



# Manhattan Free Press

Vol. 22 Number 41

An Award Winning Weekly Newspaper

Thursday, March 13, 2014

## School Funding Ruled Unconstitutional

By JOHN MILBURN and JOHN HANNA  
Associated Press

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Kansas must spend more money on its public schools, the state Supreme Court ruled Friday in a decision that could jeopardize Republican Gov. Sam Brownback's desire to make his state a tax-cutting template for the nation.

The high court's ruling, which found that Kansas' school funding isn't constitutional, came in a 2010 lawsuit filed by parents and school districts. Instead of balking, Brownback and other leaders of the state's GOP-dominated government said they were pleased because the decision stopped short of telling legislators exactly how much the state must spend on its schools overall, leaving that responsibility to a lower court.

"It was not an unreasonable decision," Senate President Susan Wagle said. Republican leaders also believe the court left the Legislature substantial leeway in providing adequate aid to poor school districts and pledged to get it done before the session adjourns in late April or early May.

Education advocates and attorneys for the parents and school districts saw the decision as a rebuke to the GOP-led state and in line with past court decisions that strongly and specifically laid out how much needed to be allocated to provide adequate education for every child.

"This decision is an important one in sending a message

to states across the nation that need to reform their financing systems to get their house in order," said David Sciarra, executive director of the Newark, N.J.-based Education Law Center, which filed a brief in the Kansas case.

The case has broader implications beyond the classroom: Kansas enacted sweeping cuts to income taxes in 2012 and 2013 championed by Brownback that have reduced the amount of available resources to comply with a court order on education funding.

Lawmakers could be forced to reconsider the income tax measures — pushed as a means to stimulate the economy and estimated to be worth nearly \$3.9 billion over the next five years. Other Republican-run states have looked at such cuts, including this year in Oklahoma and Missouri.

"If we don't do something to make sure the revenue is there, then we're going to be in this continuing morass around school funding," said Mark Desetti, a lobbyist for the state's largest teachers union, which called on lawmakers to boost total funding immediately.

The court ordered legislators Friday to boost funding on two types of aid for poor school districts — supplementing property tax revenues for general operations and capital improvement projects — by July 1. But there's no deadline for the lower court to provide overall funding numbers.

Brownback told reporters he does not see any need to reconsider the tax cuts because the reductions are spurring economic growth.

"We need to grow the number of people working in this state," Brownback said.

John Robb, an attorney for the plaintiffs, saw Friday's ruling as a victory because the

justices rejected the state's arguments that the funding issue was political, to be determined solely by the Legislature and governor.

He predicted that after the next round of lower-court hearings, the outcome will mirror what happened previously: An order for the state to increase its

total annual spending on schools by at least \$440 million.

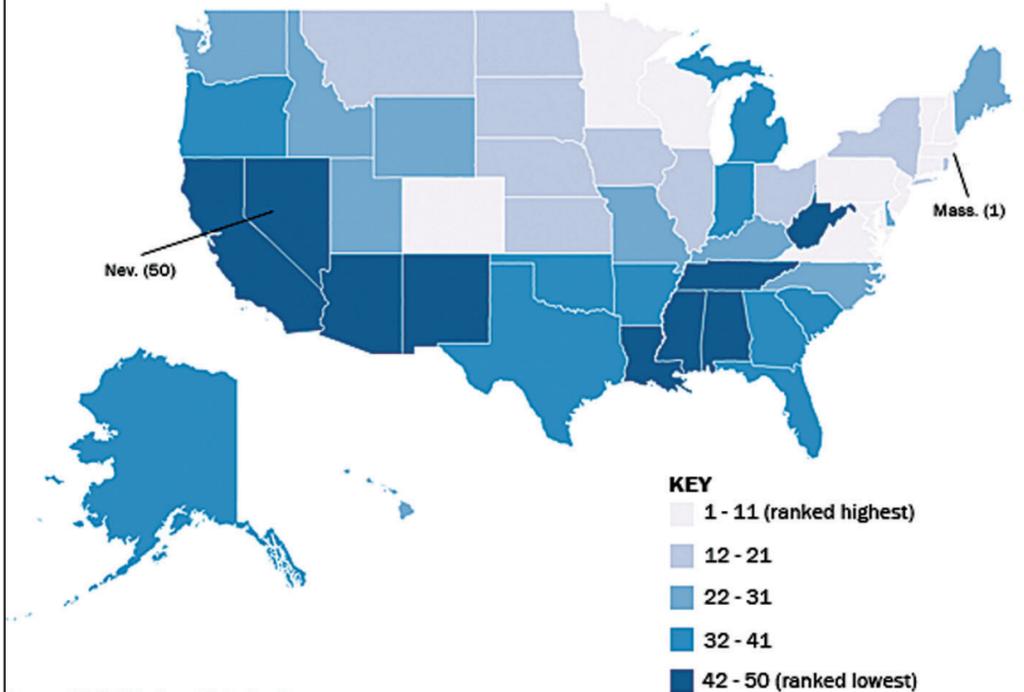
David Morantz, a Leawood attorney and father of three children who attend public schools, said he's glad the court is requiring lawmakers to meeting their constitutional duties but said, "It doesn't look like

the fight is over."

"We, as parents and as citizens of Kansas, have to follow the constitution, and it's not too much to ask, for them to do it, too," he said.

But Republican officials believe the lower court's review is tilted more in the Legislature's favor.

### National Education Ranking



## Watchdog...Funding Choices Unconstitutional

By Travis Perry  
Kansas Watchdog

OSAWATOMIE, Kan. — In a long-awaited decision, the Kansas Supreme Court on Friday ruled that state lawmakers created "unconstitutional" and "unreasonable wealth-based disparities" by withholding certain state aid payments to public schools.

While the legal battle leading up to the decision has been a four-year slog since the lawsuit's initial filing in 2010, much of Friday's ruling boiled down to the court's interpretation of what is considered equitable and adequate education funding.

While the Supreme Court unanimously upheld a lower court decision regarding the state's failure to equitably disburse capital outlay and supplemental general payments to Sunflower State schools, it stopped short of issuing a decree for specific funding to meet the Legislature's constitutional requirement to provide an "adequate" education.

"Under the facts of this case, the district court panel did not apply the correct test to determine whether the State met its duty to provide adequacy in K-12 public education as required under Article 6 of the Kansas Constitution," the court decision stated, explaining that any decision about total funding

levels would be bounced back to Shawnee County District Court for further consideration.

Supreme Court justices stated in the opinion that addressing concerns relating to equal state aid payments also could affect assessment of overall education funding.

Dave Trabert, president of the Kansas Policy Institute, a pro-free-market think tank, said the partial reversal of the lower court's decision was huge.

"That's a tremendous victory to say that 'you can't just say total spending is the measure,'" Trabert told Kansas Watchdog.

The Legislature was given an ultimatum to fix unequal capital outlay and supplemental general state aid payments by no later than July 1, or face court intervention. Following the ruling, plaintiffs told the Topeka Capital-Journal the state would need to appropriate \$80 million to \$150 million to comply with the judicial decision.

While it's a far cry from the roughly \$500 million a trio of Shawnee County District Court judges said the state needed to provide in January 2013, equalization payments are still a large chunk of change, and with the decision on overall funding still up in the air, it's yet to be seen how the Legislature will respond.

"With no police force and no

ability to sanction or punish lawmakers, the court would have no way to make the Legislature comply," said Chapman Rackaway, political science professor at Fort Hays State University. "If the Legislature wants to ignore the

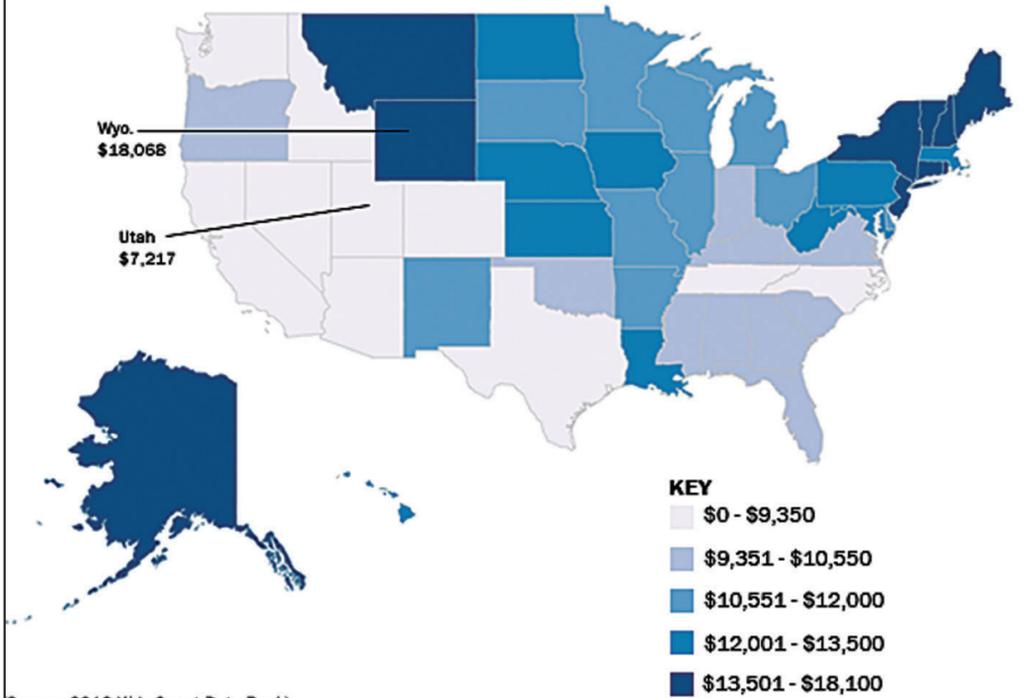
court's decision they are perfectly within their rights to do it. It would only be with a massive revolt by voters ousting lawmakers who participated in ignoring the decision that there would be any consequences to defying the court."

Supreme Court justices, though, made one thing abundantly clear: They are not about to back down from this fight.

"Just as only the people of Kansas have the authority to change the standards in their

constitution, the Supreme Court of Kansas has the final authority to determine adherence to the standards of the people's constitution," the ruling stated.

### Per-Pupil Current Spending (2009)



**DICK EDWARDS**  
Manhattan, Ks



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

# Courthouse News

Manhattan Free Press

Thursday, March 13, 2014

2A

## 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 February 27, 2014 with the following members present: Robert Boyd, Chair; Ron Wells, Vice Chair; Dave Lewis, Member; and Rich Vargo, County Clerk.

8:30 Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment, Commission Comments, & Business Meeting

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Mr. & Mrs. Stan Hoerman; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; Cindy Volanti, Human Resource Manager/Deputy Clerk; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Jerry Howard, Facility Supervisor; Steve Kirk, Facility Tech I; and Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer, attended.

Hoerman said Pottawatomie County and Marshall County landfills charge double for hauling trash to their landfill if your vehicle does not have tags from their counties.

Hoerman discussed the eastern Riley County boundary change between Riley and Pottawatomie Counties. Hoerman suggested writing for an Attorney General's opinion on the Riley County/Pottawatomie County boundary line.

Holeman stated an attorney general's opinion cannot change state statute.

Dillon, on behalf of REACH, discussed the Valentine's Day surprise to the Riley County employees.

Dillon announced Dave Colson as Riley County Employee of the Month.

Springer said he has 80-acres by the pianosfore. Springer said they are planning to put in a zipline adventure park.

Springer stated he has been told they need to change the zoning to agriculture, but has questions on the process. Springer said there does not seem to be flexibility on the process.

Springer said he has questions on if the road to the property is his responsibility or the county's.

The renewal of Riley County 911 Maintenance Contract with Voice Products Service, LLC for 2014 will be rescheduled.

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Personnel Action Form for Tannis Anderson, an ISO Assistant, in the Community Corrections Department, for Separation from County Service, effective February 27, 2014.

Lewis moved to sign the Real Estate Tax Roll Correction for Woodbutcher, Inc. (122-10-00-00-007.00-0) for tax year 2013. This results in a decrease in tax dollars of \$6,497.60. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to appoint Mary Beth Reese to the Riley County Council on Aging Advisory Board, term expiration December 31, 2015 and approve Resolution No. 022714-13, A Resolution appointing a representative to the Riley County Council on Aging Advisory Board. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to approve the following warrant vouchers for February 27, 2014:

2014 Budget \$237,689.11

Health Department 28,373.43

Teen Court Collected Fund 140.63

Juvenile Intake Case Mgr 1,482.28

Riley Co Juvenile Service 1,060.99

21st Jud Dist Teen Court 272.27

Riley Co Adult Services 5,031.62

Emergency 911 3,917.39

County Building 2,162.19

Road & Bridge Cap Project 5,072.91

RCPD Levy/Op 5,696.98

Riley Co Fire Dist #1

2013 Budget County General \$198,001.41

Health Department 11,316.06

Hunters Island Water Dist 888.19

Deep Creek Sewer 75.40

Moehlman Bottoms 355.60

Konza Water Operations 1,905.98

TOTAL . . . . . \$212,542.64

Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

8:56 Barry Wilkerson, County Attorney

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Brady & Kristin Bowman, and Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer, attended.

Wilkerson presented a County Attorney's Office report.

Lewis moved to approve the minutes of February 24, 2014 as amended. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to approve the Special Meeting minutes of February 24, 2014 as amended for the Board of Health. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

9:15 Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

Administrative Work Session

Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; and Brady & Kristin Bowman, attended.

Holeman discussed legislation.

9:24 Robert Nall, Information Technology/GIS Director

Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; and Brady & Kristin Bowman, attended.

Nall presented an IT/GIS staff update.

9:37 Lewis moved to adjourn. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

**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 3, 2014 with the following members present: Ron Wells, Vice Chair; Dave Lewis, Member; and Rich Vargo, County Clerk. Robert Boyd, Chair, was absent.

8:30 Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment, Commission Comments, & Business Meeting

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; Cindy Volanti, Human Resource Manager/Deputy Clerk; Monty Wedel, Planning/Special Projects Director; Mel Van Der Stelt; Debbie Regester, Register of Deeds; Dakota Kaufman, Erica Twiss, Samantha Rivotto, Sydney Brown, Elissa Post, Lindsay McGrath, LaCrisha Woods - Kansas State University; and

Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer, attended.

Wedel said Ron Nordt has resigned from the Project Advisory Committee for the Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

The Board agreed to ask Greg Sosha to serve on the Project Advisory Committee for the Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Personnel Action Form for Laurie Cox, an Appraiser III, in the Appraiser's Office, for Separation from County Service, effective March 7, 2014.

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Position Action Form for an Appraiser III - Residential, in the Appraiser's Office, at a grade K.

Lewis moved to sign a Proclamation for March for Meals Month. Wells seconded. Carried 2-0.

Lewis moved to approve Renewal of Online Access Agreements for the following: Trudy Croco; Frontier Farm Credit; American Title, Inc.; Prudential Copeland & Company, Realtors; Schwab-Eaton, P.A.; Simmons Company; UMB Bank; Kansas State Bank; Applied Technology Resources, Inc.; SMH Consultants; and Weary Davis, LC for the Register of Deeds' Office. Wells seconded. Carried 2-0.

Lewis moved to approve the payroll vouchers in the amount of \$283,541.63 and the following warrant vouchers for March 7, 2014:

2014 Budget County General \$732,065.61

Health Department 78,718.70

County Auction 86.58

Riley Co Juvenile Service 11,907.47

Motor Vehicle Operations 6,758.63

21st Jud Dist Teen Court 2,980.94

Riley Co Adult Services 21,802.45

Solid Waste 13,038.32

County Building 20,662.19

Road & Bridge Cap Project 52,557.30

RCPD Levy/Op 2,519.05

Riley Co Fire Dist #1 23,197.52

Riley Co Fire Dist CapOut 125,972.25

University Park W&S 59.20

Hunters Island Water Dist 19.60

Valleywood Operations 76.69

Konza Water Operations 171.41

TOTAL . . . . . \$1,092,593.91

Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to approve the minutes of February 27, 2014 as amended. Wells seconded. Carried 2-0.

9:00 Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

Administrative Work Session

Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; Mel Van Der Stelt; Kristina Jackson, Manhattan Mercury; and Craig Cox, Assistant County Counselor, attended.

The Board watched the KAC Legislative Update video.

Holeman discussed legislation.

9:30 Press Conference

Laura Monsanto, KMAN; Laurie Harrison, Emergency Management Coordinator; Kristina Jackson, Manhattan Mercury; Mary Jo Harbour, Riley County Council on Aging

Chair; Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; and Captain Kurt Moldrup, Riley County Police Department, attended.

Eyestone discussed the 4-H Garden Junior Master Gardener Program.

Eyestone said a Super Vegetable Program will be this Thursday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Eyestone said the Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Harbour presented a Riley County Council on Aging update. Harbour said over 170 meals are delivered a day.

Wells presented a Proclamation for March for Meals Month.

Barnard reported Walk Kansas 2014 begins March 16, 2014 through May 10, 2014.

Barnard said the City Commission has challenged the Riley County Commission and upped the ante by asking departments from the City and County to challenge each other.

P. Collins reminded everyone daylight saving time changes at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning March 9, 2014.

Moldrup discussed preparation for Fake Patty's Day.

Harrison said this week is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kansas. Harrison discussed severe weather preparation.

Peterson said HHW will be at Howie's Recycling this week.

10:00 Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director

Bid opening for herbicides

Kristina Jackson, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

The Board of County Commissioners opened the bids for the following:

Company Tordon

Perspective Pasture

Guard 2,4-D LV Ester

2,4-D Amine

Red River Specialties

18 Woodland Drive

Augusta, KS 67010

Chair; Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; and Captain Kurt Moldrup, Riley County Police Department, attended.

Eyestone discussed the 4-H Garden Junior Master Gardener Program.

Eyestone said a Super Vegetable Program will be this Thursday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Eyestone said the Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Harbour presented a Riley County Council on Aging update. Harbour said over 170 meals are delivered a day.

Wells presented a Proclamation for March for Meals Month.

Barnard reported Walk Kansas 2014 begins March 16, 2014 through May 10, 2014.

Barnard said the City Commission has challenged the Riley County Commission and upped the ante by asking departments from the City and County to challenge each other.

P. Collins reminded everyone daylight saving time changes at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning March 9, 2014.

Moldrup discussed preparation for Fake Patty's Day.

Harrison said this week is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kansas. Harrison discussed severe weather preparation.

Peterson said HHW will be at Howie's Recycling this week.

10:00 Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director

Bid opening for herbicides

Kristina Jackson, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

The Board of County Commissioners opened the bids for the following:

Company Tordon

Perspective Pasture

Guard 2,4-D LV Ester

2,4-D Amine

Red River Specialties

18 Woodland Drive

Augusta, KS 67010

Chair; Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; and Captain Kurt Moldrup, Riley County Police Department, attended.

Eyestone discussed the 4-H Garden Junior Master Gardener Program.

Eyestone said a Super Vegetable Program will be this Thursday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Eyestone said the Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Harbour presented a Riley County Council on Aging update. Harbour said over 170 meals are delivered a day.

Wells presented a Proclamation for March for Meals Month.

Barnard reported Walk Kansas 2014 begins March 16, 2014 through May 10, 2014.

Barnard said the City Commission has challenged the Riley County Commission and upped the ante by asking departments from the City and County to challenge each other.

P. Collins reminded everyone daylight saving time changes at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning March 9, 2014.

Moldrup discussed preparation for Fake Patty's Day.

Harrison said this week is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kansas. Harrison discussed severe weather preparation.

Peterson said HHW will be at Howie's Recycling this week.

10:00 Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director

Bid opening for herbicides

Kristina Jackson, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

The Board of County Commissioners opened the bids for the following:

Company Tordon

Perspective Pasture

Guard 2,4-D LV Ester

2,4-D Amine

Red River Specialties

18 Woodland Drive

Augusta, KS 67010

Chair; Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; and Captain Kurt Moldrup, Riley County Police Department, attended.

Eyestone discussed the 4-H Garden Junior Master Gardener Program.

Eyestone said a Super Vegetable Program will be this Thursday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Eyestone said the Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Harbour presented a Riley County Council on Aging update. Harbour said over 170 meals are delivered a day.

Wells presented a Proclamation for March for Meals Month.

Barnard reported Walk Kansas 2014 begins March 16, 2014 through May 10, 2014.

Barnard said the City Commission has challenged the Riley County Commission and upped the ante by asking departments from the City and County to challenge each other.

P. Collins reminded everyone daylight saving time changes at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning March 9, 2014.

Moldrup discussed preparation for Fake Patty's Day.

Harrison said this week is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kansas. Harrison discussed severe weather preparation.

Peterson said HHW will be at Howie's Recycling this week.

10:00 Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director

Bid opening for herbicides

Kristina Jackson, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

The Board of County Commissioners opened the bids for the following:

Company Tordon

Perspective Pasture

Guard 2,4-D LV Ester

2,4-D Amine

Red River Specialties

18 Woodland Drive

Augusta, KS 67010

Chair; Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; and Captain Kurt Moldrup, Riley County Police Department, attended.

Eyestone discussed the 4-H Garden Junior Master Gardener Program.

Eyestone said a Super Vegetable Program will be this Thursday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Eyestone said the Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Harbour presented a Riley County Council on Aging update. Harbour said over 170 meals are delivered a day.

Wells presented a Proclamation for March for Meals Month.

Barnard reported Walk Kansas 2014 begins March 16, 2014 through May 10, 2014.

Barnard said the City Commission has challenged the Riley County Commission and upped the ante by asking departments from the City and County to challenge each other.

P. Collins reminded everyone daylight saving time changes at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning March 9, 2014.

Moldrup discussed preparation for Fake Patty's Day.

Harrison said this week is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kansas. Harrison discussed severe weather preparation.

Peterson said HHW will be at Howie's Recycling this week.

10:00 Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director

Bid opening for herbicides

Kristina Jackson, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

The Board of County Commissioners opened the bids for the following:

Company Tordon

Perspective Pasture

Guard 2,4-D LV Ester

2,4-D Amine

Chair; Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; and Captain Kurt Moldrup, Riley County Police Department, attended.

Eyestone discussed the 4-H Garden Junior Master Gardener Program.

Eyestone said a Super Vegetable Program will be this Thursday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Eyestone said the Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Harbour presented a Riley County Council on Aging update. Harbour said over 170 meals are delivered a day.

Wells presented a Proclamation for March for Meals Month.

Barnard reported Walk Kansas 2014 begins March 16, 2014 through May 10, 2014.

Barnard said the City Commission has challenged the Riley County Commission and upped the ante by asking departments from the City and County to challenge each other.

P. Collins reminded everyone daylight saving time changes at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning March 9, 2014.

Moldrup discussed preparation for Fake Patty's Day.

Harrison said this week is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kansas. Harrison discussed severe weather preparation.

Peterson said HHW will be at Howie's Recycling this week.

10:00 Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director

Bid opening for herbicides

Kristina Jackson, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

The Board of County Commissioners opened the bids for the following:

Company Tordon

Perspective Pasture

Guard 2,4-D LV Ester

2,4-D Amine

Red River Specialties

18 Woodland Drive

Augusta, KS 67010

Chair; Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; and Captain Kurt Moldrup, Riley County Police Department, attended.

Eyestone discussed the 4-H Garden Junior Master Gardener Program.

Eyestone said a Super Vegetable Program will be this Thursday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Eyestone said the Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Harbour presented a Riley County Council on Aging update. Harbour said over 170 meals are delivered a day.

Wells presented a Proclamation for March for Meals Month.

Barnard reported Walk Kansas 2014 begins March 16, 2014 through May 10, 2014.

Barnard said the City Commission has challenged the Riley County Commission and upped the ante by asking departments from the City and County to challenge each other.

P. Collins reminded everyone daylight saving time changes at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning March 9, 2014.

Moldrup discussed preparation for Fake Patty's Day.

Harrison said this week is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kansas. Harrison discussed severe weather preparation.

Peterson said HHW will be at Howie's Recycling this week.

10:00 Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director

Bid opening for herbicides

Kristina Jackson, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

The Board of County Commissioners opened the bids for the following:

Company Tordon

Perspective Pasture

Guard 2,4-D LV Ester

2,4-D Amine

Red River Specialties

18 Woodland Drive

Augusta, KS 67010

Chair; Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; and Captain Kurt Moldrup, Riley County Police Department, attended.

Eyestone discussed the 4-H Garden Junior Master Gardener Program.

Eyestone said a Super Vegetable Program will be this Thursday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Eyestone said the Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Harbour presented a Riley County Council on Aging update. Harbour said over 170 meals are delivered a day.

Wells presented a Proclamation for March for Meals Month.

Barnard reported Walk Kansas 2014 begins March 16, 2014 through May 10, 2014.

Barnard said the City Commission has challenged the Riley County Commission and upped the ante by asking departments from the City and County to challenge each other.

P. Collins reminded everyone daylight saving time changes at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning March 9, 2014.

Moldrup discussed preparation for Fake Patty's Day.

Harrison said this week is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kansas. Harrison discussed severe weather preparation.

Peterson said HHW will be at Howie's Recycling this week.

10:00 Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director

Bid opening for herbicides

Kristina Jackson, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

The Board of County Commissioners opened the bids for the following:

Company Tordon

Perspective Pasture

Guard 2,4-D LV Ester

2,4-D Amine

Red River Specialties

18 Woodland Drive

Augusta, KS 67010

Chair; Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; and Captain Kurt Moldrup, Riley County Police Department, attended.

Eyestone discussed the 4-H Garden Junior Master Gardener Program.

Eyestone said a Super Vegetable Program will be this Thursday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Eyestone said the Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Harbour presented a Riley County Council on Aging update. Harbour said over 170 meals are delivered a day.

Wells presented a Proclamation for March for Meals Month.

Barnard reported Walk Kansas 2014 begins March 16, 2014 through May 10, 2014.

Barnard said the City Commission has challenged the Riley County Commission and upped the ante by asking departments from the City and County to challenge each other.

P. Collins reminded everyone daylight saving time changes at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning March 9, 2014.

Moldrup discussed preparation for Fake Patty's Day.

Harrison said this week is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kansas. Harrison discussed severe weather preparation.

Peterson said HHW will be at Howie's Recycling this week.

10:00 Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director

Bid opening for herbicides

Kristina Jackson, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

The Board of County Commissioners opened the bids for the following:

Company Tordon

Perspective Pasture

Guard 2,4-D LV Ester

2,4-D Amine

Red River Specialties

18 Woodland Drive

Augusta, KS 67010

Chair; Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; and Captain Kurt Moldrup, Riley County Police Department, attended.

Eyestone discussed the 4-H Garden Junior Master Gardener Program.

Eyestone said a Super Vegetable Program will be this Thursday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Eyestone said the Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Harbour presented a Riley County Council on Aging update. Harbour said over 170 meals are delivered a day.

Wells presented a Proclamation for March for Meals Month.

Barnard reported Walk Kansas 2014 begins March 16, 2014 through May 10, 2014.

Barnard said the City Commission has challenged the Riley County Commission and upped the ante by asking departments from the City and County to challenge each other.

P. Collins reminded everyone daylight saving time changes at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning March 9, 2014.

Moldrup discussed preparation for Fake Patty's Day.

Harrison said this week is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kansas. Harrison discussed severe weather preparation.

Peterson said HHW will be at Howie's Recycling this week.

10:00 Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director

Bid opening for herbicides

Kristina Jackson, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

The Board of County Commissioners opened the bids for the following:

Company Tordon

Perspective Pasture

Guard 2,4-D LV Ester

2,4-D Amine

Red River Specialties

18 Woodland Drive

Augusta, KS 67010

Chair; Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; and Captain Kurt Moldrup, Riley County Police Department, attended.

Eyestone discussed the 4-H Garden Junior Master Gardener Program.

Eyestone said a Super Vegetable Program will be this Thursday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Eyestone said the Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Harbour presented a Riley County Council on Aging update. Harbour said over 170 meals are delivered a day.

Wells presented a Proclamation for March for Meals Month.

Barnard reported Walk Kansas 2014 begins March 16, 2014 through May 10, 2014.

Barnard said the City Commission has challenged the Riley County Commission and upped the ante by asking departments from the City and County to challenge each other.

P. Collins reminded everyone daylight saving time changes at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning March 9, 2014.

Moldrup discussed preparation for Fake Patty's Day.

Harrison said this week is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kansas. Harrison discussed severe weather preparation.

Peterson said HHW will be at Howie's Recycling this week.

10:00 Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director

Bid opening for herbicides

Kristina Jackson, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

The Board of County Commissioners opened the bids for the following:

Company Tordon

Perspective Pasture

Guard 2,4-D LV Ester

2,4-D Amine

Red River Specialties

18 Woodland Drive

Augusta, KS 67010

Chair; Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; and Captain Kurt Moldrup, Riley County Police Department, attended.

Eyestone discussed the 4-H Garden Junior Master Gardener Program.

Eyestone said a Super Vegetable Program will be this Thursday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Eyestone said the Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Harbour presented a Riley County Council on Aging update. Harbour said over 170 meals are delivered a day.

Wells presented a Proclamation for March for Meals Month.

Barnard reported Walk Kansas 2014 begins March 16, 2014 through May 10, 2014.

Barnard said the City Commission has challenged the Riley County Commission and upped the ante by asking departments from the City and County to challenge each other.

P. Collins reminded everyone daylight saving time changes at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning March 9, 2014.

Moldrup discussed preparation for Fake Patty's Day.

Harrison said this week is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kansas. Harrison discussed severe weather preparation.

Peterson said HHW will be at Howie's Recycling this week.

10:00 Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director

Bid opening for herbicides

Kristina Jackson, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

The Board of County Commissioners opened the bids for the following:

Company Tordon

Perspective Pasture

Guard 2,4-D LV Ester

2,4-D Amine

Red River Specialties

18 Woodland Drive

Augusta, KS 67010

Chair; Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; and Captain Kurt Moldrup, Riley County Police Department, attended.

Eyestone discussed the 4-H Garden Junior Master Gardener Program.

Eyestone said a Super Vegetable Program will be this Thursday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Eyestone said the Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Harbour presented a Riley County Council on Aging update. Harbour said over 170 meals are delivered a day.

Wells presented a Proclamation for March for Meals Month.

Barnard reported Walk Kansas 2014 begins March 16, 2014 through May 10, 2014.

Barnard said the City Commission has challenged the Riley County Commission and upped the ante by asking departments from the City and County to challenge each other.

P. Collins reminded everyone daylight saving time changes at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning March 9, 2014.

Moldrup discussed preparation for Fake Patty's Day.

Harrison said this week is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kansas. Harrison discussed severe weather preparation.

Peterson said HHW will be at Howie's Recycling this week.

10:00 Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director

Bid opening for herbicides

Kristina Jackson, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

The Board of County Commissioners opened the bids for the following:

Company Tordon

Perspective Pasture

Guard 2,4-D LV Ester

2,4-D Amine

Red River Specialties

18 Woodland Drive

Augusta, KS 67010

Chair; Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; and Captain Kurt Moldrup, Riley County Police Department, attended.

Eyestone discussed the 4-H Garden Junior Master Gardener Program.

Eyestone said a Super Vegetable Program will be this Thursday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Eyestone said the Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Harbour presented a Riley County Council on Aging update. Harbour said over 170 meals are delivered a day.

Wells presented a Proclamation for March for Meals Month.

Barnard reported Walk Kansas 2014 begins March 16, 2014 through May 10, 2014.

Barnard said the City Commission has challenged the Riley County Commission and upped the ante by asking departments from the City and County to challenge each other.

P. Collins reminded everyone daylight saving time changes at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning March 9, 2014.

Moldrup discussed preparation for Fake Patty's Day.

Harrison said this week is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kansas. Harrison discussed severe weather preparation.

Peterson said HHW will be at Howie's Recycling this week.

10:00 Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director

Bid opening for herbicides

Kristina Jackson, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

The Board of County Commissioners opened the bids for the following:

Company Tordon

Perspective Pasture

Guard 2,4-D LV Ester

2,4-D Amine

Red River Specialties

18 Woodland Drive

Augusta, KS 67010

Chair; Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; and Captain Kurt Moldrup, Riley County Police Department, attended.

Eyestone discussed the 4-H Garden Junior Master Gardener Program.

Eyestone said a Super Vegetable Program will be this Thursday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Eyestone said the Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Harbour presented a Riley County Council on Aging update. Harbour said over 170 meals are delivered a day.

Wells presented a Proclamation for March for Meals Month.

Barnard reported Walk Kansas 2014 begins March 16, 2014 through May 10, 2014.

Barnard said the City Commission has challenged the Riley County Commission and upped the ante by asking departments from the City and County to challenge each other.

P. Collins reminded everyone daylight saving time changes at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning March 9, 2014.

Moldrup discussed preparation for Fake Patty's Day.

Harrison said this week is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kansas. Harrison discussed severe weather preparation.

Peterson said HHW will be at Howie's Recycling this week.

10:00 Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director

Bid opening for herbicides

Kristina Jackson, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

The Board of County Commissioners opened the bids for the following:

Company Tordon

Perspective Pasture

Guard 2,4-D LV Ester

2,4-D Amine

Red River Specialties

18 Woodland Drive

Augusta, KS 67010

Chair; Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; and Captain Kurt Moldrup, Riley County Police Department, attended.

Eyestone discussed the 4-H Garden Junior Master Gardener Program.

Eyestone said a Super Vegetable Program will be this Thursday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Eyestone said the Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Harbour presented a Riley County Council on Aging update. Harbour said over 170 meals are delivered a day.

Wells presented a Proclamation for March for Meals Month.

Barnard reported Walk Kansas 2014 begins March 16, 2014 through May 10, 2014.

Barnard said the City Commission has challenged the Riley County Commission and upped the ante by asking departments from the City and County to challenge each other.

P. Collins reminded everyone daylight saving time changes at 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning March 9, 2014.

Moldrup discussed preparation for Fake Patty's Day.

Harrison said this week is Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kansas. Harrison discussed severe weather preparation.

Peterson said HHW will be at Howie's Recycling this week.

10:00 Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director

Bid opening for herbicides

Kristina Jackson, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

The Board of County Commissioners opened the bids for the following:

Company Tordon

Perspective Pasture

Guard 2,4-D LV Ester

2,4-D Amine

Red River Specialties

18 Woodland Drive

Augusta, KS 67010

Chair; Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; and Captain Kurt Moldrup, Riley County Police Department, attended.

Eyestone discussed the 4-H Garden Junior Master Gardener Program.

Eyestone said a Super Vegetable Program will be this Thursday from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Eyestone said the Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic will be Tuesday, March 11, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Pottorf Hall.

Harbour presented a Riley County Council on Aging update. Harbour said over 170 meals are delivered a day.

Wells presented a Proclamation for March for Meals Month.

Barnard reported Walk Kansas 2014 begins March 16, 2014 through May 10, 2014.

Barnard said the City Commission has challenged the Riley County Commission and upped the ante by asking departments from the City and County

## Puppets: “Old Mother Hubbard”

Enjoy the story of Old Mother Hubbard and her best friend who is forever dancing and spinning to her delight. With his enchanting puppets, Paul Mesner tells this story about a dog and his master. The show will delight children of all ages, Saturday, March 15 at 4pm. Tickets are available online or in person for \$12 adults, \$10 students/military, and \$6 for kids age 12 and under. After the show kids can come to our Puppet-Making Open House and make their own paper bag puppets to take home. Many thanks to our generous sponsors Little Apple Optimist Club, Margaret Walker, and Joan Shull!

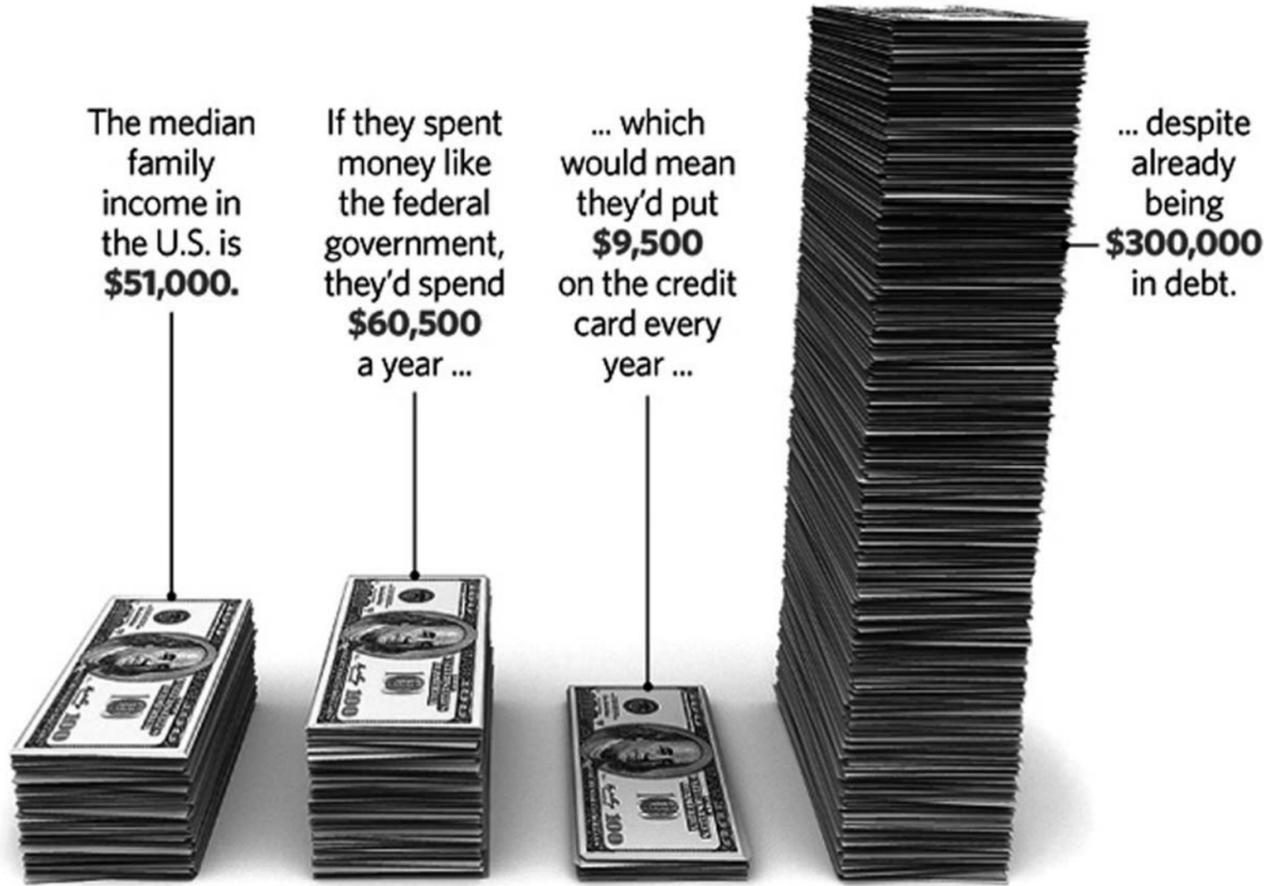
Kim Belanger, the center's Marketing and Education Director says, "Seeing a live puppet show, in a real theatre, is one of my favorite childhood memories. I am so excited to give this opportunity to my kids and others in our community."

Paul Mesner Puppets is a globally known professional puppet theatre company based in Kansas City, Missouri, which performs for about 58,000 people annually at performing arts centers, schools and libraries. Paul Mesner, puppeteer, author and performer, became interested in puppetry at an early age. His puppets took him all over the country and the world until he finally settled in KC in 1987 and founded Paul Mesner Puppets. At their home location, he and his people create their puppets and stories and perform for local audiences. These engaging performances present classic stories retold in modern day terms. Paul entertains his audiences and includes deeper meanings and life-lessons when the audience least expects it.

For more information about the Manhattan Arts Center's programs, becoming a "Friend of MAC" or to make a donation, visit us on the web at [www.manhattanarts.org](http://www.manhattanarts.org) or call us at 785-537-4420. The office is open from 12 pm to 5 pm Monday-Friday.

## What if a Typical Family Spent and Borrowed Like the Federal Government?

Families understand that it is unwise to repeatedly spend much more than they take in. But Washington continues its shopping spree on the taxpayer credit card with seemingly no regard to the stack of bills the nation has already piled up. DEFENSE SPENDING AS A PERCENTAGE OF GDP



## Auditors Uncover Inefficiencies At KS School

**By Travis Perry Kansas Watchdog**  
OSAWATOMIE, Kan. — An in-depth examination of districtwide spending at one rural Kansas school has revealed more than \$200,000 in potential annual savings.

The tiny school of Ashland Unified School District 220, in the southwest region of the Sunflower State, is one of the latest to voluntarily put itself under the microscope as part of Kansas' ongoing scrutiny of public education spending.

While advocates for increased spending in Kansas schools argue recent funding reductions have cut budgets to the bone, a recent report by state auditors suggests otherwise. Read the full report here.

**Minimal impact**  
Cost savings that auditors determined would have the least impact on students included the reduction and realignment of supplemental pay for faculty who coach athletic teams and sponsor student organizations.

Overall, auditors determined

USD 220 paid more than \$34,000 more for such duties compared to similar districts, such as Clifton-Clyde, Ellinwood and St. Francis schools. Some faculty appeared to be getting paid twice for their normal duties.

"For example, the district made a supplemental payment to the vocational education teacher for maintaining vocational education records, which would seem to be part of his regular duties," the audit stated. "Further, officials could not explain why the music teacher received a \$3,600 'vocal and instrumental' payment or why a substitute teacher received a \$4,200 'substitute supervisor' payment in addition to their regular salary."

Another recommended, and easily implemented, cost-cutting measure would have the district setting up and following a budget for food service expenses, in addition to reforming purchasing practices. Ashland does not use such budgetary measures for its food services and does not buy food

in bulk, instead sometimes buying directly from local grocers at a higher cost. Such changes could bring between \$25,000 and \$76,000 in savings annually.

The measures were well-received by district officials, who countered with an idea of their own — leverage local ranchers to lower costs. By encouraging area cattle producers to donate an animal for butchering to the school, Superintendent Brian Pekarek told auditors USD 220 could reap an additional \$20,000 in annual cost savings.

**Moderate impact**  
Among the district's more interesting inefficiencies was the \$75,000 auditors said school officials could save by consolidating low-enrollment courses. One district math teacher instructs five classes, each with six or fewer students. Course consolidation is a no-brainer, auditors said, and a reduction in the number of math teachers on staff could be accomplished through attrition, as one such faculty member is approaching retirement.

A further \$28,000 in savings was recommended by reducing a high school band and music teacher to part time, though the district said it tried that — sharing the position with surrounding schools — but the teacher quit because of the travel requirements.

"Although district officials told us a part-time position was appropriate, it was not a reduction they anticipated they could make in the near future," auditors stated.

Smaller savings, in the range of roughly \$5,000 annually, could be found by eliminating two low-participation sports, which USD 220 partners with other schools to offer. The district spends \$1,700 to accommodate four students playing high school volleyball in another district, and a further \$3,700 for seven students to participate in junior high football in a similar agreement.

This particular aspect generated the most push back from district administrators, who were concerned about reducing athletic opportunities for students.

### Significant impact

At the far end of the scale, auditors pointed to a potential reduction and consolidation of bus routes to gain between \$13,000 and \$37,000 in annual savings, depending on the total number of routes which would receive the ax. While officials predicted one of the district's 11 routes could be eliminated relatively painlessly, a second could extend a bus ride to as long as 90 minutes for students at the tail-end of the route.

Overall, Pekarek told auditors the experience was a valuable chance for reassessment for USD 220.

"Although I am disappointed in the amount of school districts that had volunteered for this free service, I would encourage the Kansas Legislative Post Audit team to consider giving small incentives for Kansas School Districts in the future. This action might encourage others to sign up and be a part of this efficiency program," the superintendent said in a letter to auditors.

## Barn Quilt Tales Program Planned April 5, Manhattan

Suzi Parron, American Quilt Trail Movement guru, is scheduled to visit the Manhattan area Saturday, April 5th. As author of "Barn Quilts And The American Quilt Trail Movement," Suzi put her "tales of the trail" to words in her book, which will be available for sale and signing during the events in Manhattan. Parron's visit to the Flint Hills and the Manhattan area is sponsored by the Kansas Flint Hills Quilt Trail.

Suzi will take you on a jour-

ney along the American quilt trail movement, with a presentation that is both informative and entertaining, exploring the way in which our quilting heritage takes on new meaning as this movement continues to expand. The program is planned Saturday, April 5, 10:00 a.m., with lunch and book signing at the Scenic Valley Inn, 610 South Scenic Dr., just west of Manhattan. Suzi Parron, author, and promoter of The American Quilt Trail on-line, will also tell stories of some of the individuals who have painted quilt blocks to honor loved ones or their local culture, along with a few humorous anecdotes during her program Saturday morning.

Included as part of the April 5th program and luncheon, will be a barn quilt unveiling at the Scenic Valley Inn. Scenic Valley Inn has commissioned local barn quilt artist, Sue Hageman, 2013 AccuQuilt Barn Block Contest winner, to be the artist for their barn block to be added to the Kansas Flint

Hills Quilt Trail. The Kansas Flint Hills Quilt Trail is proud to combine Parron's visit with the unveiling event at the Scenic Valley Inn.

Suzi Parron is also scheduled for a book signing event at the Flint Hills Discovery Center, 315 South 3rd Street, Manhattan, Saturday afternoon, April 5th, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. No pre-registration is required for this event, offered at no cost to the general public.

To pre-register for the event at Scenic Valley Inn, simply

call 785-776-8829 or 1-800-759-0134 by March 28th. The event is available for \$20.00 per person. "Barn Quilts and The American Quilt Trail Movement" books and calendars will be available for sale to those attending the event. Those in attendance will have the opportunity to take home gifts donated from each of the Kansas Flint Hills 22 counties.

Author Suzi Parron is touring the Kansas Flint Hills Quilt Trail in early April researching the Flint Hills counties in ready

for her new book, tentatively titled, "Farther Along the Quilt Trail."

The Kansas Flint Hills Quilt Trail was formed to promote tourism and rural pride throughout the 22 county region, and is sponsored by the Kansas Flint Hills Tourism Coalition. For more information on the April 5th event, or the Kansas Flint Hills Quilt Trail, follow the Trail on Facebook, or log on to [www.ksflinthillsquilttrail.com](http://www.ksflinthillsquilttrail.com).

## If you like the Free Press please tell these Advertisers

RODS • SHADES • DRAPERIES • BLINDS  
FABRIC BY THE YARD  
IN HOME CLEANING OF FABRIC WINDOW COVERINGS

**Drapery World and Blinds**

Tom Deaver  
"We measure and install"  
and "Brighten insides"

Phone (785) 537-4260  
Toll Free - 1-800-515-9478

317 Poyntz  
Manhattan, Kansas 66502

**Taylor's Family Hair Care**  
All your Family's Styling needs

See Faye Taylor or Angela Wilson

785-539-7751

Tuesday Thru Saturday

314-C Tuttle Creek Blvd. Manhattan KS

EDWIN G. OLSON SR.  
Certified Pedorthist

**OLSON'S SHOE & PEDORTHIC SERVICE**

1214 B Moro  
Manhattan, KS 66502

785-539-8571  
785-539-0570  
olsons@kansas.net  
Mon-Fri 9:00-6:00 Sat 9:00-4:00

**FURNITURE Warehouse & HOMESTEAD Rental**

J. Steve Williams • President  
Authorized Budget Truck Rental Dealer

New & Used Furniture  
BUY • SELL • TRADE

2326 SKY-VUE LANE MANHATTAN, KS 66502 (785) 537-2288  
[www.the-furniture-warehouse.com](http://www.the-furniture-warehouse.com)

**Take a Pal Shooting**

With this coupon and one paid admission two may shoot!

Pistol and Rifle Ranges open 4th Thursday - the first and third full weekends each month, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**FANCY CREEK RANGE**

At Fancy Creek State Park, Randolph Kansas

**Optical Perspectives**

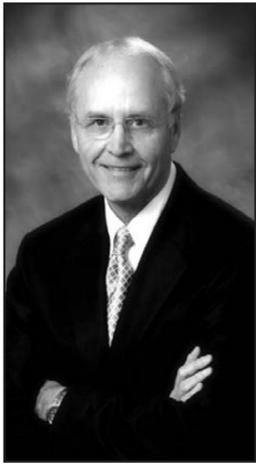
930 Hayes Drive, Suite E.  
Manhattan, Kansas

(785) 539-5105 Fax: (785) 539-2324

## Over Easy...

By Bob Strawn  
Mayor emeritus

"Mayor Phillips said this whole community discussion has centered on two things, size of retailer proposed and that people are not excited about Hy-Vee at this location. He stated that the Commission has the responsibility to consider the overall financial success of the entire downtown redevelopment project and that Hy-Vee plays an important role. He provided concerns expressed by the Planning Board's denial of the amendment (but) stated that he would support the change in the PUD."



Bob Strawn

These are excerpts from the City Commission's minutes of December 18, 2007, which essentially placed Hy-Vee in the north end redevelopment area against the wishes of the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board which had earlier voted against the amendment. The City Commission overrode the Board with a supermajority vote. And citizens around town were outraged.

Among them were the owners of Ray's Apple Market. The Floersch family, who were at the time operating several small town groceries in the region, had recently entered the Manhattan market after renovating a store located at 6th and Leavenworth. At the time, they were seen as a white knight, bringing a small but pleasant grocery to the inner city. The store served many low income families as well as downtown

customers who stopped by for lunch and after-work needs. By all accounts, the grocery was doing well.

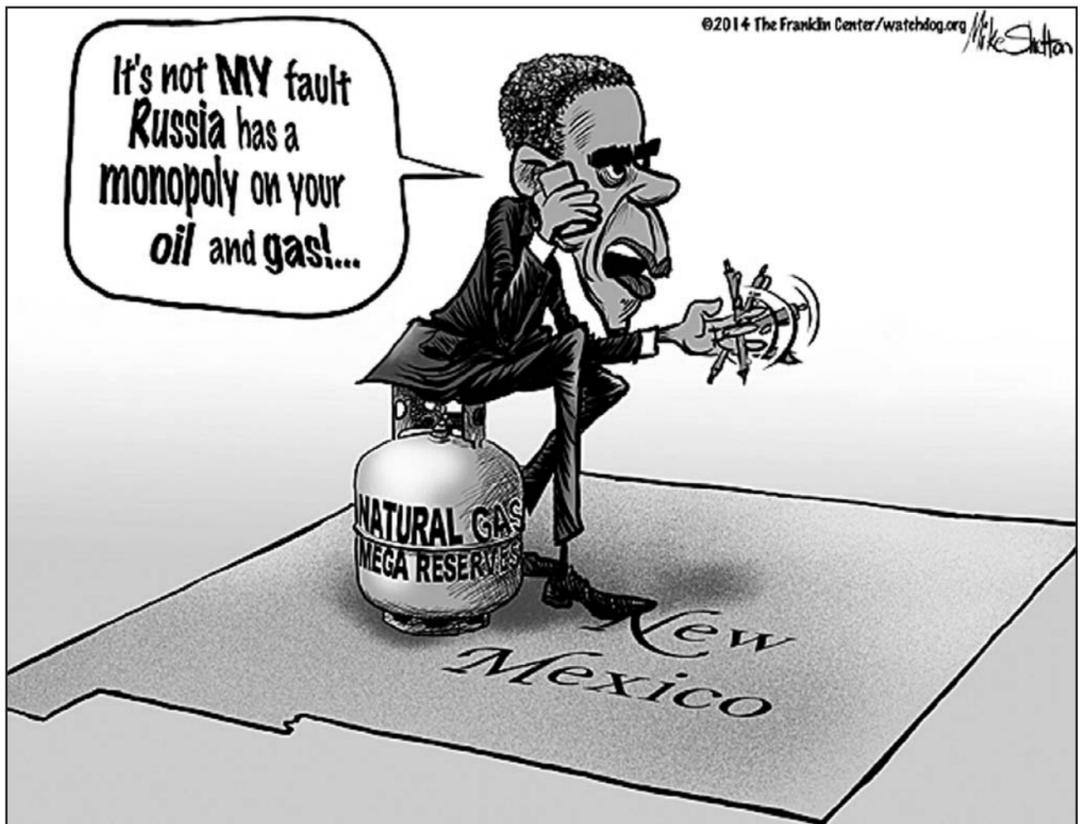
When Mike Floersch spoke that night, he wasn't fighting Hy-Vee's presence in the north development so much as the overall size of their proposed store. And that's what Phillips and the other commissioners were addressing - a proposed change in the building size from 68,500 to 93,850 square feet. Floersch was quoted as saying: "If Hy-Vee would build a 65,000 to 68,000 square foot building at this location, we could all go home and everyone would be happy."

But of course, that didn't happen, as Phillips was joined by Mark Hatesohl, Jim Sherow and Bruce Snead in approving the amendment, 4-1. And Hy-Vee was built. But that's not the end of the story, as earlier this week Floersch announced the family would be closing their downtown grocery.

And it's no surprise, is it? We knew that night that local government was picking the winners, Dial and Hy-Vee, and losers, the Floersch family. The commission's utilitarian rationale was clear: "This is about the greater good."

They believed their policy

## The Conservative Side...



was more important than whatever the Floersch family, their employees and patrons, or the town for that matter, would forego as a result. Those who were forced to bear the costs

were treated by city officials and their special interests as a means to other peoples' ends. It was really that simple and quite sad.

So now we are left with what we suspect is an underperforming Hy-Vee, recently bringing their third manager to town, and Ray's closing. Such is the plight of utilitarianism.

Our hope now is that the Floersch family somehow finds a reasonable alternative to closing their neighborhood grocery. If they do, they will find broad based community support.

— King Crossword —  
Answers  
Solution time: 21 mins.

G	E	E	Z	O	R	B	F	O	R	D			
A	C	M	E	R	O	E	E	R	I	E			
S	H	I	P	C	O	L	D	C	A	S	E		
H	O	T	H	E	A	D	E	U	L	E	R		
Y	E	S	M	A	N								
S	T	A	R	K	C	O	L	D	W	A	R		
H	O	P	E	C	O						E	R	A
H	O	T	D	O	G	S	H	U	T	C	H		
R	O	O											
C	L	E	A	N	C	O	L	D	D	A	Y		
H	O	T	W	A	T	E	R	A	R	G	O		
A	C	N	E	O	D	D	T	O	U	R			
R	O	A	R	T	E	E	E	P	E	E			



**SA STRAWN & ASSOCIATES, LLC**  
Client Focused Bookkeeping Services  
785/410.3110  
103 S. 4th St. - Suite 219, Manhattan, KS 66502

- Contractors
- Landlords
- Management companies
- Non-profits
- Retailers
- Small businesses

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](http://ksstatebank.com)

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

### King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 "Wow!"
  - 5 Sphere
  - 8 Auto pioneer Henry
  - 12 Pinnacle
  - 13 Fish eggs
  - 14 Great Lake
  - 15 Ocean-going vessel
  - 16 CBS crime-solving series
  - 18 Easily angered person
  - 20 Swiss mathematician
  - 21 "Of course"
  - 22 Fellow
  - 23 Harsh
  - 26 Ideological conflict
  - 30 Move like 38-Across
  - 31 Author Umberto
  - 32 Historic period
  - 33 Franks
  - 36 Starsky's partner
  - 38 Kanga's kid
  - 39 Chance
  - 40 Spotless
  - 43 Rarity in Hell?
  - 47 Trouble
  - 49 Jason's ship
  - 50 Teen's facial woe
  - 51 Peculiar
  - 52 Go sightseeing
  - 53 Bellow
  - 54 Golf ball holder
  - 55 Fencing sword
- DOWN**
- 1 Long cut
  - 2 Reverberate
  - 3 Send forth
  - 4 Gentle breeze
  - 5 Killer whales
  - 6 Crucifix
  - 7 - canto
  - 8 Fruitful
  - 9 Verbal
  - 10 Get up
  - 11 Antelope's playmate
  - 17 Transaction
  - 19 "A mouse!"
  - 22 Cattle call?
  - 23 "Be quiet!"
  - 24 Excessively
  - 25 Suitable
  - 26 IV measures
  - 27 Drench
  - 28 Curved line
  - 29 "Hurray!"
  - 31 Id counter-part
  - 34 Bureau compartment
  - 35 Chaplin's O'Neill
  - 36 "2001" computer
  - 37 Latest news
  - 39 Teeming throng
  - 40 Burn somewhat
  - 41 Crazy
  - 42 Sicilian spouter
  - 43 Relinquish
  - 44 Let fall
  - 45 Chills and fever
  - 46 Bygone times
  - 48 Youngster

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			
18				19			20			
		21				22				
23	24	25			26			27	28	29
30					31				32	
33		34	35				36	37		
		38				39				
40	41	42			43			44	45	46
47					48			49		
50					51			52		
53					54			55		

© 2014 King Features Synd., Inc.



### Egg Topped Hash Brown Nests

Try this new delicious take on breakfast - kids and adults alike will love this way to eat their eggs and potatoes!

#### Ingredients

1 box (5.2 oz) Betty Crocker® Seasoned Skillet® hash brown potatoes Hot water, salt and margarine called for on potato box

1/4 cup Bac-Os® bacon flavor bits or chips, if desired

12 eggs

1 teaspoon salt

1/2 teaspoon pepper

#### Directions

1 Heat oven to 400°F. Spray 12 regular-size muffin cups with cooking spray.

2 Make potatoes as directed on box. When done, place in medium bowl. Stir in bacon bits. Divide mixture evenly among muffin cups. Bake about 15 minutes or until starting to turn golden brown on edges. Reduce oven temperature to 350°F.

3 Crack 1 egg over each muffin cup. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Bake at 350°F about 18-20 minutes or until egg whites and yolks are firm, not runny. Cool 5 minutes before removing from muffin cups.

#### Expert Tips

Make this a complete breakfast by adding some fresh fruit on the side for a burst of sweetness and color.

**purplewave.com** **KDOT INTERNET AUCTION**  
**THUR., MAR. 20**  
 Bidding starts to close at 10 a.m. CDT **BID NOW!**  
**200+ ITEMS SELLING WITHOUT RESERVE!**  
 Including: tractors, trailers, autos, air compressors, street sweeper, concrete equipment, generators, mowers, road safety equipment and more.  
 10% buyer's premium. 866.608.9283

Low Cost Conservation - Tree and Shrub Seedlings **KANSAS FOREST SERVICE**  
**Kansas Forest Service**  
 Spring orders, now through May 5th.  
 Bareroot and Containerized Available  
 Seedlings Shipped to Your House  
 Order online or call **www.KansasForests.org**  
**1-888-740-8733**  
 Prices Starting at **\$0.80** per Seedling

**Your hometown. Their future.**  
  
 Imagine the possibilities for your community if everyone designated just 5% of their estates to hometown needs.  
 With the help of community foundations, we can create permanent sources of funding for local charities, schools, churches, parks, and so much more!  
  
 A little planning. A big impact.  
 Learn more at **keepfiveinkansas.com**

**11th Annual Open House**  
 Please Join Us  
**MARCH 14, 15 & 16, 2014**  
**FRIDAY & SATURDAY - 8AM TO 6PM**  
**SUNDAY 1PM TO 5PM**  
 - PRIZE GIVEAWAYS & REFRESHMENTS -  
**Lowest Prices of the Year!**  
  
 Specializing in Complete Post Frame Buildings.  
 1446 Jade Rd #C Columbia, MO 673-355-2642  
 304 S Locust Glenwood, Iowa 712-527-4117  
 1211 2nd Street St Paul, NE. 800-374-6988  
 167 HWY 59 Richmond, Kansas 800-374-6988  
 303 S Kansas, Haven, Kansas 620-465-2790  
 105 B South Main Ingalls, KS. 800-374-6988  
**QSI**  
 Quality Structures, Inc.  
**www.qualitystructures.com**  
 Experience the QSI Advantage

### Answers On Page 4

## Classifieds...

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 www.butlertransport.com

Help Wanted/Truck Driver Drivers - CDL-A. Train and work for us! Professional, focused CDL training available. Choose Company Driver, Owner Operator, Lease Operator or Lease Trainer. (877) 369-7885 www.CentralTruckDrivingJobs.com

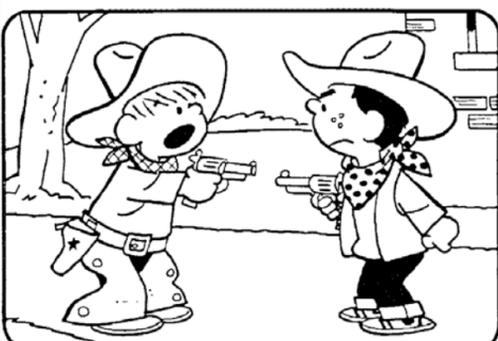
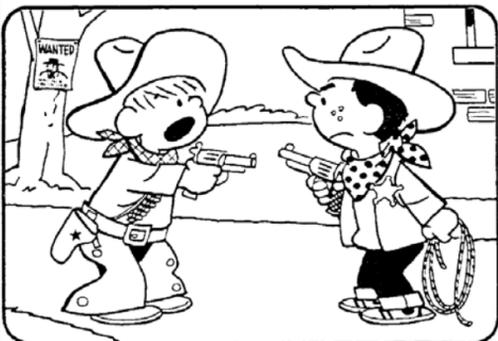
Help Wanted/Truck Driver Exp. Flatbed Drivers: Regional opportunities now open with plenty of freight & great pay! 800-277-0212 or driveforprime.com

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

Sporting Goods GUN SHOW MARCH 15-16 SAT. 9-5 & SUN. 9-3 WICHITA CESSNA ACTIVITY CENTER (2744 GEORGE WASHINGTON BLVD) BUY-SELL-TRADE INFO: (563) 927-8176

### HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.  
 Differences: 1. Poster is missing. 2. Holster is reversed. 3. Bullet belt is missing. 4. Gun is moved. 5. Star is missing. 6. Rope is missing.

### THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME BY AL SCADUTO



## Wamego Free Press CityLink TV



### It' Up And Running...

Now Archived Video on Wamego Free Press Local TV:

Gov. Sam Brownback at Woodrow Wilson

Rep. Lynn Jenkins at Landolls

Wamego Girls 60 - Marysville 43

Wamego Boys 76 - Marysville 55

Wamego Boys Jv - Council Grove

Just go to **manhattanfreepress.com** and hit on **Wamego Free Press Local TV.**

## Kansas St Women Loose Game, Deb Patterson

By Tonya Ricklefs  
Manhattan Free Press

Last Friday, K-State women's basketball was looking to extend their season in the Big 12 tournament. With going 5 and 15 in the Big 12, post season tournaments in either the NIT or the NCAA seemed doubtful. Kansas State was matched up against KU at 6pm in Oklahoma City. Kansas State just was victorious over the Jayhawks in Lawrence last month. The women's basketball team knew how to set the tone, control the game with rebounds and keeping turnovers to a minimum.

With less than 7 minutes left in the first half, KU started closing the gap and Kansas State seemed to struggle on how to respond. Romero ended the first half with only 5 points and the confidence gained with their defense domination seemed to begin to disappear. More mental mistakes with turnovers began to happen. Another situation that the Wildcats had to deal with was Katya Leik receiving three fouls before halftime. This tied her hands defensively and the Cats needed other players to step up.

One exciting aspect of the game overall was the performance of Breanna Lewis, she scored 8 points and had 5 rebounds early in the first half. She has a huge amount of potential as a player and needs to realize what she is capable. Once she is comfortable with her abilities as a dominating player, she will almost be unstoppable.

In the second half, KU got its

first lead and then the game continued to battle back and forth. Lewis found one of the many loose balls for K-State under the basket and put the tying score in for a layup in the last second.

In overtime, the Cats seemed to be fired up again and charged again quickly with a 6-point lead. Leik was trying to keep the energy up and was doing well with three-point scoring. Romero, who had seemed to struggle with how to respond to the Jayhawks defensive game, seemed to get into a much better groove in the second half, into overtime. She was needed when both Leik and Lewis fouled out with under 2 minutes left in overtime. Sadly, the Cats just could not keep turnovers under control and lost 87-84.

This past Sunday, Athletic Director John Currie held a press conference to announce that after this game Friday night, he met with Deb Patterson and she was relieved of her duties as head coach of the Kansas State Women's Basketball team. For some on social media it did not seem as a surprise, for many others close to the program it came as complete shock. Deb Patterson has been the head coach for 18 years. During her time here they had 350 wins and two Big 12 titles. Kamie Ethridge will serve as interim head coach while the athletic department looks for a replacement.

If had the ability to predict if this is a smart move for Kansas State or not, I would be making much more money hiring the "perfect coaches" across the

United States, and probably world-wide. I know I will miss seeing Coach Patterson there and I know she cared and mentored her players and staff. John Currie said he could not foresee that the trajectory the team was on currently taking the program in a direction that the department expected. I hope that while the winning history of the program is something important in hiring for Mr. Currie, I hope the history of quality players and quality individuals will also continue in the program. These young women have always done nothing but bring pride to the program and have developed a young fan base that they mentor with pride and dedication.

I know some of you have read my pleas in this paper to come to the games, support women's basketball, and how exciting the games are. Now really is the time that the team will need your support. Next year they will be facing the same challenge and transition that the men's team faced not so long ago. We have no idea at this point what familiar faces will be around next year on the staff and what players may stay. Many fans will struggle and be angry. Change for right or wrong is still always hard. If you agree with the choice of John Currie or not, the one thing that should not change is support from the K-State family for the team. Next year, more than ever, when the team comes around to thank you, the fans for being there, make sure you are there to thank them for being there as well.



Kansas State's Leticia Romero stops and looks for a cutter against Kansas Friday. Kansas won the game 87-84. (Photo By Tonya Ricklefs)

## Baylor's FT Shooting Helps Beat K-State, 76-74

By DAVE SKRETTA  
AP Sports Writer

MANHATTAN, Kan. (AP) — Kenny Chery kept stepping to the free-throw line and kept knocking them down.

Ten times in a row. The stretch of perfection came in the midst of 17 straight made free throws for Baylor, and was part of a 29-point outpouring by the junior guard that helped the streaking Bears hold on for a tense 76-74 victory over Kansas State on Saturday.

"Our senior leadership got us together and said, 'We need to make free throws,'" said Chery, who finished 13 of 14 from the line. "We made them."

Kansas State had the ball with three-tenths of a second left, but Will Spradling's full-court inbound pass was picked off by Cory Jefferson, allowing time to run out.

"They made plays. You have to give them credit," Kansas State coach Bruce Weber said.

Jefferson added 16 points for the Bears (21-10, 9-9 Big 12), who erased a 12-point second-half deficit to win for the seventh time in their last eight games. They also beat the Wildcats (20-11, 10-8) twice in the same season for the first time in school history.

Baylor's winning stretch coincides with the return of Chery to the starting lineup. He had been struggling with turf toe earlier in the season, when the Bears were slip-sliding through the conference schedule and in danger of being eliminated from NCAA tournament contention.

Now, they're riding a wave of momentum into next week's Big 12 tournament.

"I wouldn't pick against us right now," Baylor coach Scott Drew said. "I think our guys have showed we have some resiliency, we have some toughness and we have some heart."

Marcus Foster scored 29 points while Thomas Gipson added 16 and Nino Williams 15

for the Wildcats, who had their school-record 15-game winning streak at Bramlage Coliseum come to an end.

"I don't know what our chances are in March Madness," Gipson said, "but we want to win the Big 12 tournament so that we have a chance."

At least, be assured of a chance. Kansas State and Baylor have both done enough to warrant strong consideration as at-large picks when Selection Sunday rolls around.

That's a far cry from where they started the season — the Wildcats lost their opener at home to Northern Colorado, while the Bears at one point lost five straight Big 12 games. Both of them managed to pick up some marquee wins, though, taking some of the pressure off next week.

"We've still got games left," Weber said, "and I hope they're ready to play in Kansas City and they can make amends for today's loss."

The Wildcats would have

felt even better about their chances if they would have protected a 33-25 halftime lead that eventually grew to 12 points early in the second half.

That's when the Wildcats went cold from the field, making two field goals in an 8-minute stretch, and seemed to stop defending the Bears altogether.

"Once they got rolling," Gipson said, "it was hard for us to stop."

Brady Heslip's 3-pointer with about 10 minutes remain-

ing gave Baylor its first lead, but it was still 46-all with about 8 minutes left when the Wildcats started to miss free throws. They clanked out five of six at one point, and the Bears slowly crept out to a 56-49 lead.

Every time the Wildcats threatened to get close, the Bears had an answer.

Foster hit a 3-pointer to make it 66-62, and Royce O'Neale was fouled and made two free throws. Foster hit another 3, Chery made two free

throws. Gipson scored with 31 seconds left to make it 70-67, and Chery again stepped to the foul line and made two free throws.

"Kenny was huge," Drew said. "He's been great from the free-throw line."

Gary Franklin added two more free throws with 14.4 seconds left, and after Foster's final 3-pointer, Chery finished off the incredible display of foul shooting with two more to wrap it up.



Kansas State's Second Team All Big 12 player Marcus Foster (2) scored 29 points against Baylor. (Photo by Ben Brake)

### If you like the Free Press please tell these Advertisers

Check us out online!

**LittleAppleCars.com**

TOYOTA HONDA

1 Mile N. of Target on Seth Child Manhattan 1.800.365.0017

2828 Amherst Ave.  
Manhattan, Ks 66502

785-539-7441  
Fax 785-776-3787

**CIA COPELAND**  
INSURANCE AGENCY, Inc.

Proudly serving the people of Kansas since 1960.

Jay Copeland, CIC, CWCU

jay@copelandins.com

601 S 5th St, Ste B  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
www.copelandins.com

Cell: 785-410-5505  
Office: 785-776-0081  
Fax: 785-776-0433

Schram Chrysler Dodge Jeep, Inc



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