



Manhattan Free Press

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An Award Winning Weekly Newspaper

Thursday, April 24, 2014



Open House at Rocky Ford School House

Open House At School

The Riley County Historical Society will have an Open House at Rocky Ford School from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, April 26. The school, located at the intersection of Tuttle Creek Boulevard and Barnes Road, Manhattan, Kan., is one of several properties owned by the society.

Rocky Ford School, a one-room limestone schoolhouse, was built in 1903. The building served first through eighth grade students in District 70 until consolidation with District 1 in 1938. Although consolidation had been a topic of discussion during District 70 board meetings as early as 1921, patrons chose to rebuild the school after a fire nearly destroyed it in 1927. Builder

Fred Hulse used the original limestone during the reconstruction.

Various repairs and improvements were made to the property within its first two decades. An outhouse was built in 1904. A well was first excavated in 1909, and a new well was dug in 1933. A merry-go-round was installed in 1929.

In 1987, U.S.D. #383 gave the school to the historical society with the understanding that it would be used for historical purposes.

The Rocky Ford School committee, composed of historical society board members and volunteers, has made additional improvements to the exterior and interior in recent years. Improvements have included a

new roof, refinished wood flooring and wooden desks, fresh paint on the merry-go-round and outhouse, a new porch with a handicap-accessible ramp and reseeding of the lawn.

The committee plans to host old-fashioned box suppers and ice cream socials to raise funds to maintain the school, to show student groups what school life was like in rural school days, and to share the facility with the public.

The school was added to the state and national Register of Historic Places in January 2012.

The society also hosted an open house in November 2013.

Law Stops Medicaid Expansion

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Kansas is not going to expand its Medicaid program anytime soon in line with the federal health care overhaul, but advocates aren't giving up on the idea, despite a new law indefinitely blocking an expansion.

The Wichita Eagle reports (<http://bit.ly/1phlqry>) that the Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved still plans to pursue the issue. Spokeswoman Katrina McGivern said the group prepared to work on educating legislators about the benefits of expanding Medicaid, which provides health coverage for the poor and disabled.

Republican Gov. Sam Brownback and many GOP legislators are vocal critics of the 2010 federal health care law championed by Democratic President Barack Obama, viewing its requirements as burdensome and damaging to the economy. They've also publicly questioned whether the federal government will keep its promise to fund most of the expansion.

Lawmakers last year included a ban on expanding

Medicaid in budget legislation, but it expires in July 2015. The GOP-dominated Legislature passed a bill earlier this month extending the ban indefinitely, and Brownback signed it this week.

The new law says that the state can't expand Medicaid without further action by the Legislature — something that's not going to happen with the Republican critics of the federal health overhaul holding majorities in both chambers.

Rep. John Rubin, a Shawnee Republican who supports the measure, said it doesn't take a position on expanding Medicaid but makes sure that the people's elected representatives make the decision.

"And even with the governor's best intentions, the widest diversity of information and opinion on this issue I think can be gleaned from 125 representatives and 40 senators each answering to their own constituency," Rubin said.

But supporters note that expanding Medicaid would provide health coverage to about 78,000 Kansas residents.

"There's just so many peo-

ple out there that are suffering, and in poor health, and don't have the access to the health care that they need and have a right to. And this would allow them to get the care they need and it also would provide a benefit as far as resources go," McGivern said.

Some provisions in the bill set deadlines for the state's Medicaid program to pay health care providers. Last year, the state turned over the administration of the program to three private health insurance companies, and some providers complained that they weren't getting paid for the services they provide as promptly as in the past.

Senators added the extended ban on expanding Medicaid during their debate on the measure.

"There were no opportunities for people who have a stake in Medicaid expansion to come in and talk about it," said Rep. Jim Ward, a Wichita Democrat, who helped draft the prompt-payment provisions but strongly opposes the measure blocking a Medicaid expansion.

Gov. Brownback Signs School Finance Bill

Topeka- With the Governor's signing of HB 2506 into law, districts, teachers, and students lose while Brownback's special interest agenda advances. KNEA was hopeful that Governor Brownback would listen to the voices of education professionals and public school advocates from throughout the state. Once again, the governor turned a deaf ear to those closest to students and chose instead to support what KNEA president, Karen Godfrey has described as "poisonous policy". Yesterday, the Governor and those legislators who exercised a complete lack of public transparency in ramming harmful policy into a school finance bill, face the following realities:

-Although the Governor will continue to tout this legislation as an increase in funding, several factors included in the financing formula mean that it will actually be a loss for most districts and a gain for only about a dozen districts.

-Stripping teachers of due process rights harms public school teachers professionally, but harms students more. Due process worked, was valued by strong administrators, and ensured that students had a strong advocate in the class-

room. This law diminishes teachers' ability to advocate for their students.

-At-risk students, who need critical services to be successful, will see reductions in services under this law.

-Classrooms are now open to those without background and training in methods and strategies critical for achievement to act as teachers.

-There is a \$10 million corporate tax giveaway - money that could have been used to maintain at-risk funding instead of cutting it.

The hypocrisy in the creation and signing of this attack on the public schools of Kansas and public school teachers is unprecedented. Governor Brownback's Senate allies passed a government transparency bill on a vote of 40 to 0 just days before they used floor amendments under cover of darkness to attach anti-public schools and anti-teacher policy provisions to a finance bill. None of these amendments had a hearing in both chambers and none of them have ever passed even one chamber of the legislature.

The Governor and his allies tout "local control" as their mantra in denying veteran teachers the due process pro-

tections the Supreme Court deemed sound public policy as far back as 1957. Yet this same Governor and his allies have embraced legislation stripping local units of Government — cities, counties, school districts, and colleges — of local decision making when it comes to speaking to the legislature, controlling the carrying of weapons in their buildings, or entering into payroll deduction agreements with their employees.

The Governor must now completely own this law as an extension of his self-described "experimental" policy that has resulted in the largest cuts to public education in Kansas history. With fewer resources and less support, a clear effort to silence the profession, and a complete lack of respect for the dedicated professionals who serve Kansas students everyday, we believe the governor has chosen to promote policy that serves special interests and harms the general public.

Combined with economic indicators that lag behind neighboring states, Governor Brownback's legacy as a regressive and special interest governor is clear.

Discovery Center Foundation Names KSU Friend Of Flint Hills

Manhattan, Kan. — The Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation will recognize Kansas State University as the 2014 Friend of the Flint Hills on May 4 for its multi-dimensional contributions to the conservation of the Flint Hills and the mission of the Discovery Center through research, education and engagement activities.

KSU president Kirk Schulz and first lady Noel Schulz will accept the award at a private banquet set for 6 p.m. May 4 at the Discovery Center to be attended by university administration, staff and faculty from departments that directly contributed to the development of the regional attraction.

"Kansas State University serves as a key academic institution and partner for the Flint Hills Discovery Center as well as the entire ecoregion. We fully support the Foundation's recognition of Kansas State University as the 2014 Friend of the Flint Hills," said Fred Goss, FHDC director.

Every year the Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation Board selects an individual, non-governmental organization or public institution for recognition as a Friend of the Flint Hills for the time, effort and resources devoted to conserving the Flint Hills of Kansas and northern Oklahoma and being an important informational resource.

"There is no doubt that K-State and those affiliated with it have performed many services for the FHDC, and have been a significant resource on the importance of the ecology, history and culture of the Flint Hills," said Bruce Snead, FHDC Foundation board president.

Previously, Flint Hills

rancher Jane Koger and Brian Obermeyer, director of the Nature Conservancy's Flint Hills Initiative were recognized by the Foundation.

The university's many contributions will be highlighted at the Foundation's annual Friend of the Flint Hills event, such as the ongoing research at Konza Prairie Biological Station, the work of review committees for the FHDC's permanent exhibitions, collaborative exhibitions such as the Flint Hills Forces series and other scholarly activities.

"Kansas State University was instrumental in the development of the Flint Hills Discovery Center in 2012. Since then, the two organizations have worked together in

partnership and will continue to do so in the years to come," said Goss.

The Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, serves as an active local, regional and national advocate by creating opportunities to give to the Foundation and provide for the long-term financial success of the Flint Hills Discovery Center.

The FHDC Foundation advances the mission of the center by providing support for its programs and initiatives, ensuring stewardship of the region's tallgrass prairie.

Visit www.flinthillsdiscoverycenterfoundation.org to learn more about the Foundation.

Dole Gives Warning

Kansas Watchdog

PAOLA, Kan. — Unless the United States is able to ratchet back its uncontrolled spending, the burden will be heaped on future generations, former U.S. Sen. Bob Dole told a crowd of friends and former constituents Monday afternoon.

"We keep spending and spending money we don't have, and maybe our generation will escape," Dole said. "But someday there's going to be a day of reckoning, and it may be your grandson or granddaughter who is around at the time. Hopefully, we can elect someone in 2016 who really believes that we have to reduce spending and not raise taxes."

Dole made the hour-long stop in Paola as part of a three-day tour of his home state this week.

While the goal of the trek through the Sunflower State is



Bob Dole

to reconnect with the people who put him in public office for more than three decades, the aging statesman offered a few nuggets on current politics and policy matters. Chief among them, at least in Paola, was the lack of compromise exhibited by Democratic President Barack Obama, and the country's addition to ever-increasing levels of spending.

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 April 14, 2014 with the following members present: Robert Boyd, Chair; Ron Wells, Vice Chair; and Rich Vargo, County Clerk. Dave Lewis, Member, was absent.

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

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Cindy Volanti, Human Resource Manager/Deputy Clerk; Brady Bauman, Manhattan Mercury; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Debbie Nuss; Mel Van Der Stelt; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; and Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer, attended.

Shepek presented a draft 2015 budget baseline memorandum.

The Board agreed with the language in the memorandum.

Wells moved to approve the Riley County Shared Leave Donation Forms.

Boyd seconded. Carried 2-0.
Wells moved to approve the minutes of April 10, 2014 as amended. Boyd seconded. Carried 2-0.

9:00 Rich Vargo, County Clerk

Brady Bauman, Manhattan Mercury; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Debbie Nuss; Mel Van Der Stelt; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

Vargo presented year to date budget and expenditure reports.

9:15 Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director and Jason Orr, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

Brady Bauman, Manhattan Mercury; Debbie Nuss; Mel Van Der Stelt; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; Brenda Nickel, Health Department Director; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

P. Collins and Orr discussed air quality due to agricultural burning.

P. Collins stated the smoke and ash the Riley County community saw April 5, 2014 was from counties to our south.

Orr stated the Topeka area KDHE air reports show no violations of EPA pollutant regulations.

9:33 Press Conference
Jason Orr, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator; Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of

Administrative Services; Lori Muir, Real Estate Specialist; Brady Bauman, Manhattan Mercury; Debbie Nuss; Mel Van Der Stelt; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; Brenda Nickel, Health Department Director; Gregg Eyestone, County Extension Agent; Dave Ball, Technician Assistant/Training Coordinator; Lori Bishop, RSVP Director; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

Nuss discussed the current Community Needs Assessment of seniors. Nuss said the Caroline Peine Foundation has provided a grant for the assessment. Nuss said funding was also provided by Mercy Health Center, Wamego Health Center, United Way of Riley County, and Riley County Council on Aging.

Bishop reported RSVP is celebrating 40 years of service to the community. Bishop discussed RSVP programs.

Eyestone reported Master Gardeners will be at the Zoo's Earth Day event for April 19, 2014 from 12:00 (noon) - 4:30 p.m.

Ball reported April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month.

Orr discussed the adverse health effects from early burning.

10:10 Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Brady Bauman, Manhattan Mercury; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Mel Van Der Stelt; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; Monty Wedel, Planning/Special Projects Director; Craig Cox, Assistant County Counselor; Lori Muir, Real Estate Specialist; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

Hobson discussed the five private parks within the University Park Sewer District.

Wells moved to adopt a Resolution removing the five private parks from the boundaries of the University Park Water and Sewer District. Such resolution to be submitted for approval at the Business Meeting on April 17, 2014. Boyd seconded. Carried 2-0.

10:34 Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

Administrative Work Session

10:34 Boyd moved that the County Commission recess into executive session on potential litigation for the purpose of consultation with an attorney for the County Commission which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, an exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, the open meeting to resume in the County Commission Chambers at 10:44 a.m. Wells seconded. Carried 2-0.

10:44 Boyd moved to go out of executive session. Wells seconded. Carried 2-0.

No binding action was taken during the executive session.

10:45 Cheryl Collins, Museum Director

Mel Van Der Stelt; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; and Laura Monsanto,

KMAN, attended.

C. Collins presented a Museum Department staff update.

10:49 Wells moved to adjourn after the County Officials Luncheon. Boyd seconded. Carried 2-0.

12:00 County Officials Luncheon

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 April 17, 2014 with the following members present: Dave Lewis, Member; Robert Boyd, Chair; Ron Wells, Vice Chair; and Rich Vargo, County Clerk.

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

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Brady Bauman, Manhattan Mercury; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; Julie Winter, Public Works Office Manager; Monty Wedel, Planning/Special Projects Director; Laura Monsanto, KMAN; and Craig Cox, Assistant County Counselor, attended.

Lewis moved to sign the Real Estate Tax Roll Correction for Jay and Kim Caley (151-01-0-30-13-002.00-0) for tax year 2013. This results in a decrease in tax dollars of \$69.54. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Position Action Form for an IT/GIS Director, in the Information Technology/GIS Department, at a grade FF.

Lewis moved to approve "Resolution No. 041714-21, A Resolution authorizing the alteration of the boundaries of University Park Sewer District to exclude five private parks in Addition No. 3 to University Park." Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to approve an Out of State Travel Request for Steve Higgins, Zoning Enforcement Officer, in the Planning and Development Department to attend an Association of Floodplain Managers annual conference in the amount of \$1,952.00 (actual cost to Riley County is estimated to be \$752.00 due to the \$1,200.00 grant from the State of Kansas). Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to approve the payroll vouchers in the amount of \$273,175.23 and the following warrant vouchers for April 18, 2014:

2014 Budget	
County General	\$276,034.78
Health Department	88,232.98
Riley Co Juvenile Service	6,790.58
Motor Vehicle Operations	6,559.75
Special Alcohol	1,925.00
21st Jud Dist Teen Court	1,395.45
Riley Co Adult Services	

	7,634.46
Capital Improvements Fund	660,368.00
Emergency 911	59.23
Solid Waste	144,359.82
County Building	11,931.27
Road & Bridge Cap Project	71,920.41
RCPD Levy/Op	12,603.47
Landfill Closure	537.11
Riley Co Fire Dist #1	12,208.19
University Park W&S	4,817.85
Hunters Island Water Dist	150.44
Carson Sewer Benefit Dist	29.38
Deep Creek Sewer	412.27
Moehlman Bottoms	109.74
Valleywood Operations	16.33
Terra Heights Sewer	800.53
Terra Heights Sinking	2,695.46
Konza Water Operations	599.51
Univ Park W&S Cap Reserve	216.00
Lakeside Heights Sewer	4.32
TOTAL	\$1,312,412.33

Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.
Lewis moved to approve the minutes of April 14, 2014 as amended. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

9:00 Eileen King, Treasurer
Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Brady Bauman, Manhattan Mercury; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

King presented the monthly revenue reports.

9:10 Debbie Register, Register of Deeds
Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Brady Bauman, Manhattan Mercury; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

Register presented the Register of Deeds' revenue report.

9:24 Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

Administrative Work Session
9:24 Lewis moved that the County Commission recess into executive session on pending litigation for the purpose of consultation with an attorney for the County Commission which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, an exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, the open meeting to resume in the County Commission Chambers at 9:34 a.m. Wells

seconded. Carried 3-0.
9:34 Lewis moved to go out of executive session. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

No binding action was taken during the executive session.

9:34 Lewis moved that the County Commission recess into executive session on potential litigation for the purpose of consultation with an attorney for the County Commission which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, an exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, the open meeting to

resume in the County Commission Chambers at 9:44 a.m. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

9:44 Lewis moved to go out of executive session. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

No binding action was taken during the executive session.

10:04 Brenda Nickel, Health Department Director

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Brady Bauman, Manhattan Mercury; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; Craig Cox, Assistant County Counselor; Brad Schoen, Riley County Police Department Director; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

Lewis moved to recess as the Board of Riley County Commissioners and convene as the Riley County Board of Health. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Nickel presented an accreditation Readiness Mini-Grant Memorandum of Agreement between the Riley County Health Department and the

See County page 3

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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 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 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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The Senate Does Not Get the Government Out of the Market

By John L. Ligon and Norbert J. Michel, Ph.D. Heritage Foundation

In an effort to reform the nation's housing finance system, Senate Banking Committee Chairman Tim Johnson (D-SD) and ranking member Mike Crapo (R-ID) have announced that they will hold a markup for their bill on April 29, but many details still have to be ironed out.

Given that close to 100 percent of the U.S. mortgage market is now backed by the federal government, it is good that the Senate Banking Committee wants to improve the Johnson-Crapo proposal. However, the approach being taken by Johnson-Crapo and a similar bill by Senators Bob Corker (R-TN) and Mark Warner (D-VA) would ensure that U.S. mortgage markets are slightly remodeled rather than completely reformed. The government would be at least as involved in these markets as it was prior to the 2008 crash.

The Pre-Crisis GSE System

Prior to the 2008 crisis, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac were referred to as government-sponsored enterprises (GSEs) because they were quasi-private corporations.

Though they had the implicit backing of the federal government, they also had private shareholders who stood to lose the capital they had invested in the companies. The GSEs purchased mortgages from banks and then packaged them into mortgage-backed securities (MBS).

The GSEs then provided guarantees of principal and interest payments on these MBS, and markets generally

assumed that taxpayers would pick up the tab if the GSEs got into trouble. If only a handful of mortgages backing a Fannie Mae MBS defaulted, Fannie covered investors' losses out of its own profits. On mortgages that had down payments of at least 20 percent, Fannie covered all the losses. For those home loans with less than a 20 percent down payment, however, the GSEs required private mortgage insurance (PMI). PMI companies, in turn, were typically private insurance companies.

In other words, any mortgage with less than 20 percent down in a GSE-issued MBS had at least two sources of private capital to cover losses. The PMI company insured a portion of any mortgage default costs, and the GSEs covered losses not covered by the PMI companies. As long as losses remained "normal" and there was no massive shock to the system, taxpayers were never on the hook for any of these losses.

The 2008 crisis was far from normal, and it proved that the "implied" taxpayer backing was real. The crash also proved that the private capital held in the GSEs was too low to cover those losses. Additionally, many PMI companies had too little capital to cover their losses. Many PMI firms—mostly regulated by state agencies—either failed or were given a reprieve from their capital requirements during the crisis. GSE shareholders lost their capital and are currently embroiled in a legal battle with the U.S. Treasury over the details of the taxpayer bailout.

Post Crisis and the Senate's GSE Reform Approach

Aside from any implications regarding the shareholder lawsuits, the problem with the new approach in the Senate is that it would barely change the public-private nature of the pre-crisis GSE system. The Johnson-Crapo bill, for example, requires a "first-loss" position of 10 percent for private "guarantors" of MBS but then waives the requirement in the event of a crisis.

Though there are several roadblocks, even in a crisis, to using taxpayer funds to cover MBS losses, the rules make clear that the federal government will pick up 90 percent of losses if there is a crisis. This arrangement is only nominally different from the old system because taxpayers were never required to cover losses unless those shortfalls were catastrophic. The GSEs were effectively "private" guarantors that everyone assumed would be covered in a crisis. The system now envisioned in the Senate would have "private" guarantors that know they are covered in a crisis.

Relative to the old GSE system, it certainly is true that the bills in the Senate would increase the amount of private capital to cover even catastrophic losses. But the GSEs started out with higher capital requirements, too: Fannie started out with a required leverage ratio of 15 to 1 in 1968, and the company was leveraged as much as 200 to 1 in 2008.

The GSEs capital requirements were watered down over the years mainly in the name of

expanding their "affordable housing mission." There is absolutely no reason to think that the same thing would not happen again if the Senate's approach is adopted. In fact, the Johnson-Crapo approach would give the guarantors a new safety and soundness regulator that is charged with making sure everyone has "fair access to financial services."

At best, the approach in the Senate would create a series of smaller quasi-private GSEs with higher capital requirements but with the explicit understanding that any catastrophic losses would be covered by taxpayers. The Senate approach goes much further, though, by creating a new government agency and an intricate new regulatory framework.

What Congress Should Do Congress should:

Reject the approach being offered in the Senate bills. Both of these bills would provide explicit taxpayer guarantees that are not necessary.

Avoid establishing yet another federal regulator in U.S. financial markets.

Adopt a policy that gets the federal government out of the U.S. housing finance market. Two good examples of such a plan are House Financial Services Committee Chairman Jeb Hensarling's (R-TX) Protecting American Taxpayers and Homeowners (PATH) Act and Representative Justin Amash's (R-MI) New Fair Deal Banking and Housing Stability Act.

A Legislative Exercise

The members of the Senate Banking Committee—and

especially their staff—deserve credit for taking on such a complex issue. However, the approach being put forward largely recreates the old GSE structure. Why should the nation go through this legislative exercise if the end result will be a system so similar to

the one that just imploded? Congress should not leave the government so embedded in the business of housing finance. If lawmakers want to improve the nation's housing finance system, they should get the government out of these markets.

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Kansas Attorney General
Derek Schmidt

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County Minutes

from page 2

Kansas Health Institute. Lewis moved that the Board of Health approve the Health Department Administrator sign the Accreditation Readiness Mini-Grant Memorandum of Agreement and send a fully executed copy of the agreement to the Kansas Health Institute Grants and Contracts Coordinator. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Nickel presented the Summer Feeding Program Agreement between the Riley County Health Department and USD 383.

Lewis moved that the Board of Health approve the Health Department to serve as summer feeding site for children aged 18 years or younger and authorize the Health Department Administrator to sign the site agreement. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

Lewis moved to recess as the Riley County Board of Health and reconvene as the Board of Riley County Commissioners. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

10:15 Brad Schoen, Riley County Police Department Director

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Brady Bauman, Manhattan Mercury; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Julie Merklin,

League of Women Voters; and Laura Monsanto, KMAN, attended.

Schoen presented a Riley County Police Department staff report.

10:30 Lewis moved to adjourn after the City/County/County Meeting at 4:00 p.m. at the City Offices. Wells seconded. Carried 3-0.

4:00 City/County/County Meeting (at city offices)

Representing the City of Manhattan were Usha Reddi, Wynn Butler, Rich Jankovich – City Commissioners; Ron Fehr, Manhattan City Manager; Jason Hilgers, Assistant City Manager; Bernie Hayen, Finance Director; Gary Fees, City Clerk; Bill Raymond, City Attorney; Rob Ott, Public Works Director. Representing Riley County were Robert Boyd, Dave Lewis – County Commissioners; Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Monty Wedel, Planning/Special Projects Director. Representing Pottawatomie County was Gary Yenzler – County Commissioner. Representing USD 383 were Pat Hudgins, Darell Edie, Lou Foust, Marsha Rozell, Leah Fliter, Bob Seymour, and Bob Shannon. Gary Stith, Interim Executive Director Flint Hills Regional

Council; Nathan Bergman, Bartlett & West Engineering; Gina Scroggs, Downtown Manhattan; and Trent Armbrust, Chamber of Commerce, attended.

Fliter expressed concern about the proposed school funding bill, if passed, would require them impose the maximum local option budget limit of 30%, but added this will result in a small decrease in the mil levy. The school districts proposed mil levy is 53.6 mils. She added 20 mils is controlled by the State of Kansas. She is concerned on the impact to the taxpayers if all taxing entities raise their mil levy.

Butler asked what the city and county could do to assist. Consolidation of services and sharing of facilities were ideas mentioned.

Lewis added concern about the proposed loss of revenue from the mortgage registration fee the county may be faced with if approved by the Legislature. This would be an increase of 2 mils to property taxes.

Boyd said there has been a paradigm shift from the state, which results in tough choices for local governments to make. He added we will do our best to keep the mil levy level flat, but the county is very dependent on ad valorem tax.

Boyd opened the discussion on downtown parking. He inquired where the city is anticipating parking opportunities and asked for a seat at the table.

Hilgers presented an overview of the City of Manhattan downtown parking. The 2014 goal of the parking focus group is to come up with parking strategies.

Lewis asked for a seat on the parking focus group since Riley County plays an important role in downtown space needs, which includes parking.

The Board by consensus agreed.

Jankovich formally invite small cities to join these meetings, everyone agreed.

5:05 Adjourned.

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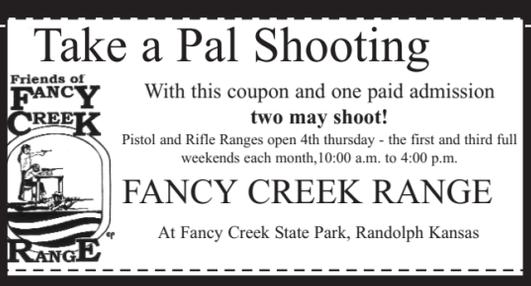
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Justice Stevens: Make 6 Changes to Constitution

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — In the aftermath of the Connecticut school shootings that left 20 first-graders and six educators dead, retired Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens began thinking about ways to prevent a repeat.

The result is Stevens' new book — his second since retiring from the court at age 90 — in which he calls for no fewer than six changes to the Constitution, of which two are directly related to guns. Others would abolish the death penalty, make it easier to limit spending on elections and rein in partisan drawing of electoral districts.

His proposed amendments generally would overrule major Supreme Court decisions with which he disagrees, including ones on guns and campaign finance in which he dissented.

The book, *Six Amendments: How and Why We Should Change the Constitution*, is being published Tuesday by Little, Brown and Co., two days after Stevens' 94th birthday.

Stevens said in an interview with The Associated Press that the Newtown, Conn., shootings in December 2012 made him think about doing "whatever we could to prevent such a thing from happening again."

He said he was bothered by press reports about gaps in the federal government database for checking the background of prospective gun buyers. Those gaps exist because the Supreme Court ruled in 1997 that states could not be forced to participate in the background check system. Stevens dissented from the court's 5-4 ruling in *Printz v. United States*.

One amendment would allow Congress to force state participation in gun checks, while a second would change the Second Amendment to permit gun control. Stevens was on the losing end of another 5-4 decision in 2008 in *District of Columbia v. Heller*, in which the court declared for the first time that Americans have a right to own a gun for self-defense.

He acknowledged that his proposed change would allow Congress to do something unthinkable in today's environ-

ment: ban gun ownership altogether.

"I'd think the chance of changing the Second Amendment is pretty remote," Stevens said. "The purpose is to cause further reflection over a period of time because it seems to me with ample time and ample reflection, people in the United States would come to the same conclusion that people in other countries have."

Justices often say that their dissenting opinions are written with the hope that today's dissent might attract a majority on some future court.

But Stevens has gone a step beyond by proposing the constitutional changes. Asked whether the book could in part be seen as "sour grapes," he readily agreed.

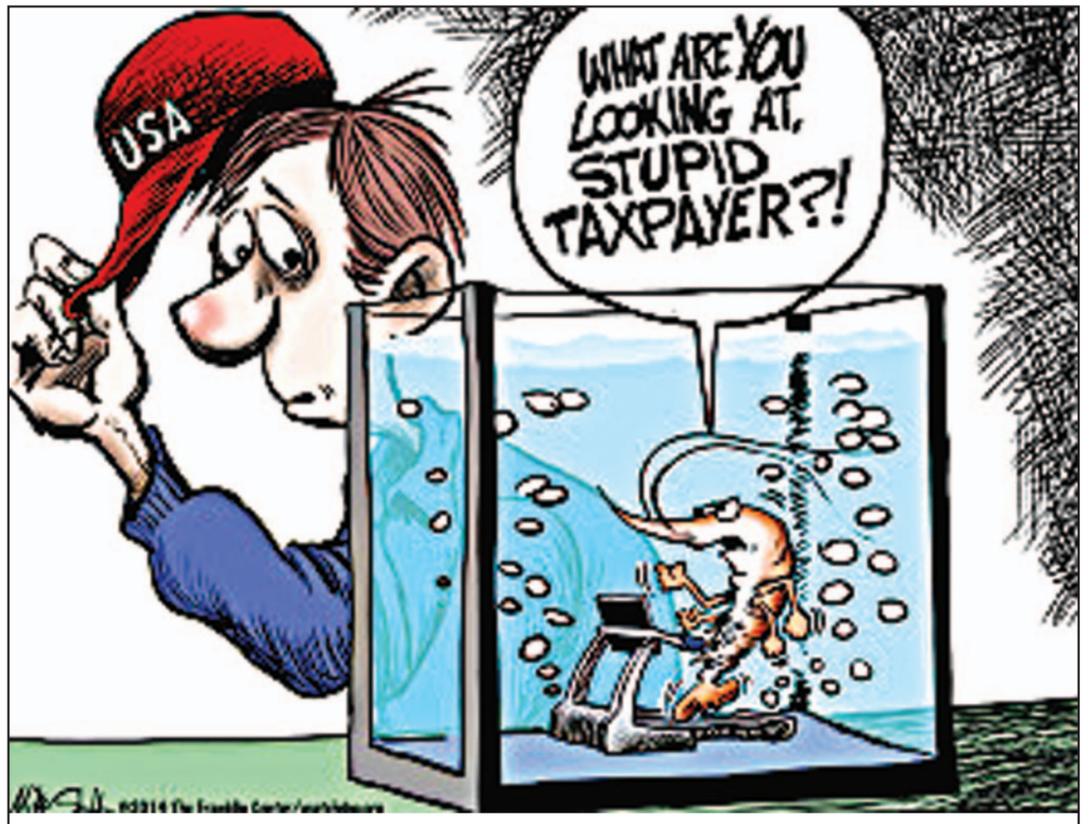
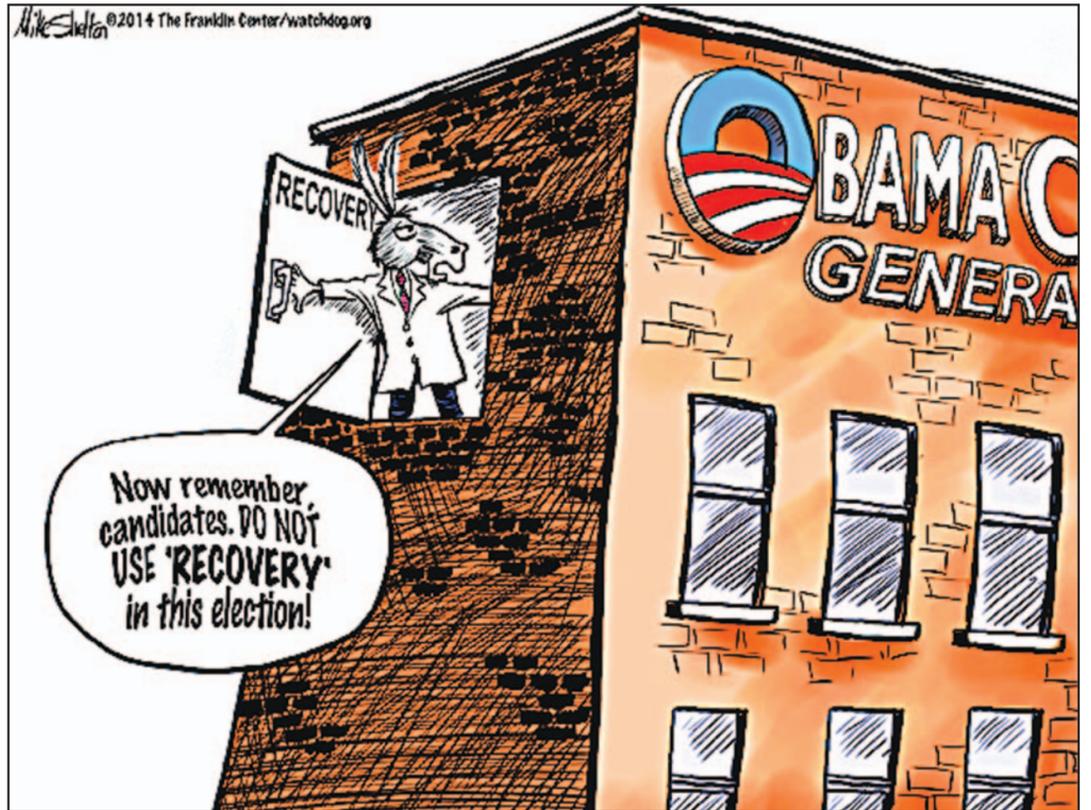
"To a certain extent, it's no doubt true, because I do think the court made some serious mistakes, as I did point out in my dissents," he said. "But I've been criticized for making speeches since I retired. Writing the book is not much different from continuing to speak about things I find interesting."

A recent example is the court's decision, again by a 5-4 vote, to strike down limits in federal law on the total contributions wealthy individuals can make to candidates for Congress and president, political parties and political action committees. Stevens said the decision follows from the 2010 ruling in *Citizens United* that lifted limits on political spending by corporations and labor unions. Again, he was in the dissent in another 5-4 ruling.

Those cases, he said, talk about the importance of public participation in the electoral process. But this month's decision on the overall limits is "not about electing your representative," Stevens said. "It's about financing the election of representatives of other people. It's about the influence of out-of-state voters on the election in your district. It sort of exposes a basic flaw in the recent cases."

Stevens marked his 94th birthday Sunday, still in excellent health, but lately feeling his age. Speaking to AP a few days before his birthday, he said, "It's going to come and pass. I'm not sure it's something to celebrate."

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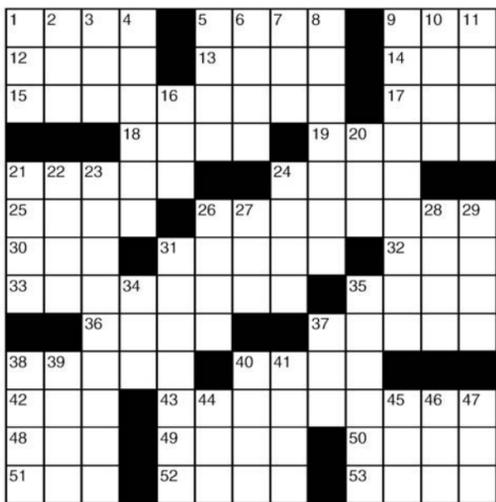
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 - 9 TV overseer (Abbr.)
 - 12 Pearl Harbor site
 - 13 Former mates
 - 14 Carte lead-in
 - 15 Honesty of purpose
 - 17 Charged bit
 - 18 Sudden rush of wind
 - 19 Glossy alternative
 - 21 Earth tone
 - 24 Apiece
 - 25 Hammer's target
 - 26 As one
 - 30 Web address
 - 31 Melodic
 - 32 Anger
 - 33 Individuality
 - 35 Error
 - 36 Very dry, as champagne
 - 37 Cock and bull
- DOWN**
- 1 Cranberry territory
 - 2 "7 Faces of Dr. —"
 - 3 Discoverer's cry
 - 4 Bat
 - 5 Vast areas
 - 6 Way out
 - 7 Encountered
 - 8 "Moby-Dick" narrator
 - 9 Popular country singer
 - 10 Coagulate
 - 11 Walking stick
 - 16 Bear hair
 - 20 Performance
 - 21 Burden
 - 22 Give a darn
 - 23 Backwoods dweller
 - 24 "Zounds!"
 - 26 Hit the horn
 - 27 Yoko of music
 - 28 Great Lake
 - 29 Agents, for short
 - 31 Hitched a ride
 - 34 To and —
 - 35 Pasta toppings
 - 37 Has permission
 - 38 Sacred Egyptian bird
 - 39 Farmer's home?
 - 40 Rorschach picture
 - 41 Differently
 - 44 401(k) alternative
 - 45 Fond du —, Wis.
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Answers On Page 6



Slow-Cooker Polynesian Pork Ribs

Come home to this pork loin ribs recipe that's slow cooked with crushed pineapple and a marinade mix of brown sugar, hoisin sauce and grated gingerroot for a filling dinner - perfect if you love Island cuisine.

Ingredients

Reynolds™ Slow Cooker Liners

Ribs

- 2 lb boneless country-style pork loin ribs
- 1 clove garlic, finely chopped
- 1 small onion, sliced
- 1 can (8 oz) crushed pineapple in juice, undrained

Sauce

- 3/4 cup ketchup
- 3 tablespoons packed brown sugar
- 3 tablespoons hoisin sauce
- 1 teaspoon grated gingerroot
- Hot cooked rice, if desired

Directions

- 1 Place Reynolds™ Slow Cooker Liners inside a 5- to 6 1/2 -qt slow cooker bowl. Make sure that liner fits snugly against the bottom and sides of bowl and pull the top of the liner over rim of bowl.
- 2 Place pork ribs, garlic and onion in slow cooker. Spoon about half of the pineapple with some of the juice over ribs. Reserve remaining pineapple and juice.
- 3 Cover; cook on Low heat setting 8 to 10 hours.
- 4 About 35 minutes before serving, drain and discard cooking juices from slow cooker; wipe edge of slow cooker clean. In small bowl, mix ketchup, brown sugar, hoisin sauce, gingerroot and remaining pineapple with juice. Spoon or pour evenly over ribs. Increase heat setting to High. Cover; cook 25 to 30 minutes longer or until ribs

are glazed. Serve with rice.

Expert Tips

Serve food directly from the lined slow cooker. Once your slow cooker cools, remove the liner and throw away for easy clean up. If you don't have fresh gingerroot on hand, use 1/4 teaspoon of ground ginger instead.

Classifieds Continued...

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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. Stick is shorter. 2. Jacket is opened. 3. Binoculars are missing. 4. Cap is different. 5. Flashlight is missing. 6. Squirtle is missing. 7. Differences are missing.

THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME BY AL SCADUTO

TUNING IN ON THE NOSTALGIC CELEB SNOB

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BLABBER'S A NAME-DROPPER AND FAMILY TREE SHAKER--UPPER--

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ASK ANY ARTIST--THERE'S ALWAYS ONE WHO'LL SAY...

HOW TALENTED--I CAN'T DRAW A STRAIGHT LINE WITH A RULER...

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YEAH--AN THOUGHT WED DROP IN AN SAY HELLO...

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Part 2: Switzer The Greats Of All Kansas State Greats

By Mark Janssen

KSU Sports Information
It was on Tuesday that K-State Sports Extra orchestrated some coffee shop debate by declaring Veryl "Joe" Switzer the "Greatest Athlete" in Wildcat history.

Switzer was a two-way Wildcat performer in football as a running back and safety, plus a two-way performer in track and field in the sprints and broad jump.

Here's part of his story as he arrived at K-State as only the second African American to be awarded with an athletic scholarship in the fall of 1950.

In his post-Wildcat years, Switzer has been elected to the Kansas State Sports Hall of Fame, the State of Kansas Sports Hall of Fame and the Kansas High School Activities Association Hall of Fame.

ADJUSTING TO K-STATE: Change came from every direction for the young 18-year-old.

From an all-black community of no more than 150, Switzer was now on a campus of thousands, and all but four or five were white.

"There was some adjusting, for sure," said Switzer, who in the fall of 1999 was honored

with "Veryl Switzer Week" with the proclamation coming from Kansas State, Manhattan and the state of Kansas. "I was a trailblazer. I was asked to knock down barriers. I was reminded of that daily."

On the field, life was just as cluttered.

From playing six-man football as the quarterback/halfback for Bogue High School, Switzer faced the significant adjustment to an 11-man game at K-State.

"I was used to getting by five or six players and seeing open field," said Switzer. "Here, I'd go through five or six guys and there would be another five or six out there. That was frustrating because I was used to scoring a home run every time I touched the ball. That was my attitude"

And losing was new to Switzer as well. He was coming from a Bogue High School team that outscored opponents, 950-52, in his last two-plus seasons, but at K-State in his playing seasons of 1951, 1952 and 1953, the Wildcats went 0-9, 1-9 and 6-3-1 under coach Bill Meek.

Switzer led the team in rushing his junior and senior seasons, but with just 201 and 558



Veryl "Joe" Switzer

yards, respectively. He led in receptions with 27 as a senior plus held the K-State career punt return record until the Bill Snyder era. He, unquestionably, would have set tackle records, but defensive statistics only started in 1966.

As a two-way performer, Switzer said, "I loved to play both ways, but defense was my red meat. I liked the stardom that went with scoring touchdowns, but defense was my meat and potatoes."

As a running back, those years of lifting bales of hay and bags of cement back in Nicodemus, Kan., as a teenager paid off in developing a forearm shiver.

"I heard Joe Lewis (boxer) talked about his six-inch punch," said the 5-foot-10,

195-pound Switzer. "That got me to thinking about a short forearm shiver. I could knock a bull down with that forearm. I figured running through a guy was easier than going around him."

Overall, the two-time second team All-American and three-time All-Big Seven performer said, "I hope I'm remembered for playing with a great deal of heart and sense of love for competition."

In track, Switzer was a Big Seven champion, posting a best time of 9.8 seconds in the 100-yard dash, long jumping 24-feet, 7-inches and pole vaulting 13-feet, 9 inches with an aluminum pole.

"That's before the 40-yard dash was kept, but I know I could beat Thane Baker in the

first 40 yards of the 60, and he held the world record and was an Olympian," Switzer said.

In 100-plus years of intercollegiate football, it's Switzer who holds the distinction of being the highest drafted player in Kansas State history. He was the fourth selection in the 1954 draft by Green Bay.

"I signed for \$10,000, but had to borrow \$500 so I could get a new car," Switzer recalled. "I asked for a \$2,000 signing bonus, but didn't get it."

He was selected only behind quarterback Bobby Garrett of Stanford, quarterback Lamar McHan of Arkansas and Notre Dame tackle Art Hunter, but as the No. 1 running back, which meant going ahead of Heisman Trophy winner John Lattner of Notre Dame.

Switzer played for the Packers for two seasons before being drafted again... this time by Uncle Sam with Switzer joining the Air Force, where he played on the title-winning team at the World Armed Forces Championships.

Returning to Green Bay, Switzer found the likes of Paul Hornung and Jim Taylor on the roster, which sent the former Wildcat packing for the

Canadian Football League where he finished his career in Montreal and Calgary.

LIFE AFTER FOOTBALL: After his professional career, Switzer taught in Chicago and later worked with the Chicago Board of Education.

After turning down multiple offers from K-State to return to help with the black student enrollment, finally athletic director Ernie Barrett refused to take no for an answer.

"I was back in Manhattan and had the feeling that he wasn't letting me out of town without saying, 'Yes,'" said Switzer. "I came back and took a \$3,000 pay cut to help with minority affairs and athletics."

Before retirement, Switzer served as associate dean and assistant vice president for minority affairs, chairperson of the Wildcats' Intercollegiate Athletic Council and eventually associate athletics director.

Off the field, he said, "My reward has been seeing young people grow and graduate. I tried to help young people see their opportunities. I always had the motto that if I saved one kid a year, I've paid my salary."

Honorary Coaches Highlight Purple/White Spring Game

KSU Sports Information
MANHATTAN, Kan. - Led by honorary coaches Terence Newman and Darren Sproles, Kansas State is set for the conclusion of its spring practices with the Purple/White Spring Game beginning at 1:10 p.m., Saturday at Bill Snyder Family Stadium.

Newman, a 2002 consensus All-American who is in his third season with the Cincinnati Bengals and 12th NFL season overall, and Sproles, a 2003 first team All-American who will begin his 10th NFL season

in 2014 as a Philadelphia Eagle after being traded to the organization this offseason, headline a strong contingent of former Wildcats who will take part in Saturday's spring game activities.

Tickets for the game are priced at \$5 while children under the ages of two will be admitted at no charge. Football season ticket holders who renewed their season tickets prior to the March 28 early bird deadline were mailed two complimentary spring game tickets per account, while K-State stu-

dents who order their student pass on iSIS prior to April 25 will be sent an email voucher to pick up a free ticket just outside Gate V prior to the game.

Gates to the stadium will open at 11:30 a.m., as fans can pick up the 2014 football poster at the open gates (M, P, R, V on the east side and B and D on the west side). General admission seating for the game will be open in sections 1-9 on the west side and 20-28 on the east side. Fans are encouraged to enter the stadium early for the announcement of the 2014

team captains as well as a special presentation at 1 p.m.

Fans who are unable to attend the game can watch live on K-StateHD.TV or listen on the K-State Sports Network and SiriusXM channel 85. The 14 K-State Sports Network affiliates who will carry the spring game are listed below. A special Purple/White pregame show will open the broadcast at 12:45 p.m., as the Voice of the Wildcats, Wyatt Thompson, and former K-State quarterback Stan Weber will call the action with Matt Walters providing

updates from the sidelines.

The weekend will get underway Friday with the annual Powercat Auction in Bramlage Coliseum. For more information, visit www.AhearnFund.com/events/auction.

Kansas State opens the 2014 season on Saturday, August 30, against Stephen F. Austin at Bill Snyder Family Stadium. The contest against the Lumberjacks is the first of seven home games that is highlighted by a nationally-televised contest against Auburn

on Thursday, September 18, as well as Big 12 foes Texas Tech, Texas, Oklahoma State and Kansas.

The priority deadline for season tickets is this Friday, April 25, while single-game tickets, if available, go on sale on Wednesday, June 11. To order tickets, fans can contact the K-State Athletics Ticket office online at www.k-statesports.com/tickets, by phone at 1-800-221-CATS or inside the main ticket office in Bramlage Coliseum.

K-State Primed for Big 12 Championship

KSU Sports Information
MANHATTAN, Kan. - The Kansas State men's golf team will head south to compete in the 2014 Big 12 Championship, Friday through Sunday, at the par-72, 5,021-yard Whispering Pines Golf Club in Trinity, Texas. The Wildcats, who are seeded ninth, be paired with eighth-seeded Kansas and seventh-seeded TCU and will tee off at 8:50 a.m., on Friday morning.

"In my opinion, the Big 12 plays two of the best courses in

the country for their championship: Prairie Dunes here in Kansas and Whispering Pines," said head coach Tim Norris, who will be coaching in his final Big 12 Championship as he is slated to retire at the end of this season. "The Bermuda grass at Whispering Pines may favor some of the southern teams but I am confident our team will compete at a very high level. The layout there is truly one where you will use every club in the bag with a great variety of long and short

holes.

"At this point in the season, trust will be the most important facet of the game and our players must focus on each shot and then let the last one go. On a demanding course like Whispering Pines and with the strong competition in the Big 12, there is no time for self-evaluation or negative self-talk during the round."

The Wildcat scoring lineup will include Daniel Wood, Kyle Weldon, Seth Smith, David Klaudt and Alex Carney. It

marks the fourth time this season that Norris has sent this lineup into competition, with its best finish coming in the first week of the year, an eighth-place finish in the 2013 Columbia Regional Preview.

Wood and Weldon have been K-State's most consistent performers this year, as both golfers have competed in all 10 events, tallying five and six top-20 finishes, respectively. Wood currently leads the team in numerous statistical categories, including stroke aver-

age (72.33) and top-5 finishes (2), while Weldon holds team-high marks in lowest 36-hole score (136) and 54-hole score (206). In last season's Big 12 Championship, Wood and Weldon helped K-State to a fifth-place finish, as the duo finished tied 31st and tied 14th, respectively.

In his first season in Manhattan, Smith has competed in seven events as part of the K-State scoring lineup, with his best finish coming in the 2014 Desert Shootout, where he tied

for eighth place at 9-under par 207.

Klaudt was a part of the squad that turned in a ninth-place finish at the 2012 Big 12 Championship at Whispering Pines and has recorded two top-20 finishes this season. Carney has played in nine events this season and currently holds a 75.29 stroke average. His best finish came in the 2014 Jim Colbert Intercollegiate, where he carded a runner-up finish.

K-State Primed for Big 12 Championship

By Kelly McHugh
KSU Sports Information
With warm weather and sunny skies, last night was a beautiful night for baseball in Tointon Family Stadium.

Despite a Monday night loss, the Wildcats got back on track on Tuesday by defeating Bakersfield, 13-0.

"It's all just focus. Our guys were focused, locked in," explained K-State head coach Brad Hill after last night's game. "You could see from the whole approach, how our guys took the field tonight. You could see the body language - they were locked in and ready to play."

The action began during the bottom of the second inning where, with the bases loaded, a Max Brown triple put the Wildcats up by three.

The fourth inning was full of action for the Wildcats with Brown, Ross Kivett, Austin

Fisher and Shane Conlon all recording hits to bring in three more runs.

The hitting didn't stop there, though, as a single from Kivett brought in Brown for the Wildcats solo fifth inning run and, despite back-to-back scoreless innings, K-State capped off the game with a five-run eighth.

"That's something we've been trying to work on, and we got that big hit early tonight from Max, and we've been lacking it," said Hill. "But what I like better was that we came back and scored later. That's something we've had a hard time with, too."

The Wildcats had 10 different players record hits with both Conlon and Brown leading the way with three - a career high in hits for Brown.

On the mound for the Wildcats was sophomore Jordan Witcig (1-1), who threw five innings with two strike-

outs. "He threw strikes. He's very good when he throws in the zone and gets contact," said Hill. "Tonight he did a good job with throwing a lot of strikes. Ten hits and no runs showed he made some pitches when he had to."

Last night's game marked the Wildcats' sixth shutout of the season - the most single season shutouts since 1991.

For a complete box score and game recap, click here.

PARTNERSHIP PRIDE

Last night, K-State baseball celebrated its partnership with Ft. Riley's 2-16 Infantry Regiment during its game against Bakersfield.

"The best thing about tonight was bringing about 200 of our soldiers over here to cheer on K-State all together," explained the 2-16th's commander, LTC Eric Batchelor. "(Our soldiers) know that we're partnered with the team, and I think that's pret-

ty important to them because they do stay involved with what is going on and with how the team is doing during the season. But when we bring the whole unit here to cheer on the team together, I think that means a lot to our soldiers to be able to come out here and do that."

From the first pitch - thrown out by the Rangers' CSM Thomas Williams - to the final inning, Tointon Family Stadium was filled with camo uniforms worn by both the Wildcats and the Ft. Riley soldiers.

"It's really special. That's been a special relationship, partnership that we've had with them for five years," said Hill, who has become friends with Batchelor through the partnership. "Those guys, what they do is awesome for us and is awesome for a lot of other people. LTC Batchelor comes out and visits with the team. They

come over and watch us, whether they can come live or whether they're deployed and watching online, so if we can do something for them, that's pretty special."

Before the game began, Batchelor and Williams were presented with a K-State baseball kit to take with the unit during its upcoming deployment to Africa this summer.

"Tonight, they gave us the baseball equipment to bring to Africa, and that's just really cool," said Batchelor with a smile. "I don't think they realize how much that means to us."

The kit, though just a gift from the Wildcat baseball squad, took an entirely different meaning to Batchelor and his unit.

Last month, the Rangers Regiment traveled south to Ft. Polk, La., for training and, despite not having bats and

balls of their own on the trip, the soldiers made due and played a baseball game of their own.

"Our last mission was this big city, we had to go in and basically clear it of enemy and take it over," explained Batchelor of the training mission. "Once it was over, we started getting ready to get out of there. Well this city had a baseball diamond and one of my companies was out having a baseball game on this diamond (after the mission)."

"One of the guys found the perfect size tree branch, he wrapped it up with duct tape and made a tape ball. You've got 50 guys out there playing baseball on this old, crap field. So now, when we get to Africa, we don't have to make a tape ball, so that was just really cool to accept that from them."

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