



Vol. 22 Number 5

An Award Winning Weekly Newspaper

Thursday, July 4, 2013



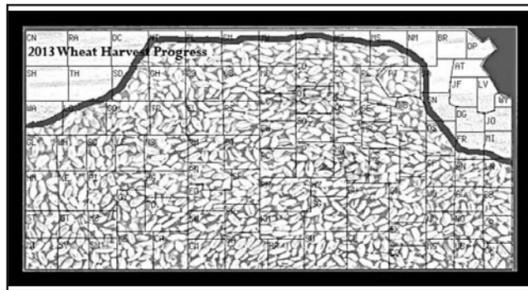
Wheat harvest is going strong in Riley, Clay, Washington and Marshall Counties. (Photo by Linda Brake)

Day 9 Of The Kansas Wheat Harvest Report

This is Day 9 of the 2013 Kansas Wheat Harvest Reports, brought to you by the Kansas City Board of Trade, the Kansas Grain & Feed Association, the Kansas Wheat Commission and Kansas Association of Wheat Growers.

With the Kansas Wheat harvest about 60% complete, a clearer picture of the crop quality and production throughout the state is starting to develop.

Ken Jameson, vice president of the grain division of Garden City Co-op says yields are poor in his trade area, with yields ranging from 5 to 40 bushels per acre and averaging about 20. Test weight has averaged 60 pounds per bushel and protein ranges from 12 to 14. The area's dryland wheat farmers were hit first by drought, then by freeze; irrigated wheat production will be far less than normal due to freeze damage this spring and late-season heat. The cooperative has 18 locations in southwest Kansas and will take in about 30% of a nor-



mal wheat crop, Jameson says.

Jerald Kemmerer, general manager of Pride Ag Resources in Dodge City, says harvest in the area is about three-quarters finished, but this is the third year in a row that yields have been disappointing. Yields range from single digits to 30 bushels per acre, averaging 25 bushels per acre. Test weight averages 58.5 pounds per bushel, and protein ranges from 10-13, with more wheat in the upper end of that spectrum.

Harvest is nearly finished in Pratt County, according to Jim

Bob Lewton, manager of the Kanza Co-op in Luka. Yields have been better than expected, averaging about 40 bushels per acre but ranging from 15 to 60. Protein is averaging 12%. Lewton says the 2013 harvest has been average overall.

Ted Schultz, manager with Team Marketing Alliance in Moundridge says wheat harvest in the TMA trade area is about 80% complete. This has been one of the best crops in his 30-year career, with yields ranging from 30 to 100 bushels per acre and averaging 60 throughout

the company's 49 locations in central Kansas. Test weight averages 60 pounds, with protein about 11, Schultz says.

Dell Princ, manager of Midway Co-op in Osborne, says harvest in the company's four-county trade area should be wrapping up by the end of the week. The crop is poor, with yields ranging from 15 to 30 bushels per acre, but protein averages 12.5 and test weights are near the 60-pound-per-bushel benchmark. Each of the company's 12 locations were impacted by drought and/or hailstorms, Princ says. Although farmers in the area planted near-record amounts of wheat last fall, he expects the company to take in just 75% of an average crop.

The 2013 Harvest Report is brought to you by the Kansas Wheat Commission, Kansas Association of Wheat Growers and sponsors Kansas City Board of Trade, and the Kansas Grain & Feed Association.

Kansas Road System Ranks Second

Kansas' state highway system is ranked the nation's second best in overall highway performance and efficiency in a report released today by the Reason Foundation.

The Annual Highway Report measures the condition and cost-effectiveness of state-owned roads in 11 categories, including pavement condition, deficient bridges, spending per mile and more.

"Kansas was able to achieve this performance while spending 24 percent less than the U.S. average in per-mile disbursements," the report states.

The report's rankings are based on data that states reported to the federal government for 2009, the most recent year with full spending statistics available. Kansas has consis-

tently scored well in the Reason report, having been ranked number three in the nation in both 2008 and 2007.

"Kansas make the connection between good roads and the safety and economic well-being of the state. They have long supported transportation improvements not only to highways, but to the entire transportation network that includes aviation, rail and transit," said Kansas Transportation Secretary Mike King.

The current transportation program T-WORKS, passed in 2010, is the state's third transportation program approved by Kansas legislators and governors since the late 1980s. In 2010, Kansas highways were ranked the nation's best in a report published in Reader's Digest magazine.

Puppets, Prizes Oh! Oh! My!

The Manhattan Public Library is offering four special events on Saturdays in July for kids and teens.

"We have lots of activities during the week, but for kids and parents who aren't available during the workday, we added some special programs on Saturdays," said Jennifer Adams, Manager of the Children's Department.

July 13 at 10:00 a.m. kids and teens are invited to a Yu-Gi-Oh tournament. Open to players of all ability levels, this Japanese Manga card game has been a huge hit with gaming enthusiasts. Players are asked to bring their own decks. If you do not have cards, some extras are usually available.

On July 13 at 2:00 p.m., kids in K-6th grade can be paleontologists for a day at the library's Paleontology Party. Participants will create their own dinosaurs, run dino egg relay races, and might even play some dinosaur bingo! Lots of projects, crafts, games, and prizes will be available for everyone.

July 20 at 2:00 p.m. The Clement McCrae Puppet

Show's "Puppets: Can You Dig It" performance will be the big finale for summer reading activities. Watch Otis, a small anthropologist and paleontologist, work with a big shovel to uncover a whole cast of characters in this lively, musical, entertaining, and educational show. Kids will learn that discovery is as close as their imagination.

July 27 from 5:30 - 9:00 p.m. will be the End of Summer Bash for teens in 7th - 12th grade. Celebrate your achievements, play games, and spend some quality time being loud at the library!

Don't forget: July 31 will be the last day to pick up summer reading prizes, so make sure to log your reading time and come to the library before the end of July!

For more information, visit Manhattan Public Library at 629 Poyntz Avenue, call (785) 776-4741, or visit the library's website at www.manhattan.lib.ks.us. Find Manhattan Public Library on Facebook, Pinterest, Twitter, and Foursquare.

Brownback: It's Not the Economy, Stupid

By Travis Perry
Kansas Watchdog

OSAWATOMIE — While the 2016 presidential horse race is still a few years off, its hard not to speculate whether Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback still has his eyes on the prize.

Especially after the kind of comments he made over the weekend.

More than six months after the 2012 presidential race was laid to rest, Brownback is still weighing-in on Mitt Romney's unsuccessful bid for the White House. According to the governor, it wasn't Romney's failure to secure the Hispanic vote or his famous "47 percent" comment that did him in.

It was his focus on the economy over social issues.

Brownback said continued opposition to matters like abortion and gay marriage, rather than addressing tax policy and fiscal matters, would have clinched an election victory for the GOP.

The Lawrence-Journal

World reports:

His comments were made in Little Rock, Ark., to a reporter for The Associated Press before Brownback spoke to about 500 people gathered for a fundrais-

er for the Arkansas Republican Party.

"You can't just talk all about economic terms," Brownback said. "You've got to talk about terms to the heart." He said of

Romney: "I think he would have been better off talking about the social issues more. (President Barack) Obama talked a lot about social issues. If people don't hear you talking about them, they don't think they're necessarily that important to you."

On abortion, Brownback said: "If you believe this is a life, how do you not fight for a life? If you make that determination that this is a life, this is a sacred life, you have to fight for it or what does that say about what you're willing to allow? Much of it transcends politics."

The general thought across Kansas is that Brownback's current plans — involving a massive shakeup in state revenues and attempts to shrink the size of Kansas government — are a prelude to another presidential bid in 2016. And with comments like this, it doesn't seem like much of a stretch.



Gov. Sam Brownback



Colton, age 3, who is excited to pick up his summer reading prize!

DICK EDWARDS
Manhattan, Kansas



SALES & SERVICE 785-776-4004 • TOLL FREE 800-257-4004

Fifteen Bureaucrats Are Better Than One

By Christina Sandefur
Goldwater Institute

Speaker of the House John Boehner (R-OH) and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) have announced that they will not recommend candidates to serve on the Independent Payment Advisory Board, the federal health care law's panel of 15 bureaucrats tasked with reducing Medicare costs. In a letter to the president explaining their decision, Boehner and McConnell said they "believe

Congress should repeal IPAB" and "hope establishing this board never becomes a reality."

The Board has vast power over the entire health care market to set price controls, levy taxes, and even ration care. In fact, it can propose anything its members determine is "related to the Medicare program." IPAB's proposals automatically become law unless Congress and the president quickly enact a substitute plan with an equal reduction in spending, and the

Board's decisions aren't subject to review by administrative judges or courts. To add insult to injury, the Board is virtually unrepeatable.

The Goldwater Institute is suing over the constitutionality of the Board, arguing that it is a violation of the Constitution's separation of powers doctrine. Lawmakers are right to call for its demise. But will refusing to recommend board members do the job?

No. While the president must seek recommendations from

Congress, the ultimate decision of whom to appoint to the Board is his. And there's no requirement that IPAB be bipartisan. So refusing to participate in the appointment process just gives President Obama more say in the Board's makeup.

Worse yet, stalling member appointments and confirmations may mean no one gets chosen for IPAB. To opponents of the Board, that may sound desirable. But as the Congressional Research

Service recently confirmed, if no one is selected to fill the board member slots, the Secretary of Health and Human Services will wield IPAB's powers unilaterally.

While lawmakers should work to repeal IPAB, washing

their hands of the appointment process is a step in the wrong direction. When it comes to making health care decisions, the only thing worse than 15 unelected, unaccountable bureaucrats is one unelected, unaccountable bureaucrat.

Director Selected For Leadership Institute

TOPEKA, Kan.— Secretary Robert Moser, MD, announced today that Susan Mosier, MD, Kansas Director of Medicaid Services at the Kansas Department of Health Environment (KDHE), is one of seven Medicaid directors chosen nationally to participate in the Medicaid Leadership

Institute. The Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS) directs this initiative, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), to build the capacity of Medicaid directors to transform their programs into national models for accessible, cost-effective care.

"This is a tremendous

opportunity for Susan and for the State of Kansas Medicaid program," said Dr. Moser. "Susan has been instrumental in the planning and performance of our new Medicaid system, KanCare, an innovative approach to delivering whole-person, integrated care for our state's 370,000 beneficiaries. Her fellowship in the Medicaid Leadership Institute speaks volumes of her commitment to excellence in public administration."

Dr. Mosier was competitively selected to participate in the executive leadership development program along with six additional Medicaid directors: Justin Senior, Florida; Lawrence Kissner, Kentucky; Stephen Fitton, Michigan; Carol Backstrom, Minnesota; Mark Larson, Vermont; and Brett Davis, Wisconsin.

"The quality of leadership provided by state Medicaid directors is increasingly important," said John Lumpkin, MD, vice president and health care group director at RWJF. "Our investment in the professional development of these state officials recognizes the growing role they play in guiding the health care of millions of Americans."

The 2014 class of the Medicaid Leadership Institute is the fifth group of Medicaid directors chosen for this presti-

gious executive training program. Since 2009, directors from 22 states serving nearly 39 million beneficiaries — nearly 64 percent of the nation's Medicaid population — have participated in the year-long curriculum. The program is managed by CHCS and directed by Carolyn Ingram, senior vice president at CHCS and former New Mexico Medicaid director.

"Each of these seven Medicaid directors is essentially the CEO of one of the largest health insurers in his or her state. We are excited to work with these executives and their senior management teams to maximize the value of their programs for millions of beneficiaries," said Ms. Ingram. "Susan and the other Medicaid directors chosen bring a diverse array of experiences to the Institute and will spur each other to take full advantage of opportunities to transform the nation's health care safety net."

The 12-month Institute is designed to enhance the strategic thinking, substantive knowledge, individual leadership, and technical skills that directors need to effectively lead and foster innovation in their state Medicaid programs. For more information about the Medicaid Leadership Institute, visit www.medicaidleaders.org.

Wichita councilman: Support Lacking For \$60M Gun Exemption

By Travis Perry
Kansas Watchdog

OSAWATOMIE — In the eyes of Wichita City Councilman Jeff Longwell, there are plenty of ways the state's largest municipality could spend \$60 million over the next four years.

But evading Kansas' new concealed carry law, he said, should not be one of them.

Last week members of the Wichita City Council voted 5-2 to request a six-month exemption from HB 2052, which allows law-abiding citizens to carry concealed firearms in many government buildings. As of Thursday, Wichita is just one of 186 government entities to make such a request.

Local governments can opt out — for a price. In exchange for the temporary six month exemption, public entities will be required to furnish "ade-

quate security measures," such as metal detectors and armed guards. The cost for Wichita to pursue such an endeavor has been estimated at as much as \$14.5 million annually.

Despite the majority decision to seek the temporary exemption — which paves the way for the city to request a four-year extension — Longwell said after talking with fellow council members following the initial vote he doesn't think there's strong support for stretching city finances to pay for the extra security.

"I can tell you there's not support to find \$14.5 million (annually) for that level of security in our city when I'm not sure it even accomplishes much," Longwell said. "I think the reality is if we were going to spend \$14.5 million for public safety, lets put it where we can do some proactive good."

Art Holtman

Arthur Edward "Art" Holtman was born January 26, 1919, at Walsburg, Kansas, the son of Andrew Cornelius and Ida Wilhelmina (Nelson) Holtman. He passed away June 27, 2013, at Mercy Regional Health Center in Manhattan.

He was baptized and confirmed in the Walsburg Lutheran Church near Leonardville. His early schooling was at Lee, a one room country school and he graduated from Leonardville Rural High School in 1936.

Following high school, Art taught in the country schools of Walsburg and Cleburne, Kansas. In 1939, he began working for the Farmers Union CO-OP Elevator in Manhattan. On February 24, 1941, he, along with 56 other youth, was in the first draft out of Riley County in World War II. This was 10 months before Pearl Harbor and was to be for one year military training. It was called "Selective Service"

because they supposedly had been "Selected". After Pearl Harbor the term of service was changed to "duration plus six months". He was discharged in October 1945 after attaining the rank of Tech Sergeant. He served in the Airborne Forces in the European Theatre. He earned three campaign ribbons and the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service.

After discharge, he returned to Manhattan and worked for City Investment Company, a local finance company. In 1952 he became business manager of Nelson Clinic, a group of nine local medical doctors. He was the first administrator of College Hill Skilled Nursing Center. In 1970, he went to work at the old Memorial Hospital as accountant and Assistant Administrator, retiring in 1982.

Art was a member of First Lutheran Church in Manhattan. He served on the church council three different times as well

as on other church committees and was church treasurer for 14 years. He was also a member of the American Legion Post #17, the Manhattan Lions Club, and was a charter member of the World War II Memorial Association.

He was united in marriage to Betty Linquist on July 18, 1948 at Swedesburg Lutheran Church north of Clay Center, Kansas. She preceded him in death on January 6, 1977. He later married Jean Tannehill on June 10, 1978 in Manhattan. She survives of the home.

Additional survivors include one son, Michael Holtman and his wife Lynn of Belvue, KS, one daughter Gail Putman and her husband Michael of Phoenix, AZ; one sister, Marie Renz of Manhattan; two step-daughters: Shelisa Mueller and her husband Jim of Wamego, KS, and Lenka Peil and her husband Brian of Manhattan; three grandchildren, six step-grandchildren, one step great-

grandson, and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held at 10:00 A.M. Tuesday, July 2nd, at the First Lutheran Church in Manhattan with Reverend Dr. Keith Wiens officiating. Interment with military honors followed in the Sunrise Cemetery in Manhattan.

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

Memorial contributions may be made to Camp Tomah Shinga. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, KS 66502.



MANHATTAN SHOE REPAIR

REPAIRING:

- Shoes
- Luggage
- Backpacks
- Boots
- Purses
- Leather Coats
- Birkenstocks

Hours: 8-5:30 Monday-Friday /

GARY E. GORDON
776-1193 Local
1-800-776-1193

216 S. 4th St.
Manhattan, KS
66502-6003

*Proudly Serving The Manhattan Area
With Over 10 Years Experience*

De Hart Plumbing

Plumbing • Sewer Cleaning • Drain Cleaning
Water Heater Repair & Installation • Excavation
Leak Detection & Much More • Licensed Master Plumber



Military & Senior Discounts

Ask About Our Annual Maintenance Check-Ups

785-341-4193

Landmark
SELF STORAGE

(785)313-7777

Now offering UHAUL trucks and trailers
View rates and pay on line at Emove.com
Next to Manhattan Airport- www.landmark-self-storage.com

2749 Eureka Terr. Manhattan, Ks 66503





PIZZA SHUTTLE DELIVERS

776-5577

Limited Delivery Area
1800 Claflin Road - FirstBank Center

Robert Osborne

Robert C. Osborne, age 73, a longtime Manhattan resident, died June 20, 2013, at his residence in Fountain, Colorado.

He was born September 25, 1939, in Spencer, North Carolina, the son of Charles R. and Merley (Safley) Osborne.

Mr. Osborne joined the United States Army following his high school graduation. He served honorably for 20 years and retired in 1979 at the rank of Sergeant First Class. He had received six Good Conduct medals, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for Korea. Following his discharge he worked for six months for Mobil Travelers in Junction City, then as a security guard at Kansas Farm Bureau, and his last job was a bus driver for the Manhattan

schools.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing, horses, and spending time outdoors. Once his grandsons were born they became his passion.

On December 16, 1960, in West Columbia, South Carolina, he was married to Frances E. Brown. Mrs. Osborne preceded him in death on December 16, 1999, their 39th wedding anniversary. He was also preceded in death by one son Robert H. "Bobby" Osborne on Aug. 6, 2005, and by one sister Lucille Robertson.

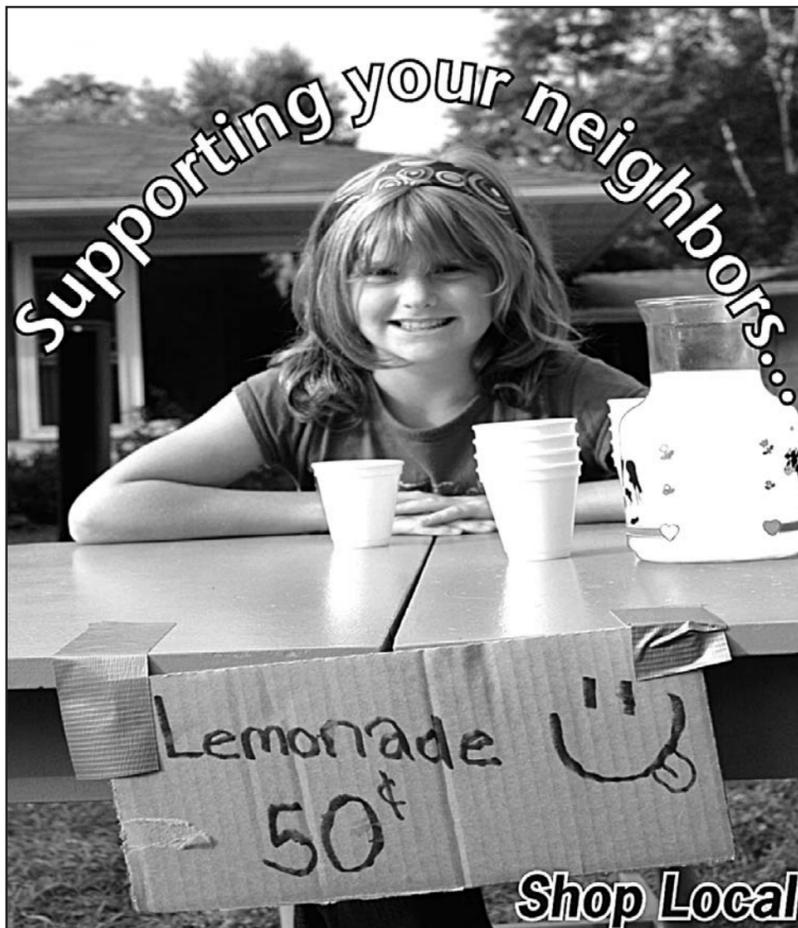
Survivors include one son James V. Osborne and his wife Angie of Fountain, CO; four grandsons, Jimmy, Andy, Joey and Adam; and three sisters: Juanita Guessfore of Spencer, NC, Blanche Misenheimer of Salisbury, NC, and Frances

Ennis of Conover, NC.

Graveside services with full military honors will be held at 11:00 A.M. Friday, July 5th, at the Valley View Memorial Gardens Cemetery with Reverend Ben Duerfeldt officiating. Family and friends are invited to meet at 10:00 A.M. Friday at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home to form a procession to the cemetery.

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

Memorial contributions may be made to the Canine for Companions for Independence of Colorado Springs, CO. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, KS 66502.



Topeka Mansion Engulfed In Legal Fight

By DONALD BRADLEY
TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Thinking about buying a house in this capital city?

Got just the thing. Three-story, all brick, 11,000 square feet, gated front, white columns, 10-foot walls in the basement. Up top is a domed cupola to look out over 40 acres — you might even see Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback's house just down the road.

You could be Gatsby of the plains.

What? Sounds too pricey?

Maybe not. In recent months, this new mansion on Southwest Urish Road has been valued at close to \$2 million on the high end, then down to worthless and finally all the way to a negative \$130,000.

So we've got some wiggle room here.

But first there's this lawsuit that needs to be resolved. A clerk in the sub-basement of the Shawnee County Courthouse in Topeka needed both hands to lug the case file to the records window one day last week. She hefted it up on the counter like she was buck-

ing a bale of hay.

"You want all of it?" she asked. "There's more."

No one has ever lived in this five-bedroom, 6 1/2-bath house. Maybe no one ever will. Located on a blacktop a mile or so southwest of Topeka, it could stand for years as a monument to anger, indulgence and extravagance unleashed. Built with inheritance money, the house has a slide so kids can zip from the top to lower levels — or could, if they could get inside.

The owners are currently living in an old, small, white bungalow that suggests more Atticus Finch than Jay Gatsby. It sits directly in front of their unfinished mansion.

Here's another twist: Homeowners often appeal the appraised value of their property to their county. In this case, Shawnee County did the appealing.

"It's a big mess is what it is," a neighbor said. "Out here we call it the Taj Mahal."

She shook her head.

"Such a waste of time and money. How something so

beautiful could turn so ugly."

The legal fight pits builder Randy Lilley and his wife, Regina Lilley, the plaintiffs, against the Topeka couple who contracted them to build the home, Daniel Jr. and Peggy Bailey.

At one time, the Baileys were delinquent on paying taxes not just on that house, but also on other properties they own. They are now current, Shawnee County officials say.

Federal records show that Daniel Bailey filed for bankruptcy in 1996. In 2004, he was sued by the city of Topeka for an unpaid \$82.66 water bill.

Then Peggy Bailey inherited money from her grandmother.

"I have three kids, and most of their friends come to my house to hang out," she answered in a deposition when asked why she and her husband built such a large house. "The bigger they get, the more room they take up."

Lilley said in his deposition that he told Daniel Bailey he needed to be sure the couple had that kind of money before

he proceeded.

"He told me he could afford to build that house three times over," Lilley said.

Lilley alleges in his lawsuit that the Baileys fell behind more than \$336,000 in agreed-upon monthly installments during construction, which began in August 2009. Lilley petitioned to foreclose, saying the Baileys' failure to pay rendered him unable to pay subcontractors, thus damaging his professional reputation.

In response, the Baileys contend in documents that Lilley botched the job, partly because he'd never built a house that size. They say he used defective and substandard materials. They also accuse Lilley of fraudulently misrepresenting the cost of construction and of not fixing problems such as leaks, wavy drywall and improperly installed support columns.

They further allege improper window installation, warped trusses in the garage, missing hardware, leaky pipe fittings, poorly constructed stairs and more.

In response to the response, Lilley said some of those issues arose because of a work stoppage caused when the Baileys locked him and his workers out of the house. Some materials were not delivered because the Baileys stopped paying, Lilley alleges in documents.

According to Shawnee County Appraiser Mark Hixon, the house, when completed, would be valued at roughly \$2 million. In 2011, when it first hit the tax rolls mid-construction, it was appraised at roughly \$1.4 million, meaning a tax bill of \$20,376.

Last year, with the legal battle in high gear, the county lowered the appraised value to \$565,860 — a tax bill of \$8,200.

The Baileys protested to the Kansas Court of Tax Appeals. They submitted a report by an engineer who concluded the problems were so extensive that the house needed to be torn down and rebuilt.

The Baileys put the value of the house at negative \$130,000 — the cost of razing.

Carl Edwards, a tax court hearing officer, agreed with the Baileys and the engineer's report. Edwards put the value of the house at \$0.

"We weren't qualified to challenge an engineer's report," Hixon said last week. "But then I got an email from someone saying the builder had an engineering report too."

The second report acknowledged problems with the house, but nothing necessitating tearing it down.

"Let's appeal this (Edwards' decision)," County Counselor Rich Eckert told Hixon.

On June 7, a panel of Court of Tax Appeals judges reversed Edwards and restored the earlier appraised value of \$565,860.

"And right now we're on hold," Hixon said. "I don't think anybody knows what's going to happen to this place."

But probably nothing until the lawsuit is resolved.

"We'll pass," Peggy Bailey said last week in her yard when

asked for a comment for this story.

Over the years, the Baileys had been involved in several businesses in the Topeka area, including a family-owned recycling and scrap metal operation. Daniel Bailey also sold real estate. Peggy Bailey, who said in a deposition that her college career consisted of a few early childhood classes, worked as a manager of an investment company.

The two married in 1988 and have three children. When they decided to build a new house, they contacted Lilley, a builder Daniel Bailey knew from selling real estate around Topeka.

Peggy Bailey's grandmother, who headed a family trust, had died in 2008. Peggy Bailey said in a deposition that she was a 25 percent beneficiary of the trust.

"If you requested a distribution, it would be given to you?" an attorney asked her.

"Probably," she answered.

She told attorneys she got \$1.3 million and put it in a bank to satisfy Lilley's demand that the money be in place.

During his deposition, Daniel Bailey was asked whether he'd told Lilley he could afford to pay for the house three times over.

"It's possible," Bailey answered.

On Aug. 21, 2009, the Baileys and Lilley signed a construction contract. Fourteen months later, Lilley filed his suit to foreclose on the property.

Today, weeds rise in the gravel lane that winds a few hundred feet to the big house in a field. People may live there someday. They may throw grand parties, and kids may squeal with joy as they ride the slide from the top floor.

But for now, the empty mansion sits alone and quiet.

"People sometimes ask why there is a hotel in that field over there," the neighbor said.

"Anymore I just say, 'I don't know.'"

Gun Law Dodgers Scarlet Letter

By Travis Perry
Kansas Watchdog

OSAWATOMIE — Call it a public notice, a warning sign or a mark of shame: from here on out, Kansans will know for sure when they enter a public building that has sidestepped the state's latest firearm law.

One of the most hotly-debated pieces of legislation to come out of the 2013 legislative session, HB 2052 permits the concealed carry of handguns in public buildings — provided your local government hasn't

opted out, that is. Since Gov. Sam Brownback signed the bill into law earlier this year, government entities across the state have been wrestling with the matter, and whether to pursue a six-month exemption before the bill goes into effect July 1.

Wednesday morning, Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt unveiled new requirements for Kansas municipalities that request the exemption in the form of a modified "no guns" sign to be posted at building entrances. The sign

features the standard symbol for prohibiting firearms with the accompanying text:

On and after July 1, 2013, all persons licensed to carry concealed handguns under the personal and family protection act are prohibited from carrying concealed handguns within this state or municipal building because either a temporary exemption or adequate security measures are in place pursuant to 2013 Senate Sub. for House Bill 2052.

According to a news release,

the old gun prohibition signs, which have been in use for years, may still be used on locations other than state or municipal buildings, but they no longer will have any legal effect on state or municipal buildings on and after July 1.

We've put in a request for a list of all the government entities that have sought a six-month exemption. One you can be sure it at the top is the City of Wichita, which may drop as much as \$60 million to prohibit firearms from public buildings for a further four years.

Abortion Restrictions On Hold

By JOHN HANNA
Associated Press

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — A Kansas judge on Friday temporarily blocked a new abortion restriction that providers said would make it nearly impossible for a woman to obtain the procedure in an emergency and another requiring them to tell women that disputed assertions about fetal development and abortions are accurate and objective.

Shawnee County District Judge Rebecca Crotty refused to block other portions of the law that ban sex-selection abortions, block tax breaks for abortion providers and prohibits

them from furnishing materials or instructors for public schools' sexuality courses. There is also a requirement for doctors to provide information to patients that includes a statement that abortion ends the life of "whole, separate, unique, living human being."

The judge ruled in a lawsuit filed by Dr. Herbert Hodes and his daughter, Dr. Traci Nausner, who perform abortions at their Overland Park health center. They asked Crotty to prevent the state from enforcing the entire law while their lawsuit proceeds.

One blocked provision

requires providers to declare on their websites that the state health department's information on abortions and fetal development is accurate and objective. Among other things, that information asserts that a fetus can feel pain after 20 weeks, although the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists has said it knows of no legitimate evidence showing that's accurate.

Another blocked provision redefines medical emergencies. The intention was to bring the definition in line with the state's general policy of not including mental health as a

reason for a woman to obtain an emergency abortion. Critics of the provision have said the new definition is so narrow that a woman never would be able to avoid the state's 24-hour waiting period, even if her life were in danger.

Hodes called the ruling a "victory for women in Kansas." One of his attorneys, Teresa Woody, of Kansas City, Mo., said Crotty's order stops enforcement of what the doctors saw as the two most troublesome provisions in the law "because of their immediate impact on their ability to treat patients."

39⁹⁵ **The Works**

Motorcraft oil and filter change, rotate and inspect four tires, inspect brake system, test battery, check air and cabin filters, check belts and hoses. Top off all fluids.

Offer valid with coupon. Taxes extra. Expires 60 days from 6-13-13.

Dick Edwards Ford Lincoln Mercury
7929 E. Highway 24, Manhattan, 785-776-4004

MEMBER FDIC | EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Solutions for YOU!

Personal and Business Solutions

Online Banking including Online Bill Payment

Mobile Banking with apps for Android™ and iPhone®

Convenient ATMs

Now offering online account opening!

ksstatebank.com



Westloop | Aggieville | Downtown | Highway 24 | Junction City | 785-587-4000

Over Easy...

Bernie Hayen, the city's affable finance director, describes June's sales tax revenue as "nothing to be disappointed about." Manhattan's first six months revenue totaling \$5.13 million is down about 4% from last year. And June's \$835 thousand is off about seven grand. So what are we to make of Mr. Hayen's optimism?



Bob Strawn
Former Manhattan Mayor

To start with the current city budget calls for around \$15 million in sales tax revenue or a little over 12% of the city's needs for the year. That compares to about \$20 million in property taxes - 16% of the projected revenue. The remaining 72% comes from services like your water and sewage bill and other revenue streams including fines, licenses, permits and the like.

In Lawrence the tax revenues flip. We like to compare ourselves to the downriver university town because, well, we're much more alike than either of us would care to admit. Their property taxes generate less than 15% of the city budget while sales taxes yield 18%. The latter being 50% more on a relative basis than Manhattan, and one reason why Lawrence's property tax levy is 47% below ours. The same valued real estate in Lawrence pays about half the city property tax as here with a mill levy of 29.5 compared to Manhattan's 43.4. That's good reason to support economic development activities that enhance sales tax collections.

Now, there's always been a big argument about sales versus property tax. Which is fairer? Sales taxes are often described as being "regressive," meaning the rate is applied uniformly and thus the tax takes a higher percentage of a poor person's total income than the rich guy's. Of course the same might be said about property taxes. That rate is also applied evenly. But the taxpayer, rich or poor, has no choice in the matter. At least with sales tax, we can refuse to buy something thereby avoiding the tax completely. But with property, it's either pay it or lose it. So, if they say sales taxes are regressive, we conclude that property taxes are nothing less than tyrannical.

Anyway, much of Manhattan's tax revenue, sales and property, goes to pay down

bonds floated by the city to condemn, acquire and improve land now occupied by Best Buy, Hy-Vee, the Flint Hills Discovery Center, and such in the north and south redevelopment areas. And since most all the tax collected in those areas goes to make those bond payments, the development is currently yielding little to the ordinary citizen, rich or poor, beyond a place to shop.

We also believe now that Fort Riley's sequester effects and future downsizing is and will continue to damper sales tax collections here in Manhattan and thus pressure local governments to increase property taxes over time. The fort will lose a brigade reducing its military presence here from 18,000 soldiers to about 15,500. We hesitate to guess the effect that will have on civilian jobs. At the same time, Kansas State University is constrained primarily due to budgetary choices made in Topeka. President Kirk Shultz has suggested the university may have to cap future enrollments. Yikes!

So the good-natured Mr. Hayen may see little cause for alarm but our view is different. We, therefore, encourage our community to continue its strong support for the NBAF to insure economic growth. We ask our commissioners to find ways to allocate available tax revenues more wisely, for example apply more hotel bed tax revenue to Discovery Center expenses. And all of us should guard against trendy expenditures, like the Fieldhouse Project, that would only serve to balloon an already onerous mill levy on business and residential properties.

Happy Independence Day!

Classifieds...

Help Wanted
Anthony, Kansas is seeking Water/Wastewater Operator. High School Diploma/GED and valid driver's license required. Applications and complete job description: www.anthonyskansas.org. 620-842-5434. EOE. Open until filled.

Help Wanted
Partners In Excellence OTR Drivers APU Equipped Pre-Pass EZ-pass passenger policy. 2012 & Newer equipment. 100% NO touch. Butler Transport 1-800-528-7825

Help Wanted/Truck Driver
Drivers: Training, Class A-CDL. Train and work for us! Professional and focused training for your Class A-CDL. You choose between Company Driver, Owner Operator, Lease Operator or Lease Trainer. (877) 369-7885 www.central-truckingdrivingjobs.com

Help Wanted/Truck Driver
Exp. Flatbed Drivers: Regional opportunities now

open with plenty of freight & great pay! 800-277-0212 or primeinc.com

Help Wanted/Truck Driver
NEED CLASS A CDL TRAINING? Start a CAREER in trucking today! Swift Academies offer PTDI certified courses and offer Best-In-Class training. New Academy Classes Weekly No Money Down or Credit Check Certified Mentors Ready and Available Paid (While Training With Mentor) Regional and Dedicated Opportunities Great Career Path Excellent Benefits Package Please Call: (602) 714-9455

Misc. For Sale
Special Gov't Programs for Mobile Homes \$0 Down for Land Owners. FREE Construction Loans. Basements, Garages, Storm Shelters, etc. Used Homes \$19,900-\$69,900. All Credit Types Accepted. Habla Espanol! 866-858-6862

The Conservative Side...



The Quality You Want

AGRICULTURE | EQUESTRIAN | GARAGE | COMMERCIAL

With a Price That Fits Your Budget

Whether you're in the market for a storage building, horse barn or farm shop, Morton Buildings can construct a building that meets your needs without breaking your budget.

Eight offices serving Kansas
800-447-7436
mortonbuildings.com

MORTON BUILDINGS

©2012 Morton Buildings, Inc. Morton Buildings is a registered trademark of Morton Buildings, Inc. All rights reserved. A listing of GC licenses available at mortonbuildings.com/licenses.aspx. REF CODE 043.

800-447-7436 • mortonbuildings.com

PUBLISHED WEEKLY EVERY THURSDAY

Manhattan Free Press

Jon A. and Linda L. Brake, Publishers

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 1191, Manhattan, Ks 66505

E-Mail:
jonbrake@kansas.net or freepress@kansas.net

785-537-8953

Kansas Press Association

AP

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

Waterville Golf Course

Public Welcome - 9 hole grass green course.

Green Fees are \$15.00 a day, plus cart rental fees are posted.

The clubhouse is available to rent. Member cost is \$30.00, Guest cost is \$50.00. There is a required deposit of \$50.00 for all renters.

Memberships:
\$325 single membership,
\$375 family membership.
Monthly bank draft available
Call Terry Roepke
at 785-363-2224

Courthouse News

Manhattan Free Press

Thursday, July 4, 2013

5A



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 June 10, 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; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Cindy Volanti, Human Resource Manager /Deputy Clerk; Doug Messer, Ashland Township Trustee; Jurina Watts, League of Women Voters; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

Messer, Ashland Township Trustee, stated Riley County provides road maintenance for Ashland Township. Messer stated several times in Ashland Township there have been opportunities to blade the gravel roads when there was moisture on the roads. Messer stated the roads were not bladed. Messer said when Riley County uses crews for asphalt work other jobs are not being done. Messer asked the Board to consider this when discussing jobs Public Works' should contract out.

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Personnel Action Form for GeorgeAnn White, a rehire, as an On Call As Needed Assistant, in the County Museum Department, at a step 3, at \$10.04 per hour.

Wells discussed the letter from Don Hanson regarding W. 69th Avenue road maintenance.

Boyd moved to approve an Authority to Award Contract

Commitment of County Funds with KDOT for Leavenworth Excavating & Equipment Co. Inc. and Affiliate for grading and bridge work, Project Number 81 C-0314-01 Winkler Mills guardrail. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Boyd moved to approve the minutes of June 6, 2013 as amended. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

9:00 Rich Vargo, County Clerk

Clancy Holeman, Counselor /Director of Administrative Services; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Jurina Watts, League of Women Voters; Gary Stith, Flint Hills Regional Council Interim Executive Director; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

Vargo presented year to date budget and expenditure reports.

9:12 Gary Stith, Flint Hills Regional Council Interim Executive Director

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Jurina Watts, League of Women Voters; Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury; Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

Stith discussed the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Stith discussed the Flint Hills Regional Council projects.

9:30 Press Conference

Doug Schmitt, Assistant Fire Chief; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Jurina Watts, League of Women Voters; Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

Schmitt said the deadline to purchase a retail fireworks permit for the unincorporated areas of Riley County is fast approaching.

Schmitt said a permit is required to sell fireworks in the unincorporated areas of Riley County. An organization, busi-

ness or person by statute must complete an application for the permit by June 25th. Due to the 25th falling on a Saturday this year, we are allowing an extra two days this year. The permit and associated fee must be submitted by 5:00 p.m., June 27th. The cost for the permit is \$25.00 and is not refundable. Sales of fireworks are allowed in Riley County from 8:00 a.m. July 1st through midnight July 4th.

Schmitt said the permit can be obtained at the Riley County Fire District #1 Office, 115 N. 4th Street Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

Rosewicz said a public meeting will be held Wednesday, June 12, 2013, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Ashland Community Center located at 2901 W. 32nd Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas to discuss improvements to the northern three miles of McDowell Creek Road.

Rosewicz said Riley County is in the process of designing the reconstruction of McDowell Creek Road from K-177 south to approximately the intersection of McDowell Creek Spur.

Rosewicz said representatives from Olsson and Associates and Riley County will be available to receive comments, gather information and input, from residents, landowners, and the traveling public.

Rosewicz said if there are questions concerning this project, contact the Riley County Public Works Department, at 6215 Tuttle Creek Blvd., Manhattan, Kansas or call 537-6330.

Shepek discussed the 2014 Riley County budget process.

Vargo reported advanced voting for the USD 378 Special Election closes today at 12:00 (noon).

Vargo said the polls will be open tomorrow from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

10:10 Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer

Jurina Watts, League of Women Voters; Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury; Eileen King, Treasurer; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

Shepek presented and reviewed the 2014 Budget Development Worksheet.

10:25 Eileen King, Treasurer Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Jurina Watts, League of Women Voters; Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

King presented monthly revenue reports.

10:50 Bob Boyd left the meeting.

11:00 Cheryl Collins, Museum Director

Edna and Kay Williams, attended.

C. Collins said the Manhattan/Riley County Preservation Alliance was pleased to present the Exemplary Service to Historic Preservation Award May 9, 2013 to Edna Williams, in appreciation of her more than 50 years of service and dedication to historic preservation.

C. Collins presented the Historical Museum staff update.

1:15 Bob Boyd attended the meeting.

1:15 2014 Budget Requests/2014 Appropriation Requests

1:15 Cheryl Collins, Museum Director

Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

C. Collins presented the 2014 Museum budget request.

1:18 Robert Nall, IT/GIS Director

Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Cindy Volanti, Human Resource Manager/Deputy Clerk; Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

Nall presented the 2014 IT/GIS Department budget request.

Nall requested a full-time Administrative Assistant staff position \$51,158.64 and a GIS

intern staff position \$11,740.00 total cost of \$62,898.64.

Volanti stated the Administrative Assistant may be a lower grade if no technical knowledge is required.

1:31 Eileen King, Treasurer

Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury; Cindy Volanti, Human Resource Manager/Deputy Clerk; Shilo Heger, Tax & Accounting Supervisor/Deputy Treasurer; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

King presented the 2014 Treasurer's Office budget request.

1:44 Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director

Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

P. Collins presented the 2014 Emergency Management, and 911 budget requests.

1:58 Larry Couchman, EMS Director

Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; and Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury, attended.

Couchman presented the 2014 Ambulance budget request.

2:30 Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer

Paul Benne, Michael Cates - Riley County Public Health Council; Linda Redding, Nursing Supervisor; Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Lisa Ross, WIC Supervisor; Jan Scheideman, Child Care Facilitator; Breva Spencer, Child Care Surveyor; and Maura Wery, Manhattan Mercury, attended.

Shepek presented the 2014 Health Department budget request.

3:24 Boyd moved to adjourn. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

39⁹⁵ The Works

Motorcraft oil and filter change, rotate and inspect four tires, inspect brake system, test battery, check air and cabin filters, check belts and hoses. Top off all fluids.

Offer valid with coupon. Taxes extra. Expires 60 days from 7-6-13.

Dick Edwards Ford Lincoln Mercury
7929 E. Highway 24, Manhattan, 785-776-4004

If you like the Free Press please tell these Advertisers

Blue Ribbon Carpet Cleaning
Manhattan - 785-320-7295
Topeka - 785-246-5175
info@blueribbon-cc.com
www.blueribbon-cc.com
Veteran Owned and Operated

Schram Chrysler Dodge Jeep, Inc

3100 Anderson Avenue
Manhattan, Ks 66503
Phone (785) 537-0357
Ffax (785) 537-9494

chase@schramcars.com
www.schramcars.com

The Paint Bucket

Jim Lumb
Owner

618 Fort Riley Blvd.
Manhattan, KS 66502

Phone: 785.776.9740
Fax: 785.776.9227

Email: jim@thepaintbucket.biz
http://thepaintbucket.biz

Pat's Pawn & Gun Shop Inc

785-539-0151 506 Riley St. Ogden, KS 66517

GUNS

Colt • Ruger • Kimber • H & K
FNH • Sig Sauer • Glock • Springfield
Smith & Wesson • Mossberg

Handguns • Rifles • Shotguns
Military Surplus • Ammo • Jewelry

OPEN:
Mon-Fri 9am-6pm
Sat 9am-5pm

Buy Sell Trade

KCAT Tree Service, LLC

- TREE REMOVAL AND TRIMMING
- REASONABLE RATES
- FREE ESTIMATES
- INSURED

Ken Honig 785-305-0295

Furniture Repair Shop and Refinish

Chair Caning
Trunk & Furniture
Restoration

8083 East Hwy 24
Manhattan, KS
785-539-3116

328 Poyntz Avenue
P.O. Box 874
Manhattan, KS 66502

Fred E. Schurle
(785) 539-8982

Fax (785) 539-8983
1-800-657-2532

Hometown Pride at Discount Prices!

Now Leasing 1-4 Bedrooms

DIAMOND

REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT

CALL 537-7701

http://www.dremmanhattan.com/

DO YOU NEED TO GET AROUND TOWN?
CALL THE aTa Bus TODAY!

537-6345

aTa
GENERAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
FOR THE MANHATTAN-RILEY COUNTY AREA

This Project Funded in Part by the KDOT Public Transit Program

Car Clinic, Inc.

"We care about you and your car"

- Tune ups, electrical repairs
- Heater & A/C service
- Computer engine analysis
- Transmission service

• Mon.-Fri. 7:30 am to 5:30 pm

209 Sarber Ln 539-1040

GRIFFITH LUMBER & HARDWARE
SERVING MANHATTAN SINCE 1919

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

776-4104
820 LEVEE DRIVE
MANHATTAN, KS

LOCAL FREE DELIVERY

EVERYTHING FOR YOUR HOME

- CABINETS
- DOORS
- ELECTRICAL
- HARDWARE
- INSULATION
- KITCHEN & BATH
- LUMBER
- PAINT
- PLUMBING
- PLYWOOD
- SIDING
- TOOLS
- WALLPAPER
- WINDOWS

COME TO
THE DARK SIDE

Window Tinting
30 years experience

785-532-9647

2049 Ft. Riley Blvd., Manhattan, Jim Rose

As America Has Changed The Flag Has Changed

By Stephanie Murray
Kansas State University

MANHATTAN — The American flag is a common sight across the country on the Fourth of July, and a Kansas State University textiles expert said just as our country has evolved since 1776, so has Old Glory.

According to Barbara Gatewood, professor emerita of textile science in the university's College of Human Ecology, the American flag has changed considerably throughout the country's history, from the kinds of materials and colorants used in its construction, to the number and ways the iconic stars and stripes are arranged on the flag.

"Early American flags were made from wool, cotton, linen or silk, depending on the availability of materials and the intended use," Gatewood said.

A combination of these materials also was used some-

times. A wool bunting fabric, which was produced in England, was the material of choice for early American flags, she said. This material was favored over cotton, which faded more quickly and didn't unfurl as well in the wind. However, many early American homemade flags were cotton because it was readily available. Linen was a less favorable material, although it was often used to make the stars or to sew flags because of its strength.

"Flags made from silk were more expensive, and thus were used in flags for military purposes and special occasions," Gatewood said.

In 1865, President Lincoln signed a law requiring that the federal government purchase flag bunting only from American manufacturers, which put an end to the use of the popular English-produced wool bunting material in gov-

ernment flags

The first synthetic dye, Perkin's mauve, was not developed until 1856, so early Americans used natural dyes to create the flag's famous red stripes and blue canton, Gatewood said.

"Undyed and sometimes bleached fabrics were used for the white portions of the flag," she said. "The red dye was usually obtained from the root of the madder plant, which, ironically, was also used to produce the British Army's famous red coats, or from the female cochineal, a tiny insect that lives on specific cactus plants. The primary sources for blue dye were woad and indigo, two plants that contain blue dye in their leaves."

Today, most flags are made using synthetic dyes and pigments manufactured primarily from petrochemicals, Gatewood said.

Much like their earlier coun-

terparts, the materials used for today's flag usually are determined by the purpose that flag will serve. Gatewood said cotton often is used to make flags that will be displayed indoors or for decorative purposes. Polyester is very durable, so flags made from this material stand up well to the elements. Nylon flags, while somewhat less durable than those made from polyester, are also very popular because they are lightweight, shinier, fly more readily in the wind and produce a desirable "snap" when flown, Gatewood said.

"Additionally, new technolo-

gy has produced nylon with weather and UV-resistant properties, such as Dupont's trademarked SolarMax nylon, that significantly improve its resistance to outdoor sunlight and weathering," Gatewood said.

The most common method for assembling the American flag throughout history has been sewing pieces of dyed and undyed fabric together and then sewing or embroidering the stars onto the blue material. Designs can also be printed onto flags. This method traditionally produced lower-quality flags, which made them faster and cheaper to manufacture,

Gatewood said. Today some very high-quality flags and banners are produced through sophisticated printing methods.

"As we proudly take part in the long-held patriotic tradition of displaying our national flag this Independence Day, let's reflect on how our flag has evolved and its meaning," Gatewood said.

"The U.S. flag is the most well-known national flag in the world and is a symbol of our cherished values of freedom, liberty and justice for all of our citizens."



Obamacare Held Together With 'Duct Tape,' Official Says

By Travis Perry
Kansas Watchdog

OSAWATOMIE — It's massive, it's clunky and it's headed right at you.

No, I'm not talking about that ramshackle VW Bus from down the street; I mean that other reform vehicle: the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, better known as Obamacare.

Friday marks the first anniversary of the landmark Supreme Court ruling that upheld President Barack Obama's signature health care reform bill. But with less than 100 days to go before the health insurance markets open on Oct. 1, the honeymoon could be over for opponents and supporters alike.

Linda Sheppard, special counsel and director of health care policy and analysis for the Kansas Insurance Department — second-in-command to commissioner Sandy Praeger — said

her agency is doing all it can to ensure a stable transition to the substantial healthcare reform measures, but don't expect a smooth ride.

"There are going to be some glitches and some problems, and it's not going to be as smooth as we'd all like it to be. But there will be something there and it will perform the function," Sheppard said of when the federally-facilitated marketplace — they're not called "exchanges" anymore, apparently — goes online.

"I say this jokingly, but I've said this thing will be held together with duct tape and baling wire and glue," she said. "It's going to be clunky and we certainly have some concerns about how the federal call centers are going to work."

The state insurance department has taken point on the Kansas rollout of Obamacare, and Sheppard said the agency has been persistent in seeking

answers from the federal government. There are so many questions, she said, because nothing like this has ever happened before.

"The reality is this is all new and it's going to be a surprise to all of us what ultimately happens," Sheppard said.

Among those surprises could be a 19 percent increase in medical costs for those newly-insured under Obamacare, as detailed by a March report from the Society of Actuaries.

"There's some valid concern to this," Sheppard said. "As I tell people when I go out and talk around the state, the rules that go into place starting on Jan. 1, 2014 are a huge change in the ways insurance companies do business, so they're obviously going to price their product in a way they feel they have their risks covered."

The History Of The Stars And Stripes

Before the signing of the Declaration of Independence, when some colonists still believed America would retain some loyalty to Great Britain, the first American flag featured the British Union Jack in place of the 50 stars known today, along with 13 stripes to represent the colonies. Although never formally adopted by Congress, this flag was known as the Grand Union Flag, and was flown on Prospect Hill in Somerville, Mass., by Gen. George Washington on New Year's Day in 1776.

This flag quickly became obsolete when the colonists declared independence from Great Britain. On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress passed a resolution that read "the flag of the United States be

made of 13 stripes — alternate red and white — and that the Union be 13 stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation." This resolution, however, still left many of the details of the flag's design open to interpretation, Gatewood said.

The Flag Act of 1794 called for two new stars and stripes to be added because Vermont and Kentucky had been admitted as states. This flag, with 15 stars and 15 stripes, was the country's national flag for about a quarter of a century, from 1795-1818. It was this flag design that inspired Francis Scott Key to write the national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner," during a battle in the War of 1812. The Flag Act of 1818 restored the 13 stripes to

represent the original colonies, whereas the number of stars matched the number of states. Today, the proportions of the flag and arrangement of the stars and stripes are specifically prescribed, Gatewood said, through presidential executive orders signed by President Taft in 1912 and President Eisenhower in 1959.

According to Gatewood, since the adoption of the 13-star flag of 1777, there have been 27 officially mandated flags and 11 unofficial flags, each representing a milestone in our nation's history.

"Kansas should be proud of the 34-star flag that was officially adopted in 1861 — the year our great state was admitted to the Union," Gatewood said.

Senate Bill Fails To Fix Immigration

By James Carafano
Heritage Foundation

"The Americans will always do the right thing," Winston Churchill (who was half-American) once declared, "after they've exhausted all the alternatives."

The Senate proved today—in passing a massive, complicated, budget-busting bill that fails to fix our flawed immigration system and broken borders—that it has not yet exhausted all its alternatives.

Instead, the Senate delivered a monstrosity of a measure that takes the worst from the failed "amnesty-first" formula tried in the 1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act and pairs it with the politics of Obamacare—layering in back-room deals and Rube Goldberg-style mechanisms for funding and enforcing the law.

This bill heads to the House now. Whether or not all the Senators read the 1,000-plus pages, they are responsible for it. The bill is:

Amnesty first. Starting with amnesty undermines every effort to gain control of our

borders, restore respect for our laws, and treat fairly the millions who have legitimately waited in line for their shot at the American Dream. It is also unfair to those who decided not to come to this country illegally.

Bad for the budget. The Senate voted to waive no fewer than 22 budget points of order to move the bill. Not only does the legislation make a mockery of the Budget Control Act of 2011 with bloated "emergency spending," but it is also packed with pork and would balloon long-term spending on government benefits and entitlements by trillions of dollars.

A failure to fix a big problem. At best, the Congressional Budget Office concluded that this bill would reduce illegal immigration by a paltry 25 percent—and that is if the Administration delivers fully, on time, on every security measure promised in the bill.

The House should reject the idea that amnesty is a model for immigration reform. Instead, Congress should pick a positive path to reform.

Where Do You Advertise?

Now, which 15 second spot did you spend your good money on?

An ad in the Manhattan Free Press will be there for that 1 seconds and it will stay in the home for the next seven days. If our reader misses your ad on the first day, it may be read the second, or third, or fourth day at the picture. Advertising in the Manhattan Free Press or s It is not there for 1 seconds and gone the next

Manhattan Free Press

t 3 - 3 Manhattan, Ks

Manhattan Free Press

Reporting

The

Truth

as we see it.