



Manhattan Free Press

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An Award Winning Weekly Newspaper

Thursday, April 3, 2014

Eiditorial...



Commissioners Ron Wells, Bob Boyd and Dave Lewis showing frustration.

Commissioners Frustrated... Good

Editorial
By Jon A. Brake

We are told that the Riley County Commission are frustrated by what is going on in Topeka.

1. Senate Bill 298 would repeal the Mortgage Fees that buyers of homes and land pay to file a with the County.

2. The Commissioner are upset that a bill has been introduced to change the Riley County Police Department Directors position back to an elected official.

Lets take number one, Riley County brings in a little over \$1 million each year from the fee and the Commissioners are saying they will have to raise property taxes if that becomes

law. Big Deal!

Last year 2,278 people paid the County \$1 million, that's about \$4,300 per person or family.

If the Commission will look they bring in \$552,644 for every mill they go up, or they would need 2 mills to take the place of the mortgage fee. That is only \$14.68 per Riley County Citizen. Big Deal!

Number two... The Commissioners think they have more power by appointing a Director than they would if the Voters filled the spot. And they do have the power. Each one of the Commissioners are on the 7-person Riley County Law Board and each year one of

them takes the Chairmanship. That's power but the budget keeps going up and the Commissioners say that can do nothing but fund the police.

Well, when the Riley County Law Board was first formed it called for "One" County Commissioner and "One" City Commissioner. The over members were to be Riley County Citizens and the County Attorney.

Frustration comes to the voters when they see this Commission looking for power, like funding future City Debt by forming a Riley County Building Commission and appointing themselves as the Board. "That Frustrating."

EPA And Army Corps Change More Rules

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have proposed a massive 370-page joint rule once again claiming to clarify the types of waters that are subject to their regulatory control. In response to this proposed joint rule Congressman Tim Huelskamp (KS-01) issued the following statement:

"While the EPA and the Corp claim to exempt agriculture from their regulatory control, there are still dozens of unanswered questions that leave many questioning this claim. This massive 370-page rule, on its face, appears to raise more concerns and create more over-

regulation, not less. This appears to be a bureaucratic lawyer's dream and a Kansas farmer's nightmare.

"Our Kansas farmers and ranchers can ill afford yet more unnecessary government mandates and controls that destroy their way of life and defy common sense. As a fifth generation farmer, I understand the enormous time, cost and difficulty associated with complying with another over-regulation coming out of Washington.

"During the 90-day public comment period, I will be working closely with Kansas farmers and ranchers, as well

as, their respective organizations to review, analyze, and respond to this huge proposal. Given our past experiences in Kansas with the EPA on these matters – from navigable waters to farm dust – we will remain ever-vigilant in fighting against any expansion of Washington control and infringement upon our private property."

Representative Huelskamp has been a strong leader in the fight against further Washington over-regulation of farm dust, navigable waters, the Lesser Prairie Chicken, farm kids, and others that impact our rural way of life.

Student Points Finger... Supended

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — A Ohio principal says she suspended a 10-year-old boy from school for three days for pretending his finger was a gun and pointing it at another student's head.

The boy's father says he thinks it's the adults who are acting childish after the boy was suspended from

Devonshire Alternative Elementary School in Columbus last week.

The fifth-grader said he was "just playing around." But district spokesman Jeff Warner tells The Columbus Dispatch (<http://bit.ly/1jO1rL7>) that Devonshire Principal Patricia Price has warned students about pretend gun play numer-

ous times this year, and everyone should know the rules by now.

Warner says the boy put his finger to the side of the other student's head and pretended to shoot "kind of execution style."

The boy's father says the suspension is overboard.

Q&A: Status Update As Health Law Marks a Milestone

WASHINGTON — Like so much about the government's health care overhaul, Monday's deadline to sign up for coverage in 2014 didn't turn out quite as planned: Many people still are eligible for extensions that will let them enroll.

The change of plans shouldn't come as much of a surprise, given the disastrous HealthCare.gov rollout last fall, the mass policy cancellation notices that shocked even the president, and other set-in-law deadlines that turned out not to be not so firm.

Still, step by step, the law is taking effect. People are signing up. Insurance is kicking in or changing for millions of Americans.

It's time for a status report as the law marks a milestone, although no one's quite sure how to define success:

Q: How many people have gotten coverage?

A: That's the big question, and the answer is a moving target. About 6 million people have signed up for private insurance through the new state and federal marketplaces, and several million more have gotten insurance through expanded Medicaid coverage under the health care law. But a lot of those people switched over from other plans, so the net increase isn't known. Also, under changes that kicked in during 2010, 3 million young adults up to age 26 have gotten coverage under their parents' plans.

Q: Do those numbers meet government expectations?

A: It depends on which expectations. Initially, the government had hoped to sign up 7

million through the marketplace exchanges by March 31. It ditched that number after HealthCare.gov experienced near-paralysis when it launched last fall. The new target became 6 million signed up through the exchanges. The administration is giving many people extra time to finish signing up, hoping for a robust number at the end.

Q: What happened to the March 31 deadline?

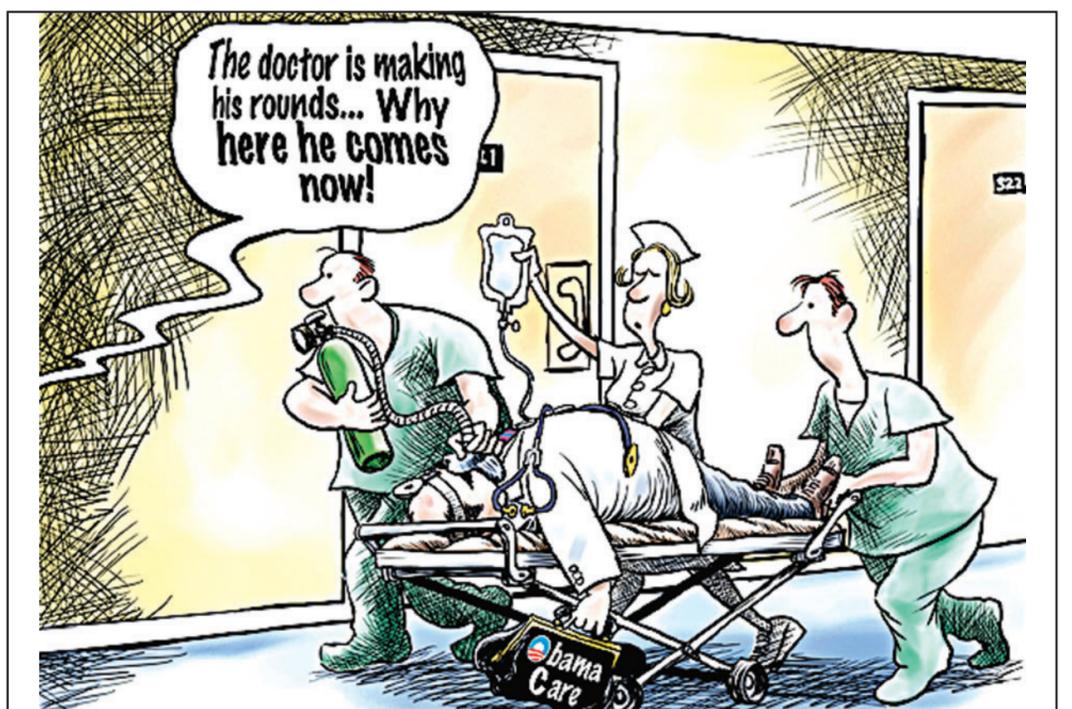
A: It's still there. It's just that a lot of people don't have to meet it. The government last week announced "special enrollment periods" for two big groups of people: those who have started an application but didn't manage to finish the complicated enrollment process by Monday, and people dealing with "special circumstances" such as natural disasters, technical difficulties, family problems, complications related to immigration status and more.

Q: In general, who's already signed up?

A: Mostly people who didn't have insurance through their jobs, many of them with modest incomes. More than half are women.

Q: How many of the people who have signed up are getting help paying their premiums?

A: Four out of five of those selecting plans through the insurance exchanges have been qualifying for federal subsidies. In general, a single person earning between \$11,670 and \$46,680 or a four-person family bringing in \$23,850-\$95,400 can get premium breaks, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation. Provided on a slid-



ing scale that's keyed to income, the most generous subsidies are available to people on the lower rungs of the middle class.

Q: Does signing up for coverage seal the deal?

A: No. People still have to pay their premiums. There's no definitive word yet on how many people are following through. Caroline Pearson of the market research firm Avalere Health estimates that between 10 percent and 20 percent have not paid, which

could drop total enrollment down to between 5 million and 6 million people.

Q: How many people are still uninsured?

Continue reading the main story

A: That's the flip side of the big enrollment question. There were about 47 million uninsured people in 2012. The number has surely gone down since then, but it's still sizeable. A Gallup-Healthways survey, based on interviews in January and February, found that 15.9

percent of U.S. adults were uninsured, down from 17.1 percent for the last three months of 2013. That translates roughly to about 3 million people gaining coverage since the start of the year. The Congressional Budget Office predicts there will still be 30 million people without insurance once the law is fully implemented.

Q: Who's still uninsured?

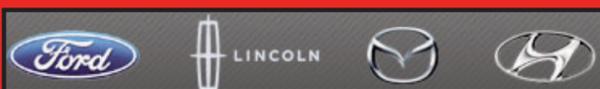
A: Millions of low-income people, in part because nearly half the states haven't acted to expand Medicaid coverage.

Also, the estimated 11 million-plus immigrants who live in the U.S. illegally aren't eligible to get insurance through the health exchanges.

Q: What's happening with the "young invincibles" who have gotten so much attention?

A: During the first five months of enrollment, 26 percent of those who selected plans were between the ages of 18 and 34, although this group makes up about 40 percent of potential enrollees.

DICK EDWARDS
Manhattan, Ks



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Riley County Commission Minutes

The Board of County Commissioners Of Riley County, Kansas

The Regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners met at the Riley County Plaza East Building March 27, 2014 with the following members present: Robert Boyd, Chair; Ron Wells, Vice Chair; Dave Lewis, Member; and Cindy Kabiell sitting in for 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; Cindy Volanti, Human Resource Manager/Deputy Clerk; Brady Bauman, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer; Lori Hanson, Administrative Assistant II; Rich Vargo, County Clerk; Monty Wedel, Planning/Special Projects Director; Bob Isaac, Planner; Alvin Perez, Public Works Operations/Fleet Manager; Joanna Lee, ISO I - Adult; Sandi Wikoff-Harper, ISO II - Adult; Brett Clark, ISO I - Adult; Becky Brooks, Administrative Assistant II; Sara Darnell, ISO I; Heather Jager, ISO II - Juvenile; Jenny Yocum, Youth Court Coordinator; Shelly Williams, Community Corrections Director; Daniel Clark, ISO I - Adult; Bill Felber; Steve Springer; and Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters, attended.

Hanson presented the Riley County Employee of the Month for April to Heather Jager.

Lewis moved to approve a CIP Project Funding Form for the design cost for one culvert for the Public Works Department in the amount of

\$35,000.00. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to approve a CIP Project Funding Form for the repair of the fuel station pump head sump for the Public Works Department in the amount of \$15,000.00. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to approve a CIP Project Funding Form for the shop site fence for the Public Works Department in the amount of \$25,000.00. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to approve a CIP Project Funding Form to replace CiCo exercise trail for the Public Works Department in the amount of \$20,000.00. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to approve a Purchase Authorization for a 12-yard tandem axle dump truck with plow and spreader for the Public Works Department in the amount of \$225,000.00. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to approve a CIP Project Funding Form for a motor grader packer/roller and lift for the Public Works Department in the amount of \$45,000.00. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to approve a Purchase Authorization for a motor grader packer/roller and lift for the Public Works Department in the amount of \$35,000.00. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to approve a Purchase Authorization for the design of one culvert for the Public Works Department in the amount of \$15,000.00. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to approve a Purchase Authorization for repair of fuel station pump head sump for the Public Works Department in the amount of \$15,000.00. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to approve a Purchase Authorization for complete security fencing

around the Public Works complex for the Public Works Department in the amount of \$25,000.00. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to approve a Purchase Authorization to replace CiCo Park exercise trail for the Public Works Department in the amount of \$20,000.00. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to approve a Purchase Authorization for a ¼ ton 4x4 extended cab pickup for the Public Works Department in the amount of \$26,000.00. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to approve a Purchase Authorization for a motor grader packer/roller and lift for the Public Works Department in the amount of \$45,000.00. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

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Lewis moved to approve a Purchase Authorization for complete security fencing

Lewis moved to sign a letter to Members of the Riley County House Delegation that the Board of Riley County Commissioners remains in unanimous opposition to repeal or alteration of the mortgage registration fee. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

9:01 Monty Wedel, Planning/Special Projects Director

Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Brady Bauman, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer; Bill Felber; Steve Springer; Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Craig Cox, Assistant County Counselor; and Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters, attended.

Wedel said since Mr. Steve Springer has been before the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) to discuss his proposed development across the viaduct on K-177, he thought it would be instructive to present the commission with a brief update on the situation.

In conducting preliminary discussions with Mr. Springer regarding his proposed development, it was discovered that the access to his proposed development site may have issues. The map illustrates the strip of land that Riley County owns that is currently being used to access the property.

Upon initial review of the records by Planning & Development staff and legal counsel, it does not appear that there is anything on the record that grants right of access to the Springer property. Therefore, legal counsel has requested a Title Report from Charlson & Wilson Bonded Abstractors to provide a definitive statement regarding the nature of Riley County's ownership and any encumbrances that may exist.

Wedel said once the Title Report is completed, staff intends to formulate a variety of options and present those options to the BOCC for consideration. The options could range from sale of the tract to granting of an access easement, or other similar concepts. Until this issue is resolved, Planning and Development staff has advised Mr. Springer not to proceed with any sort of development application so that Mr. Springer does not incur expenses on a project that may not be feasible, depending on the resolution of the access issue.

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

9:11 Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

Administrative Work Session

Bill Felber; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Brady Bauman, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer; and Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters, attended.

Holeman discussed legislation.

9:28 Ron Fehr, Manhattan City Manager

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer;

Brady Bauman, Manhattan Mercury; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer; and Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters, attended.

9:50 Rich Vargo attended the meeting.

Cindy Kabiell left the meeting.

9:54 Lewis moved to adjourn. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Fehr presented a City of Manhattan projects update.

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LAND AUCTION

680 ACRES ± POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY
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American Legion Hall - 316 2nd Street - OLSBURG, KS

Tract 1: 605 acres± of native grass pasture with 246 acres± in Section 7, Township 7 South, Range 8 East and 359 acres± Section 18, Township 7 South, Range 8 East. Property sets north of Swede Road and west of Galilee Road.
570 Acres± of Native grass pasture with 35 acres± CRP acres) Mineral rights included.
Tract 2: 74 acres± in pasture grass in Section 22, Township 7 South, Range 8 East. Property sets northeast of the K13/K16 junction and south of Swede Road. Mineral rights included.

LAND LOCATION: From Tittle Creek Blvd/K13 intersection, 15 miles NNE, **Tract 2** is on east side just north of K16 junction. **Tract 1** is 2 miles west at K13/K16 junction then north 1 mile on Galilee Road ...property located on west side of road. From **99 HWY/K16 intersection**, 8 miles Southwest, **Tract 2** is on east side just north of K16 junction. **Tract 1** is 2 miles west at K13/K16 junction then north 1 mile on Galilee Road.

See the Sale Bill in the April 17th Free Press for complete details!

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Ancient Burial Boxes Found

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli authorities on Monday unveiled 11 ancient burial boxes dating to around the time of Jesus, recovered by police during a midnight raid on suspected antiquities dealers.

The boxes include a pair of ossuaries believed to contain the remains of two noblemen who lived in Jerusalem some 2,000 years ago.

Some are engraved with designs and even names, giving clues to their origin and contents. The boxes contain bone fragments and remnants of what experts say is pottery buried with the deceased.

Israel's Antiquities Authority said the boxes were recovered last Friday, shortly after midnight, when police observed two cars parked suspiciously at a military checkpoint on the outskirts of Jerusalem. When they investigated, they found four people involved in an exchange of the boxes. Once police recovered the items, they alerted the authority.

Police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld said the boxes were "stolen from a cave" near Jerusalem with the intent of being sold to collectors. He said authorities had been tracking the suspects for some time but would not elaborate. The exchange involved an Israeli and a Palestinian seller attempting to make the sale to an Israeli customer, he said.

According to Israeli antiquities law, all antiquities discovered by the public are considered property of the state.

Two of the suspects remained in custody on Monday, and the others were under house arrest, according to the authority.

The boxes, known as ossuaries, are believed to date back to the Second Temple Period, a time stretching from roughly 515 B.C. to 70 A.D. that included the reign of King Herod,

who built some of the most famous sites in Jerusalem and the Holy Land, and the time of Jesus.

Not unlike today, the Jerusalem of the time was a place of strong religious divisions, multiple languages and a diverse economy. Visitors made pilgrimages from far and wide, bringing with them commerce and traffic on religious holidays.

According to common Jewish burial practices of the time, the deceased were not buried but laid out in a cave for one year. Afterward, the bones were gathered and stored in the special boxes.

"It's kind of like where the deceased go to retire," said Stephen Pfann, president of the University of the Holy Land. Pfann noted that the use of these burial boxes developed at the time partly because of the difficulty of drilling directly into Jerusalem's hard bedrock.

Some of the newly recovered boxes feature elaborate engravings, indicating wealth and a high social status of the deceased.

"It was an expense to cut a tomb at all," said Pfann. "It definitely took a certain amount of wealth."

The boxes are not especially rare. The Antiquities Authority already has in its possession over 1,000 of these ancient boxes. But the authority's deputy director, Eitan Klein, said that each box was significant.

"We can learn from each ossuary about a different aspect of language, art and burial practice," he said. "And we can learn about the soul of the person."

Two were inscribed in Hebrew with names - "Yoezer" and "Ralphine." Klein said that he hoped to learn more about the identity of the deceased through future research.

According to Klein, the

boxes held the remains primarily of rabbis, businessmen and aristocrats of the time. The use of ossuaries became popular during the 2nd century B.C., influenced by the individualism of Greek and Roman societies. They fell out of fashion, Klein said, after Roman domination of Jerusalem in 70 A.D.

Klein estimated the value of the boxes to be in the thousands of dollars.

In the past, allegations of forgery have been made over certain ossuaries and their inscriptions.

In one of the most famous cases, doubts still linger over a 10-year forgery investigation into the origins of an ossuary claimed to be inscribed with a reference to Jesus Christ. The case was closed in 2012 with no one convicted of forgery.

Klein said he had no questions about the authenticity of the latest discovery, given their engravings and contents.

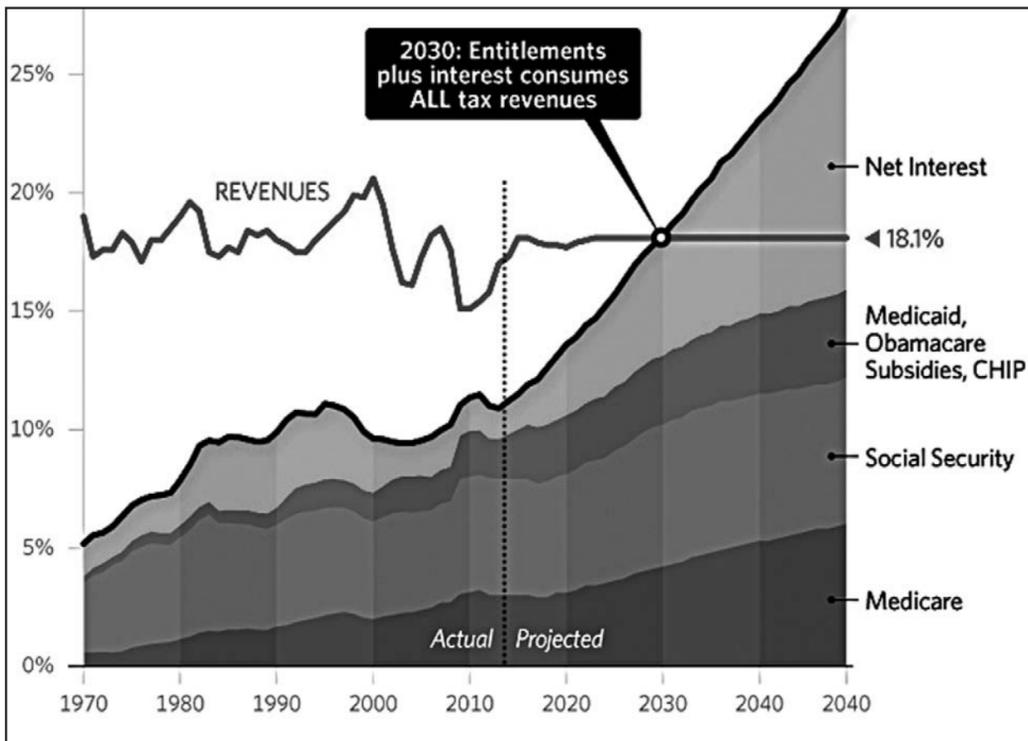
"These ossuaries are authentic," he said. "Everything here smells authentic."



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All Tax Revenue Will Go Toward Entitlements and Net Interest by 2030

In less than two decades, all projected tax revenues would be consumed by three federal programs (Medicare, Social Security, and Medicaid, which includes CHIP and Obamacare) and interest on the debt. Entitlement reform is a must.

Rural Residents Confront Higher Health Costs

DENVER (AP) — Bill Fales wanted a new baler and a better irrigation system for the 700-acre ranch where he raises grass-fed beef cattle, but he scrapped those plans when he saw his new health insurance premiums.

His Cold Mountain Ranch is in western Colorado's Rocky Mountains, a rural area where outpatient services are twice as expensive as the state average. Fales recently saw his monthly premiums jump 50 percent, to about \$1,800 a month.

Health care has always been more expensive in far-flung communities, where actuarial insurance data show fewer doctors, specialists and hospitals, as well as older residents in need of more health care services. But the rural-urban cost divide has been exacerbated by the Affordable Care Act.

"We've gone from letting the insurance companies use a pre-existing medical condition to jack up rates to having a pre-existing zip code being the reason health insurance is unaffordable," Fales said. "It's just wrong."

Geography is one of only three determinants insurance companies are allowed to use to set premiums under the federal health care law, along with age and tobacco use. Insurance officials say they need such controls to remain viable.

"If premiums are not allowed to keep up with underlying medical costs, no company is going to survive," said Robert Zirkelbach, a spokesman with America's Health Insurance Plans, a Washington, D.C.-based industry group.

The nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation recently rated the Colorado region

where Fales lives as the nation's priciest, based on rates for the lowest-priced "silver" plan, a mid-level policy. In this part of the state, a region that includes Aspen, the cheapest mid-level plan is \$483 a month. In Denver, the same plan is about \$280 a month.

Other insurance price zones on the most-expensive list include rural areas in Georgia, Nevada, Wisconsin and Wyoming. But the cost differences between densely and sparsely populated areas shouldn't come as a shock, Zirkelbach said, because it's simply more expensive to deliver care in such communities.

"That's not new at all. Health insurance premiums track the underlying cost of medical care. This was true before the ACA, and it's true now," he said. "Hopefully, the exchanges will shine a spotlight on the variances that exist in the cost of medical care."

States have only one option to reduce the premium divide between their urban and rural areas. They can set a single statewide rating zone, an option that would reduce premiums for those in rural areas by shifting costs onto more-populated regions.

It's something officials in all but the smallest states are reluctant to do. Only five states — Delaware, Hawaii, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island and Vermont — chose a single rating zone, in addition to Washington, D.C., according to the Kaiser Family Foundation.

"There's always been geographic variance in insurance," said Craig Garthwaite, an economist at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of

Management who has studied the economic consequences of the new health care law.

The difference now, he said, is insurers have fewer levers to adjust premium pricing. Garthwaite also said the health care law makes it easier for rural health insurance shoppers to see what city residents are paying.

"That's forcing them to confront the market, which is a new thing," he said.

It's a bumpy confrontation for many in rural areas who earn too much to qualify for premium subsidies but not enough to easily afford premiums that can approach or exceed \$1,000 a month.

"I have people mad enough to bite a nail in half down here, saying, 'Why are my prices so high?'" said David Hardin, an insurance broker in the south-west Georgia community of Albany, in another of the nation's priciest private health insurance zones.

"Either they're mad as all get-out, or I can hear them crying on the phone. It just breaks your heart," said Hardin, whose customers are seeing monthly premiums that cost at least \$500 a month more than if they'd lived in Atlanta. "I think there was the idea that it might reduce costs, and now they're seeing that it's not."

Some are even considering moving to avoid the premium increases.

In Gardnerville, Nev., about 50 miles south of Reno, freelance writer Tim Plaehn is considering moving to Uruguay, where he and his wife lived for a time and still have friends.

Plaehn pays about \$400 a month in premiums but expects his tab to rise above \$1,000

when his current plan expires. He makes too much to qualify for insurance subsidies but isn't sure he can afford the jump.

"I'm hoping something will change in the law to make it more affordable, because otherwise, something's going to break," he said.

Some premiums in Las Vegas are about \$600 a month cheaper, but he said he doesn't want to live there.

Colorado Insurance Commissioner Marguerite Salazar has traveled to several rural regions to explain the rates to angry customers.

At the meetings, state insurance officials pass out the actuarial data behind the premiums, including details from Colorado's All Payer Claims Database, which lists hospitalization rates and other factors used to determine the cost of health care in a region.

Salazar then walks residents through the differences and says that state officials cannot lower rural rates without driving insurers out of the market.

"They've got to have rates that will allow them to pay the doctors," Salazar said at a November meeting in Greeley, a northeastern Colorado town where rates are higher than Denver.

Salazar recently announced a task force to review the rating zones, but added in a public statement that any changes would have to be based on new data.

Her spokesman, Vincent Plymell, said there is nothing state regulators can do. There are no easy short-term fixes to reduce costs in rural areas, where everything from MRIs to baby deliveries costs more, he said.

Iowa Expands Its "Do Not Rehire" List

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IOWA CITY, Iowa — Iowa's executive branch maintains an internal "do not rehire" list that has grown to more than 1,400 people who are barred from returning to state employment after being fired previously.

A review by The Associated Press shows the two-decades-old list has grown under Gov. Terry Branstad even as the state lacks clear legal justification and policies for how workers' names are added and removed.

Administrative law judges have ruled three times since 2009 that the Department of Administrative Services doesn't have "the statutory or regulatory authority" to issue lifetime employment bans against fired workers.

At least 250 names have been added since Branstad returned to office in 2011, about twice the pace of his predecessor.

Iowa managers say they use the list to reject bad employees and save taxpayer money.

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Obamacare Isn't About Health, It's About Wealth Redistribution

By Robert A. Levy
CATO Institute

The Hobby Lobby case now before the Supreme Court will test whether private, for-profit corporations, acting through their owners, can claim a religious exemption from ObamaCare's mandate to cover contraception as part of employee health insurance.

Supposedly, the case is about birth control and religious freedom. That's the legal issue, but it's not the underlying policy issue. ObamaCare, at its root, is about wealth redistribution.

The economic rationale for health insurance (and other insurance as well) is to pool individual resources, thereby spreading the risk associated with unexpected events that could impose painful financial burdens on victims.

That's why we don't insure against running out of gasoline: The event is anticipated and the expense is manageable. We do, however, insure against house fires: The event is unpredictable and the cost could be onerous.

Health-related illnesses and injuries are a mixed bag. Some costs — such as medical care arising out of a major automobile accident — fall into the unpredictable-and-potentially-burdensome category. Other costs — such as contraception

— are known in advance and tolerable by nearly everyone.

We decide up front if child-birth is a possible and desirable outcome, we are aware whether and when contraception might be needed, and we can afford the cost. Accordingly, rather than pay an insurance company to bear those risks, we typically pay out of pocket.

Are there instances when the need for contraception cannot be forecast? Yes; cases of rape, for example.

But inexpensive, ex post birth control is available. Moreover, those cases are infrequent, uncorrelated with one another and, therefore, insurable at trivial cost.

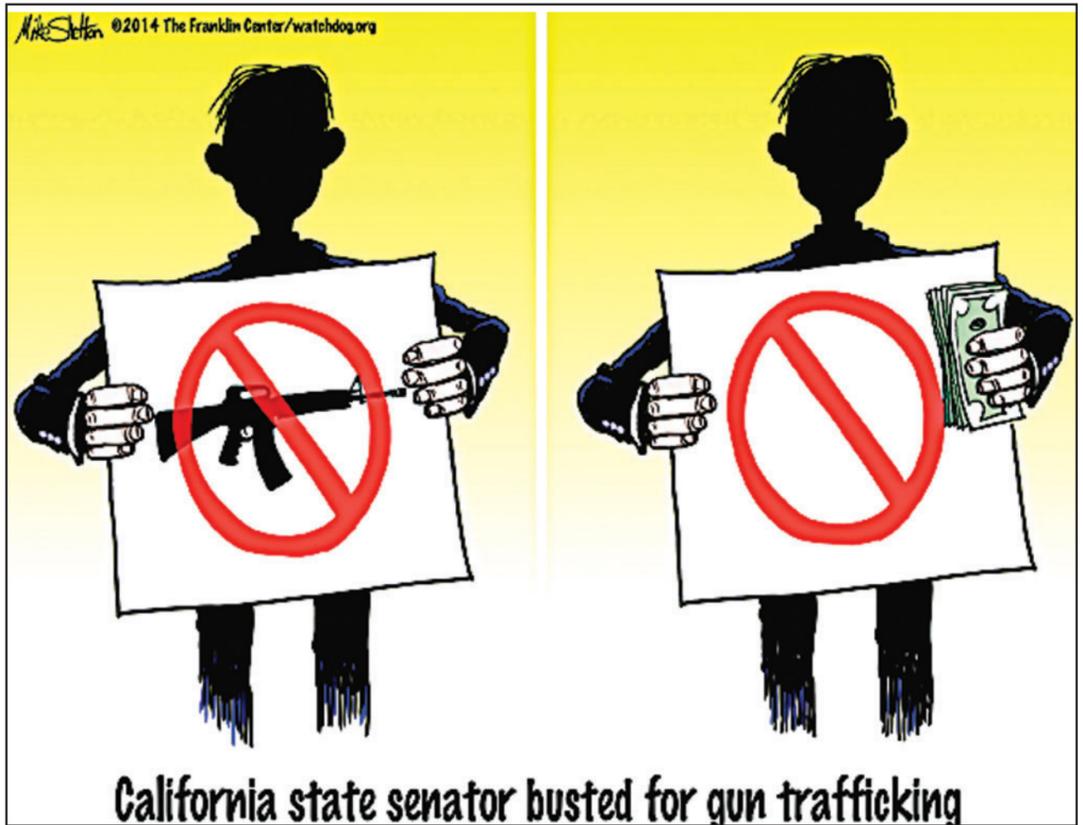
In a rational insurance market, with policies tailored to customer needs, medical coverage would reimburse expenditures associated with such events and the additional insurance premiums would be inconsequential. There's no need to mandate universal contraception coverage to guard against outlays for unforeseen tragedies such as rape.

What about less-affluent persons for whom the cost of contraception can be significant? Indeed, that could be a problem. ObamaCare's solution is wealth redistribution — by forcing some people to cover the cost that others might not be able to afford.

That's the reason government-approved health insurance must cover contraception, even though coverage of ordinary expenses is a money-losing proposition for most individuals.

Unfortunately, government has long been a major player in redistributing wealth. Many Americans — myself included — don't believe that's a legitimate function of government. But at least there's been a sem-

The Conservative Side...



blance of transparency so voters could express their preferences.

Taxes are levied to fund food stamps, welfare, housing, Medicare, and numerous other redistributive programs. Similarly, if a tax had been levied to fund contraception coverage for those who needed it and couldn't pay the bills, voters could have opted to approve or not.

Instead, ObamaCare has erected a complex, opaque, costly and wasteful structure that forces businesses to cover contraception for all employees — the vast majority of whom do not require it and would not buy it. Such is the nature of government mandates.

Adding insult to injury, proponents of ObamaCare assert, without substantiation, that compulsory coverage of contraception will save money in the long run. Presumably, insurance companies won't have to pay for medical care related to pregnancies that contraception would have prevented.

In other words, executives running a multibillion-dollar industry — until they were enlightened by government bureaucrats — were too ignorant to understand that providing “free” contraception to everybody costs less than covering a few pregnancies.

In reality, however, if there were no contraception mandate in ObamaCare, insurers would have to pay incrementally only for pregnancies of those people who had policies covering childbirth, got pregnant because they didn't use contraception and would have used contraception but for their inability to afford either birth control or contraception insurance.

Of course, that hypothetical saving is wholly illusory. What's really at work is breathtaking arrogance of power by the federal government — a

Washington, D.C., takeover of health care.

Americans deserve better. First, expedite competition by allowing interstate sales of health insurance. Second, encourage the states to reform their medical malpractice laws. Third, eliminate constraints on health savings accounts with high-deductible coverage.

Fourth, charge higher premiums for those who enroll with pre-existing conditions; or, alternatively, do not cover high-cost procedures until a specified number of months elapse after enrollment.

Fifth and most important, change the tax treatment of health insurance, which discriminates against individually customized policies in favor of employer-provided coverage.

In lieu of those sensible improvements, the Obama administration has given us wealth redistribution deceptively camouflaged as insurance reform.

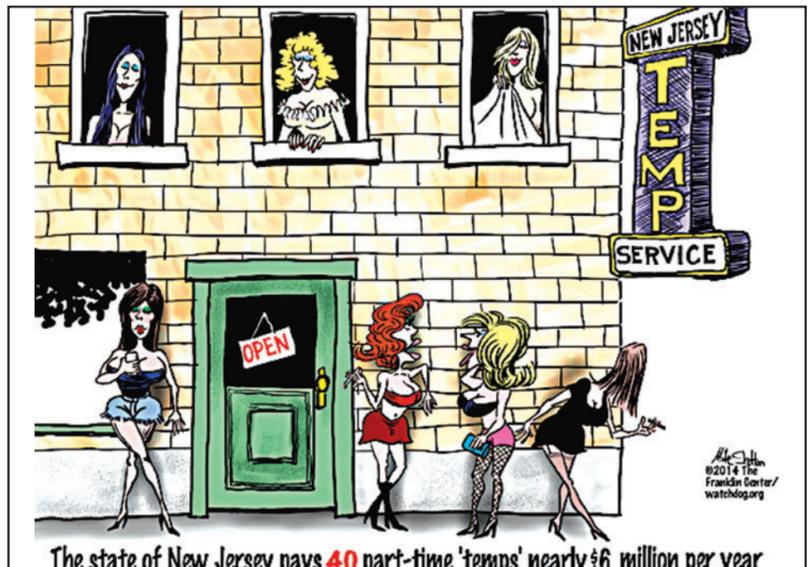
Robert Levy is chairman of the board at the Cato Institute and author of *The Dirty Dozen: How 12 Supreme Court Cases Radically Expanded Government and Eroded Freedom*.

— King Crossword —
Answers
Solution time: 27 mins.

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

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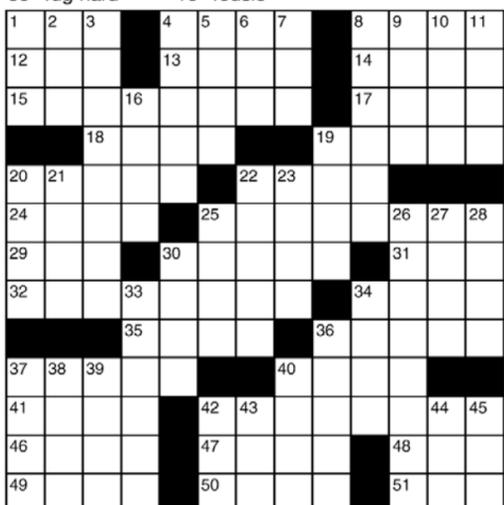
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King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Geological time
 - 4 Nibble
 - 8 Actress Helgenberger
 - 12 Chap
 - 13 Inflammation (Suff.)
 - 14 Eight (Sp.)
 - 15 Mess
 - 17 Vincent van Gogh's brother
 - 18 Choose
 - 19 Winning
 - 20 Win by —
 - 22 Withered
 - 24 Charged bits
 - 25 3/17 symbol
 - 29 Young fellow
 - 30 Like Santa's laundry?
 - 31 Shell-game
 - 32 Hair-salon supply
 - 34 Birth month for some Leos
 - 35 Tug hard
- DOWN**
- 1 Type squares
 - 2 "Go, team!"
 - 3 Big snake
 - 4 Sacred text
 - 5 "— have to do"
 - 6 Dead heat
 - 7 Curvy letter
 - 8 Whistler subject
 - 9 Rue the run
 - 10 Comical
 - 11 Suitable
 - 16 Touse
 - 19 Legion
 - 20 Has a bug
 - 21 Early boatwright
 - 22 Trembled
 - 23 Comestibles
 - 25 Any minute now
 - 26 Wealth
 - 27 Honeycomb compartment
 - 28 Mitty
 - 30 Unwanted email
 - 33 Nearsightedness
 - 34 — Pinkett Smith
 - 36 Wit
 - 37 Actor Pitt
 - 38 Nutty
 - 39 Muscat's nation
 - 40 Valley
 - 42 Hot tub
 - 43 Leap
 - 44 Annoy
 - 45 Miller Sebastian



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Skillet Calzone

Italian dinner ready in just 20 minutes! Enjoy these crunchy French bread slices dunked with garlicky ground beef, bell pepper and mushroom mixture – a flavorful main dish!

Ingredients

8 diagonally cut slices French bread, 1/2 inch thick
Cooking spray

2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese

1 lb lean (at least 80%) ground beef

1 small green bell pepper, sliced

1 or 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped

1 can (14.5 oz) diced tomatoes with Italian-style herbs (or other variety), undrained

1 can (8 oz) pizza sauce

1 jar (4.5 oz) sliced mushrooms, drain

Directions

1 Set oven control to broil. Place bread slices on ungreased cookie sheet. Spray bread with cooking spray; sprinkle with cheese. Broil with tops 4 to 6 inches from heat 1 to 2 minutes or

until light brown; set aside.

2 In 10-inch skillet, cook beef, bell pepper and garlic over medium-high heat 5 to 7 minutes, stirring occasionally, until beef is brown; drain. Stir in tomatoes, pizza sauce and mushrooms. Cook 1 to 2 minutes or until hot.

3 Place 2 toasted bread slices on each of 4 serving plates; top with beef mixture.

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Answers On Page 6

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BY AL SCADUTO

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. Meter is missing. 2. Buttons are missing. 3. Cuffs are missing. 4. Umbrella is different. 5. Car body is different. 6. Puddle is smaller.

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NOTHING COOKING ON THE STOVE... LAST NIGHT'S DINNER DISHES PILED IN THE SINK-- HOWCUM?
W-WHAT HAPPENED? LOOKS LIKE A BOMB HIT THIS PLACE...
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K-State Opens Spring Football Practice

MANHATTAN, Kan. - Coming off one of the best in-season turnarounds in school history and spending the past three months going through offseason strength and conditioning work, the Kansas State football team will get back on the practice field for the first time this spring on Wednesday afternoon as the Wildcats conduct the first of 14 practices leading up to the annual Purple/White Spring Game on Saturday, April 26.

K-State returns 41 letterwinners - 17 on offense, 21 on defense and three specialists - from a team that turned a 2-4 start to the 2013 season into an 8-5 finish that was capped by a 31-14 victory over Michigan in the Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl. The Wildcats won six of their final seven games as they became just the eighth of 630 FBS teams in the BCS era (1998) to start a season 2-4 or worse and finish with eight wins. Additionally, K-State won its first bowl game in 11 years.

The Wildcats also bring back 14 starters from the 2013 season, including eight that earned All-Big 12 honors. Highlighting the list is a pair of

Second Team All-Americans in Tyler Lockett and Ryan Mueller, who were also named the 2013 Big 12 Special Teams and Defensive Lineman of the Year, respectively.

Tickets for the Purple/White Spring Game, which kicks off at 1:10 p.m., are general admission and priced at \$5 with children under the age of two being admitted at no charge. Fans are encouraged to order their tickets in advance through the K-State Athletics Ticket office online at www.kstatesports.com/tickets, by phone at 1-800-221-CATS or in person at the main ticket office inside Bramlage Coliseum.

Football season ticket holders who renewed their season tickets prior to the March 28 early bird deadline will be mailed two complimentary spring game tickets per account. K-State students who order their student pass on iSIS prior to April 25 will be able to pick up a free ticket prior to the game on the east side of the stadium at Gate T. Students who have not bought a student pass may purchase a spring game ticket for \$5.

The ticket booths on both the



Jake Waters (15) putting up a pass during last years TCU game.

east and west sides of Bill Snyder Family Stadium, along with the stadium gates, will open at 11:30 a.m.

K-State opens the 2014 campaign on Saturday, August 30, when the Wildcats host Stephen F. Austin at Bill Snyder Family Stadium. The sixth annual K-

State Family Reunion game kicks off a seven-game home slate that is highlighted by a Thursday-night primetime matchup with BCS National

Championship Runner-Up Auburn on September 18, while K-State hosts Big 12 foes Texas Tech, Texas, Oklahoma State and Kansas.

Jayhawks' Wiggins Off To NBA After One Season

By DAVE SKRETTA
AP Sports Writer

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) - Kansas freshman Andrew Wiggins made official Monday what he's been telling folks all along: He's headed to the NBA after his only season with the Jayhawks.

The 6-foot-8 forward, who was voted second-team All-America earlier in the day, is expected to go in the top three picks in the June draft. Many believe he could go first overall.

"It wasn't an easy decision because the fans showed me so much love here," said Wiggins, choking up briefly during a news conference at Allen Fieldhouse. "I just wish I had more time. College goes by

so fast. I can see why people stay all four years."

Wiggins was the top-rated recruit when he arrived at Kansas, and his brief career was a bit of a roller coaster. He struggled early in the season, caught fire midway through, and then flamed out when it mattered most in an NCAA tournament loss to Stanford.

Wiggins only scored four points on 1-for-6 shooting in the third-round defeat. Afterward, he said despondently that he let his team down with his poor performance.

That ultimately didn't have any bearing on his decision, though. He announced he was going pro while joined by Kansas coach Bill Self, his par-

ents - former NBA player Mitchell Wiggins and Olympic silver medalist Marita Payne Wiggins - his older brother Mitchell Jr., and several of his teammates, including fellow freshmen Wayne Selden and Joel Embiid.

Selden has already announced he's returning for his sophomore season. Embiid has not made a decision, even though he's also expected to be a top-five pick in the draft.

Wiggins certainly had a historic season at Kansas. The Canadian averaged a freshman-record 17.1 points and nearly six rebounds per game, and was voted the AP's Big 12 freshman of the year and first-team all-conference.

"Obviously this announcement needed to happen," said

Self, who believes one of the biggest challenges Wiggins will face is realizing that basketball will suddenly become his job.

"It's not like this year. He came in with so much hype, and whether he knew it or not, everybody was salivating for a chance to go against a guy with that much hype," Self said. "And he's going to the next level with a lot of hype, but men are going to be saying, 'Whoa, whoa, whoa, rook. I've been doing this a long time and you're going to have to earn your way.'"

Wiggins simply flashed a smile when asked if he was ready for it.

"Just listening to him now,"

his father said, "I'm thinking about when he was that little bitty kid that was dirty, and not listening, and now? He's a young man that I think gets it. I think he's going to do very well."

He's also made it through his freshman season healthy. Unlike Embiid, Wiggins never had to deal with any nagging injuries, and his mother said that factored into his decision.

"The best thing is he's not injured. He's able to go ahead and complete part of his goals," she said. "Every day is a new day. He has no injuries and he's ready to go."

Self said Embiid is still wrestling with his stay-or-go decision.

The 7-footer from Cameroon was waylaid late in the season by a stress fracture in his back, and that could factor into Embiid's draft status, along with the fact that he's only been playing basketball for a few

years.

Embiid slipped out of the room immediately after Wiggins had finished speaking Monday, but Self told a few reporters that he had not made his decision, despite a report last week that said Embiid would enter the draft.

"That doesn't mean he couldn't still do that, but that was gun-jumping," Self said. "It certainly upset him, because somebody that was a source obviously didn't have good information."

Self doesn't expect Embiid to make his intentions known anytime soon.

"The decision he needs to make is what's best for him," Self said, "whether to stay another year or to go, and I could see him do either one of them. And I think you could make a case that either one would be a good decision. He's not quite like Andrew who's been playing the game his whole life. He's only been playing three years. He's still trying to figure it out."

K-State Track & Field Adds Home Meet

MANHATTAN, Kan. - K-State Track and Field announced the addition of a home meet, the Wildcat Open, as well as changes to the Ward Haylett Invitational today. The Ward Haylett Invitational, originally scheduled for May 10, has been pushed back to May 3, while the Wildcat Open will now take place on May 10.

Along with the date change,

the Ward Haylett Invitational will now start at 11 a.m., rather than 10 a.m., on Saturday, May 3. The meet will be team scored and is expected to be one of the more competitive meets K-State has hosted in quite a while, according to head coach Cliff Rovolto. The Wildcats are set to compete against Air Force Academy, Kansas and Wichita State.

The addition of the Wildcat Open comes due to the cancellation of the Rock Chalk Classic, which was scheduled for May 3 in Lawrence, Kan. The meet is open to all Division I and Division II participants and will begin at 9 a.m., on Saturday, May 10 with the women's javelin throw. It will provide an opportunity for the athletes to compete prior to the

Big 12 Championships, which are set for the following weekend.

More information on both meets, including updated meet schedules and information, can be found by visiting the K-State Track and Field schedule page and clicking on the meet's respective tab.

Avolese And Bovaird Named Rider Of The Month

IRVING, Texas - In an announcement by the Big 12 on Wednesday, Kansas State's Cat Avolese and Kelly Bovaird were among five athletes names March Rider of the Month. Avolese took the honor in Equitation on the Flat while Bovaird earned her second Horsemanship honor.

"Both Cat and Kelly have great records in the month of March and delivered stellar performances for their team in

a string of tough competitions," said head coach Casie Maxwell. "They have consistently been reliable in the arena and we look forward to big performances from them at the National Championship."

A native of St. James, N.Y., Avolese went a perfect 3-0 during March in Equitation on the Flat. She picked up her first win against TCU's Kaitlin Perry on March 8. During the

Big 12 Championship, the senior provided the Wildcats with two big wins. The second came against Oklahoma State, where she defeated Jordan Davis 150-138. The third was a 152-138 win over TCU's Molly Peddicord.

Hailing from Tulsa, Okla., Bovaird also had a perfect March, compiling a 3-0 record with one Most Outstanding Player (MOP) honor. The sen-

ior earned her first win of the month in dramatic fashion, defeating TCU's Rylee Morgan on the final ride on Senior Day. She also picked up two wins during the Big 12 Championship. Her wins came over OSU's Ty Paris and TCU's Erin Gillette. This is also Bovaird's second Big 12 Rider of the Month honor for this season, as she earned the honor in October.

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Tract 2: 74 acres± in pasture grass in Section 22, Township 7 South, Range 8 East. Property sets northeast of the K13/K16 junction and south of Swede Road. Mineral rights included.

LAND LOCATION: From Tuttle Creek Blvd/K13 intersection, 15 miles NNE, **Tract 2** is on east side just north of K16 junction. **Tract 1** is 2 miles west at K13/K16 junction then north 1 mile on Galillee Road ...property located on west side of road. From **99 HWY/K16 intersection**, 8 miles Southwest, **Tract 2** is on east side just north of K16 junction. **Tract 1** is 2 miles west at K13/K16 junction then north 1 mile on Galillee Road.

See the Sale Bill in the April 17th Free Press for complete details!

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