

# Manhattan Free Press

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## Recreation Facilities and Streets

# City To Ask Voters For More Sale Tax

**(Editor's Note: The City of Manhattan is deep in debt but that does not stop our liberal City Commission and City Staff from planning more spending.**

**In 2007 the voters of the City turned down a multi-use Parks and Rec. building, that does not stop our City.**

**Now they are back with, not one but three new multi-use facilities.**

**How will they pay for this \$25-\$30 million up grade?**

**Extend the Zoo Sales Tax: "The current \$0.25 Quality of Life Sales Tax expires in 2019, but could be called in late 2017. The tax generates approximately \$2.5 million annually, \$25 million over a 10 year period."**

**In other words the City will ask the voters to extend the sales tax for another 10-years. But, waite! The City plans to go the voters this fall to pass a Sales Tax to fix the streets in Manhattan. Why? Because they have been using Street money on other things.**

**With your vote we could have much higher taxes.)**

### CITY COMMISSION AGENDA MEMO

April 20, 2016

**FROM: Eddie Eastes, CPRP, Director of Parks and Recreation**

**MEETING: May 2, 2016 SUBJECT: Parks and Recreation Facility Feasibility Study PRESENTERS:**

**Eddie Eastes, CPRP, Director of Parks and Recreation**

**Karen Davis, AICP, Director of Community Development**

### BACKGROUND

At the December 15, 2015, City Commission meeting, the Commission approved the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and authorized City Administration to negotiate a scope of services and contract with Bruce McMillan AIA Architects, P.A. (Consultant), of Manhattan, Kansas, for architectural design and park planning services.



**Community Multipurpose Facility at Anthony Middle School - Project Overview: The preliminary program consists of court space for 4 multi-sport courts, an elevated walking track, a multi-purpose/community room, an appropriately scaled lobby, hospitality space, staff office area, restrooms with lockers and changing space, storage, and miscellaneous building support spaces. This approximately 44,000 squarefoot facility is to be located adjacent to the existing middle school.**

A scope of work was developed by City Administration that builds upon the four (4) priorities identified in the Strategic Facility Improvement Plan (SFIP) which are:

Creation of indoor space geographically located to meet unmet needs of the community

Improvement to safety and playability of existing field playing surfaces

Improve availability and condition of community parks, trails, and neighborhood parks

Development of new indoor aquatic facilities

**PRIORITY 1: Neighborhood Recreation Center Feasibility Study**

The consultant was required to develop building programs, prepare conceptual facility and site layouts, establish capital cost requirements, and set preliminary facility operational cost recovery for each identified neighborhood facility. A detailed analysis of revenues, expenditures, fees, attendance projections and cost recovery scenarios for each facility is included.

Three (3) locations the consultant evaluated were: USD 383 Susan B. Anthony Middle School located at 2501 Browning; USD 383 Dwight D. Eisenhower Middle School located at 800 Walters Drive; and Douglass Park located at 900 Yuma Street, near the City's existing Douglass Community Recreation Center.

The two (2) middle school locations offer partnership opportunities while providing needed indoor space to the benefit of the school district, the City's Parks and Recreation programs and the overall community.

City staff identified the Douglass Park site based on its potential eligibility to utilize Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

City Administration met with the USD 383 Manhattan-Ogden Board of Education, administrators and coaches. Currently, the two middle schools have inadequate indoor court space and a minimum of two additional gyms are needed to satisfy their current and immediate future needs. USD 383 2009 bond that provided multiple upgrades and enhancements to their facilities did not include new courts at their facilities. Currently, the grade school gyms are adequate for physical education classes and practices but are too small for recreational programming games. During the school year, elementary school gymnasiums/multi-purpose spaces primarily host internal school-related users until 6 pm. These spaces are available between 6 pm and 9 pm but are typically utilized by internal school-related users such as Parent-Teacher Organizations, science fairs, book fairs, school carnivals, school dances, school conferences and other similar programs.

During the summer, the three elementary schools are open for summer programs. Public use could occur on a limited basis from 6 pm – 9 pm.

Middle school gymnasiums are available during the school year from 6 pm to 9 pm but are primarily used for school-related activities including intramural sports, band concerts, dances, play rehearsals, college nights, and site council meetings.

During the winter months, internal usage of all facilities is at capacity. Security personnel were added at the high school to accommodate this level of use.

Seven Dolors and the Flint Hill Christian schools have gymnasiums but both facilities indicate their gym spaces are at their maximum capacities right now and routinely turn request down for uses of their facilities.

**PRIORITY 2/3: Improvements to field playing surfaces, community and neighborhood parks and trails**

Improvements to field playing surfaces, community and neighborhood parks and trails required the consultant to reaffirm stakeholder and community needs and identify specific City parks for further evaluation and planning based on the

Parks and Recreation Department's mission to build a healthy community, recommendation from the Strategic Facility Improvement Plan, Steering Committee input and stakeholder meetings.

The Strategic Facility Improvement Plan identified improvements to playing surfaces at Anneberg Park, City Park and CiCo Park as the highest priority locations to consider short-term improvements.

"Based on high use by the community of playing surfaces at Frank Anneberg Park, City Park and CiCo Park, the highest priority to improve safety and playability of the playing surfaces at these locations should be pursued to maximize capital resources and benefits to the public. Once the improvements of the playing surfaces at these locations are completed, future improvements could be considered for playing surfaces at other parks" (SFIP page 257).

Synthetic turf installations to playing surfaces at Frank Anneberg Park have been completed and are being received positively by the community. Recent tournaments on both soccer and Twin Oaks fields would not have been possible

See Page 6

## General Obligation Bonds



**The Riley County Commission will sell \$400,000 in General Obligations for Fire District No. 1. The money is for a new fire station and fire equipment. The District has 60 days for a petition to stop the sale. If they want to stop it.**

Dick Edwards



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## Kansas legislators have approved a plan for balancing the state budget

TOPEKA, Kansas — Kansas legislators have approved a plan to dump most of the work of balancing the state's budget on Republican Gov. Sam Brownback while telling him he can't cut aid to public schools.

The measure passed early Monday morning by divided GOP supermajorities in both chambers assumes the conservative governor follows through on plans to delay major highway projects and cut higher education spending. It also anticipates him making \$92 million in further cuts during the next fiscal year, beginning July 1, that could touch state Medicaid health coverage for the poor and disabled and other social services.

The state would delay \$96 million in contributions to public employee pensions due this spring, but the bill approved by lawmaker blocks Brownback from touching aid to public schools. Kansas had been facing shortfalls totaling more than \$290 million in its current budget and the one for the next fiscal year.

"Everybody's sufficiently uncomfortable, but that's generally what it takes to get compromise," said Senate Ways and Means Committee Chairman Ty Masterson, an Andover Republican.

The Senate approved the bill, 22-18; the measure had appeared initially to be failing, but several GOP senators switched their votes. The House had approved it earlier Monday morn-

ing, 63-59. Brownback's chief spokeswoman has said the governor believes he can sign it.

Kansas has struggled to balance its budget since the GOP lawmakers slashed personal income taxes in 2012 and 2013 at Brownback's urging in an effort to stimulate the economy. The push to have the term-limited governor make the tough decisions about the budget reflects some lawmakers' frustration that he won't back away from key cuts.

But even legislators who continue to support the income tax cuts had some misgivings about the budget-balancing plan, at least a few because legislators were giving Brownback so much power over spending. Others were bothered by the pension contribution shuffle.

Under the plan, the pension contributions for public employees could be delayed until July 2018, though the move won't affect retirees' benefits.

The Department of Transportation announced last month that it was delaying 25 major highway projects; Brownback plans to divert \$185 million in road funds to general government programs.

The figure for unspecified cuts Brownback would make in the next fiscal year is tied to a list of potential reductions the governor's budget director,

Shawn Sullivan, outlined earlier this month as a potential budget-balancing option for lawmakers to consider.

The list included \$27 million in cuts to the higher education system and \$51 million in cuts to social services, mostly the Medicaid program that provides health coverage for the poor and disabled.

"There are a number of very, painful, painful cuts that will be enacted," said Rep. Jerry Henry, an Atchison Democrat. "And those cuts will be received by some of the most vulnerable people in our society."

Shane Bangerter, chairman of the state Board of Regents, which oversees the higher education system, said Monday that continued cuts "would be detrimental to the future prosperity of Kansans."

Sullivan's list of potential cuts also included a \$57 million cut in aid to public schools, but the legislative plan rejects that.

Republican leaders used the protection in the bill for aid to public schools as a selling point for GOP lawmakers reluctant to embrace the plan, particularly in the House.

The Kansas Supreme Court is reviewing a lawsuit filed by four of the state's 286 school districts in 2010, arguing that the state doesn't spend enough

money on its public schools and distributes the money unfairly. The justices are hearing arguments May 10 in a key part of the case — whether the state's distribution of aid remains unfair poor districts after changes made earlier this year.

After passing the budget-balancing plan, legislators gaveled out of session until June 1, when their only scheduled business is a brief ceremony to adjourn for the year. But an adverse Supreme Court ruling on education funding could force them back to work.

Legislators' work also could be undone if the state's tax collections fail to meet expectations — as they have 10 of the past 12 months, even with a positive report for April. Many lawmakers see the state's budget woes continuing.

"We come back next year and it hasn't turned around, what do we do then?" said Sen. Ralph Ostmeier, a Grinnell Republican.

### Help Wanted

Nutrition Coordinator wanted at the Riley County Senior Service Center. Outgoing, enthusiastic person, who is willing to host seniors and volunteers, coordinate meal services and file monthly reports. 6 hours per day M-F. Pick up application at or send resume to 401 Houston, Manhattan, Ks 66502 Call 1-800-432-2703 for information. EOE/AA



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- Thomas Jefferson, 1787

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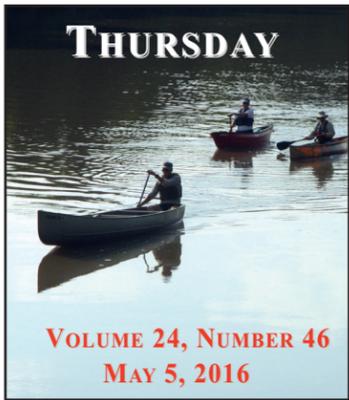
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## Sales Tax To Pay For City/University Projects

(Editor's Note: For more than 100-years Kansas State University was outside of the Manhattan City limits. During the 1990's the City was trying to get to 50,000 population. An agreement was made with the University that would bring the University into the City and give the University all of the Sales tax money generated on campus. This was found (by the Free Press) to be against state law.

The University and the City then came up with the idea of a committee that would find projects that would benefit both and finance them with the tax dollars.) Here is this years list:

### CITY COMMISSION AGENDA MEMO April 25, 2016

**FROM:** Kiel Mangus, Assistant City Manager  
**MEETING:** May 3, 2016  
**SUBJECT:** 2017 City/University Special Projects Funds Request and Committee Recommendation

**PRESENTERS:** Kiel Mangus, Assistant City Manager  
Ethan Erickson, Assistant Vice President for Budget Planning

### BACKGROUND

The City/University Special Projects Fund was created as a result of the annexation of Kansas State University in July 1994 for the purpose of funding projects of mutual benefit to the community and Kansas State University (KSU). The attached annexation agreement specifies the process to be utilized for the submission and approval of



Kansas State University

projects.

At the October 21, 2014, meeting the City Commission approved the First Addendum to the Annexation Agreement. This addendum made some changes to deadline dates in the agreement for items the City sends to KSU, and items that KSU sends the City. The addendum did add a new step in the process. The City Commission will formally send their project requests in November to KSU for inclusion in their project process.

The City Commission submitted their project requests to

KSU in November 2015. University Administration submitted its 2017 request along with its preliminary planning document in March 2016. The City/University Special Projects Fund Committee (Committee) met on April 11, 2016, and reviewed the status of the current year projects. After review of the status of 2016 projects the Committee reviewed the 2017 proposed projects.

### DISCUSSION

The City/University Special Projects Fund Committee reviewed the 2017 project re-

quests from K-State. A total of eight project requests totaling \$700,000 were included. Projects are listed below with votes from the Committee listed in parentheses after the project.

**North Campus Corridor Improvements (8-0 vote of approval)** Construct curb and gutter, storm sewer, sidewalk, grading, retaining wall, signal, and road improvements to North Manhattan Avenue adjacent to K-State Research Park.  
Second of three-year request.  
**\$100,000**

**Realignment of Intersection at Lovers Lane and Thurston Street (8-0 vote of approval)**

Shift Lover's Lane to the north in order to align directly across from Thurston Street. Two new crosswalks will be constructed with lights, street lighting, and Americans with Disability Act (ADA) curb cuts. Also included is a bicycle contraflow lane. Stormwater improvements are also included in this project.  
Second of a two year request  
**\$214,500**

**Campus Perimeter Traffic Flow Study (Committee amended to include Sunset Avenue in Study. Amendment passed 8-0. Project then passed 8-0.)** Assist with updating pedestrian crosswalk signalizations along campus corridors. Project would study appropriate pedestrian crossing alternatives and key on campus perimeter corridors (Denison Ave, North Manhattan Ave, Sunset Ave was added by Committee).  
1st year request for engineering study in amount of **\$30,000**

**Sunset Avenue Corridor Improvements (8-0 vote of approval)**

Provide multiple pedestrian and traffic control improvements along the Sunset Avenue corridor from Claflin Road to Anderson Avenue. Corridor is growing in populations and traffic with recent upzoning in two areas east of campus by the City and upcoming completion of new Wefald Hall dorm will add traffic.  
One year request for **\$115,500**

**Linear Trail Extension (8-0 vote of approval)**

New multi-use trail along Denison Avenue from Marlatt Avenue to Kimball Avenue. Paved 10-foot-wide path would accommodate pedestrians, bicyclists, and others. City is planning to partner with Riley County and KSU on a Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) grant for street improvements along this section of Denison Avenue.  
One year request for **\$75,000**

**Pedestrian and Bike Path Lighting Additions (Committee amended to include Pedestrian in front of Bike Path Lighting Additions project name. Motion passed 8-0. Project then passed 8-0.)**

Existing bike path from Jardine Drive to College Avenue has inadequate lighting causing a safety concern. Area is high traffic and a key pedestrian connection to campus from multi-family areas. Project would add light poles along the path to brighten the area.  
One year request for **\$100,000**

**Sidewalk Construction at Pioneer Lane (8-0 vote of approval)**

Install sidewalk on the north side of Pioneer Lane from Manhattan Avenue to McCain Lane. No sidewalk exists currently and pedestrians are forced to walk in the roadway.  
One year request for **\$35,000**

**Colbert Hills Special Assessment Support (Motion was made to not fund the project. Motion failed 2-6. Motion was made to fund the project in full. Motion passed 6-2 (Silva/Baker).)**

Assist in payment of special assessment tax funding associated with the construction of Grand Mere Parkway. Payment occurs if course did not make a profit in previous year.  
Second of a three year request **\$30,000**

### FINANCING

The total amount of the eight (8) recommended projects for 2017 in the City/University Special Projects Fund is **\$700,000.**

From Ordinance No. 4897:

### RECOMMENDATION

City/University Special Projects Fund Committee and City Administration recommend approval of the City/University Special Projects Fund Committee Request for 2017.

## City Continues Work On Manhattan Airport

### CITY COMMISSION AGENDA MEMO April 28, 2016

**FROM:** Jesse R. Romo, Airport Director  
**MEETING:** May 3, 2016

### SUBJECT:

**Approve a Final Change Order and Amendment No. 1 for Phase I (AIP 44, AP040P) and Amendment No. 4 for Phase II (AIP 46, AP035P) of the Manhattan Regional Airport Terminal Expansion Project**

**PRESENTER:** Jesse R. Romo, Airport Director

### BACKGROUND

During the design phase of the Passenger Terminal expansion, the City Commission, with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) concurrence, authorized construction of the Terminal to be completed in two phases that would be bid simultaneously, but would result in separate construction con-

tracts.

On March 26, 2013, the City Commission authorized to advertise and receive bid proposals for the terminal expansion. At the time of Commission approval, the FAA was confident that Federal Fiscal Year 2013 (FFY13) discretionary funds would be available but had not yet given the City approval to advertise. Shortly after this meeting, due to Sequestration a significant amount of Airport Improvement Project (AIP) funds were diverted to other needs within the FAA. Subsequently, authorization to advertise was put on hold.

On July 18, 2013, FAA notified the City that discretionary funds might be available and approval was given to advertise.

The project was advertised on July 24, 2013, and construction bids were received and opened on August 22, 2013. Four bids were received with the low bid submitted by The Weitz Company, LLC, of Lenexa, Kansas, in the amount

of: Phase I - \$9,120,000; and Phase II - \$6,680,000, for a total bid of \$15,800,000. On September 10, 2013, the Commission accepted the Architect's Opinion of Probable Costs for both Phases, I and II, of the terminal construction project, and awarded the construction contract to Weitz (minutes attached). Substantial completion of Phase I was achieved on February 26, 2015, and operations began out of the new building on March 10, 2015.

On June 20, 2014, FAA provided a grant offer in the amount of \$5,361,484 and on July 15, 2014, the City Commission authorized the Mayor to accept the federal Grant for construction of Phase II of the terminal expansion at the Manhattan Regional Airport. In addition to accepting the FAA Grant at the July 15, 2014, meeting, Commissioners were also provided with detailed information regarding the source

of funding of the City's share of costs for all costs associated with Phases I and II of the project.

At the September 2, 2014, meeting the City Commission awarded a construction contract for Phase II to The Weitz Company, LLC, of Lenexa, Kansas, in the amount of

\$6,680,000. The Notice to Proceed was issued on August 24, 2015, with construction to begin no later than September 3, 2015. At that time the project completion date was scheduled to be June 29, 2016.

### DISCUSSION

From the time the City Commission first gave approval for advertising the construction project in March 2013 there have been many challenges. The first challenge came with the time frame needed to submit the Grant Application to the FAA. FAA needed to issue the grant prior to September 30, 2013, the end of its fiscal year.

To meet this deadline, the City needed to issue the request for bids, receive bids, analyze the proposals, coordinate with FAA the participation level of the total cost and complete and submit the grant application.

In addition to the terminal project, Allegiant Air, LLC, announced on August 20, 2013, it would begin twice weekly air service to Phoenix beginning in November. This resulted in more space needed in the airline ticketing area, the secure room and also increased the need for additional parking.

The substantial completion date for Phase I came 199 days after the original established completion date. There were multiple reasons for the delays and both Mead & Hunt and The Weitz Company put in additional time and work that resulted in additional claims by both. Both requests for additional contract administration time and construction work were submitted at significantly higher amounts than the final

amounts reflected in the final change order.

Mead & Hunt requested an amendment to their original contract administration agreement for Phase I services. After reviewing it further, Mead & Hunt reduced its additional request by \$291,830. The remaining amount of \$276,209 was submitted to FAA for their participation, resulting in an amendment of \$276,209, with \$171,528 participation by FAA and \$104,681 by the City.

The Weitz Company also requested Change Orders for work and days associated with the time overrun. Ultimately, The Weitz Company reduced its claim by \$152,561 leaving a remaining amount of \$344,018. Unfortunately, these items are not eligible for FAA participation, and will need to be funded 100% by the City.

In total the aggregated claims to close out Phase I were reduced by \$444,391.

## CATP: Ending Welfare as We Know It

By Michael D. Tanner  
CATO Institute

On June 5, Swiss voters will go to the polls to decide whether to eliminate many of the nation's social-welfare programs and replace them with a guaranteed national income for all citizens. Not long after the Swiss vote, Finland will embark on a similar though partial experiment, replacing welfare benefits with a guaranteed income for both national and regional sample populations. In the Netherlands, at least four cities, Utrecht, Tilberg, Groningen, and Wageningen, are in the process of designing their own experiments. And in Canada, the latest provincial budget in Ontario promised to work with researchers this year to come up with a design for a pilot program. Great Britain is also actively debating the concept.

Most conservatives and libertarians in the United States would dismiss the idea of a guaranteed national income (GNI) out of hand. Typical European socialism, would be the reaction. The fevered brainchild of Bernie Sanders.

Actually, though, free-market thinkers from F. A. Hayek and Robert Nozick to Milton Friedman and Charles Murray have long been open to some form of GNI.

Instead of tinkering around

the edges of the welfare state, trimming a billion dollars here, adding a work requirement there, why not simply abolish the entire thing? Get rid of welfare, food stamps, Medicaid, housing assistance, unemployment insurance, and all the rest. Murray would even throw in Medicare and Social Security. Replace it all with a simple cash grant to every American whose income falls below the stipulated level, and then leave the recipients alone to manage their own lives free from government interference.

Such a program would be simpler and far more transparent than the hodgepodge of existing anti-poverty programs. The federal government alone, for instance, currently funds more than 100 separate anti-poverty programs, overseen by nine different cabinet departments and six independent agencies. With different, often contradictory, eligibility levels, work requirements, and other restrictions, our current welfare system is a nightmare of unaccountability that fails to effectively help people transition out of these programs and escape poverty.

A GNI would also treat poor people as adults, expecting them to budget and manage their money like everyone else. Currently, most welfare pro-

grams parcel out payments, not to the poor themselves, but to those who provide services to the poor, such as landlords or health-care providers. But shouldn't the poor decide for themselves how much of their income should be allocated to rent or food or education or transportation? Perhaps they may even choose to save more or invest in learning new skills that will help them earn more in the future. You can't expect the poor to behave responsibly if they are never given any responsibility.

Moreover, giving the poor responsibility for managing their own lives will mean more choices and opportunities. That, in turn, will break up geographic concentrations of poverty that can isolate the poor from the rest of society and reinforce the worst aspects of the poverty culture. And, by taking the money away from the special interests that support the welfare industry, it would break up the coalitions that inevitably push for greater spending.

A GNI would also provide far better incentives when it comes to work, marriage, and savings. Because current welfare benefits are phased out as income increases, they in effect create high marginal tax rates that can discourage work or marriage. Studies have shown

that a person on welfare who takes a job can lose as much as 95 cents out of every dollar he earns, through taxes and forgone benefits. Poor people, by and large, are not lazy, but they also aren't stupid. If they can't earn more through work than from welfare, many will choose to remain on welfare. In contrast, a guaranteed national income would not penalize someone who left welfare for work.

And a guaranteed national income would also do away with much of the government's excuse for regulating the economy. Minimum-wage laws would instantly become obsolete, to cite just one example. Moreover, a GNI could minimize the economic disruptions that occur from automation and free trade. There would be less opportunity for demagoguery on the American political scene and less resistance to liberalizing the economy.

A no-brainer, right? Well, maybe not.

As with most government programs, what sounds good in theory tends to break down when one looks at practical questions of implementation. There are serious trade-offs among cost, simplicity, and incentive structure. Attempts to solve problems in one area

would raise questions in others.

If everyone in the United States were to receive a benefit sufficient to bring him above the poverty threshold, it would cost roughly \$4 trillion, more than our entire current federal budget. Clearly that's not affordable, so some limit would have to be put on who could receive the benefit. And it would likely be distributed through some form of negative income tax, as Friedman advocated.

But that would re-create many of the same incentive problems we see in the current welfare systems. Phasing out the benefit would, as in the current system, impose high effective marginal tax rates, which discourage work. A negative income tax would also import all the complexity, fraud, and abuse of the current U.S. tax code. Say goodbye to simple and transparent.

Once we've established the principle of guaranteeing people money, we will still be constantly haggling over the amount.

Moreover, as with other government programs, there would be constant pressure to expand benefits. How long would it be before we heard that no one can live on whatever benefit the GNI provides? Once we've es-

tablished the principle of guaranteeing people money, we will still be constantly haggling over the amount. Already many on the left call for a GNI, not to replace the welfare state, but as an additional benefit on top of existing programs. Grafting a guaranteed income on top of the current failed system would simply double down on welfare dependency.

Those things which make the GNI look so good on the drawing board fade away when you consider how to put it into practice.

Still, advocates of free markets and welfare reform should not dismiss the idea out of hand. Rather, we should watch the experiments in Europe and Canada with a wary but open mind. In the meantime, there are small steps that can move welfare policy in the right direction. Programs should be consolidated, in-kind benefits should be de-emphasized, and outcome measures should focus more squarely on whether this system actually helps people attain some level of prosperity through hard work.

The current welfare state is a clear failure. A guaranteed national income may or may not provide a better alternative. Either way, it's a debate whose time should be coming.

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# America today: Black comedian calling president the N-word is OK, disputing president's policies is not

By M.D. Kittle  
Watchdog  
MADISON, Wis. – This is apparently where we are in America today:

It's acceptable – depending on who you are – to call the president of the United States the N-word, but you can be prosecuted for disagreeing with President Barack Obama's climate-change agenda.

The speech police have come to the defense of Comedy Central host Larry Wilmore, who dropped the generally offensive word at Saturday night's White House correspondents' dinner.

Wilmore, a former "Daily Show" performer and current host of Comedy Central's "The Nightly Show," took it to politicians and journalists at the annual A-lister roast.

But the black comedian reserved his most controversial line for the president, at the end of what had been moving comments about the progress of African Americans.

"Words alone do me no justice. So Mr. President I'm going to keep it 100: Yo Barry, you did it my n—," Wilmore said, pounding his chest. "You did it."

The audience laughed and cheered, Obama pounded his chest in response, and the event ended with the two men shaking hands and smiling.

On Monday, Gerry Adams, president of Irish Republican party Sinn Fein, apologized for tweeting the same word in comparing the plight of slaves in the United States to that of Irish nationalists, according to CNN.

Words are one thing. Thoughts are now another.

The attorney general of the U.S. Virgin Islands has launched a sweeping investigation into a free-market think tank for publishing research disputing the left-wing narrative of catastrophic climate change.

Attorney General Claude E. Walker recently served a "kitchen sink" subpoena on the Competitive Enterprise Institute in what attorney Andrew Grossman calls a "blatant attempt to intimidate and harass an organization for advancing views that" Walker opposes.

It's not just Walker. Some 20 state attorneys general have joined the AGs United for Clean Power, led by former Vice President Al Gore.

The prosecutors have publicly pledged that they will go after groups like CEI.

"They made it perfectly clear at this press conference (earlier this year) that they [support] a forced government transition to what they view as clean power sources," Grossman told Wisconsin Watchdog on the Jay Weber Show, on NewsTalk 1130 WISN. "They expressed their dismay that some people disagree with that policy agenda. And they announced that they were going to use every legal theory in the book to target people who disagree

with them on this policy agenda. That is in fact what they are doing."

Grossman said Walker has yet to respond to his recent letter advising the attorney general that CEI will fight this incursion on their constitutional rights.

"The voluminous, harassing 14-page subpoena says Inquisitor Walker is investigating ExxonMobil for 'misrepresenting its knowledge of the likelihood that its products and activities have contributed to and are continuing to contribute to climate change in order to defraud the government ... and consumers,'" wrote constitutional law expert Hans von Spakovsky in a recent Daily Signal piece headlined "The Left's Climate Inquisition's New Target."

The energy company, according to Walker, could be guilty of the Virgin Islands' version of the federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act, the same law used to break up the Mafia.

To that end, prosecutors are going after donor files and other documents of groups like CEI, attempting to link those who reject the religion of climate change to the companies the climate change crowd believes is causing it.

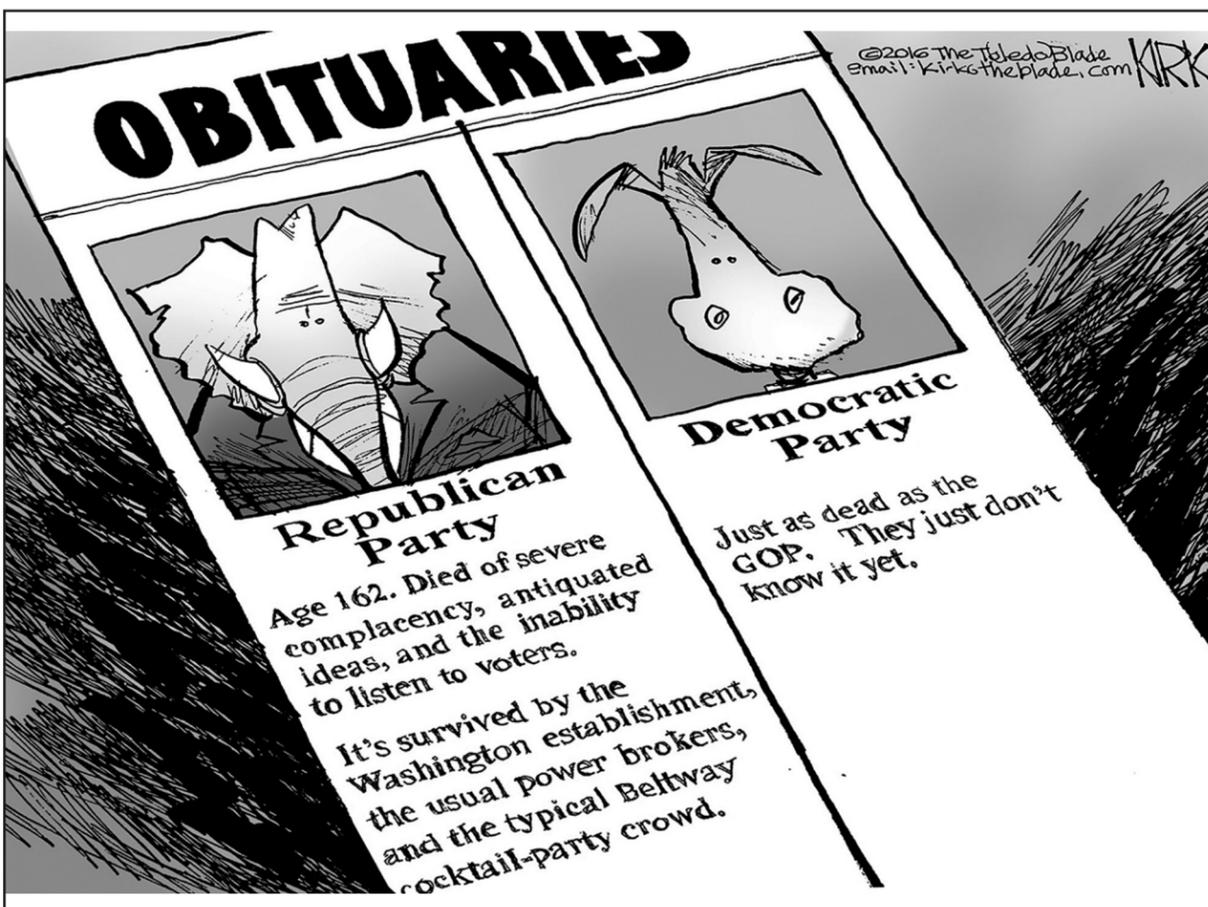
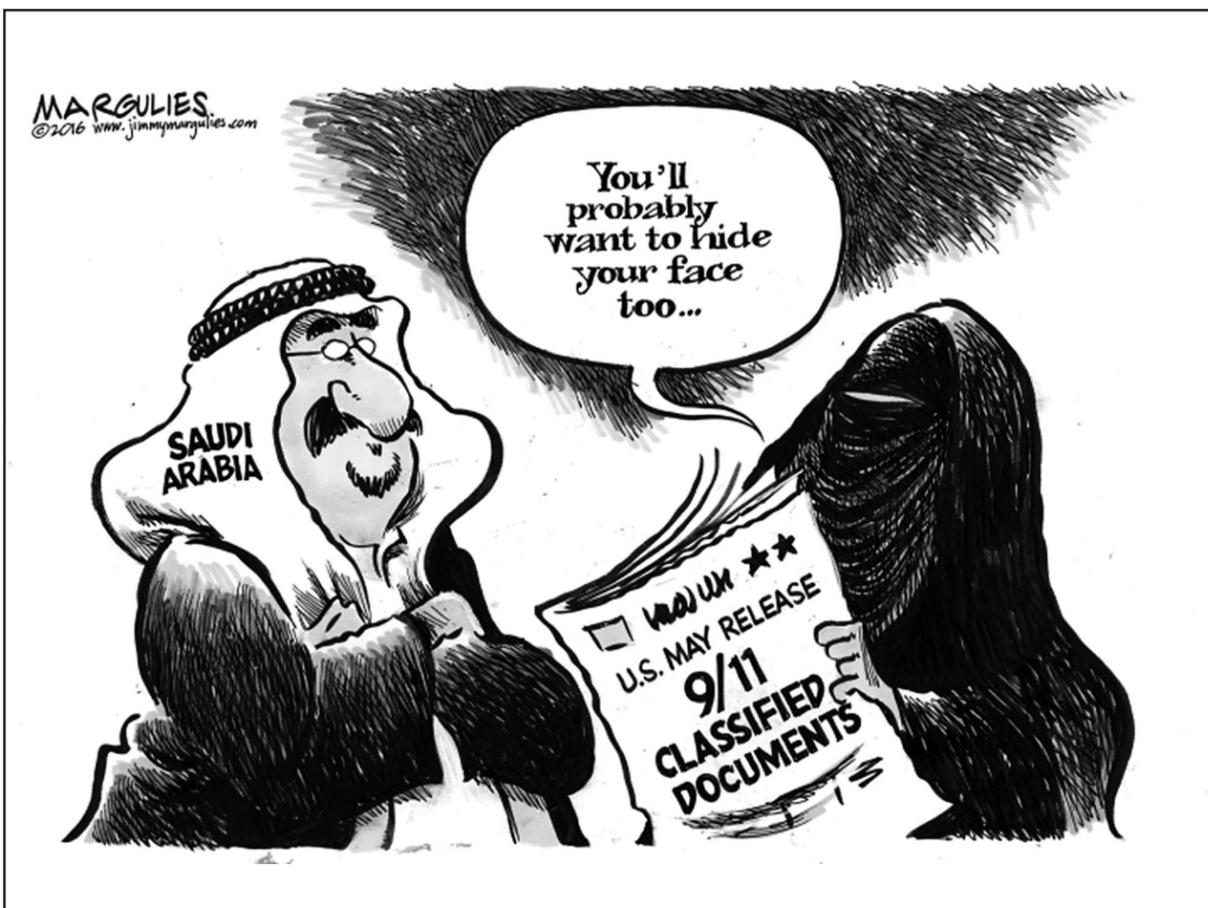
"CEI received a kitchen sink subpoena that basically requests everything they've done on climate change for a period of 10 years," Grossman said. "That includes internal communications, it includes potentially donor lists. It's really literally almost everything they did externally and internally, every document, every email, every note written down, they want it all."

The attorney called the investigation a fishing expedition.

"But because they announced what they are doing, we don't have to wonder what the purpose is. It's to harass and intimidate and at the end of the day it's to shut people up from expressing their policy views," Grossman said.

So, just in case you're scoring along at home on what is now acceptable and what isn't—a black comedian calling the first black president the N-word is OK; an organization disputing the first black president's climate-change agenda is not OK. In fact, it seems the latter is a prosecutable offense.

**Have You Read What The FreePress Said**



## City To Ask Voter For More Sale Tax from page one

because of wet conditions without these improvements.

There are currently five ball fields at CiCo Park, each sized to accommodate different ages of players. In 2015, 1,241 participants, youth and adults, played 204 games at CiCo Park through Parks and Recreation programs. The fields are frequently reserved for practices and games by non-City recreation leagues, and drop-in use from surrounding neighborhoods also occurs. The fields suffer from poor drainage and the infrastructure in the common areas is showing signs of age with failing concrete and an inefficient central building housing restrooms, concessions and score boxes.

The Strategic Facility Improvement Plan found that the number of tennis courts in the community is adequate, but the condition of the city's existing courts is extremely poor. Three courts are located at CiCo Park and six at City Park. All nine courts are frequently used despite their poor condition. Manhattan High School currently uses the courts at City Park for their programs.

The existing tennis courts at both parks are showing common signs of distress including pavement faulting, playing surface deterioration, localized drainage issues, and damaged fencing. None of the courts are constructed using post-tension concrete, which is the preferred construction method for new courts due to its long-term durability. The statistically valid survey, conducted as part of the Strategic Facility Improvement Plan, found that tennis users demonstrated the greatest need for facility improvements compared with all other sports activities that were evaluated. Nearly 3,600 households said they have a need for tennis courts. Of those households, 63% (2,267 households) feel their needs for tennis are being met 50% or less – the highest of any activity (SFIP pages 149, 159, 160).

A master plan for City Park is currently being conducted. A master plan of City Park will address several issues including improvements to the baseball/softball fields and tennis courts. Passive-use amenities like trails, picnic areas, and playgrounds, and support facilities such as parking and restroom facilities will be considered, addressing several Priority 2/3 improvements.

Connectivity to existing facilities and bicycle and pedestrian connectivity to various facilities was the primary focus for the community, neighborhood and parks aspect of the Facility Feasibility Study. The Parks and Recreation Facility Feasibility Study focus was the potential connectivity of these systems to the various sites specifically evaluated within this study. Recommendations are included within the Parks



**Neighborhood Multipurpose Facility - at Douglass Park** Project Overview: The preliminary program, based on Steering Committee recommendations, consists of space for 2 multi-sport courts, an elevated walking/running track, a multipurpose community room, an appropriately scaled lobby, hospitality space, staff office area, restrooms with lockers and changing space, storage, and miscellaneous building support spaces. This approximately 25,000 square-foot facility is shown to be located on the south portion of Douglass Park, at the corner of 10th Street and Fort Riley Boulevard.

and Recreation Facility Feasibility Study document.

Community & Neighborhood Park Improvements in the 2016 CIP (or projects to be completed in 2016) include sidewalk improvements at Colorado Park (Municipal Court), and Fremont Street Corridor Improvements to add bulb-outs for enhanced vehicular and pedestrian safety, improved storm drainage and aesthetic appeal and to increase parking on the south side of Fremont Street adjacent to City Park.

Additional park planning and improvements in process or potentially underway include the City Park Master Plan that will identify improvements to be made in the park over the next ten years. Lee Mill Heights Park master plan is currently in process and will develop a long-range plan for this new natural area park on the City's west side, and will likely include many neighborhood park amenities in addition to trails.

Trail improvements completed in 2015 include concrete panel replacement on Hudson Trail, Clarenberg Trail widening as part of the 11th & Fremont project in City Park, new multi-use path to improve access to through City Park, and trail surface improvements at Warner Park (Eagle Scout project in progress).

Trail improvement projects in the 2016 CIP include the Knox Lane Multi-Use Path connecting Casement Road to Northeast Park, Old Blue River Trail connecting Linear Trail at Hayes Drive to McCall Road Multi-use Path, and a new trail

through Jorgenson Park and Girl Scout Park to connect Anderson Avenue to Wildcat Creek Linear Park (which connects to Linear Trail at the Poliska Lane trailhead).

Further trail studies in process or potentially underway that will impact community trails include the Lee Mill Heights Park master plan that will include trails planning (possible that planning may go beyond the boundaries of the park to improve neighborhood connectivity). KDOT Transportation Alternative program application includes two trails projects and two projects with pedestrian/bicycle improvements. Of particular note is the "Marlatt-Denison Linear Trail Extension. This corridor is identified in the Linear Trail Phase 2 plan as an important bicycle route to connect Linear Trail back into the City street/sidewalk network and the Safe Routes to Schools Phase 1 report identifies new sidewalk connections to better serve existing schools, some of which will help improve neighborhood access to existing parks and trails. Five of these projects are included in the KDOT Transportation Alternative application.

The Hartford Hill Master Plan, recently adopted by the City Commission as an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan, includes approximately 48 acres of parks and open space that will feature hiking and biking trails.

**PRIORITY 4: Indoor Aquatics Feasibility Study**

Indoor Aquatics Feasibility Study required the consultant to identify stakeholder and community needs and/or desires for indoor aquatic facilities based on the Parks and Recreation mission to build a healthy community, recommendations from the Strategic Facility Improvement Plan, Steering Committee input and stakeholder meetings.

The consultant has evaluated the feasibility of covering City Park Pool as well as a new facility located in CiCo Park and developed conceptual facility and site layouts, capital cost requirements and preliminary facility operational cost recovery. An analysis of revenues, expenditures, fees, attendance projections and cost recovery scenario is included.

### DISCUSSION

Steering Committee meetings were held February 24, 2016, and March 30, 2016.

For Priority 1, the Steering Committee recommended two gyms and an elevated walking track for the Douglass Center Southeast Neighborhood Recreation Center; and four gyms and elevated walking track for both the Anthony Middle School and Eisenhower Middle School sites.

City Administration has also met with Genesis on several occasions since the beginning of 2016. Genesis is willing to make improvements to a facility in the community that would accommodate 2 basketball courts and an additional volleyball court, locker rooms, seating area, meeting room and an at grade walking track

around the court area. The space is approximately 19,000 square feet at an amount not to exceed \$3.75 million. Genesis would expect the City to enter into an agreement for a 10 year or 15 year option to finance the improvement at approximately \$473,798 or \$344,256 respectively. The City would have the ability to own the property at any point within the term. The City would be responsible for the maintenance, utilities, equipment repairs and upgrades, and control the access, rental and use of the facility. Genesis would provide supervisors as required and keep the property on the tax rolls (paying property tax) for the duration of their ownership.

For Priority 2/3, based on SFIP findings, the Steering Committee recommended eight tennis courts for CiCo Park and a Master Plan conducted for CiCo Park to help further determine tennis court locations and playing surface improvements for the existing ball fields.

Priority 3 type facilities include trails, playgrounds, picnic shelters, and similar venues that are not directly related to programmed sports venues such as those identified in Priority 2.

Priority 3 type facilities in many cases can be accomplished with a variety of funding sources and the Parks and Recreation Department has incrementally completed improvements to neighborhood parks, community parks, and trails.

The Parks and Recreation Department will continue to

make incremental improvements to neighborhood parks and trails with operational budgets and promoting Capital Improvement Program projects to address community needs.

For Priority 4, the Steering Committee recommended that City Park Pool not be considered as a viable solution to indoor aquatics covered. As an alternative, they recommended a separate indoor aquatic facility be considered for CiCo Park.

City Administration is requesting feedback from the City Commission and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board that the Steering committee and the consultant can utilize to further develop detailed schematic designs for indoor spaces at the three identified sites; park improvements that benefit large segments of the community; and indoor aquatics that satisfy the identified community needs as outlined in the SFIP.

City Administration recommends that Bruce McMillan AIA Architects, P.A., be retained to develop detailed schematics for indoor spaces at Anthony Middle School and Eisenhower Middle School as well as complete a master plan of CiCo Park, and develop detailed schematic designs of an indoor aquatic center at CiCo Park.

If agreeable, a contract amendment to the consultant's current contract could be considered in the near future to further the design and feasibility study.

### FINANCING

**The current \$0.25 Quality of Life Sales Tax expires in 2019, but could be called in late 2017. The tax generates approximately \$2.5 million annually, \$25 million over a 10 year period. A significant number of new facilities and enhancements to existing facilities could be accomplished with the renewal of this sales tax. For example, the recently completed \$3 million Frank Anneberg Park Sports Field and Lighting Improvement project has an annual weekend tournament economic impact of \$3.7 million in the community. Similar returns could be realized with the improvements outlined in the Facility Feasibility Study.**

If an option is considered or pursued with Genesis, a financing strategy will need to be determined.

### ALTERNATIVE

It appears the Commission has the following alternative concerning the issue at hand the Commission may:

Provide input to City Administration regarding the Parks and Recreation Facility Feasibility Study.



**Community Multipurpose Facility at Eisenhower Middle School - Project Overview:** The preliminary program consists of court space for 4 multi-sport courts, an elevated walking track, a multipurpose/community room, an appropriately scaled lobby, hospitality space, staff office area, restrooms with lockers and changing space, storage, and miscellaneous building support spaces. This approximately 44,000 square foot facility is to be located adjacent to Eisenhower Middle School. The primary difference between this facility and the proposed facility at Douglass Park is the size of the court space.

# Tennessee on the Road to Becoming Income Tax-Free

## Heritage Foundation

Many people already think of Tennessee as one of only a handful of states with no income tax, but as middle-class retirees can attest, it is anything but.

While the state does not tax income from labor, it has levied a six percent tax on investment income since the establishment of the Hall Income Tax in 1929. Because retirees live on fixed incomes and disproportionately rely on their savings to make ends meet, this is effectively a nest egg tax. It also drives investors and job creators to states like Florida and Texas, which impose no income tax of any kind.

Because retirees live on fixed incomes and disproportionately rely on their savings to make ends meet, this is effectively a nest egg tax.

Sadly, many people are unaware of this harmful tax. It

isn't until they start withdrawing their savings to pay for retirement that they are caught by surprise. In fact, our own polling showed that only 17 percent of Tennesseans even knew the tax existed. It's bad enough when government raids your nest egg; it's even worse when it does it in the dark of night.

We should reward hard work, saving, and frugal planning. Because of this, the Beacon Center—Tennessee's free market think tank—and other conservative groups such as Americans for Prosperity made it our top priority to repeal the Hall Tax during the 2016 legislative session. Together, we made the case that the Hall Tax was not the Tennessee way.

Fortunately for taxpayers, our efforts succeeded. On the

last day of the legislative session, state lawmakers enacted a six-year phase out of the tax. The bill now awaits Gov. Bill Haslam's signature.

With the elimination of the Hall Tax, Tennessee will become only the second state in history to repeal an income tax. And it's been a long time coming. The only other state to abolish its income tax was Alaska—and that was way back in 1980.

Since entering office in 2011, Gov. Haslam has led a fiscally responsible state, balancing the state budget every year while frequently returning money back to taxpayers' pockets. The total tax cuts during his tenure are nearing \$2 billion. The most meaningful cuts have come from a full repeal of the state's death and gift taxes, as well as a significant reduction in the

sales tax on food. If signed, the Hall Tax phase out would become the largest tax cut in state history, returning more than \$300 million a year to taxpayers.

If signed, the Hall Tax phase out would become the largest tax cut in state history, returning more than \$300 million a year to taxpayers.

Tennessee's economy will benefit from this continued trend of responsible spending and limited government. When the final phase out of the death tax occurred earlier this year, Tennessee jumped from seventeenth to seventh in the American Legislative Exchange Council's "Rich States, Poor States" rankings, the largest increase of any state. Like the death tax, the Hall Tax discourages saving and investing in our state. Its demise should

also provide for a positive economic outlook.

The elimination of the Hall Tax will reward—rather than

punish—frugal planning and boost investment in our state.

For these reasons, we encourage Gov. Haslam to sign the tax cut into law when it reaches his

## Help Wanted

Part time kitchen assistant at the Riley County seniors' Services Center, 4 hours/day M-F. Benefits are sick leave, holidays, paid vacation. Application and job description at the Senior Center, 301 N 4th St. Manhattan, Ks or send resume to 401 Houston, Manhattan, Ks 66502 Call 1-800-432-2703 for information. EOE/AA

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## An Inconvenient Truth: Liberal Climate Inquisition Can't Explain Past Temperature

### Heritage Foundation

In the week prior to the administration signing what should constitute an international climate treaty, one think tank, the Competitive Enterprise Institute, was subpoenaed for casting doubt on the agreement's associated science of climate catastrophe.

As disturbing as such thugery from state attorneys general would be in any case, the premise of the subpoena is faulty. The Competitive Enterprise Institute did not cast doubt on the dubious climate science. The actual data cast the doubt. The think tank and others have simply pointed out what the data show.

It looks like thoughtcrime has now moved from George Orwell's novel "1984" to the twisted reality of our judicial system. Pointing out facts should never be a real crime.

The Heritage Foundation's new Paris-bubble-popping science summary is also a case of letting the numbers tell a story. A story many never hear in the media-hyped spectacle that is international climate policy.

For instance, the chart above shows reconstructed average world temperature data for the past 500,000 years. Depending on the magnification and size of your monitor, each pencil dot would span something on the order of 1,000 years. The myriad 10-degree Celsius temperature flips all happened before

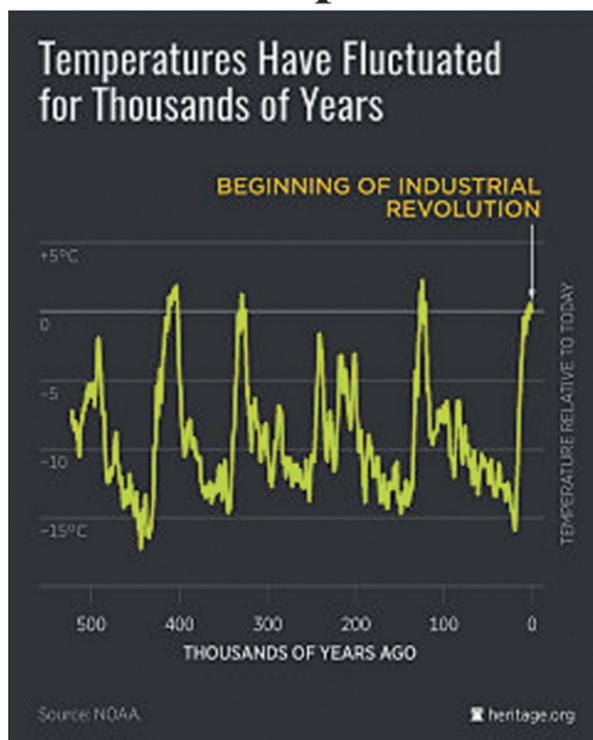
man-made carbon dioxide could have had any impact—the final temperature spike started at the end of the last ice age.

Now see if you can follow this: The "science thought police" insist that even though none of the temperature variations for the first 499,950 years had anything to do with human activity, virtually none of the temperature increases of the past 50 years had anything to do with nature. Got it?

A question some overzealous attorneys general might be asking right now is, "Where did this 'denier' data come from?" The answer is: the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Climatic Data Center website (to be very clear, it is part of the federal government).

If those who merely point to data that are inconsistent with an imminent climate crisis are thought criminals, how much more subpoena worthy would be those who actually created the data? This expands the thoughtcrime conspiracy to an entirely new set of perps.

Should the hyperventilating attorneys general subpoena the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in its entirety or just the researchers? If



donors to think tanks are subpoenaed simply because the think tanks pointed to this data, should not the U.S. Treasury be subpoenaed for actually funding these doubt-creating data?

In any event, it seems disingenuous to wave off huge past temperature changes as entirely natural while branding as science-denying fraudsters those who assert that natural forces

are likely still to be playing a significant role. This is a problem for the U.N. Climate Agreement and its signers.

If natural forces have played a significant role in the moderate and unsteady temperature increases of the past 60 years, then what's the climate hysteria about? If there is no need for hysteria, there is no need for the Paris climate agreement.

## House Changes Commission Appointments

TOPEKA, Kansas — A proposal approved in the Kansas House would give the secretary of state a role in how the nine-member commission that names three finalists for each high court vacancy elects its members.

The bill approved Saturday would require that the secretary of state receive a roster of lawyers eligible to participate in the elections of the commission's attorney members. Another provision would give the authority for counting ballots

cast by lawyers for the commission members to the attorney general and secretary of state.

Currently, two or more licensed lawyers chosen by the chief justice serve as the canvassers. Democratic Rep. John Carmichael, of Wichita, said that change would violate the separation of powers between branches of government.

"There has never in 50 years been any suggestion of any form of impropriety in connection with those elections," Carmichael told The Associated

Press. "They run efficiently and inexpensively under the direct supervision of the clerk of the Kansas Supreme Court."

Representatives voted 72-50 Saturday in favor of the bill following a turbulent passage through the chamber. The Kansas House initially voted 57-56 against a version of the bill to give the governor a bigger voice in who is nominated for the Kansas Supreme Court, but later voted 64-56 to reconsider so that lawmakers could draft a new version and try

again.

The bill came amid broad discontent from Gov. Sam Brownback and other conservatives over the court's rulings against the state on school funding and overturning death penalty verdicts. The decision to overturn death sentences for brothers Jonathan and Reginald Carr for the killings of four people in Wichita in December 2000, they said, argues for the need to reassess the selection process.



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## A hospital can deny unemployment benefits

TOPEKA, Kansas — A hospital can deny unemployment benefits to a former employee who objected to receiving a flu vaccine, according to a recent ruling from the Kansas Court of Appeals.

In a unanimous decision, the three-judge appeals panel affirmed a lower court ruling dismissing the case of Debra Rhodenbaugh, who had been an emergency department clerk at McPherson Hospital. In 2013, the hospital announced employees would be required to receive a flu vaccination to limit exposure and transmission of the virus, The Topeka Capital-Journal reported.

The hospital allowed for religious and medical exceptions. Rhodenbaugh chose the second, and sent the hospital a note from her doctor stating she "prefers to defer flu shot at this time."

When the hospital said the note didn't qualify as a medical exception, Rhodenbaugh provided detailed reasons for not wanting a flu shot including relatives who she said died and suffered complications after receiving vaccinations.

She was fired two days later, and when she began receiving unemployment benefits, the hospital appealed to the Kansas Employment Security Board of Review, which ruled she wasn't eligible for unemployment benefits.

Shawnee County District Court Judge Rebecca Crotty sided with the hospital, saying the vaccination rule was fairly enforced.

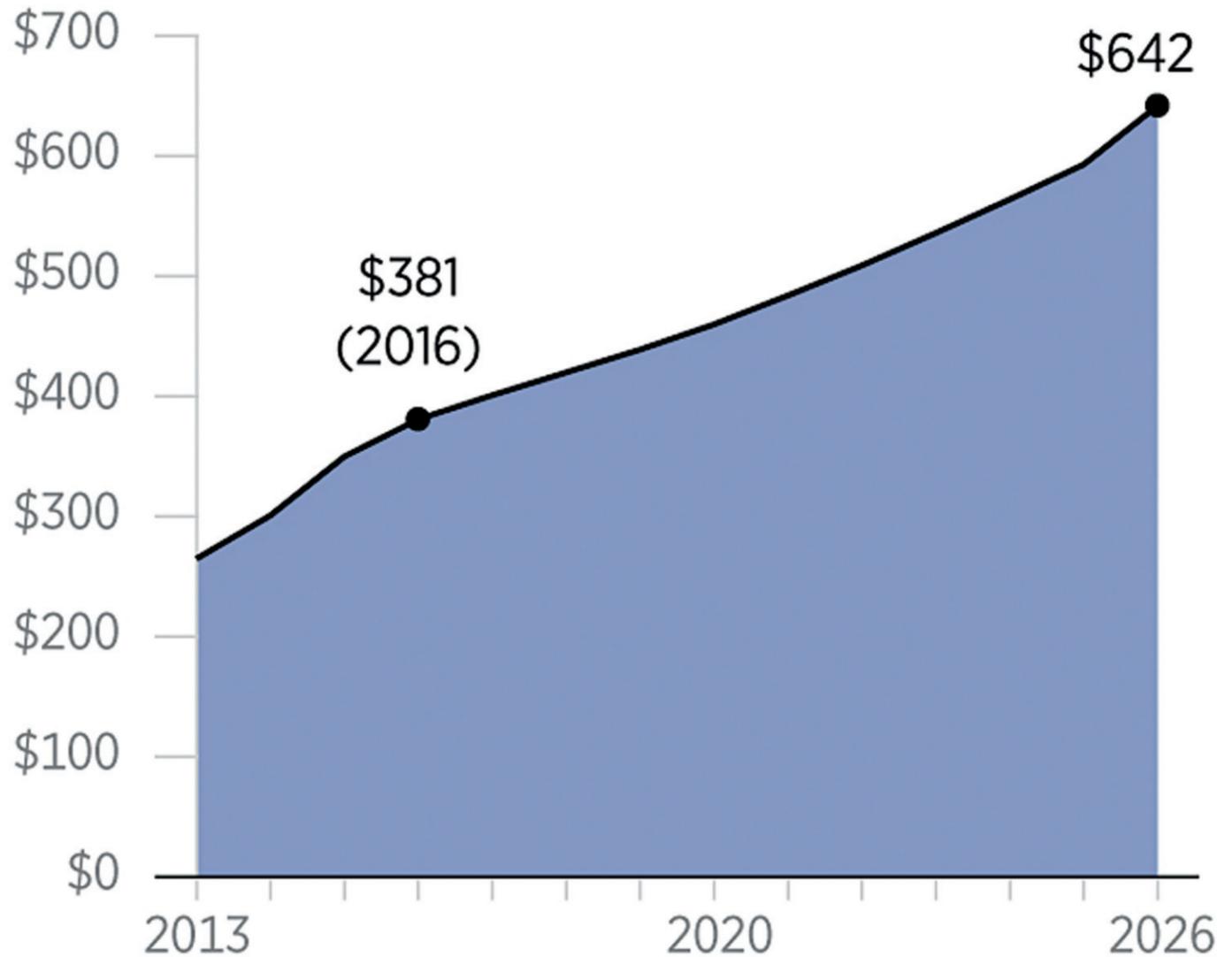
"The policy applied to all employees and reasonable exceptions were made for those objecting on medical or religious grounds," Crotty ruled.

In agreeing with Crotty, the appeals panel said Rhodenbaugh had a "duty to the hospital to follow the safety rule by either receiving the flu vaccine or meeting the applicable exemptions." The ruling said Rhodenbaugh's failure to comply amounted to job-related misconduct "and thus disqualified her for unemployment benefits."

CHART 3

# Federal Medicaid Spending to Nearly Double in Next Decade

*Projected Federal Medicaid Spending, in Billions*



**SOURCE:** Congressional Budget Office, Budget and Economic Data, [https://www.cbo.gov/about/products/budget\\_economic\\_data#3](https://www.cbo.gov/about/products/budget_economic_data#3) (accessed March 4, 2016).

BG 3109 heritage.org

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## Midwest economic survey index figure drops

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A survey of supply managers in nine Midwestern and Plains states released Monday reflected a slight dip in business conditions in April after rising in the three previous months, but it still points to modest economic growth.

The Mid-American Business Conditions Index declined to 50.1 in April from 50.6 in March, the report said. The figure was 50.5 in February and 48.3 in January. The survey results are compiled into a collection of indexes ranging from zero to 100. Survey organizers say any score above 50 suggests economic growth. A score below that suggests decline.

“A somewhat weaker U.S. dollar, making U.S. goods more competitively priced abroad, contributed to stabilizing business conditions across the region,” said Creighton University economist Ernie Goss, who oversees the survey. “At the same time continuing weakness in the region’s agriculture and energy sectors remains an obstacle to improving overall growth.”

The survey covers Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

Looking ahead six months, economic optimism, as reflected by the business confidence index, slipped to 51.3, from 51.4 in March.

The regional employment gauge remained below growth neutral, dropping in April to 45.0, from 45.9 in March. Over the past year, the region’s manufacturing sector has lost about 1.9 percent, or roughly 26,000, manufacturing jobs.

“The losses in manufacturing have spilled over into the broader regional economy and reduced overall annualized regional employment growth from 1.5 percent to 0.7 percent over the past year,” Goss said. “I expect the broader economy to continue to add jobs but at an even slower pace.”

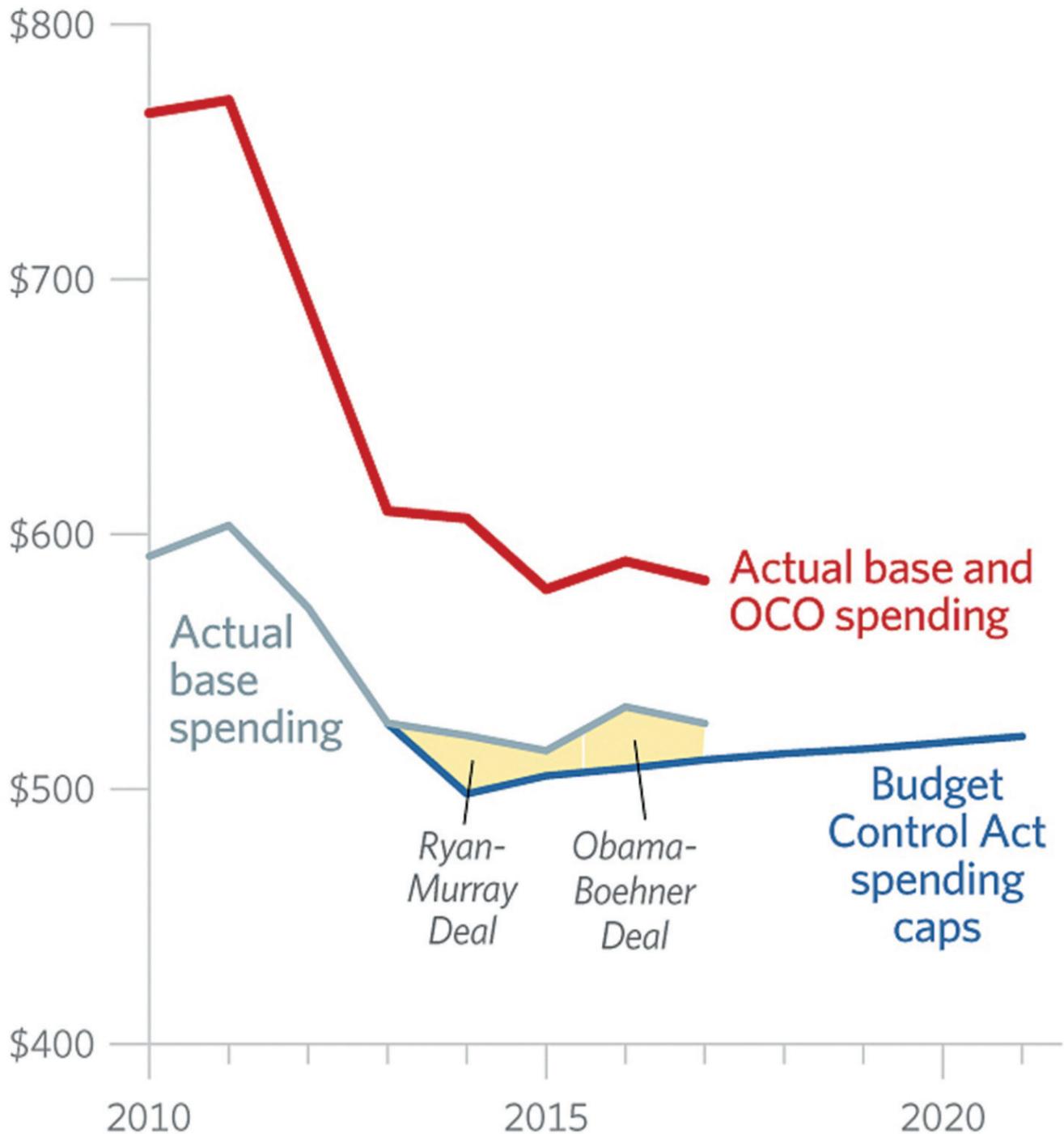
The index for new export orders jumped in April to 57.6, from 50.0 in March. And the import index rose to 58.0, from March’s 55.4.

“Recent weakness in the U.S. dollar, making U.S. goods more competitively priced abroad, sent the export reading much higher for the month,” Goss said. “At the same time, growth in regional manufacturing, though slight, pushed supply managers to increase buying from abroad.”

CHART 1

## Spending on National Security Drops 25 Percent Since 2011

FIGURES IN BILLIONS OF 2014 DOLLARS



**Sources:** U.S. Office of Management and Budget, *Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Years 2012–2016: Summary Tables* (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Publishing Office, 2012–2016), Tables S-10 and S-11, <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/browse/collectionGPO.action?collectionCode=BUDGET> (accessed January 7, 2016); the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015, Public Law 114–74, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/1314/text> (accessed January 20, 2016); and the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2014, Public Law 113–67, <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-113publ67/html/PLAW-113publ67.htm> (accessed January 20, 2016).

## Riley County Officials

### Riley County Commissioners

The District 1 Commissioner is Ben Wilson. The District 2 Commissioner is Robert Boyd, Jr. The District 3 Commissioner is Ron Wells. Mr. Wells

### Riley County Clerk

**Rich Vargo**  
The County Clerk's Office handles many administrative duties for Riley County

110 Courthouse Plaza  
1st Floor, Rm B118  
Manhattan, KS 66502

Ph: 785-537-6300  
Ph: 785-565-6200  
Fx: 785-537-6394

### Riley County Attorney

**Barry Wilkerson**  
Carnegie Building  
105 Courthouse Plaza  
Manhattan, KS 66502

Ph: 785-537-6390  
Fx: 785-537-6334

### County Treasurer

**Shilo Heger**

County Office Building  
110 Courthouse Plaza  
1st Floor  
Manhattan, KS 66502

Ph: 785-537-6320  
Fx: 785-537-6326

### Debbie Register Register of Deeds

County Office Building  
110 Courthouse Plaza  
2nd Floor, Rm B202  
Manhattan, Kansas  
66502

Ph: 785-537-6340  
Fx: 785-537-6343

### Clancy Holeman County Counselor

Courthouse Plaza East  
115 N 4th Street  
3rd Floor, West  
Manhattan, KS 66502

Ph: 785-565-6844  
Fx: 785-565-6847

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## Minutes Are Light On Detail

**Board of Riley County Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes**  
April 21, 2016  
8:30 AM Call to Order

### Pledge of Allegiance Public Comments

Hobson said as part of the generator installation to the Public Works Building they would like to do it next Thursday. Hobson stated in order to avoid paying more overtime for Westar they need to shut off the power to the facilities. Hobson stated they can do some work, but may need to grant some administrative leave to staff if the Board approves.

The Board agreed by consensus to allow administrative leave to Public Works employees in the Administrative Building if necessary.

### Commission Comments Wilson's Comments:

Monday and Tuesday mornings I caught part of the livestream of the Stepping Up National Mental Health Summit. Of note was Bear County (San Antonio) Texas' success with a program where police officers have mandatory crisis intervention training so they can divert those with mental illness directly to community support services rather than processing them through the criminal justice system. It was also mentioned that in recent years the growth in the inmate population in county jails has far outpaced the growth in corrections staff.

Tuesday evening I attended a meet and greet social with the Board of Regents. That evening I also played in the K-State orchestra concert, which went very well.

Wednesday I went to the afternoon session of the Pictometry software training for county and city staff at the Public Works facility.

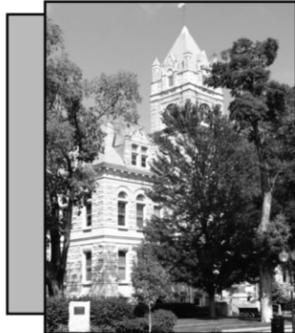
### Boyd's Comments: Monday 04.18.16

Chaired the Riley County Law Enforcement Agency monthly meeting at the Manhattan City Commission Chambers. The Board heard from a community member regarding targeting of individuals and the ramifications of repeated arrests. A community group commented on the arrest data regarding African Americans and marijuana. The RCPD staff briefed the Board on the 2017 budget, specifically the security component. The Board then worked through the priorities for strategic options presented previously. The prioritize list is: 1. Security manning, 2. Dispatch manning, 3. Mental Health manning, 4. Shift differential pay, and 5. Professional pay. The Board will wait for legislature action to finalize the 2017 budget.

Met with Terry Cole, Director, Helping International Students, a local evangelical outreach ministry which focuses on foreign students attending KSU and high schools in the region.

Worked in the County Offices on correspondence.

Attended a community meeting on state financing for the fu-



## Riley County Commission Minutes

### Riley County Minutes Cost Taxpayers \$700 Per Month:

*The minutes for years did not cost the county extra. They were produced using Word. A new program now costs \$700 per month.*

ture.

### Tuesday 04.19.16

Met with Flint Hill Regional Council partners in Council Grove to discuss the current efforts and the future structure of the organization.

Attended the Special Commission Meeting to interview candidate for Health Department Director position.

Attended the Flint Hills Area Transportation Agency Executive Board Meeting at the ATA Bus facility.

### Wednesday 04.20.16

Attended Riley County Pictometry training at the Public Works classroom. The Pictometry representative coached the group through the labyrinth of options and features that the County has in its GIS mapping program. The class was well received by all, congratulations to Kevin Howser, Jake Galyon, and Sherie Taylor of the IT/GIS department for coordinating a very fine educational program. Chaired the Flint Hills Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting at the Manhattan Traffic Control Operations Center. The group was briefed on the Bluetooth traffic monitors which were recently purchased via grant funding, a very impressive system which will provide the community with data for infrastructure development and eventually for public traffic alerts.

### Wells' Comments:

Wells said on Monday he attended the Law Board Meeting and citizen complaints regarding profiling.

Wells stated on Tuesday he attended the Health Department Director position interview.

Wells discussed the local weekly paper.

Wells discussed the North Central Kansas Juvenile Detention Board meeting.

### Business Meeting

Sign Riley County Personnel Action Form(s)

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Personnel Action Form for Johnette Shepek, a Budget and Finance Officer, in the County Clerk's Office, for Separation from County Service, effective April 29, 2016.

Sign Riley County Position Action Form(s)

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Position Action Form for a Budget and Finance Officer, in the County Clerk's Of-

office, at a grade CC.

Sign a Tax Roll Correction for Sunflower Bank, NA

Move to approve the Tax Roll Correction for Sunflower Bank, NA (211-12-0-30-04-005.00-0) for tax year 2015. This results in a decrease in tax dollars of \$1,214.90.

ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] County Commissioners Boyd, Wells, Wilson

### Action on Portable Communication Device Allowance Form(s)

Move to approve the Portable Communication Device Allowance Forms.

County Commissioner Boyd, Wells, Wilson

**(Editor's Note: What is a "Portable Communication Device Allowance" and who is getting it? The Minutes should state basic information and they do not.)**

A Resolution Prohibiting or Otherwise Regulating Usage of Tobacco Products and Electronic Smoking Devices in or on Certain County Property

Move to approve "Resolution No. 042116-18, A Resolution Prohibiting or Otherwise Regulating Usage of Tobacco Products and Electronic Smoking Devices in or on Certain County Property."

ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] County Commissioners Boyd, Wells, Wilson

### Fire District No. 1, Riley County, Kansas Notice of Intent Resolution

Move to approve "Resolution No. 042116-19, A Resolution declaring the intent of Fire District No. 1, County of Riley, Kansas to issue its General Obligation Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$400,000 for the purpose of equipping a fire station facility and giving Notice of Intent to issue such bonds."

ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] County Commissioner Boyd, Wells, Wilson (See Page One)

### Review Minutes

Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Apr 18, 2016 8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes.

RESULT: ACCEPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS] County Commissioners AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

10. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Special Meeting - Apr 19, 2016 3:30 PM  
Move to approve the min-

utes.  
RESULT: ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]  
County Commissioners AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

### Press Conference Topics Discuss Press Conference

Leon Hobson-Public Works Building Closure  
9:00 AM

Monty Wedel, Planning/Special Projects Director

13. Name a Previously Unnamed Public Road to Oilfield Trail  
Wilson opened the public hearing.

Wedel presented the road naming resolution. No public input.

Wilson closed the public hearing.

Move to approve the naming of the previously unnamed road to Oilfield Trail.

RESULT:  
ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] County Commissioner AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

9:15 AM  
Ginny Barnard, County Extension Agent

14. Extension Staff Time  
Barnard discussed the Extension Junior Chef Program.

9:30 AM  
**Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services**

**Administrative Work Session**  
Holeman discussed the CGI Communications "Story-board".

**(Editor's Note: What is the CGI Communication "Story-board"? The minutes should state basic information and they do not.)**

16. Relocation of County Ambulance HQ to Renovated and Expanded Manhattan Fire Dept. HQ—  
Work Session

Holeman discussed the proposed lease agreement with the City of Manhattan for the relocation of the County Ambulance Headquarters.

Hilgers presented a copy of the current lease between the City of Manhattan and Kansas State University.

10:00 AM

Monty Wedel, Planning/Special Projects Director

17. Consider Request from City of Manhattan to Provide an Easement for a Sewer Line Across County Owned Property in Ady Addition

Wedel presented the request to grant of easement for sewer line in the Ady Addition.

Peterson said the area would need to be re-seeded and brush and trees removed for mowing purposes.

Move to grant the easement based on terms and conditions submitted by staff.

County Commissioners AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

10:15 AM

Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer

18. Canopy Anchoring Process on Courthouse

McMillan discussed the Courthouse Building Security project. McMillan discussed the proposed canvass covered awning system. McMillan stated he is concerned with the

State Historical Society's requirement for the system to be anchored in the mortar joints.

McMillan said because of the uplift to the canopy he feels we should anchor directly to the face of the building. McMillan said the vendor has presented an alternative anchor system, which would cost an additional \$22,000.

Wells discussed concern with the proposed expansion type anchoring system.

McMillan stated they will review the anchoring system.

Move to approve the canopy at the Courthouse be anchored directly to the stone as bid.

ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] County Commissioners AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

19. Courthouse Foundation Waterproofing

McMillan discussed the Courthouse foundation waterproofing system and change order.

Move to approve the use of Mel-Rol to waterproof the Courthouse foundation walls, as presented.

ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] County Commissioners AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

10:30 AM  
Pat Collins, Emergency Management

20. SCBA Replacement

P. Collins discussed the SCBA replacement bids. P. Collins said his recommendation is approval of the purchase of the new SCBAs including cylinders and masks according to the above funding plan.

**Move to approve the purchase of the SCBA's from Feld fire for \$446,397 using the combination of funding of this purchase to be composed of a \$25,000 USDA grant for SCBA's in the Leonardville area plus a USDA loan for \$375,000; with the fire district Capital Outlay Fund paying the remainder of the \$446,397 total price.**

ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] County Commissioners AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

10:45 AM  
Eddie Eastes, CPRP, Director of Parks and Recreation

### 21. Parks and Recreation Facility Feasibility Study

Eastes discussed the Parks and Recreation Facility Feasibility Study.

Hilgers said the City would like to discuss the use of CiCo Park with Riley County. Hilgers asked what Riley County's vision is for CiCo Park.

Wells discussed his concern with parking being taken up, which would need to be addressed.

McMillan discussed aspects of the Parks and Recreation Facility Feasibility Study.

Eastes said the next step is at the City Commission meeting next Tuesday on the feasibility study.

**Hilgers said the City's intent is to go to the voters to renew the 1/4 cent sales tax improvements to the zoo and pools to pay for the proposed park improvements.**

See County minutes page 11

# Riley County Commission Minutes from page 10

11:30 AM  
Adjournment  
Move to adjourn after the City/County/County Meeting at 4:00 p.m.

County Commissioners  
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

4:00 PM  
**City/County/County Meeting (at county offices) City/County Meeting Agenda**

Riley County EMS and Pottawatomie County EMS Goehring presented structure leadership differences and changes/improvements as well as share similarities for both counties for educational and state regulations. They are leading towards Larry Couchman staying with the hospital side in the emergency room. The future could lead to county-based ambulance service.

**Regional Crisis Facility**

Cole provided background of the Osawatomie State Hospital, the need for resources developed for mentally ill people, Community Mental Health Center Crisis Services, community tours, and the next steps.

Discuss Lease and Funding Arrangements for Housing EMS at Headquarters Fire Station

Hilgers presented the background information, the City/University Lease, and the City/County Agreement. The next step is to pursue plans with the architect. Riley County is requesting to see the draft City/KSU Agreement so we can finalize the County/City Agreement. The goal is to be under design this summer with occupancy January 2018.

5:15 Adjourned.

**Riley County Commission Minutes April 25, 2016 8:30 AM Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance**

1. Public Comments  
Volanti said she has the department head evaluations ready for the Chairman to sign.

Hobson reported there was some water from the rain, which got into the basement of the Courthouse. Hobson said the hail knocked down leaves, which plugged the drain.

2. Commission Comments  
**Wilson's Comments:**

Thursday I attended the City/County/County meeting, where it was good to hear updates and discussion about Via Christi Hospital's administrative restructuring of their EMS department, Pawnee Mental Health's plans to develop a cri-

sis facility, and EMS's move to the City Fire Station Headquarters.

Friday morning I stopped in at the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation's Grow Green Match Day. I was impressed with how quick and easy it was to mark how much to donate to each organization and pay for all of them with just one check! From there I drove out to Kentucky for the weekend.

**Boyd's Comments:**  
Thursday 04.21.16

1. Attended the City/County/County meeting in the BOCC Chambers. The group was briefed by Jennifer Goehring, Via Christi, proposed changes to the Emergency Medical Services and Emergency Room leadership. Larry Couchman serves the dual role as supervisor of both groups, however the growth and development of both sections necessitates separate leadership to function efficiently. Via Christi has not committed to a time line for the change and will inform us when it does.

Robbin Cole, Pawnee Mental Health, briefed the group on the feasibility research regarding a short term mental health facility at the old Wharton Manor, now a County facility. Their research revealed that facility needs, staffing and programming varies with the type of clients served. Pawnee will present to the County their initial findings.

The City briefed the group on the current structure of the Fire Station Headquarters and KSU and the future sublease to the County for the EMS expansion. Riley County asked to be tied to the City's lease with KSU, which is proposed to extend to 2066. The County agreed to pay the bond costs while the city bonds the project as the primary leaseholder. Further details are to be determined, however the project and relationship were reaffirmed and both parties want to move forward with the project.

2. Drove to Ardmore, OK enroute to Dallas to meet an incoming flight.  
Friday 04.22.16

3. Continued drive to Dallas early in the morning. The Red River was as high as I have ever witnessed. The return drive to Riley County offered vistas of a land well watered through out Oklahoma.  
Saturday 04.23.16

4. Worked on spring farm projects and home repairs.  
Sunday 04.24.16

5. Worked on correspon-

dence after church, then returned to chores prior to the rains.

**Wells' Comments:**

Wells said he attended the City/County/County meeting.

Wells discussed Phil Anderson's report on the bridge pier improvements.

Wells discussed the Kansas Contractors' advertisement opposing the State's cutback on KDOT funding.

**Business Meeting**

3. Mental Health Month 2016 Proclamation

Move to approve the Mental Health Month 2016 Proclamation.

ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] County Commissioners  
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

4. Crushed Limestone Chip Bid Recommendation

Move to accept the low bid from Bayer Construction Co., Inc. of Manhattan, Kansas in the amount of \$20.65 per ton for limestone chips.

ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] County Commissioners  
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

5. Bid Recommendation for 2016 Asphalt Overlay Program-Gardiner Rd., Senn Rd. and Walnut Creek Rd.

Move to approve the bid for Alternate No. 2 from Shilling Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$584,634.45.

ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] County Commissioners  
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

6. Bid Recommendation for the 2016 Asphalt Overlay Program- Scenic Drive

Move to approve the bid from Shilling Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$176,771.15.

RESULT:  
ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] County Commissioners  
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

Review Minutes

7. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Apr 21, 2016 8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes.  
County Commissioners  
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

8. Tentative Agenda  
Press Conference Topics

9. Discuss Press Conference Pat Collins-Agricultural Burning Update

9:00 AM Robbin Cole, Pawnee Mental Health Services update

Cole presented the mental health annual report and fact sheets.

Cole discussed the Crisis Center.

9:15 AM Monty Wedel, Planning/Special Projects Director

11. Name a Previously Unnamed Public Road to Durein Trail

Wedel presented the resolution to name Durein Trail.

The Board agreed to approve the resolution after the revisions have been made by staff.

9:30 AM Press Conference

12. Present Proclamation for Mental Health Month - Ben Wilson and Robbin Cole

Wilson presented the Proclamation for Mental Health Month to Robbin Cole, Pawnee Mental Health Director.

Cole reported, Wednesday at noon, Blue Cross and Blue Shield is hosting a 30 minute walk at the City Park to emphasize the connection between physical health and mental health.

13. Public Notice - Leon Hobson (2 minutes)

Hobson said the project scheduled for North Otter Branch Road has been rescheduled to begin on Monday, May 2, 2016. The project is located approximately 1/4 mile north of Winkler Mills Road. North Otter Branch Road will be closed to through traffic during construction. Traffic Control will be installed at the intersections of Hilltop Road, Prairie Rock Road, and Winkler Mills Road to direct traffic. The project has been allotted five working days and is expected to be completed by May 6, 2016 weather permitting.

14. Public Works Building Closure - Leon Hobson (2-3 minutes)

Hobson reported the Public Works Administrative building on Thursday, April 28th will be without power at 1:00 p.m. Hobson said the offices will be open, but limited services will be available due to the power outage to connect the backup generator system.

15. USD 378 Special Election - Rich Vargo (2 minutes)

Vargo announced the USD 378 Special Election will be held on Tuesday, May 3rd. Vargo stated advance voting will begin on April 13th and close on Monday, May 2nd at noon.

Vargo reported 75 voters have participated in advance voting in person. Vargo said 30 advance mail ballots have been returned to date.

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

16. Administrative Work Session

Holeman discussed the CGI Communications video project. Holeman said the video will be shot on Thursday and Friday of this week.

The Board agreed staff should assist CGI Communications with the video shoot this week.

17. Pending County Projects County Counselor

Holeman presented the commission project list.

Howser reported Via Christi plans on putting in a circuit so the ambulance can continue to communicate with the Via Christi network system. Howser stated Via Christi inquired if the County plans to install a circuit as well. Howser stated he could get a quote from Cox Communication for a circuit.

Boyd stated he would prefer for Riley County to provide the circuit.

Howser said he will research and be prepared for at anytime in the future the ambulance department system would be switched to the County network.

10:30 AM Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer

18. CIP Work Session - April 2016

Shepek presented the CIP work session.

Wilson suggested setting aside a portion of the funding for the lease agreements for next year and the election equipment.

The Board discussed their

priorities and concern not knowing the impact of the tax lid.

Boyd asked Harrison to check on how quickly the sirens could be repaired.

Harrison stated she will contact the contractor to see when the sirens could be repaired.

The Board agreed to wait until the middle of May to review CIP until after Kansas Association of County Commissioners' meeting and after the legislature has met.

11:00 AM Shelly Williams, Community Corrections Director

19. FY17 KDOC Adult Comprehensive Plan Grant Applications

Williams discussed the Kansas Legislature's fiscal impacts on the Community Corrections' budget.

Williams discussed FY17 KDOC Adult Comprehensive Plan Grant Applications.

Move to approve the KDOC FY17 Comprehensive Plan grant for Riley County Community Corrections Adult Services in the amount \$417,924.78 for Adult Services.

ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

County Commissioners  
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

11:15 AM Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer

20. 2016 Riley County Surplus Auction

Hobson requested the Board authorize a 2016 Riley County Surplus Auction.

The Board of County Commissioners, by consensus, agreed to authorize the Public Works Department to begin the process of disposing of the surplus property by public auction and to advertise for auctioneer services.

11:32 AM Adjournment

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# Kansas reporting tax collections higher expected

TOPEKA, Kansas — Kansas reported Monday that its tax collections last month were slightly better than expected, good news for Republican Gov. Sam Brownback after legislators approved a plan dumping most of the work of balancing the budget into his lap.

The Department of Revenue said the state collected \$584.3 million in taxes in April, when the official projection was \$581.7 million. The surplus was \$2.6 million, or 0.5 percent.

The collections were pegged to a new, more pessimistic fis-

cal forecast issued less than three weeks ago. State officials and university economists last month slashed projected revenues through June 2017 by a total of \$348 million.

The gloomier projections immediately left the state with projected shortfalls totaling more than \$290 million in its current budget and the one for the fiscal year beginning July 1. The plan approved by the Republican-dominated Legislature early Monday morning gives Brownback broad discretion to cut spending in the state's \$16 billion budget for the next fiscal

year but tells him that he can't touch aid to public schools.

Still, the latest revenue report showed sales tax collections rebounding modestly after being a source of concern for state officials, and personal income tax collections appeared to be stable. Revenue Secretary Nick Jordan hesitated to see those developments as parts of a long-term trend but acknowledged they are helpful in dealing with the budget.

"It's a good sign for the health of the economy," Jordan said during an interview. "We hope that's a turnaround."

Kansas has struggled to balance its budget since the GOP lawmakers slashed personal income taxes in 2012 and 2013 at Brownback's urging in an effort to stimulate the economy. The push to have the term-limited governor make the tough decisions about the budget reflects some lawmakers' frustration that he won't back away from key cuts. With the GOP's supermajorities divided in both chambers, the measure passed the House, 63-59, and the Senate, 22-18. The governor's chief spokeswoman has said Brownback believes he can sign the

legislation.

The budget-balancing plan assumes that the conservative governor follows through on plans to delay major highway projects and cut higher education spending. It also anticipates him making \$92 million in further cuts during the next fiscal year, beginning July 1, that could touch state Medicaid health coverage for the poor and disabled and other social services.

The state would delay \$96 million in contributions to public employee pensions due this spring. But the bill blocks

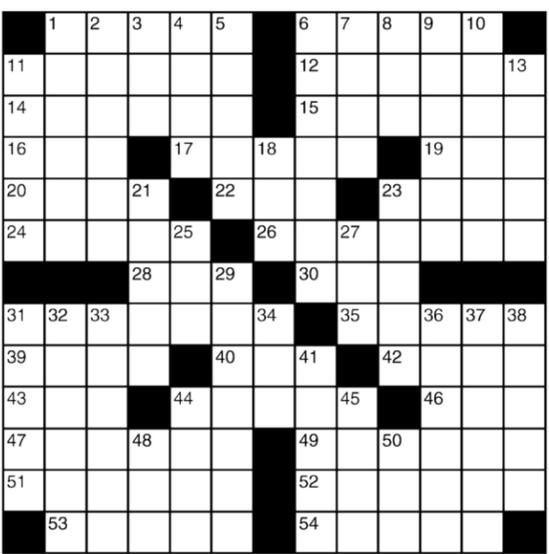
Brownback from reducing aid to public schools, now more than \$4 billion a year — a key selling point as GOP leaders corralled votes for it.

Legislative critics argued that the plan gives Brownback too much discretion and relies too much on year-to-year patches, rather than addressing the state's underlying imbalance between spending and revenues. And during Monday's debates on the budget-balancing plan, several lawmakers said they believe the state is due to face more shortfalls over the next few years.

Manhattan Free Press - Web Site  
manhattanfreepress.com

## King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Nervous person?
  - 6 Pack animal
  - 11 Hold together
  - 12 Each
  - 14 Glanced
  - 15 Drunk
  - 16 Shade provider
  - 17 Urge
  - 19 Muhammad or Laila
  - 20 Symbols of intrigue
  - 22 A billion years
  - 23 Laugh-a-minute
  - 24 Attack from concealment
  - 26 Arid areas
  - 28 Third-party abbr.
  - 30 Longing
  - 31 "The Faerie Queene" writer
  - 35 People of Cardiff
  - 39 Lion's pride
  - 40 Coquettish
- DOWN**
- 42 Ridge on wildcat
  - 43 List-ending corduroy
  - 44 Nibbles abbr.
  - 46 Shell game
  - 47 Appeared need
  - 49 Pillaged ominously
  - 51 Long, loud speech
  - 52 Slues
  - 53 Genders
  - 54 Rebuffs a masher
  - 11 Balls of yarn
  - 13 Redacts
  - 18 Deity
  - 21 Backbone
  - 23 Freshen, maybe
  - 25 Type measures
  - 27 Stitch
  - 29 Makes up one's mind
  - 31 Do refinery work
  - 32 Non-standard dialect
  - 33 Concert call
  - 34 Deteriorate
  - 36 Computer style
  - 37 Winter forecasts
  - 38 Coin toss option
  - 41 Shriek barks
  - 44 "Adam --"
  - 45 Earth
  - 48 Upper limit
  - 50 Lab eggs



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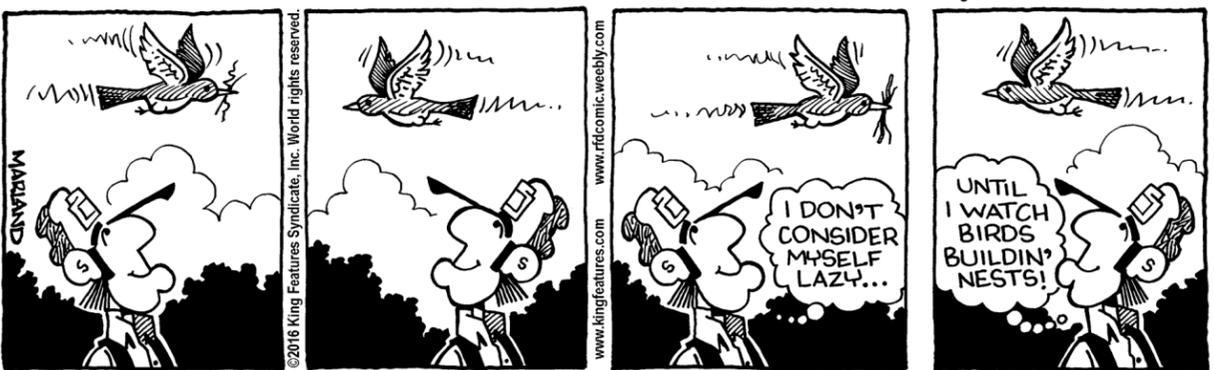
Answers on page 2

## Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

## R.F.D.



by Mike Marland

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## Travel Kansas Events

### Brain: The Inside Story March 5, 2016 - August 28, 2016

Recurring daily  
Venue: Museum at Prairiefire  
Address: 5801 W. 135th, Overland Park, KS 66223  
Time: From: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
Type: Events  
Phone: 913-333-3500  
Learn how the fascinating human brain works - from senses and emotions to aging and effects of technology - as you explore this special exhibition.

### 2016 Garnett Farmers Market May 5, 2016 - October 6, 2016

Every Thursday  
Venue: Prairie Spirit Trail  
Address: 418 S. Main Street, Garnett, KS 66032  
Time: 4:30-7:00 PM  
Type: Events  
Phone: 785-448-6767  
The Garnett Farmer's Market is a weekly event that allows visitors to capture what is unique about Garnett.

### 2016 Historic William Fulton House Tours May 21, 2016 - August 28, 2016

Every Sunday, Saturday  
Venue: Finney County Historical Museum  
Address: 403 S 4th, Garden City, KS 67846  
Time: From: 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM  
Type: Events  
Phone: 620-272-3664  
There will be free guided tours of the Historic William Fulton House, dating to 1884 and built by one of Garden City's four founders.

### 2016 Kansas Collegiate 2016 NCBA Division II World Series

May 19 - 25, 2016  
Recurring daily  
Venue: Jaycee Ballpark  
Address: 12th and Highway 69, Pittsburg, KS 66762  
Time: TBA  
Type: Events  
Phone: 620-231-1212  
2016 NCBA Division II World Series May 19th - May 25th Jaycee Ballpark Pittsburg, Kansas.



East Side Bill Snyder Stadium

**Manhattan's Only Half Marathon! Come join us on Saturday May 21st, 2016 for the 2nd Annual Bill Snyder Highway Half and 5k. Manhattan's only Half Marathon. As we do with all our races, we not only want to have a good time and throw on a great event but we are also wanting to raise money for a great cause. This year, Coach Snyder has selected 3 charities: the Boys & Girls Club of Manhattan, The First Tee of Manhattan and Shepard's Crossing.**

### 44th Annual Square Fair (Crafts Festival) May 7, 2016

Venue: Anderson County Courthouse  
Address: 100 E 4th Ave, Garnett, KS 66032  
Time: From: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Phone: 785-448-6767  
Held annually the Saturday before Mother's Day, Square Fair is a great place to shop for mom...or for yourself!

### 50th Annual Antique & Barbed Wire Festival May 5 - 7, 2016

Recurring daily  
Venue: Kansas Barbed Wire Museum  
Address: 417 Main Street, La Crosse, KS 67548  
Time: all day  
Phone: 785-222-9900  
A festival for the entire family. Displays feature barbed wire and fencing related tools along with other antiques and collectibles.

### Air Fair May 7, 2016

Venue: Garnett Industrial Airport  
Address: 1202 E. 4th Avenue, Garnett, KS 66032  
Time: From: 8:00 AM to

3:00 PM  
Phone: 785-448-6931  
Air Fair includes open cockpit airplane rides, vintage and specialty aircraft displays, WWII jeep rides, a special appearance by the KC Bet.

### Bill Snyder Highway Half and 5k May 21, 2016

Venue: Bill Snyder Family Stadium  
Address: 2201 Kimball Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502  
Time: Starting: 7:00 AM  
Type: Events  
Phone: 785-320-6363  
Visit Website | Send Email | Add to Itinerary  
Second annual race, with half marathon runners shuttled from Bill Snyder Family Stadium to the starting line on Highway 177 (5k race starts).

### "Brighton Beach Memoirs" May 13 - 22, 2016

Every Sunday, Friday, Saturday  
Venue: Theatre Atchison  
Address: 401 Santa Fe, Atchison, KS 66002  
Time: Fri. & Sat. 8:00 p.m., Sunday 2:00 p.m.  
Phone: 913-367-7469

Dreaming of baseball and girls, Eugene Jerome must cope with the mundane existence of his family life in Brooklyn:

### "Float Your Boat" Contest June 19, 2016

Venue: Lovewell Reservoir, State Park, and Wildlife Area  
Address: 2446 250 Rd, Weber, KS 66970  
Time: From: 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM  
Phone: 785-753-4971  
Participants must design and build a cardboard boat (specifications will be available in early July), and bring it to the Southwinds Beach

### 17th Annual "Run for the Soul" Benefit Fundraiser June 25, 2016

Venue: City of Ellsworth  
Address: 220 S Douglas Ave, Ellsworth, KS 67439  
Time: From: 12:30 PM to 5:30 PM  
Phone: 785-472-6212  
Come enjoy the Kansas countryside on your motorcycle and help a very important organization raise funds to expand their programs. The ride

### 2016 Historic William Fulton House Tours

### May 21, 2016 - August 28, 2016

Every Sunday, Saturday  
Venue: Finney County Historical Museum  
Address: 403 S 4th, Garden City, KS 67846  
Time: From: 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM  
Phone: 620-272-3664  
There will be free guided tours of the Historic William Fulton House, dating to 1884 and built by one of Garden City's four founders.

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Recurring daily  
Venue: Jaycee Ballpark  
Address: 12th and Highway 69, Pittsburg, KS 66762  
Time: TBA  
Phone: 620-231-1212  
2016 NCBA Division II World Series May 19th - May 25th Jaycee Ballpark Pittsburg, Kansas.

### 2016 Smallville ComicCon June 11 - 12, 2016

Recurring daily  
Venue: Kansas State Fairgrounds  
Address: 2000 N Poplar, Hutchinson, KS 67502  
Time: Vary - see description  
Phone: 620-669-3600  
3rd Annual Comic Book and Pop Culture Celebration! Held at the Meadowlark Building on the Kansas State Fairgrounds, 2000 N Poplar, Hutchinson.

### 2016 Smallville, Kansas Festival June 16 - 18, 2016

Recurring daily  
Venue: Downtown Hutchinson  
Address: Various locations throughout Downtown, Hutchinson, KS 67501  
Time: vary Daily  
Phone: 620-694-2677  
In 2013 we got our town's name changed to "Smallville" for a day. In 2014 we got it changed for two and had our first Smallville.

### 2016 WazUp Coffee House Spring Art Show & Sale June 18, 2016

Venue: WazUp Coffee House  
Address: 1340 N. Nelson Drive, Derby, KS 67037  
Time: From: 8:00 AM to 9:00 PM  
Phone: 316-440-8334  
The 2016 WazUp Coffee House Spring Art Show & Sale offers local and regional artists of all ages the opportunity to

exhibit.

### 28th Annual Southeast Kansas Old Time Gas Engine and Tractor Club Show

June 24 - 25, 2016  
Every Friday, Saturday  
Venue: Crawford County Historical Museum  
Address: 651 U.S. 69, Pittsburg, KS 66762  
Time: Jun 24, 2016 12:00pm - 7:00pm; Jun 25, 2016 12:00pm - 7:00pm  
Phone: 417-927-3254  
The 28th annual Southeast Kansas Old Time Gas Engine and Tractor Club Show will be held Friday, June 24th and Saturday, June 25th.

### Flat Land Big Band Clinic and Concert May 7, 2016

Venue: Scott Community High School  
Address: 712 Main St., Scott City, KS 67871  
Time: 8:00 a.m.  
Type: Events  
Phone: 620-640-8094  
Send Email | Add to Itinerary

The Flatland Big Band promotes music of the big band era through clinics and an evening concert. Skilled jazz musicians/educators.

### Glass Blown Open Disc Golf Block Party April 30, 2016

Recurring every 3 days  
Venue: Dynamic Discs  
Address: 912 commercial, Emporia, KS 66801  
Time: Starting: 5:00 PM  
Type: Events  
Phone: 620-208-3472  
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## Kansas legislators approved a health and public welfare bill

TOPEKA, Kansas — Kansas legislators approved a health and public welfare bill Monday that would reduce prescription drug costs within the state's Medicaid program and make changes to eligibility for public assistance.

Senators voted 27-13 in favor of the measure early Monday after the House approved it in a 79-43 vote. The measure will now go to Gov. Sam Brownback, who has touted welfare reform in the past.

The Kansas House initially voted 69-52 against the measure Sunday, sending it to a conference committee where negotiators added more patient protections to the so-called step therapy provision that would require participants to try a less expensive drug before being allowed to get a more expensive one.

However, patients with multiple sclerosis would be able to switch to another drug after a 30-day trial if the medication is found unsuitable for them. Patients who have already tried a drug and discontinued it because it was ineffective or had adverse effects also would be exempted from the therapy.

A provision in the measure also requires that the organization administering the drug respond to a physician's request to override the step-therapy requirement within 72 hours.

Republican leaders saw the measure as crucial to resolving budget issues because it would reduce the state's costs in providing health coverage to poor and disabled residents by nearly \$11 million a year.

Republican Rep. Barbara Bollier, of Mission Hills, said during a House debate late Sunday that the move to cut costs undermined the needs of poor people. "It's a way of people meddling in medical practice rather than letting the doctors do what's best for the patient," she said.

The bill also would reduce the lifetime limit on cash assistance from 36 to 24 months, though the state can grant an extension up to 12 months. The Department of Children and Families also would be required to monitor welfare recipients who repeatedly replace benefit cards. Winners of lotteries over \$5,000 would be investigated by the state to determine their eligibility for public assistance.

Each able-bodied household member receiving cash assistance would be required to work, participate in a job training program or search for work. However, mothers of newborn babies would be exempted from the work requirement for up to 3 months.

The changes in public assistance eligibility are a continuation of the 2015 HOPE Act, a law designed to move families off welfare and into the workforce. In 2014 before the program began, about 17,700 residents were receiving temporary cash assistance a month, most of them children. By March 2016 the number dropped to about 12,800, according to DCF.

Wichita Republican Sen. Michael O'Donnell, Chairman of the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee, said the state's welfare reform has revealed "incredible results."

"The best way out of poverty is a good education and a job," O'Donnell said, adding that the state would partner with community colleges and technical schools to provide training under the reform. "Once they're off of welfare and they have a

job, then they're paying taxes into the whole system and they're going to have a higher quality of life with additional pay."

But Shannon Cotsoradis, chief executive officer of Kansas Action for Children, argued that parents who are trying to better their lives through education should still have access to public assistance that allows them to provide their family with basic necessities.

"Achieving a higher level of education or vocational training takes time for families, particularly those that are struggling with the daily demands of living in poverty, so that's going to be a long-term fix," Cotsoradis said. "In the meantime we need to make sure that those kids have a place to sleep, shoes on their feet, food to eat and diapers."

Cotsoradis said that the reduction in lifetime limits for public assistance could leave children hungry and homeless. The state has decreased the amount of children on cash assistance it serves monthly by over 60 percent since 2007. But at the same time, the childhood poverty rate has increased by 20 percent, Cotsoradis said.

## Officials are already talking about redistricting of congressional and legislative districts

TOPEKA, Kansas — Six years before it has to be done, state and federal officials are already talking about redistricting of congressional and legislative districts in Kansas.

The new maps for political districts aren't due in Kansas until 2022. But officials from the U.S. Census Bureau met with the state Legislature's research department last week to discuss the process and get familiar with data and computer software that will be used, The Lawrence Journal-World reported (<http://bit.ly/1riKLnN>).

The next census will be in 2020 and states have two years after that to draw new political maps.

"It's a long process, so we want to get information out early so folks can start prepar-

ing whatever material they need — geographic information; software — so they can start thinking about how they're going to implement the program when it comes time to actually start redistricting," said Michael Ratcliffe, the Census Bureau's assistant division chief for geographic standards in Washington.

The census counts each state's residents and maps them into geographic units known as census "blocks." Legislatures use that data to draw maps that are supposed to be as equal in population as possible.

The process is often controversial. In 2012, Kansas lawmakers were unable to draw a redistricting plan of their own, leaving the job to a three-judge federal court panel.

An estimated 2.9 million people currently live in Kansas, about 2.1 percent more than the count from the 2010 census. Kansans are steadily moving from rural areas into the state's larger cities, particularly Kansas City and Lawrence, and Ratcliffe said that trend is likely to continue.

"Some of the (rural) counties

out here in Kansas, Nebraska and the Dakotas hit their peaks in the late 1800s, others in the early part of the 20th century," he said. "And that's happening all across the country, really, not just out here."

The shift likely means the next round of redistricting will leave Kansas City, Lawrence and Wichita metropolitan areas with more seats in the Kansas Legislature, with fewer rural legislators. That could lead to significant changes in how the state's four congressional districts are configured. It appears the First district, which covers all of western Kansas and much of central Kansas will become larger geographically, while the Second and Third Districts of eastern Kansas, and the Fourth District around Wichita will become smaller.

The state officials who met at the Statehouse won't be involved in those decisions. They will manage the data files and software programs that allow lawmakers and others to draw maps and submit their proposals for the new districts.

"We provide the data. The states then do the work. We stay out of that," Ratcliffe said.

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## Kansas State Strong at Rock Chalk Classic

### KSU Sports Information

MANHATTAN, Kan. — Kansas State's track and field team saw eight first-place finishes and another school record set in the men's hammer throw at the Rock Chalk Classic in Lawrence, Kansas on Saturday.

The Wildcat women finished in second place with 154 total points, while the men finished in third place with 118 total points. Kansas won both the men's and women's competitions with total scores of 205 points and 164 points, respectively.

"I thought all-in-all we had a productive day," head coach Cliff Rovelto said about the meet. "We got fortunate with the weather."

As a group, the throwers had another strong day in the field. Freshman Tyler Merkley set a new school record, a mark he previously held with his throw of 62.31m/204-05 at the UCLA Legends Invitational, with a throw of 63.99m/209-11 to finish in second place in the event. The mark is good for the second-best in the Big 12 this season.

Fellow freshmen Brett Neelly and Shadae Lawrence continued to impress in their respective events. Neelly recorded a second-place finish in shot put with a throw of 17.75m/58-03 and a seventh-place finish in discus throw with a mark of 50.19m/164-08, while Lawrence won the discus throw with a personal best throw of 56.54m/185-06.

"Brett is getting fairly consistent at putting up quality marks for a freshman," Rovelto said. "Shadae is also proving that she is going to be very good in discus. She is having a great year for a freshman."

K-State's jumpers also posted solid marks across the board in the meet. Sophomore Nate Gipson tied a season-best jump with a mark of 2.09m/6-10.25 to win the high jump, while junior Kim Williamson finished second with a jump of 1.84m/6-00.50

The Wildcats also swept the long jump competition as senior Ifeanyi Otuonye recorded a leap of 7.69m/25-02.75 and junior Zanri Van Der Merwe posted a winning jump of 5.66m/18-07. Triple jumper Shardia Lawrence continued to improve her marks this season, winning the event with a personal best leap of 12.99m/42-



Sophomore A'keyla Mitchell recorded two wins on the day, taking first in the 100 meter dash with a wind-aided time of 11.54 and in the 200 meter dash with a time of 23.16. (Photo by KSU Sports Information)

07.50.

"I thought the high jumps were pretty solid today," Rovelto noted about the jumpers. "Shardia improved in the triple jump and Ifeanyi had a very solid long jump."

On the track, K-State's sprinters had a strong outing. Sophomore A'keyla Mitchell recorded two wins on the day, taking first in the 100 meter dash with a wind-aided time of 11.54 and in the 200 meter dash with a time of 23.16. Fellow sophomore Terrell Smith also won the 200 meter dash with a time of 20.80, while Otuonye set a new PR in the race with a time of 21.42 to finished fifth.

The women's 4x400 relay team finished third in the race with a time of 3:44.46, while the two men's relay teams went sixth and seventh with times of 3:19.94 and 3:22.20, respectively.

"In general, the open sprints went pretty well," Rovelto

added. "The 4x400 relays were largely middle distance kids and combined eventers. I thought they all ran pretty well."

In the mid-distance events, junior Lukas Koch easily won his heat in the 800 meter run with a time of 1:53.43 en route to a fourth-place finish. Fellow junior Kain Ellis also had a strong race in the 400 meter dash, setting a new personal best with a time of 49.57.

The Wildcats return home to R.V. Christian track next weekend as they prepare to host the Ward Haylett Invitational, the team's final meet before heading to Fort Worth, Texas the following weekend to compete at the Big 12 Championships.

The first 50 fans who present the flier that will be sent out during the week will receive a t-shirt upon admission. K-State water bottles will also be given to the first 50 fans at the meet. Admission for the competition is free.

For the latest on K-State track and field, follow @kstate-sports and @KStateTFXC on Twitter using the hashtag #KStateTF or on the team's Facebook page.

Rock Chalk Classic  
Rock Chalk Park  
Lawrence, Kan.

Women's 100 Meter Dash  
1. A'Keyla Mitchell – 11.54 (3.3)

Women's 100 Meter Hurdles  
2. Akela Jones – 13.12  
19. Morgan Coffman – 16.38

Men's 110 Meter Hurdles  
2. Adam Deterding – 14.85  
12. Max Estill – 16.97

Women's 200 Meter Dash  
1. A'Keyla Mitchell – 23.16  
4. Keiteyana Parks – 24.23 (2.3)  
8. Ranae McKenzie – 24.57  
13. Jordan Matthews – 25.10 (2.5)

15. Zanri Van der Merwe – 25.20 (2.3)

Men's 200 Meter Dash  
1. Terrell Smith – 20.80  
5. Ifeanyi Otuonye – 21.39 (PR)  
7. Nick Albus – 21.61

Women's 400 Meter Dash  
4. Sonia Gaskin – 54.55

Men's 400 Meter Dash  
14. Kain Ellis – 49.57 (PR)

Men's 400 Meter Hurdles  
9. Rene Perla – 54.52

Women's 400 Meter Hurdles  
2. Tia' Gamble – 58.90

Women's 800 Meter Run  
9. Marija Stambolic – 2:18.52

Men's 800 Meter Run  
4. Lukas Koch – 1:53.43  
6. Kurt Loevenstein – 1:55.31

12. Logan Smith – 1:56.11  
13. Colton Donahue – 1:56.56  
14. Chris Sandquist – 1:57.12

Women's 1500 Meter Run  
9. Emma Wren – 4:42.43  
13. Amanda Thate – 4:50.65

Men's 1500 Meter Run  
6. Colton Donahue – 3:56.66  
12. Sam Oxandale – 4:06.94  
14. Jeff Bachman – 4:10.19

Women's 3000 Meter Steeplechase  
2. Kayla Doll – 10:53.73

Men's 5000 Meter Run  
7. Bryan Zack – 15:11.79  
9. Brett Bachman – 15:15.00  
12. Joe Gorthy – 16:07.03

Women's 4x400 Meter Relay  
3. Gaskin-Parks-Matthews-S. McKenzie – 3:37.30

Men's 4x400 Meter Relay  
6. Ellis-Harrison-Freeman II-Albus – 3:19.94  
7. Perla-Koch-Sandquist-L. Smith – 3:22.20

Women's High Jump  
2. Kim Williamson – 1.84m/6-00.50

4. Morgan Coffman – 1.71m/5-07.25  
5. Shanae McKenzie – 1.71m/5-07.25

6. Rhizlane Siba – 1.71m/5-07.50  
14. Rachel Proteau – 1.61m/5-03.25

Men's High Jump  
1. NaTron Gipson – 2.09m/6-

10.25  
4. Thilina Karunaratne – 1.94m/6-04.25

Women's Long Jump  
1. Zanri Van der Merwe – 5.66m/18-07  
6. Alyssa Kelly – 5.53m/18-01.75

8. Shardia Lawrence – 5.39m/17-08.25

Men's Long Jump  
1. Ifeanyi Otuonye – 7.69m/25-02.75  
-- Tom Pyle – FOUL

Women's Triple Jump  
1. Shardia Lawrence – 12.99m/42-07.50 (PR)  
5. Alyssa Kelly – 11.95m/39-02.50

Women's Pole Vault  
9. Megan Vanderpool – 3.65m/11-11.75

13. Erin Smith – 3.05m/10-00.00  
-- Kristen Petry - NH

Men's Pole Vault  
7. Zack Supple – 4.99m/15-04.50

Women's Javelin Throw  
1. Allison Zerbe – 50.57m/165-11

Men's Javelin Throw  
5. Derek Selk – 57.21m/187-08

6. Lucas Moeder – 54.65m/179-03  
12. Adam Deterding – 46.77m/153-05

Women's Discus Throw  
1. Shadae Lawrence – 56.54m/185-06

Men's Discus Throw  
8. Brett Neelly – 50.19m/164-08

Women's Shot Put  
2. Dani Winters – 16.60m/54-05.50

Men's Shot Put  
2. Brett Neelly – 17.75m/58-03  
-- Jayce Brack – Foul

Women's Hammer Throw  
2. Sara Savatovic – 64.95m/213-01

7. Janee' Kassanavoid – 57.58m/188-11

Men's Hammer Throw  
2. Tyler Merkley – 63.99m/209-11  
4. Kyle Smith – 60.29m/197-09

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