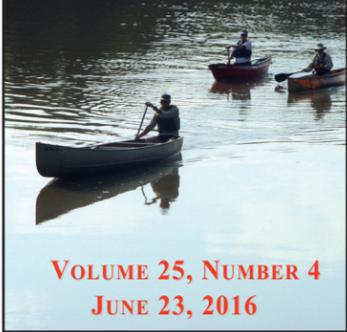


THURSDAY



VOLUME 25, NUMBER 4
JUNE 23, 2016



Manhattan Free Press

An Award Winning Weekly Newspaper

FREE

Remembering the 101

A program commemorating the 101 soldiers from Riley County who lost their lives in World War II was held on Flag Day, Tuesday, June 14th, in front of City Hall.

Following World War II, the citizens of Manhattan set out to build a memorial to honor the 2,610 Riley Countians who had served and the 101 servicemen who lost their lives in the war. The national trend at the time was to construct a "living" memorial, which would honor the veterans and also serve the community. The chosen use was a memorial auditorium -- Peace Memorial Auditorium.

For years, the auditorium was the focus of many community activities. However, the space was never air-conditioned and over time many events moved to newer although more expensive venues. The stage lacked needed updates, and the veterans' memorial was forgotten.

Now the space is being revived. The City Commissioners have agreed to install air-conditioning and upgrade the wiring, but they have left it to concerned citizens to renew the other functions. The Friends of Peace Memorial Auditorium have organized to help raise funds to refurbish the stage and provide an appropriate memorial for the 101 men who died.

The Friends of Peace Memorial Auditorium is collecting photographs and stories about the 101. If you have a photo or story to share, please contact us.

The mission of the Friends of Peace Memorial Auditorium is to help raise funds to renovate Peace Memorial Auditorium so the memorial may continue to honor the 101 Riley County World War II veterans and the county's veterans of previous wars who paid the ultimate sacrifice, and to serve the community's many needs, including the arts, athletics, and civic events into the future.

Friends of Peace Memorial

Medal of Honor Recipient



Walter Ehlers

Above is a picture Walter Ehlers, Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient as shares his experience on D-Day and remembers his brother, Roland Ehlers. Roland was killed on D-Day and is one of the 101 Riley Countians killed in World War II. The Ehlers lived on Pierre Street in Manhattan, KS, and Ehlers Road is named in honor of Walter. Walter passed away in 2014.

Auditorium Donations

The Friends of Peace Memorial Auditorium has established an account with the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation to accept tax deductible donations for the renovation of Peace Memorial Auditorium.

Greater Manhattan Community Foundation
555 Poyntz Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66502

Checks payable to GMCF with "Peace Memorial Auditorium" written on the memo line

To make an online donation, visit the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation's web site. The Friends of Peace Memorial Auditorium is included in the category "Preservation, Conservation & Beautification."



Members of the Boy Scouts Manhattan Troup 74 run the American Flag up the pole outside of the Manhattan City Hall Tuesday Flag Day. This was to re-dedicate the Peace Memorial Auditorium inside. See more photo of the proceedings on the back page.

(Photo by Sigle Photography, Manhattan)

Dick Edwards



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Syria memo shakes up Washington but unlikely to shift policy

By **BRADLEY KLAPPER**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — State Department officials shook up America's generally obedient diplomatic establishment this week with an internal memo urging U.S. military action against Syria's government with the goal of pressing President Bashar Assad to accept a cease-fire and gaining the upper hand on him in future talks on a political transition.

Reasons abound for why an intervention is improbable, not least the vague military objective and risks for U.S. service personnel. Most significant, President Barack Obama is opposed.

Even the diplomats who signed the "dissent channel cable" aren't calling for U.S. forces to push Assad out of power immediately or make him surrender territory to opposition groups — more typical goals for military campaigns. Instead, they say targeted U.S. attacks could increase leverage over the Syrian leader in diplomatic negotiations that have repeatedly failed so far.

Intervening would plunge Washington into an unpredictable and deadly conflict. The Syrian opposition includes scores of rebel formations jostling among rival ethnic groups and U.S.-designated terrorist organizations such as the Islamic State. Russia's air force, Iranian troops and paramilitary units are fighting alongside Assad, crowding the skies and the battlefield.

And American priorities are elsewhere. Despite calling on Assad to step aside five years ago, Obama is focused on defeating the Islamic State in Syria and not regime change. His administration wants to preserve Syria's state and army for a future "transition government" that could restore order and help tackle IS. It wants Russia and Iran to help in that effort.

Here is a look at what frustrated State Department officials called for and why a policy shift is unlikely:

WHITE HOUSE RESISTANCE

The now classified cable was transmitted through an official channel for dissenting views. Fifty-one mostly mid-level department officials who work on America's Syria policy signed

on. The New York Times and Wall Street Journal quoted from copies they reported seeing or obtaining.

The document expresses clear frustration with a White House-driven response to a conflict that has killed perhaps a half-million people and contributed to a worldwide refugee crisis.

"The moral rationale for taking steps to end the deaths and suffering in Syria, after five years of brutal war, is evident and unquestionable," The Times quoted it as saying.

The sentiment isn't new in Foggy Bottom. Obama's last two secretaries of state, Hillary Clinton and John Kerry, pushed for intervention, as has a former defense secretary and CIA director. But the commander in chief has the last word, and nothing has swayed him thus far.

When Assad crossed Obama's "red line" in 2013 by using chemical weapons, the U.S. president backed down from his threat of retaliatory strikes. And ongoing chaos in Libya, where the U.S. helped overthrow dictator Moammar Gadhafi in 2011, is only making him more reticent.

"None of the options are good," Obama said in Saudi Arabia in April. Any "Plan B" without a political settlement risks extending the war for years, he said.

"The president has always been clear that he doesn't see a military solution to the crisis in Syria, and that remains the case," White House spokeswoman Jennifer Friedman added Friday.

MANY UNKNOWNNS

Apart from defeating IS, Obama's Syria strategy has three stages: forcing Assad into a cease-fire and "political transition" talks, pressing him to leave power, then uniting his army and moderate forces to join the counterterrorism effort.

After five years of civil war, the chain of events hasn't yet started. Fighting rages despite numerous partial cease-fires between Syria's government and opposition groups.

And without leverage, the dissenters noted, Assad will never feel pressure to stop bombing and negotiate.

Military action can "drive a more focused and hard-nosed U.S.-led diplomatic process," they said, shifting "the tide of the conflict" and sending a "clear signal to the regime and its backers that there will be no military solution."

But if airstrikes are limited, would they scare Assad into peace talks or make him more determined to dig in? If the U.S. ultimately hopes Assad will negotiate his own departure, what new incentive would he have?

"The threat of strikes brings dramatic results," Andrew Tabler, a Syria expert at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, said approvingly of the memo. "This isn't about invading Syria or another Iraq. It's about punishing Assad for his violations of the cessation of hostilities. And it could, if backed up with resolve, change Assad's increasingly rigid negotiating position."

The memo says doing that would address the lack of support among Syria's Sunni majority for the U.S. goals of

isolating and defeating IS. Sunnis are leading the fight against Assad, a member of Syria's Shiite-linked Alawite minority.

But if Libya is an example, U.S. intervention doesn't always play out that way. A year after Gadhafi's overthrow, militants attacked the American diplomatic outpost in the city of Benghazi. Washington has no diplomatic presence inside the country today.

RUSSIA

"We have been arguing from the beginning of the Syrian crisis that there should be more robust intervention," Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeiri of Saudi Arabia, a key U.S. ally, said Friday.

But if planning an intervention was complicated early on, it became harder after Russia's foray into the conflict in September.

Attacking Assad's forces now would risk escalating a proxy war with Moscow, which has been hitting U.S.-backed rebels. The prospect of accidental confrontation grows if the two militaries end coordination on avoiding each other's forces in their separate counterterrorism campaigns.

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

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— Thomas Jefferson, 1787

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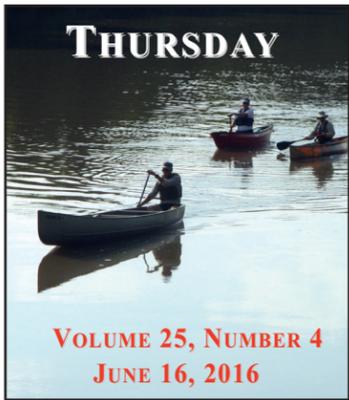
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National Guard Battalion To Change Commanders

The 2nd Battalion, 130th Field Artillery, Kansas National Guard, will conduct a change of command ceremony Wednesday, June 15, in King Field House, 202 Custer Avenue, Fort Riley, Kansas. During the 5 p.m. ceremony, leadership of the historic battalion will pass from Lt. Col. Paul W. Schneider to Lt. Col. Thomas R. Powers. Col. John Rueger, commander, 130th Field Artillery Brigade, will symbolically pass the responsibility for the welfare and training of the 233 Soldiers of the battalion to the new commander.

"I'm honored by the opportunity to serve my country and the state of Kansas by leading this incredible battalion," said Powers, "and I thank the governor, the adjutant general, and other Kansas Army National Guard senior leaders for their faith and confidence in me."

"It's been an honor to once again serve in this historic organization made up of exceptional Soldiers," said Schneider. "Our focus the past 31 months has been increasing the unit's readiness while focusing train-

ing on delivering lethal, precision artillery fires."

The battalion is headquartered in Hiawatha and has subordinate units in Holton, Lenexa, Marysville and Paola.

Lt. Col. Thomas Powers Powers' military career began in 1987 when he enlisted in the United States Army Reserve. He was commissioned a second lieutenant from the Reserve Officer Training Corps and graduated from the University of Central Missouri in 1991.

His previous assignments include battery fire direction officer, platoon leader, executive officer, fire support officer, battalion fire direction officer, personnel officer, battery commander, division effects officer, training and operations officer, strategic plans officer, division personnel officer, and division "Red Team" chief.

Powers deployed to Iraq with the 2nd Battalion, 130th Field Artillery in December 2003 and again in 2007 with the 1st Battalion, 161st Field Artillery.

He is a graduate of the Field Artillery Officer Basic and Ad-

vanced Courses, Combined Arms Services Staff School, Command and General Staff College, the Army War College, and other military schools. His civilian education includes his undergraduate degree from the University of Central Missouri, a Master of Arts degree in security studies from Kansas State University, and a Master of Arts degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal with six oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal with bronze star device, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service Medals, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with "M" device and Silver Hourglass, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon with "2" device, Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon

with "2" device, 3H Additional Skill Identifier - Joint Planner, 6Z Additional Skill Identifier - Strategist, and Area of Concentration 42H - Senior Human Resources Officer.

In his civilian career, Powers is employed by the Department of the Army as a military analyst at the Center for Army Leadership, Combined Arms Center, Fort Leavenworth.

Lt. Col. Paul Schneider Lt. Col. Paul Schneider leaves the 2nd Battalion, 130th Field Artillery after 31 months of command.

Schneider's military career began when he enlisted in the 2nd Battalion 130th Field Artillery in 1987. He completed Officer Candidate School in 1994 and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant.

Schneider is a graduate of the Field Artillery Officer Basic and Advanced Course, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, the Command and General Staff College, and various other military schools. He is currently attending the U.S. Army War College.

His previous assignments

have included ammunition officer, platoon leader, operations officer, battery commander, personnel officer, training and operations officer, executive officer, officer strength manager, and deputy operations officer/director of military support for Joint Forces Headquarters.

Among his awards and decorations are the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Army Commendation Medal with oak leaf clusters, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters, National Defense Medal with service star, Global War on Terrorism Expedi-

tionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with "M" and Hourglass device, Army Service Ribbon, Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon with "3" device, General Staff Badge, 3H ASI - Joint Planner, and D7A ASI - Defense Support of Civil Authorities Specialist.

Schneider works full time for the Kansas Army National Guard as the administrative officer for the 130th Field Artillery Brigade in Manhattan.

He is married to Teri Hedrick Schneider and they reside in Manhattan, KS. They have a daughter, Sidney, who is a junior at Kansas State University.

Popular Blue Moose Bar & Grill Plans Manhattan Location

MANHATTAN (KS) -- Blue Moose Bar & Grill, a popular restaurant in Topeka and in the Kansas City area, will open another location this fall in Manhattan. The newest and fifth Blue Moose restaurant features two stories and 6,300 square feet and will be located downtown at 100 Manhattan Town Center.

The Blue Moose Bar & Grill originally opened in 2002 in Prairie Village, KS. The popular concept was expanded in recent years to Overland Park, Lenexa and Topeka. Its fresh-ingredient menu offers a variety of small plates, salads, gourmet pizzas and sandwiches, steaks, chops and seafood. The new Blue Moose location will also feature 50 beers on tap.

"We are very excited to bring the Blue Moose concept to the Manhattan market," said Ed Nelson, president of KC Hopps. "We've built a significant following with our diverse menu, our Tuesday and Thursday drink specials and the popular Sunday brunch."

Popular menu items include:
 - Build Your Own Mac & Cheese with six-cheese sauce (and optional add-ins: shrimp, chicken or chile-rubbed slab bacon, pit-smoked ham, and/or a variety of vegetables),
 - Wood-Grilled Duroc Pork Chop with Brussell sprouts hash,
 - Chipotle Braised Short Ribs with homemade skin-on

mashed potatoes,

- Wood-Grilled Steak Medallions,
 - Boulevard Wheat Beer-Battered Fish and Chips,
 - Spicy Short Rib Grilled Cheese Panini.

There's also "lighter side" dishes (all under 600 calories) including: Curry Chicken Salad, Wood-Grilled Petite Filet served over whipped cauliflower and Chicken Puttanesca with angel hair pasta and house-made marinara. Some of the popular small plates include Shrimp Wontons (creamy wonton filling and shrimp wrapped up and fired to a golden brown), Smoked Cheddar Mac & Cheese Croquettes, and Slab Bacon and Grits.

Other notable features:

- 50 beers - a variety of micro, macro and seasonal brews from the region and throughout the U.S.
- Sunday Brunch - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. A full buffet including bacon, breakfast sausage, oven-baked ham, biscuits & gravy, waffles and made-to-order options such as eggs Benedict and an omelet bar with 40 add-in ingredients.
- Private events - a second floor space for private dining, accommodating up to 100 persons and perfect for corporate and family events, receptions, wedding events with availability of tailored menus.
- Drink specials - 10 for \$10 bottles of wine all day Tuesday

and Thirsty Thursday with \$2 micro and \$1.50 macro beers and \$4 Rumchatas and Moosearitas.

The Manhattan Blue Moose Bar & Grill will be managed by KC Hopps, Ltd., and is owned by a group of local investors and KC Hopps, Ltd. The KC Hopps restaurant management

group opened its first location in 1993 in the Waldo neighborhood of Kansas City. It now owns and operates multiple establishments in the KC area and Topeka and combines great atmosphere, friendly service and made-from-scratch menus. kchopps.com

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Letter To The Editor: Imagine My Surprise

Dear Editor

My name is George Marcus. I have been involved in the construction trades since 1971 barring a break in that cycle for 4 years I served in the USMC. I have worked as an independent General Contractor since 1982. Given I have lived in the confines as one of the lowest forms of life on earth for a period of 34 years. During that time I have been able to successfully feed my family live in a conservative home and paid my bills not always on time but always.

Over the years when at first there were no city inspectors or building code, a time when none of my homes collapsed or spontaneously combusted the government in their infinite wisdom continually have developed building code and enforcement in order to create from my point of view more government jobs for no reason than to regulate my efforts to justify their own existence. Currently my homes as in the beginning do not collapse and do not spontaneously combust, with government regulation riding on my back in an effort to feed an unsuspecting public their efforts are in

public's best interest their existence.

Did you know in Riley county there are building permits necessary followed by multiple inspections by tax paid building inspectors yet in your neighboring county Pottawatomie county permits are necessary however there are no building inspections. Sorry in a mental moment I strayed from my goal as my jaw tightened in a slight convulsive moment trying to reconcile the difference in the two counties where one fully trusts the integrity of the licensed contractors and the other totally distrusts.

In the last 3 years I have built several homes in Manhattan. Their prices range from \$ 250,000.00 to \$ 600,000.00. I find the community a pleasure to work in and enjoy the opportunity given my close affiliation as a graduate of Kansas State University and a life long resident of Junction City.

Characteristically I have no historic resentment for the deemed need for code enforcement however when all trades surrounding building

safety plumbers, gas fitters, electricians, and heating and air conditioning I find the necessity for non licensed inspectors an oversight unless they also have to take all the corresponding examinations for all trades including general contractor as well as work in the field the same amount of time as apprentice to achieve a full compliment of knowledge necessary to judge others. This is not the case.

Come on George get to the point – momentarily I just had to slam my head against the desktop to realign my purpose in the editorial.

Imagining my surprise when today I went to the code enforcement office to secure some blank building permit applications and one of the administrative personnel said George you have not pulled a building permit for a while you also need to fill out one of these. I took the document she handed me and thought no more about it until I read it.

It is called Affidavit in support of request for building permit for city action. In summary it is a document whereby I as a builder am re-

quired to list all properties where I own a 20% or more

interest, notarize the document and then take that document to the court house and have them certify that all property taxes are paid on those properties before I am allowed to apply for and receive a building permit.

Considering I am no longer able to continue to work in Manhattan if I have some property taxes that are in arrears. That is strange I know of no other groups as a whole or in singular where as a business or real property owner are disallowed to continue as a going concern in the absence of current tax status. Are they locked out of their businesses, locked out of their homes, not allowed to plant their next crop.

If one is in arrears due to poor or delayed sales and or budget constraints how is one to self-correct that tax status in the absence of business continuation. You cannot catch up if you cannot work.

Further more if there is any unpaid tax on any real property I build, when the prop-

erty is sold and transferred to the new owner all taxes must be current. Considering there is already a mechanism in force which assures property taxes are paid.

I have always wondered if the public at large knows how much contribution a one-man company in a pick up truck, smelling of sweat, diesel fuel, stale beer and a cell phone glued to his or her ear contribute to the local economy.

Did you know contractors, specifically home builders pay sales taxes on all material they buy. On a typical \$ 275,000.00 home where 40% of the cost of the home is materials that contractor will pay \$ 10,000.00 in sales taxes. As well \$ 4,000.00 for a building permit. Again \$ 2,500.00 in risk and liability insurance, \$ 3,500.00 in interest expense and we have not even spent any money yet to dig a whole for a foundation yet.

That same contractor will employ on a single home over the next 5-8 months engineers, excavators, foundation contractors, concrete contractors materials and labor, lumber yards, insulators,

plumbers, electricians, heating and air conditioning contractors, painters, roofers, landscapers, banks, insurance companies, real estate agents – the list goes on and on.

Remember that was one person and a cell phone.

Yet the city commission in their infinite wisdom wish to segregate, isolate and hold in a state of tax prison this single builder who contributes far in excess of other real property holders as a producer due to some undefined amount of tax disparity regardless of how small in the interim.

As a citizen and business owner I only ask for reconsideration and repeal of this oversight given I feel the city is in violation of the simplest of assumptions and treatment of your neighborhood contractor fair and equal treatment under the law.

Either force other businesses to close their doors if they are in tax arrears or set us a contractors free, by virtue of your deliberate segregation and oversight.

George Marcus

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Politics/Commentary

Construction, teachers unions win in soda tax tussle

Watchdog

Philadelphia's new soda tax was sold as a way to help kids, but trade and teachers unions — and city government — also stand to be big winners from the 1.5 cents-per-ounce tax approved last week.

The tax is expected to generate \$91 million in the first year and up to \$386 million over five years. About a third of the money will go into the city's general fund, where it can be spent on anything.

Mayor Jim Kenney, who endorsed the tax after being elected last year, wants to spend the money on building community schools and refurbishing parks and recreation centers around the city. Jobs created by those projects are expected to be snatched up by members of building trades unions, which have been vocal supporters of the tax.

Political heavyweight John Dougherty, who is head of the influential Local 98 electricians union and the Philadelphia Building and Construction Trades Council, reportedly blasted opponents of the soda tax earlier this year.

According to reports, during a meeting in City Council chambers in May, Dougherty went "toe-to-toe" with Danny Grace, the head of Teamsters Local 830, which opposed the tax. Dougherty reportedly also warned against crossing Councilman Bobby Henon, who also backed a soda tax, when he said, "If you [expletive] with my boy, I'll [expletive] with you."

Dougherty later told the Philadelphia Inquirer he didn't have a "tussle" with the Teamsters boss and that he didn't use foul language.

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"I didn't say [expletive] with. I said, 'Look, you guys play with Henon, lose my number,'" Dougherty said.

The Teamsters were against the soda tax because the price bump is expected to eliminate 2,000 soda industry jobs, including transportation positions held by Teamsters.

The American Beverage Association also opposed to the tax, which it says is "regressive" and "unfairly singles out beverages — including low- and no-calorie choices."

"The fact remains that these taxes are discriminatory and highly unpopular — not only with Philadelphians, but with all Americans," the ABA said in a statement. "Similar tax proposals have been rejected 43 times across the country in the past eight years, including twice

in Philadelphia."

Phila. Makes History As First Major U.S. City To Approve Sugary Drink Tax
<https://t.co/aWEiL3p39x>
 #phled @PFTLocal3

— Randi Weingarten (@rweingarten) June 16, 2016

Kenney argues that Philly kids stand to be the biggest winners because the tax will open public pre-K programs to about 6,500 more children. Supporters of the tax say that two out of three children in the city live in households too poor to afford preschool.

According to a study conducted by the city this year, the annual cost of pre-K is between \$14,000 and \$15,000 per child. The city says it needs about \$60 million a year to run the program to reach as many kids as Kenney hopes. Critics say that estimate is unrealistic.

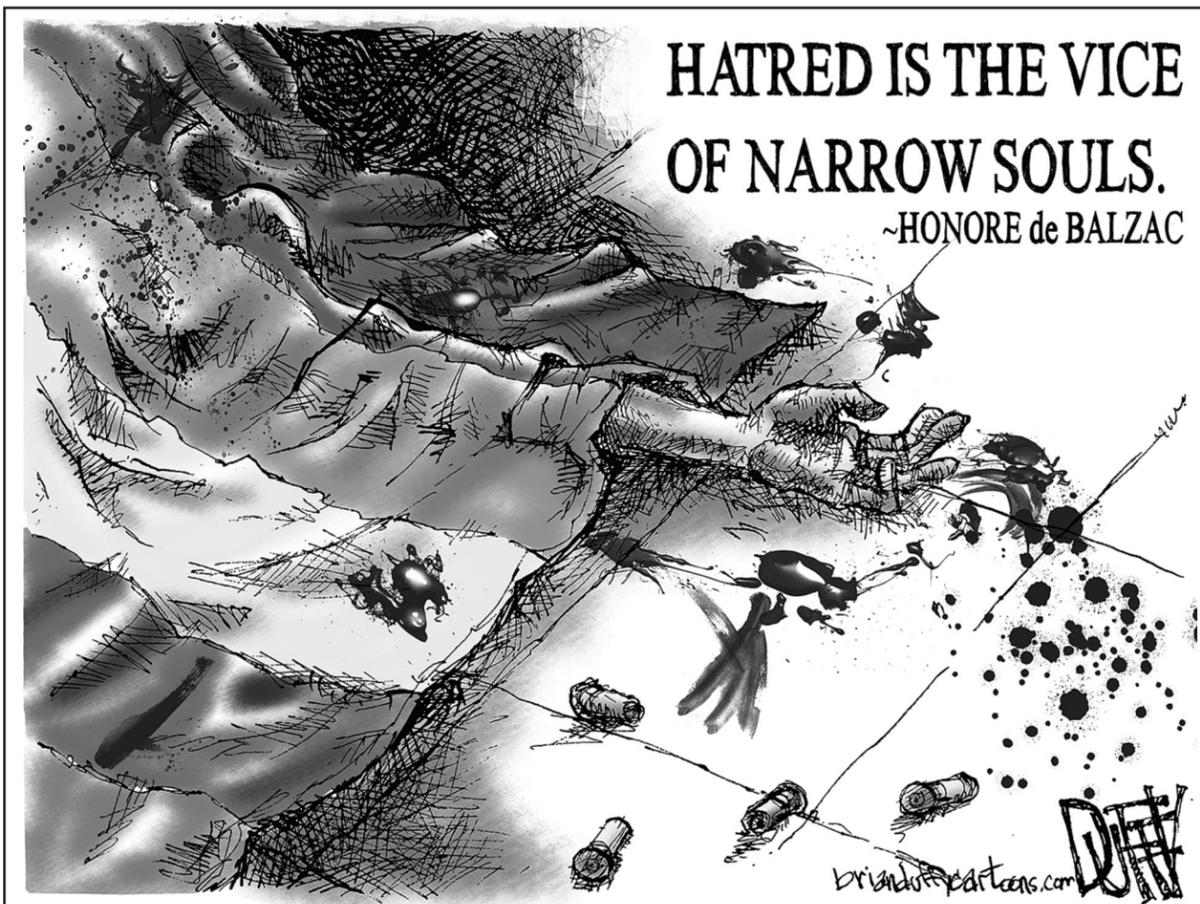
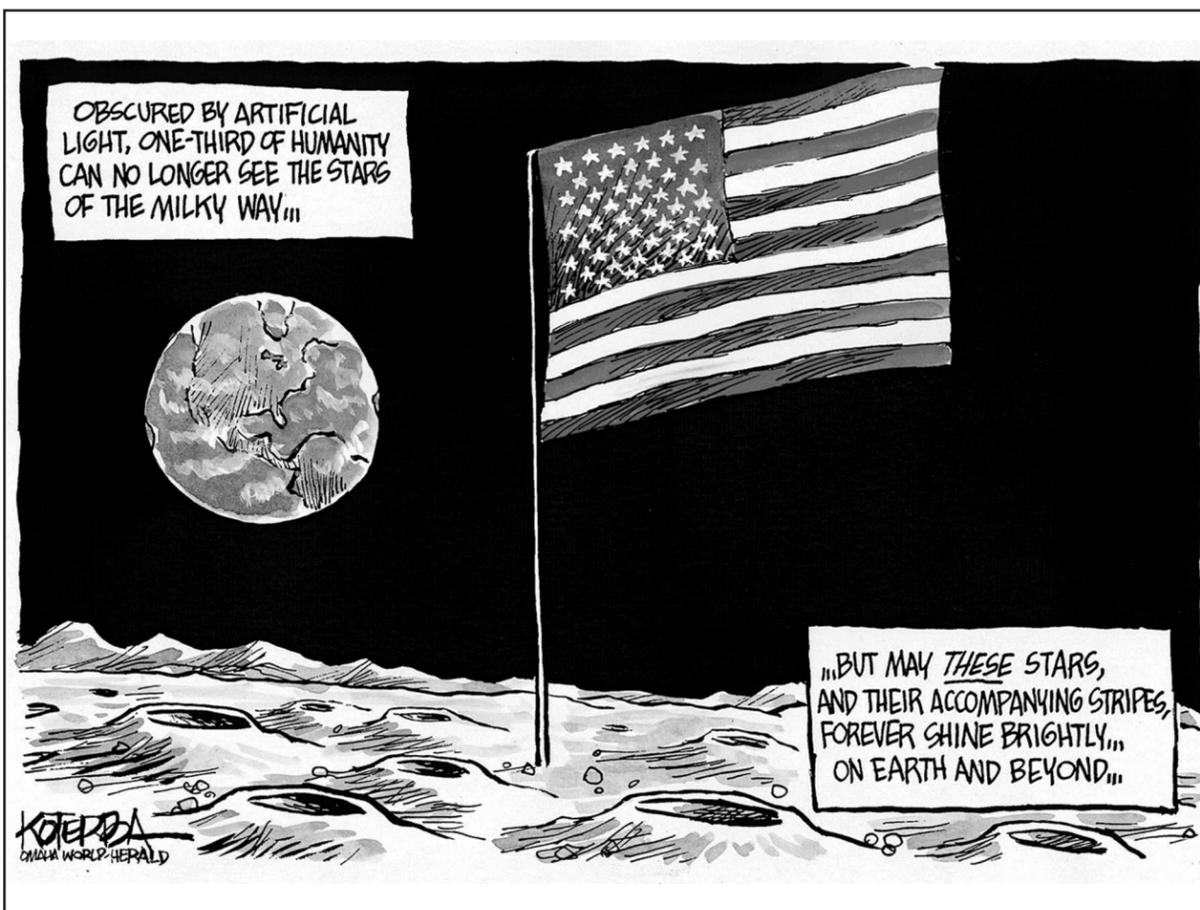
Republican Councilman David Oh, who voted against the tax, said his staff found \$180 million in over-allocations to state agencies that could have been used to fund pre-K and community schools. Without raising taxes, Oh said, his plan would have produced \$26 million for universal preschool, \$4.2 million for community schools and \$12.5 million to rebuild parks and rec centers.

"We need good programs and we should all do our best to support the new administration whenever possible," Oh said. "But we also need jobs, opportunities, new investment, and better fiscal accountability from our government to our citizens. Otherwise, we'll end up with none of the above, but the citizens will pay the tab."

Pre-K advocates such as Councilwoman Helen Gym and the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers, which supported her election last year, are also being touted as soda tax winners. The expansion of public pre-K programs and the creation of up to 25 community schools could mean more jobs for union teachers.

The PFT also campaigned hard to elect Kenney last year and has backed the mayor's plan to create more community schools, which provide social services in addition to educational facilities within neighborhoods.

"The PFT has been in favor of Mayor Kenney's sugary drink proposal since its inception," PFT President Jerry Jordan said in a statement. "We look forward to engaging with Council and the Mayor to ensure the implementation of pre-K and Community Schools is as effective as possible."



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

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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.

Board of Riley County Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes June 13, 2016

Public Comments Commission Comments

Commission Comments Wilson's Comments: Thursday I watched the RCPD body cam video of the recent incident at Kite's. The officers were very professional in handling the touchy situation, keeping the focus on the criminal trespass issue. I also read the K-State Collegian article on the event, which was an example of poor journalism with its one-sided reporting.

Over the weekend, I drove out to Kentucky and also caught up on reading recent NACo County News and Kansas Government Journal publications.

Boyd's Comments: Monday 05.23.16

-Attended the NACo Transportation Steering Committee conference call with other local leaders around the nation. Discussions covered the full range of transportation topics and the upcoming NACo conference. My functional area of concern is the aviation system in general and the drone issue in particular. I have been asked to coordinate development of NACo's position on drone regulation and integration into the national airspace system. Our subcommittee is gathering information and will formulate a policy statement for the full body of NACo at the conference in July. -Worked on correspondence and preparation in County offices.

Tuesday 05.24.16

-Attended a portion of the

farm safety program sponsored by the Riley County Extension at the Olsburg Elementary School.

-Attended the NACo County Leadership Institute conference call regarding preparatory work for the upcoming seminar.

-Addressed correspondence and preparations in County offices.

-Participated in Kansas State University's Academic Search meetings at the Alumni Center. The committee to nominate candidates for

President of our university to the Board of Regents was soliciting input from community leaders on the qualities and qualifications to consider in their process.

Wednesday 05.25.16

-Met Geary County and Morris County Commissioners in Council Grove to discuss Flint Hills Regional Council issues. The discussions centered on Fort Riley and the upcoming JLUS study and how we can develop our partnerships with the military. We also discussed economic development.

Thursday 05.26.16

-Attended the KAC executive board meeting at the KAC offices in Topeka. The board reviewed the legislative session and discussed strategies going forward.

05.27.16 - 06.03.16

-Traveled to Lake Shadd, Saskatchewan with my son for a biannual fishing excursion with others from the Riley County community.

Wonderful trip, great companionship and memorable father/son experience; the fishing was fantastic.

Saturday 06.04.16

-Worked on commission cor-

respondence and home chores, which accumulated during my travels.

06.05.16 - 06.09.16

-Attended the NACo County Leadership Institute in Washington DC. Each year NACo selects about 24 leaders, nominated by their state organization, to attend an adaptive leadership seminar for addressing complex issues. The course is intense; the leadership techniques are unique and require investment in time and personal commitment, which are not easily achieved, but the process is effective.

Friday 06.10.16

-Worked in county offices and met with local leaders on issues developing during my travels.

-Attended the fundraiser by Jordy Nelson at Nelson's Landing in Leonardville.

Saturday 06.11.16

-Worked on home projects and preparations for budget discussions. Sunday 06.12.16

-Worked on correspondence and preparations after church.

Wells' Comments:

Wells stated Russell Peterson contacted him about a bridge in north part of the County, which was built too high.

Hobson said the contractor is going to fix the problem with the height of the bridge.

Wells said he would attend the Juvenile Detention Board meeting Wednesday.

Wells stated he will be on KMAN tomorrow.

Business Meeting

Approve Purchase Authorization for Oscillator Walk'n Roll Packer

Move to approve the Purchase Authorization for an Oscillator Walk'n Roll Packer from LyCox Enterprises, Inc., Billings, Montana for Public Works in the amount of \$34,400.00 to be funded by the CIP fund.

ADOPTED[UNANIMOUS]
County Commissioner Boyd, Wells, Wilson

Sign Riley County Personnel Action Form(s)

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Personnel Action Form for Krystal R. Brix, a new hire, as an Administrative Trial Assistant, in the County Attorney's Office, at a grade M step 1, at \$19.79 per hour.

Action on the NACo 2016 Credentials (Voting) Form

Move to appoint Commissioner Robert Boyd as Riley County's voting delegate for the 2016 National Association of Counties (NACo) 81st Annual Conference.

ADOPTED[UNANIMOUS]
County Commissioner Boyd, Wells, Wilson

Review Minutes

Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular

Meeting - Jun 9, 2016 8:30 AM
Move to approve the minutes.

ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]

Commissioner Boyd, Wells, Wilson

Tami Robison-2017 Budget Calendar

9:00 AM R i c h Vargo, County Clerk

Year to date budget and expenditure reports

Vargo presented the year to date budget and expenditure reports.

9:15 AM C h e r y l Collins, Museum Director

Museum Staff Report

C. Collins presented the Museum Department staff report.

9:30 AM Press Conference

"Top of the Town" Bluemont Hill Tour June 23 - Cheryl Collins (2 minutes)

C. Collins said Thursday, June 23rd at 6:30 p.m., she will conduct a "Top of the Town" tour of Bluemont Hill.

10:10 AM

Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer

Project update

Hobson said Nathan Klocke has agreed to serve on the Road and Bridge Advisory Board.

Hobson presented the Public Works project update.

10:25 AM C i n d y Volanti, Human Resource Manager/Deputy Clerk

Impact of Department of Labor Overtime and Exempt Status Ruling

Volanti discussed the impact of the Department of Labor Overtime and Exempt Status Ruling.

C. Collins expressed concern with Curators being able to do their job adequately as non-exempt employees.

Boyd said he feels we have to comply with the DOL overtime and exemption status ruling.

Wilson stated he did not feel ready to make a decision because there are other alternatives that could be compliant with the law.

Move to approve the Department of Labor overtime and exempt status ruling and change the thirteen positions as listed from salary/exempt status to hourly/non-exempt status Effective date of pay period beginning December 3, 2016.

Department Positions
Attorney Office Manager
Museum Curators (3) IT/
GISGIS Analyst
Appraiser Appraiser III/IV

(6)
Health Dept Health Educator Health Dept Child Care Surveyor

ADOPTED [2 TO 0]
Robert Boyd, County Commissioner Ronald Wells, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells
ABSTAIN: Wilson

See Page 10

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The Manhattan City Commission

City Of Manhattan Minutes

**MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION
MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2016
7:00 P.M.**

The Regular Meeting of the City Commission was held at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Room. Mayor Karen McCulloh and Commissioners Usha Reddi, Linda Morse, Michael L. Dodson, and Wynn Butler were present. Also present were the City Manager Ron R. Fehr, Deputy City Manager Jason Hilgers, Assistant City Manager Kiel Mangus, Legal Counsel Bill Frost, City Clerk Gary S. Fees, 11 staff, and approximately 30 interested citizens.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor McCulloh led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor McCulloh proclaimed June 18, 2016, Juneteenth. Eric Martin, Chair, and Allen Nesbitt, member, Juneteenth Committee, were present to receive the proclamation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor McCulloh opened the public comments.

Stan Hoerman, 2021 Bluehills Road, informed the Commission that his west property line fence was impacted during the widening of North Manhattan Avenue and he contacted the Public Works Department regarding his fence. He asked that his property be reviewed and that his fence be replaced by the City of Manhattan. He also asked if the reserved parking signs that were removed several months ago at the Douglass Center parking lot would be replaced or not.

Ron Fehr, City Manager, informed Mr. Hoerman that City staff is looking into the history relative to the parking issue and planned to have a meeting to discuss the subject.

Katie Jordan, 2415 Timber-

lane Drive, Chair, Flint Hills Human Rights Project, informed the Commission that their leadership is aware of the allegations of a LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender) individual being denied access to public accommodations at a business in Aggieville over the weekend. She stated that due to recent discussions with the Commission, she was contacted by two separate media outlets. She said that if this alleged incident was a case of discrimination based on gender identity, the proposed non-discrimination ordinance being discussed before the Commission would provide a process to investigate the discriminatory complaint and to keep this kind of event from escalating on social media in the future. She stated that all LGBT citizens and visitors should live freely without discrimination, making Manhattan a more inclusive and accepting community for all residents.

Joyce Todd, 401 Poplar Place, stated that she has been dealing with an animal cruelty situation since November 2015 with neighbors that are not taking care of their dog. She provided background information regarding the neglect and treatment of the dog and measures that she has taken. She asked for assistance and requested that the City allow the Animal Control staff to be able to get out of the vehicle to check the welfare of neglected animals, to make it illegal to have a dogs vocal chords cut, to make the owner release the animal to the T. Russell Reitz Animal Shelter after receiving a violation, and to limit the amount of time a dog is tied up outside. She then responded to questions from the Commission and stated that she has left messages with the Humane Society and had not heard back from them.

Hearing no other comments,

Mayor McCulloh closed the public comments.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Dodson informed the community that on Monday, June 6, 2016, the 1st Infantry Division celebrated the 100th Year Anniversary Committee Charter Signing Ceremony at Fort Riley with a proclamation signing event. He discussed the significance of D-Day on June 6, 1944, and the casualty's suffered on the beaches of Normandy. He also talked about maneuvering through the roundabouts in the city and the need to provide additional educational materials on the City's website and local cable Channel 3, especially with the new roundabout planned at the intersection of Kimball and Anderson Avenues and Scenic Drive.

Commissioner Morse stated that the Juneteenth celebration will be held on June 18, 2016, at City Park and called attention to the many sponsors and volunteers. She also highlighted upcoming Arts in the Park events that will be held in City Park.

Commissioner Reddi informed the community that there are many wonderful events and local, national and international programs to attend during Arts in the Park, at the Manhattan Arts Center, and at McCain Auditorium on the campus of Kansas State University. She also provided an update on the activities of the Flint Hills Regional Transit. Finally, she stated that the League of Women Voters of Manhattan/Riley County were hosting a legislative wrap-up to learn more from local representatives on Saturday, June 11, 2016, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., at the Meadowlark Hills Community Room and encouraged those interested to attend.

Mayor McCulloh reiterated the Arts in the Park activities

available to the public and thanked everyone for celebrating Manhattan Day on Saturday, June 4, 2016. She also thanked Mel Borst for putting the decorative bunting around the Landmark Water Tower for Memorial Day.

CONSENT AGENDA

(* denotes those items discussed)

MINUTES

The Commission approved the minutes of the Regular City Commission Meeting held Tuesday, May 17, 2016.

CLAIMS REGISTER NO. 2823

The Commission approved Claims Register No. 2823 authorizing and approving the payment of claims from May 11, 2016, to May 31, 2016, in the amount of \$4,219,956.09.

LICENSES

The Commission approved a Tree Maintenance License for calendar year 2016 for Grogg's Stump Grinding Service, 5007 Vista Acres Drive; an annual Cereal Malt Beverages On-Premises License for La Hacienda, 3003 Anderson Avenue, Suite 945; and an annual Cereal Malt Beverages Off-Premises License for Short Stop #12, 2010 Tuttle Creek Boulevard.

FINAL PLAT - LEDGESTONE RIDGE, UNIT ONE

The Commission accepted the easements and rights-of-way, as shown on the Final Plat of the Ledgestone Ridge, Unit One, generally located 550 feet east of the intersection Scenic Drive and the future expansion of Miller Parkway, based on conformance with the Manhattan Urban Area Subdivision Regulations.

ORDINANCE NO. 7217 - AMEND - SIGN ORDINANCE

The Commission approved Ordinance No. 7217 amending Section 30-112 of the Code of Ordinances, as proposed relating to the allowed size and

height of a sidewalk sign.

PUBLIC HEARING - VACATE UTILITY EASEMENT - LOT ONE, FLINT HILLS JOB CORPS CENTER

Mayor McCulloh opened the public hearing.

Hearing no comments, Mayor McCulloh closed the public hearing.

The Commission approved first reading of an ordinance vacating a portion of a utility easement on Lot One (1) of Flint Hills Job Corps Center, an Addition to the city of Manhattan.

RESOLUTION NO.

060716-A - CONSENT - TRANSFER OF MANAGEMENT OF MANHATTAN TOWN CENTER MALL

The Commission approved Resolution No. 060716-A, consenting to the transfer of Manhattan Town Center and authorized CBRE, Inc., as the property management company.

CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 - 2016 STREET MAINTENANCE ASPHALT MILL AND OVERLAY (ST1606)

The Commission approved Change Order No. 1 for the 2016 Street Maintenance Asphalt Mill and Overlay (ST1606) project, resulting in a net increase in the amount of \$191,768.50 (+45.8%) to the contract with Shilling Construction Co., Inc., of Manhattan, Kansas, adding North Manhattan Avenue from Claflin Road to Research Park Drive (\$83,651.00) and Taxiway Echo along with the East Ramp at the Manhattan Regional Airport (\$108,117.50).

CHANGE ORDER NO. 18 - AIRPORT TERMINAL, PHASE II (AIP 46, CIP #AP035P)

The Commission approved and authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute Change Order No. 18 for the Airport Terminal, Phase II, project (AIP46, CIP #AP035P), result-

ing in a net increase in the amount of \$230,203.00 to the contract with The Weitz Company, LLC, of Lenexa, Kansas.

* AWARD CONTRACT - AIRPORT MILITARY ENTRANCE (SM1407, AP1402)

Ron Fehr, City Manager, responded to questions from the Commission and provided additional information on the funding sources targeted to pay for the project.

The Commission accepted the Engineer's Opinion of Probable Cost in the amount of \$699,673.10; awarded a construction contract in the amount of \$539,631.88 to Ebert Construction Company, Inc., of Wamego, Kansas; and authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the construction for the Airport Military Entrance project (SM1407, AP1402).

AWARD CONTRACT - UTILITY MAINTENANCE FACILITY HOSE TOWER DEMOLITION PROJECT (SS1609, CIP #WW149P)

The Commission awarded a construction contract in the amount of \$26,700.00 to McPherson Wrecking, Inc., of Grantville, Kansas, and authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the construction contract for the Utility Maintenance Facility Hose Tower Demolition Project (SS1609, CIP #WW149P), to be paid equally from the Water and Wastewater Funds.

AWARD CONTRACT - 2016 HYDRANT AND VALVE REPLACEMENT PROJECT (WA1604)

The Commission awarded a construction contract in the amount of \$144,365.00 to J&K Contracting, LC, of Junction City, Kansas, and authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the construction contract for the 2016 Hydrant and Valve Replacement project

See City page 11

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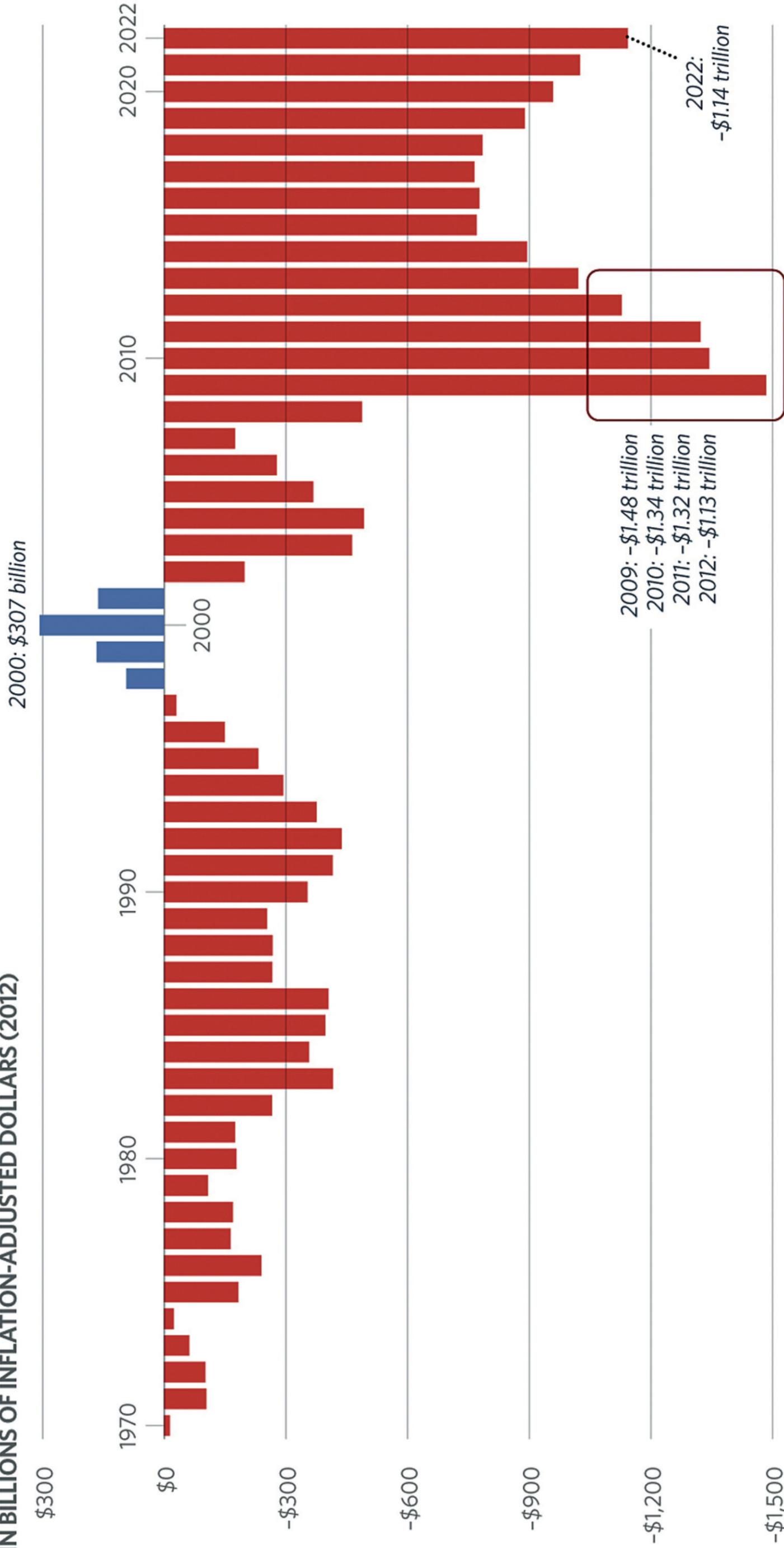
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The Federal Budget Is Recording Chronic Deficits

IN BILLIONS OF INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS (2012)



Sources: Office of Management and Budget, *Budget of the U.S. Government, FY 2013: Historical Tables*, Table 1.1, February 2012, <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/Historicals> (accessed August 8, 2012), and Congressional Budget Office, *An Update to the Budget and Economic Outlook: Fiscal Years 2012 to 2022, Alternative Fiscal Scenario*, August 22, 2012, <http://cbo.gov/publication/43543> (accessed August 23, 2012).

This New Law Ensures South Carolina Students Will Study the Founding Documents

Heritage Foundation

Gov. Nikki Haley, a Republican, signed a South Carolina House bill into law that implements the study of U.S. founding documents into the state's public high schools.

The South Carolina Founding Principles Act requires the study of the United States Constitution, the Federalist Papers, and "the structure of the government and the role of separation of powers and the freedoms guaranteed by the Bill of Rights" to be added into statewide social studies programs.

This bill, signed June 1, reinforces South Carolina's Section 59-29-120 that required all public education students, both in high school and in college, to pass a test after a year-long class on the founding documents and principles.

The Founding Principles Act bolsters the existing law by adding an accountability clause requiring the State Department of Education to report to the House and Senate Education Committees as well as the Public Works Committee every two years. This report will outline how South Carolina educators are teaching the documents in their classrooms.

State Rep. Chip Huggins, R-Lexington, told The Daily Signal, "I was just so worried about the erosion away from our foundation, and when I say that, I think it's time we get back to the basics. The basics in which this country was founded. That's exactly what we wanted to accomplish with this bill."

Furthermore, teachers will be provided with "professional development opportunities" to ensure the subject is being properly taught.



Gov. Nikki Haley

"We now have the assurance that the founding principles will be taught." @ChipHugginsSC

"A major part of forming future citizens capable of self-government is ensuring that they are properly educated in the founding documents of our nation," Arthur Milikh, associate director for principles and politics at The Heritage Foundation, told The Daily Signal in an email. "This was once common sense throughout America, but now we are forced to fight to ensure that even the most basic texts—the Constitution, the Federalist Papers, the Declaration of Independence—are taught."

"These works tell us about the nature of our country, the principles for which we stand, and the way to preserve our constitutional order. Should these texts be lost to students, the next generation will be ruled entirely by popular culture and public opinion," Milikh wrote.

Huggins, the main sponsor of

the bill, said the legislation "ensures that when the standards are rewritten, the founding principles will still be included."

The Founding Principles Act, however, does not force South Carolina public colleges to do the same.

Section 59-29-120 states that "no student in any such school, college, or university may receive a certificate of graduation without previously passing a satisfactory examination upon the provisions and principles," but does not hold either public high schools or colleges to that standard. The accountability aspect of The Founding Principles Act only applies to South Carolina public high schools.

Even though Huggins didn't win the battle with mandating the founding principles into state college curriculums, he believes he won the war with high schools. He stated that the important thing is "we now have the assurance that the founding principles will be taught."

Free medications available to help Kansas smokers quit

TOPEKA, Kan.- Smokers in Kansas can get free medications (Nicotine Replacement Therapy products, e.g., gum, lozenges or patches) from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Tobacco Quitline between June 20 - July 1, or while supplies last.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Tips From Former Smokers national tobacco education campaign will encourage smokers to call the Kansas Tobacco Quitline at 1-800-QUIT-NOW (800-784-8669) for free help getting medication and quit assistance. To take advantage of the free offer, which will run June 20 - July 1, tobacco users must enroll in the Quitline with a trained coach and be medically eligible to receive the free medication.

"We want all tobacco users to know that although quitting is hard, they can do it," said Jennifer Church, MS, RD, LD, Community Health Promotion Section Director, Kansas Department of Health and Environment. "Smokers often try to

quit several times before succeeding, but proven treatments and services are available that can improve your chances of quitting for good. We encourage all Kansas smokers to try to quit, and if they want free help, to take advantage of this opportunity."

People who smoke cigarettes can and do quit. In fact, today there are more former smokers than current smokers in the United States. Surveys show that nearly 70 percent of all cigarette smokers want to quit, and additional research shows that quitting completely at any age has health benefits.

Stopping smoking

Lowers risk for lung cancer and many other types of cancer.

Reduces risk for heart disease, stroke and peripheral vascular disease (narrowing of the blood vessels outside the heart).

Reduces respiratory symptoms such as coughing, wheezing and shortness of breath.

Reduces risk of developing lung diseases such as chronic obstructive pulmonary

disease.

Reduces risk for infertility in women of childbearing age. Women who stop smoking during pregnancy also reduce their risk of having a low birth weight baby.

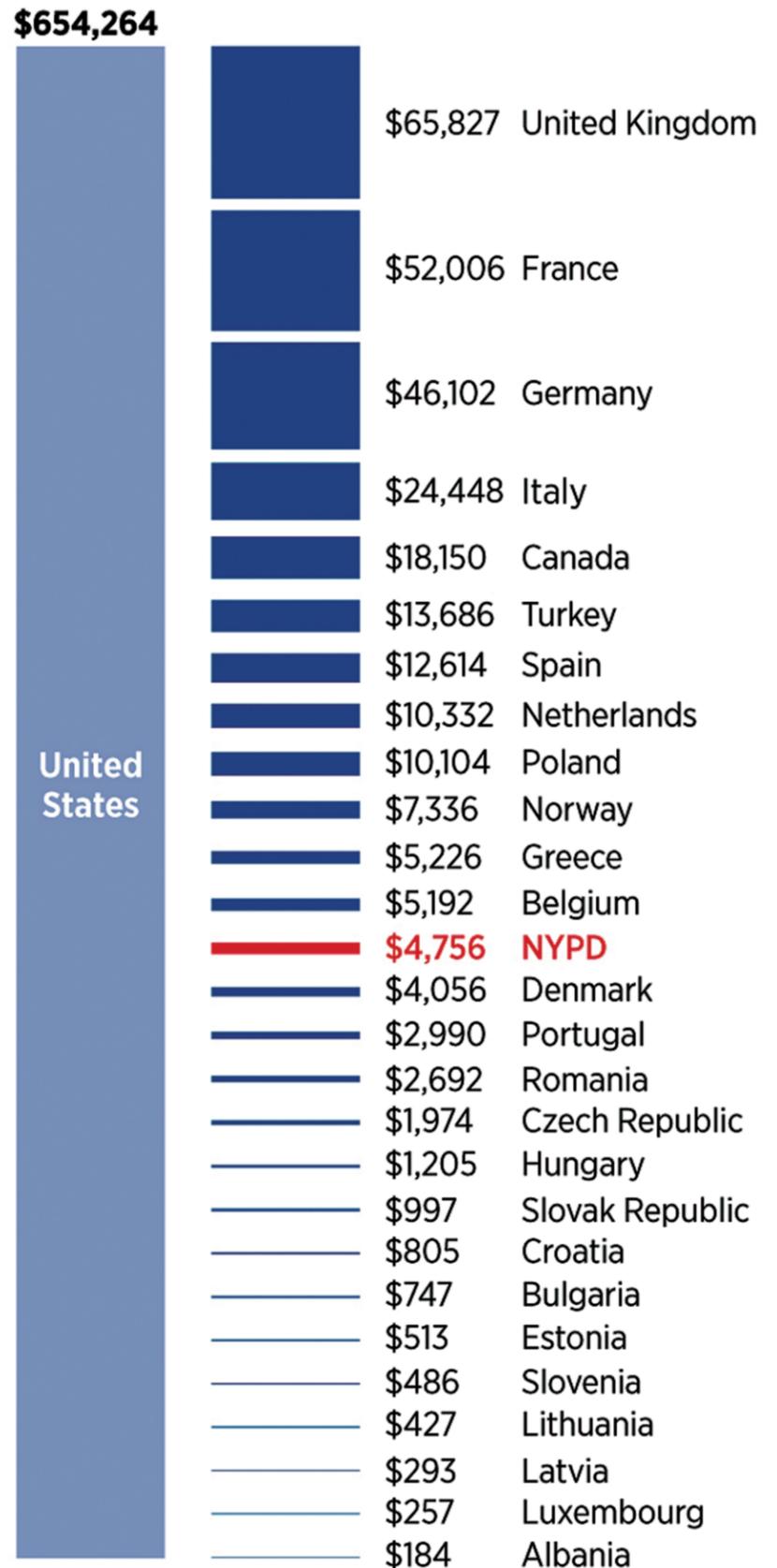
Counseling, including Quitline coaching, and medication, including NRT products like gum, lozenges and patches, are both effective in helping smokers quit. Using counseling and medication together is more effective than using either one alone. Medications can help smokers quit by decreasing urges to smoke and other withdrawal symptoms while quitting.

The most recent data shows that approximately 18 percent of Kansas adults smoke cigarettes. Smoking is the leading preventable cause of disease and death in the United States and Kansas. Smoking kills 480,000 Americans each year, and 16 million Americans live with at least one smoking-related disease.

CHART 1

Many NATO Countries Spend Less on Defense than the New York Police Department

DEFENSE SPENDING, IN MILLIONS OF 2014 DOLLARS



SOURCES: North Atlantic Treaty Organization, "Defense Expenditures Data for 2014 and Estimates for 2015," June 24, 2015, http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_120866.htm (accessed June 14, 2016), and Council of the City of New York, "Report on the Fiscal Year 2015 Executive Budget for the Police Department," May 20, 2015, <http://council.nyc.gov/downloads/pdf/budget/2015/15/eb/police.pdf> (accessed June 14, 2016).

Animal rights group: FDA's e-cigarette regulations will kill critters

Watchdog

The Food and Drug Administration's new electronic cigarette regulations may condemn countless animals to death, and might hurt humans too.

Under new rules issued by the FDA earlier this month, all e-cigarette and smokeless tobacco products will have to undergo extensive testing and earn FDA approval before they can enter or remain on the market. The new mandate is retroactive and covers all products released since 2008, a move that will add millions of dollars in compliance costs to the makers of e-cigarettes and could block 90

percent of existing products.

Gaining FDA approval for e-cigarette products will almost certainly require animal testing.

According to People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, or PETA, the FDA is encouraging e-cigarette manufacturers to meet with its Center for Tobacco Products to discuss what, if any, animal testing the agency considers "appropriate" or whether non-animal tests may be acceptable.

"The CTP will expect manufacturers to conduct animal tests in support of marketing applications," said Joseph Manuppello, senior research as-

sociate for PETA.

PETA fears that the number of animals suffering and dying in tobacco-related testing will rise dramatically. In the most common tests, rats are immobilized inside tubes and test substances are pumped directly into their noses for up to six hours each day, PETA said in a statement.

The FDA says testing and approval of e-cigarette equipment and the chemicals used in vaping is necessary to prevent misleading claims by tobacco product manufacturers, evaluate the ingredients of tobacco products and how they are made, as

well as communicate their potential risks.

"It will help us catch up with changes in the marketplace, put into place rules that protect our kids and give adults information they need to make informed decisions," said Sylvia Burwell, secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, in a statement this month announcing the new regulations.

The FDA rules for e-cigarettes include a lengthy list of expensive changes, such as mandatory warning labels and limitations on advertising and sales similar to those already in

place for tobacco products like cigarettes and cigars.

But besides potentially killing animals, the FDA's new rules for electronic cigarettes could harm humans too.

Research shows that e-cigarettes have been an effective tool for people trying to quit smoking by providing a safer alternative to lighting up.

They're not just marginally safer, either — a 2015 study from Public Health England found e-cigarettes to be 95 percent less dangerous to your health than traditional cigarettes. Opponents of regulations for e-cigarettes and other forms

of smokeless tobacco say those products have saved lives by helping decrease smoking in favor of vaping.

The entire vaping industry faces an uncertain future, though.

Electronic cigarettes did not make their debut until 2009, but classifying them under the same requirements as cigarettes will make them subject to a 2007 law requiring FDA approval for all new tobacco products. Getting approval can cost more than \$1 million per product, an amount that is simply unreasonable for many e-cigarette manufacturers.

Minutes Are Light On Detail

from page 6

10:40 AM Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

Administrative Work Session

Holeman reported the tax sale is scheduled to take place the end of September.

Pending County Projects County Counselor

1:20 PM Budget/Appropriation Request Presentations

Debbie Regester, Register of Deeds

2017 Register of Deeds & Tech Fund Budget Requests

Regester presented the Register of Deeds & Tech Fund budget requests.

Look At The Difference
Look at the difference between the City of Manhattan minutes on page 7 and 11 and the Riley County Commission minutes starting on page 6.
We may not approve of the things the City does, but they tell people what they are doing. Where the Riley County Commission works to keep citizens from knowing what they are doing.

Kevin Howser, IT/GIS Director
2017 IT/GIS Budget Request

Howser presented the IT/GIS budget request.

Lori Feldkamp, Big Lakes Developmental Center Director

2017 Big Lakes Developmental Center Appropriation Request

Feldkamp presented the Big Lakes Developmental Center appropriation request.

Greg McHenry, Appraiser
2017 Appraiser Budget Request

McHenry presented the Appraiser's budget request.

Dennis Peterson, Noxious Weed Director
2017 Noxious Weed/HHW Budget Request

Peterson presented the Noxious Weed/HHW budget request.

Shelly Williams, Community Corrections Director

2017 Community Corrections Budget Request

Williams presented the Community Corrections' budget request.

Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director

2017 Emergency Management, Rural Fire District, Rural Fire Capital Outlay, and 911 Budget Requests

P. Collins presented the Emergency Management, Rural Fire, Rural Fire Capital Outlay, and 911 budget requests.

Emily Wagner, Manhattan Emergency Shelter

2017 Manhattan Emergency Shelter Appropriation Request
Wagner presented the Man-

hattan Emergency Shelter appropriation request.

Larry Couchman, EMS Director

2017 EMS Budget Request
Couchman presented the EMS budget request.

Rich Jankovich, Aggieville Business Association

2017 Aggieville Business Association Appropriation Request

Jankovich presented the Aggieville Business Association appropriation request.

2:43 PM Adjournment
Move to adjourn.

ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
County Commissioner Boyd, Wells, Wilson

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The clubhouse is available to rent. Members cost is \$30.00. Guest cost is \$50.00. There is a required deposit of \$50.00 for all renter.

City Of Manhattan Minutes..... from page 7

(WA1604), to be paid from the Water Fund.

SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT NO. 1 – 11TH STREET AND POYNTZ AVENUE INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (ST1502)

The Commission authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a Supplemental Agreement No. 1 with the Kansas Department of Transportation for the 11th Street and Poyntz Avenue Intersection Improvement project (ST1502), increasing the amount of state aid from \$300,000.00 to \$500,000.00 to replace all four traffic signal assemblies versus two.

BOARD APPOINTMENT – SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

The Commission approved the appointment by Mayor McCulloch of Levi Smith, 1209 Bertrand Street, Apt. 3, to the Social Services Advisory Board to fill the unexpired term of Patrick McLaughlin. Mr. Smith's term begins immediately and will expire on June 30, 2017.

After discussion, Commissioner Reddi moved to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Morse seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, motion carried 5-0.

GENERAL AGENDA

ORDINANCE NO. 7218 - AMEND MANHATTAN ZONING REGULATIONS - DAYCARES

Eric Cattell, Assistant Director for Planning, presented an overview of the item.

Breva Spencer, Child Care Licensing Coordinator/Surveyor, Riley County Health Department, responded to questions from the Commission and provided additional information on the item.

Eric Cattell, Assistant Director for Planning, responded to questions from the Commission regarding the definition for the number of children in the proposed ordinance for Day Care Homes and the process necessary to override the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board.

Breva Spencer, Child Care Licensing Coordinator/Surveyor, Riley County Health Department, provided additional information on the item. She responded to questions from the Commission regarding square footage requirements based on the number of children and applicable State and local laws.

After comments from the Commission, Eric Cattell, Assistant Director for Planning, provided clarification regarding the zoning definitions.

Mayor McCulloch opened the public comments.

Hearing no comments,

Mayor McCulloch closed the public comments.

Bill Frost, Legal Counsel, and Eric Cattell, Assistant Director for Planning, provided additional information and clarification regarding the language in the proposed ordinance.

After discussion and comments from the Commission, Commissioner Dodson moved to eliminate the wording, "not related to the operator by blood, marriage, or legal adoption" from the definition. Commissioner Morse seconded the motion. After clarification on the motion, on a roll call vote, motion carried 5-0.

After additional discussion, Commissioner Dodson moved to approve, as amended, Ordinance No. 7218 amending the Manhattan Zoning Regulations Article XVI, Section 16-201 to define day care home, group day care centers, and nursery school; and to amend Article V, Use Limitations, as proposed, based on the findings in the Staff Memorandum (See Attachment No. 1) and the recommendation of the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board. Commissioner Morse seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, motion carried 5-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 7218 - AMEND MANHATTAN ZONING REGULATIONS - SIGNS

Mayor McCulloch opened the public comments.

Hearing no comments, Mayor McCulloch closed the public comments.

Commissioner Morse moved to approve Ordinance No. 7218 amending Article VI – Signs, and Article V – Home Occupations, of the Manhattan Zoning Regulations, to address the identified follow-up items, based on the findings in the Staff Memorandum (See Attachment No. 2) and the recommendation of the Planning Board. Commissioner Reddi seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, motion carried 5-0.

FIRST READING - ADOPT - 2015 INTERNATIONAL CODES AND THE 2014 NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE; MODIFY - LICENSING OF CONTRACTORS

Brad Claussen, Building Official, introduced City employees Rick Stillwagon, Fire Marshal; Ryan Courtright, Senior Plans Examiner; and Darren Emery, Senior Code Services Officer. He presented background information on the item and highlighted how International Codes are developed, the history of the Manhattan construction codes, the proposed

2015 Codes, the meetings held with various stakeholder groups, the national and local support for the proposed Code adoptions, examples of Code changes, and the proposed changes to contractor licensing. He then responded to questions from the Commission regarding the International Property Maintenance Code and provided clarification on the requirements for egress windows.

Mayor McCulloch opened the public comments.

Hearing no comments, Mayor McCulloch closed the public comments.

After discussion and comments from the Commission, Commissioner Dodson moved to approve first reading of Ordinances adopting the 2015 editions of the International Code package and 2014 National Electrical Code and amending sections of the Code of Ordinances, City of Manhattan, Kansas, relating to Buildings, Building Regulations and Fire Prevention. Commissioner Morse seconded the motion.

After additional comments from the Commission, on a roll call vote, motion carried 5-0.

FIRST READING - REZONE - INTERLACHEN VILLAS (FROM R-3, MULTIPLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, TO PUD, RESIDENTIAL PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT)

Eric Cattell, Assistant Director for Planning, presented an overview of the item. He highlighted the proposed site map and phases planned for the project, area zoning map, exterior furnishings, floorplans, and landscape plan. He informed the Commission that the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board recommended approval of the rezoning and also recommended the Commission to consider eliminating parking along Colbert Hills Drive, which would require a separate ordinance. He then responded to questions from the Commission regarding the location of sidewalks, proposed drainage, traffic circulation, parking requirements, and parking along Colbert Hills Drive.

Jeff Hancock, SMH Consultants, responded to questions from the Commission regarding the challenges with the slope of the street. He provided information on the underground drainage improvements that would be necessary.

Ryan Almes, Deputy Fire Chief, responded to questions from the Commission regarding the length of the cul-de-sac and space requirements needed for the fire department apparatus.

TJ Vilkanaskas, Applicant/

Developer, provided background information on the project and discussed the grade and plans to incorporate retaining walls and tiered systems. He then responded to questions from the Commission regarding the use of design guidelines to fit in with the character of the neighborhood.

Mayor McCulloch opened the public comments.

Hearing no comments, Mayor McCulloch closed the public comments.

After discussion and comments from the Commission, Commissioner Morse moved to approve first reading of an ordinance rezoning the Interlachen Villas PUD, generally located on the west side of Vanesta Drive, along both sides of Colbert Hills Drive from R-3, Multiple-Family Residential District, to PUD, Residential Planned Unit Development, based on the findings in the Staff Report (See Attachment No. 3) with the seven (7) conditions of approval recommended by the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board. Commissioner Reddi seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, motion carried 5-0.

Mayor McCulloch asked that City staff consider parking restrictions along Colbert Hills Drive as requested by the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board.

DISCUSSION - PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF CITY PARKING LOT - SOUTHWEST CORNER OF 12TH STREET AND BLUEMONT AVENUE INTERSECTION IN AGGIEVILLE

Jason Hilgers, Deputy City Manager, presented an overview of the history, the proposal, the potential agreement, the financial impact, and the decisions and feedback being sought from the Commission. He then responded to questions from the Commission regarding the height and set-back of the proposed building, the process available through the Board of Zoning Appeals, access from and to Bluemont Avenue, current valuation of the City-owned parking lot, and the proposed number of parking stalls that would be available in the parking garage.

After discussion and comments from the Commission, Jason Hilgers, Deputy City Manager, highlighted a seven year history of Manhattan hotels that showed the revenue per available room data. He stated that as the number of rooms has increased, the revenue

per room basically has stayed the same or climbed and that is an important statistic from the revenue side. He then responded to additional questions from the Commission regarding the net gain in public parking stalls and discussed the vision for the highest and best use for this City-owned parking lot.

Rob Ott, Director of Public Works, and Jason Hilgers, Deputy City Manager, responded to questions from the Commission regarding the capacity of the sanitary sewer, stormwater, and water main infrastructure in the area and design of the proposed parking garage.

Mayor McCulloch opened the

public comments.

Brent Bowman, BBN Architects, informed the Commission that his firm was part of the planning team for the Aggieville Master Edge Project and provided information on the proposed project. He stated that he was in attendance to listen to the comments and any concerns expressed from the Commission regarding the proposed development.

Charlie Busch, representing McCullough Development, informed the Commission that his company owns the Chinese Grocery building in the immediate area and views the pro-

See Minutes page 15

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SATURDAY, JULY 9, 2016
REAL ESTATE TO SELL AT 10:00 A.M.,
PERSONAL PROPERTY TO FOLLOW.
307 NE 14th – ABILENE, KANSAS

OPEN HOUSE – JUNE 26, 2016 – 10:30 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.

A Stuppy Classic 2000 combination building/greenhouse built in 1996. The back half of the Stuppy Classic 2000 combo is a 30' x 72' (approx. 2232 sq ft) greenhouse seamlessly connected to the front by an 8" gutter. 20' x 40' freestanding Stuppy greenhouse.

Personal Property Items: Checkout counter, Shelving & Display Units, Misc.

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(Formerly Bergstrom Greenhouse & Nursery)

AUCTION

SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2016
REAL ESTATE TO SELL AT 10:00 A.M.,
PERSONAL PROPERTY TO FOLLOW.
503 W Court St – CLAY CENTER, KANSAS

OPEN HOUSE – JUNE 26, 2016 – 12:30 P.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

Real Estate: Office/Showroom; Cambell O'Brien Greenhouse; Stuppy Greenhouse; Stuppy Classic 2000; Double car garage with shop area; Two - Stuppy Greenhouses; Ground-to-ground Greenhouse; "Gutter" house dual greenhouse.

Personal Property Items: '82 Chevy Utilimaster box van, Schaben 50 Gal Industrial Sprayer (GX160 Honda 5.5 gas powered, 82" Boom), Nations 6'x15' Enclosed Trlr, 22" Self-Propelled Mower.

See next week's Grass & Grain for complete information or go to www.MidwestLandandHome.com

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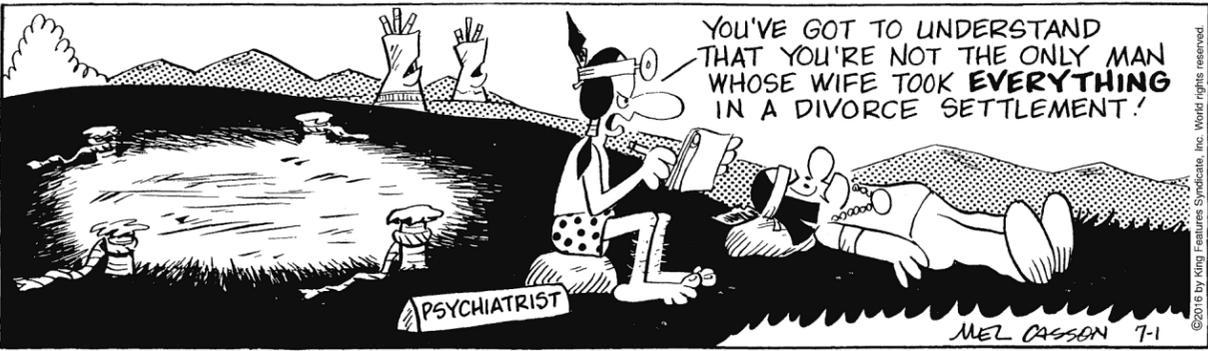
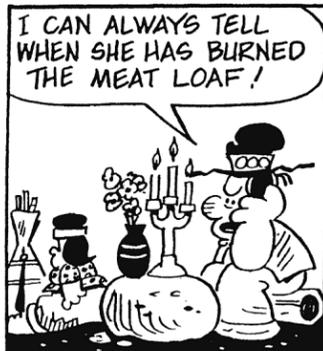
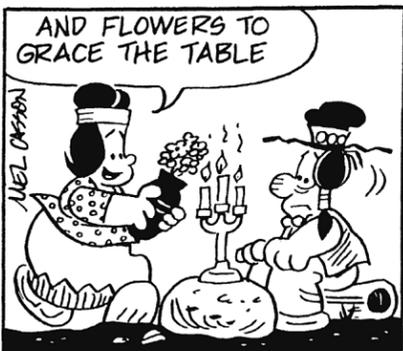
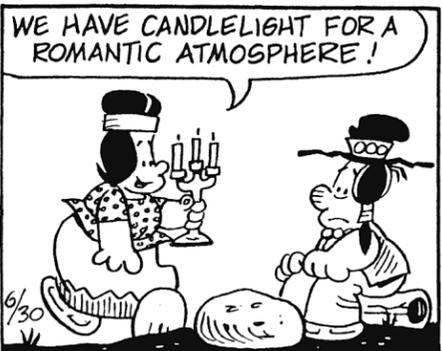
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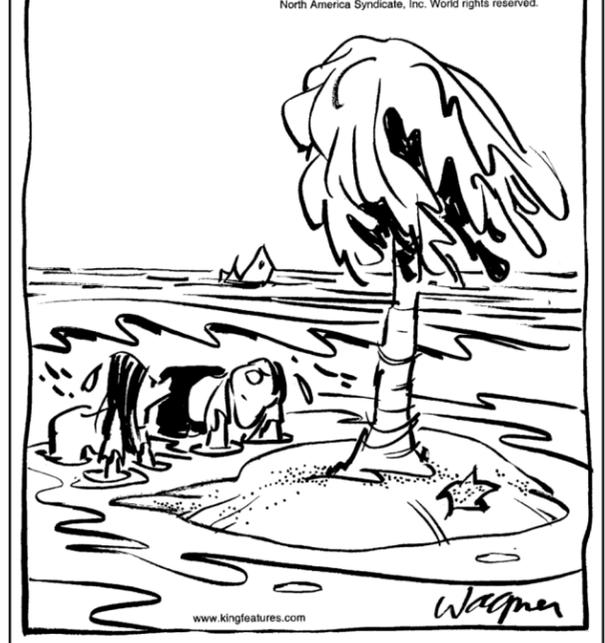


LAFF - A - DAY



"There! I bet Dad's coin collection is worth ten wishes!"

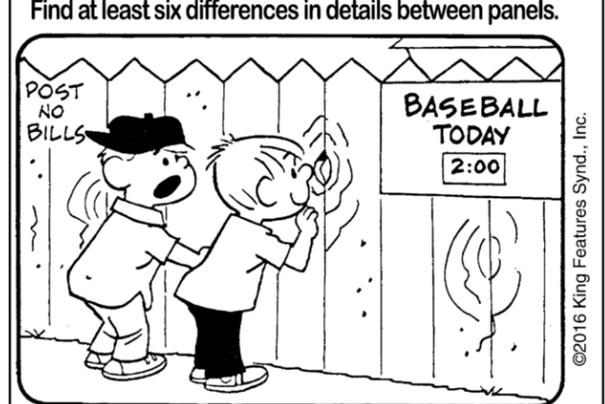
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BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



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Kansas lawmakers recall 2005 special session

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — As Kansas lawmakers prepare to start a special legislative session to address school funding, some Statehouse lawmakers who were around for a 2005 school funding special session say issues between the state Supreme Court and the Legislature still linger.

In 2005, as now, lawmakers and the state Supreme Court were at odds over which branch of government had authority to decide how schools would be

funded, The Lawrence Journal-World reported

In 2005, the court also threatened to close public schools if lawmakers refused to comply with its order. It took 11 days in the Senate and 12 days in the House before lawmakers adopted a plan the court would accept.

The special session scheduled to start Thursday was called after the high court said the state's education funding

system remains unfair to poor school districts and warned that schools might not be able to re-open after June 30 if legislators don't make changes by then.

Former Rep. Mike O'Neal, who was chairman of the House Judiciary Committee in 2005, said lawmakers and the high court had concerns then and continue to have concerns.

"It's not just school finance," O'Neal said. "But I would agree, there's been a combina-

tion of factors that has not enhanced the relationship between the Legislature and the judicial branch."

O'Neal, now president of the Kansas Chamber of Commerce, said the upcoming session could be even more contentious than the 2005 session in part because while the court threatened to close schools then, few believed the conflict would get to that point.

"For example, I don't re-

member schools publicly saying, we're looking at a contingency plan in case schools don't open," he said.

Mark Tallman, a lobbyist for the Kansas Association of School Boards, said state finances were also different in 2005, which could have led to an easier solution.

"It took a few days, but we weren't in a situation where you were just having to struggle for every dollar," he said.

Sen. Tom Holland, D-Baldwin City, agreed that tensions are higher today than they were then.

"You have a much more radicalized, anti-public education, conservative base in the Legislature now," Holland said. "This one is going to be riskier, shall we say. I don't know if these folks at the end of the day are going to listen to the courts, or die on their so-called principles."

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King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Circle portions
 - 5 Owned
 - 8 Open slightly
 - 12 Milne bear
 - 13 Eggs
 - 14 Rage
 - 15 Rewrite, maybe
 - 16 What "old soldiers" do
 - 18 Take out of context?
 - 20 Inbox fillers
 - 21 Santa's bagful
 - 23 -- -tac-toe
 - 24 All-American dessert
 - 28 Use an old phone
 - 31 Allow
 - 32 "No man is an island" writer John
 - 34 Brewery product
 - 35 Item on stage
 - 37 What George Washington couldn't do
 - 39 Central
- DOWN**
- 1 Mimicked
 - 2 Took the bus
 - 3 Slinky's shape
 - 4 Jewish village
 - 5 Treat container for 12- Across
 - 6 "Hail, Caesar!"
 - 7 Host
 - 8 Scared
 - 9 Re our legal system
 - 10 Seed covering
 - 11 Deli loaves
 - 17 911 responder (Abbr.)
 - 19 Three- -- sloth
 - 22 Tendon
 - 24 Matterhorn, for one
 - 25 Apiece
 - 26 Type of food poisoning
 - 27 Peps up
 - 29 Boxing legend
 - 30 CSA VIP
 - 33 Otherwise
 - 36 -- against (opposing)
 - 38 Infuse with CO2
 - 40 Payable
 - 42 Mop the deck
 - 43 Hammer wielder of myth
 - 44 Theatergoer's souvenir
 - 46 Enrages
 - 47 Tilt
 - 48 Connecticut campus
 - 50 A Gershwin

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R.F.D.

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Annie Get Your Gun - June 12, 2016 - June 26, 2016 - Every Sunday - Venue: Columbian Theatre, Museum and Art Center - Address: 521 Lincoln Ave, Wamego, KS 66547 - Time: Starting: 2:00 PM - Admission: \$20 adult, \$15 child/student/military - Email: boxoffice@columbiantheatre.com - Phone: 785-456-2029 - Visit Website | Send Email | Add to Itinerary - « Back to events - Details - This fictionalized account of the life of legendary sharpshooter Annie Oakley makes for an outstanding afternoon of musical theatre. Our heroine, Annie, falls in love with Frank Butler, the "swollen-headed stiff" star of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show. During their travels, Frank falls for Annie's tomboyish ways. Plagued by the trials of true love, the two must eventually accept that the show must go on. This heartwarming musical features many Broadway classics, such as "There's No Business Like Show Business," "Do-in' What Comes Natur'lly," and "Anything You Can Do."

**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 an 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.

**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 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.

**"Gems of the Muchnic"
July 27, 2016 - September 18, 2016**

Every Sunday, Wednesday, Saturday
Venue: Muchnic Art Gallery

Address: 704 N 4th St, Atchison, KS 66002

Time: From: 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Type: Events
Phone: 913-367-4278
Exhibition of the "Gems of the Muchnic" collection at the Muchnic Art Gallery.

**100th Annual Crawford County Fair
August 3 - 6, 2016**

Every Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday
Venue: Crawford County Fairgrounds
Address: 249 E. 47 Hwy, Girard, KS 66743
Time: All day activities
Type: Events
Phone: 620-724-4092
Livestock exhibitions, arts and crafts exhibitions, competition between county FFA and 4-H clubs, livestock auction, rodeo and live music.

**12th Annual Heartland Art Guild International Miniature Paintings & Sculptures Art Show
June 27, 2016 - July 28, 2016**

Recurring every 31 days
Venue: Miami County His-

torical Museum - Swan River Museum

Address: 12 E Peoria, Paola, KS 66071
Type: Events
Phone: 785-521-0449
12th Annual Heartland Art Guild International Miniature Paintings & Sculptures Art Show will be open June 27-July 29, 2016 in Paola, Ka..

**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
Type: Events
Phone: 785-472-6212
Come enjoy the Kansas countryside on your motorcycle and help a very important organization raise funds to expand their programs.

**19th Annual Amelia Earhart 2K/8K Fun Run
July 16, 2016**

Venue: City of Atchison
Address: 317 Commercial, Atchison, KS 66002
Time: Starting: 7:30 AM
Type: Events
Phone: 913-367-4948
This family friendly race begins and ends in front of the Atchison Family YMCA. The race is open to all, including strollers and wheelchairs.

**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 an weekly event that allows visitors to capture what is unique about Garnett and take a little bit of it home..

**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
Visit Website | Send Email | Add to Itinerary
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....More

**2016 Patriots Parade
July 4, 2016
Venue: Downtown**

Hutchinson

Address: Avenue B & Main & proceeds up Main to 12th Street, Hutchinson, KS 67501
Time: Starting: 10:00 AM
Type: Events
Phone: 620-662-4486
Visit Website | Add to Itinerary

Annual Patriot's Parade is sponsored by Eagle Radio. Parade starts at 10 a.m. at Avenue A & Main and will proceed up Main Street to 12...More

**2016 Sunflower State Games
July 8 - 24, 2016**

Recurring every 3 weeks
Sunday, Friday, Saturday
Venue: Sunflower State Games
Address: 501 SE Jefferson, Topeka, KS 66607
Time: Starting: 8:00 AM
Type: Events
Phone: 785-235-2295
Visit Website | Send Email | Add to Itinerary

The 2016 Sunflower State Games will take place July 8-24th in Topeka, Kansas. The 27th Annual sports festival is open to Kansans of all age.

**Cowboy Holiday
July 2, 2016**

Venue: Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve
Address: 2480 B Kansas Hwy 177, Strong City, KS 66869
Time: From: 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Type: Events
Phone: 620-273-6034
Living history characters work around the ranch doing typical ranching activities. Beginning at 2 pm, cowboys begin their holiday by readin.

**Craftapalooza Vintage Market
June 25, 2016**

Venue: Century II Performing Arts & Convention Center
Address: 225 W Douglas, Wichita, KS 67202
Time: From: 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Type: Events
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**Dennis Dunleavy Art Exhibition
June 1, 2016 - July 24, 2016**

Every Sunday, Wednesday, Saturday
Venue: Muchnic Art Gallery
Address: 704 N 4th St, Atchison, KS 66002
Time: From: 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM
Type: Events
Phone: 913-367-4278
Exhibition of the Dennis Dunleavy collection at Muchnic Art Gallery.

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City Of Manhattan Minutes from page 11

posal as an opportunity for the City to leverage their property. He stated that the area would receive additional parking and was bullish on Aggieville.

Traci Taylor, Economic Development Consultant, Aggieville Business Association, informed the Commission that the Aggieville Board of Directors appreciated the interest and focus in the Aggieville District. She addressed concerns with the proposal and asked about the adequacy of the infrastructure, the entry and exit points on Bluemont Avenue, and the traffic flow in the alley. She also asked about the designation of the public parking spots, how the hotel would monitor parking and if there would be consideration for leased parking spaces for Aggieville business owners, and if the proposal would impact the future Aggieville planning process and ongoing work being conducted. She stated that Aggieville looked forward to being a supportive partner in the planning process.

Andy Suber, co-owner, Bluemont Hotel, stated that he is a champion for the free market even if he doesn't want the competition across from his

hotel. He voiced concerns that this proposal is not on a level playing field and the City is basically giving public property to a competitor, McNeill Hotel Company, and letting them run with it. He encouraged the Commission to complete the Aggieville Master Plan first and then consider other proposals for this property if that is the direction of the Commission. He stated this proposal does not address circulation and public parking issues. He also informed the Commission that it would not be a fair process to use the Board of Zoning Appeals and the project proposal should go through a complete Planned Unit Development process.

Colin Noble, Noble Hospitality, reiterated the report provided from Julie Randall with the Convention and Visitors Bureau and stated the hotel market in Manhattan was completely saturated. He provided information on the current occupancy rate and voiced concerns with the proposed parking availability. He stated that the proposed hotel will not help Manhattan and that there are more than enough hotel rooms in Manhattan.

Brad Everett, representing

Hilton Garden Inn and owner of the Fairfield Inn, informed the Commission that this proposal will negatively impact all hotel businesses. He stated the Randall Report stated that Manhattan is overbuilt for hotels and asked the Commission to shelf this proposal for a while until the Convention and Visitors Bureau generates enough business and the hotel industry is healthy.

Hearing no other comments, Mayor McCulloh closed the public comments.

Commissioner Butler stated that he liked the basic premise of a public/private partnership; however, he said that the proposal does not meet the vision. He stated that the City needs to get a net plus of 100 parking slots and the current parking lot owned by the City would provide leverage to achieve the vision with another developer.

Jason Hilgers, Deputy City Manager, responded to questions from the Commission regarding the highest and best use for this lot and potentially other lots owned by the City in Aggieville. He highlighted the South End Redevelopment project decisions made for the hotels and parking lot.

Commissioner Dodson stated the idea of making sure this is consistent with the Aggieville business plan and the future of Aggieville is important. He stated that he believed in the free market and economic development in Manhattan, but voiced concern that another hotel would negatively impact other hotels as indicated in the report provided by Judy Randall, Randall Travel Marketing. He stated this is an economic decision, but worried a little bit about how we sustain all of this and what should the City receive for its current property. He was in support of the applicant going through the normal zoning process.

Commissioner Morse stated that she was not in support of routing the proposal through the Board of Zoning Appeals process. She expressed concerns about the imposing nature of the structure and in boxing in Aggieville by large structures. She voiced support for a public/private partnership, but stated the proposed location for this structure is a problem.

Commissioner Reddi stated that she was not in favor of the project if it doesn't make a dent in the parking concerns, especially since the selling point is increasing the capacity for parking availability in the parking garage. She stated that the Commission is not in a rush to make a decision on this because the developer may go elsewhere. She wanted to maintain the character of Aggieville.

Karen Davis, Director of Community Development, responded to questions from the Commission about the Aggieville Community Vision Plan and stated it would be finished in 2017.

Mayor McCulloh stated that she views the proposed hotel as providing what Aggieville should have as an urban area and preferred this proposal much more than a strip mall. She voiced concern about the limited public parking stalls being provided and questioned if there would be any real gain in public parking spaces or not. She stated that this development would need to go through the Planned Unit Development process.

Ron Fehr, City Manager, thanked the Commission for their feedback on the proposal.

He then responded to additional questions from the Commission.

As this was a discussion item only, no formal action was

taken on the item.

ADJOURNMENT
At 9:50 p.m., the Commission adjourned.

Classifieds

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AG Schmidt: Kansas E-book purchasers to receive \$3.8 million from Apple price-fixing case

TOPEKA – (June 20, 2016) – Kansas consumers who purchased electronic books (e-books) are expected to receive approximately \$3.8 million from a legal settlement from a price-fixing case against Apple, Inc., Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt said today.

Kansas is part of a group of 33 states to investigate and sue Apple for its participation in a conspiracy with publishers to artificially inflate e-book prices to the detriment of consumers.

The states prevailed in federal district court in New York and in the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. When the U.S. Supreme Court in March declined to hear Apple's further appeal, the current settlement became final.

In 2012 and 2013, Kansas and the other states reached settlements with five major e-book publishers – Hachette Book Group Inc., HarperCollins Publishers LLC, Simon & Schuster

Inc., Holtzbrinck Publishers, LLC, d/b/a Macmillan, and Penguin Group (USA) Inc. Kansas consumers received approximately \$1.4 million in March of 2014 as a result of those settlements. The settlement with Apple resolves the remaining price fixing claims brought against the group of companies by Schmidt and the other attorneys general.

"The distribution of these refunds brings to a close the long legal battle over e-book price fixing," Schmidt said. "These competitors together conspired to push the price of e-books higher than the market rate. While each consumer may have seen only a small price increase, altogether these companies collected millions of dollars by artificially inflating the price."

Distribution of the consumer payments should begin on June 21. The amount any individual consumer will receive depends on how many qualifying books the consumer bought. Customers who purchased e-books through Sony or Google will receive checks in the mail. Customers who purchased e-books through Amazon, Apple, Barnes & Noble, or Kobo will automatically receive credits in their accounts (unless they previously requested to receive checks). Customers receiving account credits should expect to receive an email between June 21 and June 24, indicating that the credits are available in their accounts. Because of the large number of consumers affected, it will take a few days to fully load account credits, and some consumers may not see credits in their accounts until June 24. Credits can be used to purchase anything sold by these retailers, not only e-books.

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