

Manhattan Free Press

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An Award Winning Weekly Newspaper

Thursday, April 29, 2010



Sherri Daveline, her husband Dirk Daveline, and their children, Amber, 11, and Tyler, 13.

Sherri Daveline Family Honored By Arthritis Group

Sherri Daveline, a Preschool Teacher at Trinity Community Preschool, contracted Adult Onset Still's Disease eight years ago. The disease is similar to juvenile rheumatoid arthritis that is systemic – affecting the whole body. Since this disease is so rare, no doctors in Manhattan could figure out what was ailing Sherri. Her symptoms started out with a rash that would come and go on her legs, arms, and back; then, within a week of feeling flu like symptoms, she was unable to make a fist with her hands.

It was not until six months after being diagnosed that Sherri had

regained her energy and not for a full year until she felt she could start taking back her motherly responsibilities of raising her children and taking care of the house. After 8 years of taking aggressive medicine,

Sherri is now in remission. The doctors have no idea if it will ever return again. She also has minor arthritis pain in my hands and feet left over from the disease.

Three years ago, Sherri learned of the Arthritis Walk Event in Manhattan and took the opportunity to get involved and began helping with the walk.

"I want to thank my family for

putting up with me and the disease for the past 8 years and the many doctors who helped me through my journey," says Sherri. "I hope I never have to journey there again. . . That is why I walk today – to help research for Arthritis continue for the ones that are still fighting. Thank you for this opportunity to share my arthritis experience with you. And thank you for helping raise money for this devastating disease. Let's help everyone's pain go away!"

The Davline family has been named Family of the year by the Arthritis Foundation Heartland Region.

Manhattan To Take ATA Bus For A Ride

Editorial
By Jon A. Brake

ATA Bus of Riley County has some free government money to start a fixed bus service in Manhattan.

In our opinion ATA Bus had better watch who they are doing business with or they may end up out the cold.

The City of Manhattan has been planning a Bus Service for a long time. With every City in the State with a Bus Service having money problems, the City of Manhattan knows they can make it work. And just like in everything the City does, if it doesn't work they will just raise taxes.

ATA Bus has put together a budget calling for the service to cost more than \$300,000 per year. The Budget calls for the City to give \$40,000 per year and Riley County \$3,000 - \$4,000.

Here is the way we see it. ATA Bus will get the service started and then within four-years start having money problems and the City of Manhattan will take it over because "It is running and we need to save it."

Look out ATA Bus your days are numbered.

Here is a memo given to the City Commission this week:

Karen Davis, AICP, Director of Community Development

MEETING: April 27, 2010

SUBJECT: Transit Plan

Update

PRESENTER: Karen Davis, AICP, Director of Community Development

Ted Reick, TranSystems/HDR Team

BACKGROUND

In 2001, the City of Manhattan completed a Transit Implementation Plan for a city-wide fixed-route transit program. Because the community did not achieve Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) status following the 2000 Census, the City did not pursue the recommendations in the Implementation Plan.

Since 2001, unprecedented growth has occurred in the Manhattan region due to changes at Fort Riley and Kansas State University. This growth has continued to stress the community's transportation systems and the citizens who need access to jobs, school, and community resources. While a large parking structure is now open at Kansas State University, long-term options to mitigate parking problems can include transit as a strategy.

The City of Manhattan is partnering with the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) to update the 2001 Transit Implementation Plan. The purpose of this planning effort is to review the feasibility of a city-wide fixed-route transit system and to determine the best approach for developing, financing, and managing the service. In addition, the study will involve an analysis

of options to move people to major employers and service centers within the region. The consulting team was also asked to review the fixed-route proposal (attached) made by Riley County Area Transportation Agency as part of the 2010 budget process.

On September 1, 2009, the City Commission selected TranSystems Corporation, from Kansas City, Missouri, for the preparation of an update to the 2001 Transit Implementation Plan.

TranSystems has been working with a Steering Committee composed of representatives from Kansas State University faculty, students and administration; City Administration; a

City Commissioner; Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce; Area Transportation Agency; Fort Riley; Kansas Department of Transportation; Coordinated Transit District #4 and Riley County. The Committee has met four times during the course of the Study, the last time being April 22, 2010.

The study builds on the 2001 Transit Implementation Plan and provides a process to define short-term and long-term feasibility for transit in Manhattan and the surrounding area. It identifies the building blocks for a transit system and charts a course of development from today's system to a future system. Four basic questions are addressed:

- What market conditions for transit have changed since 2001?
- What are the anticipated changes in these conditions over the next five to ten years?
- What opportunities are there to use current resources to address the above market areas in the short term?
- What does a future, long-term Manhattan area transit system look like, how would it work and how does the community develop such a system?

Public involvement has included meetings with stakeholders, open houses and presentations to specific groups, including a City Commission work session.

DISCUSSION

The consulting team has prepared Technical Memorandums during the Study, including a Transit Market Analysis and Assessment of Community Transit Resources (see attached). These documents provide data for the Study Summary which is also attached.

The Summary includes an analysis of three concepts selected by the Steering Committee, including an estimate of annual costs, an estimate of funding options and a mapped version of the concept route.

The consulting team will be present at the Work Session to review the study documents and receive direction from the City Commission.

FINANCING

CMS Report Confirms Health Care Costs Will Increase

Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins' report:

"This CMS report confirms yet another broken promise from the Obama Administration. Time and again, President Obama pledged to reduce health care costs. However, the nonpartisan CMS report confirmed our biggest fear: health care costs will increase because of the new law. Adding insult to injury, this report also confirmed that millions of seniors will lose their Medicare Advantage coverage.

"Kansans and all Americans continue to struggle through these challenging economic times, and the new health care law will make it even harder on them. That is why I will continue supporting plans to repeal the negative provisions in this law and replace them with responsible plans that will reduce health care costs without jeopardizing seniors' health care coverage."

Here is the conclusions from that

report:

Conclusions

The national health care reform proposals in the Senate "Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act" would make far-reaching changes to the health sector, including mandated coverage for most people, required payments by most employers not offering insurance, expanded eligibility for Medicaid, Federal premium and cost-sharing subsidies for many individuals and families, a new system of health benefits exchanges for facilitating coverage, and a new Federal insurance program in support of long-term care. Additional provisions would reduce Medicare outlays, make other Medicaid modifications, provide additional funding for the CHIP program, add certain benefit enhancements for these programs, and combat fraud and abuse. Federal revenues would be increased through an excise tax on high-cost insurance plans; fees on drugs, devices, and health plans; and other provisions.

The Office of the Actuary at CMS has estimated the effects of the non-tax provisions of the

PPACA on Federal outlays, overall national health expenditures, and health insurance coverage in the U.S. Our estimates are based on available data sources and what we believe are reasonable assumptions regarding individual, employer, and health plan responses to the legislation, together with analyses of the likely changes in the cost and use of health care services. Our primary estimates for the PPACA are as follows:

- The total Federal cost of the national insurance coverage provisions would be about \$882 billion during fiscal years 2010 through 2019.
- By 2019, an additional 34 million U.S. citizens and other legal residents would have health insurance coverage meeting the essential-benefit requirements.
- Total net savings in 2010-2019 from Medicare provisions would offset about \$541 billion of the Federal costs for the national coverage provisions. The Medicaid and CHIP provisions, excluding the expansion of Medicaid and additional CHIP funding, would decrease costs by \$27 billion.

Additional Federal revenues would further offset the coverage costs; however, the Office of the Actuary does not have the expertise necessary to estimate such impacts. The Congressional Budget Office and the Joint Committee on Taxation have estimated an overall reduction in the Federal budget deficit through 2019 under the PPACA.

- The proposed Community Living Assistance Services and Supports (CLASS) insurance program would produce an estimated total net savings of \$38 billion through fiscal year 2019. This result, however, is due to the initial 5-year period during which no benefits would be paid. Over the longer term, expenditures would exceed premium receipts, and there is a very serious risk that the program would become unsustainable as a result of adverse selection by participants.
- Total national health expenditures in the U.S. during 2010-2019 would increase by about 0.6 percent. The additional demand for health services could be difficult to meet initially with existing health

provider resources and could lead to price increases, cost-shifting, and/or changes in providers' willingness to treat patients with low-reimbursement health coverage.

- The proposed reductions in Medicare payment updates for providers, the actions of the Independent Payment Advisory Board, and the excise tax on high-cost employer-sponsored health insurance would have a downward impact on future health care cost growth rates. During 2010-2019, however, these effects would be outweighed by the increased costs associated with the expansions of health insurance coverage. Also, the longer-term viability of the Medicare update reductions is doubtful. Other provisions, such as comparative effectiveness research, are estimated to have a relatively small effect on expenditure growth rates.

We hope that the information presented here will be of value to policy makers as they continue to develop and debate the many facets of health reform legislation.

Richard S. Foster, FSA, MAAA
Chief Actuary

Christianity Course Running In Multiple Denominations

Thanks to a partnership between churches and a local establishment, Manhattanites have the opportunity to explore the Christian faith in Aggieville.

On Monday, May 3rd at 6:30pm at the KatHouse Lounge (1111 Moro), Faith Evangelical Free Church will host a dinner party previewing the Alpha Course, a ten-week practical introduction/re-introduction to the Christian faith. Billed as "an opportunity to explore the meaning of life," the Alpha Course touches on all aspects of Christianity, and weekly sessions involve dinner, a talk, and an opportunity for discussion.

"We invite anyone interested in exploring spirituality to check out Alpha at the KatHouse," says Justin Kastner, the director of Faith's Alpha Course and, incidentally, a K-State faculty member. The May 3rd introductory dinner party provides a no-pressure opportunity to preview the Alpha Course. There's no obligation to commit to the full Alpha Course, which will take place at the KatHouse on Monday evenings this spring and summer (May 3 - July 26) from 6:30pm to 8:45pm.

The Aggieville-based Alpha

Course represents an extension of previous interdenominational efforts involving both Faith E Free (1921 Barnes Road) and Peace Lutheran Church (2500 Kimball Avenue). The two churches have worked together in the past to jointly promote the Alpha Course, which both congregations routinely offer.

Over 13 million people in 163 countries have completed the Alpha Course. The Alpha USA website (<http://alphausa.org>) provides links to hundreds of Alpha Courses running across the state and nation.

The pastors at Faith and Peace, Steve Ratliff and Michael Ide, respectively, say they are "thrilled" to have their congregations working together. "Coming together to raise the profile of the Alpha Course in Manhattan is a great way for us to demonstrate unity," says Steve Ratliff.

Such interdenominational displays of unity have become commonplace with the Alpha Course, which was begun by an Anglican church, Holy Trinity Brompton, in London.

Since its birth in the 1970s, Alpha has spread around the

world. The course is run in all major denominations and in prisons, homes, schools, night clubs, coffee shops, workplaces, senior care facilities, and on university campuses and military bases.

Many in Manhattan have found Alpha to be an exceptionally "safe place" to explore the "questions of life" in a relaxed, fun, and non-threatening environment.

At the end of the course, Alpha guests are asked, "What did you enjoy most about Alpha?" Shannon Krueger, a 28-year-old who recently completed the Alpha Course at Faith, answered this way: "Wonderful people and being able to talk openly about the questions/doubts that I've wrestled with."

The Alpha Course, including the introductory dinner party, is free, although donations are welcome.

For more information on Alpha, please visit or contact:

www.faithmanhattan.org/alpha
www.alphausa.org

Justin Kastner, Alpha Course director, Faith (785-410-5792; jkastner@k-state.edu)

For more information on the KatHouse, contact Brian Berry (539-5408).

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Obituaries

Jim Thomas

Arthur James (Jim) Thomas, 87, of Manhattan, died April 25, 2010 at the Good Shepherd Hospice House in Manhattan.

He was born May 28, 1922 in Norristown, PA, to Arthur J., Sr. and Sarah P. (Phillips) Thomas.

Colonel Thomas served for twenty-nine years in the U.S. Air Force, retiring April 1, 1971 with over 15,000 flight hours and the rank of Lt. Col. He served as a pilot in WW II and spent many years as a flight instructor and photomapper.

He graduated cum laude from Kansas State University in 1976 with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture.

Jim was the Director of the Air Power Museum Inc. (Antique Aircraft) in Ottumwa, IA in 1977. He owned a small business with two airplanes to provide the State Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service with aerial photography from 1978 to 1984, and then managed the Manhattan Regional Airport for three years, retiring in

November of 1987.

His interests included antique aircraft, playing the violin, bicycling, model railroading and gardening. He attained the status of Master Gardener and volunteered at the K-State Gardens and Sunset Zoo.

He married Jean L. Jongewaard on December 31, 1942 in Monticello, MN. They had three children: Barbara J. Bomes and her husband Stephen of Los Angeles, CA; Robert J. Thomas and his wife, Pamela, of Lafayette, LA; and Rebecca J. Thomas and her husband Stuart Francone of Denver, CO. Seven grandchildren: Laura Bomes, James and Natasha Thomas; Thomas, Sara Jean, Cooper and Lucy Francone; and one great-grandchild, Caleb Marks.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Jean, his parents and his step-mother, Anne (Fichter) Thomas.

He married Delores Blacker on November 18, 1989, in Hays, Kansas. She survives of the home. Other survivors include four step-children, Debra Post and her husband Louie, Jamie Hill and her husband John, all of Manhattan; Nancy Wells and her

husband Paul of Hutchinson, and Timothy Blacker of Jersey City, New Jersey; seven step-grandchildren and six step-great-grandchildren.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:00 A.M. Saturday at Seven Dolores Catholic Church with Father Joseph S. Popelka as Celebrant. Interment with military honors will follow in the Sunrise Cemetery in Manhattan.

A Christian Wake Service and Rosary will be held at 7:30 P.M. Friday at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Chapel. The family will receive friends from 7:00 to 7:30 P.M. Friday prior to the Wake service.

Online condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website at www.ymlfuneralhome.com.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Good Shepherd Hospice House, Seven Dolores Catholic Church of the Kansas State Gardens. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

of Manhattan, Kansas; 2 great grandchildren: Olivia and Gavin; his stepfather: Deal Bean of Topeka; brother: Rick Bean and his wife Pam of Topeka and their children: Tyler and Toree and many other family and friends.

Private Memorial Services will be held at a later date. There will be no visitation.

Memorial Contributions may be made in his name in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

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

of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

Ronald Salladay

Ronald D. Salladay, age 64, died Sunday April 25, 2010 at his residence in Manhattan, Kansas.

He was born on December 8, 1945 in Lenora, Kansas the son of Earl and Shirley (Heidrick) Salladay. He graduated from Norton Community High School. Ron was a veteran of the U.S. Army during Vietnam. He later worked at Kansas State University as a Senior Plumber. He was recently recognized for his 35 years of dedicated service.

On May 1, 1969, he was united in marriage to Donna Brunswick in Wichita. Two daughters were blessed to this union: Rona and Lisa.

Ron loved fishing, hunting, camping, spending time at the lake and in the mountains. He especially loved being with his family and his beloved dog: Kylee. He was a very hard worker and took pride in living life his way.

He was preceded in death by his father Earl Salladay and his mother Shirley Bean.

Survivors include his wife: Donna of the home; daughter: Rona Kustanbortor and her husband Darrell of Independence, Kansas and Ron's only grandson: Logan; daughter: Lisa McCurdy and her husband Marc and children Marc Jo and Jessica of Manhattan; and his first born daughter: Suzanne Lundberg and her children: Christine, Corrie Jo & Caitlynn

of Manhattan, Kansas; 2 great grandchildren: Olivia and Gavin; his stepfather: Deal Bean of Topeka; brother: Rick Bean and his wife Pam of Topeka and their children: Tyler and Toree and many other family and friends.

Private Memorial Services will be held at a later date. There will be no visitation.

Memorial Contributions may be made in his name in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

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

Holly Stepp

Holly L. Stepp, 47, of Manhattan, Kansas, died Friday, April 23, 2010, at the Mercy Regional Health Center in Manhattan. She fought a courageous battle against cancer.

She was born on December 17, 1962, at the Dechairo Hospital in Westmoreland, Kansas, the daughter of Gerald M. and Carole Louise (Hennings) Brickei. Holly was a lifetime area resident where she attended local schools, graduating from Manhattan High School in 1980.

Holly was manager for the family owned and operated Brickei Construction. She was very devoted to the business and to serving her customers. She served as the Manhattan contact for the American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days. In her spare time she enjoyed spending time with family and friends. She also loved to be outdoors, was an avid gardener, and enjoyed many different crafts.

Holly was united in marriage to Pat Stepp on August 4, 1988 in Manhattan. He survives of the home. Other survivors include her father: Gerald M. Brickei of Manhattan, three brothers: Jerry Brickei of Manhattan, Paul Brickei and his wife Amy of Manhattan, and Rick Brickei of Topeka. She is also survived by 6 nieces and nephews, her grandmothers: Pauline Hoover of Riley and Faye Brickei of Olsburg, and a close friend Angie Zarger of Manhattan.

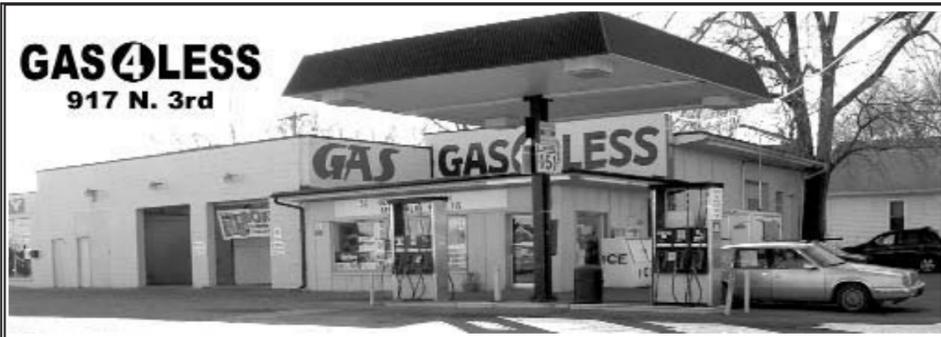
She was preceded in death by her mother, Carole L. Brickei in 2007, and her grandfathers: Melvin Brickei and Ken Hoover.

The family will receive friends during a visitation celebrating her life from 7:00 until 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 28th, at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home. Cremation is planned with a private burial to follow.

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

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Homecare and Hospice, Inc or to the American Cancer Society. Contributions may be left in care

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The Sugar and Spikes Team. They are: Front Row L-R: Piper Fowler, Kelsey Schroll, Abbie Githens, Lindsey Hageman Back Row L-R: Syndey Bannister, Shelby Holz, Kylie James, Madison Fief, Coach Cara Rignell.

Konza Vooleyball Moves On

Two area volleyball teams captured both the Bronze and Silver bracket championships in the HOA Volleyball 13's Regional Tournament this past weekend in Topeka.

Both teams are part of the Manhattan Konza Volleyball Club. The Silver Championship was won by Sugar and Spikes. They defeated a team from the Central Missouri Volleyball Club in Fulton, Missouri. Sugar and Spikes is coached by Cara Rignell. Team members include

Sydney Bannister, Madison Fief, Piper Fowler, Abbie Githens, Lindsey Hageman, Shelby Holz, Kylie James and Kelsey Schroll.

The Bronze Championship was won by Thunder, who is coached by Angie Miller and Gail Urban. They defeated a team from the Ligers Volleyball Club in Cheney, KS. Team members include Blair Campbell, Macey Dieckmann, Mackenzie Edmundson, Macy Franson, Alexis McCormick, Kenzie Miller, Abbi Plummer and Maddie

Urban.

Mark Fowler, KVBC president said, "To have one club team win a regional tournament is great, but to have two teams win is really amazing and speaks to the quality play of our girls and the preparation by our coaches. Both teams faced really tough, competitive teams from all over Kansas and Missouri and they both had to stay mentally strong and focused all weekend. I'm really proud of them and happy for our club."

Job Corps Student Wins Award

Flint Hills Job Corps student, Aaron Taylor was recently awarded with a certificate of completion from the Lieutenant Governor signed by the Governor. Flint Hills Job Corps has established a new partnership with Kansas Building Science Institute (KBSI) and Kansas Park Trust that allows students to receive training in weatherization. Once students have completed training in a construction field they now have the opportunity to apply for additional training provided by Kansas Building Science Institute located in Manhattan, KS. KBSI was founded in 1996 to provide building science and energy performance train-

ing for weatherization, home energy rating, utility and building trades.

The costs for this training are being covered by funds established through a Kansas Park Trust Fund of the Emporia Community Foundation. The Kansas Park Trust Fund was established to specifically assist at-risk youth in acquiring training in green technology.

After completing the Carpentry program at Flint Hills, Aaron Taylor applied for the KBSI Weatherization training and was awarded a scholarship. The certifications he received include:

Weatherization Inspector/Auditor, Inspecting

Residential Furnaces and Weatherizing Mobile Homes. These certifications will allow Aaron to conduct comprehensive inspection and diagnostic analysis of a home using state-of-the-art diagnostic tools. He know has a sound knowledge of building science principals, basic blower door air leakage testing and combustion appliance inspection procedures.

This program partnership allows at-risk youth the opportunity to gain valuable skills and knowledge that they may not have been able to obtain otherwise. The training these students receive is in high demand and is in a high growth industry.

Kansas Profile - Now That's Rural: Julie Hower - Farmers and Drovers Bank

By Ron Wilson, director of the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development at Kansas State University.

How's your bank doing? In the face of financial volatility and mega-bank bailouts, Kansas banks seem stable. Today, in Kansas Profile, we'll learn about a Kansas bank which is on its fourth bank president - in more than 128 years of existence.

Julie Hower is with Farmers and Drovers Bank in Council Grove. Julie is part of the fifth generation in this family-owned bank.

Our story begins when W.H. White and his parents came from Kentucky to Kansas by wagon train. W.H.'s mother died enroute and his father died soon after his arrival in Council Grove. Left all alone, W.H. started farming and raising cattle.

He shipped his cattle to the Kansas City stockyards, but once he got paid, he had to put the money in a KC bank since there was no bank in Council Grove. The obvious solution was to create one.

In January, 1882, a new bank was organized in Council Grove with W.H. White as president. In March 1882, the Farmers and Drovers Bank opened in 1893, the bank constructed a new building on Main Street which essentially was the old Santa Fe Trail. In fact, during excavation, a stone was unearthed with the inscription: "On this ground is where the old Santa Fe stage station stood..."

The new bank building was one of the most ornate structures in town. It includes Romanesque limestone arches, stained glass windows, a Byzantine dome, and minarets on the roof. In 1902, the bank built another building next door, which hosted various businesses through the years.

In 1982, the bank did a major renovation and expanded into the adjacent building. Historic features were carefully preserved, such as the original pressed tin ceiling. Modern features were added to enhance technology and provide privacy. Today, Farmers and Drovers is rated a five-star bank by Bauer Financial Services.

W.H. White, the first bank president, served from 1882 to 1935. His son C.H. White served from 1935 to 1958. His son Hale served from 1958 to 1990, when he was succeeded by his son John who is president today.

That is four bank presidents in well over a century, which is



Ron Wilson

remarkable in these turbulent times. John's cousin Hank White also works there. Now the fifth generation is in the bank, including Hank's daughter Michelle, Julie White Hower, and her brother Steve White.

Julie studied at K-State and moved to Indianapolis. She tried working in a bank there to see if she liked the banking business, and found that she loved it. She and her husband John Hower moved to Kansas City where she earned a law degree from KU and then came back to Council Grove and joined the bank in 2000. They have two daughters: Hailey, age 9, and Ally, age 4.

Council Grove is rural community of 2,328 people. Now, that's rural. Julie and John are strong

believers in small town upbringing.

Julie said, "I tell my friends in Wichita that my kids are involved in lots of things, like soccer, 4-H, ballet, and horseback riding. They ask me, how do you do all that? I explain that it's all a block away. I don't have to spend an hour driving across town."

"It's a wonderful place," she said. "We're building a new school, and we're excited to be here."

John White is very involved with the county economic development group.

"On my second day on the job, a farmer showed up to borrow \$500," Julie said. "He didn't really need the money, but I scurried around to get it done. The next day he paid off the note and said, 'I just wanted to be able to say that I'd been a part of borrowing money from five generations in the same bank.'" For more information, see www.farmersanddrovers.com.

How's your bank doing? Today we've learned about a rural Kansas bank that has demonstrated strength and stability through more than a century. We commend the White family and all those involved with Farmers and Drovers Bank for making a difference with their long-term commitment. That's a type of security you can take to the bank.

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Thoughts From The Prairie

Prairie Winds

This morning I stood on my favorite Flint Hill and watched the sun rise over the rolling sea of green and felt the exhilarating predawn breezes sweeping across the prairie. I thought of a stanza from Home on the Range: "The air is so pure, and the zephyrs so free, and the breezes so balmy and light; I would not exchange my home on the range..." then my thoughts were interrupted by the honking flock of Canadian geese rising off the lake. As I returned to reality I began to consider the adverse winds of change sweeping across the plains and the impact that politics as usual will have on those who will come next to stand on this lovely Flint Hill. As we are learning, change is not always beneficial and the winds of change have given rise to a storm of very contrasting philosophical approaches to governing.

During his campaign, Candidate Obama exclaimed to a cheering crowd that, "We are just five days away from fundamentally transforming the United States of America!" Now President Obama is affirming this philosophy on the Democratic web site: "We are at one of those rare moments in history where we have been given the opportunity to change our country." And the Democratic web site affirms that, "We have a responsibility now to see it through." This is the philosophy of fundamental change.

Now compare that philosophy with that stated in the recent unanimously approved Kansas Republican Party Platform: "The Kansas Republican Party believes that the fundamental principles of the Republican Party are rooted in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, and the Bill of Rights. The Party supports the preservation of our Republic... Preserving these freedoms requires our best effort... and our great faith that together, with God's guidance, we can and will resolve the problems that now confront us." This is the philosophy of restoration and giving new life to that which has made America the "Shining city on a hill." The restoration of our Constitutional Republic requires that we elect men and women with vision, beginning at the local and State level, who understand the Constitution and will govern as this unique founding document prescribes.

Dr. Susan Mosier is one such patriotic citizen and has declared her candidacy for Kansas State Representative for District 67. Dr. Mosier, MD, is a Manhattan native who completed her Bachelors degree in Pre-medicine here at Kansas State University. She then completed her MBA degree at the University of Texas at Austin. After graduation, she went to work as a management information consultant and worked both in the U. S. and abroad with Arthur Andersen & Co. She continued her work in information systems development as a project leader at American Airlines and a systems development and database manager at the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

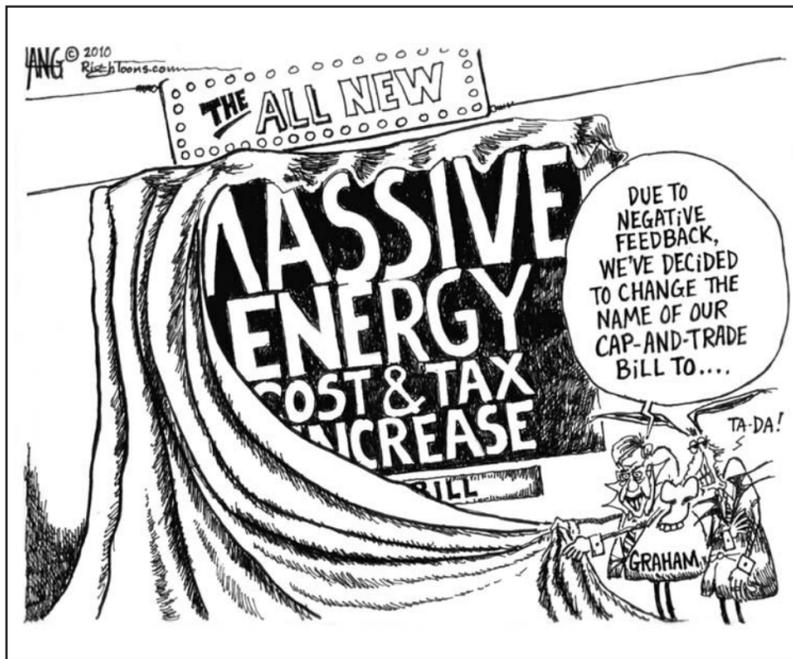
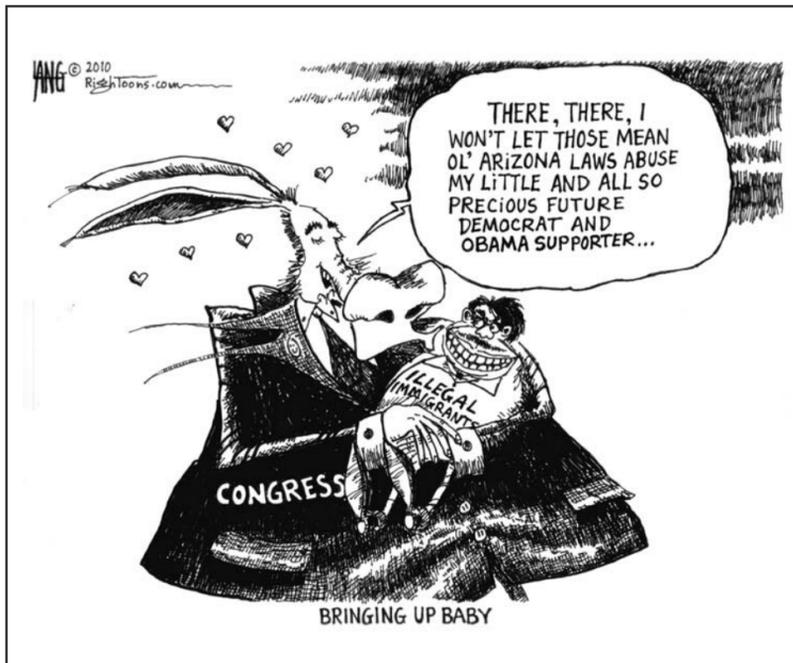


Dick Miller

After ten years in business, Dr. Mosier returned to the field of medicine completing her medical degree at The University of Kansas and her residency in Ophthalmology at the University of Iowa. She returned to Manhattan to start her Ophthalmology practice in 2000. She is active in the American Academy of Ophthalmology and is currently serving as Councilor for Kansas. Susan also serves on the Ophthalmology Advisory Council and as the Alternate Representative from the American Academy of Ophthalmology to the American College of Surgeons. To prepare for this new political venture, Dr. Mosier completed the Leadership Kansas program last year and is currently participating in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Excellence in Public Service Series.

When asked why she is running, Dr. Mosier replied: "As an ophthalmologist, my main job is to restore the vision of my patients. My vision for Kansas and my participation in the Kansas House is to help restore fiscal responsibility and accountability in our government. We need to stimulate growth in the economy by creating an environment in which small businesses can create new jobs and we need to preserve our personal liberties and freedoms." After numerous conferences with Susan, this writer is convinced that her experience as a successful small business owner and her commitment to Constitutional governance gives her the background needed to restore fiscal sanity to Kansas government where out-of-control spending and liberal voting records are jeopardizing the future of Kansas.

Electing Susan as our representative would be a change that would benefit all Kansans. Let's help make it happen. Dr. Mosier's phone number is (785) 323-7047. Her web site is www.susanmosier.com. We will Remember Susan in November!



"Conscience of Kansas"

The National Day of Prayer: The Value of Offending

A federal judge in Wisconsin has ruled that the National Day of Prayer is unconstitutional as it is reported to violate the first amendment against the government's establishment of religion. No, the lawsuit was not filed by the anti-Christian ACLU, but by an organization known as the Freedom from Religion Foundation. The Freedom from Religion Foundation, an organization of overbearing agnostics and atheists, has decided, as liberals often do, that it would be in the best interest of their minority to require the majority within America to live as they do, Godlessly.

However, in the larger scheme of things, the National Day of Prayer has been under attack by many forces besides the "No God Here" group from Madison, Wisconsin. President Barack Obama was already scaling back the National Day of Prayer before the court ruling took place. Harry Truman created the National Day of Prayer back when one could use the concept of prayer and the Democratic Party in the same sentence without receiving strange looks. George W. Bush made the National Day of Prayer a very public event where religious leaders would come to the White House and offer prayers. The overarching theme of such gatherings and of the event itself was not focused on a specific religion, but on the idea that America is a country where prayer has value and worth. President Barack Obama reduced the public White House event to a memo in his first year in office.

So what should Americans do in the face of those who attempt to strip God from all aspects of American life starting with prayer? Those who attempt to change history to make it read as if our founding fathers did not believe in the paramount importance of faith when it came to the grand experiment that is America? Those that have an agenda that is nothing short of an attack on religion itself? I believe that mainstream America should be offensively straightforward on what we believe and what we stand for as one nation under God. Be it annoying the agnostics, aggravating the atheists, or simply making the liberals livid, we must stand tall for the necessity of kneeling in prayer. We must acknowledge the forces that are at work to separate America from God. This attempt is seen in the deceptive nature of the Day of Prayer observation argument. To deny the simple acknowledgement of the value of communication with a higher power is nothing short of poisoning the seedlings from which organized religion grows. No matter how it is presented, the arguments forwarded by groups such as the Freedom from Religion Foundation are nothing more than the usual vomituous verbal spray of liberal propagandists who try to sell Godlessness as the freethinker's utopia. Well, freethinkers, think freely on this: the



Paul A. Ibbetson

battle for the soul of this nation will end with a winner and a loser. Communication with the divine is the lifeline of America's survival and prosperity. It is more valuable to the body of this country than air is to the lungs. Without it we are doomed, and will die as a nation gasping in the dark. This being true, the voices of opposition become of little importance to a national recognition of the value of prayer. Would we feel regret or concern if animosity were heaped upon us for simply breathing? Of course not. Our answer to such challenges would be, quickly and without hesitation, "too bad, it's what I do; it's how I survive."

The National Day of Prayer is a symbol of the nation's undeniable need to communicate with God, to breathe in the unmistakable life-giving bounty of the Almighty. Offending the "No God Here" crowd has merit as a public display that we Americans, as individuals and as a country, have not completely lost our way. That we, like the founding fathers, still believe in talking to God, still believe in the power of prayer.

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

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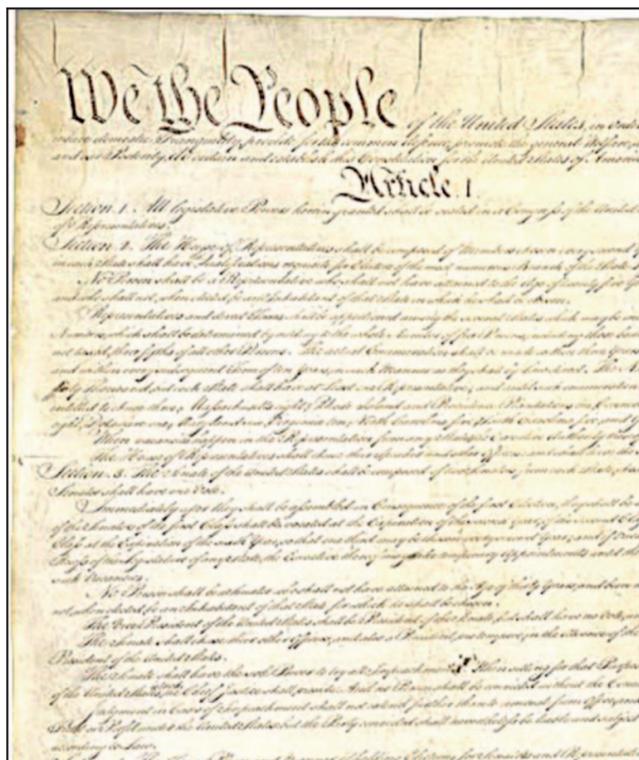
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"Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."
- Thomas Jefferson, 1787

Fight The Redistribution Of Your Wealth By Knowing Your Constitutional Rights



ed to preside over the Massachusetts ratifying convention but unable to make up his mind on the Constitution, took to his bed with a convenient case of gout. Later seduced by the Federalists with visions of the vice presidency and possibly the presidency, Hancock, whom Madison noted as "an idolater of popularity," suddenly experienced a miraculous cure and delivered a critical block of votes. Although Massachusetts was now safely in the Federalist column, the recommendation of a bill of rights was a significant victory for the anti-Federalists. Six of the remaining states later appended similar recommendations.

When the New Hampshire convention was adjourned by Federalists who sensed imminent defeat and when Rhode Island on March 24 turned down the Constitution in a popular referendum by an overwhelming vote of 10 to 1, Federalist leaders were apprehensive. Looking ahead to the Maryland convention, Madison wrote to Washington, "The difference between even a postponement and adoption in Maryland may . . . possibly give a fatal advantage to that which opposes the constitution." Madison had little reason to worry. The final vote on April 28 63 for, 11 against. In Baltimore, a huge parade celebrating the Federalist victory rolled, through the downtown streets, highlighted by a 15-foot float called "Ship Federalist." The symbolically seaworthy craft was later launched in the waters off Baltimore and sailed down the Potomac to Mount Vernon.

On July 2, 1788, the Confederation Congress, meeting in New York, received word that a reconvened New Hampshire ratifying convention had approved the Constitution. With South Carolina's acceptance of the Constitution in May, New Hampshire thus became the ninth state to ratify. The Congress appointed a committee "for putting the said Constitution into operation."

In the next 2 months, thanks largely to the efforts of Madison and Hamilton in their own states, Virginia and New York both ratified while adding their own amendments. The margin for the Federalists in both states, however, was extremely close. Hamilton figured that the majority of the people in New York actually opposed the Constitution, and it is probable that a majority of people in the entire country opposed it. Only the promise of amendments had ensured a Federalist victory.

The Bill of Rights

The call for a bill of rights had been the anti-Federalists' most powerful weapon. Attacking the proposed Constitution for its vagueness and lack of specific protection against tyranny, Patrick Henry asked the Virginia convention, "What can avail your specious, imaginary balances, your ropedancing, chain-rattling, ridiculous ideal checks and contrivances." The anti-Federalists, demanding a more concise, unequivocal Constitution, one that laid out for all to see the right of the people and limitations of the power of government, claimed that the brevity of the document only revealed its inferior nature. Richard Henry Lee despaired at the lack of provisions to protect "those essential rights of mankind without which liberty cannot exist." Trading the old government for the new without such a bill of rights, Lee argued, would be trading Scylla

for Charybdis.

A bill of rights had been barely mentioned in the Philadelphia convention, most delegates holding that the fundamental rights of individuals had been secured in the state constitutions. James Wilson maintained that a bill of rights was superfluous because all power not expressly delegated to the new government was reserved to the people. It was clear, however, that in this argument the anti-Federalists held the upper hand. Even Thomas Jefferson, generally in favor of the new government, wrote to Madison that a bill of rights was "what the people are entitled to against every government on earth."

By the fall of 1788 Madison had been convinced that not only was a bill of rights necessary to ensure acceptance of the Constitution but that it would have positive effects. He wrote, on October 17, that such "fundamental maxims of free Government" would be "a good ground for an appeal to the sense of community" against potential oppression and would "counteract the impulses of interest and passion."

Madison's support of the bill of rights was of critical significance. One of the new representatives from Virginia to the First Federal Congress, as established by the new Constitution, he worked tirelessly to persuade the House to enact amendments. Defusing the anti-Federalists' objections to the Constitution, Madison was able to shepherd through 17 amendments in the early months of the Congress, a list that was later trimmed to 12 in the Senate. On October 2, 1789, President Washington sent to each of the states a copy of the 12 amendments adopted by the Congress in September. By December 15, 1791, three-fourths of the states had ratified the 10 amendments now so familiar to Americans as the "Bill of Rights."

Benjamin Franklin told a French correspondent in 1788 that the formation of the new government had been like a game of dice, with many players of diverse prejudices and interests unable to make any uncontested moves. Madison wrote to Jefferson that the welding of these clashing interests was "a task more difficult than can be well conceived by those who were not concerned in the execution of it." When the delegates left Philadelphia after the convention, few, if any, were convinced that the Constitution they had approved outlined the ideal form of government for the country. But late in his life James Madison scrawled out another letter, one never addressed. In it he declared that no government can be perfect, and "that which is the least imperfect is therefore the best government."

The Document Enshrined

The fate of the United States Constitution after its signing on September 17, 1787, can be contrasted sharply to the travels and physical abuse of America's other great parchment, the Declaration of Independence. As the Continental Congress, during the years of the revolutionary war, scurried from town to town, the rolled-up Declaration was carried along. After the formation of the new government under the Constitution, the one-page Declaration, eminently suited for display purposes, graced the walls of various government buildings in Washington, exposing it to prolonged damaging sunlight. It was also subjected to the work of early calligraphers responding to a demand for reproductions of the revered document. As any visitor to the National Archives can readily observe, the early treatment of the now barely legible Declaration took a disastrous toll. The Constitution, in excellent physical condition after more than 200 years, has enjoyed a more serene existence. By 1796 the Constitution was in the custody of the

Department of State along with the Declaration and traveled with the federal government from New York to Philadelphia to Washington. Both documents were secretly moved to Leesburg, VA, before the imminent attack by the British on Washington in 1814. Following the war, the Constitution remained in the State Department while the Declaration continued its travels--to the Patent Office Building from 1841 to 1876, to Independence Hall in Philadelphia during the Centennial celebration, and back to Washington in 1877. On September 29, 1921, President Warren Harding issued an Executive order transferring the Constitution and the Declaration to the Library of Congress for preservation and exhibition. The next day Librarian of Congress Herbert Putnam, acting on authority of Secretary of State Charles Evans Hughes, carried the Constitution and the Declaration in a Model-T Ford truck to the library and placed them in his office safe until an appropriate exhibit area could be constructed. The documents were officially put on display at a ceremony in the library on February 28, 1924. On February 20, 1933, at the laying of the cornerstone of the future National Archives Building, President Herbert Hoover remarked, "There will be aggregated here the most sacred documents of our history--the originals of the Declaration of Independence and of the Constitution of the United States." The two documents however, were not immediately transferred to the Archives. During World War II both were moved from the library to Fort Knox for protection and returned to the library in 1944. It was not until successful negotiations were completed between Librarian of Congress Luther Evans and Archivist of the United States Wayne Grover that the transfer to the National Archives was finally accomplished by special direction of the Joint Congressional Committee on the Library.

On December 13, 1952, the Constitution and the Declaration were placed in helium-filled cases, enclosed in wooden crates, laid on mattresses in an armored Marine Corps personnel carrier, and escorted by ceremonial troops, two tanks, and four servicemen carrying submachine guns down Pennsylvania and Constitution avenues to the National Archives. Two days later, President Harry Truman declared at a formal ceremony in the Archives Exhibition Hall.

"We are engaged here today in a symbolic act. We are enshrining these documents for future ages. This magnificent hall has been constructed to exhibit them, and the vault beneath, that we have built to protect them, is as safe from destruction as anything that the wit of modern man can devise. All this is an honorable effort, based upon reverence for the great past, and our generation can take just pride in it."

Bibliographic note: Web version based on the Introduction by Roger A. Bruns to A More Perfect Union : The Creation of the United States Constitution. Washington, DC : Published for the National Archives and Records Administration by the National Archives Trust Fund Board, 1986. 33 p.

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The History of the U. S. Constitution Bill Of Rights will be next week in the Free Press.

The U.S. Constitution

U.S. National Archives and Records Administration

Last Week: A More Perfect Union: The Creation of the U.S. Constitution

This Week: A More Perfect Union: The Creation of the U.S. Constitution 3 U.S. National Archives and Records Administration

The Virginia Plan (continued)

Against this kind of Federalist leadership and determination, the opposition in most states was disorganized and generally inert. The leading spokesmen were largely state-centered men with regional and local interests and loyalties. Madison wrote of the Massachusetts anti-Federalists, "There was not a single character capable of uniting their wills or directing their measures. . . . They had no plan whatever." The anti-Federalists attacked wildly on several fronts: the lack of a bill of rights, discrimination against southern states in navigation legislation, direct taxation, the loss of state sovereignty. Many charged that the Constitution represented the work of aristocratic politicians bent on protecting their own class interests. At the Massachusetts convention one delegate declared, "These lawyers, and men of learning and moneyed men, that . . . make us poor illiterate people swallow down the pill . . . they will swallow up all us little folks like the great Leviathan; yes, just as the whale swallowed up Jonah!" Some newspaper articles, presumably written by anti-Federalists, resorted to fanciful predictions of the horrors that might emerge under the new Constitution pagans and deists could control the government; the use of Inquisition-like torture could be instituted as punish-

ment for federal crimes; even the pope could be elected president.

One anti-Federalist argument gave opponents some genuine difficulty--the claim that the territory of the 13 states was too extensive for a representative government. In a republic embracing a large area, anti-Federalists argued, government would be impersonal, unrepresentative, dominated by men of wealth, and oppressive of the poor and working classes. Had not the illustrious Montesquieu himself ridiculed the notion that an extensive territory composed of varying climates and people, could be a single republican state? James Madison, always ready with the Federalist volley, turned the argument completely around and insisted that the vastness of the country would itself be a strong argument in favor of a republic. Claiming that a large republic would counterbalance various political interest groups vying for power, Madison wrote, "The smaller the society the fewer probably will be the distinct parties and interests composing it; the fewer the distinct parties and interests, the more frequently will a majority be found of the same party and the more easily will they concert and execute their plans of oppression." Extend the size of the republic, Madison argued, and the country would be less vulnerable to separate factions within it.

Ratification

By January 9, 1788, five states of the nine necessary for ratification had approved the Constitution--Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia, and Connecticut. But the eventual outcome remained uncertain in pivotal states such as Massachusetts, New York, and Virginia. On February 6, with Federalists agreeing to recommend a list of amendments amounting to a bill of rights, Massachusetts ratified by a vote of 187 to 168. The revolutionary leader, John Hancock, elect-

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Dodd Bill Fails To Fix Problem

By David C. John

Supporters of the Dodd financial regulatory bill list as one of its key virtues that it "solves" the problem of financial institutions that are seen as being "too big to fail." Unfortunately, this is not the case.

While the bill passed by the Senate Banking Committee includes a faulty mechanism for closing financial institutions whose failure could damage the entire financial system, it does nothing to reduce the systemic risk of today's "too big to fail" financial institutions or to prevent this risk in the future.

Simply Reiterating

The bill does create a new board of regulators aimed at controlling systemic risk and gives it and the Federal Reserve extraordinary powers to deal with financial institutions once there is a problem. However, the sections of the bill that deal with the board's ability to prevent the creation of new systemic risk are mainly a restatement of existing powers that the regulators have had for decades.

For instance, the financial regulators have explicitly had the power to increase the amount of capital a firm is required to have since the savings and loan crisis of the 1980s, but they have largely failed to use it. Similarly, they have also had the power to impose liquidity requirements and even prohibit or restrict certain risky activities, but that authority has not been used either.

Although the Dodd bill "requires" the regulators to take action on these issues, even the most minimal activity would satisfy that requirement. The presence of these powers failed to prevent the crisis of 2008, and there is no reason to have any confidence that they will be any more effective in the future.

It Is About More Than Size

The phrase "too big to fail" is misleading, since it implies that the size of a financial institution is responsible for the risk that its failure might impose on the overall financial system. If this were true, then the Dodd bill would only have to place a limit on the size of financial institutions to solve the problem. However, history shows that systemic risk is caused more by interconnections between financial institutions and the risk of a specific institution's portfolio—all that size limitations would do is limit the ability of U.S. banks to compete against equally large foreign banks.

Instead, the scope of a firm's investments, products, and its interconnectedness with other large global firms is far more important in determining the importance of the firm to the stability of the system as a whole and its potential risk if the firm runs into trouble. In addition, the firm's ratio of capital to its overall size and its liquidity are important as indicators of the firm's ability to withstand losses. None of these factors is simple to regulate, and the Dodd bill does not really attempt to do so. Instead, it passes the buck to the new Financial Stability Oversight Council and basically tells it to reduce systemic risk.

Although supporters of the bill imply that the council would be able to prevent the appearance of systemic risk in the future, this task is almost impossible. Systemic risk can be caused by a number of different factors, some of which may appear only in response to specific causes of stress in the financial system and may be present only in certain financial institutions. Thus, identifying systemic risk in advance is extremely difficult, and prevent-

ing it is even harder. The Dodd bill assumes that merely telling a council of regulators armed with existing powers to take care of the problem is sufficient. Unfortunately, certain details of the bill's approach are likely to create additional problems that will make preventing systemic risk even harder than it is now.

Creating More Fannies and Freddie's

The Dodd bill creates a special class of large financial institutions that are almost certain to get special treatment in the credit markets. Under the bill, financial firms with assets of more than \$50 billion that also meet certain other conditions would be regulated by the Federal Reserve. Unfortunately, being on this list of Fed-regulated financial institutions would send the signal that they are "too big to fail" and that the market is likely to price their debt and give them other competitive advantages.

As in the cases of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, repeated disclaimers that there was no government guarantee of their debt did nothing to counteract the market's assumption that such a guarantee existed. Just as that belief was a key factor in the government bailouts of both Fannie and Freddie, it would also make future bailouts of major financial services firms much more likely.

Open-Ended Power to Do the Wrong Thing

The Financial Stability Oversight Council is given virtually unlimited oversight, but the actual entity responsible for exercising new regulatory powers would be the Federal Reserve. The Dodd bill requires that the regulators take some action to improve capital standards, liquidity, risk management, etc., but the council has the power to only recommend action and has no power to compel any regulator to do anything.

As stated earlier, these are not new powers but simply a restatement of powers that the regulators have had for decades. Given that the way these powers have been exercised to date did little if anything to prevent the crisis of 2008, there is no reason to expect them to be any more effective in the future.

The new council could by a two-thirds vote bring any suspect and until then unregulated financial institution under the Fed's regulatory authority, and by the same vote, it could approve Fed decisions to force any larger financial institution that is deemed to pose a risk to the overall financial system to break itself up.

In practice, this is likely to mean that the council will focus its attention on new and innovative firms that are developing products that the regulators do not understand or cannot easily categorize. The council is almost certain to decide that it understands the risk imposed by more traditional firms and products and should concentrate its attention on new and unfamiliar products where the risk is uncertain.

But, as recent history shows, the regulators are very unlikely to recognize risk caused by variations of existing products or evolving relationships among traditional financial institutions. This approach to systemic risk is almost certain to fail and is one major reason why the whole notion of managing systemic risk is flawed.

How to Really Fix "Too Big to Fail"

There are two relatively simple things Congress could do that would do much more to reduce systemic risk—at a much lower price—than

would the gargantuan Dodd bill.

1. Strengthen Capital and Liquidity Requirements. One critical element to resolving "too big to fail" financial institutions is to reduce the risk that they pose to the overall financial system while they are still healthy. The most effective approach to reducing this risk—and one that is gaining support across the political spectrum—is through stronger capital and liquidity standards on larger financial institutions, regardless of whether they are banks or other types of institutions that might currently be exempt from such standards.

Already, both U.S. and international regulators recognize that capital and liquidity standards need to be improved and are evaluating different approaches to do so. The regulators should continue to use their existing authority to impose such standards and tailor them to cover all systemically risky financial institutions.

However, Congress should give the regulators clear instruction to make necessary improvements to capital and liquidity standards so that they better reflect the diverse and highly complex structure and products of an ever-changing financial services industry and then follow up those instructions with regular oversight hearings that feature the assessment of outside experts on how well the regulators are meeting their responsibilities.

2. Create a Bankruptcy Procedure for Large Financial Firms. The Dodd bill would give the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) the power to deal with failing "too big to fail" financial institutions through the ability to use a line of credit from the Treasury to repay all such a firm's creditors and to create a new government-owned entity to receive the assets of the old financial institutions. Congress should remove this flawed language and replace it with a process that is administered through the bankruptcy courts. This would ensure that regulators cannot revert to politically motivated bailouts or other forms of government intervention instead of closing poorly managed financial institutions and selling off the viable pieces to other firms.

Among the many virtues of a bankruptcy court-based method is that the creditors of failing firms would have to suffer losses unless the remaining assets are large enough to fully repay them. Faced with the potential for losses, creditors will do a better job of understanding and monitoring the riskiness of both financial institutions and their products.

Obamacare for Financial Institutions

If you liked what Obama and Congress did to health care, you will love what they plan to do to financial institutions. Although the press has focused on the creation of a consumer regulatory agency, that is only one part of a massive plan to create all-powerful regulators that could micromanage the financial industry. Despite protests to the contrary, the Dodd bill contains language that would make future bailouts of "too big to fail" firms inevitable but does nothing of consequence to reduce systemic risk.

David C. John is Senior Research Fellow in Retirement Security and Financial Institutions in the Thomas A. Roe Institute for Economic Policy Studies at The Heritage Foundation.



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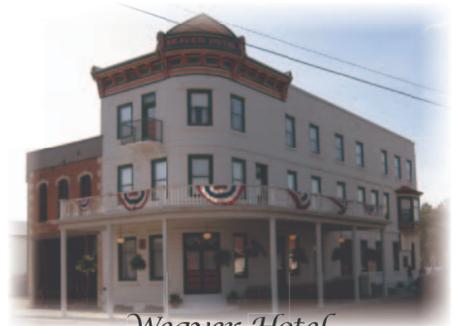
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BNSF Foundation Makes \$230,000 Gift

The BNSF Foundation, Fort Worth, Texas, has made a gift of \$230,000 to establish an outreach partnership with the College of Engineering at Kansas State University.

The partnership between K-State's Women in Engineering and Science Program -- WESP -- and the BNSF Foundation will fund events designed to encourage diverse populations of young people to pursue careers in engineering and science.

The partnership will be celebrated Friday, April 30, during a WESP event at J.C. Harmon High School, 2400 Steele Road, Kansas City, Kan. The event will include numerous activities conducted by K-State engineering students, as well as a check presentation from the BNSF Foundation. John Williams, general manager of BNSF Railway's Kansas Division will present the check to John English, dean of the College of Engineering and Kimberly Douglas-Mankin, director of WESP. The check presentation is scheduled for 10:45 a.m.

"We are very excited about our upcoming event at J.C. Harmon High School," Douglas-Mankin

said. "This is a great opportunity to help Harmon students understand the contributions BNSF's scientists and engineers make to creating a better world, and to illustrate BNSF's commitment to their education. K-State engineering students will be working with around 200 students from Harmon High in hands-on experiences designed to illustrate careers at BNSF."

"The BNSF Foundation has a long history of supporting organizations and projects in higher education and youth development in the communities we serve," Williams said. "This K-State program is dedicated to attracting a more diverse population to the fields of engineering and science. We recognize the future of the economy and of the communities we serve will depend on that and we are grateful for the opportunity to support a program that will help make that future possible."

"The College of Engineering is very grateful to the BNSF Foundation," English said. "This generous partnership will make it possible for WESP to reach out to hundreds of young people to illustrate the possibilities and rewards in science and engineering careers.

We know that many of these young people will pursue those careers through higher education. That is an outcome that benefits all of society."

K-State's Women in Engineering and Science Program was recently recognized as the nation's outstanding women in engineering program. The award, from the Women in Engineering Pro-Active Network, was presented earlier this month at the network's joint conference with the National Association of Multicultural Engineering Program Advocates in Baltimore, Md.

The award is presented annually to one outstanding woman in engineering program that serves as a model for other institutions. The Women in Engineering and Science Program is a collaborative effort between K-State's Colleges of Engineering and Arts and Sciences, according to Douglas-Mankin.

"WESP designs and implements programs that make K-State a better place for women to pursue their interests in science and engineering," Douglas-Mankin said. "Programming is structured

around three purposes: promoting awareness, building community and providing support. While programming is designed to benefit female students in engineering and science, many of the programs offered by the WESP office serve all students. The reality is that the things that make K-State better for women scientists and engineers also make K-State better for everyone."

Douglas-Mankin said the Women in Science and Engineering Program creates a wide range of opportunities for students to connect with program participants and others who are passionate about engineering and science.

"It's a pipeline of ways to be involved from grade school through graduate school and beyond," she said. "Individuals can be engaged in ways that are tailored to their needs. Some are involved in many different ways, and others are involved in individual programs. The important thing is that they have opportunities to build relationships and reinforce their excitement for engineering and science."

The BNSF Foundation's mission

is to support and improve the general welfare and quality of life in communities served by BNSF Railway and has been a main vehicle for charitable giving from, and before, the 1996 merger of the Burlington Northern and the Santa Fe railroads to form The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company, now known as BNSF Railway Company. The BNSF Foundation is a Texas non-profit corporation located in Fort Worth.

About BNSF Railway: BNSF Railway is one of North America's leading freight rail transportation companies operating on 32,000 route miles of track in 28 states and two Canadian provinces. BNSF is one of the top transporters of consumer goods, grain, industrial goods and low-sulfur coal that help feed, clothe, shelter and power American homes and businesses every day. BNSF and its employees have developed one of the most technologically advanced, and efficient railroads in the industry. And we are working continuously to improve the value of our service, energy, environmental, and safety benefits to our customers and the communities we serve.

Kansas State University Implements Alcohol Education

Beginning with the fall 2010 semester, Kansas State University will require most newly enrolled students to complete an online alcohol education program.

K-State is implementing AlcoholEdu for College. The nationally recognized, Web-based alcohol education program will be mandatory for all newly enrolled, degree-seeking students on K-State's Manhattan and Salina campuses who are age 21 or under on the first day of class.

Developed by the Boston-based company Outside the Classroom Inc., AlcoholEdu for College takes approximately two hours to complete and provides information about alcohol and its impact on the body and behavior.

K-State will be using the

AlcoholEdu program for at least the next four years. The use of the program reflects the university's commitment to the health and welfare of students, said Pat Bosco, K-State vice president for student life and dean of students.

"We think effective alcohol prevention programs on campus are critically important, and the implementation of the AlcoholEdu program will aid our students in the process of becoming more successful at K-State," Bosco said.

"Alcohol can be a significant issue in the lives of many students," said Bill Arck, director of the Alcohol and Other Drug Education Service at K-State. "By providing detailed information on the effects of alcohol in an easily accessible, interactive format, we

hope to help students make wiser choices while here at K-State and throughout their lifetimes."

Used at more than 500 colleges and universities nationwide, the AlcoholEdu curriculum integrates proven prevention strategies and scientific-based findings into a non-opinionated, personalized educational program.

The program's format features a story narrative and activities that reflect the way today's students communicate, according to Arck. In addition, AlcoholEdu includes three confidential student surveys that will help K-State understand the effectiveness of the educational effort.

Parents of new K-State students also can become part of the

AlcoholEdu program, Bosco said.

Because K-State entered into a multi-year contract to use AlcoholEdu for College, program owner Outside the Classroom is offering its AlcoholEdu for Parents program free to parents of newly enrolled students. The parents' edition is much shorter than the student edition, and serves as an impetus for parents and kids to talk about alcohol and college.

"We encourage the parents and guardians of our new students to participate in this program, too," Bosco said. "The AlcoholEdu for College program was recommended to me by K-State's national parent and family advisory board, and part of this pro-

gram is being paid for with private funds from parents of K-Staters."

With several published studies and randomized control trials documenting its efficacy, AlcoholEdu has been used across the country to address high-risk drinking on college campuses. In a study conducted at Villanova University in fall 2007, compared to the control group, students who completed AlcoholEdu reported a greater reduction in alcohol use, were less likely to expect positive outcomes from drinking, were less likely to make poor decisions as a result of alcohol use, and were less accepting of others' alcohol use behaviors.

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Daniel Thomas (8) did the rushing. (Photos by Ben Brake)

Three Cats Honored

Three Kansas State women's tennis student-athletes earned Academic All-Big 12 first team honors in an announcement from the league office on Wednesday. The Wildcats earning the distinction were senior Natasha Vieira and sophomores Petra Chuda and Nina Sertic.

Vieira garnered her third Academic All-Big 12 first team honor, as she is a management and marketing major. The product of Carabobo, Venezuela tallied a 7-9 record this season in both singles and doubles action.

Chuda earned her first career citation and is a management major. The native of Sokolnice, Czech Republic is second on the team in singles wins with a 13-17 record and is 8-11 this spring, including a 5-6 mark in the Big 12.

Sertic also received her first career citation and is a business administration major. The second-year player from Zagreb, Croatia has won three of her last seven outings and is second on the team with 13 doubles wins this season.

In the history of the Big 12, K-State has had 17 student-athletes earn 34 first team selections.

Kansas State will begin action on Thursday in the 2010 Big 12 Women's Tennis Championships in Austin, Texas. The Wildcats enter the tournament with its highest seed in the tournament since the 2006 season, as K-State is the eighth seed and will face the ninth seed Colorado at 10 a.m.

Purple Dominates Spring Game

The second year of the new Bill Snyder era began Saturday with the annual Purple/White Game capping the end of spring practices. The scrimmage pitted the first string against the second string and was dominated by the first stringers in Purple as 13,696 fans watched at Bill Snyder Family Stadium.

Carson Coffman got the starting nod for the Purple squad and shined as he found Brodrick Smith on a number of occasions while Big 12 Newcomer of the Year Daniel Thomas provided a heavy dose of rushing yards as he kept his success from the 2009 season going during the scrimmage.

It came down to the final play of the game with Purple punching the ball in across the goal line as time expired to get the 41-38 win although the Purple outscored the White, 79-0. Similar to last year's Spring Game, coach Snyder decided to switch the scores at halftime to test his Wildcats in adverse situations. By flipping the score, Purple now had to find a way to battle back from a 38-0 deficit while White was challenged with holding a lead.

Coffman was in command of the Purple offense all day completing 38-of-51 passes for 440 yards and seven touchdowns. His favorite target on the day was Smith as he pulled in 12 receptions for 167 and four scores. Thomas rushed for 118 yards on 16 carries. Aubrey Quarles also cracked the century mark for the Purple squad catching nine passes for 105 yards and one touchdown.

White struggled to move the ball against K-State's top defense, tallying just 144 yards of total offense compared to 737 from the Purple.

After forcing a three-and-out on the

White's first possession, the Purple squad marched down the field on an efficient drive. The touchdown drive was capped off by a 15-yard pass from Coffman to Smith. The drive spanned 10 plays on 65 yards and took 4:05 off the clock.

The Purple continued to dominate the first quarter with two more three-and-outs on defense and more Coffman, Smith and Thomas. Smith tallied his second touchdown catch of the day to put the Purple squad up 21-0 following a Josh Cherry extra point.

The White squad gained just 14 yards on offense in the first quarter and just 67 for the entire first half. The Purple dominated with 336 yards of total offense through the first two quarters with Thomas rushing for 80 yards on 13 carries to average 6.2 per carry. Coffman was an efficient 18-of-24 passing in the first half for 230 yards and five touchdowns with Smith catching six of those passes for 86 yards with two scores as Purple took a 38-0 lead into the locker room at halftime.

Purple did not take long to cut into that lead with a quick score on a nine-yard pass to Smith following a fumble recovery by the defense. An interception by freshman quarterback Billy Cosh on White's next possession led to another score by Purple with William Powell punching the ball in from five yards out for the first rushing score of the game pulling the score to 14-38.

Shutting down the White offense, Purple continued to pour it on scoring on a nifty eight-yard rush by John Hubert after being surrounded by would-be tacklers behind the line of scrimmage and escaping for the score.

The defensive play of the day came on White's possession after Hubert's

touchdown run with cornerback Troy Butler cutting off an out route to the left and returning an interception 37 yards for a touchdown narrowing the lead to just 10 points.

This concludes K-State's spring workout schedule as the Wildcats will turn their focus to final exams in the coming weeks before joining for fall camp in July/August and opening the 2010 campaign against UCLA at home on September 4.



Quarterback Carson Coffman had a good Spring Game.

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