



Priceless
Take One

Manhattan Free Press

Vol. 18 Number 37

Thursday, March 4, 2010

“Rally In Riley” Tea Party

And they did “Rally in Riley” Saturday morning. More than 250 area residents filled the chairs and bleachers at the Riley Grade School wanting to express how they felt about the Federal Government taking over so many areas of the citizens freedoms.

Kris Kobach, Professor of Constitutional Immigration and Election Law and Candidate for Kansas Secretary of State gave the crowd an overview of the Constitution and what the government is doing wrong.

Lee Modesitt talked about why she was running for office and the importance of being involved.

Paul Ibbertson talked about taking charge of our future.

Paul Barkey read a letter by Doctor Zero an online blogger talking about the Tea Party movement. Here is the letter:

Misunderstanding the Tea Party

The Tea Party movement is a political Andromeda Strain to the media, a baffling outbreak of viral unhappiness which has thus far defied every attempt at diagnosis. This is unsurprising, since the media has little interest in listening to what the Tea Party is actually saying. Instead, they attempt to stuff this remarkable grassroots movement into a variety of scary costumes, so they can be conveniently dismissed.

The most common of these costumes is a straitjacket. The media likes to view the Tea Party as a psychotic break with establishment reality. Writing in the L.A. Times, Gregory Rodriguez calls American distrust of government “neurotic – irrational, defensive, and born of emotional trauma.” He prescribes a dose of past-life regression therapy, until

Something To Think About

You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich.

You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.

You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift.

You cannot lift the wage earner up by pulling the wage payer down.

You cannot further the brotherhood of man by inciting class hatred.

You cannot build character and courage by taking away people's initiative and independence.

You cannot help people permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves.

~ Rev. William John Henry Boetcker (1873-1962)

we get back to “our national birth trauma, our violent revolt against our ‘father’, King George III, which gave us our independence in the first place.” Wow, people named George cast really long shadows over history, don't they?

If the buckles on the straitjacket break, certain elements of the Left are quick to dress the Tea Party in white sheets. The tedious Joe Queenan, working for a Guardian U.K. that evidently couldn't afford to hire an American writer who has actually seen a Tea Party rally, describes the attendees as “smallish, grassroots, inbred” anti-intellectual pasty-white Nixon voters. He also can't stress enough how white these abhorrent, pasty-white, “ethnically monochromatic” white crackers are. Oh, and they're also a small fringe move-

See Tea Party page 6



Kris Kobach talks to the crowd about constitution law.



Some in the media want you to think that there were only “about 100” at the meeting. The Free Press counted over 250.



Tea Party workers were recognized before the meeting started.



As the National Media will tell you there were rednecks holding “hate” signs at the meeting.

Obituaries

Sybil Mae Fink

Sybil Mae Fink, 71, of Alta Vista, Kansas, died Tuesday, February 22, 2010, at Wesley Medical Center in Wichita. She was a long-time resident of the community.

Sybil was born May 2, 1938 in Whitehall, Louisiana, the daughter of Armond and Velma Reine Fontenot. She attended local schools and graduated as valedictorian from Sorrento High School in Sorrento, Louisiana.

Sybil married Micheal Fink on February 17, 1974, in Morgan City, Louisiana. He survives at their home. Sybil and Micheal moved from Louisiana to Kansas in 1981.

Sybil was a secretary and

worked for several different companies in Louisiana and Kansas. She worked for the Alma School district for many years and retired from that position. Sybil loved to crochet, collect Boyd Teddy Bears, depression glass, porcelain figurines and a member of the reading circle.

Sybil is also survived by two daughters, Chandra Christiansen and her husband, Fred, Abbeville, Louisiana, Trish Garner, Alvin, Texas; four sons, Dwain Bercegeay and his wife, Sue, Morgan City, Louisiana, Chad Bercegeay, Houston, Texas, Cletis Bercegeay, Berwick, Louisiana and Arthur Fink, and his wife, Carrie, Lawrence; two sisters, Lisha Allen and her husband, Norman and Rapunzel

Fontenot; and a bother, Jimmy Fontenot and his wife, Gayle, all of St. Amant, Louisiana; ten grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, February 27, 2010 at the First Baptist Church in Alta Vista. Burial will follow in Alta Vista Cemetery. Mrs. Fink will lie-in-state on Friday starting at 2:00 p.m. at Campanella-Gentry Funeral Home in Alma, where the family will greet friends from 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. They suggest memorial contributions to the Alma Library and those may be sent in care of the funeral home. Online condolences may be made at www.campanellafuneral.com.

Hildegard Carter

Hildegard Carter, age 86, of Manhattan, Kansas, died Tuesday, February 23, 2010, at the Stormont-Vail Regional Medical Center in Topeka, Kansas from complications following an automobile accident.

She was born on August 14, 1923, in Pitten, Austria, the daughter of Adalbert and Anna (Hofman) Kanitsch.

Mrs. Carter had made her home in Manhattan since 1969 where she was a homemaker and for 25 years was the Nursery Supervisor for the First Presbyterian Church daycare.

Her memberships included the American Legion Post 17 Auxiliary in Manhattan and the Christian Women's Guild. Mrs. Carter was raised Catholic in Austria and upon moving to the United States attended Catholic and Protestant churches. She loved to crotchet, knit, read and travel, and especially enjoyed

having coffee and tea with friends. Hildegard also enjoyed swimming at the KSU Natatorium and participating in Aquarobics.

On October 5, 1952, in Germany, she was united in marriage to Roy Carter. He preceded her in death in 1992. She was also preceded in death by one son: Walter Carter, one daughter who died in infancy: Ilonka Murgg, and by her sister: Teresa Iiterlein.

She is survived by one son: Mikel R. Carter and his wife Janet of Mason, Ohio and one daughter: Delores Carter of Manhattan, Kansas. Also surviving are six grandchildren: Tanja Fateley, Topeka, Kansas; Trevor Rexroad, Junction City, Kansas; Natalie Peckham, Holyoke, Colorado; Nathan Carter and Madison Carter, both of Mason, Ohio and Monica Young of Little Rock, Arkansas. Seven great grandchildren: Jacob, Cole, Brad,

Allison, Victoria, Briley and Jade also survive.

Memorial services will be held 11:00 a.m. Saturday, February 27, 2010, at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Chapel with Father Don Zimmerman officiating. Private inurnment will be at a later date in the Fort Riley Cemetery, Fort Riley, Kansas.

The family will receive friends during a visitation from 10:00 a.m. until service time on Saturday at the funeral home.

On-line condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website located at www.ymlfuneralhome.com.

In lieu of flowers a memorial has been established for the Terry C. Johnson Center for Basic Cancer Research. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

Continued

America first" positions have garnered him the 9/11 truth crowds and the paranoia-pill pushers such as Alex Jones and Jesse Ventura. In reality, this is a dog that has been hunting for a long time. It is the added benefit of perspective that shows Ron Paul and Cujo to be on similar ground. Both are not inherently bad, they both just have a "little crazy" in them.

The rabidly rough ramifications of Ron Paul are that despite his libertarian foundations, he is one more unneeded albatross around the neck of the Republican Party who has enough problems already. Paul's straw poll victory at CPAC is more than a little reminder that non-scientific polls have drawbacks; it is a reflection that the Republican Party can still be easily made to look foolish. Of course, Ron Paul will be no more electable in 2012 than he was in

1988 or 2008 and those who believe otherwise should be quarantined and observed. What he does achieve is creating more-than-adequate fodder for those that wish to link Republicans, Tea Party goers, town hall meeting attendees and the mainstream majority of this country with a few radical elements of this nation. As for those who wish to defeat Barack Obama and the big government socialists currently at the helm of this country, they must separate themselves from the frothing fans of Ron Paul. Yes, a "little crazy" also goes a long way in killing credibility for political parties, and this nation cannot afford another loss by default in 2012.

As in the case of Cujo, the presidential aspirations, and more importantly the political impacts of Ron Paul, must be "euthanized" in the country before more

"Conscience"

damage can be done.

Paul A. Ibbetson is a former Chief of Police of Cherryvale, Kansas, and member of the Montgomery County Drug Task Force. Paul received his Bachelor's and Master's degree in Criminal Justice at Wichita State University, and is currently completing his PhD. in sociology at Kansas State University. Paul is the author of the books Living Under The Patriot Act: Educating A Society and Feeding Lions: Sharing The Conservative Philosophy In A Politically Hostile World. Paul is also the radio host of the Kansas Broadcasting Association's 2008 and 2009 Entertainment Program of the Year, Conscience of Kansas airing on KSDB Manhattan 91.9 f.m. www.ibbetsonusa.com. For interviews or questions, please contact ibbetson91.9@gmail.com

Little Apple Camp

Due to the Easter weekend, Little Apple Day Camp & Sunset Zoo Day Camp registrations will begin on Saturday, April 10, from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, at the Parks and Recreation Office (1101 Fremont). Only walk-ins will be taken. Registration forms will

not be available until then. All health forms must be completed and turned in at the time of registration. The health forms are currently available at the Parks and Recreation Office.

If you have any questions, please call the Parks and Recreation Office at 587-2757.

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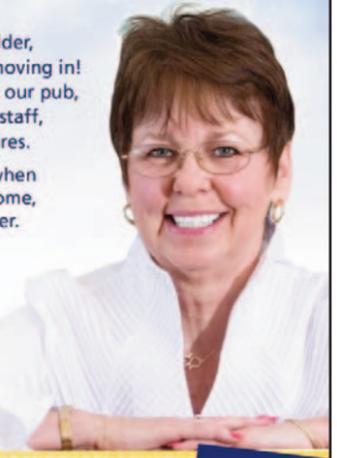


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Local Parent Organization Announces Summer Day Camp

The Flint Hills Autism Parent Support Network is organizing anew pilot summer day camp for elementary-aged children, which will run from June 7 through August 6.

The program allows children both children from the general population and those with an autism spectrum diagnosis — to spend their summer in a safe, structured educational environment, while making new friends and participating in a variety of summer experiences.

“It was very important to us to create a fun, structured environment for our kids during the summer months that is run by highly trained, highly motivated teachers who want to see our kids succeed,” said

Cheryl Richt, who is co-chairing the project. “It was also stressed by Helen Miller, the USD 383 autism coordinator, that for this program to have its greatest impact, it needs to integrate kids with autism into a population of typically developed kids. Kids with autism can learn so much from typical peers, and those children will learn a lot from being around our kids. It really is a wonderful opportunity for both groups.”

The camp will divide the kids into three age groups, each led by a certified teacher who will facilitate

activities that reinforce academic goals and teach social skills. Teacher aides will be on hand to help the children with

special needs participate to the best of their abilities. For this pilot year, classes will be limited to 10-15 total children per class, with five children with an autism diagnosis in each group. The program will be housed in a Manhattan school, but is not limited to children who attend USD 383 schools. Any family willing to drive their child to Manhattan daily is welcome to apply.

The camp will also involve faculty and graduate students from several departments at K-State. The

K-State Speech and Hearing Center will be facilitating communication activities several times each week,

and K-State faculty and graduate students will lead daily music, art and drama activities. An end-of-summer performance is planned.

Afternoons will include time for active play, including outdoor water play, swimming (if City Park Pool is

completed), gymnastics and tae kwon do. The group also plans to take many field trips over the course of

the summer to destinations around the area.

“Kids with autism-spectrum disorders do best when kept in a structured routine — as really all kids do.

We felt it was important for our program to be structured like a school day to help them transition to their new classrooms in the fall,” said co-chair Kristin

Brighton. “But we also wanted to plan something that would be a lot of fun. We think we have accomplished that. Our campers are going to get a lot of really fun experiences and learn a lot from each other.”

The program is currently recruiting students to participate. Students with an autism-spectrum diagnosis and their siblings can enroll starting March 1, and enrollment for the general population will start April 1 until all spots are filled. Families can request a brochure and application by emailing Richt at asdflinthills@yahoo.com.

Volunteer student interns are also needed to support classroom activities, afternoon physical activity time and field trips. Please contact Richt at asdflinthills@yahoo.com if you are interested in volunteering.

The Flint Hills Autism Support Network is currently trying to raise community-matching funds for several grants. Money raised will provide student scholarships and supplement tuition income. If you'd like to donate, please contact Richt or the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation. Checks can be sent to the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation, with Flint Hills Summer Fun Camp on the memo line, at this address: GMCF, 555 Poyntz Avenue, Suite 269, Manhattan, KS 66502. Gifts to the camp are tax-deductible.

Heritage Trust Fund Grands Awarded

The Kansas Historical Society announced the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review made its recommendations for the 2010 round of Heritage Trust Fund (HTF) grants on February 20, 2010. The Board awarded \$757,530 for 13 projects across the state. Forty-seven eligible applications were reviewed, requesting a total of \$3,134,341 in funds.

As in previous years, the HTF program saw a large number of excellent applications, making the job of the review committee most difficult. As is usually the case, many applications focused on roofing, repair of historic wood windows, building stabilization, and masonry repair. The funded projects represent a diverse collection of properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places and/or the Register of Historic Kansas Places and located throughout Kansas. All awards are contingent upon available funding.

Two active county courthouses were recommended for funding this year.

The Republic County Courthouse was awarded \$80,360 for repair of

original steel windows. The Riley County Courthouse was awarded \$37,600 also for repair of wooden windows.

Three theaters and one public auditorium were chosen for funding. The Hiawatha Memorial Auditorium in Brown County was awarded \$90,000 for repair

of historic wooden windows and doors to make the building weather tight. The three theaters will receive funding to address water infiltration issues through repair of roofs, parapets, and drainage systems. The Colonial Fox Theatre in Pittsburg was awarded \$90,000, the Midland Theater in Coffeyville was awarded \$54,289 and the Granada Theatre in Kansas City was awarded \$90,000.

Other projects, that will involve roofing repair, include the Dr. E.A. Lyons House in Norton County. The property was awarded \$90,000 for repairs to the roof, foundation, and porch. Also requiring roof repair is the Washington County Jail and Sheriff's Residence in Washington County. This project was awarded \$20,160. Work at the Windsor Hotel in

Finney County will also include roof repairs along with masonry and structural repairs. The Hotel was awarded \$90,000 for this project.

Some interesting and unusual projects were granted funding this year as well. The Florence Water Tower in Marion County was awarded \$48,000 for repairs to the metal tank and masonry base. In Jefferson County, the John Steuart Curry Boyhood Home will receive \$6,321 for repairs and upgrades to the properties heating and cooling systems to protect the site's collections of John Steuart Curry artifacts. The World War II-era

Parachute Building in Pratt County was awarded \$52,800 for repair of the building's roof, siding, and windows. The Home on the Range Cabin, located on the site in Smith County where the lyrics to the Kansas state song were penned by Dr. Brewster Higley in 1872, will receive \$8,000 for the production of a historic structure report. This report will help guide the property's current owners with future restoration and rehabilitation plans.

Designation as a National Register of Historic Places or Register of Historic Kansas Places site does not require a property to be open to the public. However, many of these historic properties are available to the public or access may be available by appointment.

For more information on the Heritage Trust Fund program contact the State Historic Preservation Office, Kansas Historical Society, Heritage Trust Fund Grants Manager, 6425 SW 6th Avenue, Topeka, Kansas 66615 or call 785-272-8681, ext. 215, or visit kshs.org/resource/grantsincentives.

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Thoughts From The Prairie

Riley Rally Rocks!

Tea Party Patriots came from Salina, Abilene, and Topeka; from Manhattan, Wamego and Junction City; from Green, Leonardville and Riley. They were merchants, farmers, ranchers, doctors, lawyers, blue collars and white collars. They had this in common: They came with enthusiasm, determinism and a message: "We are taking our Country back!"

The rally rocked because the Patriots who orchestrated the event are rock solid and passionate about restoring our Constitutional Republic. Debi Wahl of Manhattan and Sharon Greene of Riley chose the location and orchestrated all the arrangements. Paul Barkey and the Media Team, Chris Tawney, Debi Wahl, Sharon Greene, Carolyn Wells (logo designer) developed the flyers and media ads. Chuck Henderson coordinated all Facebook communications far and wide. Holly Friesen coordinated the guest speaker, Professor Kris Kobach. Mega kudos to Teresa Grant and Shane Eslitt for their help! How about Fresh Green Grass who kicked off the event with Bluegrass and patriotic songs?

The Riley Rally was a combination pep rally and training session regarding the origin and content of our Constitution. Professor Kris Kobach was chosen as the trainer because of his expertise on constitutional law. According to Kobach the Constitution was written to propagate a Constitutional Republic not a Democracy because the Founders knew from history that democracies tend to decline rapidly. Kris claimed the Constitution grants very specific and limited power to the federal government while granting expansive powers to the States and ultimately to the people through elected officials.

Professor Kobach cited specific events in our history that highlight centralization of power at the federal level. The 16th Amendment, ratified in 1913, granted the federal government power to levy an income tax on all citizens. The 17th



Dick Miller

Amendment transferred Senator selection from each state's legislature to popular election by the people of each state, thus reducing the strength of State Sovereignty. Other centralization occurred during 1933-37 with adoption of such programs as Social Security, Roosevelt's New Deal and the expansion of the definition of interstate commerce by the Supreme Court. Kris claimed this gave the federal government authority to regulate the color of the pen he held in his hand.

Kobach then cited the present Perfect Storm of economic and social crisis as the opportunity for further federal centralization at the expense of personal freedom. He addressed in detail the danger posed by granting illegals the right to vote and the use of voter fraud as ways for liberals to gain permanent control of our political system. Audience questions spanned the gamut from, "Then how do we get our country back?" to "Is there to be a nationwide Tea Party to protest the Healthcare bill?" to "How can we get the study of our Constitution back in the schools?" Great presentation, Kris!

See Thoughts page 7

"Conscience of Kansas"

Ron Paul and the "Cujo" Effect By Paul A. Ibbeston

In the early 1980's Stephen King made all dogs a little more suspect with the horror novel Cujo. The story hinged around a more-than-loveable St. Bernard that contracted rabies while chasing a rabbit and became an unpredictable, crazed killing machine. A large portion of the novel and its well-created movie equivalent was centered on a mother and child as they fought to stay alive against the continuous attacks of the transformed-rabid dog. Among the thrills and chills of this story, one can pick out many sad parts to this tale. I have long thought that among the many losers of this story the dog Cujo got the worst end of the stick.

You see, Cujo, while depicted as evil and deadly, was not so; he simply had a "little crazy" in him. Unfortunately, that "little crazy," in the form of rabies, permeated his character and affected all the actions of the dog until his demise became the only reasonable solution. Heck, by mid-way through the story we were all praying that Cujo would die, and die quickly! In the end, unfortunately, a "little crazy" goes a long way and on that note, we transition easily to Ron Paul.

Ron Paul, the failed presidential candidate of 2008, has become the Cujo of the Republican Party, but not for many of the reasons you may think. Just like the loveable St. Bernard of Stephen King's creative mind, there is an often unobserved duality to the Texas congressman. Like Cujo, Ron Paul is far from being "all bad." Many of his long-standing beliefs in the constitution, limited government, and the free market are not only conservative beliefs but also bedrock examples of what

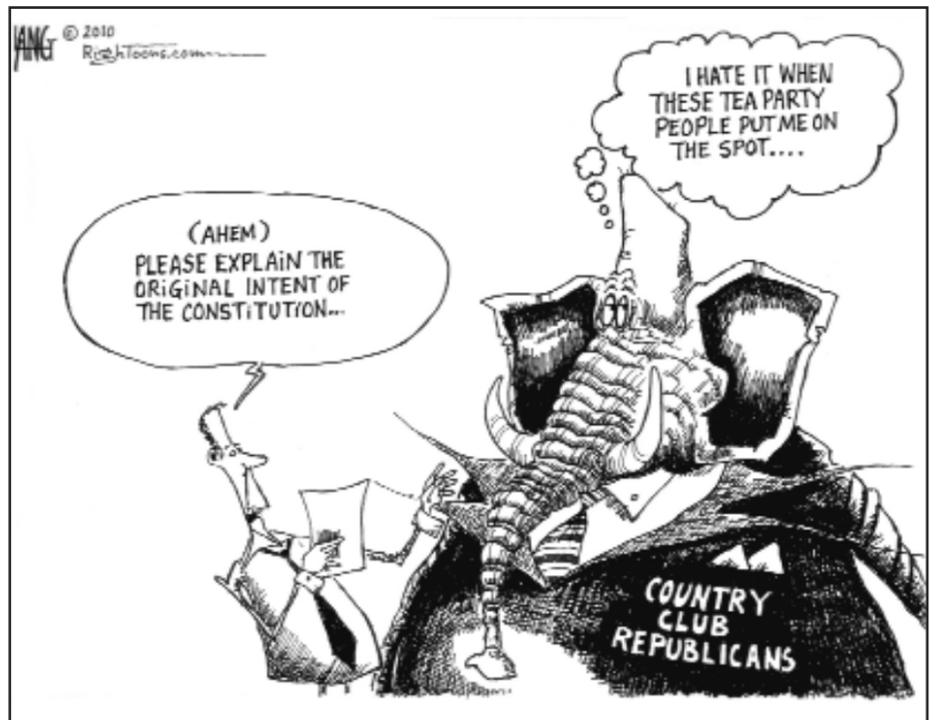


Paul A. Ibbeston

has made this country great. As well, Paul's military service to this country is exemplary and worthy of emulation.

Unfortunately, Ron Paul's positive points are outweighed by his radical views on many important issues. While many rail against the tax system we currently have, Ron Paul advocates eliminating the Federal Reserve and the IRS with no feasible replacement system. When Paul gets to slashing government entities, he includes the FBI and CIA, saying they should also go the way of the dodo bird. It is here that the inflammation of a skewed viral way of thinking begins to be seen in the Paul mentality. This is not something new for the Texas congressman. During the 1980's Paul was attacking Ronald Reagan on the use of the CIA along with his "eye rolling" support for the legalization of drugs. Today, Ron Paul's modern day conspiracy theory stances and "blame

See continuation on page 4



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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

"Hats Off To Broadway"

With several new businesses having opened their doors on Broadway in Riley in the past year, Saturday, March 20 has been chosen as the day when some will hold their Grand Openings and others will host Open Houses.

Visitors can begin their day at the Riley Lions Club biscuit and gravy breakfast at the Riley Centre, which begins at 7 a.m. and goes until noon. Merchants downtown will open their doors at 8 a.m. and offer numerous sales, specials and promotions until 1 p.m.

From 10-11 a.m., Riley Fitness will feature Physician Assistant Kristie Vogelsberg, who will present "Nutrition 911- America's Crisis." Making the connection between the what we eat and our

family's health, Vogelsberg will help attendees become "Nutrition Detectives." Fruit smoothies will be served, so RSVP's are requested by March 18 to Lisa Tindal at 485-2824 or ltindal@twinvalley.net. There will also be the opportunity to see and try out the fitness equipment.

A fashion show featuring bridal and formal gowns will be held at Encore Occasions Bridal and Formal Boutique at 11:15.

Oodles of Doodles Longarm Quilting, the Java Tea Room, Encore Occasions Bridal and Formal Boutique, Short Stop, Gambino's and McKinley Mercantile will all have specials for that day only. Trash Barrel Antiques will also have a wide

array of unique items to peruse.

A punch card can be picked up at each of the participating businesses. Visit each one and have it punched, then turn it in for a drawing for a gift basket from all the merchants.

Several of the businesses will also have activities to benefit local charities. McKinley Mercantile will be collecting food for the Community Food Basket, Java Tea Room will benefit veteran's and Encore Occasions will partner with Hearts Apart to give visitors the opportunity to make cards for deployed soldiers.

Rediscover Riley at the "Hats Off to Broadway" celebration on Saturday, March 20 from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Broadway in Riley.

Kite's Host Breakfast

Join the Manhattan Arts Center at Kite's Grill and Bar in Aggieville for the annual Blarney Breakfast fundraiser. Saturday, March 13th, we'll be serving green eggs and ham, biscuits and gravy, fruit, and much more from 7:30 am until 10:30 am. Celebrate St. Patrick's Day by eating a delicious breakfast for a good cause. Blarney Breakfast is generously sponsored by Stephen and Delores Berland.

Adult tickets are \$7 in advance and \$8 at the door, and children's tickets are \$5 in advance and \$6 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at the Manhattan Arts Center, Claflin Books & Copies, or The Dusty Bookshelf in

Aggieville. For more information, call (785) 537-4420. Manhattan Arts Center box office hours are 10 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday. The Manhattan Arts Center is located at 1520 Poyntz.

For more information on this and other performances at the Manhattan Arts Center, visit its Web site at www.manhattanarts.org.

The Manhattan Arts Center is funded in part by the Kansas Arts Commission, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. Additional funding comes from the City of Manhattan and MAC members and friends.

County Minutes

from page 11

on concealed carry in county buildings unless appropriate security staffing and equipment is available in the facilities, which is extremely expensive.

The Board agreed to oppose HB2685.

Holeman presented the change to SB346. Holeman stated Senator Reitz did get the proposed amendment included in SB346 on the floor of the Senate.

Holeman stated originally Riley County did not want to pursue the \$25,000.00 deductible from the City for the LEC flooding.

The Board of County Commissioners, by consensus, agreed not to pursue reimbursement of the deductible from the City of Manhattan.

McCulloh moved to approve the minutes of February 18, 2010 as amended. Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0.

Kearns asked for staff to get the Board the total cost Riley County funds for criminal justice, including a portion of the County District Court's budget attributable to criminal cases.

10:37 Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director; John McCulloh; Kate McCulloh and Matt McCord, attended.

Kearns moved to recess as the County Commission and convene as the Deep Creek Sewer District Board. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

Hobson said Bruce Ewing has requested to connect to the Deep Creek Sewer District. Hobson stated the current system is underutilized.

Hobson estimated 15-20 homes are on the system. Hobson recommended Ewing be allowed to hook on.

Hobson stated the current connection fee is \$2,500.00. Hobson stated Ewing has offered the county an easement to access the Deep Creek sewer lagoon and property for a cul-de-sac in lieu of the \$2,500.00 connection fee. Hobson said the current access road is often not usable due to the terrain. Hobson stated the easement would be approximately 3.75 acres and worth \$2,500.00.

Kearns moved to authorize the enlargement of the Deep Creek Sewer District to include the property in question and to waive the connection fee in lieu of a permanent easement of 3.75 acres for access to the Deep Creek sewer lagoon. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

Kearns moved recess as the Deep Creek Sewer District and reconvene as the Board of Riley County Commissioners. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

10:50 Cindy Volanti, Human Resource Manager

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Sherie Taylor, GIS Technician; Lori Archer, GIS Analyst; Will Klusener, Manhattan Mercury; Rod Meredith, Assistant Public Works Director/Parks Director; Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director; Eileen King, Treasurer; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; Robert Nall, Information Technology Director; Debbie Register, Register of Deeds; Dawn Shoffner, Assistant Information Technology Director;

Amy King, Deputy Register of Deeds; Anne Smith, aTa Bus Director; Greg McHenry, Appraiser; Steve Higgins, Zoning Enforcement Officer; Shelly Williams, Community Corrections Director; and Rodney Sanders, attended.

Volanti stated she just wanted to initiate the discussion on Riley County's process to hiring a replacement for the GIS Director.

McCulloh discussed this being an opportunity to work with the City of Manhattan in consolidating functions.

Volanti stated in 2007 she had contacted sixteen counties, which have GIS and of those seven had GIS as a stand alone department.

Meredith said in the beginning the key users of GIS all helped analyze and from the direction to build GIS in Riley County.

Meredith stated the need to hire an appropriate level person to maintain the complexity of the GIS files.

P. Collins said a lot of people depend on the accuracy of the records.

Smith said with the two large projects aTa had this past year the GIS department has been very valuable.

Vargo suggested the Board of

County Commissioners allow the department heads to discuss the matter at the next department head meeting and the key users of GIS and GIS staff to review the needs.

Kearns suggested a group of GIS users and staff meet to determine the requirements needed for a replacement in the position.

Sanders said he developed a list of the qualifications and knowledge needed for a GIS Director.

Kearns stated the department heads need to move forward quickly in developing the requirements to replace the GIS Director.

Kearns and McCulloh thanked Sherie Taylor and Lori Archer for their work and positive attitude.

Sanders stated the ESRI contract is up for renewal in March and everything looks good with the contract.

McCulloh moved to appoint Lori Archer as the acting interim GIS department head as contact to sign vouchers and payroll. Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0. 11:17 McCulloh moved to adjourn. Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0.



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The crowd before the meeting started.



Lee Modesitt "Being Involved."

Tea Party: "Ralley In Riley"

ment that likes to send tiny squads of loudmouths to intimidate rural Idaho congressmen... but they're also a vast, sinister, potentially violent mob, lurking in the deep red shadows of flyover country, where people have forgotten how to properly appreciate their massive central government.

If you can't quite buy the image of the Tea Party as a massive Birth of a Nation re-enactment, some liberals would like to conjure marionette strings leading from their awkwardly jerking limbs, up to puppet handles gripped in swollen feline paws. Lee Fang at Think Progress sees the helpless, mindless swarms of protesters as nothing but a Pampered Chef party for Republican "profiteers." The mainstream press retails the usual smear about anyone who protests high taxes or government spending as either unwitting tools, or paid operatives, of the fat cats who stand to rake in millions from their agenda. (Remember the feeble attempts to paint anyone who disagreed with ObamaCare as henchmen of the insurance industry? Joe Queenan would remind you they were white henchmen of the white-owned insurance industry.)

Of course, no leftist caricature of the Tea Party would be complete without a dunce cap. To paraphrase the exasperated alien villain of Plan 9 From Outer Space, these protesters are stupid, stupid, stupid! They're slaves of a woman Stephen Colbert assures us is "a f—ing retard." Kurt Andersen of New York Magazine sees them as irrational hysterics, whipped into a frenzy by talk-radio hosts, threatening to unleash mere anarchy upon the nation by planting themselves ankle-deep in the blood-dimmed tide of mindless intransigence. They're too dense to realize the establishment they oppose is an

eternal institution, their lives mere grains of sand against its trillion-dollar fortifications.

The Tea Party movement is not crazy, hateful, or stupid. Their rallies are disarmingly cheerful affairs, which most certainly do include women and minorities. The movement is still in the process of coalescing, and seeks inspiration and representation, rather than leadership. They know their country is rocketing down the wrong path, and while the current President has a heavy hand on the throttle, the course was set long before he entered politics.

If you seek madness, look for it in the President's delusional State of the Union speech, or the people who indulge his belief that another three or four trillion piled onto a \$14 trillion national debt will get us at least halfway to utopia. If you want to taste hatred, sample the venom directed at Sarah Palin, the only person currently capable of building a bridge between the energy of the Tea Party, and the established resources of the GOP. If you would like stupidity illustrated, witness the spectacle of the Democrats passing off their oily mass of backroom deals and political payoffs as a rational plan for improv-

ing health care.

The lack of a comprehensive solution doesn't make criticism invalid. The point is that comprehensive solutions are inherently inadequate, compared to the creative power of free markets and private industry. Tea Party stalwarts are entirely rational in refusing to submit themselves as raw materials for the next big adventure in central planning. After several lifetimes of watching an increasingly huge federal government fail at almost everything it tries, while displaying increasingly less enthusiasm for the Constitutional duty of national defense that it actually excels at, the middle class demands the freedom and respect to get busy solving its own problems. They're understandably tired of watching every story in the evening news twisted into another reason the government needs more money, every market fluctuation offered as proof the private sector has too much freedom, and every change in the weather presented as a omen their standard of living is a mortal wound to the Earth.

Donald Luskin of the Wall Street Journal worries that the Tea Party could veer into destructive populism. Others fear they'll mutate into a

from page one

third-party dead end that drains enough strength from the Republicans to ensure a continued plunge into the collectivist abyss. Both are real dangers – there are always predators hiding in the grass roots. I believe the Tea Party is not a populist revolt against Wall Street, but rather a firm indictment of centralized power in general. Big Business brings reduced costs and advanced products to consumers, and American prosperity would be impossible without the financial resources of major banks, from business loans to credit cards. However, when Big Business merges with Big Government, the result always ends up looking more like the latter. The temptation to purchase government power is great, and it has many aggressive salesmen. Risk-taking is an essential component of growth... but there is no such thing as subsidized risk, and no healthy gamble can be made by companies which have gained federal certification as Too Big To Fail.

The Tea Party movement is not simplistic. It's a revolt against the simplistic, and painfully inaccurate, notion that spending bills solve problems, and legislation is the only real form of action. It's a rising tide of

indignation from people tired of being told they're ineligible to participate in the national discussion because of their race, class, religious belief, radio listening habits, or choice of cable news network. The idea that tagging a huge movement as "all-white" would serve as a devastating insult is deeply insulting to Americans of every skin color.

The Tea Party movement is young, and it could make a lot of mistakes... but it's amazing how much it's accomplished so far, just by clearing its throat. It's not surprising the Left is trying to dismiss them, instead of answering their questions... but they've come too far to be discarded as lunatics, hatemongers, or idiots. They're not a blank screen where the Left can project its neuroses and obsessions. They reject the narrative of a fading nation that should do the best it can to make amends for centuries of sins before it dies. They have not yet begun to fight, and theirs is the energy of a revolutionary spirit that can't wait to get back to building a future beyond the limited imagination of their detractors.

Posted by Doctor Zero on February 9, 2010

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Restoring The Values Of Our Nations's Founders



Mike Minihan (right) with daughter Meghan and son Dan entertained the crowd.



The Tea Party wants to: 1. Restore the values of our nations founders. 2. Recruit and support constitutional candidates. 3. Educate and train members, candidates, and the public.



Part of the large crowd that attended the tea party.



Chuck Henderson tells of the Tea Part Facebook "Fan" page.



The sign of the future in Manhattan and Riley County elections.

Thoughts

from page 4

The fight for personal liberty and limited government is not new. It was Kansas Governor Alf Landon who opposed the Social Security program and accused Roosevelt of corruption by acquiring so much power that he was subverting the Constitution. "The President spoke truly when he boasted... 'We have built up new instruments of public power' that 'could provide shackles for the liberties of the people... and... enslavement for the public.' In other words, the concentration of power in the hands of the President was not a question of

temporary emergency. It was a question of permanent national policy. In my opinion the emergency of 1933 was a mere excuse." Sound familiar?

So, how does a Constitutional Republic survive? The Flint Hills Tea Party (FHTP) believes the first step is to restore the values of our Founders, including limited government, personal liberty, and foundational values. John Adams argued that, "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." Samuel

Adams declared that, "Religion and good morals are the only solid foundation of public liberty and happiness."

Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt believed that, "Every thinking man...realizes that the teachings of the Bible are so interwoven...with our whole civic and social life that it would be literally...impossible for us to figure what that loss would be if these teachings were removed. We would lose all the standards by which we now judge both public and private morals..." Are we not experiencing the consequences of removing those teachings and standards?

Ronald Reagan concluded that, "America was founded by people who believed that God was their rock of safety. He is ours."

And so the FHTP rocks on. We are planning similar rallies in Wamego and Junction City and a Tax Day Rally in Manhattan April 15th. To get on board, email Chuck Henderson at cehenderson@cox.net.

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K-State Battles To 63-53 Win

KSU Sports Information

Curtis Kelly had a double-double, Jamar Samuels scored 14 points and No. 6 Kansas State overcame a rough first 15 minutes to pull out a defense-dominated 63-53 victory over Missouri on Saturday night.

Kansas State (24-4, 11-3 Big 12) struggled with Missouri's pressure early, putting together its worst shooting half in 14 years (18 percent). The Wildcats used defense to shake the funk, took control with a 13-4 run early in the second half, and held on to keep alive their slim hopes of tying rival Kansas for the Big 12 regular-season title. The win also gave the Wildcats their most wins overall and in conference play for a season since 1987-88.

Kim English had 13 points and J.T. Tiller added 11 for Missouri (21-8, 9-5), which was 4 for 18 from 3-point range and shot 31 percent overall. Kelly had 10 points and 10 rebounds for Kansas State, which was 4 of 17 from 3-point range and shot 33 percent from the floor.

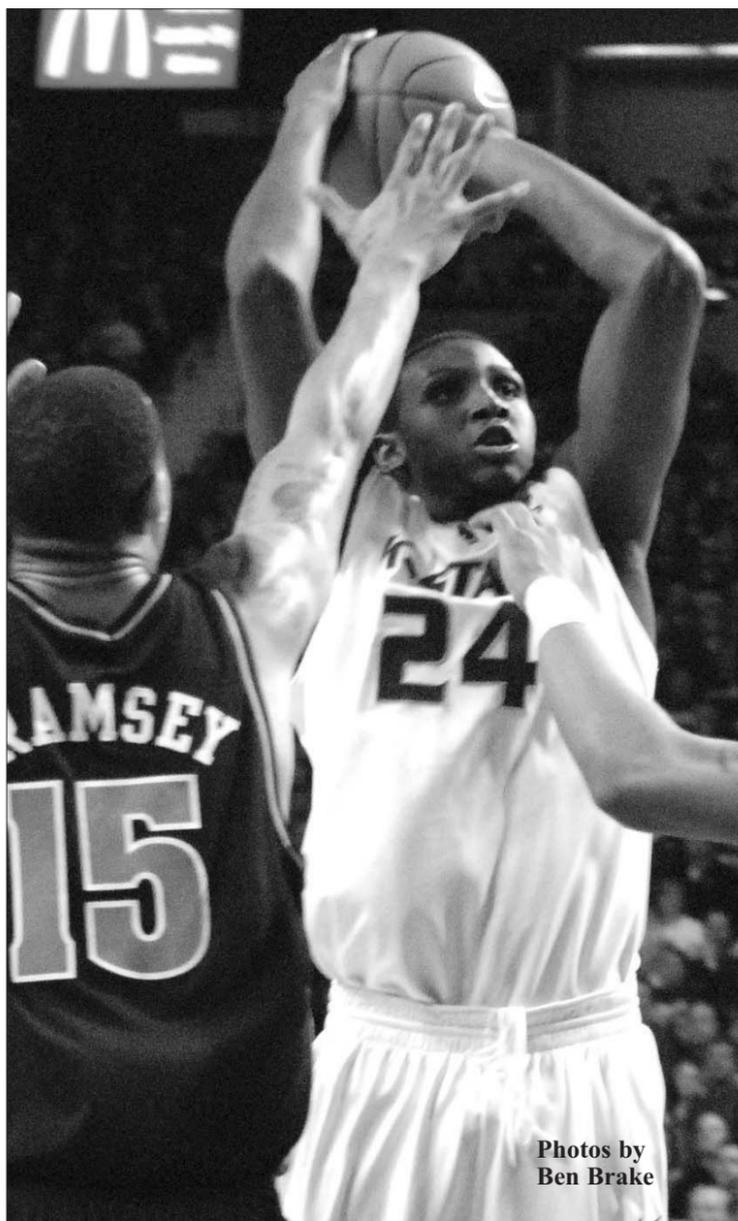
The Wildcats had trouble getting anywhere near the basket early, the ball in the hands of guards dribbling along the perimeter or high post players

like Luis Colon, who didn't seem to want any part of it. That left Kansas State to force shots up inside against two and three defenders or hoist long jumpers.

The Wildcats missed the few open looks they got as well, opening the game 2 for 22 -- with 18 straight misses -- as Missouri built an 18-10 lead. Kansas State's frustration grew with each miss, leading to more forced shots.

Then, almost in the snap of a finger, the game took a 180-degree turn. Kansas State started finding seams in Missouri's defense, reeling off a 10-2 half-closing run started by Jacob Pullen's 3-pointer with just under 6 minutes left. The Tigers also got a dose of Kansas State's suffocating halfcourt defense and took their turn forcing shots, closing the half with nine straight misses.

By the time the first 20 minutes of basketball was done, the teams had combined to miss 49 of 64 shots and scored 46 total points. Kansas State and Missouri had at least 46 points in a half by themselves 26 times this season. And, you guessed it, it was tied, setting up 20 more minutes of physical basketball.



Photos by Ben Brake

Curtis Kelly (24) had a double-double.



Jacob Pullen (0) dirves for two points.

Clemente on ESPN2's College Basketball Final

KSU Sports Information

Senior guard Denis Clemente will be a guest on ESPN2's College Basketball Final Sunday night at 10:30 p.m. CT.

A popular ESPN show, "College Basketball Final" is a 30-minute talk show on ESPN2 on Sundays that discusses all the latest news in the world of college basketball.

The senior captain will also tape a segment for use on ESPN Deportes entirely in his native language of Spanish.

Clemente has helped guide the

Wildcats to 24-4 overall record and an 11-3 mark in Big 12 after posting their seventh straight Big 12 win on Saturday night against Missouri. The 24 overall wins and the 11 conference victories are the most in the Big 12 era and the most since the 1987-88 squad posted a 25-9 overall record and an 11-3 mark in Big Eight play. The 24 wins tie for the third-most in school history.

The two-time Phillips 66 Big 12 Player of the Week, Clemente is the team's second leading scorer at 15.8 points per game on 39.3

percent shooting and has scored in double figures in 25 of 28 games. He leads the squad in assists (4.1) and field goals (149), while he is second in 3-point field goals (65). He ranks fourth all-time in school history in scoring by a transfer with 923 points.

No. 6/6 Kansas State returns to action on Wednesday night, as the Wildcats travel to Lawrence, Kan., to face archrival and No. 1/1 Kansas (27-2, 13-1 Big 12) at 7 p.m. CT. The game will be broadcast on the Big 12 Network.

WBB Drops Road Contest at Iowa State

KSU Sports Information

Kansas State held 12th-ranked Iowa State to just 19-percent shooting in the second half but could not overcome an 11-point halftime deficit as the Wildcats dropped a 48-39 decision to the Cyclones Saturday at Hilton Coliseum.

With the loss, the Wildcats fell to 12-16 on the season and 4-10 in Big 12 play, while Iowa State improved to 22-5 and 10-4.

With Iowa State holding a 28-17 lead at the break, K-State closed the gap on the Cyclones at the start of the second half with a 10-3 run to bring the score to 31-27. The run was highlighted by five points from Branshea Brown, including a three-point play with 10:15 to play.

K-State got to within three at 35-32 with 7:10 left following a three-pointer by Brittany Chambers, but Iowa State scored four straight points to take a seven-point lead. Iowa State would later increase the margin to nine at 45-36 on a Chelsea Poppins jumper with 1:16 left to put the game away.

Ashley Sweat led Kansas State with 13 points, while Chambers was one rebound shy of a double-double with 11 points and nine rebounds. The Wildcats shot just 34 percent from the floor for the game but held the Cyclones to 32.7 percent. K-State was out-rebounded by Iowa State, 37-28, while the Cyclones also held a distinct advantage in second-chance points (16) and points in the paint (24).

Iowa State used an early 10-0

run to take a 10-2 lead in the opening stages of the game. The Wildcats were able to respond, as Sweat went on a personal 8-0 run to even the score at 10 with 13:19 to play.

The Cyclones wrestled themselves into the halftime lead at

28-17, holding K-State scoreless for the final 5:14 of the half. Iowa State was able to hold a 21-12 edge on the boards, including seven offensive rebounds which resulted in nine second-chance points in the first 20 minutes.



Jalana Jackson (33) goes high. (Photo by Ben Brake)

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The Board of County Commissioners Minutes

The Board of County Commissioners Of Riley County, Kansas

The Regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners met at the Riley County Plaza East Building February 22, 2010 with the following members present: Mike Kearns, Chairman; Karen McCulloh, Vice Chair; and Rich Vargo, County Clerk. Alvan Johnson, Member, was absent.

8:30 Public Comment & Business Meeting
Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Joyce Mermis, KMAN; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Ralph Wahl; Richard Jahnke; Eldo Heller, Riley; Darrel Altwegg, Riley; and Jeff Altwegg, Riley, attended.

McCulloh discussed the Regional Planning Organization (RPO) meeting. McCulloh stated they will be holding interviews to hire a director for the RPO at the end of March.

Hobson stated the Riley County residents present are here to discuss a bridge on Walnut Creek Road.

D. Altwegg stated the bridge was fine until the road contractors worked on Barton Road and the construction heavy equipment damaged the bridge and Hobson was contacted about it.

D. Altwegg stated he has had that bridge on his list for 20-years to be replaced.

McCulloh stated the 1/2 cent sales tax monies are committed to previously identified projects. McCulloh stated the bridge could be included in the next 1/2 cent sales tax project list.

Wahl stated the traffic count should be thrown out because of the weight limit restrictions and farmers avoiding the bridge.

McCulloh stated because of the tight budgets and the lack of State assistance some bridges and roads may have to be closed.

Wahl stated Sherman Township needs to know the status of the bridge for road maintenance.

McCulloh moved to sign a letter requesting the City of Manhattan annex the adjacent right-of-way near the proposed storage building on Eureka Drive:

A tract of land in the Northwest Quarter and Southwest Quarter of Section 28, Township 10 South, Range 7 East of the 6th Principal Meridian in Riley County, Kansas described as follows: Beginning at

the Northeast Corner of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 28; thence South 00 degrees 00 minutes 57 seconds East 65.62 feet along the East line of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 28; thence North 89 degrees 23 minutes 20 seconds West 63.96 feet; thence North 89 degrees 06 minutes 24 seconds West 205.78 feet; thence South 89 degrees 37 minutes 55 seconds West 59.77 feet; thence North 89 degrees 23 minutes 25 seconds West 181.51 feet; thence North 00 degrees 36 minutes 35 seconds East 65.62 feet to the North line of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 28; thence North 00 degrees 36 minutes 35 seconds East 22.97 feet; thence North 85 degrees 31 minutes 48 seconds East 148.22 feet; thence North 88 degrees 19 minutes 08 seconds East 246.26 feet; thence South 89 degrees 51 minutes 15 seconds East 116.08 feet; thence South 00 degrees 00 minutes 57 seconds East 46.88 feet to the point of beginning, containing 1.22 acres.

Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0.

McCulloh moved to sign the Real Estate Tax Roll Correction for the Boys and Girls Club of Manhattan, Inc. (204-18-2-80-13-012.00-0) for tax year 2008. This results in a decrease in tax dollars of \$1,872.04. Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0.

McCulloh moved to sign the Real Estate Tax Roll Correction for the Boys and Girls Club of Manhattan, Inc. (204-18-2-80-13-012.00-0) for tax year 2009. This results in a decrease in tax dollars of \$22,379.12. Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0.

McCulloh moved to sign the Real Estate Tax Roll Correction for the Riley County Commissioners (176-24-0-00-00-004.00-0) for tax year 2009. This results in a decrease in tax dollars of \$1.22. Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0.

McCulloh moved to sign the Real Estate Tax Roll Correction for Logos Research Institute, Inc./Cornerstone Family Counseling (204-18-2-60-08-012.00-0) for tax year 2009. This results in a decrease in tax dollars of \$2,038.68. Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0.

Jahnke said there is a bridge on Union Road that needs to be replaced.

9:04 Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Joyce Mermis, KMAN; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance

Officer; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Richard Jahnke; and Doug Messer, Assistant Fire Chief, attended.

Hobson discussed Public Works projects.

Hobson stated there is approximately 10-acres and it will cost approximately \$1,000.00 - \$1,500.00 per acre to maintain the proposed Eureka Tributary.

Hobson discussed the LEC expansion project.

The Board of County Commissioners asked Hobson to arrange for the Board of County Commissioners to look at the Walnut Creek and Union Road bridges.

9:15 Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Joyce Mermis, KMAN; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Richard Jahnke; Will Klusener, Manhattan Mercury; Larry Couchman, EMS Director; and Doug Messer, Assistant Fire Chief, attended.

P. Collins presented the Out of State Travel Request for Doug Messer.

McCulloh moved to approve an Out of State Travel Request for Doug Messer to attend class at National Fire Academy, Command and Control of Fire Department Operations at Target Hazards in Emmitsburg, Maryland and the cost to Riley County is \$170.00. Kearns seconded. Carried 2-0.

P. Collins discussed the letter from Senator Brownlee.

P. Collins said it would be good if we could do more reviews of 911 calls. P. Collins stated there are generally 2000-2500 calls a month.

P. Collins said the 911 Advisory Board's mission is to review some calls and may approach the Riley County Police Department about

See Commission page 11

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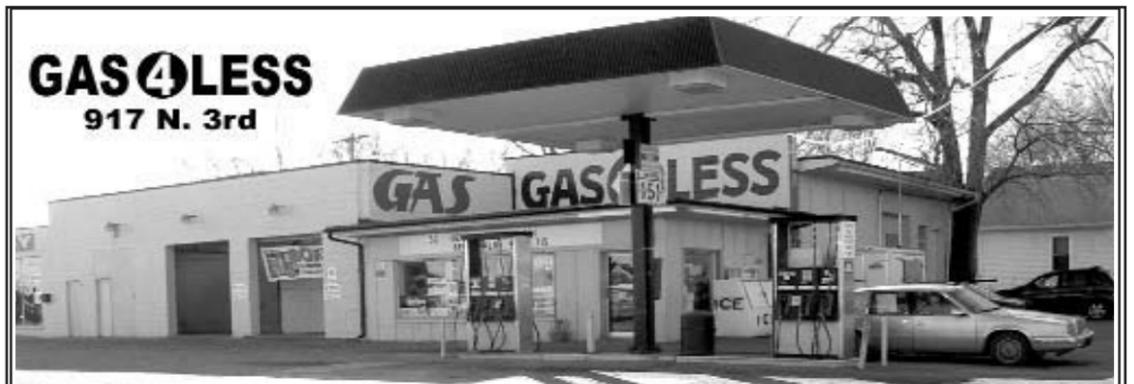
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County Minutes

from page 10

reviewing some calls. P. Collins stated the delay in the referenced call was human error.

Holeman stated he will draft a response to Senator Brownlee to present to the Board of County Commissioners Thursday.

P. Collins stated he is not comfortable placing the language in a proposed contract with Randolph stating we will move the ambulance stationed at the Riley County shops to Randolph when the first response vehicle is pulled from Randolph.

Holeman stated the language in the contract is the language proposed by Randolph City Council.

Couchman stated he is concerned with placing operational matters in the agreement with Randolph.

McCulloh stated we need to leave the latitude of the operations to the experts in ambulance services.

Kearns said he understands the needs of the people in north county and if someone is pinned under a tractor they cannot wait for emergency equipment to be moved from one vehicle to another. The issue was laid over for further discussion.

9:30 Press Conference

Joyce Mermis, KMAN; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Richard Jahnke; Will Klusener, Manhattan Mercury; Gregg Eystone, County Extension Agent; Greg McHenry, Appraiser; Allen Todd, Appraisal Analyst; Dawn Shoffner, Assistant Information Technology Director; and Mandy Chapman-Semple, Manhattan Emergency Shelter Director, attended.

Semple said 2009 was very busy and the Emergency Shelter supplied 12,579 nights of services to individuals, which is double previous years. Semple said the economy has impacted the need for services. Semple said the Manhattan Emergency Shelter received \$495,000.00 in stimulus funds to assist families in staying out of the Emergency Shelter. Semple stated fifty-one families are enrolled

in the prevention program.

McCulloh asked, is the cost of health care a factor?

Semple said health care is one of the factors.

Todd presented a PowerPoint presentation on 2009 real estate trends. Todd stated there were fifty-nine foreclosures in 2008 and seventy foreclosures in 2009. Todd stated the median sales price of homes is \$159,500.00 in 2009. Todd said the average sales price for 2009 is \$180,683.00. Todd stated the number of home sales in 2009 has decreased 14%.

McHenry stated 2010 real estate valuation notices were mailed February 12, 2010. McHenry said a form is included that can be sent in to schedule an informal appeal.

Shoffner discussed the Riley County website content migration. Shoffner said no new content will be added and no existing content will be updated on the Riley County website between Wednesday, February 24, 2010 and Sunday, February 28, 2010.

Shoffner said Riley County is in the process of redesigning its website and part of the redesign process involves moving the content on the current website to the new website. During the period of content migration, February 24-28th, Riley County will NOT be able to add or update content on the website. The Commission Agenda for March 1 and the Jury duty calendar will be the two main areas of the site that will be affected. We will try to have any additions or changes posted to the website by the evening of Tuesday, February 23rd.

Shoffner said we apologize for any inconvenience caused by this project.

Eystone said the Garden Show will be held at Pottorf Hall on Saturday, February 27th 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 28th noon - 4:00 p.m.

Vargo reported today is the last day for residents of the City of Ogden to register to vote for the March 9th Ogden City Mayor Recall Election.

Vargo said advance voting in the Riley County Clerk's Office begins Tuesday, March 2, 2010.

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

Administrative Work Session

Craig Cox, Assistant County Counselor; Will Klusener, Manhattan Mercury; and Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters, attended.

Cox asked when the Board wants to have the evening meeting for the public hearing on daycare regulations.

The Board of County Commissioners said on a Monday or Thursday as soon as possible.

Cox said he will schedule it in 10-14 days.

Cox presented the following on Damian Schmidt's solid waste debt.

Damian Schmidt d/b/a Arrow Trash Service, Inc., incurred solid waste disposal fees with Riley County Transfer Station.

On February 23, 2009, County obtained judgment against Mr. Schmidt for \$14,012.62.

Court Trustee collection case for child support and arrearages owed by Mr. Schmidt delayed County collection efforts.

On May 21, 2009, wage garnishment order filed on Arrowhead Trash Service, Inc., Mr. Schmidt's employer.

County collected \$600.00 of garnished wages from May 12 through August 10, 2009.

In August, 2009, Mr. Schmidt charged with domestic and aggravated battery, incarcerated and lost his job.

February 1, 2010, sentence: 16 month Department of Corrections

60 days county jail
12 month probation
Gainful employment
Balance owed county: \$13,412.62
Will track employment and establish wage garnishment

See Commission page 12

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STAY INFORMED AND STAY AWARE!

Submit Your Nomination for 8 Wonders of Kansas History

The Kansas Sampler Foundation announced that the public may now submit nominations for the 8 Wonders of Kansas History through March.

The History contest is the seventh of eight rural culture elements featured in the series of 8 Wonders of Kansas contests by the Foundation. In addition to the overall 8 Wonders of Kansas, the previous contests have showcased Architecture, Art, Commerce, Cuisine, Customs, and Geography. The last contest will be People.

The History selection committee will be looking for the most significant Kansas history entries that are also interpreted impressively through a museum, displays, signage, or other means. One purpose of the contest is to encourage travel in Kansas so there must be something to see.

The basic criteria is that the history nomination (the story and the physical evidence) must be unique, be a "wow", and be publicly accessible. The nomination should thoroughly describe the unique characteristics of the history and the physical evidence. For a more comprehensive criteria statement, go to www.8wonders.org.

The Kansas Underground Salt Museum and Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center are not eligible because they've already been selected as overall 8 Wonders of Kansas.

In early April the selection committee will meet to determine the 24

finalists and on April 22 the finalists will be announced and voting will begin.

Nominations may be submitted online at www.8wonders.org or by e-mailing marci@kansassampler.org or by sending written submissions to Kansas Sampler Foundation, 978 Arapaho Road, Inman, KS 67546.

After six weeks of voting, the Kansas Sampler Foundation announced the 8 Wonders of Kansas Geography. In alphabetical order:

-Alcove Spring, Blue Rapids

-Coronado Heights, Lindsborg

-Four-State Lookout, White Cloud

-Gyp Hills Scenic Drive and Gypsum Hills Scenic Byway, Barber & Comanche Counties

-Konza Prairie, Manhattan

-Maxwell Wildlife Refuge, Canton
Mushroom Rock State Park, Ellsworth County and Rock City, Minneapolis

-Pillsbury Crossing, near Manhattan

Some key natural landmarks were not eligible for this contest because they were voted to be overall 8 Wonders of Kansas. Those places included Monument Rock & Castle Rock, Gove County; Quivira National Wildlife Refuge &

Cheyenne Bottoms, Stafford and Barton counties; and Tallgrass Prairie Preserve and the Flint Hills, Chase County.

Foundation director Marci Penner said, "To understand the state's geographic diversity, each of the 24 entries should be visited. Some have a definite "wow" factor and others display a more subtle beauty.

Though some are less familiar to the general public, each should be seen and appreciated for what they bring to the Kansas landscape and story."

More than 12,400 votes came from across the state, every state in the union, and from many foreign countries. Each voter had to select eight from the 24 finalists and could only vote three times. Only the Cuisine contest generated more votes. Many schools voted in this contest.

The Geography contest is one in a series. Earlier contests determined the overall 8 Wonders of Kansas and the top 8 in Architecture, Art, Commerce, Cuisine, and Customs. History is the next contest with public nominations being accepted the month of March at www.8wonders.org. The People contest will start in July and wrap up the one-time series.

A project of the Inman-based

Kansas Sampler Foundation, the contest is designed to educate the world about what there is to see and do in Kansas and encourage travel in the Sunflower State.

NOTE: Here is the list of the other 16 finalists:

-Arikaree Breaks, Cheyenne County

-Bartlett Arboretum, Belle Plaine

-Big Basin Prairie Preserve, Clark County

-Brenham Meteorites, near Haviland

-Cimarron National Grassland, Morton County

-Cross Timbers State Park, near Toronto

-Elk River Hiking Trail, Montgomery County

-Geographic Center of the Contiguous United States, Lebanon

-Kaw Point Park, Kansas City

-Lake Scott State Park, Scott County

Mined Lake Wildlife Area, Cherokee, Crawford & Labette counties

-Mount Sunflower, Wallace County

-Native Stone Scenic Byway, Wabaunsee & Shawnee counties

-Post Rock Scenic Byway, Ellsworth, Lincoln & Russell counties

-Schmerhorn Park, near Galena

-Sternberg Museum of Natural History, Hays

Information about the 8 Wonders of Kansas can be found at www.8wonders.org.

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Celebration of 6 nations

This is a reunion of friends coming together to benefit the Manhattan Arts Center, have a good time themselves and hoping to provide you an evening of "Ceoil agus Craic," Irish for "music and fun." The group will perform songs in all six Celtic languages as well as English. The evening will be full of stories, songs and general shenanigans as well as delicious refreshments.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for military and students.

Tickets are available online at www.manhattanarts.org, or at the Manhattan Arts Center box office, 1520 Poyntz, 537-4420.

The Manhattan Arts Center is funded in part by the Kansas Arts Commission, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency, which believes that a great nation deserves great art. Additional funding comes from the City of Manhattan and MAC members and friends.

Amendments to free up Renewable Energy Sources

By Adam Reichenberger

The local and national push for renewable energy sources has led the Riley County Planning Board to rethink of a few of its current regulations. On Monday morning, March 1, Planner, Bob Isaac presented the recommended changes before the County Commission and was met with unanimous approval.

Non-commercial Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECS) are one of the options available to the community. While the industry standard height for WECS is 200-feet, Riley county Zoning Regulations limit out community to just 150-feet. Isaac reported, "...to be economical and to operate efficiently, the [WECS] must be tall enough to [receive] unobstructed air flow... Consequently, many of the proposals [for WECS] seem to have considerable difficulty meeting this requirement and simultaneously providing a system that is functionally appropriate."

Rather than nominally change the maximum height of the WECS, Isaac proposed an amendment to Section 20-Board of Zoning Appeals, of the Riley County Zoning Regulations, changing the maximum height to 33% of the structure's height. This new amendment should give added flexibility to future proposals making their construction more feasible.

While on the topic Isaac also proposed another minor amendment to the same Section 20 to eliminate "inconsistent" restrictions on tract size of lots being rezoned as Zone A-3, Single Family Residential. The faulty regulations state the tract may be no larger than one acre. However, the maximum lot size for A-3 zones is 6500 square feet—far less than a single acre. Isaac sought to remove the unnecessary acre limit.

Both amendments were recommended to the Commission and both were approved in a single unanimous affirmation.

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