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Vol. 24 Number 4

An Award Winning Weekly Newspaper

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Staff Wants City Budget To Grow By \$4.2 Million, To \$138,332,160

The City of Manhattan is working on the 2016 Budget. If approved it would go up \$4.2 million or about 8 or 9 mills.

Here is a Memo given to the Commission:

On May 26, 2015, City Administration presented a broad overview of the 2016 City Budget of \$138,332,160.

The majority of the \$4.2 million increase over the 2015 City Budget is attributed to increased operational expenses in the General Fund, increased beginning fund balance for the Economic Development Fund and Special Parks and Recreation Fund, and increased for the city's portion of the Riley County Police Department budget.

As presented at the May work session, the proposed 2016 City Budget would require a mill levy increase of approximately 3.93 mills. The largest portion of this increase would occur in Riley County Police Department Fund, with the second largest increases in the General Fund and Bond & Interest Fund.

Since the first work session, there have been minimal changes made to the General Fund which are detailed in the discussion section that follows.

DISCUSSION

As noted during the first budget work session, City growth continues to add pressure on City Department's efforts to meet service demands and infrastructure needs.

Debt Disclosure Statement					
May 31, 2015					
Debt Instrument	City at Large Portion	Benefit District Portion	Other Obligations	Total	Date of Final Payment
General Obligation Bonds	56,799,526	-	-	56,799,526	11/01/23
Special Assessment Bonds	4,000,680	56,999,794	-	61,000,474	11/01/33
General Obligation Temporary Notes	24,156,375	-	-	24,156,375	12/15/17
Special Assessment Temporary Notes	-	16,133,625	-	16,133,625	12/15/17
Senior Lien TIF Special Obligation Revenue Bonds (Series 2009A)	-	-	19,125,000	19,125,000	12/01/26
Subordinate Lien TIF Special Obligation Revenue Bonds (Series 2009B)	-	-	4,130,000	4,130,000	12/01/27
Sales Tax Special Obligation Revenue Bonds (STAR Bonds Series 2009-1)	-	-	6,480,000	6,480,000	12/01/26
Taxable Sales Tax Special Obligation Revenue Bonds (STAR Bonds Series 2009-2)	-	-	27,450,000	27,450,000	12/01/26
Limey Pointe TDD Sales Tax Revenue Bonds (Series 2009)	-	-	220,000	220,000	12/01/16
North Project TDD Sales Tax Revenue Bonds (Series 2010)	-	-	5,250,000	5,250,000	12/01/32
Lease Purchases	1,965,229	-	-	1,965,229	07/05/21
State Department of Health and Environment Loans	53,883,959	-	-	53,883,959	09/01/31
State Dept. of Transportation -Transportation Revolving Fund Loan	2,885,345	-	-	2,885,345	08/01/24
<i>Notes on reverse side</i>					
	Total Debt:	143,691,114	73,133,419	62,655,000	279,479,533
	Debt Authority Remaining:	57,364,309			

The City of Manhattan's Debt is \$279,479,533, (That is \$279 Million). The Debt Authority Remaining is \$57,364,309. Bonding companies have said the debt is too high.

The city has experienced growth in sales tax receipts for January through May of 2015.

For the proposed 2016 budget, sales tax revenues are anticipated to grow by 3% over 2014 actual numbers. Additionally in the General Fund, franchise fees from the electric and gas companies are budgeted to increase by 7% in 2016. The growth in these revenue sources will minimize the impact on property taxes in the General Fund.

General Fund

The City's General Fund is the main operational account, which includes the payrolls of

about 80% of the City's entire workforce of approximately 300 full-time employees; 20 part-time employees; and, about 919 seasonal employees.

Because the General Fund has such an important impact on City employment, annual budgetary increases often reflect growing workforce requirements and changes, equipment needs, and position additions. The following is a summary of the proposed \$1.7 million increase to the 2016 General Fund budget:

2016 Payroll Expenses
\$ 694,221
Capital Improvement

Funding

\$718,403

Other

Increases

(Commodities, Contractual Services, etc.)
348,567

Totals \$ 1,761,191

Summary

Currently, the proposed 2016 City Budget is \$138,322,752 which is an increase of about \$4.2 million over the 2015 City Budget. Total property taxes levied for the 2015 City Budget amount to \$22,011,724 and a mill levy

Fiscal Outlook

Spotlight shines on Kansas and Maine

By PG Veer
Watchdog

As we hit the middle of 2015, have you evaluated whether your governor's State of the State address at the beginning of the year is measuring up?

The American Legislative Exchange Council recently released its annual State of the States report, which looks at the fiscal outlook of all 50 states with a critical eye on gubernatorial records. This year, Kansas and Maine were seen as the rising stars as they both project to phase out their income taxes entirely.

In Kansas, despite shouting from left-leaning editorial sites like Salon, Republican Gov. Sam Brownback's performance is actually respectable. The unemployment rate stands at 4.3 percent, the same as it was in early 2007, and yet there are more people in the labor force.

In comparison, New York State, under Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo, is back to mid-2008 unemployment levels, but with 100,000 fewer people in the work force. So much for those "ruinous tax cuts," as bemoaned by The New York Times' Editorial Board, who resides in a state with the highest marginal tax rate is at 8.84 percent.

In Maine, Republican Gov. Paul LePage wants to go as far as making an amendment to his state's constitution in order to permanently ban the income tax. To compensate for the revenue shortfall - which also includes repealing the estate tax and lower corporate tax - LePage proposes to increase the sales tax since it's less

destructive to wealth creation than the income tax. He also wants to give local governments more freedom to increase their own taxes. But they will have to watch out since neighboring New Hampshire has neither income nor sales taxes.

For New Hampshire, under Democratic Gov. Maggie Hassan, having no income tax has given the state a great edge for growth. ALEC's report shows that the nine states with no income tax outperformed not only the 50-states average in population and GDP growth, but also in local government revenues. Between 2003 and 2013, these states have increased, on average, their GDP by 61.9 percent (compared to 47 percent for the nine states with the highest income taxes) and their local governments' revenues by 82 percent (versus 54.3 percent for the highly-taxed).

If the report is any indication, Pennsylvania's new Gov. Tom Wolf, a Democrat, is not getting off to a good start, with his budget proposal to increase the state's income tax. While the increase looks minor, from 3.07 percent to 3.7 percent, it still represents a 23-percent increase, taking away \$378 from a household earning \$60,000. That's just for income; Wolf also increased the sales tax from 6 percent to 6.6 percent (a 10-percent increase) and broadened the tax base. Only the future will tell if the halving of corporate tax and the \$3.8-billion property tax relief will be enough to compensate the increases.

Attempt to force Obamacare expansion on states backfires

By Jason Hart
Watchdog

Trying to force Obamacare expansion onto Florida by cutting funding for an existing Medicaid program has backfired on President Obama.

Florida Gov. Rick Scott, a Republican, is suing Obama's Department of Health and Human Services over plans to stop funding the state's Low Income Pool program, which compensates hospitals for seeing uninsured patients.

Almost immediately, Republican Texas Gov. Greg Abbott and Republican Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback announced they would join the suit against HHS.

Christie Herrera, senior fellow at Florida's free-market Foundation for Government Accountability, told Watchdog.org the Obama administration has "awakened a sleeping giant."

"They've raised the ire of all these other states that are in Florida's exact position, and that's why you've seen Kansas and Texas filing amicus briefs

in the lawsuit," Herrera said during a phone interview.

FGA and other critics of Obamacare expansion have warned states not to trust promises of new federal funding - a point the Obama administration is inadvertently driving home.

Florida's LIP, like other Medicaid waiver programs, must be periodically reauthorized by the federal government. The waiver system keeps states on a short leash and makes any meaningful state control temporary.

Kansas, Texas and Tennessee will be at the mercy of HHS for the renewal of similar programs for the uninsured and have not expanded Medicaid under Obamacare.

Where Obamacare expansion is concerned, "the federal government needs Florida more than Florida needs the federal government," Herrera said.

"HHS has been trying so hard to land the big fish of Medicaid expansion like

Florida and Texas, the last thing they need to do is make those states mad and join them together against Obamacare," she explained. "That's exactly what they've done, and that's why their plan has backfired."

In 2012, the U.S. Supreme Court decided the feds could not coerce states into the Obamacare expansion by threatening to cut off existing Medicaid funding. Scott seeks to build on that ruling.

Scott campaigned against Obamacare expansion in 2010 and remained a vocal critic after taking office, but he embraced the expansion early in 2013 before changing positions again this spring.

"Sometimes you need a reminder that the federal government is not the most trustworthy partner," Herrera told Watchdog.org. "Governor Scott needed that reminder, and that's what he got."

The LIP program, a product of Florida's 2005 Medicaid reforms, costs far less than Obamacare's expansion of Medicaid to able-bodied, work-

ing-age childless adults would.

In 2012, the left-leaning Urban Institute projected Obamacare expansion in Florida would cost taxpayers \$82 billion over 10 years. The LIP program costs roughly \$2 billion per year.

The Florida Senate's "Florida Health Insurance Affordability Exchange" Obamacare expansion plan is opposed by the Florida House but supported by Florida Hospital Association-backed campaign A Healthy Florida Works.

The hospital association and Florida Chamber of Commerce see the promise of billions per year in Obamacare money as a way to create jobs and improve workers' health. The same arguments have been made in other states, where expansion costs are already blasting past projections.

Jennifer Fennell, a spokeswoman for A Healthy Florida Works, explained the group's position in an email to Watchdog.org.

"From a business perspective, it makes more sense to pay less on the front end for preventative care and management of chronic conditions than paying much more for emergency room visits and hospital stays on the back end," Fennell said.

This is another argument used successfully in other states, but emergency room utilization has increased as Obamacare expansion has added millions of Americans to the Medicaid rolls in the past 16 months.

"The Florida Senate took a bipartisan approach to finding a solution for both LIP funding and extending coverage," Fennell added. "It is possible to look past the politics and the rhetoric just as the Florida Senate has and do what is best for the people of the state of Florida."

The Florida Senate's Obamacare expansion plan "is not an expansion of traditional Medicaid," she said.

Fennell noted the plan includes premiums, job training and education require-

ments for enrollees - but these provisions would require federal waivers, just like the LIP program that's being defunded by the Obama administration.

Herrera predicted by the end of June state lawmakers "will come to an agreement on the budget without LIP funding, and then the federal government will have lost its biggest bargaining chip for Obamacare."

"I think people are starting to see that it's not the little guy pushing Obamacare in Florida. It's big hospitals, big business, big insurance companies," she concluded, pointing to a SaintPetersBlog story about state senators' ties to the health-care industry.

The Obama administration had hoped states resisting Medicaid expansion would fall like dominoes. But, combined with nationwide spending and emergency room data, threats to existing Medicaid waivers are solidifying Obamacare opposition.

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Riley County Minutes Cost Taxpayers \$700 Per Month

Riley County Commission Minutes
June 15, 2015
8:30 AM Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance
Public Comments
Shepek discussed budget information.
Commission Comments

Business Meeting

3. Sign On Line Access Agreements for Charlson & Wilson and Alpha Title LLC
Move to sign On Line Access Agreements for Charlson & Wilson and Alpha Title LLC.

RESULT: **ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**

MOVER: **Robert Boyd**, County Commissioner
SECONDER: **Ben Wilson**, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

4. Sign Riley County Personnel Action Form(s)

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Personnel Action Form for Melanie Berry, a promotion, as an Appraiser III, in the Appraiser's Office, at a grade K step 2, at \$18.39 per hour.

5. Sign Riley County Personnel Action Form(s)

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Personnel Action Form for Staci Miner, a new hire, as an Administrative Clerk I, in the Public Works Department, at a grade H step 1, at \$15.34 per hour.

6. Transfer of Property Regional Equipment Laptops

Move to approve the Transfer of Property Agreement: Acceptance of Homeland Security Grant Equipment for two Dell laptops.

RESULT: **ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**

MOVER: **Robert Boyd**, County Commissioner
SECONDER: **Ben Wilson**, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

7. Transfer of Property Regional Equipment Portable Radios

Move to approve the Transfer of Property Agreement: Acceptance of Homeland Security Grant Equipment for twenty portable radios.

RESULT: **ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**

MOVER: **Robert Boyd**, County Commissioner
SECONDER: **Ben Wilson**, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

8. Highway Use Permit, Westar Energy

Move to approve the Highway Use Permit to grant permission to Westar Energy to install one new 50' pole and replace existing pole with 45' one. Removing primary over lift station on Briar Lane.

RESULT: **ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**

MOVER: **Robert Boyd**, County Commissioner

SECONDER: **Ben Wilson**, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

9. Discuss Intergovernmental Luncheon for Monday, June 22nd

Local Legislators - assessment of the entire legislative year and outcome

Review Minutes

10. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Jun 11, 2015 8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes.

RESULT: **ACCEPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]**

MOVER: **Robert Boyd**, County Commissioner

SECONDER: **Ben Wilson**, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

Review Tentative Agenda

11. Tentative Agenda Press Conference Topics

12. Discuss Press Conference

Brian McNulty-Report on Tuttle Creek Lake condition

9:00 AM **Shilo Heger**, Treasurer

13. May 2015 Revenue Reporting - Riley County Treasurer

Heger discussed the Kansas County Treasurer's Annual meeting.

Heger presented the June 2015 Treasurer's report.

9:15 AM **Gary Rosewicz**, Assistant County Engineer

14. Bid opening for Riley County LEC South Elevator Improvement Project

The Board opened the following bid for the Riley County LEC South Elevator Improvement Project:

Company Total Bid
ThyssenKrupp 4939 Lulu Court, Suite 16
Wichita, KS 67216 \$47,750.00

Engineer's Estimate \$60,000.00

Move to refer the bid to staff for evaluation and recommendation.

RESULT: **ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**

MOVER: **Robert Boyd**, County Commissioner

SECONDER: **Ben Wilson**, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

9:30 AM **Press Conference**

15. 4-H Candle Presentation - Stormie Clemens (5 minutes)

Jobe discussed the rechartering of the 4-H Zeandale Club, which coincided with their 75th anniversary. Jobe said one family had four generations of 4-H Zeandale Club members.

Clemens, President of the Zeandale 4-H Club, presented candles to the Board made by the Club.

16. Disaster Declaration - Storm Damage - Pat Collins (3 minutes)

P. Collins reported multiple counties around us have signed Disaster Declarations. P. Collins said we have not had much damage other than a little road damage in Zeandale.

17. Fireworks - Pat Collins (3 minutes)

P. Collins discussed the Public Display of Fireworks Permits.

P. Collins discussed the sale of fireworks permits.

P. Collins discussed the house fire in the City of Riley caused by an explosion.

P. Collins said a resident, Bob Brown, crawled through the window and rescued a 2 year old baby.

P. Collins stated City and County department heads discussed a scenario in which the lake kept rising and residents could see which areas would flood once the flood gates are opened.

18. Master Gardeners Tour update - Gregg Eyestone (3 minutes)

Eyestone reported Extension provides landscape information for homeowners.

10:00 AM **Break**

10:10 AM **Ciancy Holeman**, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

19. Administrative Work Session

20. Pending County Projects County Counselor

Holeman suggested the Board consider the having the Proposed RCPD Firing Range meeting as a "Special Meeting" since two or more will attend.

The Board agreed by consensus.

Holeman discussed the Board hosting the Legislative Breakfast.

Cox discussed the tax sales preparations.

10:30 AM **Leon Hobson**, Public Works Director/County Engineer

21. Project update

Perez reported the road closures in Riley County due to the flooding. Perez discussed road repair projects.

Hobson presented an update on Public Works projects.

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The Conservative Side...

Guns in Church

By Glenn Mollette

A faith group in our town recently held a worship event with about 350 plus people in attendance. They expected people from several states and foreign countries including Nigeria, South Africa, Botswana, United Kingdom and Canada. The International group came together in celebration of their Christian faith to worship and recognize academic achievement.

Throughout most of the Friday evening worship event and Saturday morning recognition service two armed police officers were located in the main event auditorium. They were wearing uniforms and badges and wearing their pistols. There were also three people carrying concealed pistols. They have permits to carry concealed guns.

There has never been any trouble at the yearly event nor was any expected this year.

A spirit of worship and recognition of those attending was carried out with a harmonious spirit of unity and love. At any moment a crazed gunman could have entered the place and shot somebody. However, he would unlikely have escaped the auditorium without being wounded or taken out. Sounds kind of weird doesn't it? In light of last week's Charleston, South Carolina massacre of nine people it no longer sounds crazy.

Churches must now have a strategy plan to protect each other and those who visit. A public prayer meeting or Sunday morning worship event is an easy target to a crazed gunman. Two or three people with automatic weapons could kill dozens of people within a minute or two. One 21 year old lunatic in Charleston, SC killed nine beautiful people as he stood and reloaded his

weapon in front of shocked worshipers. We would all be shocked. Don't be shocked. This is the world in which we live.

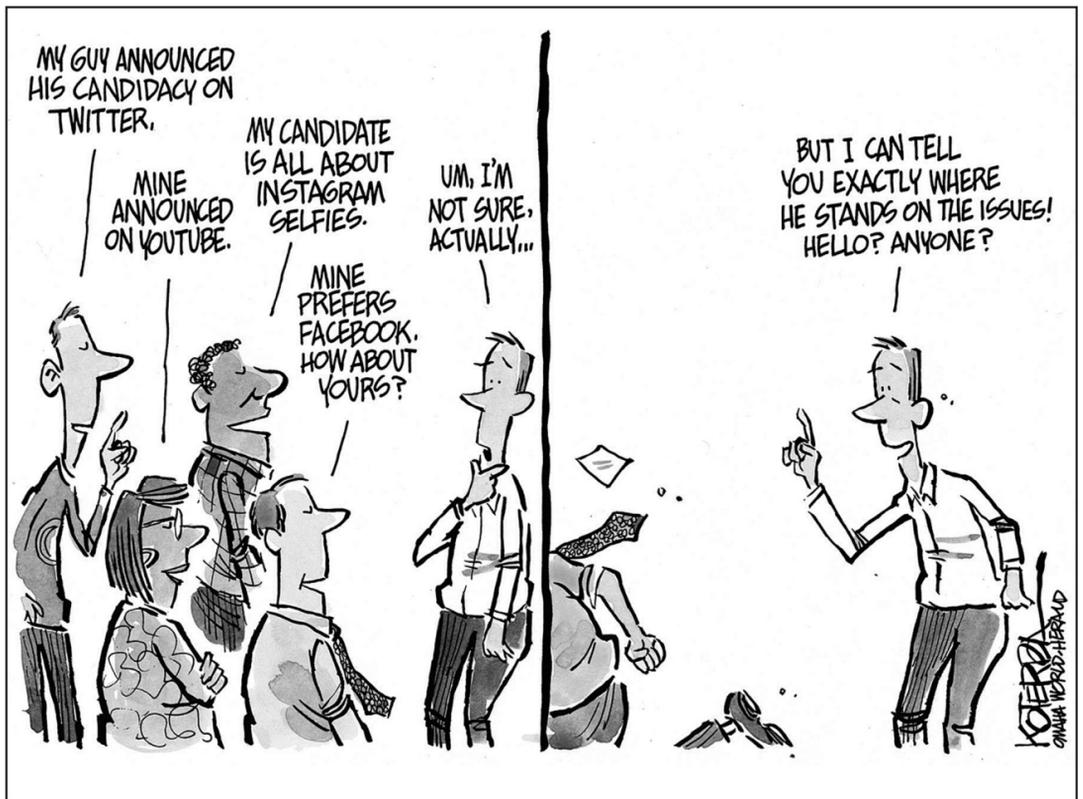
Sadly, your church will have to employ or ask for volunteer security guards. They need to be properly trained on how to watch for crazy people. It's not that easy. Who would have suspected a 21 year old sitting under the guise of interest and spiritual concern? You will need to have two or three people in your congregation observing the behavior of other people and willing to tackle someone if the need arises. A trained security guard wearing a gun and stationed in a visible place in your church is essential. One or two licensed people in your church with concealed weapons, willing and able to use them will not hurt either.

I can't believe I am writing this article. I have led worship and spoke publicly in churches for over forty years. Never have I ever feared that our lives might be at risk.

Evil has been around since the beginning of the world. Ask people of faith in Iraq, Egypt, or Afghanistan. Thousands have been killed and their churches burned to the ground. The goal of ISIS is to eliminate any person who is not Muslim or who does not celebrate Allah. Even the disciples of Jesus hid behind closed doors for fear of the extreme religious fanatics in their day.

While this all sounds grim and dim. People of faith must move on and go forward. We all have to be observant and don't ever think the following for a moment, "Something like that could never happen in our town."

Glenn Mollette is an American Syndicated Columnist and Author. He is the author of eleven books and read in all fifty states.



General Reprimanded

WASHINGTON (AP) — An Army general has been reprimanded for steering a defense contract to a firm run by two former classmates at West Point, according to a published report.

Maj. Gen. Dana J.H. Pittard, who as deputy commander for

operations in the Middle East oversaw the training of Iraqi forces, was reprimanded after an investigation by the Army's inspector general, according to The Washington Post, which cited documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act.

An Army review board is considering whether to strip Pittard of his rank as a two-star general before he is allowed to retire, the newspaper reported.

It said an anonymous whistleblower alleged that Pittard had "abused his authority by awarding lucrative renewable energy contracts to his friends" while commander of Fort Bliss in Texas.

Pittard was not accused of financial gain but was reprimanded for his "excessive involvement" in awarding the \$492,000 contract and for "creating the perception of preferential treatment," according to his reprimand. The contract was an initial step in a \$250 million project to make Fort Bliss, one of the Army's largest installations, self-sufficient in energy usage.



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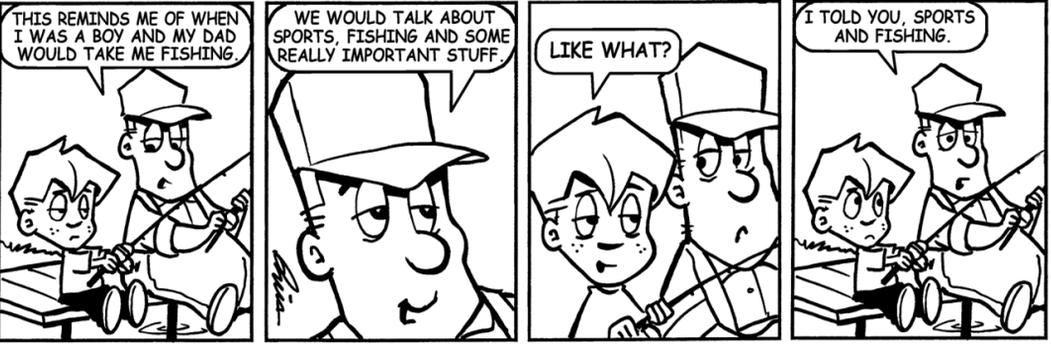
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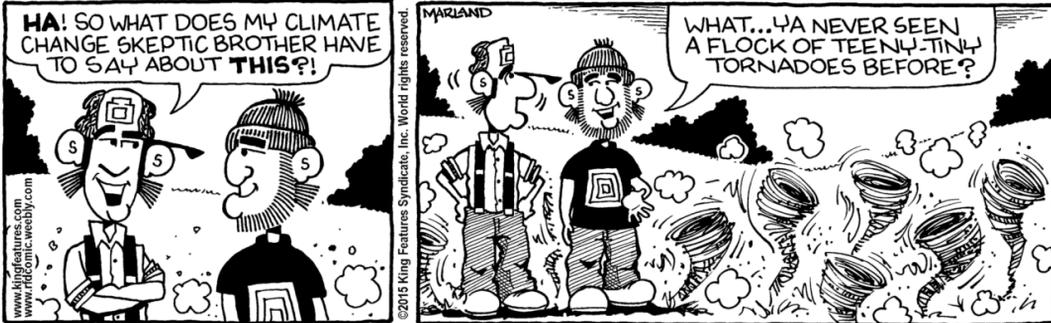
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



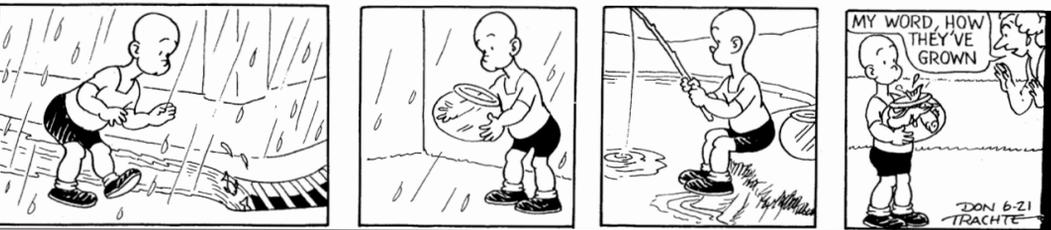
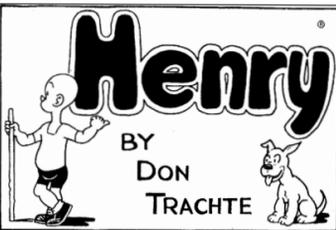
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



King Crossword
Answers
Solution time: 25 mins.

ADDS	RAG	SCAB
NEAP	ENE	PONE
TAILS	SPIN	ACNE
INSITU	TUCKER	
TOT	SKIT	
SAD	WEB	ENACT
STOA	DOH	GILA
REVUE	GAB	LIP
EDGE	YAM	
LOTION	RAILED	
ARAB	TAILGATE	
NEIL	END	HONE
DOLE	RYE	TSAR

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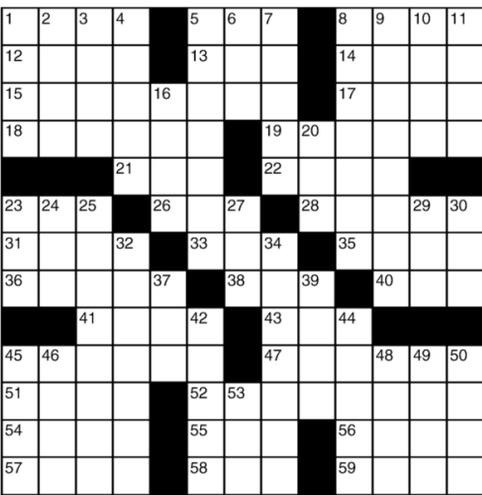
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King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Throws in
 - 5 Tatter
 - 8 Wound cover
 - 12 Tide type
 - 13 Compass dir.
 - 14 Corn concoction
 - 15 Severe decline
 - 17 Dermatologist's case
 - 18 As found
 - 19 Singer Sophie
 - 21 Youngster
 - 22 36-Across segment
 - 23 Blue
 - 26 "Charlotte's —"
 - 28 Make into law
 - 31 Old portico
 - 33 Homer's interjection
 - 35 Arizona river
 - 36 Variety show
 - 38 Talk on and on
 - 40 Back talk
- DOWN**
- 1 Opposed
 - 2 Campus
 - 3 Raised platform
 - 4 Divided
 - 5 Considered
 - 6 Blackbird
 - 7 Fellows
 - 8 What "this clue" needs
 - 9 Mixed drink
 - 10 Boleyn or Bancroft
 - 11 "Cheers"
 - 16 Pack away
 - 20 Guitar's cousin
 - 23 Georgia's ex-status (Abbr.)
 - 24 Chowded down
 - 25 Overlap
 - 27 Marsh
 - 29 Roman 151
 - 30 Spigot
 - 32 Within earshot
 - 34 Outing on a wagon
 - 37 Id counterpart
 - 39 False god
 - 42 Go in
 - 44 Possibly will
 - 45 Crow's-nest cry
 - 46 Sandwich treat
 - 48 Neighbor of Cambodia
 - 49 Sicilian spouter
 - 50 Antelope's playmate
 - 53 Whatever amount



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Answers on page 6



Peanut Butter S'mores Ice Cream Cake

Ingredients

- 1/2 gallon (or 1.75 quarts) chocolate ice cream
- 1 1/4 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1/2 cup butter, melted
- 1 jar (16 oz) creamy peanut butter
- 1 cup miniature marshmallows
- 1 bottle (7.25 oz) chocolate topping that forms hard shell
- 1/2 cup roasted salted peanuts, roughly chopped, if desired

Additional graham cracker crumbs and miniature marshmallows, as desired

Directions

- 1 Remove ice cream from freezer 10 to 12 minutes, but no longer or you will end up with an icy cake.
- 2 Spray 8- to 9-inch round springform pan with cooking spray.
- 3 In medium bowl, mix graham cracker crumbs and melted butter. Dump mixture into pan; press evenly in bottom of pan.

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4 In small microwavable bowl, microwave peanut butter uncovered on High 15 to 20 seconds or until lightly melted and somewhat pourable. In large bowl, mix ice cream and peanut butter, using spatula or electric mixer, until almost no streaks of peanut butter remain. Stir in marshmallows. Work quickly so ice cream does not completely melt. Spread evenly over crust. Cover with plastic wrap, pressing against ice cream to help prevent ice crystals from forming. Freeze 4 to 6 hours.

5 Before serving, remove from freezer, and pour chocolate over top, allowing some to drip down sides. Immediately top with chopped peanuts, and

additional graham cracker crumbs and miniature marshmallows so they harden into the shell.

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Multiple Wildcats Earn Preseason Honors

MANHATTAN, Kan. -- Ten Kansas State football players have earned preseason honors as various college football magazines have released their Preseason All-America and All-Big 12 teams.

Seniors Dante Barnett and Cody Whitehair both earned All-Big 12 accolades from all the major preseason publications, which includes Athlon, Lindy's, Sporting News and Phil Steele. Whitehair was also named a Preseason All-American by Athlon, while Lindy's named him the eighth-best offensive tackle in the nation. Lindy's also touted Barnett as the fourth-best safety in the country entering 2015.

Other players to garner Preseason All-Big 12 honors include defensive tackle Travis Britz, kick returner Morgan Burns, fullback Glenn Gronkowski, punt returner Dominique Heath, linebacker Elijah Lee, place kicker Matthew McCrane, cornerback Danzel McDaniel and offensive lineman Boston Stiverson.

In addition to earning Preseason First Team All-Big 12 honors from Phil Steele, Gronkowski was regarded as the ninth-best NFL talent in the Big 12 according to Lindy's. A complete list of preseason honors is listed below.

Single-game tickets are on sale online now at www.k-statesports.com/tickets and available via phone (1-800-221-CATS) on Wednesday. In addition to the South Dakota, Louisiana Tech and Oklahoma games that were previously announced as down to scattered singles, the TCU and Baylor contests have joined that category. Additionally, standing-room only tickets on the Northeast hill are available for



Senior Dante Barnett, DB, earns All-Big 12 accolades.

every game except for the Baylor contest.

Visiting teams will have opportunities to return unused tickets up to a month prior to their visit. Stay tuned to www.k-statesports.com for information regarding returned ticket availability. All returned tickets will be sold at the full public rate and 2016 wait list accounts will have first opportunity to purchase.

The 2015 season opener against South Dakota on September 5, will be broadcast live on K-StateHD.TV beginning at 5:30 p.m., with the K-State Gameday preview show followed by a 6:10 p.m. kick. After traveling to UTSA on September 12, at 11 a.m., on FOX Sports 1, K-State returns home on September 19, to host Louisiana Tech at 2 p.m., in a game televised by FSN.

Following the announcement of a new digital partnership with SportsLabs, current monthly and annual K-StateHD.TV subscribers will

need to cancel their existing account through the current provider by clicking here. Beginning July 1, all fans will need to re-subscribe to K-StateHD.TV as a new account and can do so at www.k-statesports.com following launch to gain access to the South Dakota game. Those current subscribers who have paid for annual subscriptions will be contacted directly via email for specific details and instructions regarding how their subscription will be transferred to the new platform.

K-State's 2015 Preseason Honors

Dante Barnett -- First Team All-Big 12 (Athlon, Lindy's), Second Team All-Big 12 (Phil Steele), All-Big 12 (Sporting News), Fourth best safety in the nation (Lindy's)

Travis Britz -- Second Team All-Big 12 (Athlon), Fourth Team All-Big 12 (Phil Steele)

Morgan Burns -- Second Team All-Big 12 (Athlon,

Phil Steele)

Glenn Gronkowski -- First Team All-Big 12 (Phil Steele), Second Team All-Big 12 (Lindy's), Ninth-best NFL talent in the Big 12 (Lindy's)

Dominique Heath -- Fourth Team All-Big 12 [pr] (Phil Steele)

Elijah Lee -- Third Team All-Big 12 (Athlon, Phil Steele)

Matthew McCrane -- Second Team All-Big 12 (Phil Steele), Third Team All-Big 12 (Athlon)

Danzel McDaniel -- Second Team All-Big 12 (Athlon, Lindy's), Third Team All-Big 12 (Phil Steele)

Boston Stiverson -- Second Team All-Big 12 (Athlon), Third Team All-Big 12 (Phil Steele)

Cody Whitehair -- Third Team All-American (Athlon), First Team All-Big 12 (Athlon, Lindy's), Second Team All-Big 12 (Phil Steele), All-Big 12 (Sporting News), Eighth-best offensive tackle in the nation (Lindy's)

All Available Football Season Tickets Sold

MANHATTAN, Kan. -- For the third consecutive season, all available K-State football season tickets have been sold as department officials announced that public season sales for the 2015 season at Bill Snyder Family Stadium have surpassed the 36,000 mark, while three contests are already sold out of contiguous seats.

Fans who ordered season tickets but did not receive a ticket location during the priority seating process will be refunded and placed on a waiting list for the 2016 season, which currently sits at more than 250 accounts with 1,000 tickets requested. Those fans will also receive a promotional code by email on Friday, June 12, for an exclusive one-day pre-sale on Monday, June 15, at k-statesports.com for any

remaining tickets from visitor allotments. Any future visiting team returns throughout the fall will be offered first to current season ticket holders, Ahearn Fund members, and fans on the 2016 football season ticket waiting list. Fans wanting to join the wait list can do so by calling the K-State Athletics ticket office at 1.800.221.CATS.

"A third consecutive season ticket sellout is further proof that the K-State Nation is excited for the 2015 football season," said Athletics Director John Currie. "We appreciate our fans filling Bill Snyder Family Stadium each week and providing a world-class experience for our student-athletes. With just a small number of tickets available for next week's single-game on-sale, we

are well on our way to 27 straight sellouts and a packed house for all seven home games, beginning with our Family Reunion game and debuting of the new Vanier Football Complex on September 5."

Department officials also announced that the South Dakota, Louisiana Tech and Oklahoma games are down to scattered singles following pre-order sales. Information regarding ticket availability, including standing-room only options, for the single game public on-sale scheduled for Monday, June 22, at k-statesports.com will be issued in the coming days. Fans wishing to find tickets for sold-out games can do so through Vivid Seats, a secondary market that has partnered with K-State Athletics. To find tickets,

fans can visit www.kstatesports.com and click on the link for Vivid Seats in the ticketing menu or call (844) 545-6702.

The 2015 season-opener against South Dakota on September 5 will be broadcast live on K-StateHD.TV beginning at 5:30 p.m. with the K-State Gameday preview show followed by a 6:10 p.m. kick, while the Louisiana Tech game is scheduled for 2 p.m. and will be televised by FSN.

Following last week's announcement of a new digital partnership with SportsLabs, current monthly and annual K-StateHD.TV subscribers will need to cancel their existing account through the current provider by clicking here. Beginning July 1, all fans will need to re-subscribe to K-StateHD.TV as a new account and can do so at k-statesports.com following launch to gain access to the South Dakota game. Those current subscribers who have paid for annual subscriptions will be contacted directly via email for specific details and instructions regarding how their subscription will be transferred to the new platform.

Kansas State Fair manager resigns

Kansas State Fair General Manager Denny Stoecklein is leaving the post after more than 12 years.

Stoecklein told The News Thursday evening that he is the new director of marketing and public information for Hutchinson Community College. "It was one of those things," he said. "I wasn't out looking for a job, but I always had an interest in the college environment."

"There is a strong connection for my family there," Stoecklein said. "It is a place that is pretty special. After 20 years, I was ready for a new challenge." Stoecklein said he attended HCC. His wife, Michelle, attended HCC, too. Their son, Ryan, will be a freshman this fall and play baseball for the college. His last day with the fair is July 17. He said he will start his new job July 20.

"We are thrilled to have Denny," said HCC President Carter File. "We couldn't be happier that he decided to join Hutchinson Community College."

Stoecklein's salary and bene-

fits will be approved by the board on June 25, File said. Stoecklein's current state fair salary is \$106,000.

Fair Board President Harmon Bliss said he grew up around the fair, seeing its workings as a student, an agriculture teacher and a fair board member.

"Denny has to be one of the best," he said.

When Stoecklein notified him of his resignation on Wednesday, "My heart dropped and took three steps back," said Bliss.

Bliss said nothing has been discussed regarding how to replace Stoecklein. The next board meeting is July 15 in Hutchinson. Stoecklein has been with the fair since 1995, first serving as the fair's special events, sponsorship and nonfair director. In 1999, he was named assistant manager. He took the fair's head position in 2003 after the previous fair manager, Bill Ogg, was forced to resign. Some of the highlights of his tenure included the fair reaching the century milestone, as well as

helping guide the fair through a \$29 million master plan project that renovated much of the outdated grounds. Last year, he saw the fair open a new state fair museum. "One of the biggest things he loves about the fair, Stoecklein said, is the people. He said he was in Manhattan last week when a woman stopped him and told him how much she loved bringing her camper to the fair every year. He got to the fair early Thursday morning and walked the grounds to take care of some things, Stoecklein said. "I realized it is not going to be easy to walk away from it," he said. "I'm walking into something that I'm really, really excited about, and that helps. It makes it a lot easier." He said someone once asked him why he enjoyed the job. "It is because you walk out of the office during the fair and you see the kid with the corn dog in one hand and a soft drink in the other and mustard on the side of his face, laughing and having a great time," he said.

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