter Stanley had impres-

sive moments as a freshman last season, but Washington State transfer Peyton Bender has been neck-and-neck with him throughout the offseason.

Making the battle even more interesting is that Stanley and Bender are roommates.

"It's been really a lot of fun," Stanley insisted, "and I think obviously it's amplified since we've been in fall camp. Every day you've got to bring it, because you know Peyton is a great player and I know he's

going to bring it."

There are plenty of other competitions across the roster, from running back to wide receiver to the secondary, where five of the top six defensive backs from last season are gone. But whereas that would be reason to cringe in the past, these days it is merely a reason to be intrigued.

That's another sign of just how much deeper the Jayhawks are this season.

## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



## R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



## THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

BY AL SCADUTO



## King Crossword

- |               |                       |                     |                     |               |                      |                    |                    |                   |            |                    |                       |                   |              |                      |               |           |              |                        |                  |                     |                        |                      |               |          |          |             |                |                   |                  |                |             |                 |                |                            |                 |                          |           |               |                        |                       |              |                     |                   |           |           |
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| <b>ACROSS</b> | 1 Moby-Dick's pursuer | 5 Strange           | 8 Slight coloration | 12 Disturb    | 13 Hawaiian neckwear | 14 Reed instrument | 15 Tunes           | 17 Diamond source | 18 Court   | 19 Spring, for one | 21 Unspoken "I dunno" | 24 Leave suddenly | 25 Henhouse  | 26 Became less harsh | 30 Everything | 31 Bisect | 32 Commotion | 33 Creator of 1-Across | 35 "Phooey!"     | 36 Shoppe           |                        |                      |               |          |          |             |                |                   |                  |                |             |                 |                |                            |                 |                          |           |               |                        |                       |              |                     |                   |           |           |
|               | describer             | 37 Greedy one's cry | 38 Wheedle          | 41 "A mouse!" | 42 Enthusiastic      | 43 Rapid decline   | 48 Equestrian game | 49 Type squares   | 50 Concept | 51 Aware of        | 52 Regret             | 53 Retain         | 1 Upper limb | 2 Weeding tool       | 3 Have a bug  | 4 Explode | 5 Hodgepodge | 6 Cee follower         | 7 Turn to liquid | 8 Beefsteak or plum | 9 Sacred bird of Egypt | 10 Taboo, to a child | 11 Adolescent | 16 Pooch | 20 Model | 21 Con game | 22 Golf target | 23 Hot dog holder | 24 Southern lass | 26 Seasickness | 27 Friendly | 28 Dutch cheese | 29 Be too fond | 31 Jack and Jill's terrain | 34 Type of doll | 35 Long-snouted antelope | 37 Obtain | 38 Crime boss | 39 Shakespeare's river | 40 Leave at the altar | 41 Different | 44 Ostrich's cousin | 45 Rhyming praise | 46 Teensy | 47 Siesta |

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Editorial taken from page one of the August 18th 2007 Issue of the Free Press



## What's Another \$39.2 Million?

**Editorial**  
**By Jon A. Brake**

You are about to receive a letter from the City of Manhattan. "Greetings the City of Manhattan wants your money and we know how to get it."

Last week the Manhattan City Commission approved a November 6, 2007 special election on a new \$39.2 Million quality of life bond issue. The special election will be held using a mail ballot. The Riley County Clerks office will mail more than 20,000 ballots on October 17th which is 20 days before the election. Ballots must be returned by noon on November 6th.

The \$39.2 million will build:

1. A Family Indoor Recreation & Aquatic Center - \$31.7 million.
2. Soccer Complex - A six field soccer complex in Fairmont Park - \$1.5 million.
3. Northview Pool Replacement - replace an aging pool facility with an expanded pool tank, waterslide, lap lanes and diving facilities - \$2.5 million.
4. Sunset Zoo Education & Visitor's Center - \$3.5 million.

Will the bond issue pass? If the City of Manhattan puts something to the voters, the staff feels it will pass and plans are in place to make it happen.

Why a mail-in ballot?

This is a change from the past. In the past Cities, Counties and School Districts wanted bond issue votes to be held without other items on the ballot that might bring in a large number of voters. The mail-in ballot will be going out to all registered voters in Manhattan. The County Clerk's Office says 20,000 plus are registered. Many are people who have lived in Manhattan but are now living somewhere else. The City wants a large response to cover the large number of people who will vote "no" because they do not want higher taxes, property or sales.

If the bond issue passes a

1/4 cent sales tax will be placed on all sales in Manhattan. But that tax will be only for 10 years, the bonds are for 20 years, so the voters will be going back to vote on the issue again. If the bond issue passes the first time and is defeated the second, property taxes will be charged to finish paying off the bonds.

Add this to the sales taxes being planned for downtown and you must wonder why are we voting on this at this time? Do we need another tax? We will find out on November 6th.

## Summary of Major Revenue Sources

**By Finance Department**  
**City of Manhattan**  
**Assumption Analysis for**  
**Budget Year 2017**  
**PROPERTY TAXES**

Average annual growth rate (2013-2016): 5.5%

2017 Budget Assumption: 6.0%

The annual increase in valuation from new improvements has continued to increase over the past several years due to the increase in commercial real estate and the new subdivision growth that has regained momentum over the past year. Unfortunately service demands, especially from the Riley County Police Department, have absorbed nearly all of those new property taxes. The growth of the City through new annexations has placed additional stress on other City operations including a growing debt burden necessary to pay for infrastructure costs associated with this community-wide growth. Each year, it is the goal of the City Commission and City Administration to levy property taxes at a rate that is fairly consistent with the change in total valuation as to not have a dramatic impact on individual taxpayers. In 2017, the City will levy an additional \$1,400,895 in property taxes or 1.072 mills for all city services, as well as services provided by the Riley County Police Department and the Manhattan Public Library

### UTILITY FEES

Average annual growth rate (2013-2016): 3.5%

2017 Budget Assumption: 3.7%

City Administration is recommending an increase in general water fees in order to collect additional revenues for the debt payments resulting of the Water Treatment Plant expansion. In total the proposed increase to monthly water rates is estimated to be about 3%. There is also a small wastewater utility rate increase of 3% proposed for 2017 as the result of various improvements mandated by the state and federal government for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Increases to the City's stormwater fee rates were first implemented in April 2007. In January, 2017, the stormwater monthly fee will increase by 3%, or about \$0.14 per month for the average utility user.

### LOCAL SALES TAXES

Average annual growth rate (2013-2016): 1.6%

2017 Budget Assumption: 2.3%

In 2017, an estimated \$3.0 million will be collected from a countywide sales tax and an estimated \$10.6 million from the City's 1% sales tax. By City ordinance, one-half of the City sales tax is directly credited to the Sales Tax Fund and used to reduce the local burden on property taxes. The other one-half of the City sales tax is credited to the General Fund. One-half of the anticipated countywide sales tax received by the City is distributed to the General Fund. In the past, the other one-half was credited to the City's Economic Development Fund in accordance with City Ordinance 6294. Due to the sunset of the

sales tax on December 31, 2012, the city did not budget for the Economic Development tax. However, on November 6, 2012 the voters decided to renew the sales tax during the general election for an additional ten years. The City Commission has committed to use the funds for economic development initiatives including traditional incentives, infrastructure projects, and property tax relief.

### FRANCHISE FEES

Average annual growth rate (2013-2016): 2.8%

2017 Budget Assumption: 0.4%

By local ordinance the City charges Westar Energy, Kansas Gas Service, AT&T, and Cox Communications a fee for the right to use city streets and rights-of-way for the placing and maintaining of equipment and property.

The franchise fee for electric and gas is 4% of gross revenues, 5% of gross revenues for cable television, and for AT&T the franchise fee is \$1.20 per line. The City also charges the municipal water and sewage operations a franchise fee of 5%. Overall, revenues are budgeted at \$4.05 million for 2017, which is only 0.4% higher than in 2016.

### Municipal Court Revenues

Average annual growth rate (2013-2016): 3.4%

2017 Budget Assumption: 9.3%

Municipal violations are projected to increase and therefore a 9.3% or \$146,639 increase over 2016 was projected for the 2017 budget bringing total Municipal Court Revenues to \$1,690,139.

### STATE GASOLINE TAX REFUNDS

Average annual growth rate (2013-2016): 1.8%

2017 Budget Assumption: 8.2%

The State gasoline tax refunds are the main source of revenue for the Special Street & Highway fund. These funds are distributed quarterly and are estimated at approximately \$1.6 million for 2017. In the past few years, the refunds had increased slightly, however beginning in 2009 the state announced a reduction in allocations and the refund did not meet the budgeted revenue amount. The tax anticipated for 2017 is however expected to increase by 8.2% over 2016 resulting in a budgeted \$1,634,000.

### MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES

Average annual growth rate (2013-2016): 3.9%

2017 Budget Assumption: 8.3%

Motor vehicle tax estimates are determined by the County. Over the past 5 years, with the exception of budget year 2014, Motor vehicle taxes have been increasing yearly leading to a budget increase of 8.3% over 2016.

### SPECIAL ALCOHOL REVENUES

Average annual growth rate (2013-2016): 3.0%

2017 Budget Assumption: 0.4%

**Most printed but cut for lack of space**

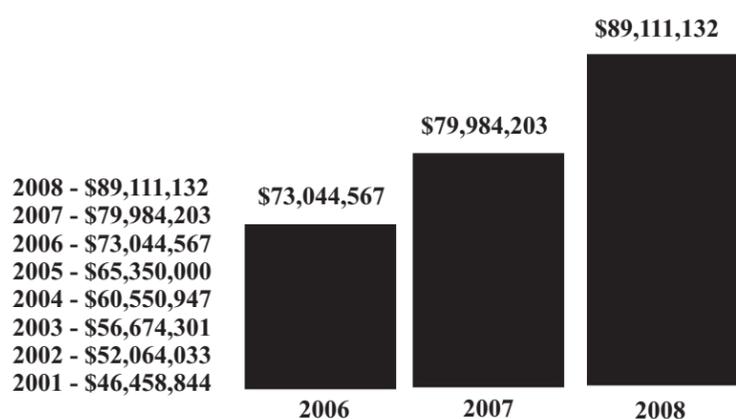
## City Budget Is Outrageous

**Editorial**  
**By Jon A. Brake**

The 2008 Budget passed Tuesday night by the Manhattan City Commission is outrageous. If City Manager Ron Fehr and his staff were in private business, they would not be in business.

So the budget has gone up only \$23,761,000 in the last three years. (Dec. 05 - Jan. 08) The biggest problem is how much they have missed what the City of Manhattan needs to operate. In 2006 Fehr and Staff produced a budget that was approved by the City Commission for \$73,044,567 and that was up \$8 million from 2005. But the City only need \$62,492,805 to operate. That is the figure given to the City Commission Tuesday night. The Budget was almost \$11 million more than needed. In 2007 the Budget hit \$79,984,203 but the City Manager and Staff told the City Commission Tuesday night that they will only use

### 2008 Budget Comparison



\$69,985,742 by the end of the year.

Remember in the beginning the City Manager and Staff had a budget projection of \$91 million and could not think of a way to cut? For years the City has been op-

erating on about \$10 million less that budgeted. We can understand a four or five percent extra in the budget but why \$10 million plus.

And what about the City Commission? They saw the Notice that was to be pub-

lished. They could see the City Budget was over expenditures by \$10 million. Why is it that only Commissioner Bob Strawn could read the Budget? The others could be "yes" men and only do what they are told.

## Diary of Issac T. Goodnow - 1855

*Transcribed by staff and volunteers of the Riley County Historical Museum from a typescript of the original diary held in the collection of the Kansas State Historical Society. The Goodnow House Historic Site, 2001 Claflin Road Manhattan, Kansas 785-565-5490 is open to the public Saturday and Sunday 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and when Riley County Historical Museum staff is available Tuesday through Friday 9:00a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission is free.*

### Diary of Isaac T. Goodnow 1855

Saturday, 3/17/55

Very cold. Evening visiting & passing resolutions on our boat, & its accommodations. Band played &c.

Sunday, 3/18/55

Landed in Kansas City at 9 A.M. Went to church in the A.M. P.M. Saw Drs. Beach, & Lykins & conversed with them considerably.

Monday, 3/19/55

Gen Pomroy arrived, held quite a conversation with him. Spent the day in getting ready to go up into the Territory of Kansas. Wrote to T.H. Webb, & others. Sat up till about 3. O'clock. Discharged a pistol by accident but disturbed no one.

Tuesday, 3/20/55

Several of the party bought Oxen & horses. 7. of us started with a two horse team, leaving 12 to come on with the oxen. Came 16 1/2 miles to Ham's an Indian, & stopped for the night. Snowed. Did not sleep.

Wednesday, 3/21/55

After breakfast started off in the snow. Several took dinner at an Indian's but I ate a lunch. Arrived at Lawrence at 5. P.M. Stopped at the Editor's Mr Brown. Wrote my wife. Lawrence looks new & rough, about as I expected.

Thursday, 3/22/55

Left at 9. A.M. for Topeka, arrived about sun down. 25 miles. Found an old friend Mr Wilmarth Slept on a board overhead. Do not sleep much. Talked with Mr Holliday.

Friday, 3/23/55

Crossed at Smith's landing. Called at the Catholic Mission. Staid over night with a Californian who had married a half Breed Pottawatomie. He has a farm beautifully located & a good wife—fed us well. Slept on the floor.

Saturday, 3/24/55

Rode 18 miles, built a fire & dined on home cookery. Very windy Arrived at Rev. Charles E. Blood's at 2. O'clock, & put up over the Sabbath, near the Big Blue, 25 miles from Mr Greemore's, the Californian. Walked to a Mound on the Blue commanding one of the most delightful views imaginable. Saw the sunset.

Sunday, 3/25/55

Very windy. Talked over matters with Rev. Mr. B. relative to future duties. The responsibilities of my position almost press me down. Had I know one to decide for only myself I could easily bear it. The country here is magnificent! Oh the moonlight scenery!

Monday, 3/26/55

Exceedingly windy & cold. P.M. Walked down to Poliska a city site chosen by Mr Park Made arrangements with Mr Childs & Thruston Joseph Wintermute, N.R. Wright E.H. Lovejoy to pitch our tent upon the landing section.

Tuesday, 3/27/55

Mr. Wright, C.H. Lovejoy, J. Wintermute & myself put up our dwelling in the shape of a tent with walls of turf around it. Wintermute and myself lodged in it. Very cold but we were comfortable. Splendid moonlight evening. Selected several other claims.

Wednesday, 3/28/55

Worked all the forenoon on the park claim, planted corn and peach stones and built part of a fence around them. Cut some prairie grass.

Thursday, 3/29/55

In my absence Martin an interloper, who ordered us off, to which no one paid any attention.

Friday, 3/30/55

Election day. Voted for Freedom, with some 15 of our company. Mr. Houston our representative elected. J. Wintermute left. 15. Wyandots, Missourians &c armed with guns, revolvers, & came on & ordered us to move Compromised the matter to our satisfaction.

Saturday, 3/31/55

Moved our tent to a new position.

Sunday, 4/1/55

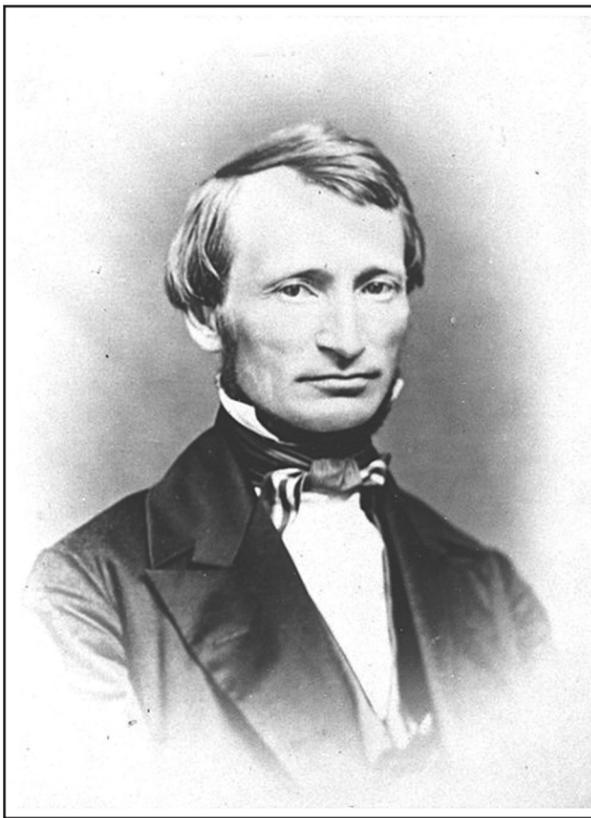
Preaching by C.H. Lovejoy at Mr Blood's. Much fatigued & feet sore with walking.

Monday, 4/2/55

Purchased a beautiful wood claim with prairies bottom land & a mill seat, of Mr Job Wilbur from Fall River. He wishes to return.

Tuesday, 4/3/55

Worked on my claim a little set out a couple of trees. L.P. Lincoln left today. Lent him



**Isaac Goodnow was an early resident of Manhattan, Kansas, and was a free-state supporter. He was a delegate to the Leavenworth Constitutional Convention and was one of the founders of Bluemont College.**

\$28.00 Is to return in 5 weeks Br Shattuck arrived, Deane, F.B. Smith, S. Perry.

Wednesday, 4/4/55

Gone most of the day on business. Meeting to organize a city association, named it Boston. 24 present.

Thursday, 4/5/55

Feel the need of my wife,— Shall write inviting her to come on. J.A. Brown, T.C. Wells, Gorton & Ward arrived.

Friday, 4/6/55

Have had to spend much time almost every day in encouraging the young men & keep them from going home. Wells bought a claim of Babcock on Cedar Creek.

Saturday, 4/7/55

Worked at gardening with Br. Shattuck.

Sunday, 4/8/55

Br J. Gill arrived. Wrote a number of letters to send to the states,— some contrary to my general practices. S.C. Pomroy, J.T. Gooding, Ellen D.G. Zoe—, L.G. Parkerson, Wm. (?), Wm. E.G.

Monday, 4/9/55

Sent letters by N.R. Wright. J.A. Brown has left with Gorton. F.B. Smith has gone to K. City for goods & provisions. Deane & Crane have also left.

Tuesday, 4/10/55

Planted in garden some.

Wednesday, 4/11/55

Worked laying a floor. Evening attended a meeting of the City Trustees. Got home at 11 1/2 P.M.

Thursday, 4/12/55

Worked on floor with Br Shattuck & in plastering cabin. Walked to Br Bloods Very windy & Dusty & warm!

otherwise. Called at Mr Houston's to see about his little girl lost.

Sunday, 4/15/55

Went to the city to meeting. Preaching by Rev. C.H. Lovejoy 22 present. One a (?) for wonder! Saw a wolf upon the prairie. Dr A. Hunting arrived in the evening & informed me that Br Wm. is on the road close by.

Monday, 4/16/55

Rode 14 miles to meet Wm. & brought him along with right glad to see him. Poor fellow is pretty well worn down.

Tuesday, 4/17/55

Went out to look at claims. Left Wm. & Dr H.—to go on while I returned to my garden work. Wrote Several letters, & rec'd calls from Bro. Gill & Perry. A fresh arrival of 5 men & 3 women! Warm, dry & windy!

Thursday, 4/26/55

Started for K. City with a 2 horse team to bring up Br Denison. Took a long Mr & Mrs. Russell, & Mr Martin as passengers. Drove to Graymore's 25 miles. Camped out alone in my wagon.

Friday, 4/27/55

Drove to Judge Kirkendalls 35 m. Met large numbers of emigrants 10 wagons of them.

Saturday, 4/28/55

Went on to Stranger's Creek 40 miles & camped Slept finely. Rained.

Sunday, 4/29/55

Drove to Baptist Mission & attended Church among the Indians. Preaching by Rev. Mr Pratt Missionary—had an inter-

preter 35 persons present Interesting, "Awake thou"

Monday, 4/30/55

Rode 12 miles to Parkville & dined with G.S. Park. Leaves next Friday to save his live from Pro-Slavery mob. Presented me 1 1/2 Bu Corn. A noble man. Paid me \$100 for buying out a claim of Martin. Telegraphed to Br. D.

Tuesday, 5/1/55

Arrived in K. City at dark & found Br. D. & family comfortable. Did some business & started off with Denison & team for the Big Blue. Hard showers Br D's horses acted badly. Got 2 1/2 miles & camped Wet & chilly. Gloomy.

Wednesday, 5/2/55

Drove through Westport to Donelsons 15 miles. Took in Dr Prentiss as a passenger for Lawrence.

Thursday, 5/3/55

Proceeded to Lawrence 31 miles. Pleasant quite Saw several old friends & took letters from office. Very much fatigued. Slept in my wagon.

Friday, 5/4/55

Went forward to Topeka, 25 miles. Saw C.H. Lovejoy before starting, E Jones, & Dea. Farley. Took along A.D. Searle, Surveyor.

Saturday, 5/5/55

Found Wilmarth & P. Ingraham, the latter goes on to the Big Blue with me. Crossed the river at Topeka & met Dr. C. Robinson. Sold him my rifle (Porter's) Drove to the Catholic Mission. 23 miles.

**Continued Next Week**

### Goodnow House State Historic Site

The Goodnow House, built in 1861, is an important site to the citizens of Kansas. Isaac Goodnow and his wife Ellen were abolitionists who immigrated to Kansas in 1855 to establish Manhattan as a free-state community. Isaac Goodnow was also a founder of what became Kansas State University and was instrumental in developing the Kansas public school system as the first elected Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The site has significant documentation through letters, diaries, and photographs and much of the furniture is original to the house. Many of Goodnow's letters and other information is on the web site [www.territorialkansasonline.org](http://www.territorialkansasonline.org) and on the Kansas State Historical Society web site [www.kshs.org](http://www.kshs.org).

The Goodnow House Museum is located next door to the Riley County Historical Museum at 2301 Claflin Road in Manhattan. The Riley County Historical Society, Riley County, and the Kansas State Historical Society signed a partnership agreement for the operation of Goodnow House in 1996.



#### QUICK FACTS

**2301 Claflin • Manhattan, KS**

[Click for Map](#)

#### Hours of Operation:

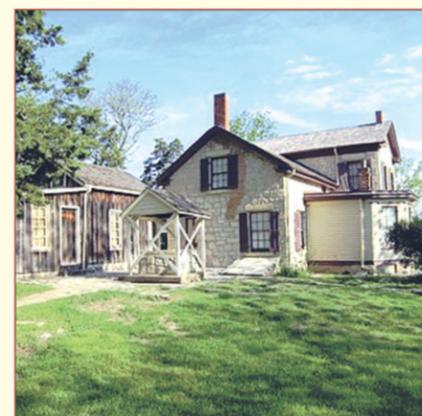
Saturday & Sunday 2:00pm to 5:00pm  
Tuesday - Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm  
(subject to staff availability 785-565-6490)  
Group tours by appointment  
Closed National Holidays

#### Admission:

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Suggested donation \$2.00 adult, \$1.00 children  
KSHS Inc. members, current military and children under five admitted free



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Goodnow House From South

## County Minutes Are Light On Detail



### Riley County Minutes Cost Taxpayers \$700 Per Month:

The minutes for years did not cost the county extra. They were produced using Word. A new program now costs \$700 per month.

### Board of Riley County Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes August 03, 2017 Commission Chambers 8:30 AM

#### Public Comments

Stan Hoerman, a lifetime resident of Riley County, said he wanted to discuss public safety. Hoerman said Hwy 18 to Zeandale has bicyclists and joggers on that highway and there is no shoulder.

Rosewicz said that is a state highway.

Rodriguez said he appreci-

ates his concern about the bicyclists.

Wells said he appreciates his concern for the public.

#### Commission Comments

Wilson's Comments: Absent

#### Rodriguez's Comments:

Spent most of my time catching up with e-mails other paper work and took a couple of phone calls from constituents.

#### Wells' Comments:

Wells said he spent time with a constituent yesterday.

#### Business Meeting

Riley County Historical Museum Roof Replacement

Move to approve the bid from Weddle and Sons, Inc. in the amount of \$26,854.00.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Marvin Rodriguez, County Commissioner  
SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner

AYES: Wells, Rodriguez  
ABSENT: Wilson

Health Dept. Roof Replacement

The commission agreed to table this item until Monday.

Sign Riley County Personnel Action Form(s)

The Board of County Commissioners signed Riley County Personnel Action Forms for the following:

Kathryn Sexton, a Public Health Nurse - M&I, in the Health Department, for Separation from County Service, effective July 31, 2017.

Darqel Brown, an Appraiser II - Commercial, in the Appraiser's Office, for Separation from County Service, effective July 31, 2017.

Sign Riley County Position Action Form(s)

The Board of County Commissioners signed Riley County Position Action Forms for the following:

a Public Health Nurse - Maternal and Infant (M&I), in the Health Department, at a grade S. an Appraiser II - Commercial, in the Appraiser's Office, at a grade H.

Approve payroll/accounts payables (when completed)

Move to approve the payroll vouchers in the amount of \$424,201.03 and the following warrant vouchers for August 4,

2017:

2017 Budget	
County General	\$1,379,841.45
Health Department	32,103.09
Motor Vehicle Operations	3,972.76
Community Corrections	16,722.70
Emergency 911	285.00
Solid Waste	181,320.75
County Building	1,376.11
Road & Bridge Cap Project	2,106.53
RCPD Levy/Op	734.08
Riley Co Fire Dist #11	2,127.04
Fire Dist #1 Tuttle Cove	2,739.50
University Park W&S	94.76
Univ Park Capital Project	28,500.00
Hunters Island Water Dist	711.68
Moehlman Bottoms	390.07
Valleywood Operations	80.74
Terra Heights Sinking	601.33
Konza Water Operations	2,221.75
TOTAL	\$1,665,929.34

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Marvin Rodriguez, County Commissioner  
SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner  
AYES: Wells, Rodriguez  
ABSENT: Wilson

#### Review Minutes

Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Jul 31, 2017 8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes.

RESULT: ACCEPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Marvin Rodriguez, County Commissioner  
SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner  
AYES: Wells, Rodriguez

ABSENT: Wilson

Discuss Press Conference

9:00 AM Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director

Financing for Radio Infrastructure

P. Collins said in 2005 the Riley County 911 Advisory Board voted to begin replacement of outdated radio infrastructure including mobile and portable radios that could not meet the project 25 (P-25) standards. Most Riley County emergency services now have P-25 capable radios, or are currently acquiring P-25 compliant digital VHF radios.

P. Collins said Riley County moved forward in 2014 with the development of a digital radio system, with the assistance of a consultant. An RFP and bid were received.

P. Collins said for the last year we have reviewed and tightened the scope of work including the number of sites, number of portable radios, number of mobile radios and accessories/functions added onto the base system. We now have a solid dollar figure for the base radio system, a maximum dollar figure for the portable and mobile radios to be purchased initially. We also know what ongoing maintenance will be for 15 years and what a complete hardware refresh will cost at year eight. As a group our 911 committee agree that we make sure that we hire a third party to manage the system install and testing.

P. Collins discussed the radio infrastructure financing.

**(Editor's Note: Have you ever noticed the County Minutes do not tell the tax payers what the project will cost? Why?)**

Move to direct the finance officer to draft and publish a request for information including

possible financing for 15 years for the 911 radio infrastructure, subscriber radios, system maintenance and hardware refresh and third party testing.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Marvin Rodriguez, County Commissioner  
AYES: Wells, Rodriguez  
ABSENT: Wilson

9:15 AM Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director

#### Staff Report

Peterson presented a Noxious Weed/HHW staff update.

9:30 AM Greg McHenry, Appraiser

#### Appraiser's Office Report

McHenry presented an Appraiser's Office Report.

9:45 AM Monty Wedel, Planning/Specials Projects Director

#### Planning & Development - Staff Update

Wedel presented a Planning and Development staff update.

10:10 AM Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

#### Administrative Work Session

Holeman said the Health Department received information on a new legislation House Bill 2409. Holeman said the State of Kansas cannot enter into a contract with other parties unless the party signs a certification saying they are not boycotting Israel.

10:30 AM Ron Fehr, Manhattan City Manager

#### Manhattan City General Update

Fehr presented a Manhattan City general update.

#### 10:50 AM Adjournment

## Lawmaker seeks probe after AP reveals maggots in NY facility

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — A New York state lawmaker is demanding a federal investigation into New York state's care for the disabled following a recent Associated Press story that revealed the case of a man infested with maggots in a state-run group home.

Democratic Assemblyman Anthony Brindisi, of Utica, told the AP on Saturday that he is asking the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to investigate the group home and other state-regulated facilities for the disabled where there

have been allegations of abuse and neglect.

"It's clear from seeing this that New York state cannot be relied on to police itself," said Brindisi, who is running for Congress. "When you have thousands of cases (of abuse and neglect) happening across the state — this being one of the most egregious — we must give some reassurance to families that their loved ones are being taken care of."

The call for a federal probe comes after the AP published a story Thursday showing that it's

often easier to find health and safety information for local restaurants than it is to learn about conditions at facilities serving approximately 1 million of the state's most vulnerable residents.

Forty-one-year-old Steven Wenger was twice found to have maggots crawling around his breathing tube in a state-owned and -operated small group home in Rome, New York, last summer. Wenger cannot walk, talk or feed himself after suffering severe brain trauma in a 1991 car crash.

A state investigation concluded that the infestation was the result of neglect and that caregivers failed to properly clean the site of Wenger's breathing tube. Yet no caregivers were disciplined and the report on the case was made confidential. The agency in charge of the facility says it did increase training for staff. Wenger is now being cared for in a different facility.

A copy of the report was obtained by the AP, which found that New York state is not alone in making it difficult for mem-

bers of the public to access records about allegations of abuse and neglect in state-regulated facilities for the disabled. In New York, the Justice Center is tasked with investigating cases related to the care of approximately 1 million New Yorkers.

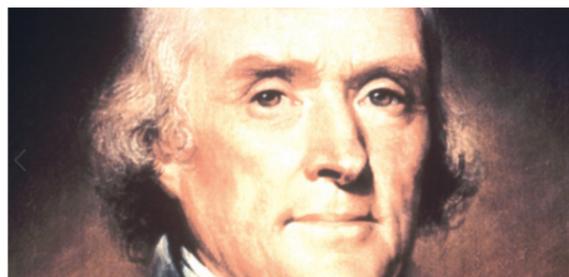
Brindisi said he sought details about Wenger's case earlier this year after the man's father contacted him with concerns about his son's care. He said officials at the Justice Center told him that the case was closed and that Wenger's father was

satisfied with the results — something that wasn't the case.

"There has to be more transparency by the Justice Center," he said.

Asked about Brindisi's comments, Justice Center spokesman William Reynolds said Saturday the agency regularly works with federal officials "and will continue to do so as needed."

The Justice Center conducted an "exhaustive" review of the incident but could not assign responsibility to any specific staff members.



I never considered a difference of opinion in politics, in religion, in philosophy, as cause for withdrawing from a friend.

Thomas Jefferson

## Court rejects KPERS effort to limit benefits for teachers

Topeka — A Shawnee County judge dealt a setback last week to efforts by the state pension system to reduce the retirement benefits of educators who take time off from their teaching jobs to work as leaders of their local teachers union.

The ruling in favor of Nancy Fritz, a recently retired librarian with the Shawnee Mission School District, effectively reaffirms a longstanding practice in most of the state's larger school districts that allows teachers to continue earning service credit toward their retirement even when they are working full time tending to union business.

It also flatly rejected a relatively new legal policy of the Kansas Public Employees Re-

tirement System, which argues that such teachers are really union employees and thus should not be entitled to accrue state-funded retirement benefits.

"I think there's an assumption that somehow working on issues which have a connection to a local association — negotiations processing and so forth — those all, in my mind, provide a direct benefit and direct service to the employer," David Schauner, general counsel for the Kansas National Education Association, said in a telephone interview.

But KPERS spokeswoman Kristen Basso said the new policy grew out of a Legislative Post Audit report in 2015 that said auditors had identified seven teachers who were being

awarded service credit improperly while working for their professional associations.

Of those seven educators, Basso said, one was later found to have actually worked and earned the service credit. One other chose not to appeal the reduction in service credit. But five other individuals, including Fritz, chose to appeal KPERS' decision.

Fritz's was the first case to reach a judicial decision. Other cases involving the Wichita, Olathe and Blue Valley school districts are still pending, Basso said.

According to court records, Fritz was employed by the Shawnee Mission school district from 1975 through 1986 and again from 1993 through 2015. Her official job title dur-

ing those periods was "professional employee."

During her last five years, however, she also served as president of NEA-Shawnee Mission, the local collective bargaining unit that is affiliated with KNEA. During that time, she was officially on a leave of absence from her duties as a librarian so she could tend to union business, and the union reimbursed the district for the cost of her salary and benefits, which included employer contributions into her KPERS account.

When Fritz retired in August 2015, she received a letter from KPERS saying that she was not entitled to receive service credit for those five years, a decision that effectively cut her benefits by \$789 per month.

During an administrative law proceeding, Fritz's attorneys presented affidavits from two former Shawnee Mission superintendents who stated that she was an employee of the district during that time. But an administrative law judge rejected those affidavits and upheld KPERS' decision to deny the service credit for those years.

Fritz then appealed that administrative decision to Shawnee County District Court.

Under KPERS rules, employees are eligible to receive full benefits when their total number of "points," defined as their age plus years of service, add up to 85 or more. Thus, each year, employees earn two points, one for their age and one for the year of service.

KPERS argued that because the union was reimbursing the

district for the cost of Fritz's salary and benefits meant that she was really a union employee. But in a 17-page decision Wednesday, Aug. 9, District Judge Evelyn Wilson rejected that argument, saying the source of funding for the job was irrelevant to defining an employee under the state's public pension statutes.

She noted that during those five years, Fritz had a contract with the district defining her job duties, and that she had a district-issued ID card, email address and access to the district's computer network.

She also rejected KPERS' argument that being on a leave of absence from her duties as a librarian made Fritz ineligible to earn service credit because she was, in effect, serving the district in another capacity.

## One-fifth of Americans find workplace hostile or threatening

WASHINGTON (AP) — The American workplace is grueling, stressful and surprisingly hostile.

So concludes an in-depth study of 3,066 U.S. workers by the Rand Corp., Harvard Medical School and the University of California, Los Angeles. Among the findings:

Nearly one in five workers \_ a share the study calls "disturbingly high" \_ say they face a hostile or threatening environment at work, which can in-

clude sexual harassment and bullying. Workers who have to face customers endure a disproportionate share of abuse.

Nearly 55 percent say they face "unpleasant and potentially hazardous" conditions.

Nearly three quarters say they spend at least a fourth of their time on the job in "intense or repetitive physical" labor. "I was surprised at how physically demanding jobs were," says lead author Nicole Maestas, a Harvard Medical School econ-

omist.

Telecommuting is rare: 78 percent say they are required to be present in their workplace during working hours.

Only 38 percent say their jobs offer good prospects for advancement. And the older they get, the less optimistic they become.

About half say they work on their own time to meet the demands of their job.

"Wow \_ (work) is pretty taxing place for many people,"

Maestas says. "I was surprised by how pressured and hectic the workplace is."

In many cases, less-educated workers endure tougher working conditions. For example, fewer than half of men without college degrees can take a break whenever they want to, compared to more than 76 percent of men with college degrees. Likewise, nearly 68 percent of men without degrees spend at least a fourth of their time moving heavy loads.

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## KSU Fan Appreciation Day Brings Taste of Wildcat Football

By: Corbin McGuire  
KSU Sports Information

Hours before the gates opened for K-State's annual Fan Appreciation Day on Saturday, James Woodfield tossed a small football around with his two grandsons, both sporting Wildcat football jerseys.

"I want to be a K-State football player," yelled one grandson.

A native New Yorker who moved to Kansas in the early 1970s, Woodfield loves these moments. He experienced a similar one at last year's Fan Appreciation Day, and he could not turn down the opportunity to bring both his grandsons back this year.

"Last year, he goes, 'Grandpa, you are going to come watch me when I play on this field one day, aren't you?'" Woodfield said. "It about put tears in Grandpa's eyes.

"I just love the fact that this gives them something to look forward to on Saturdays."

Fan Appreciation Day has a similar affect on Wildcat fans of all ages.

"We come mostly for the tailgating," said Brian Schottler, a



That's three fans for the Wildcats.

(Photo by KSU Sports Information)

Manhattan native. "We've watched all the YouTube videos and we're ready. It's almost football time."

Added Woodfield: "It just makes you feel more connected with the experience. It's something to look forward to, getting down there and meeting the players. I'm not big on getting

autographs, it's more about just getting down there, meeting and greeting, and being on the field and seeing it from that perspective."

The event offered fans the opportunity to get autographs from the Wildcats and watch the last part of their practice, giving them a taste of excite-

ment for what's to come in the fall.

"It seems like there's some renewed optimism about how we'll end up this season," Schottler said of the Wildcats, who are ranked No. 19 in the Preseason Amway Coaches Poll. "So that's kind of exciting to see if we can live up to ex-

pectations."

"I'm excited about the awesome potential," added Woodfield. "You have to dream big and there's a chance, if we win the Big 12, we might even have a shot at a national championship run. Who knows? We could do something special."

Like any trip to Bill Snyder Family Stadium, Fan Appreciation Day brings a feeling of nostalgia. It reminds fans what they love most about K-State football.

Tammy Caffrey, who lives in Westmoreland, said it's "the excitement and the pride that everybody takes in it."

As for Daniel Lehman, a K-State graduate living in Topeka, he said his favorite aspect of the program is the man who runs it.

"It's just Bill Snyder himself, just what he brings to the community," Lehman said. "With his battle with cancer and now he's coming back, it's just good to see."

For fans like Woodfield, who are old enough to remember K-State football before Snyder arrived, it's a reminder of just how far the program has come.

"It's great around here," he said. "We are what we promote. At K-State, it's a family thing.

We treat people with respect and it's a great experience. It's just great to have everybody have a chance to actually show their pride."

Schottler, who does not remember the down years very well, said watching Dan Youngman's documentary, "Miracle in Manhattan — Part 1 — The Foundation," gave him a new appreciation for what transpired once Bill Snyder came to K-State.

"I really like seeing all of the purple. I've been here all my life and I don't really remember when it switched, but we were watching all the old clips and people are all wearing all different colored shirts, unless it was Nebraska, but there was really no coherence, and now you just walk around town and everybody's wearing purple," Schottler said. "That's really cool to see that support. Knowing that you're part of something that big, that's really cool, knowing football was really the key to start that. Snyder really built that up to where everybody kind of celebrates that every day, rather than just a few Saturdays in the fall. It's really impressive."

## Sports Potpourri by Mac Stevenson

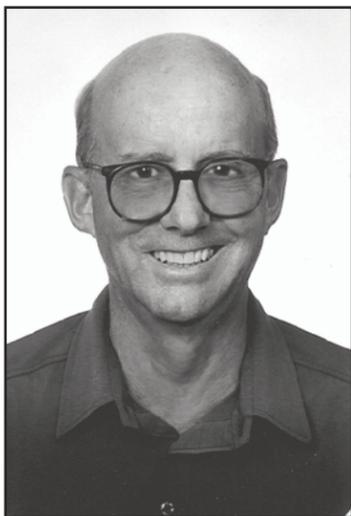
By Mac Stevenson

On August 6, Jake Junis (6-2, 225) pitched one of the best games of the season for the Kansas City Royals and he was rewarded with another demotion to Triple-A Omaha. KC beat Seattle 9-1 and Junis pitched eight complete innings, giving up just 4 hits and one run and no walks. He threw 94 pitches and 65 were strikes.

Junis will undoubtedly be recalled soon from Omaha as the Royals pitching staff is coming apart like a two-dollar suitcase. But that's not the point, why was he demoted after pitching such a gem?

Three men are responsible for most of KC's personnel decisions: manger Ned Yost, general manager Dayton Moore, and owner David Glass. Yost and Moore are most likely the guys in charge of roster changes affecting available players. Sending Junis down makes no sense; the starting pitching has been slipping and it's getting worse.

Yost or Moore finally decided to bench Alex Gordon, a move that was long overdue. Gordon (33 years old) is a fine young man who has lost his hit-



By Mac Stevenson

ting ability; he has gone through a number of injuries during his career with the Royals and it appears that has taken a toll on his ability to hit major league pitching. Gordon has struggled all season at the plate and he should have been benched early in the season.

Kansas City could still manage to

stumble into the playoffs as the competition in the American League is mediocre, but the handling of the players by Moore and Yost isn't helping. As for next year, Aye Yi Yi!

One factor became clear after KU's basketball team won their four exhibition games in Italy against weak opposition: the Jayhawks are dangerously thin on their frontline.

Kansas has just three inside players who have the ability to be competitive during the Jayhawks rugged schedule; Udoka Azubuike (7-0, 285 So), Billy Preston (6-10, 230 Fr) and Mitch Lightfoot (6-8, 210 So) make up KU's extremely thin group of pivot players.

All three have limited or no experience. And what happens if one of the three is injured? Preston and Azubuike are going to have to split time at the center position because Lightfoot isn't even close to being big enough to hold his own with opposing centers. Lightfoot will get a chance to play a lot of minutes at power forward because Coach Self will be limited on playing Azubuike and Preston at the same time.

If Azubuike and Preston develop

into effective inside players, KU will have another superb ball club because Self has talent and experience and depth among the perimeter players. But the inside game of Kansas could become a major issue as the Jayhawks make a run at a 14th consecutive Big 12 championship.

Kansas State's football team received a negative jolt when it was reported in the media that senior center Reid Najvar (6-4, 295) is out for the season. Najvar started all 13 games for the Wildcats last season and he was nominated for the preseason watch list for the Rimington Trophy (best center in nation) this summer.

Najvar was a force in the middle of K-State's offensive line last year and he will be sorely missed if the reports are true. Kansas State's coaching staff hasn't released any information about Najvar's supposed injury. Late rumors have reported that Najvar has a concussion problem, but that hasn't been confirmed by Coach Snyder.

Offensive line coach Charlie Dickey has a ready replacement for Najvar; junior right tackle Dalton Risner (6-5, 300) started at center his freshman season and he's one of the best offensive linemen in the Big 12. But then replacing Risner at right

tackle becomes an issue.

If Najvar is truly lost for the season, that's a blow to K-State's OL because the talent and depth and experience will be depleted.

The Kansas City Chiefs lost their exhibition opener (27-17) to San Francisco last Friday, but the outcome is deceiving indeed. KC's starting QB Alex Smith led the Chiefs on an efficient touchdown drive on their first offensive possession. Smith's passing and his receiving corps performed flawlessly for the first drive of the season.

Much heralded first-round draft pick Patrick Mahomes from Texas Tech took over late in the first- and played all of the second quarter. Mahomes was 7 of 9 for 49 yards and one touchdown during his first stint at quarterbacking the Chiefs.

KC's first and second units on offense and defense dominated the 49ers; unfortunately, the backups didn't play well and gave up cheap points late in the game. The Chiefs' receivers were excellent and made some tough catches; there was much to be optimistic about after the first preseason game.

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