



# Manhattan Free Press

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An Award Winning Weekly Newspaper

Thursday, April 11, 2013

## Coming To Riley County: Voter Treachery

Editorial  
By Jon A. Brake

Here we go again. You could call it Voter Treachery Part 2.

The Riley County Commission in 2008 started making plans to purchase the First Christian Church and demolish it and the Riley County Administration Building and build a \$55 million office complex. But, with the mood of the citizens on higher taxes they gave up on the idea.

In 2008 Geary County gave the Riley County Commissioners a way out. With a Public Building Commission (PBC), any public entity could build anything and never go to voter again.

If the City wanted to build a new Administration Building, they would go to the Riley County Building Commission (with the County Commissioners appointing themselves to the Public Building Commission) and ask for a \$30 to \$40 million building.

The Building Commission would build the building and lease it back to the City of Manhattan. Never going to a vote of the people, as the City would need to today. And the cost of the building would not go against the Cities mounting debt.

Once again The Riley County Commissioners have their eyes set on removing the Riley County voters from projects.

As it now stands the County must go to the voters to purchase or the remodeling of county buildings in excess of \$300,000 for General Obligation Bonds.

If a Public Building Commission is formed in Riley County, the County Commission, City of Manhattan, School Board or any other governing body would go to the PBC for the building and financing, not the voters. They would then lease the building from the



Here we go again...the Riley County Commission is looking into buying the First Christian Church and demolishing it for a new \$55 million Administration Building.

PBC.

The Commissioners are being told that the PBC does not avoid public input, because there is a 30-day notice protest period for each project.

That sounds like the voters would have a way to stop a project. Protest petitions have worked in Manhattan and Riley County in the past, for a time. Then City officials learned that all they needed to do was wait a few months, change the project a little and it would pass without a protest petition. Voters will soon learn that what ever the public officials want, they get.

You do not have to drive very far to find a Public Building Commission. Geary County has used their Public Building Commission to completely remodeled the Courthouse without going to a vote of the people. They also built a new Administration

Building, a Jail and a building for the Cloud County Community College.

The voters of Geary County had twice turned down the Courthouse remodeling and so the Commission established a Public Building Commission.

Here are the PBC projects for Geary County as of 2008:

- Remodeled the Geary County Courthouse and the Pennell Building used for Court Services at a cost of \$3,775,000.00.
- Built three buildings for the Cloud County Community College, which is now called the Geary County Campus costing \$1,470,000.00.
- Expand the Geary County Jail using \$5 million in the process.
- Built the Geary County Office Building worth \$1,200,000.00.
- Provide for the Remodeling of the Geary County Community

Hospital in the amount of \$4,925,000.00.

More than \$16 million dollars of construction without a vote of the people.

Today the Riley County

Commissioners are looking at the old plans for the \$55 million Administration Building.

If the citizens of Riley County do not speak up now

they will have a Public Building Commission and they will never have another say in the construction of public building again. Call your Commissioner.



The Administration Building was purchased in 1985 and has had three major renovations. The first floor alone cost \$900,000 to remodel fifteen years ago.



The HTX Building was purchased in the early 1990's and has seen some renovations. Now the building needs basement and foundation work to a tune of \$50,000. The Commissioners are thinking of selling the building.



The old Carnegie Library has been used for years as the Riley County Attorney's office. As of now the plans call for the Attorney's Office to be in the new \$55 million building but they do not know what to do with this building. Being on the National Register may keep it from being taken down.

# Countries That Cut Debt, Taxes And Spending Are Thriving

By Alan Reynolds  
CATO Institute

Several European countries, including Cyprus, have been mired in economic stagnation or decline for five years or more.

Yet other countries in Asia and Latin America have flourished. What are the weakest economies doing wrong? What are the strongest doing right?

Economist Jim O'Neill coined the acronym BRIC in 2001 to refer to four economies which showed great potential then and now — Brazil, Russia, India and China. More recently, he added four more promising MIST economies — Mexico, Indonesia, South Korea and Turkey.

In mid-2008, The Economist magazine drew a sharp contrast between the booming BRIC economies and four feeble PIGS — Portugal, Italy, Greece and Spain. By 2010, after Ireland and Great Britain bailed out their banks, that unkind acronym was stretched to PIIGGS.

All PIIGGS have two things in common. First of all, government spending grew dramatically — from an average of 43.2% of GDP in 2007 to 52.6% by 2010.

Spending was modestly trimmed by 2012 in a few cases, yet the ratio of spending to GDP still remained 3 to 6 percentage points higher than it had been in 2007.

This sad story was repeated

in Cyprus, where government spending soared from less than 34% of the economy in 1995 to 47% in 2010.

Despite this explosive growth of government spending among the PIIGGS, economist Paul Krugman's End the Depression Now! somehow attributes southern Europe's slump to "frantic, savage attempts to slash spending."

In a recent New York Times column, Krugman suggested that Ireland suffers from grossly insufficient government spending, and contrasted Ireland's alleged penny-pinching with "the true economic miracle that is Iceland ... (which) thanks to its embrace of unorthodox policies, has almost fully recovered."

What actually happened is that government spending in Ireland soared to 66.1% of GDP in 2010 — up from 36.8% in 2007 — when the government shocked the markets by bailing out the banks in September 2010. The budget deficit suddenly spiked to 30.9% of GDP. Irish bonds collapsed.

In Iceland, which didn't throw taxpayer money at the banks, government spending was slashed from 57.6% of GDP in 2008 to 46.5% in 2012. The deficit fell from 12.9% of GDP to 3.4%. The economy began to recover in 2011.

Iceland's economic boost from fiscal frugality was neither unorthodox nor unique.

After all, the U.S. economy boomed in the late 1990s when federal spending was cut from 22.3% of GDP in 1991 to 18.2% in 2000. In Canada, total federal and provincial spending was deeply slashed from 53.2% of GDP in 1992 to 39.2% in 2007 with only salubrious effects.

When Krugman and others describe the recent European spending spree as "austerity," that begs the key question: Austerity for whom? The PIIGGS imposed no austerity at all on the public sector in the past five years.

Government spending on bailouts, subsidies, grants, salaries and entitlements commands a much larger share of these economies than it did just a few years ago. European austerity has been focused on the private sector — namely, taxpayers with high incomes.

That is the second thing the PIIGGS have in common. The highest income tax rate was recently increased in every one of the troubled PIIGGS except Italy (where it was already too high at 43%). The top tax rate was hiked from 40 to 46.5% in Portugal, from 41 to 48% in Ireland, from 40 to 45% in Greece, from 40 to 50% in Great Britain, and from 48 to 52% in Spain.

Apparently envious of the PIIGGS, France even flirted with a 75% tax.

It is enlightening to compare the depressing performance of

these tax-and-spend countries to the rapidly-expanding BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India and China) and MIST economies (Mexico, Indonesia, South Korea and Turkey).

Government spending is frugal in these countries, averaging 32.1% of GDP in the BRICs and 27.4% for the MIST group.

Rather than raising top tax rates, all but one of the BRIC and MIST countries slashed their highest individual income tax rates in half; sometimes lower. Brazil cut the top tax rate from 55 to 27.5%. Russia replaced income tax rates up to 60% with a 13% flat tax. India cut the top tax rate to 30% from 60%. Similarly, the top tax rate was cut from 55 to 30% in Mexico, from 50 to 30% in Indonesia, from 89 to 38% in South Korea, and from 75 to 35% in Turkey.

In China, statutory income tax rates can still reach 45% on paper, but that is only for high salaries and is widely evaded. Investment income is subject to a flat tax of 20%, the corporate tax is 15-25%, and China's extremely low payroll tax adds almost nothing to labor costs.

Lower tax rates and faster economic growth in these countries didn't mean bigger budget deficits. On the contrary, only one of the eight MIST and BRIC countries (India) has a significant budget deficit.

In short, the world economy

has become divided into two groups: (1) sickly PIIGGS with chronic fiscal crises and (2) booming BRIC and MIST economies with modest government spending, lower tax rates and vigorous growth of both the economy and tax receipts.

Unfortunately, the U.S. has lately been drifting nearer the PIIGGS camp. The highest tax rates were just increased and federal spending is nearly 23% of GDP — way up from the 19.2% average of 1997-2007.

If U.S. legislators hope for better results—for both the economy and the budget—they

must shun the failed policies of the PIIGGS and instead embrace the proven policies of the rapidly-growing BRIC and MIST economies.

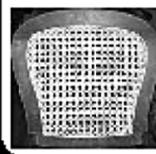
What works, these successful economies discovered, is (1) to prevent government spending from growing faster than the private economy that supports it, and (2) to reduce rather than increase the highest, most damaging tax rates.

*Alan Reynolds is a senior fellow with the Cato Institute and the author of a critical new study about "top 1 percent" incomes.*

## OPEN

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## Dr. Ronald Marshall

Dr. Ronald L. Marshall, age 70, was born October 5, 1942 in Wymore, NE. He graduated from Beatrice High School. He attended Hastings College for three years, and then was accepted to the University of Nebraska Medical School, where he became a surgeon and specialized in Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Marshall first practiced in Dodge City, KS for two years. In 1973 he moved to Manhattan and practiced for over thirty years.

Dr. Marshall spent his retirement years enjoying the out-

doors with his family. He loved flying his airplane, traveling, hunting, fishing, and scuba diving. He was an avid reader and history enthusiast.

Ron was a member of Isis Shrine of Salina, KS, the First Christian Church and a volunteer transporting critically ill patients to medical facilities for the Angel Flight Program.

Ronald is survived by his wife Judy, of Manhattan, KS; son, Rhen Marshall and wife Staci, of Blythewood, SC; daughter, Renee Soberano and

Paul Watts of Lafayette, CO. He is also survived by three grandsons, Mason and Morgan Marshall and Mikey Soberano; his twin brother, Rodney Marshall and wife Marilyn, of Beatrice, NE, sister, Rebecca Cherny, and husband Robert, of San Francisco, CA, sister, Martha Harrison of Beatrice, NE, and brother-in-law Galen Plihal and wife Bev, of DeWitt, Ne, several nieces and nephews and a gaggle of hunting buddies. He was preceded in death by his parents Gladys and Rhen Marshall, two infant brothers,

Charles and Rhen, and his son, Scott.

A memorial service will be at 2:00 p.m. Friday, April 12, at University Christian Church. Memorials can be sent to Irvin-Parkview Funeral Home & Cremation to go to a charity the family will decide at a later date.

For more information or to send an email condolence, visit the funeral home website [irvin-parkview.com](http://irvin-parkview.com)

## Edward James Sloan

Edward James "Brother" Sloan, 82, of Manhattan, passed away Thursday, April 4th, at Via Christi Village, where he happily spent the last year of life with friends and supportive staff. He was a retired steel worker at Wisconsin Steel in Chicago, IL and was a Manhattan resident for the past 28 years.

Ed was born in Chicago, IL on January 3, 1931, the son of the late Robert J. and Mary Margaret (Mewes) Sloan. He attended St. Kevin's Grade School and graduated from Mt. Carmel High School. Ed grad-

uated from the College of Idaho with a Bachelor's Degree in Education, as a scholarship athlete, playing both football and baseball. After college he played semi pro baseball. He was proud of being a life-long Cubs fan, and enjoyed watching local youth and adult games. He served in the US Army during the Korean War for 2 enlistments, where he was a member of the Signal Corp and played on the Army baseball team. Ed was a member of St. Isidore Catholic Church in Manhattan.

Edward had 5 siblings, Mary Rita Sloan-Spooner and hus-

band Brian, of Manhattan; Margaret T Meier, of Oregon; Kathleen A. Davey and husband Peter, of Colo.; a brother, Francis J. Sloan and wife Mary, of MN; a late brother, Robert "Bobby" Sloan, Jr. and wife Joan, of CA. He is also survived by nephew Brian S. Spooner, Jr. and wife Jeanie of IL; niece Beth Ann (Spooner) Logsdon and husband Douglas, of Overland Park; niece Megan Sloan (Spooner) Peters and husband Trent, of Overland Park; and nephew Matthew Sloan Spooner, of Manhattan. He is also survived by 17 additional nieces & nephews and 17

additional grand nieces & nephews.

A private interment will be at the Kansas Veterans Cemetery, Manhattan, with a memorial service being held at St. Isidore Catholic Church, Manhattan, at a later date.

Family request donations to the Via Christi Village or St. Isidore Catholic Church, both of Manhattan. Irvin-Parkview Funeral Home & Cremation is handling arrangements. For more information or to send an email condolence visit [irvin-parkview.com](http://irvin-parkview.com) or on Facebook.

## Jake Black

Jake Black, age 53, a former resident of Manhattan, KS, tragically died in an automobile accident on I-70 near Junction City on April 3, 2013 and died as a result of his injuries at Geary Community Hospital.

Jake was born on November 7, 1959 in Demopolis, AL. Jake was a loving family man

and was survived by his devoted wife, Evon O'Bannon-Black; his adoring children; Asia A. Black, Andrew Bridges, Denise Harris, Cynthia Crittenden, Termaine Jones and a host of siblings, nieces, nephews, family and friends.

The family will receive friends and family at the

Manhattan Christian Fellowship Church at 2740 Pillsbury Drive, Manhattan, KS, on Thursday, April 11, 2013 from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. for a memorial service and repast.

Funeral services are pending. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Jake S. Black Memorial Fund

or by visiting [facebook.com/JakeSBlackMemorialFund](http://facebook.com/JakeSBlackMemorialFund) to offer online condolences and to make donations.

Irvin-Parkview Funeral Home is in charge of local arrangements.

## James Michael Ponce

James Michael Ponce, 29, of Manhattan, Kansas, passed away Sunday, April 7th, in an automobile accident on Hwy 77 north of El Dorado, Kansas.

James was born in Stuttgart, Germany, on November 4, 1983, son of Rebecca Lynn (Shumway) and Patrick Ponce. He attended schools in Manhattan and graduated from Manhattan HS in 2001, attended Kansas State University & Manhattan Vo-Tech in Information Technology. James was the Kitchen Manager at Carlos O'Kelly's Manhattan.

Survivors include his parents; Sister, Claudia D. Ponce, and Fiancé Eugenio Quitangon,

of Goodyear, Arizona; Brother, Thomas J. Ponce and Wife Kelli, 2 nieces: Joi Ponce and Raegan Ponce of Memphis, Tennessee; grandparents, Josephine Burrows and husband Sydney of Green Valley, Arizona. He is preceded in death by his Grandparents, Claude and Rowena Shumway, Celestino "Frank" Ponce. James had a giant sized heart, which is evident in the outpouring of support from his very large group of friends, family and coworkers. He was a gentle and kind son, brother, uncle and friend. He was a gentle and kind son, brother, uncle and friend. He leaves behind a legacy of laughter and great

memories that will never be forgotten.

A funeral service will be held at Irvin-Parkview Funeral Home & Cremation, Manhattan, Kansas at 10:00am on Friday, April 12th, 2013. Burial will follow at Sunrise Cemetery, Manhattan, Kansas.

Visitation will be Thursday, April 11, from 9 am - 8 pm with the family receiving friends from 6 pm - 8 pm at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to the Humane Society of Riley County, Manhattan, Kansas.

For more information or to send an online condolence, visit [www.irvinparkview.com](http://www.irvinparkview.com) or on Facebook.

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# Free Press Second Front

**Tuttle Creek Dam Will Be 50 This Year**

## Remembering The Flood Of 1951

The year 1951 marked flood disasters along Kansas' three major river systems.

In mid-May the Arkansas River in the southwestern part of the state experienced large amounts of rain and unprecedented flooding. The next week northwestern counties in Kansas experienced great rainfall. Hays was one of the cities flooded. North central and northeastern Kansas had record precipitation in May, June, and July.

Between July 10 and July 13 record amounts of rain fell, as much as 17.5 inches. Most of this precipitation fell on already soaked soil and ran off into the Saline, Solomon, and Blue rivers, tributaries of the Kansas River. Record rainfalls also caused the Osage, Neosho, Verdigris, Delaware, and Missouri rivers to flood.

Floods through Kansas spring and summer 1951.

The main business area of Manhattan under eight feet of water.

In addition to damages to businesses in Topeka, 24,000 people were evacuated from their homes.

"Black Friday," July 13, 1951, still stands as the single greatest day of flood destruction in Kansas. Fort Riley and Manhattan were the first significant urban areas to be hit by flood waters. Army barracks were smashed at the fort. Water stood eight feet deep in the Manhattan business district. The Kansas River was so full that it forced the waters in its tributary, the Blue River, to run backwards.

In the Kansas City area the Kansas River poured over levees causing the evacuation of 15,000 persons. Homes, railroad yards, stockyards, packing plants, warehouses, and manufacturing plants were damaged. Runaway barges smashed into the Hannibal Bridge adding to the confusion and difficulties. Hogs and cattle were stranded or washed from the stockyards. The American Royal building was under 15 feet of water and homes had water lapping at the roofs. Twenty-eight lives were lost across the state.

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and the National Weather Service conducted detailed surveys to determine flood losses. The greater Kansas City area suffered the

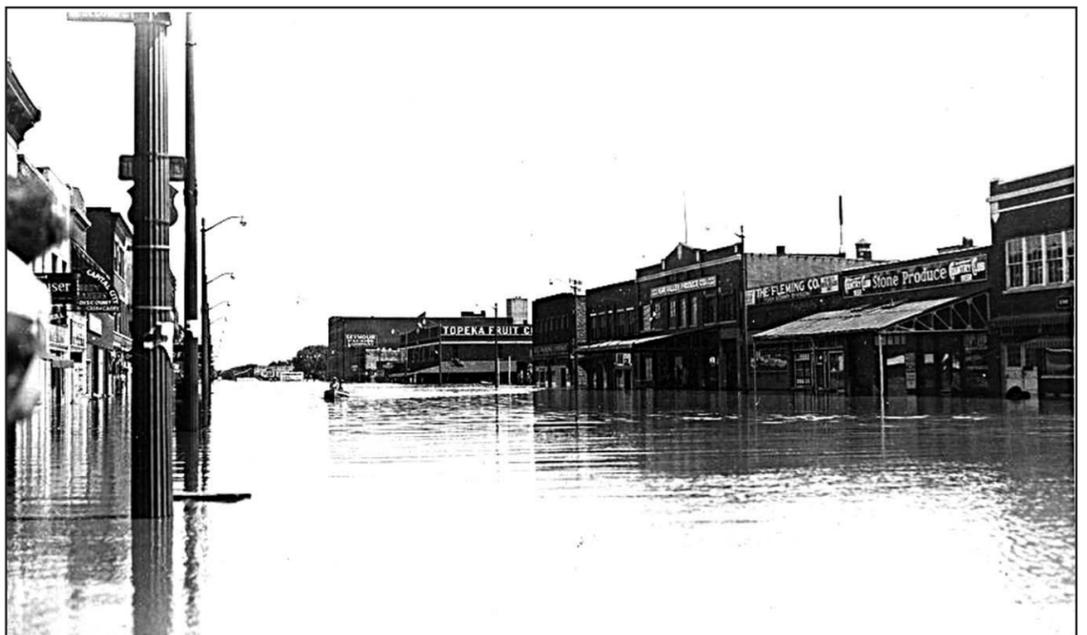


This is a photo of Manhattan during the 1951 flood. The bottom of the photo and all the way up to 3rd Street is now the Manhattan Town Center. Some of the building on the 300 block still have markers show how high the water was. Downtown was under 8 ft of water.

greatest monetary loss, some \$425 million. Additional estimated community losses were: Salina - \$3.2 million, Fort Riley - \$7 million, Manhattan - \$13 million, Topeka - \$34 million, and Lawrence - \$3 million. Agricultural damage was estimated at \$93 million.

Major fires resulted from damaged oil tanks in Kansas City.

Story and photos provided by the U.S. Corps Of Engineers



This is a photo of North Topeka at the height of the flood.



Photo of the oil tanks in Kansas City on fire.

## The Time Has Come For City/County Unification

By Kent Glasscock

Embarking upon my mayoral year in April of 1989, I set an agenda that included exploration of city/county governmental unification. The firestorm of protest which ensued was quite memorable. For many, the concept of unification was not just controversial but unthinkable. While to me it seemed appropriate that we at least dispassionately study the potential benefits and challenges associated with such a step, clearly the environment to do so was not in place. I am hoping it is now.

At a time in which fiscal realities are causing Americans of all political viewpoints to reassess the scope and scale of

government, Kansas is at the forefront of states with the highest number of governmental units per capita. The same was true in 1989. In Kansas and across America a local governmental structure of counties, cities, and townships designed for the nineteenth century is assumed to be viable and appropriate for the twenty-first.

While every other aspect of America has fundamentally altered, we assume that our governmental structure can remain unchanged.

Kansans have historically loved their nearly 4,000 units of local government. However, it's fair for us to ask whether Kansans can still afford the demand whether there are updated

models which might make more sense. Across America and close to home we have seen many examples of services or even full governmental unification successfully accomplished.

The City of Kansas City, Kansas and Wyandotte County merged to create a fully unified government in the mid-1990s and have in the process created a tremendous economic powerhouse on the state's eastern border. Was Wyandotte County unified government controversial? Absolutely it was. Has it been a huge success? Without a doubt.

The Wyandotte County experience illustrates one of the

promises of unification - that increased efficiency and unified strategic vision can create an increased ability to deliver on economic development opportunities. With the anticipated arrival of the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF), our area will see hundreds of new high paying jobs. But the NBAF benefit will not end there.

Over time, Manhattan and its environs will reap tremendous benefit from companies wanting to locate near the NBAF and near Kansas State University's related powerhouse research capability. We have an obligation to put ourselves in the best possible position to take full advantage of these opportunities which

could create literally thousands of high paying technology-based jobs. I believe local government service or full governmental unification would significantly increase our ability to effectively capture the opportunities which will be coming our way.

In Riley County and in Manhattan we have been blessed over the generations with effective, efficient city and county governance yet can we honestly say we can't do better? Can we honestly say the ever-increasing demands for efficiency, service quality and wealth-creating growth in the twenty-first century global economy won't require us to do better?

I believe the time has come for our Manhattan and Riley County commissions to study whether unification would benefit the citizenry. The two governing bodies could begin by creating a blue ribbon committee of thoughtful and respected citizens from across our community and county to begin defining the issues, challenges and relative benefits and pitfalls of unification.

In 1989, I learned that most people thought this course was simply unthinkable. In 2013 the competitive demands of a twenty-first century world and the fiscal realities of governance may require us to not only think about, but even act upon, what once was unthinkable.

# Over Easy

By Bob Strawn

Well, I must admit to not enjoying the city commission race this time around, which is unusual because campaigning has been fun for me in the past. I've always liked the debates, walking door-to-door, reading what folks had to say in the papers, and the like.



Bob Strawn

However, this year it got far too nasty. The local daily's letters' section turned into a virtual libel machine with writers like Grace Kwang labeling me and other conservatives everything short of "bigots" for not supporting the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender ordinance which passed during my first term. I've never met Ms.

Kwang. But LGBT for her must be like gun control for

others. If you oppose it, you must favor murder.

Coincidentally and rather ironically, local politician Bob Reader, who last fall lost the Republican state senate seat, held for years by the honorable Roger Reitz, well Bob wrote that conservatives should not favor me with their vote for the exact opposite reason - my pro-LGBT agenda. I guess "the Bob" didn't coordinate with "the Grace" on that one.

At the close, The Mercury itself took a particularly hard edge with the adjective "imperious." I admit to rushing for Dictionary.com to find out what the heck it meant - "arrogantly domineering and overbearing." Mercy, Mr. Seaton! Being labeled a tyrant was particularly stinging for me, as in the past I'd often found myself

defending the paper.

Well, enough of the pity-party, what does it all mean? 3-2 is what! And I'm not writing about baseball, folks.

My guess is that three-to-two will be the standard vote on significant policy matters before the new commission - two holdover conservatives, at odds with two new liberals, and moderate Rich Jankovich in the middle. Although the guess here is that commissioner Jankovich will generally side with the liberals, as he has in the past like voting against overturning the expanded civil rights law and landlord ordinance.

For the rest of us, it means an increase in property taxes, for sure, absolutely, without question. And yes, there will be more funding for public trans-

portation (ATA), the library project and social services. Yes, Chamber-sponsored spending of "your" taxes on "their" projects will continue. Lip service may be given but no real action will be taken on consolidation of city/country governments. But spending will increase. And landlords beware - you'll be targeted. A new crest of social engineering will brake before this dais. And God only knows what will come of the city debt. All of which will make for some good theater if nothing else at city commission meetings.

As for me, well I'll continue to whine and rant here "over easy" but burdensome realities like taxes, regulations and debt. But please don't take it personal unless, of course, it somehow applies to you. Whatever the case, our hope is that you pick up a copy of the Free Press each week for a conservative take on the issues of the day. Follow The Mercury for a liberal view if you choose. And folks, keep close track of your wallet. \*\*\*

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## Bill of Rights

Congress of the United States

*Began and held at the City of New York, on Wednesday, the fourth of March, one thousand seven hundred and eighty nine.*

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Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

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## Riley County Commission Minutes

The Board of County Commissioners Of Riley County, Kansas

The Regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners met at the Riley County Plaza East Building March 28, 2013 with the following members present: Dave Lewis, Chair; Robert Boyd, Vice Chair; Ron Wells, Member; and Rich Vargo, County Clerk.

8:30 Pledge of Allegiance  
Public Comment, Commission Comments, & Business Meeting

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Cindy Volanti, Human Resource Manager/Deputy Clerk; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury; Robert Nall, IT/GIS Director; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer, attended.

Wells discussed the public Downtown Revitalization meeting.

Rosewicz discussed the Downtown Revitalization project.

Boyd discussed the Manhattan City meeting on the control tower.

Boyd asked the County Clerk for 5-10 years of work compensation data claims by department and the impact on workers compensation insurance.

Boyd said he met with Fort Riley Commanding General regarding Fort Riley training.

Lewis discussed a concern about a resident taxpayer being inappropriate on the phone

with a staff member. Lewis stated it is the same man who confronted Jim Sherow, City Commissioner.

Lewis said staff has met on the matter.

Lewis discussed the Chamber Board meeting.

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

an As Needed Clerical Assistant, in the Emergency Management Department, at a grade D.

a Customer Service Representative I, in the Treasurer's Office – Motor Vehicle Fund, at a grade F.

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Personnel Action Form for Rodney Franz, a new hire, as a Temporary Election Worker, in the County Clerk-Elections Department, at a step 3, at \$8.48 per hour.

Boyd moved to approve the contract for 2013 Orthopedic Services with Surdex Corporation for the IT/GIS Department in the amount of \$47,500.00. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Boyd moved to approve a Purchase Authorization for Microsoft Enterprise Licensing for the IT/GIS Department in the amount of \$97,197.00. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Wells moved to sign Bala, Center, Fancy Creek, Grant, Jackson, Madison, May Day, Ogden, Sherman, Swede Creek, Wildcat, and Zeandale Townships' oaths and bonds. Boyd seconded. Carried 3-0.

Boyd moved to approve the following warrant vouchers for March 29, 2013:

2013 Budget  
County General \$446,568.75  
Health Dept. 28,237.48

Teen Court Collected Fund	333.65
Juvenile Intake Case Mgr	221.28
Riley Co Juvenile Service	2,628.28
21st Jud Dist Teen Court	519.25
Riley Co Adult Services	4,840.12
Emergency 911	3,712.13
Solid Waste	436.44
County Building	1,585.25
RCPD Levy/Op	21,415.68
Riley Co Fire Dist #1	13,315.27
University Park W&S	504.41
Hunters Island Water Dist	1,461.05
Carson Sewer Benefit Dist	57.55
Deep Creek Sewer	127.52
Moehlman Bottoms	511.90
Valleywood Operations	39.28
Terra Heights Sewer	293.61
Konza Water Operations	603.93
Special-34 Vista Acres St	13.86
Special-24 Stony Brook St	15.34
Special-15 Terra Hts Swr	24.35
Special-36 Lakeview St	26.68
Lakeside Heights Sewer	1.77
TOTAL . . .	\$527,494.83

Wells seconded. Carried 3-0. Wells moved to approve the minutes of March 25, 2013 as amended. Boyd seconded. Carried 3-0.

9:15 Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer  
Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

Shepek presented a CIP, a county building, an economic development, and a ½ cent sales tax update.

9:30 Robert Nall, Information Technology/GIS Director

Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

Nall presented the IT/GIS staff report.

9:50 Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services  
Administrative Work Session

Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer; and Susanne Kufahl, Health Department Administrator, attended.

Holeman presented a review of the proposed lease with Kansas State University on behalf of the KSU Child Development Center for space at the Riley County Health Department.

The Board of County Commissioners reviewed the lease.

Boyd questioned the benefit of having the lease go through 2014 and suggested that it should only go through 2013.

Kufahl felt the whole program could be in danger if a lease is renewed month to month.

Kufahl discussed the Kansas State University Child Development Center.

The Board of County Commissioners agreed with the draft contract presented to be renewed on an annual basis.

Holeman discussed county

projects and legislation.

10:12 Boyd moved that the County Commission recess into executive session pursuant to the non-elected personnel matters exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act in order to discuss a performance matter involving a county employee and to protect the privacy of the employee, the open meeting to resume in the County Commission Chambers at 10:17 a.m. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

10:17 Boyd moved to go out of executive session. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

No binding action was taken during the executive session.

10:18 Vern Henricks, CEO, Greater Manhattan Community Foundation; Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent; Katy Vaughan, Health Educator; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters, attended.

Henricks discussed the Healthy Communities Initiative Action Plan 2011-2018.

Henricks said he needs to secure \$12,500 in matching funds to obtain \$25,000 from the Kansas Health Foundation per year.

Barnard discussed the benefit of the Healthy Communities Initiative Plan and said that it brings all the groups together on health issues.

Vaughan said any support given to the health initiative will be returned back to the community through the health programs.

Henricks said April, 15th, 2013 is the deadline to get pledges, and July 1st, 2013 is the deadline to receive funds.

10:45 Greg Lund, Parks Supervisor

Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; and Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services, attended.

Lund said that periodically the auditor requests the Board of County Commissioners write off uncorrectable accounts in the Parks Division accounts receivable. Lund said that he recommends the Board of County Commissioners void the City of Manhattan's 2012 park account in the amount of \$2,834.38.

Lund said the County Park Advisory Board has selected the community park projects and purchases for recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners. Lund reported that \$30,000 is set aside for community park purchases this year. Lund said the purchasing process will begin upon approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

Lund said the Park Division is working on a ten-year County Parks Improvement Plan, which will be an ever-evolving document. Lund presented information on the work that has been completed to date.

Lund recommended that the outstanding balance in the Parks accounts receivable for the City of Manhattan, in the amount of \$2,834.38 be written off as per auditor's instruction.

Lund recommended that the 2013 community park purchases, as selected by the Riley County Park Advisory Board, be approved.

Boyd moved to write off the Park Fund accounts receivable charges assessed to the City of Manhattan for CiCo Park maintenance, as presented, in the amount of \$2,834.38 for 2012. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Boyd moved to approve the Purchase Authorization for the 2013 Community Park purchases as presented below and recommended by the Riley County Park Advisory Board for the Parks Department in the amount of \$30,000.00 to be funded by the General-Parks Fund.

2013 COMMUNITY PARK ALLOCATIONS  
Approved by the Riley County Park Advisory Board on 3/12/13

Riley	
Recoat tennis court	\$16,558
Ogden	
Baseball field dugout	1,500
Field drag	150
Soccer nets	500
Volleyball poles	200
Randolph	
Disc golf baskets	1,825
Playground sound	250
Keats	
Replace timbers on median planter	5,900
Leonardville	
2 picnic tables	1,617
Fairmont	
Concrete for disc golf course	1,500
TOTAL	\$30,000

Wells seconded. Carried 3-0. Lund presented the ten-year County Parks Improvement Plan.

11:12 Rich Vargo, County Clerk

Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; and Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services, attended.

Vargo discussed the Riley County intangibles tax.

Vargo stated that the 2012

intangibles tax revenue in Riley County totaled \$279,350. Vargo said if the intangibles tax is eliminated the revenue would have to be replaced with ad valorem tax increases or expenditures reductions.

Vargo reported that for Riley County's 2013 budget, \$279,350 equates to .530 mills.

11:28 Boyd moved to adjourn after the City/County/County meeting at 4:00 p.m. at the City Offices. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

4:00 City/County/County Meeting (at City Offices)

Representing the City of Manhattan were Wynn Butler, Jim Sherow, Loren Pepperd, John Matta, and Rich Jankovich – City Commissioners; Ron Fehr, City Manager; Robert Ott, City Engineer; Eric Cattell, Assistant Planning Director; Dale Houdeshell, Public Works Director; Lauren Palmer, Assistant City Manager; Chad Bunger, Planner; and Karen Davis, Community Development Director. Representing Riley County were Dave Lewis, Ron Wells, and Robert Boyd – County Commissioners; Clancy Holeman, Counselor/ Director of Administrative Services; and Monty Wedel, Planning/Special Projects Director. Representing Pottawatomie County were Gary Yenzer – County Commissioner; and Robert Reece, County Administrator. Brian McNulty, Corps of Engineers; Eddie Fernandez, Corps of Engineers; Brian Wrath, Corps of Engineers; Jeff Hanglin, Corps of Engineers; Diane McCoy, Corps of Engineers; Ben Johnson, Corps of Engineers; John Grothaus, Corps of Engineers; and Usha Reddi, candidate for Manhattan City Commission, attended.

Grothaus presented the Manhattan Levee Section 216 Feasibility Study.

McNulty discussed Tuttle Creek Lake and water management.

Grothaus reviewed the existing levee conditions.

Johnson presented updated floodplain modeling.

Ott discussed levee improvements.

Davis discussed the Comprehensive Land Use Plan Update Process.

6:00 Adjourned.



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# Free Press Sports

## Large Crowds Support Kansas State Baseball

MANHATTAN, Kan. - Kansas State scored six runs in the fifth inning to break a 1-1 tie as the Wildcats swept Texas Tech with a 12-2 run-rule victory Sunday afternoon at Tointon Family Stadium.

K-State ended a perfect 5-0 week with the win, improving to 23-10 overall and 6-3 in Big 12 play. The Wildcats have now swept Texas Tech at home in consecutive series and have won nine of their last 10 games against the Red Raiders. Kansas State improved to 19-5 at home this season.

Texas Tech fell to 17-17 overall and 4-8 in conference action.

In what was a pitcher's duel between K-State's Blake McFadden (3-1) and Texas Tech's Corey Taylor (2-4) over the first four innings, the Wildcats batted around in their six-run fifth to take a 7-1 lead. Blair DeBord put the Wildcats on top with a RBI single before Mitch Meyer ripped his third triple of the year into right-center field to make the score 3-1.

Tanner Witt added his team-leading seventh sacrifice fly of the year and Jared King, RJ Santigate and Jon Davis each registered two-out RBI singles to give K-State its six-run advantage.

The Wildcats rolled from there as they plated three in the seventh inning, including a two-out, two-run double by Austin Fisher. In the eighth, Shane Conlon hit his team-leading sixth home run of the year, a two-run shot to left field that ended the game by run rule.

Led by Conlon's 2-for-3, three-RBI performance, all nine Wildcats had a hit and eight drove in at least one run. Sunday's offensive output capped a weekend that saw K-State register 45 hits and score 33 runs, including a total of 15 two-out RBI.

"It was a good week of baseball for us," head coach Brad Hill said. "It was a good offensive weekend. Our nemesis has been trying to drive in runs. We did a much better job of that. We were very aggressive on the bases, which creates offense and better pitches for us to hit."

McFadden was solid in his first-career Big 12 start as the freshman allowed only one run while working around five hits and three walks in five innings of work. The only run to score off the right-hander came on a Tyler Neslony sacrifice fly in the second inning.

"Blake did a good job," Hill said of the Savannah, Mo., product. "He was throwing strikes. He had leadoff walks, but I thought he came back and avoided the big inning. He did not allow the big inning to happen, and that's what's important."

Texas Tech scored a run off Nate Williams in the seventh inning on a triple by Jake Barrios to pull the Red Raiders to within 7-2. Levi MaVorhis entered the game with runners on the corners and ended the threat without further damage before Jake Matthys tossed a scoreless eighth inning.

The four Wildcat pitchers forced Texas Tech to strand 13

runners, including six in scoring position. After allowing five runs on Friday night, the K-State pitching staff surrendered only four (three earned) run in the final two games of the series.

Conlon was one of five Wildcats to register two-hit games, joining Witt, Davis, Fisher and DeBord. Davis had two RBI as he was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded in the seventh inning along with his run-scoring single in the fifth. His hit-by-pitch was the 14th of the season, moving him into a tie for seventh place in K-State history.

Fisher, who drove in the game-winning run in the bottom of the ninth on Friday, produced his second two-RBI game of the series.

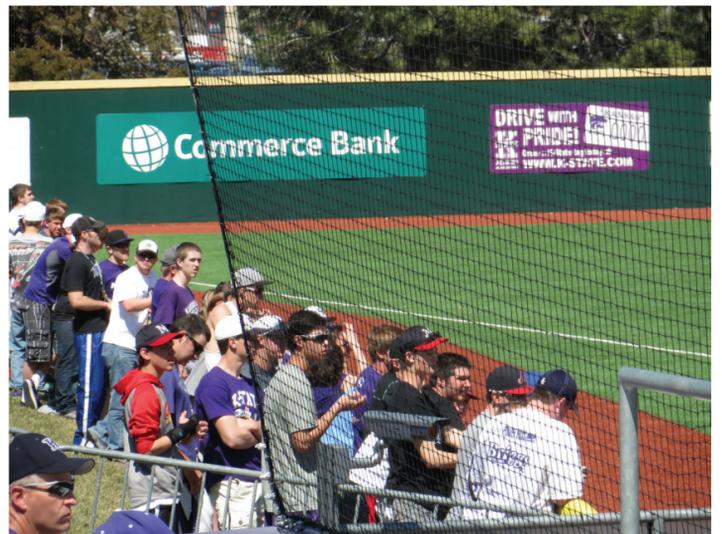
With Sunday's attendance of 1,240, Kansas State drew 7,056 fans to Tointon Family Stadium during the weekend, the fourth-highest series mark since the stadium was renovated prior to the 2002 season.

"The crowds were tremendous all weekend," Hill said. "It's too bad we're down to just seven games left at home. You hope people continue to come out these last seven games and support us."

Photos By Tonya Ricklefs



7,056 fans attended the Texas Tech Series at Tointon Family Stadium



## Fierce Cats Entertain Crowds at Bramlage

The Fierce Cats are the Special Needs Cheer Team hosted by the Kansas State Cheer Squad. If you qualify for the Special

Olympics, you qualify to participate with the Fierce Cats. The Fierce Cats performed at the Kansas City Event Center Satur-

day, April 6th. You can visit their community Facebook page and learn more.



The Fierce Cats perform at Halftime of the WNIT Game

## K-State to Play for Team USA at World University Games

MANHATTAN, Kan. - Kansas State Volleyball will be afforded a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity this summer as it has been selected to represent and compete for Team USA at the World University Games in Kazan, Russia.

The World University Games will be held July 6-17 and is an international multi-sport celebration of collegiate athletes organized by the International University Sports Federation (FISU). The games serve as an international sporting and cultural festival similar to the Olympics staged every two years in a different city around the world. Volleyball is one of the 12 mandatory sports for the World University Games or Universiade with a maximum of three optional sports chosen by the host city. Winter and Summer Games are both held similar to the Olympics as well.

"The opportunity to put on a USA uniform and represent your country is pretty rare in any sport. For USA Volleyball, you have to be playing for our

Olympic team," K-State Head Coach Suzie Fritz said. "There are some opportunities at the youth level and junior level to represent USA, but most of our athletes are never going to have that opportunity, so to be able to put USA on your back and go and compete against some of the world's greatest athletes is a pretty special thing."

K-State was one of a select few elite college volleyball programs contacted to represent Team USA by BTI Events, an organization overseeing the selection of participants.

"USA Volleyball is excited that Kansas State has agreed to represent the United States in the upcoming World University Games for women's indoor volleyball," said USA Volleyball CEO Doug Beal. "The World University Games is a prestigious event held every two years with some of the top rising athletes competing in our sport. Kansas State has been a perennially strong program led by an outstanding coach in Suzie Fritz who has

coaching experience within the USAV High Performance pipeline. We wish Kansas State the best at the event."

Opening ceremonies for the World University Games will be July 6, and K-State will play matches against Russia, Poland and Czech Republic during pool play.

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