

# Manhattan Free Press

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## Subdivisions On The Brink

By Jeffrey Robb  
OMAHA WORLD-HERALD  
STAFF WRITER

Two Omaha-area housing subdivisions have filed for bankruptcy, the first in a wave of what could be a dozen or more reorganizing their finances. Housing developers have thousands of vacant lots on their hands at least twice as many as a healthy supply and some are defaulting on the bank loans that got their projects going. Banks are suing the developers personally to exact payment.

Already, officials from two Dial real estate and development companies were ordered to pay \$8.6 million to Mutual of Omaha Bank on one project's delinquent loan. A court ordered the sale of some of founder Don Day's personal stock holdings and the surrender of another official's coin collection.

First National Bank has sued longtime developer Bob Horgan and one current executive and a former official with NP Dodge Real Estate for \$4.8 million over another failed development loan.

"I've got to think there are a lot of people out there that are a little bit scared and are a little bit on edge," said Vince Leisey, president of Prudential Ambassador Real Estate and past president of the Nebraska Board of Realtors.

Though affecting only a fraction of new subdivisions, the problems will linger for years.

For the metro's cities, troubled subdivisions in the path of annexation will slow growth of their population and tax base.

For residents of affected subdivisions, the future of their neighborhoods, tax burdens and property values are at stake.

Prospective homebuyers looking to build in one of the subdivisions might find a bargain, but also will want to ask questions about the developer's finances and plans.

For the development industry, it likely means a new way of doing business in the future.

The crunch is hitting now because the metro area's housing developments structure their initial debt to mature in five years. Five years ago, the area's home building boom peaked.

Today, home construction has dropped by half to a more normal pace of 2,600 annual building permits. Douglas and Sarpy Counties are stuck with nearly 14,000 empty housing lots, with another 6,800 lots in the pipeline, according to a market analysis by the regional research firm Landmarketing Inc.

A two-year supply is considered good. The current supply by different measures, five to eight year's worth is a glut.

As the market struggles to climb out of a recession, some subdivisions are stuck with millions of dollars in debt and scant tax base to pay the bills. Even with a recent pickup in home construction, industry officials say, bankruptcy is now inevitable for a string of subdivisions.

"It's kind of the excesses being wrung out," said Bob Doyle, an Omaha development lawyer.

Looking back, many in real estate and urban planning acknowledge they should have seen the excess building.

They agree that too many inexperienced developers and too many inexperienced investors jumped into the market. Meantime, easy financing encouraged developers to start larger subdivisions with more lots than were necessary in the immediate future.

"The housing market across the country was overdeveloped," said Steve Jensen, Omaha's former planning director. "We're no different from anybody else in that regard."

Pottawattamie County also has a glut to work through, as does Lancaster County. Each has more than five years' worth of housing lots developed and sitting empty, according to Landmarketing statistics.

In the Omaha area, Gretna's Standing Stone was the first in the coming wave to file for Chapter 9 bankruptcy protection. It's the process used for governments such as public sanitary and improvement districts, the entities, also known as SIDs, that get housing developments started.

As the development prepared for bankruptcy, 67 homes had been built, with 150 lots vacant and an additional 93 planned.

The district essentially the project's developer proposed a plan to reorganize \$10 million in debt with vast buy-in from creditors, who agreed to an extended payback term and a lower interest payout. Within



The City of Manhattan and Dial Realty has had many problems with the re-development of the downtown area. Dial could not get the north end project least as fast as the contracts called for and they did not have the money to finish the redevelopment of the south end project. In the beginning Dial was to take all of the risk and now the City of Manhattan is on the hook for millions and millions of dollars.

four months, a judge approved the new financial plan.

"This is a positive thing," said Jana Faller, president of Synergy Real Estate and Development, which has taken over the project from earlier developers. "We were in front of it."

For homeowners, the plan caps the district's ability to levy property taxes, assuring that the debt-laden subdivision's tax burden will be roughly in line with other neighborhoods competing for new homes. Without such a cap, a bankrupt subdivision risks burdening homeowners with higher taxes and scaring away potential buyers.

But the bankruptcy will lengthen the time it normally would take to bring down the debt to where Standing Stone could be annexed.

Standing Stone homeowners remain leery of the future.

In an effort to spark construction, Synergy welcomed Omaha's production builders into what had been a neighborhood of semi-custom and higher-price custom homes.

Homeowners say they worry that the neighborhood will not end up as expected and their property values will suffer. One resident said he put his home up for sale as a result; others say they regret moving to Standing Stone.

"If people would have known this would take place, well, nobody would have built a house over here," said homeowner Bob Cunningham, who met with Faller last week in the hope of working with the developer to boost sales in the neighborhood.

No one is certain how many developments will go bankrupt, although industry officials say the number could range from 12 to 20. In Omaha's zoning area, nine larger housing subdivisions that started between 2004 and 2006 still are more than two-thirds empty and have yet to turn a corner by issuing long-term debt, according to the latest figures from the City Planning Department.

Though the troubled neighborhoods represent a fraction of the nearly 300 active sanitary and improvement districts in Douglas and Sarpy Counties, the problems are making waves in the industry as developers get sued personally.

It's not unprecedented for banks to go that route on defaulted loans, development lawyer Jerry Slusky said. But banks in the past tended to recover their losses by foreclosing on empty lots and reselling them, he said, and would go after the borrowers only if that didn't generate enough.

Now, however, with the lot supply high and prices dropping, banks may not bother to foreclose.

Todd Clevenger, a senior vice president who handles the real estate portfolio for Omaha State Bank, said it can be hard for banks to put a value on empty lots in the current market.

"Especially in a climate with land values going way down, we're in large part banking on those people's guarantees and their net worths," said Clevenger, whose bank holds eight housing development loans, all of which are in good standing.

Nationally, in the wake of the housing bubble that helped to bring on the recession, federal banking regulators have placed special focus on scrutinizing banks' development loans.

This month, Mutual of Omaha Bank sued Steve Faller and his corporation for \$754,000 still due on what originally was a \$5 million loan related to Standing Stone. Faller is Jana Faller's husband and an original developer on the project.

The case against Dial involves the Falling Waters development at 192nd and Harrison Streets. Six years after the subdivision started, bankruptcy is on the horizon because Falling Waters is \$4 million in debt and three-fourths

unfilled.

Mutual of Omaha Bank has not foreclosed on those lots. Last year, the bank won rulings against four Dial officials because they personally guaranteed the failed loans. The bank declined to comment.

Dial Land Development President Pat Day, who now personally owes a legal judgment, said that he still hopes lot sales over time will pay off what he owes and that bank officials will work with him. He said he believes the bank is facing pressure from regulators and can't wait.

"We've got to come up with a game plan with (Mutual)," he said. "You just constantly try to work it out with each other."

The First National lawsuit involves a failed loan connected to the bankrupt Sagewood subdivision, located near 177th and Fort Streets. The three developers, who also personally guaranteed a loan to Sagewood Development Co. LLC, could be forced to pay off the loan from their own assets. Developer Horgan was sued for the largest share, \$3.2 million.

This month, First National also paid \$1.85 million to take over 356 lots from the development, although NP Dodge continues to market the project. First National declined to comment.

"It's not a good situation for anybody," said Mike Riedmann, president of residential sales for NP Dodge and a defendant in the lawsuit.

Riedmann said First National needs the project off its books, but the development just needs more time. "It's still a great project."

For city halls in the metro area, the problems are still down the road.

As long as the developments are deep in debt, cities will be less likely to annex the neighborhoods, said Ken Kriz, an associate professor of public finance at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. That will constrain the growth of cities, Kriz said.

Omaha Mayor Jim Suttle said the city has had to annex around problem SIDs before and will skip them in the future.

"We are not going to annex problems," he said.

Suttle said he wants the city to focus on growing more in established parts of Omaha, attracting developments with city incentives and a new streetcar system that has been proposed. But he said the city should not be more restrictive of future development proposals in the suburbs.

"The marketplace is going to sort this out," he said.

Whenever subdivision development heats up again, people in the industry see practices changing.

Banks are expected to tighten lending requirements and developers will create fewer lots at once. Compared with the boom years, banks and developers now have access to more comprehensive data on lots and sales.

The changes will mean that developers with better track records will remain in the industry, said David Kuehl, president of Kuehl Capital Corp., a longtime fiscal agent for Omaha's SIDs. Absent a track record, he said, a developer will need to bring a lot of private capital to its deals.

Kuehl said everyone involved in housing development will have a long memory about today's problems.

"When you come out bruised, you're a little bit more cautious."

## Workman To Head Community Foundation

Elizabeth (Liz) Workman has been named Executive Director of the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation. Susanne Kufahl, President of the Foundation's Executive Board, announced the appointment Wednesday.

Workman's responsibilities will include administering the Foundation's office and staff and working closely with the Executive Board and Foundation committee members to deepen existing and to develop new relationships with donors, area non-profit agencies/organizations and professional advisors. Under the direction of the Executive Board and Investment Committee, she will also oversee the management, investment, accounting and reporting of funds held at the Foundation.

"I am thrilled that the Foundation will have at its helm a leader with the caliber of expertise and experience that Ms. Workman brings," Kufahl stated. "She is a genuinely nice person and I know that the community will enjoy getting to know her."

"I am honored to have been selected as Executive Director of the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation," Workman stated. "The Foundation's achievements during its first ten years are extremely impressive, and I look forward to working closely with the Executive Board and Trustees, as well as area non-profit agencies and organizations, to further the Foundation's mission of enhancing the quality of life in the Greater Manhattan area."

Most recently, Workman was an independent fine arts consultant, providing a broad range of collections management and administrative serv-



Liz Workman

ices to private collectors, museums and corporations. Prior to managing her consulting practice, Workman's professional career centered on banking and investment banking. She was a Corporate Analyst at Citizens Financial Group in Providence, Rhode Island, a Manager in the Private Banking Group at Citibank in New York, and was the Managing Director of Analytics at Cohane Rafferty Securities in New York from 1988 to mid-1999. Workman grew up in Wichita, Kansas and holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Wichita State University and a Master of Business Administration with a concentration in finance from Boston University, where she was the valedictorian of her graduating class. Workman is fluent in Spanish and is an accomplished photographer. She is also an avid reader and enjoys hiking, gardening and traveling.

## Riley County FOP Respond To Mercury

By Brian Swearingen; Vice  
President, Riley County FOP  
Lodge 17 Inc.

Re: Response to Article titled:  
Pay is law board hangup  
Date: May 23, 2010

In direct reply to the article in the Manhattan Mercury titled Pay is law board hangup, the Riley County FOP Lodge 17, Inc. hereby requests the following be printed in order to correct, clarify and respond to the provided positions:

First, a correction. The Manhattan Mercury printed in the above entitled article, Pay is law board hangup, that Steve Gregoire, President of Riley County FOP Lodge 17, Inc., stated that "unless the law board presents a budget that includes at least a 3.8% salary increase, 11 correctional officers and no RIF's, the FOP may declare an impasse..."

We believe his comments were misunderstood and subsequently misrepresented. As far as wages, Gregoire stated that we are happy with what we have in the existing contract, and that is what we want. If the Law Board wants something different, they need to bring it to the table and discuss it. Also, when asked about correctional officers, Gregoire said that the FOP bargains for police officers only, not CO's or civilian employees. Gregoire added that CO's were the RCPD's issue and not relevant to the FOP's issues. Finally, Gregoire stated that in the event we cannot come to a contractual agreement, one option is impasse. However, everyone wants to avoid that and reach agreement.

We also want to clearly establish with everyone, we have absolutely no role in whether a RIF (reduction in force) occurs. That decision rests solely with the Director of the Riley County Police Department, Brad Schoen. The Law Board sets the budget with a general understanding of what will likely happen when Director Schoen implements it. However, Director Schoen is responsible for its implementation. Whether he chooses to cut non-personnel line items or personnel positions like correctional officer, the newly established part-time Police Service Aides, or sworn patrol officers is entirely his choosing.

Also, we are not asking for a salary increase. The mentioned 3.8% increase the Department needs to cover personnel costs is for the staff of the entire Department. That is not just for wages. That 3.8% covers 2 Temporary cleark positions that were not accounted for in the 2010 budget, a projected 10% increase in health insurance costs for all employees, and a projected 2% increase in worker's compensation insurance costs for all employees. That increase also includes any new positions created for 2011 throughout the Department (new CO's, new police officers, new police service aides, etc.), not just the salary of existing police officers. The above mentioned additional costs are also included in any other percentage increase the Department and Law Board may be looking at. However,

we are not negotiating for the entire Department, but we'll discuss that later. We are not negotiating for 11 new correctional officers, and that to we'll address later in this article.

Most importantly, we are not in the business of providing ultimatums and threats of impasse. Our negotiations team is making every attempt to work with the Department to come to a resolution on the 2011 contract. We fully intend to exhaust all reasonable efforts to negotiate a successful contract prior to declaring an impasse. We only hope that this misunderstanding and misrepresentation does not negatively affect contract negotiations and our relationship with both the Department and the Law Board.

Riley County FOP Lodge 17, Inc. represents the non-sworn members of the Riley County Police Department for the terms and conditions of the existing contract and applicable addendums only through December 31, 2010.

That is in no way part of our current 2011 contract negotiations, as the Riley County FOP no longer represents any non-sworn member of the Riley County Police Department for contract issues after 2010. We are only negotiating for the 2011 contract for sworn police officers of the rank Sworn Police Officer and Sergeant.

Let us also be abundantly clear, Riley County FOP is not advocating for 11 new correctional officers, as this is not an item we are negotiating. The Department states it needs 11 correctional officers to staff the new addition to the Riley County Jail, and we do not disagree that additional personnel would be required to safely and successfully open the new addition. However, the County authorized the building of the jail, and it is of no business to the Riley County FOP if the Law Board was or was not yet prepared to staff it. That is a function of the Department and the Law Board, not of the Riley County FOP.

Let's move on to the main issue of pay and the numerous misconceptions and misunderstandings surrounding how the Riley County Police Department (and the vast majority of every other police department in the United States) pays its officers.

We operate on a pay scale also called a salary schedule. The current version of which was contractually agreed upon by the Riley County FOP, the Riley County Police Department, and the Riley County Law Board. This is not a promise made by the Law Board to the police officers of the Riley County Police Department. This is a contractual item, open for negotiation.

The current schedule is tied directly to years of service, providing an incentive for longevity with the Department. This does not mean that all sworn officers are moved to the next step as of January 1st. Instead, officers are assigned step dates, on which they are moved to the next step of the assigned schedule. Therefore, Officer A may very well received a

See Riley County page 3

# City Starts Budget Process

**CITY COMMISSION AGENDA**  
**MEMO May 18, 2010**  
**FROM: Bernie Hayen, Director of Finance**  
**MEETING: May 25, 2010**  
**SUBJECT: First Work Session on the 2011 City Budget and 2011-2016 Capital Improvement Program**  
**PRESENTER: Bernie Hayen, Director of Finance**

**BACKGROUND**

Every year, there is an extensive budgeting and planning process that begins in March involving City Management, the Department of Finance, and virtually every Department/Division of the City.

The budgeting process includes preparation of budgeting and capital planning worksheets for City Departments to complete and for Management to review prior to this information being presented to the City Commission.

Under State law the annual budgetary process is left up to each municipality across the state of Kansas. However, there is a uniform standard that every municipality required to submit a budget must complete their internal reviews and budget adoption process by August 15 of each year prior to the start of the new fiscal year (January 1 through December 31).

As required by the City Manager, the Finance Department must submit preliminary information related to the entire 2010 City Budget to his office for review and discussions with each City department director or Division Supervisor. At that time, Management reviews all requests and either (1) allows an item to stay in the budget for further review and consideration, (2) modifies an item, (3) moves an item to another timeframe, or (4) deletes an item altogether.

This internal process is always accomplished prior to the first budget work session with the City Commission. (See Attachment 2.)

**DISCUSSION**

This year, the Finance Department recommended to Management that the first work session be devoted to a discussion of several key items that the City Commission will need to consider in order to set the direction of the 2011 City Budget. Each of these items will have an impact on the 2011 City Budget and the subsequent mill levy rate that will be necessary to fund that budget.

As part of this discussion, the following overview provides information regarding the major funds that comprise the annual City budget and the anticipated impact they will have on the 2011 City Budget.

Finally, an attachment to this memorandum provides additional insight into the issues and challenges that the 2011 City Budget will present. (See Attachment 1.)

**General Fund**

The City's General Fund is the major fund that supports a majority of City operations including about 80% of total payroll expense.

For 2011, it is anticipated that the General Fund will remain flat with little increase in operational expenditures other than those that previously

were approved by the City Commission (rental inspectors and limited Discovery Center staff). Even with these increased costs, no increase in property taxes is anticipated at this time.

**Special Revenue Funds**

The City has a number of special revenue funds that are budgeted annually. These funds are separated by those under the control of the City Manager and those that represent outside agencies governed by appointed boards.

For 2011, those special revenue funds under the control of the City Manager are anticipated to remain relatively unchanged with the exception of the Employee Benefit Fund. This Fund has been under-budgeted for several years and has "been made whole" at the end of the fiscal year by transferring from the General Fund. In addition, changes to the Kansas Public Employee Retirement System (KPERs) and mandated by Kansas law will add to 2011 expenditures. An increase to the property taxes levied in the Employee Benefit Fund is anticipated.

Those special revenue funds not under control of the City Manager are expected to increase by about 5% within the 2011 City Budget. (See Attachment 3.)

**Bond & Interest Fund**

The City's Bond & Interest Fund is the primary account from which annual principal and interest payments are made on debt issuances that have been approved by the City Commission.

Past community-wide growth in addition to community projects for the immediate future have created a dramatic upswing in the annual principal and interest that must be paid from the Bond & Interest Fund.

Bond financing that was delayed last year in order to keep the mill levy rate low cannot be stalled any longer. As a result, property taxes will increase in this Fund for 2011 as well as several years to follow.

**Enterprise Funds**

The City's Enterprise Funds—Water, Wastewater, and Storm water—are not supported by property taxes but rather by user fees associated with each utility.

For 2011, it is anticipated that each utility will require additional rate adjustments in order to adequately meet community needs for these important services. These rate adjustments will be discussed separately as part of the second budget work session to be held in early June.

**Additional Discussion Items**

Citizens Requests – There are two major requests that remain in the draft Capital Improvement Program for 2011-2016.

The first is a multiple request from Downtown Manhattan, Inc. (DMI), requesting (1) \$505,901 for Town Center Plaza improvements, (2) \$1,656,897 for aesthetic improvements in the 300 and 400 blocks of downtown Manhattan, and (3) \$678,141 for alleys and mews improvements within the downtown core.

The second request originally was for \$5,000 to make sidewalk improvements along the north side of Knox

Lane. However, engineering estimates suggest it may cost upwards of \$90,000 to make these improvements in order to connect to Northeast Park. City Administration is studying an alternative approach on the south-side of Knox Lane that may provide access to the park at a reduced cost.

Fire Stations – As part of the first budget work session, the City Commission will receive a presentation regarding the construction and eventual staffing of two new fire stations across the City.

aTa Funding – Presently, \$15,000 has been budgeted from the General Fund for a 2011 allocation to a proposed fixed-route transit system that would begin in Fall 2011. This is in addition to any funds that may be recommended by SSAB

It is important for City Commission direction on these items in order to include them within the draft of the 2011 City Budget that will be distributed for the second budget work session in early June.

**Summary**

The following is the current calendar regarding the 2011 City Budget and 2011-2016 Capital Improvement Program:

June 8th - Second Work Session with the City Commission on (1) discussion of water rate structure and (2) proposed 2011 Budget and 2011 CIP. (Second Tuesday)

June 22nd -Third Work Session with the City Commission on proposed 2011 Budget and 2011 CIP plus outside agencies appear before the City Commission to present 2011 funding requests. (Fourth Tuesday)

July 13th - Fourth Work Session with the City Commission on proposed 2011 Budget and 2011 CIP. (Second Tuesday)

July 18th -Publish notice of 2011 City Budget and CIP public hearing on August 3rd.

August 3rd -Public Hearing on the 2011 Budget and CIP and first reading of an ordinance to approve the 2011 Budget and the amended 2010 Budget for select funds if necessary. (First Tuesday)

August 17th - City Commission approves second reading of an ordinance approving the 2011 Budget and CIP and amended 2010 Budget for select funds if necessary. (Third Tuesday)

Please note that the above budget calendar may change at the discretion of Management and the City Commission.

Similar to past years, City Administration continued a budgeting process for 2011 which involved key staff across City departments and divisions who are responsible and conscientious for entering their own budget data plus capital improvement requests.

A special thank you should go to Emily Campbell, Budget Officer, who is coordinating the entire 2011 budgetary process and also to Pamela Jager and Matt Wolff, Budget & Audit Analysts; Rina Neal, Operations Officer; Gulden Celebi, Senior Accountant; and Stephanie Werner, Finance Intern, who all worked on various components within the City Budget.

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## Obituaries

**Elizabeth Griffith**

Elizabeth Jean Griffith, 80, Manhattan, KS passed away Friday, May 21, 2010 in the Good Shepherd Hospice House, Manhattan, KS.

She was born March 8, 1930 at Chicago, IL, the daughter of Curtis Barkes and Martha Wadsworth Barkes. She grew up in Hinsdale, IL, where she attended the local schools and was a graduate of the Hinsdale High School. In 1952, she received her B.S. degree in English from Coe College, Cedar Rapids, IA. Since living in Manhattan, she had attended classes in Women's Studies at Kansas State University.

She was united in marriage to James P. Griffith in August 1952 at Hinsdale.

They were later divorced. He preceded her in death in 1993.

Mrs. Griffith lived in Hammond, IN before moving to Manhattan in 1979. She worked as a clerk and salesperson at the Town Crier Book Store in downtown Manhattan and later in the Aggieville shopping area for many years before retiring in 1995.

She was a member of the AAUW, Beta Sigma Phi-Master Omicron Chapter, and the Riley County FCE, all of Manhattan. While attending Coe College, she was a member of the Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority.

Survivors include a son, Randy Griffith, and his wife, Myrna, Wamego, KS; a daughter, Connie R. Woodard, and her husband, Bill, Chanute, KS; a sister, Mary B. Smith, and brother-in-law, Don Smith,

Coloma, WI; six grandchildren, Kyle Griffith, Michael Griffith, Kevin Griffith, Nathan Woodard, Christine Woodard and Rebecca Woodard; and one great-grandson, Anthony Griffith.

Cremation is planned. In keeping with the wishes of Mrs. Griffith, no memorial services are scheduled at this time. Inurnment will be at a later date.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Good Shepherd Hospice House or the Osa and Martin Johnson Safari Museum, Chanute, and sent in care of the Irvin-Parkview Funeral Home, 1317 Poyntz Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502. Online condolences can be sent to www.irvinparkview.com.

**Robert Zentz**

Robert Merle Zentz, age 80, of Salina, Kansas, died Saturday morning, May 22, 2010, at the Kenwood Nursing Home in Salina, Kansas.

He was born on December 25, 1929, in Marysville, Kansas the son of Benjamin H. and Gladys E. (Messick) Zentz. He was raised in Manhattan and was a graduate of Stockdale High School.

Mr. Zentz worked for the A&P Grocery Store in Manhattan during his youth. In 1961 he moved to Salina where he went to work for Rick's IGA for a short time prior to becoming a Quality Control Inspector for General Dynamics during the construction of numerous Atlas Missile Sites. He then went to work for Boeing during the construction of Minuteman Missile Sites in North Dakota, South Dakota and Missouri. Returning to Kansas he owned and operated a Tastee Freeze in Salina prior to moving to Kansas City where he went to work for Helzberg Jewelers. He later moved to Indianapolis, Indiana where he was a district manager for Zales Jewelers for many years. Upon his retirement he moved back to Manhattan where he resided until moving to Salina in 2007.

Mr. Zentz was an outdoorsman enjoying fishing at the outlet tubes at

Tuttle Creek and hunting.

He is survived by two sons: Robert R. "Reed" Zentz and his wife Kelly of Salina, Kansas, Rick Zentz and his wife Valerie of Pensacola, Florida and one daughter: Roni Stanley and her husband Art of Raymore, Missouri. Also surviving is one sister: Eve Irvine and her husband Jim of Manhattan and two brothers: Richard Zentz and his wife Shirley of Manhattan and Larry Zentz and Jeanette Evans of Bailey, Colorado.

Numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren also survive.

Mr. Zentz was preceded in death by his parents, and by two brothers: Don Zentz and Joe Zentz.

Graveside services were held at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 25, 2010, at the Valley View Memorial Gardens Cemetery east of Manhattan with Reverend Ben Duerfeldt officiating.

Family and friends meet at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home at 1:00 p.m. Tuesday for a visitation prior to forming a procession to the cemetery.

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

The Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502 is handling the arrangements.

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## Kansas Profile - Now That's Rural: Carol Kirk - Burrton

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

Here's a Kansas trivia question: What is the longest running non-animated television series in American history? The answer is: Gunsmoke, a western that ran for 20 years in the '50s, '60s, and '70s. What does that have to do with Kansas? Well, Gunsmoke supposedly took place in Dodge City during the days of the Old West. But there is an even better Kansas connection: One of the stars of the TV show Gunsmoke was a native Kansan, and he came from the rural community of Burrton. Today, Burrton is not only honoring that legacy, the community is moving forward in many other ways. It's today's Kansas Profile.

Carol Kirk is chair of the Burrton Community Development Committee. She has helped me learn about the many good things going on in Burrton, including the native son who gained a starring role on Gunsmoke.

Milburn Stone was born in Burrton, Kansas in 1904. Burrton is located between Hutchinson and Newton on Highway 50. It is a rural community of 929 people. Now, that's rural.

Milburn Stone was the son of a shopkeeper, but he must have caught the show business bug from his uncle who was a comedian on Broadway. Young Milburn followed his uncle into vaudeville and then moved to Hollywood in 1935. He played various parts and B-movie leads for the next twenty years.

Then came Gunsmoke. It had been a successful radio show, so CBS adapted it for television. For the part of Doctor Galen Adams, CBS cast Milburn Stone. The



Ron Wilson

show debuted in 1955.

Gunsmoke became a huge hit, and Doc Adams became a popular character. Milburn Stone and James Arness, who played Marshall Dillon, were the only starring actors who were on the show for its entire 20 year run. (Miss Kitty, played by Amanda Blake, joined the show in its second season.)

For his supporting role, Milburn Stone earned an Emmy in 1968 and a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. He would make return visits to his hometown of Burrton through the years before passing away in California in 1980.

Today, a pretty park is situated on the east side of Burrton. It is named Milburn Stone Park, and the entrance features a stone sign with a drawing of a buggy like Doc Adams and country doctors of his era would have used.

The Burrton library includes information about Milburn Stone as well. The library is situated on the Main Street, next to a beautifully landscaped park.

Burrton has many other attractive features as well. The city auditorium has been beautifully restored, through the donation of many contributions and volunteer hours. An active school and busi-

nesses along the highway are assets for the community as well. Volunteers from a local church recently planted flowers and bushes to beautify the downtown area.

Every September, Burrton has its Fall Festival on Main Street. The Burrton Community Development Committee organizes a host of activities around that event. This includes a parade, car show, dog show, train display, activities for kids, a play, community band performance, and lots of craft booths. Often the churches put on a lunch at noon and the Lions Club holds a hamburger fry in the evening.

The Burrton Community Development Committee has another project in mind for the long term. The group would like to establish a Burrton Historical Museum for the community. The museum could feature the story of the founding of the community, its history through the years, and of course, its famous native sons -- such as Milburn Stone, the one and only Doc Adams on Gunsmoke.

For more information about the community, go to [www.burrtonkansas.com](http://www.burrtonkansas.com).

So that's your Kansas trivia question. Not only did the longest running non-animated television series in American history revolve around Dodge City, Kansas, it featured a Kansas native as one of its starring characters. We commend Milburn Stone for his history in Hollywood. More importantly, we commend Carol Kirk and the members of the Burrton Community Development Committee for making a difference by preserving this history while working to make their community better. For them, the community of Burrton can be a star.

## Riley County FOP Letter....from page one

step date of January 1st and receive 12 months of pay at the new step out of the budget year, but Officer B may have a step date of December 1st and only receive one month pay at the new step out of the entire budget year. Officers step dates are spread across the year. The Department (and many like it) has agreed that as an officer is retained and improves through training and experience, annual salary augmentations are necessary to ensure the continued retention of the officer.

This is often interpreted as a raise. However, it is not. It is a predetermined and agreed upon salary for a given officer with a given level of education, experience and expertise. That is why there are additional augmentations for officers that take on the liability of training new officers, take on hazardous duty assignments such as the ERU Tactical team, etc. A raise only occurs when all officers of a given "step" on the scale see an increase in that step (i.e. when Step 3 base salary in 2009 equals X and in 2010 Step 3 base salary is now Y.)

Kearns' statement per The Mercury - "The union needs to step up and acknowledge we're in tough times. I'd like a 0% pay increase and for the union to go along with it."

The pay scale we implemented for officers in 2010 was phased in over the last 3 years. It was originally agreed upon back in 2008. However, in an attempt to minimize any perceived negative economic turn, the Riley County FOP agreed to postpone implementation for officers not once, but twice. In return, the Department and Law Board agreed to acceptable augmentations to the original scale in order to keep up with current market trends and help prevent the original salary survey from becoming obsolete.

This also brings up the issue of COLA's. COLA stands for Cost Of Living Allowance. This is an accepted practice of augmenting salaries annually in addition or subtraction to the agreed salary scale to adjust for the current annual rate of inflation. This is done to aid in keeping the annual salaries in check with the original scale and the effects of inflation over time. All parties contractually agreed to use the December CPI to determine this rate, and we are of the opinion that this remains acceptable.

This too is not a raise. Case in point, while implementing the salary scale for 2010, police officers received a negative augmentation in pay to account for a negative .3% in COLA. This scaled the salary survey (and ultimate implementation levels) downward from the originally agreed upon levels. In terms of a raise or a pay cut as most want to refer to it, that's a pay cut.

Therefore, we are of the position that we are not asking for a raise. As it stands, officers in Step 3 this year will make the same as Officers in Step 3 next year, and we are fine with that. The whole point of drudging through a salary survey was to eliminate the need for raises in the near future. As we see it, those figures are still relatively on track, and do not need addressed for the 2011 contract. Regardless of our opinion, our negotiation team is remains open to reviewing any salary proposals that the Department wants to present.

Also, there is a misplaced notion

that the salary survey and resulting salary chart somehow implies some false sense of entitlement. That is incorrect. Salary surveys are a tool often used to by agencies and companies alike to see where their employees should be according to an established set of like places. McGrath Consultants, the company that did the survey for the RCPD, did the City of Manhattan's salary survey as well. Both entities implemented the salary schedules suggested by McGrath.

This is the same company that also did one for the County's employees. While the Law Board only placed Police Officers at the average of the 50th percentile of pay for those agencies sampled, the County opted to place its employees at the 60th percentile of their provided survey; arguably not a sign of tough times.

But that's arguable. What's not is a recent (and continually updated) ranking of the most and least affected or "stressed" counties with a population of 25,000 or more, as conducted by the Associated Press. In their ongoing survey of the economy titled The Associated Press Economic Stress Index, Riley County was listed as the 6th in a list of the 20 least economically stressed counties with populations of at least 25,000. That's the 6th least stressed county in the entire nation. While the rest of the nation has seen

peaks and valleys in the turbulent economy, Riley County has been stable, maintaining a similar, exceedingly low score throughout the national economic fallout. Want to learn more about this interactive service of the Associated Press? To find out more go to: [http://hosted.ap.org/specials/interactives/national/stress\\_index/](http://hosted.ap.org/specials/interactives/national/stress_index/)

While not impervious, the citizen's of Riley County are in a unique position. Yes, your Police Department is asking for another budget increase. Yes, a good portion of the increase comes from salaries. No, there is not a raise scheduled for a single officer position of the rank of Police Officer or Sergeant. No, we are not asking for a raise. Yes, we are asking to keep up with a predetermined and contractually agreed upon salary schedule that we believe suffices given the implied position of the Law Board and the Riley County Police Department. Yes, our negotiations team is open to discussing this matter at length as part of the negotiation process with the Department should the Department provide a written proposal regarding salary.

Thank you,  
Brian Swearingen  
Vice President of Riley County FOP  
Lodge 17, Inc.  
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# Thoughts From The Prairie

## American Veterans

"A veteran is someone who, at one point in his life, wrote a blank check made payable to 'The United States of America' for an amount of 'up to and including my life.'" This definition was at the end of the following email from "Saucy Jack," a Recon Marine in Afghanistan: "From the Sand Pit: I'm sitting on hard, cold dirt between rocks and shrubs at the base of the Hindu Kush Mountains, along the Dar 'yoi Pomir River, watching a hole that leads to a tunnel that leads to a cave. Stake out, my friend, and no pizza delivery for thousands of miles. I also glance at the area around [me] every ten to fifteen seconds to avoid another scorpion sting. I've actually given up battling the chiggers and sand fleas, but the scorpions give a jolt like a cattle prod... The antidote tastes like transmission fluid, but God bless the Marine Corps for the five vials of it in my pack." Saucy Jack has already signed his check. Semper Fi!

Saucy Jack will soon be a veteran; hopefully will all body parts operating. Some of our neighbors were not so fortunate. According to DAV Chaplain Paul Barkey, "We have more than 400 Disabled American Veterans (DAV) in our area." Each of them has a unique story and all deserve to be told, but for today the brief stories of three members of the Manhattan DAV Chapter 28 have been chosen as representative of the others.

John Brooks entered the US Navy in October 1942, signed his check and became a member of the toughest of the tough, the Navy Seals. In June 1944 he was a member of the Husky Support Boat Crew. The night before D-Day John and five other Seals slipped ashore through mine fields to determine the extent and type of German fortifications on the beach. They found heavy, 12 to 16-inch I-beams 6 feet apart. Then at 2 AM on D-Day, John and a crew of 96 went ashore, riding out 15 to 18-foot surfs, located and detonated mines, then planted 100-pound explosive charges to clear the fortifications so the invasion forces could get ashore. The noise was so intense it destroyed 80 percent of John's hearing yet he continued the fight using sign language. In November 1944 John was transferred to the Pacific Theater and participated in the invasions of numerous South Pacific islands, the bloody Philippine Campaign and finally the Battle for Okinawa in April-June 1945. Thank you, John! Your check is good.

Paul Cornelius is a veteran of 26.5 years, beginning with the National Guard while in High School in 1947 and entering active duty with the Army in 1950. Paul served three tours in Germany and two tours in Vietnam. He was among the first U.S. military to serve in Vietnam. He wore civilian clothes and served as a trainer and advisor to the Army of Vietnam (ARVN) troops. During his second tour in Vietnam in 1969-70, Paul served as First Sergeant in the First Cavalry Regiment. Here he contacted two types of malaria and was exposed to Agent Orange that led to Hepatitis C and diabetes. Despite the debilitating diseases, Paul accepted the challenge to continue to serve and was promoted to Sergeant Major at Ft. Riley and then promoted to Command Sergeant Major of the 84th Field Artillery Battalion, a Pershing Missile battalion stationed in Germany, where he retired in 1976. But Paul's career was not over. He served as the Junior and Senior Vice Commander of DAV Chapter 28 in Manhattan in 2006-07 and in 2007-08 was the DAV Department Commander for the State of Kansas. Paul played



Dick Miller

a key role in the acquisition of the new VA Cemetery developed by the Kansas Commission of Veteran Affairs at Ft. Riley. Thank, Paul! Your check has cleared!

Jim Bartlett became a Marine in 1962, completed various training assignments and wound up in the 1st BN, 3rd Reg., 3rd Marine Division in Okinawa. To prepare the unit for jungle warfare in Vietnam, his unit went to the mountains in Japan for cold weather training! Well, it was better than fighting leaches in the swamps! His unit operated out of Da Nang and ran company-sized recon patrols against the Viet Cong. Their unit was the first Marine unit to take enemy mortar fire that claimed the lives of some of his buddies. Jim was a forward observer radio operator, which meant he was always up front where the action was. After Vietnam, Corporal Bartlett was discharged from active duty in 1966 and joined the Marine Reserves in Topeka where he was commissioned and by 1975 had achieved the rank of Captain in the reserves. Captain Bartlett wasn't ready to hang up his uniform, so in 1975 he applied for active duty again, but for some reason the Marine Corps said "No." No was not satisfactory so he enlisted in the Army as a Spec. 4. Jim served two tours in Germany and other locations before coming to the Big Red One in 1987. He served more than two years with the Army Garrison at Ft. Riley and eventually retired as a Sergeant First Class in 1989 after more than 26 years of faithful military service. Thank you, Jim. Your check was processed, "Paid in Full!"

This has been only a sampling of the true soldiers who have written their checks to their country and have faithfully dedicated their lives to the cause of freedom. They exemplify the declaration of G. K. Chesterton that "The true soldier fights, not because he hates what is in front of him, but because he loves what is behind him."

"Freedom is not free." Have you written your check?

(P.S.: Darrell Hill and others invite you to the Take Back Freedom Rally honoring veterans May 30th at the Court House BBQ at 4 PM (\$5) and Aaron Tippin concert at the Wareham at 7 PM. Tickets for concert available at the Wareham box office.)



# "Conscience of Kansas"

## When I was a child, I thought like the Obama administration

Remember when you were in grade school, or dare I say high school, and you found yourself in a humiliating situation after having failed to read the day's assignment and being called to expound upon your of knowledge in front of the class? If this happened to you then you don't need me to frame how things transpired, since for most, this was a situation of distress, confusion, sadness, and shame. The memory of facing the class and trying to repel each of the teacher's questions like incoming missiles can create a sheen of perspiration on the brow even today.

Some people find they relive these situations in their dreams from time to time when the sandman decides to deal them a dirty hand at bedtime. For most, the saving grace that allows us to break free from such situations is that we grew up and took on the responsibility to prepare for the tasks that we face today. This truth is eloquently stated in the Bible in Corinthians, "When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me." How the Obama administration could gain from following these wise words!

Arizona's new immigration law SB 1070 is being attacked by liberals around the globe as racist, overreaching, barbaric, draconian, and the list of descriptors is almost limitless. From the White House, President Obama called the law "misguided" and now jumps back and forth on the issue of whether or not Arizona's law promotes racial profiling. Attorney General Eric Holder and Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, both highly critical of Arizona's law, recently admitted in public forums before television cameras that they had not even read the 10-page bill they had been condemning. I wonder if they felt silly, like children who had failed to do their homework and were then called to the front of the class to give their report. To many it appeared so, but to me they were more frightening than anything. Should the American people require that they stay after class, or even be held back? Way back? I saw how little the facts really mattered to these government officials when it came to how they dealt with Arizona and the America people, I began to see the childlike mentality that dictatorships often encompass.

This is a scary place where deliberation and decision making is devoid of fact and reason and based merely on party line politics and the



Paul A. Ibbetson

whims of the White House. The words in Corinthians come back to me with modern-day applicability: "When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like the Obama administration. It's a painfully accurate fit.

I would say that reading the laws would bolster the credibility of the White House's opposition to laws, with which they disagree, but the problem here is much deeper than understanding that "reading is fundamental;" you also have to care about the people and respect the rule of law. As Fox News reports, John Morton, assistant secretary of homeland security for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, stated that illegal aliens from Arizona may be rejected for processing based on his view, which subsequently falls in line with the White House's stance that Arizona's law is not the solution to the illegal immigration problem. Has John Morton read the law he now rejects? Well, he certainly has not been briefed on the specifics of Arizona's SB 1070 by Obama administration officials such as Eric Holder and Janet Napolitano. It is apparent that right now America has an administration quick to turn in their verdicts and slow to do their homework.

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Last Week:

James Madison to Thomas Jefferson  
24 Oct. 1787 part 1

James Madison to Thomas Jefferson  
24 Oct. 1787 2

1. Without such a check in the whole over the parts, our system involves the evil of imperia in imperio. If a com- pleat supremacy some where is not necessary in every Society, a controul- ing power at least is so, by which the general authority may be defended against encroachments of the subordinate authorities, and by which the latter may be restrained from encroachments on each other. If the supremacy of the British Parliament is not necessary as has been contended, for the harmony of that Empire; it is evident I think that without the royal negative or some equivalent controul, the unity of the system would be destroyed. The want of some such provision seems to have been mortal to the antient Confederacies, and to be the disease of the modern. Of the Lycian Confederacy little is known. That of the Amphycions is well known to have been rendered of little use whilst it lasted, and in the end to have been destroyed by the predominance of the local over the federal authority. The same observation may be made, on the authority of Polybius, with regard to

the Achaean League. The Helvetic System scarcely amounts to a Confederacy, and is distinguished by too many peculiarities, to be a ground of comparison. The case of the United Netherlands is in point. The authority of a Statholder, the influence of a Standing army, the common interest in the conquered possessions, the pressure of surrounding danger, the guarantee of foreign powers, are not sufficient to secure the authority and interests of the generality, agst. the antifederal tendency of the provincial sovereignties. The German Empire is another example. A Hereditary chief with vast independent resources of wealth and power, a federal Diet, with ample parchment authority, a regular Judiciary establishment, the influence of the neighbourhood of great & formidable Nations, have been found unable either to maintain the subordination of the members, or to prevent their mutual contests & encroachments. Still more to the purpose is our own experience both during the war and since the peace. Encroachments of the States on the general authority, sacrifices of national to local interests, interferences of the measures of different States, form a great part of the history of our political system. It may be said that the new Constitution is founded on different principles, and will have a different operation. I admit the difference to be material. It presents the aspect rather of a feudal system of republics, if such a phrase may be used, than of a Confederacy of independent States. And what has been the progress and event of the feudal Constitutions? In all of them a continual struggle between the head and the inferior members, until a final victory has been gained in some instances by one, in others, by the other of them. In one respect indeed there is a remarkable variance between the two cases. In the feudal system the sovereign, though limited, was independent; and having no particular sympathy of interests with the great Barons, his ambition had as full play as theirs in the mutual projects of usurpation. In the American Constitution The general authority will be derived entirely from the subordinate authorities. The Senate will represent the States in their political capacity; the other House will represent the people of the States in their individual capac[ity]. The former will be accountable to their constituents at moderate, the latter at short periods. The President also derives his appointment from the States, and is periodically accountable to them. This dependence of the General, on the local authorities, seems effectually to guard the latter against any dangerous encroachments of the former: Whilst the latter, within their respective limits, will be continually sensible of the abridgment of their power, and be stimulated by ambition to resume the surrendered portion of it. We find the representatives of Counties and corporations in the Legislatures of the States, much more disposed to sacrifice the aggregate interest, and even authority, to the local views of their Constituents: than the latter to the former. I mean not by these remarks to insinuate that an esprit de corps will not exist in the national Government or that opportunities may not occur, of extending its jurisdiction in some points. I mean only that the danger of encroachments is much greater from the other side, and that the impossibility of dividing powers of legislation, in such a manner, as to be free from different constructions by different interests, or even from ambiguity in the judgment of the impartial, requires some such expedient as I contend for. Many illustrations might be given of this impossibility. How long has it

taken to fix, and how imperfectly is yet fixed the legislative power of corporations, though that power is subordinate in the most compleat manner? The line of distinction between the power of regulating trade and that of drawing revenue from it, which was once considered as the barrier of our liberties, was found on fair discussion, to be absolutely undefinable. No distinction seems to be more obvious than that between spiritual and temporal matters. Yet wherever they have been made objects of Legislation, they have clashed and contended with each other, till one or the other has gained the supremacy. Even the Boundaries between the Executive, Legislative & Judiciary powers, though in general so strongly marked in themselves, consist in many instances of mere shades of difference. It may be said that the Judicial authority under our new system will keep the States within their proper limits, and supply the place of a negative on their laws. The answer is, that it is more convenient to prevent the passage of a law, than to declare it void after it is passed; that this will be particularly the case, where the law aggrieves individuals, who may be unable to support an appeal agst. a State to the supreme Judiciary; that a State which would violate the Legislative rights of the Union, would not be very ready to obey a Judicial decree in support of them, and that a recurrence to force, which in the event of disobedience would be necessary, is an evil which the new Constitution meant to exclude as far as possible.

2. A constitutional negative on the laws of the States seems equally necessary to secure individuals agst. encroachments on their rights. The mutability of the laws of the States is found to be a serious evil. The injustice of them has been so frequent and so flagrant as to alarm the most stedfast friends of Republicanism. I am persuaded I do not err in saying that the evils issuing from these sources contributed more to that uneasiness which produced the Convention, and prepared the public mind for a general reform, than those which accrued to our national character and interest from the inadequacy of the Confederation to its immediate objects. A reform therefore which does not make provision for private rights, must be materially defective. The restraints agst. paper emissions, and violations of contracts are not sufficient. Supposing them to be effectual as far as they go, they are short of the mark. Injustice may be effected by such an infinitude of legislative expedients, that where the disposition exists it can only be controuled by some provision which reaches all cases whatsoever. The partial provision made, supposes the disposition which will evade it. It may be asked how private rights will be more secure under the Guardianship of the General Government than under the State Governments, since they are both founded on the republican principle which refers the ultimate decision to the will of the majority, and are distinguished rather by the extent within which they will operate, than by any material difference in their structure. A full discussion of this question would, if I mistake not, unfold the true principles of Republican Government, and prove in contradiction to the concurrent opinions of theoretical writers, that this form of Government, in order to effect its purposes, must operate not within a small but an extensive sphere. I will state some of the ideas which have occurred to me on this subject. Those who contend for a simple Democracy, or a pure republic, actuated by the sense of the majority, and operating within narrow limits, assume

or suppose a case which is altogether fictitious. They found their reasoning on the idea, that the people composing the Society, enjoy not only an equality of political rights; but that they have all precisely the same interests, and the same feelings in every respect. Were this in reality the case, their reasoning would be conclusive. The interest of the majority would be that of the minority also; the decisions could only turn on mere opinion concerning the good of the whole, of which the major voice would be the safest criterion; and within a small sphere, this voice could be most easily collected, and the public affairs most accurately managed. We know however that no Society ever did or can consist of so homogeneous a mass of Citizens. In the savage State indeed, an approach is made towards it; but in that State little or no Government is necessary. In all civilized Societies, distinctions are various and unavoidable. A distinction of property results from that very protection which a free Government gives to unequal faculties of acquiring it. There will be rich and poor; creditors and debtors; a landed interest, a monied interest, a mercantile interest, a manufacturing interest. These classes may again be subdivided according to the different productions of different situations & soils, & according to different branches of commerce, and of manufactures. In addition to these natural distinctions, artificial ones will be founded, on accidental differences in political, religious or other opinions, or an attachment to the persons of leading individuals. However erroneous or ridiculous these grounds of dissension and faction, may appear to the enlightened Statesman, or the benevolent philosopher, the bulk of mankind who are neither Statesmen nor Philosophers, will continue to view them in a different light. It remains then to be enquired whether a majority having any common interest, or feeling any common passion, will find sufficient motives to restrain them from oppressing the minority. An individual is never allowed to be a judge or even a witness in his own cause. If two individuals are under the bias of interest or enmity agst. a third, the rights of the latter could never be safely referred to the majority of the three. Will two thousand individuals be less apt to oppress one thousand, or two hundred thousand, one hundred thousand? Three motives only can restrain in such cases. 1. a prudent regard to private or partial good, as essentially involved in the general and permanent good of the whole. This ought no doubt to be sufficient of itself. Experience however shews that it has little effect on individuals, and perhaps still less on a collection of individuals, and least of all on a majority with the public authority in their hands. If the former are ready to forget that honesty is the best policy; the last do more. They often proceed on the converse of the maxim: that whatever is politic is honest. 2. respect for character. This motive is not found sufficient to restrain individuals from injustice, and loses its efficacy in proportion to the number which is to divide the praise or the blame. Besides as it has reference to public opinion, which is that of the majority, the Standard is fixed by those whose conduct is to be measured by it. 3. Religion. The inefficacy of this restraint on individuals is well known. The conduct of every popular Assembly, acting on oath, the strongest of religious ties, shews that individuals join without remorse in acts agst. which their consciences would revolt, if proposed to them separately in their closets. When Indeed Religion is kindled into enthusiasm, its force like that of other passions is increased by the sympathy of a multitude. But enthusiasm is only a temporary state of Religion, and whilst it lasts will hardly be seen with pleasure at the helm. Even in its coolest state, it has been much oftener a motive to oppression than a restraint from it. If then there must be different interests and parties in

Society; and a majority when united by a common interest or passion can not be restrained from oppressing the minority, what remedy can be found in a republican Government, where the majority must ultimately decide, but that of giving such an extent to its sphere, that no common interest or passion will be likely to unite a majority of the whole number in an unjust pursuit. In a large Society, the people are broken into so many interests and parties, that a common sentiment is less likely to be felt, and the requisite concert less likely to be formed, by a majority of the whole. The same security seems requisite for the civil as for the religious rights of individuals. If the same sect form a majority and have the power, other sects will be sure to be depressed. Divide et impera, the reprobated axiom of tyranny, is under certain qualifications, the only policy, by which a republic can be administered on just principles. It must be observed however that this doctrine can only hold within a sphere of a mean extent. As in too small a sphere oppressive combinations may be too easily formed agst. the weaker party; so in too extensive a one, a defensive concert may be rendered too difficult against the oppression of those entrusted with the administration. The great desideratum in Government is, so to modify the sovereignty as that it may be sufficiently neutral between different parts of the Society to controul one part from invading the rights of another, and at the same time sufficiently controuled itself, from setting up an interest adverse to that of the entire Society. In absolute monarchies, the Prince may be tolerably neutral towards different classes of his subjects, but may sacrifice the happiness of all to his personal ambition or avarice. In small republics, the sovereign will be controuled from such a sacrifice of the entire Society, but is not sufficiently neutral towards the parts composing it. In the extended Republic of the United States, The General Government would hold a pretty even balance between the parties of particular States, and be at the same time sufficiently restrained by its dependence on the community, from betraying its general interests.

Begging pardon for this immoderate digression I return to the third object abovementioned, the adjustment of the different interests of different parts of the Continent. Some contended for an unlimited power over trade including exports as well as imports, and over slaves as well as other imports; some for such a power, provided the concurrence of two thirds of both House were required; Some for such a qualification of the power, with an exemption of exports and slaves, others for an exemption of exports only. The result is seen in the Constitution. S. Carolina & Georgia were inflexible on the point of the slaves.

The remaining object created more embarrassment, and a greater alarm for the issue of the Convention than all the rest put together. The little States insisted on retaining their equality in both branches, unless a compleat abolition of the State Governments should take place; and made an equality in the Senate a sine qua non. The large States on the other hand urged that as the new Government was to be drawn principally from the people immediately and was to operate directly on them, not on the States; and consequently as the States wd. lose that importance which is now proportioned to the importance of their voluntary compliances with the requisitions of Congress, it was necessary that the representation in both Houses should be in proportion to their size. It ended in the compromise which you will see, but very much to the dissatisfaction of several members from the large States.

The Founders' Constitution  
Volume 1, Chapter 17, Document 22  
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## K-State Colleges Recognize Several Faculty, Supporters For Excellence

By: Katie Mayes  
KSU News Service

Several Kansas State University faculty members and supporters have been recognized by their colleges for excellence in teaching, service, research or advising.

The College of Agriculture has recognized five faculty members for excellence in teaching and advising for the fall and spring semesters. David Grieger and Dan Moser, both associate professors in animal sciences and industry, were named the outstanding agriculture faculty for the fall 2009 semester, with Larry Hollis and Randy Phebus, both professors in animal sciences and industry, recognized as the outstanding agriculture faculty for the spring 2010 semester. Greg Davis, associate professor of horticulture, forestry and recreation resources, was named the College of Agriculture's outstanding academic adviser. The college also awarded the David J. Mugler Outstanding Teaching Award to Keith Lynch, associate professor of horticulture, forestry and recreation resources.

The College of Architecture, Planning and Design presented its Distinguished Service Award to Alton Barnes, professor emeritus of landscape architecture, and Dawn Kirkwood, executive director of the Kansas City chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

The College of Arts and

Sciences presented its 2010 William L. Stamey Teaching Excellence Awards to Kristan Corwin, associate professor of physics; Rachel Manspeaker, graduate teaching assistant in the mathematics; Samuel Mwangi, assistant professor of journalism and mass communications; Jesse Nippert, assistant professor of biology; and Donald Saucier, associate professor of psychology. Daniel Kuester, director of undergraduate studies in the department of economics, received the 2010 William L. Stamey Advising Excellence Award.

The College of Business Administration has awarded its Ralph E. Reitz Outstanding Teaching Award to Bongsug Chae, associate professor of management, while the Kansas State Bank Outstanding Advising Award has been presented to Bente Janda, academic adviser in the college's office of student services.

The College of Education recognized Christy Craft, assistant professor of special education, counseling and student affairs, with the Excellence in Graduate Teaching Award, while Pedro Espinoza, associate director of recruitment and retention in the college's Center for Intercultural and Multilingual Advocacy, received the Excellence in Advising Award. The College of Education's Dan and Cheryl Yunk Excellence in Educational

Administration award also was presented to G. Kent Stewart, professor emeritus and former head of K-State's department of educational administration.

The College of Human Ecology's Dawley-Scholer Award for Faculty Excellence in Student Development has been presented to Mary Meck Higgins, associate professor of human nutrition. Elaine Johannes, assistant professor and extension specialist in youth development, also received the college's Faculty Extension Excellence Award, while Terrie McCants, instructor of family studies and human services and a conflict specialist, received the Myers-Alford Teaching Award.

Joel Matthews, counselor and instructor of psychology, is the recipient of K-State at Salina's Marchbanks Memorial Award for Teaching Excellence, while Fred Guzek, associate professor of business, was recognized with the college's Rex and Jean McArthur Family Faculty Fellow Award.

The College of Veterinary Medicine's Pfizer Distinguished Teacher Award recipient is Meredith Jones, clinical assistant professor at the Veterinary Medicine Teaching Hospital, and the college's Pfizer Animal Health Award for Research Excellence has been presented to David Poole, professor of kinesiology and anatomy and physiology.

## Caregiver Seminars In Manhattan

Caregivers of older loved ones can get healthy lifestyle tips and information about durable power of attorney during a Caregiver Seminar sponsored by the North Central-Flint Hills Area Agency on Aging. The seminar will be Sat., June 5 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Agency on Aging, 401 Houston St. in Manhattan.

"Our Caregiver Seminars are very popular with caregivers who often face tough daily challenges," said Julie Govert Walter, Executive Director of the North Central-Flint Hills Area Agency on Aging. "The seminars give caregivers a break from daily rou-

tine and provide accurate, easy-to-understand health information as well as practical tips and ideas for caregiving."

There is no cost to attend the seminar, and lunch will be provided free of charge for all participants. Those who wish to attend should call the Area Agency on Aging at (800) 432-2703 to reserve their spot. Caregivers who would like to attend but can't pay for the care their loved one needs on the day of the seminar may apply for respite scholarships available from the Area Agency on Aging.

Seminar sessions include

"Dementia Basics - From Diagnosis to Daily Life," presented by Cindy Miller from The Alzheimer's Association Heart of America Chapter; "Healthy Eating for Healthy Living," presented by Dr. Mary Meck Higgins, Human Nutrition Specialist at K-State Research and Extension; "Understanding Durable Power of Attorney," presented by Marilyn Harp, Kansas Legal Services Executive Director; "Safely Move and Lift Your Loved One," Brian Howells, Lead Physical Therapist at Mercy Regional Health Center; and "When Life Gives You Lemons, Laugh!" - a special session to stimulate your sense of humor.

For more information about the caregiver seminars or to request respite assistance, call Kathy Bond at (800) 432-2703 or e-mail kathybond@ncfhaaa.com.

The North Central-Flint Hills Agency on Aging, Inc. is a private, non-profit organization that plans, coordinates and sponsors services in 18 north central Kansas counties to enhance the quality and dignity of life for older Kansans and their families. The Area Agency on Aging programs and services are partially funded by the Older Americans Act through the Kansas Department on Aging and voluntary participant contributions. The Area Agency on Aging works in partnership with local and county governments and senior citizens. All services are available without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age or handicap.

## "Spirit Of Watercolor"

The Manhattan Arts Center Watercolor Studio announces its annual exhibit June 5-July 17, 2010. An opening reception will be held Friday, June 4, 5-7 pm. This unique yearly exhibit from Manhattan area artists will include landscape, still life and floral paintings. The Watercolor Studio has met weekly at the Arts Center for the past twelve years and has had an annual exhibition for the past eleven years. Its purpose is to provide area painters with a venue to develop skills and techniques, share acquired knowledge, and gain feedback from other watercolorists. In addition to the yearly exhibit, the Watercolor Studio also presents workshops and a variety of guest speakers. The Watercolor Studio meets Wednesday mornings from 9 am to 11

am. The exhibits are free and open to the public Monday through Friday from 10 am to 5 pm and on Saturday from 1 pm to 4 pm. The Manhattan Arts Center is located at 1520 Poyntz Ave, is handicapped accessible, and parking is free.

For more information other events at the Manhattan Arts Center, visit its Web site at <http://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 which believes that a great nation deserves great art. Additional funding comes from the City of Manhattan and MAC members and friends.

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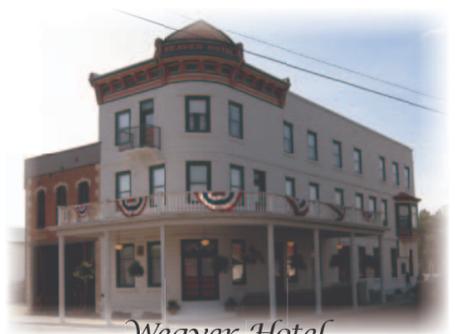
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# Bam's Budget Is Nonstrosity, Deficits Are Huge, A Value-Added Tax Could Be Coming

By Betsy McCaughey

I'm not interested in another debate over big government versus small government," President Obama told a Buffalo crowd on May 13. What this means is that the President doesn't care about how much freedom you have.

When government spends more, less is left for people to spend as they choose. And the events of the last four months indicate that Americans are being conned into giving up their freedom.

On Feb. 1, President Obama released his fiscal 2011 budget. It's a whopper. It calls for federal spending of \$3.8 trillion, soaring to \$5.7 trillion in 2020.

A 5-foot-high stack of hundred-dollar bills totals \$1 million. To get to \$1 billion, you need 10 stacks as high as the Washington Monument. To get to \$3.8 trillion, you need 38,000 Washington Monuments.

\$3.8 trillion also equals 25% of everything produced in the U.S. (Gross Domestic Product). State and

local government spending brings the total to 42% of GDP.

Government spending has crossed the 40% line just twice in American history: when the nation plunged into World War II and again last year, during the economic crisis. The Obama administration intends to make big government permanent, with spending at 40% even in 2020, when no crisis is expected. The White House rosily predicts full employment that year.

The President claims he pared the budget line by line - which is what he promised to do when he was a candidate in 2008. But the numbers prove otherwise. Foreign aid is increased 50% from 2011 to 2015. Most Americans would rather pay their mortgage.

The President's budget was supposed to be voted on by April 15, but hearings drag on. Civil servants making budget requests seem numb to the layoffs and belt tightening in the private sector. Dr. James Billington, head of the Library of Congress, requested a "lean increase" of 4.6% "in recogni-

tion of the difficult budget environment." Lean? Hasn't it dawned on Washingtonians that people would rather have money to spend on books for their own kids instead of on the Library of Congress?

It's a tradeoff: More money for government programs means less money for you to spend on your family.

When the President announced his budget, he said, "It is time to save what we can, spend what we must and live within our means once again." But his budget includes such vast spending increases that even after hiking income taxes, capital gains taxes, dividend taxes and estate taxes, the nation faces a \$1.3 trillion deficit in 2011, according to the Congressional Budget Office. Obama's budget will result in a federal debt of \$20.3 trillion by 2020, \$5 trillion more than it would be without Obama's new policies.

Maya MacGuineas, president of the bipartisan nonprofit Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, said, "The proposed budget is woefully

insufficient to achieve the President's goal or the important fiscal goal of stabilizing the debt at a reasonable level in the medium and long term."

House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) explained on April 19 why Congress was stalling on the budget: "It is difficult to pass budgets in election years." What he meant is that most members are much too addicted to spending to make cuts but afraid to raise taxes before the election. They're planning a postelection ambush.

Congress is taking cover behind the President's new Commission on Fiscal Responsibility, which is not scheduled to report until after the election. Commission members are already floating the idea of a VAT to pay for big government.

VATs, or value-added taxes, enable European governments to repeatedly raise taxes on an unsuspecting public. The tax is hidden in the price of goods and services, rather than visibly added at the register.

This type of tax started small in

Europe, but in every country it has been raised to at least 15%. Great Britain announced last week that it will likely raise its VAT to 25% to solve its deficit. That means British consumers will need 25% more to buy a car, a kettle or a weekend vacation than if there were no VAT.

The President has said he will not rule out any commission recommendation, even a value-added tax. Don't be snookered by this strategy of delaying "deficit reduction" until after the fall election and don't be misled by the phrase "value-added." A VAT would be nothing less than a Vanishing America Tax. Voters should interrogate candidates about their stand on it and stop government from growing beyond the consent of the governed.

McCaughey is founder and chairwoman of the Committee to Reduce Infection Deaths and former Lt. Governor of New York State.

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## Governor Parkinson names three to the Board of Regents

Governor Mark Parkinson has appointed Mildred Edwards, Tim Emert and Ed McKechnie to the Kansas Board of Regents.

"This past legislative session we made a renewed commitment to our Regents institutions, acknowledging that the Kansas economy is only as strong as the higher education opportunities that prepare our workforce for the future," said Parkinson. "These newest members of the Board of Regents share that belief and remain committed to seeing our universities and community colleges succeed."

Edwards, Wichita, is the executive director of the Kansas African Americans Affairs Commission. Prior to her appointment, she was the project director for STAND TOGETHER Coalition at their Regional Prevention Center of Wichita/Sedgwick County. Edwards is an experienced researcher, specifically in the area of prevention and reduction of disparity among at-risk or underserved populations. She also specializes in leadership development and employee capacity building. She holds a master's in public health and a doctorate in psychology from Wichita State University.

Emert, Independence, is a former state senator and majority leader of the Kansas Senate. He was chairman of the Judiciary Committee and served on the Education and Transportation committees. Currently, Emert is an attorney and partner at Scovel, Emert, Heasty, Chubb and Gettler. He is also a former member of the Kansas State Board of Education, serving as chairman for two years. Emert is active in the community, serving on numerous boards for organizations such as the Kansas Children's Campaign. He holds a bachelor's in journalism and his juris doctorate from the University of Kansas.

McKechnie was appointed to the

Board of Regents by Governor Parkinson in February 2010, to serve the remainder of former member William (Bill) Thornton's term. He is a former state representative and served on a variety of committees, including Appropriations and the joint committee on Legislative Post Audit. For the past 10 years, McKechnie has been the chief commercial officer for Watco Companies, Inc. based in Pittsburg, leading the transportation company's business development, communications and government affairs divisions. Additionally, he is the secretary/treasurer on the Kansas Bioscience Authority Board, an entity committed to advancing Kansas' leadership in bioscience. McKechnie attained a bachelor of arts from Pittsburg State University.

In the interim between legislative sessions, Regent members' appointments are subject to authorization by the Senate Confirmation Oversight Committee until the full Senate can consider their nominations.

The Kansas Board of Regents is a nine-member body which governs the state's six universities, and supervises and coordinates 19 community colleges, six technical colleges, and one municipal university. Members are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Kansas Senate. Along with serving on the board, each member works on various councils and committees, primarily in the education field, throughout the year. These councils and committees draw on studies to determine allocation of funds, distribution of support materials and in making administrative decisions.

Governor Parkinson also made a number of other appointments and reappointments that are subject to authorization by the Senate Confirmation Oversight Committee, including the Office of the Kansas

Securities Commissioner and the Kansas National Guard.

### Kansas Securities Commission

Governor Parkinson has named Marc Wilson the Kansas Securities Commissioner. Wilson, Overland Park, is currently an attorney at Stinson Morrison Hecker, LLP in Kansas City, Missouri, advising corporate, banking and non-profit clients on matters involving governance, capital structures, mergers and acquisitions and regulatory compliance. Previously, Wilson served as the Great Plains Regional Director for the Concord Coalition. He is on the board of directors for numerous philanthropic organizations in the Kansas City area and serves on committees for KansasBio, the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce and the Kansas Bar Association. He holds a juris doctorate, a master's in business administration and a master's of law from Boston University. Wilson attained his bachelor's in political science and in African-American studies from the University of Kansas.

The Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner regulates and monitors the offering of securities and financial services within Kansas by registering securities, broker-dealers and their agents, investment advisers, loan brokers and certain land subdivisions.

### Kansas National Guard

Governor Parkinson has appointed Colonel Bradley Link as a brigadier general in the Kansas National Guard. Colonel Link is the Assistant Adjutant General-Air and also serves as the Commander of the Kansas Air National Guard in Topeka. He is a Command Pilot with over 5,400 hours of flying time.

Colonel Link was commissioned in 1980 through the United States Air Force Officer Training School. After completion of Undergraduate

Navigator Training as a Distinguished Graduate, he was assigned to B-52Gs at Griffiss Air Force Base, New York. In 1984, he attended Undergraduate Pilot Training at Reese Air Force Base, Texas graduating as a Distinguished Graduate and was assigned to B-52G/Hs at Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington.

After his extensive training where he was awarded with numerous accolades, Colonel Link was selected for the initial cadre B-1B, 28th Bomb Squadron, McConnell Air Force Base, Kansas. He then joined the 184th Bomb Wing, Kansas Air National Guard, McConnell Air Force Base, in November 1995 serving in several capacities. Among his many other leadership roles, Colonel Link deployed to Baghdad, Iraq, serving as the Deputy Director Air Component Coordination Element, Strategic Operations Center, Headquarters Multi-National Force Iraq. In March 2008, Colonel Link transferred to 190th Air Refueling Wing, Kansas Air National Guard where he took command of the Operations Group and later took command of the Maintenance Group.

The Kansas Air National Guard is a component of the U.S. Force (which consists of the Active Air, the Air National Guard and the U.S. Air Force Reserves.) The Kansas Air National Guard is composed primarily of traditional Guardsmen — civilians who serve their country, state and community on a part-time basis (usually one weekend each month and two weeks during the summer.) Each state, territo-

ry and the District of Columbia has its own National Guard, as provided for by the Constitution of the United States.

### Pooled Money Investment Board

Governor Parkinson appointed Betty Corbin to the Pooled Money Investment Board. Corbin, Towanda, has been the president and active manager of Corbin Investments, Inc. for almost 30 years. In that position, she has trained and managed commodity brokers, managed all training and compliance and served as a market analyst for area press syndicates. Corbin is also a former member of the Governor's Agricultural Advisory Board and the Governor's Partnership Historic Site Committee, as well as a past president of the Butler County Economic Development and the Butler Community College Foundation Board. She graduated from Wichita High East and obtained several securities licenses over the years.

The Pooled Money Investment Board invests the money available from the State General Fund and the hundreds of other state funds deposited with the State Treasurer. The board also provides investment management services for other state agencies with investment portfolios, such as the Kansas Department of Transportation and Health Care Stabilization funds. In addition, the Pooled Money Investment Board's responsibilities include the management and administration of the Kansas Municipal Investment Pool, which provides an investment alternative for local government entities in Kansas.

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Attention Landowners! Use your land or family land for 3,4,5 bedroom turn Key packages. These are great deals. Modular, Doublewide and Singlewides. 800-375-3115.

LAND OWNERS HOTLINE. Do you own land or have family land? Pick your down payment on 3 and 4 bdrm manufactured or modular homes. FREE \$1000 Furniture Pkg. 316-425-7940.

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### Misc.

Airlines Are Hiring - Train for high paying Aviation Maintenance Career. FAA approved program. Financial aid

if qualified - Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance. (888)248-7449.

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Divorce with or without children \$125. With FREE name change documents and marital settlement agreement. Fast and easy. Call us 24 hrs/7 days: 1-888-789-0198; www.CourtDivorceService.com.

### Steel Buildings For Sale

20x8x8; 40x8x8; 48x8.5x9.5; 53x8.5x9.5 SHIPPING CONTAINERS. Camlock doors, hardwood floors support forklift. Delivery available. 1-785-655-9430 Solomon. www.chuckhenry.com complete web listing, photos, specs, pricing.

## Employment

Are you an outgoing, enthusiastic person that likes to plan parties, oversee activities and have fun with older Kansans? If so we have an opportunity for you as Center Manager for the Agape Senior Citizens Center. Three hours a day, Monday through Friday. Benefits: sick leave, vacation leave, paid holidays. Applications available at the Agape Senior Center, 101 N Wheat, Goessel, KS. Deadline for applications is June 7, 2010. For more information call Diane at 1-800-432-2703. EOE/AA

## KEATS LIONS CLUB ANNUAL CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

Saturday, June 5, 2010

(Note — DAY Change)

### KEATS PARK

Item check-in 8-9:30 a.m.  
Auction 10 a.m.

### Plant materials —

Bedding plants, hanging baskets, landscape items, bushes & shrubs, trees and more — from area businesses

### Consignment items —

No clothing, big appliances, please.



### Auction services by Gannon Auction

Lunch on grounds — Silver Creek Beneficiary Club

Lions Club Consignment Fee 25%

Proceeds to benefit Keats Community Service Projects

Questions? Call 785-532-9226



## Ready to Hit the Road Running!

Thank You Kansas Legislators  
for your investment in Kansas Jobs  
and the Kansas Transportation Program

Paid for by Economic Lifelines, Pat Hurley, Director



# NO RESERVE INTERNET AUCTION

Bidding starts to close Wed., June 9 at 10 A.M. CDT



70+ automobiles including:  
'08 Honda Civic, '07 Chevy Malibu, (30) '06 Ford Crown Vic's, '05 Isuzu NQR, 4 Heavy duty trucks including (2) F550's and a C3500, (6) dump trucks and much more!

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regardless of price!

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Riley-Pottawatomie 4-H Straight Shooters members participating in the State 4-H Match: (l-r front row) Wade Stroda, Ryan Tully, Daniel Dietrich, Luke Hull, Matthew Plummer, Barnabas Hawkinson, Seth Gotchey, Grant Adams; (back row) Jacob Stroda, Jacob Dietrich, Cade Shanks, Austin Becker and Coach Richard Becker. Not pictured: Bryan Armbrust, Blake Crowell, Collin LaRocque, Tristan LaRocque, Matthew Logan, Morgan Reeves, Kirk Stewart, Mattie Swisher and Morgan Swisher.

## Riley-Pottawatomie Straight Shooter Participate At State Match

The Riley/ Pottawatomie 4-H Straight Shooters had 22 youth participants in the 4-H State Spring Match in Alma. Youth 9 to 18 years of age participated in Air Pistol, Air Rifle and BB Gun. There were 52 youth from across the state shooting Air Pistol, 81 youth shot Air Rifle and 193 youth shot BB Gun.

Grant Adams and Luke Hull placed 1st in the Air Pistol team match with a score of 543 of 800 possible. Adams placed 1st aggregate in the open class senior division of Air Pistol with 283 points of 400 possible points, 1st on paper with 183 points of 200 points, and 1st in silhouettes with 100 points or ten animal silhouettes hit of 200 points or 20 silhouettes. Hull placed 2nd aggregate with 260 points, 1st on paper with 170 points, and 4th in silhouettes with 90 points in the sporter class senior division. Jacob Stroda placed 3rd aggregate with 241 points and 2nd on silhouettes with 110 points in the sporter class senior division of Air Pistol. Ryan Tully placed 6th aggregate in the same division with 195 points. Austin Becker placed 7th aggregate with 174 points and 5th on paper with 144 points in the sporter class junior division of Air Pistol. Seth Gotchey earned 132 points in the senior sporter division of Air Pistol.

Wade Stroda won the Top Shot Hat for 1st place of all shooters in the Air Rifle Match. W. Stroda placed 1st aggregate with 511 points 13X of 600 possible points, 1st prone with 193 points of 200 possible, 1st standing with 158 points of 200 possible and 5th kneeling with 160 points of 200 possible in the junior division of Air Rifle. Jacob Stroda placed 1st aggregate with 511 points, 3rd prone with 187 points, 5th standing with 150 points, and 3rd kneeling with 174 points in the senior division of Air Rifle. Jacob Dietrich earned 444 points in the senior division of Air Rifle.

The BB Gun Team of Daniel Dietrich, Seth Gotchey, Matthew Plummer, Mattie Swisher and Morgan Swisher placed 6th of 13 teams with 1774 points of 2000 possible. Youth shot ten shots for 100 points in each of the competition positions: prone, standing, sitting and kneeling. Five youth, designated before the competition begins, make up a team with their combined aggregate scores.

Wade Stroda placed 5th aggregate in the senior division of BB Gun with 375 points of 400 possible and placed 2nd sitting with 97 points of 100 possible. Austin Becker placed 5th in sitting with 97 points and tied for 22nd aggregate with 359 points. Morgan

Swisher tied for 11th aggregate with 368 points. Daniel Dietrich tied for 20th aggregate with 360 points. Mattie Swisher tied for 22nd aggregate with 359 points. Kirk Stewart, Tristan LaRocque, Matthew Plummer, Seth Gotchey and Morgan Reeves also participated in the senior division of BB Gun.

Bryan Armbrust, Matthew Logan, Barnabas Hawkinson, Blake Crowell, Cade Shanks and Collin LaRocque participated in the junior division of BB Gun.

The Riley Pottawatomie 4-H Straight Shooters have four youth who will participate in the National 4-H Match in Kerrville, TX June 28 to July 3, 2010. Those youth are: Grant Adams in Air Pistol and Seth Brandon, Luke Hull and Jacob Stroda in Smallbore Pistol.

The RL/PT 4-H Straight Shooters are supported by Daisy Outdoor Products, Kansas State Rifle Association, Kansas Muzzleloaders Association, Riley and Pottawatomie County Extension Councils, Riley County Fish and Game, Kansas State University Military Science Department, Kaw Valley Archery, Flint Hills Pheasants Forever, Justin Corbet Foundation, Friends of NRA and 4-H Shooting Sports parents, families and instructors.

## Kansas Chamber of Commerce Letter.. The Fight For Jobs

By Kent Beisner, President & CEO for the Kansas Chamber of Commerce

### The fight for jobs

The Kansas Chamber is the leading business advocacy organization, representing small and large businesses alike employing more than 100,000 Kansans across our state. Our board of directors passed a data-driven, unified agenda in support of streamlining government and reducing the cost of doing business in Kansas.

When seeking to bring additional businesses to Kansas, no one champions higher taxes as an additional benefit.

When seeking to bring additional businesses to Kansas, no one champions higher taxes as an additional benefit. The Chamber will always defend Kansas entrepreneurs and taxpayers against policies which inhibit their ability to increase capital investment, grow private-sector jobs and reduce the burden on government services. Responsible government and a friendly business climate can and should co-exist.

We at the Chamber welcome the recent criticism by those who believe Washington-style tax-and-spend policies are acceptable here in the heartland. These individuals have supported the growth of our state budget by more than \$200 million and the passage of the largest sales tax increase in our state's history in the midst of a record-breaking recession.

While those pushing for tax increases and expanded government have prevailed, their policies do not spell out victory for Kansas businesses and taxpayers. As we have said time and again, we cannot tax-and-spend our way into economic recovery, a fact proven true by our nation's own attempts

to do so during the Great Depression and several states who have repeated the mistake since then.

The most current and comprehensive, non-partisan, state-by-state analysis available, Rich States, Poor States, by economists Arthur Laffer and Stephen Moore, looks at the impact of policy-making on economic competitiveness, the migration of people and investment capital in and out of states. Their research shows that states with the lowest tax, spending, and regulatory burdens win the competitiveness contest. As Moore states, "High taxes don't redistribute income; they redistribute people."

Clearly, Kansas voters understand tax increases will cost Kansas jobs and hurt our economy and do not address the government's spending problem.

This is further evidence of the negative impact taxes have on our state's economy and supports the research compiled in our Annual Competitiveness Index (ACI) and CEO Poll which serve as the foundation for our macro-economic legislative agenda. The data derived from the ACI and CEO Poll overwhelmingly illustrate that both hard economic metrics and job-creators in our state identify "reducing the cost of business" as the best growth strategy for the state. The Kansas Chamber is dedicated to doing just that, so our state economy can compete and succeed - a pursuit vital to the very existence of state government.

We applaud those members of the legislature who proposed multiple options for a balanced budget with vital funding for education, public safety, social services and other important aspects of state government - all without creating a

spending gap requiring a tax increase. We commend the legislators who sought funding for those dependent on government services without forcing additional burdens on the community. The fact remains that these options were disregarded by those who would rather grow our government than seize the opportunity to streamline state functions and grow our economy.

The success of the 2010 legislative session will not be determined by dueling op-eds or the herculean effort to pass an unnecessary tax package. Six months from now, the people of Kansas will judge the outcome of this political process.

Clearly, Kansas voters understand tax increases will cost Kansas jobs and hurt our economy and do not address the government's spending problem. Kansas voters have reduced their spending and looked for efficiencies and expect no less from their government. The Kansas Chamber will continue to seek a government that Kansans can afford, and policies that will allow our state to thrive and prosper.

The Kansas Chamber, with headquarters in Topeka, is the leading statewide pro-business advocacy group moving Kansas towards becoming the best state in America to live and work. The Chamber represents small, medium and large employers all across Kansas. For more information on the Kansas Chamber of Commerce, go to [www.kansaschamber.org](http://www.kansaschamber.org).

Kent Beisner serves as Interim President & CEO for the Kansas Chamber of Commerce. Kent has been with the Chamber approximately 19 months and was Vice-President of Membership and Marketing prior to his appointment to the Interim President position.

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