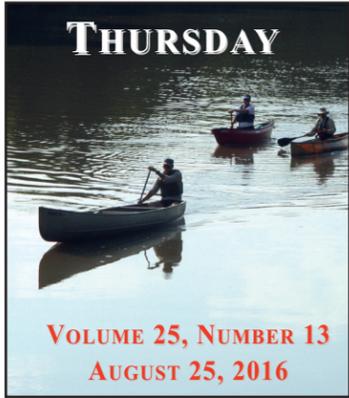


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The Good, Bad and Ugly

Editorial

By Jon A. Brake

Yes, you heard what I said:
"The Good, Bad and Ugly."

Let's take the Good first.

1. The Riley County Commission voted 2-1 to resend the Riley County Building Commission.

2. The Riley County Commission voted 2-1 to not go out for bids on four properties owned by the County: The EMS building (pictured), the Genealogical Society building, the Pawnee Mental Health building and the Plaza East building (old AT&T).

And for the Bad:

1. The Riley County Commissioners have already started talking about a new Riley County Building Commission: (August 18th Minutes page 10) "Wilson stated he believes the PBC needs more accountability measures."

"Wells stated if there is an instance when a piece of property the County wants becomes available it takes too long to have an election to purchase the property. Wells said there are 37 PBC's in the State of Kansas. Wells stated those who have opposed our PBC have only been able to tell him of one instance in one community where it did not work well."

"Boyd stated it is a good tool. Boyd said it is incumbent for



A Riley County Commissioner made an agreement (which he can not do) with Kansas State to sell the EMS building (above) along with two other buildings with the understanding that K-State would let the EMS move to the Manhattan Fire Station. It may be time for the County to hire a County Manager.

those sitting on the Board to make those decisions."

"Boyd stated without the PBC we limit our flexibility and opportunities. Boyd said we should do the right thing for the County and not the right thing to be re-elected."

(Editor's Note: Meaning that Ron Wells may have voted to resend the Building Commission because he is up for re-election in November.)

"Wilson stated he may be

supportive of a PBC if there were more accountability measures."

That is Bad, very Bad, did the Commissioners resend the Building Commission because Boyd was defeated in the August election and Ron Wells has a re-election fight in November?

And How About the Ugly?

The Riley County Commission has been making plans to move the EMS building to the

Manhattan Fire Department at 2000 Denison Ave.

At first the County voted to put four properties up for sale, and then 2 of the 3 voted to resend the offer to sell. One was the EMS building.

That is when the Mercury reported "Wells said that during recent conversations between Riley County attorney Clancy Holeman and K-State's attorney, university officials had said they wouldn't agree to

allow the county to move its EMS facilities to Manhattan Fire Department headquarter unless the county accepted K-State's bid on the Claffin properties - a pre-condition university officials indicated was agreed upon 18 months ago during a meeting with Boyd."

(Editor's Note: Commissioner Bob Boyd told the Commission two years ago (in the minutes) that the Commission needed to act as the CEO of the County and it looks like that he has been the new CEO.

According to Ron Wells quoted in the Mercury, the other two Commissioners were not told of the agreement.

That is Ugly!

Here is a question.

Why is the Manhattan Fire Department Headquarters on Kansas State University land?

Well, for those of us who have been around a long time, we can remember the University had a fire department that they had to man and equip. It was costly.

The University leased the Denison land to the City for a Fire station and the University could do away with their station.

About the same time the City was trying to get to a population

of 50,000 so that they could start bring in the big bucks from the Federal Government. At the time the University had about 20,000 students, many would call Manhattan home and some would continue calling their parents place their home.

The City of Manhattan took the University into the City but with restrictions. The University President has the right to not allow any City Ordinance that he or she does not approve of.

The University wanted all of the sales tax money generated by the University. At first the City was going to just give the money to K-State but Kansas Law prohibited it.

What is wrong with putting the EMS at the Manhattan Fire Station? It is for the City, County and Kansas State University when needed?

People running and elected to the County Commission are good people but what do they know about running a County? They may have run a business but that does not qualify them in County business. What do they know about running a County, not a thing.

It may be time for Riley County to have a County Manager. Someone who knows how a county should operate.

Ruling Undermines Obama Administration's Transgender Policy

Restrooms, locker rooms, and showers in public schools nationwide are allowed to remain separated by biological sex for the foreseeable future, a federal judge in Texas has ruled.

U.S. District Judge Reed O'Connor blocked President Barack Obama's administration's bathroom mandate on Sunday evening, hours before students in the state woke up for their first day of school.

The judge did not address the underlying policy in question, but argued the Obama administration overstepped its authority when mandating that public schools must open their restrooms, locker rooms, and showers to transgender students based on their gender identity instead of their biological sex.

"This case presents the difficult issue of balancing the pro-

tection of students' rights and that of personal privacy when using school bathrooms, locker rooms, showers, and other intimate facilities, while ensuring that no student is unnecessarily marginalized while attending school," O'Connor said. "The resolution of this difficult policy issue is not, however, the subject of this order."

The ruling is part of a challenge brought by Texas and 12 other states against the Obama administration's bathroom directive, issued on May 13 to public schools nationwide.

In court, the Obama administration argued that it didn't have to follow standard rulemaking procedures because its guidance was based on previous decisions made by other courts and agencies. O'Connor disagreed, arguing that schools would

"jeopardize their federal educational funding by choosing not to comply."

Although the order could be reversed as the case plays out in court, conservatives are calling it a "huge victory."

"This is great news out of Texas," Roger Severino, director of the DeVos Center for Religion and Civil Society at The Heritage Foundation, said. "This judgment stops the administration's ideologically driven misinterpretation of the law in its tracks and protects the safety and privacy of our children in school showers, lockers, and bathrooms. As with Obama's earlier lawless actions on immigration policy, the federal courts have once again stepped in to block the administration's brazen attempt to go around Congress and unilaterally rewrite the law."

In total, 24 states are challenging the Obama administration's controversial bathroom mandate in three different lawsuits. These states are suing the departments of Justice and Education over claims that Title IX provides protections for transgender students, thereby requiring schools to allow transgender students into the bathrooms and locker rooms based on their gender identity.

In issuing the ruling, O'Connor, who was appointed by former President George W. Bush, argued the text of Title IX "is not ambiguous" as the administration claimed.

"It cannot be disputed," O'Connor wrote, that the meaning of the term "sex" in Title IX "meant the biological and anatomical differences between male and female students as de-

termined by their birth."

Title IX is the federal statute that bans discrimination on the basis of sex in any educational institution that receives government funding.

The issue of whether Title IX applies to gender identity has divided the country, with liberals arguing that access to private facilities in accordance to a student's gender identity is a basic civil right, while conservatives say opening bathrooms, locker rooms, and showers to students of the opposite biological sex would violate the safety and privacy rights of the rest of the student body.

On Aug. 4, the Supreme Court got involved, issuing a similar ruling as the one handed down in Texas. In that case, the justices allowed a Virginia school system to temporarily keep its bathrooms separated by

biological sex until lawyers for the school district file an appeal, despite arguments that doing so would leave a transgender student, Gavin Grimm, isolated from the rest of the student body.

A lower appeals court had sided with Gavin, ruling the school must open its sex-specific facilities to students based on their gender identity.

Matt Sharp, legal counsel at Alliance Defending Freedom, said the Texas ruling—which now runs in direct opposition to the decision handed down by the U.S. District Court in Eastern Virginia—will serve as "a very important precedent" for the Supreme Court, should it decide to take on the issue.

"The big question that has been raised is, does the government have the authority to do this?" Sharp said, adding:

Kansas Profile

Verne Claussen – Mill Creek Lodge

By Ron Wilson, director of the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development at Kansas State University.

Go west of Alma a few miles and one will find a gem – not a literal jewel, but a beautiful place. It is a historic farmstead with fabulous buildings which have been painstakingly restored and repurposed, and now are open to the public for lodging and events. It's today's Kansas Profile.

Verne and Marilyn Claussen are owners of a newly opened facility called Mill Creek Lodge at Volland Point. This is on a ranch which belonged to his parents. Verne went to K-State and then Houston College of Optometry, becoming an eye doctor. After a fellowship at Yale, he came back to Kansas and bought another place near

Alma. He served as an optometrist in the region for 43 years before retiring.

Meanwhile, he was puzzling over what to do with his parent's farm. This place has a rich history. J.R. Fix and his wife Rebecca homesteaded the place in 1865 after Fix had served in the Civil War. The couple had one son who died in infancy. Then they had a daughter – and then another daughter – and then another and another. All told, there were eight daughters born to the Fix family.

This meant they needed a spacious place to live. They also needed a large barn to house the workhorses needed for the farmhands to live. The Fix family expanded the buildings through the years.

The place remains a working ranch, now known as the Claussen Ranch. But what about the buildings on the farmstead? By 2013, the barn was no longer suitable for everyday farm use, for example.

"I wanted to make it into something where people could come out and enjoy the rural lifestyle," Verne said. Verne took on a wonderful restoration of the house and buildings so as to create a place for lodging, meetings, and special events. That was the beginning of Mill Creek Lodge at Volland Point. The grouping of buildings has been designated a historic district by the National Register of Historic Places.

Since J.R. Fix and his wife had all those daughters, each daughter needed a bedroom so

the Fix family built a majestic three-story Italianate home. "The house was in real good shape," Verne said.

In 2015, Verne restored the house with heating, air conditioning, and modern plumbing and electricity. He also brought in period chandeliers and antique furniture. Verne named each one of the guest rooms for the daughter who lived there. So, guests can stay in the Pearl bedroom or the Mabel bedroom, for example. There is no doubt about which room is which – those two daughters actually carved their names into the wood floor.

The nearby tenant house for the farmhands was restored and expanded also. Then came the barn, which received a total makeover. The exterior look

was largely preserved, but windows, heat and air conditioning, water and bathrooms were installed.

"The barn had been built in two phases," Verne said. "The first part was to hold the horses, hay and wagons, and the second part was a corn crib to the west." Verne remembers putting hay in this barn as a kid. Now the barn has been converted into a thoroughly modern but rustic-looking meeting area with multiple restrooms. The hayloft area can hold up to 250 people and the horse stall area can hold another 100. The northside of the old corn crib is now a receiving kitchen for caterers, and the south side is a bunkhouse. A springfed, hand-dug well is inside a cave nearby.

Mill Creek Lodge at Volland Point is now host to weddings, meetings, family reunions, and hunting in season. Up to 29 people can stay there overnight. The lodge is located 7 1/2 miles west of the rural community of Alma, population 785 people. Now, that's rural. More information can be found at .

Go west of Alma a few miles and one will find a gem – not a literal jewel, but a beautiful place. We salute Verne and Marilyn Claussen for making a difference by restoring and repurposing these historic buildings in rural Kansas. I think it is a treasure.

The Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development, this is Ron Wilson with Kansas Profile.

Complaint: Rule discriminates against minority players

By ROXANA HEGEMAN Associated Press

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — A rule adopted during the desegregation era in Kansas to limit out-of-state players on community college basketball and football teams discriminates against minority students, complaints filed with the NAACP allege.

The Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference, an athletic conference composed of 19 Kansas community colleges, earlier this month rejected efforts to throw the rule out. The conference rule now limits community colleges to 20 out-of-state players on their football teams and eight on their basketball rosters. Kansas has had some version of those out-of-state limitations since the early 1960s.

Supporters contend that the rule protects opportunities for Kansas students, boosting their chances of getting a college education on athletic scholarships. Opponents contend it discriminates against the mostly black out-of-state players, noting some community colleges are struggling to fill their team rosters with Kansas players and many athletic scholarships go unclaimed.

At least four other states — Texas, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Iowa — have similar rules, said Jeffrey Sims, head football coach at Garden City Community College.

Sims has been joined by 49 players in filing individualized discrimination complaints with the NAACP about the conference rule, which he contends is unconstitutional and violates the Civil Rights Act. About 90 percent of the out-of-state athletes recruited by Kansas community colleges are black.

KJCCC Commissioner Bryce Roderick said its funding

comes from Kansas and the league is responsible to taxpayers to offer opportunities to in-state students.

"We are not discriminating," Roderick said. "We are saying this is what we believe the mixture of in-state and out-of-state athletes should be in those two sports."

But Sims contends the underpinnings of the rule date back to the 1950s when there was "a gentlemen's agreement" that Kansas community colleges would not actively recruit out-of-state athletes, especially minorities, Sims said. Some community colleges balked and began recruiting more players from outside the state — and winning more games — prompting the conference to adopt the rule, he said.

"Out-of-stater is a code word for a minority," Sims said.

When a proposal to eliminate the out-of-state limitations was raised at an Aug. 2 KJCCC meeting, its opponents argued more out-of-state players would hurt Kansas students. The

measure was defeated 10-8.

"It is taking a scholarship opportunity away," said Alan Schuckman, head football coach at Bishop Carroll High School in Wichita. He said he was disappointed the issue has gone "to a different level."

NAACP representative Eric Pettus said his organization is coordinating with various attorneys to review the complaints and consider its legal options. He said the group has been working with Sims for about a year trying to peacefully resolve the dispute without litigation, but now that the complaints have been filed the case will get "a bit more interesting."

The out-of-state rule has been a "cash cow" for Kansas community colleges because their coaches typically recruit far more players than they can possibly place in their limited out-of-state roster spots, Pettus said. Those students, who typically also get government financial aid, are then trapped at a college where they can't play on the team.

"You are selling them ... the dream of going and playing at a higher level after they didn't either have the academics or they didn't have the stats or the film or the whatever and didn't get recruited" by the major universities, Pettus said. "You are selling them the opportunity for a second shot of getting to college, which ultimately gets them to the NFL or the NBA."

Out-of-state athletes recruited with scholarship offers are allowed to keep them for one year, even if they don't make one of the out-of-state spots on the teams, Roderick said.

Among those students who

filed a complaint with the NAACP was Jordan Johnson, a Garden City Community College student who came to Kansas from Yeadon, Pennsylvania. He wrote in it that junior colleges in his home state with football programs cost a lot of money to attend, noting also that he wanted to get out of

Pennsylvania and see a different side of America.

"I believe I should be able to do that and pursue my dreams," Johnson said. "I would rather be told that I wasn't good enough to make a team than that I cannot play because of the color of my skin and where I



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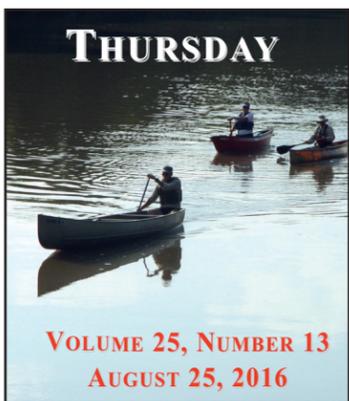
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"Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."
- Thomas Jefferson, 1787



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Kansas asks court to exclude voters over citizenship proof

DENVER — Kansas is asking a federal appeals court to keep thousands of people who haven't yet provided the documents to prove they are U.S. citizens from voting in November's election.

Judges from the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver are set to hear arguments Tuesday in the legal fight over how the state enforces its proof-of-citizenship requirement for voters who register at motor vehicle offices.

Since 1993, states must allow people to register to vote when they apply for or renew their driver's licenses. The so-called motor-voter law says that people can only be asked for "minimal information" when registering to vote, allowing them to simply affirm they are citizens.

A federal judge in May temporarily blocked Kansas from disenfranchising about 18,000 who registered to vote at motor vehicle offices without providing citizenship paperwork such as birth certificates or naturalization papers. U.S. District Judge Julie Robinson ordered the state to register them for federal elections until the case, one of at least four the state is facing over its law, is decided at trial. The state has said that ruling could affect as many as

50,000 potential voters by the November elections.

Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach wants the appeals court to overturn her preliminary order.

In the appeal, Kobach, a national leader in Republican voting requirement efforts, argued that the motor voter law doesn't bar states from asking for proof of citizenship and that it doesn't make sense to hold people who register to vote elsewhere in the state to a higher standard than those who apply to register at motor vehicle offices.

The American Civil Liberties Union sued on behalf of the League of Women Voters and people whose registrations were held up because the state said they were incomplete.

Kobach has championed the documentation requirement as a way to prevent non-citizens from voting, particularly immigrants who are in the U.S. illegally. Critics contend the requirement suppresses turnout.

Robinson said evidence in the case shows only three instances

in Kansas where noncitizens voted in a federal election between 1995 and 2013, and about 14 noncitizens attempted to register during that time. Robinson said the number of people disenfranchised outweighed the harm of those cases.

While people getting new licenses are asked to show proof that they are in the country legally, the ACLU says clerks in motor vehicle offices don't always tell people seeking license renewals that they need to provide documents proving their U.S. citizenship to register to vote and that many leave the motor vehicle office mistakenly believing they are registered. Some of the people the ACLU represents said they later got postcards notifying them that they had to provide proof of citizenship, but one man went to the polls on election day only to find out he wasn't registered.

Alabama, Arizona and Georgia have similar registration requirements on the books, but Alabama and Georgia are not currently enforcing them. Arizona does not require additional citizenship papers from people registering at motor vehicle offices beyond what's required to get a driver's license.

Book reveals Kansas serial killer's plans for 11th victim

WICHITA, Kan. — The BTK serial killer planned to kill an 11th victim by hanging her upside down in her Wichita, Kansas, home, according to a new book by a professor of forensic psychology. It's a story police heard from Dennis Rader himself in 2005, but decided at the time to suppress to protect the woman.

The story was made public in "Confession of a Serial Killer: The Untold Story of Dennis Rader, the BTK Killer," which has a scheduled release date of Sept. 6. The book was written by Katherine Ramsland, a professor at DeSales University in Pennsylvania who worked with Rader on it under an agreement that proceeds from its sale goes to the victims' families trust

fund.

Lust and a desire for fame and power drove Rader — he called himself BTK for "bind, torture and kill" — to murder 10 people in Wichita from 1974 to 1991, according to the book's author.

Wichita police detectives who captured Rader in 2005 told the Wichita Eagle they are incensed with the pride he exhibits as he goes into detail about the tortures he planned to inflict on the 11th victim. He was arrested before he was able to carry out the murder.

"For him to reveal this information now is cruel," said Tim Relph, a former BTK task force investigator.

Relph and fellow task force investigator Kelly Otis said the

book allows Rader to carry out one more act of horror.

Rader wrote three and a half pages of the book about his plans for his last kill. "This was supposed to be my opus, my grand finale, and to make it different, I would set the house on fire using propane canisters," he wrote.

He said he got into the woman's backyard and knocked on her door, but aborted his plan when a city street crew showed up unexpectedly to work outside the house. He planned to kill her the following spring, but was arrested in February 2005.

Otis said the problem with anything Rader says is that most of it is fantasy, although police found that a street crew

did show up outside her house on Oct. 22, 2004.

Police said they suppressed most of the details of the planned murder for 11 years because they feared what the shock of a public revelation might do to the woman. But authorities did inform the woman after finding out that defense attorneys for Rader had hired investigators who

might contact her.

"She's a pretty tough lady, but this shook her up quite a bit," Relph said.

Rader's daughter, Kerri Rawson, told the newspaper that her father cooperated on the book because he's proud of his murders. She said the book feeds his ego and his narcissism, and disputed some of the accounts of his family life in the book.

"He's a psychopath," she said. "You can't take anything he says as truth."

Ramsland said the purpose of her book was to give criminologists, forensic psychologists and others some insights into a serial killer's mind by relating the stories he tells and how he tells them.

Obama administration to phase out some private prison use

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration is phasing out its use of some private prisons, affecting thousands of federal inmates and immediately sending shares of the two publicly traded prison operators plunging.

In a memo Thursday to the Bureau of Prisons, Deputy Attorney General Sally Yates told the bureau to start reducing "and ultimately ending" the Justice Department's use of private prisons. The announcement follows a recent Justice Department audit that found that the private facilities have more safety and security problems than government-run ones.

The Obama administration says the declining federal prison population justifies the decision to eventually close privately run prisons. The federal prison population _ now at

193,299 _ has been dropping due to changes in federal sentencing policies over the past three years. Private prisons hold about 22,100 of these inmates, or 12 percent of the total prison population, the Justice Department said.

The policy change does not cover private prisons used by Immigration and Customs Enforcement, which hold up to 34,000 immigrants awaiting deportation.

"Private prisons served an important role during a difficult period, but time has shown that they compare poorly to our own Bureau facilities," Yates wrote in a memo to the acting director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons. As private prison contracts come to an end, the bureau is not to renew the contract or it should at least "substantially" reduce its scope, Yates wrote. She did not specify a timeline

for when all federal inmates would be in government-owned facilities.

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton has said the U.S. should move away from using private facilities to house inmates. On Thursday, she tweeted: "Glad to see that the Justice Department is ending the use of private prisons. This is the right step forward."

The Clinton campaign has said it no longer accepts contributions from private prison interests, and if it receives such a contribution, it will donate that money to charity. The private prison industry is a major contributor to Republican political campaigns, particularly in recent years. GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump has said he supports the use of private prisons.

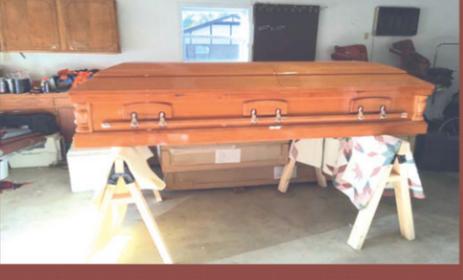
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Almost Everything the Media Tell You About Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Is Wrong

Heritage Foundation

A major new report, published today in the journal *The New Atlantis*, challenges the leading narratives that the media has pushed regarding sexual orientation and gender identity.

Co-authored by two of the nation's leading scholars on mental health and sexuality, the 143-page report discusses over 200 peer-reviewed studies in the biological, psychological, and social sciences, painstakingly documenting what scientific research shows and does not show about sexuality and gender.

The major takeaway, as the editor of the journal explains, is that "some of the most frequently heard claims about sexuality and gender are not supported by scientific evidence."

Here are four of the report's most important conclusions:

The belief that sexual orientation is an innate, biologically fixed human property—that people are 'born that way'—is not supported by scientific evidence.

Likewise, the belief that gender identity is an innate, fixed human property independent of

biological sex—so that a person might be a 'man trapped in a woman's body' or 'a woman trapped in a man's body'—is not supported by scientific evidence.

Only a minority of children who express gender-atypical thoughts or behavior will continue to do so into adolescence or adulthood. There is no evidence that all such children should be encouraged to become transgender, much less subjected to hormone treatments or surgery.

Non-heterosexual and transgender people have higher rates of mental health problems (anxiety, depression, suicide), as well as behavioral and social problems (substance abuse, intimate partner violence), than the general population. Discrimination alone does not account for the entire disparity.

The report, "Sexuality and Gender: Findings from the Biological, Psychological, and Social Sciences," is co-authored by Dr. Lawrence Mayer and Dr. Paul McHugh. Mayer is a scholar-in-residence in the Department of Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins University and a professor of statistics and biostatistics at Arizona State University.

McHugh, whom the editor of *The New Atlantis* describes as "arguably the most important American psychiatrist of the last half-century," is a professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and was for 25 years the psychiatrist-in-chief at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. It was during his tenure as psychiatrist-in-chief at Johns Hopkins that he put an end to sex reassignment surgery there, after a study launched at Hopkins revealed that it didn't have the benefits for which doctors and patients had long hoped.

Implications for Policy

The report focuses exclusively on what scientific research shows and does not show. But this science can have implications for public policy.

The report reviews rigorous research showing that 'only a minority of children who experience cross-gender identification will continue to do so into adolescence or adulthood.'

Take, for example, our nation's recent debates over transgender policies in schools. One of the consistent themes of the report is that science does not support the claim that "gender

identity" is a fixed property independent of biological sex, but rather that a combination of biological, environmental, and experiential factors likely shape how individuals experience and express themselves when it comes to sex and gender.

The report also discusses the reality of neuroplasticity: that all of our brains can and do change throughout our lives (especially, but not only, in childhood) in response to our behavior and experiences. These changes in the brain can, in turn, influence future behavior.

This provides more reason for concern over the Obama administration's recent transgender school policies. Beyond the privacy and safety concerns, there is thus also the potential that such policies will result in prolonged identification as transgender for students who otherwise would have naturally grown out of it.

The report reviews rigorous research showing that "only a minority of children who experience cross-gender identification will continue to do so into adolescence or adulthood." Policymakers should be con-

cerned with how misguided school policies might encourage students to identify as girls when they are boys, and vice versa, and might result in prolonged difficulties. As the re-

port notes, "There is no evidence that all children who express gender-atypical thoughts or behavior should be encouraged to become transgender."

Man whose dad was killed gets death-row scholarship

JOPLIN, Mo. (AP) — A young Kansas man whose father was gunned down nearly eight years ago in a hotel parking lot is getting a tuition boost from an unusual source as he heads into his freshman year at a Missouri college.

Colby Leeper has been awarded a \$1,500 scholarship from a nonprofit organization run by death row inmates, the Joplin Globe (<http://bit.ly/2b9STRb>) reported.

The organization, Compassion, decides who gets the awards after reviewing essays the applicants submit. The money is raised through donations and the sale of inmate art.

Leeper already has track-and-field and academic scholarships to attend Missouri Southern State University in

Joplin.

Leeper's dad, Edward "Brian" Leeper Jr., was 33 in November 2008 and had been staying in a second-story room at the Stratford House Inn in Wichita when he came out onto the balcony and then walked down to the parking lot around 11:30 p.m.

A car pulled up and a witness heard five shots ring out.

The driver, Josh Matchett, was later convicted of voluntary manslaughter and is serving a 20-year sentence, Colby Leeper said.

Leeper still remembers his shock when his mother pulled him out of his fifth-grade classroom and told him about his dad. He said he still doesn't know why Matchett killed his father.

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Washington Can't Fix Broken Policing

By Tim Lynch
CATO Institute

It has been one year since Freddie Gray died while in the custody of the Baltimore Police Department. Gray's death sparked peaceful protests and then calamitous riots that brought international attention and prompted the deployment of National Guard units. While local prosecutors indicted the officers involved in Gray's arrest, the federal government promised to investigate the entire police department for a "pattern or practice" of constitutional violations. The impending outcome of that inquiry seems foreordained. The real question is whether federal monitoring can truly fix a broken police department. The conventional wisdom is that it can, but experience tells us that it can be counterproductive.

Since the Ferguson riot in 2014, police departments across the country have been under unprecedented scrutiny. When a pattern of wrongdoing or dysfunction is exposed, we hear a familiar refrain: this department is so bad that it is incapable of correcting itself, so federal intervention is necessary. After some initial resistance, the city of Ferguson has now agreed to a federal monitor. Last week, Newark also agreed to a federal monitor, to oversee its troubled police force. The Justice Department has also investigated and instituted reforms in many of the United States' big-city police departments—Los Angeles, New Orleans, Detroit, Cleveland and Pittsburgh, to name a few.

Clearly, police misconduct is more widespread than many want to admit. In Chicago, the shooting death of Laquan McDonald, caught on camera, has roiled minority neighborhoods because they see it as only the most recent episode of police wrongdoing there. It is safe to say that other cities may be one incident away from similar unrest.

Mayors and city councils don't want police misconduct to occur, but in too many cities they let the problem fester. To the extent that they're even paying attention, the typical political calculation seems to be this: it's better to have the support of the police department and police union come election time, so don't take steps that they will oppose.

There is, however, a cost to that political calculation: minority resentment toward city government—especially the police. After all, the victims of illegal detention, illegal searches and excessive force have friends, neighbors and relatives. And when bad cops are not dealt with, it is not unfair to conclude that the department itself is indifferent to injustice. This explains the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement.

When a shocking incident of police misconduct comes along, the fecklessness of local governance is exposed in the glare of the media spotlight. Suddenly, reporters are asking pointed questions. Exactly how many people have been shot by the

police department? Why was video evidence withheld from the public? What accountability systems are in place to track and remove problem officers?

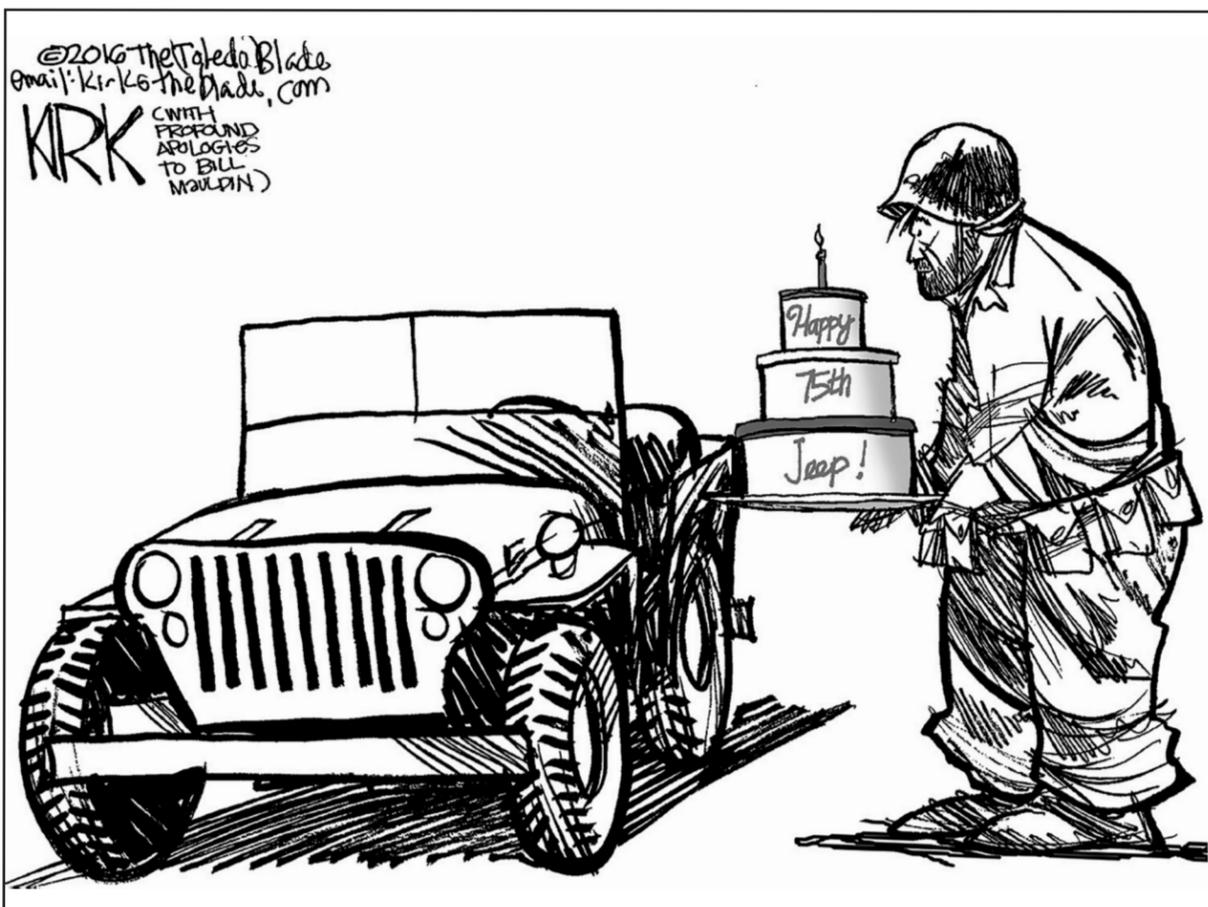
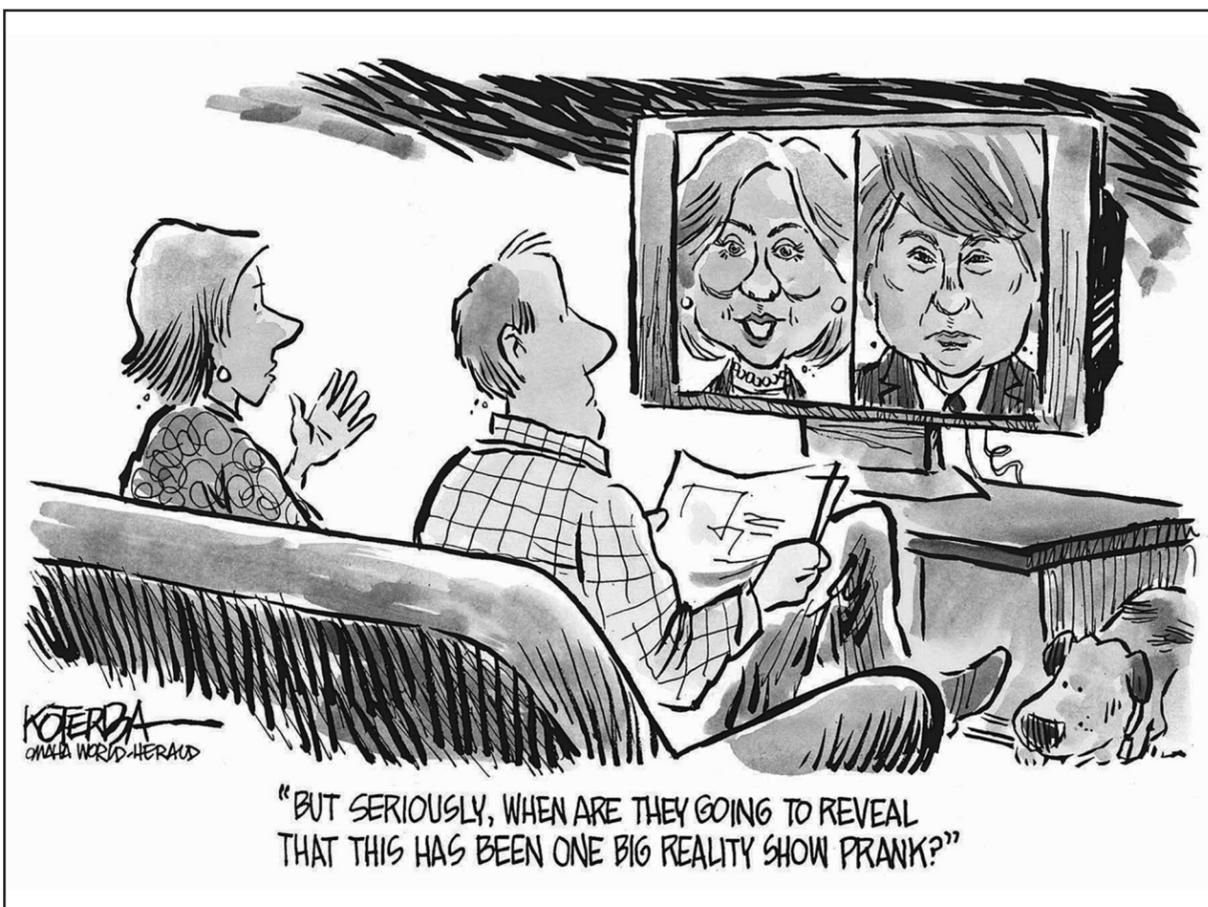
The optimal moment for police reform comes in the immediate aftermath of a police scandal. The public is aroused, and if the problems run deep into the department itself, voters want those problems corrected. Local politicians find themselves on the spot. They can't afford to appear uninterested, but they'd rather not fight the police department either. Instead of rolling up their sleeves to make some politically difficult decisions, they posture as reformers by joining the chorus calling for a federal civil rights investigation.

When the feds do intervene, everyone seems to be pleased. The heat is off the local officials to address police misconduct. They say they'll have to await the outcome of the federal investigation before taking any action. Federal officials are pleased because they are seen as the cavalry coming to the rescue. Civil rights activists are satisfied because they think a federal lawsuit will bring about needed reforms. The police department and police union benefit as well. The intense media scrutiny will now fade as the months roll past.

Unfortunately, federal intervention has a counterproductive "enabling" effect: it allows local officials to evade their responsibility to fix broken police organizations. When the local politicians make a plea for federal intervention, it deflects attention away from their oversight failure and actually squanders the prospect for sweeping changes at a pivotal moment.

There is a borderline reverence for federal intervention among academics and journalists, which has blinded them to political dynamics that should strike us as odd. On the surface, it appears as if the feds are imposing wide-ranging reforms on local officialdom. In truth, however, the local officials chose that outcome once the feds were invited in. Here's the quandary: the local politicians had the capability to enact reforms all along, so why didn't they embrace such measures to head off a federal lawsuit? Experience has shown, time and again, that local officials would rather cope with federal monitors than fight powerful police unions.

Federal monitors have not succeeded where local officials are intransigent about reform. Arizona's Joe Arpaio, sheriff of Maricopa County, is an example. Arpaio may lose a case in court, but he remains defiant and wins reelection. There have been improvements in the cities with reform-minded mayors and police chiefs—but in those cases, federal monitors were never really necessary. The monitors merely provided the local officials with additional political leverage against the police lobby. Local political fights, however, should not be considered an appropriate basis for federal lawsuits and federal takeovers of local police operations.



County Minutes Are Light On Detail



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.

Riley County Commission Minutes

August 15, 2016

8:30 AM Call to
Order

2. Commission Comments

Wilson's Comments:
Over the past few days I received several emails and talked with folks about various issues, especially the potential building sales and the Green-Randolph bridge project.

I also looked at some houses and met with a home loan officer.

Boyd's Comments:

Wednesday 08.03.16

-My wife and I departed for a river cruise through southern France. We flew out of Cincinnati direct to Paris on Delta, then flew to Lyon on Air France. In Lyon we met up with old airline friends for their first river cruise. We cruised on the Rhone and Saone rivers and the Beaujolais wine country. It was a great time of good wine, food, friendship while learning of the history, art, economics and topography of the region.

Friday 08.12.16

-Departed Marseille to Paris for the flight home. Delta had a computer outage earlier in the week, however our flights to Atlanta then Kansas City operated normally. We arrived home Saturday.

-Sunday 08.14.16

-Worked on correspondence and preparations after church, then again in the evening.

Wells' Comments:

Wells said he spent quite a bit

of time discussing the pending sale of county buildings, PBC and the Randolph bridge replacement project.

Business Meeting

3. Sign Riley County Personnel Action Form(s)

The Board of County Commissioners signed Riley County Personnel Action Forms for the following:

Shannon Wertzberger, an Administrative Analyst-Levy, in the County Clerk's Office, for Separation from County Service, effective October 7, 2016.

DeAnn Breault, for a promotion, as an Administrative Analyst II-Levy, in the County Clerk's Office, at a grade L step 1, at \$18.85 per hour.

Krystian Urquilla, a new hire, as a Temporary Election Worker (as needed through November Election process), in the County Clerk-Elections Department, at a step 3, at \$8.82 per hour.

4. Courthouse Security Project- Change Order No. 3

Move to approve Change Order No. 3 with KBS Constructors, Inc. for the Courthouse Security Project in the amount of \$23,126.35 for a new contract amount of \$486,336.35.

RESULT:
ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd,
County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ronald Wells,
County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

5. Sign Riley County Position Action Form(s)

The Board of County Com-

missioners signed a Riley County Position Action Form for a Records Assistant II, in the County Clerk's Office, at a grade H.

6. Discuss Intergovernmental Luncheon for Monday, August 22nd

7. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Aug 11, 2016 8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes.

RESULT: ACCEPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd,
County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ronald Wells,
County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

8. Tentative Agenda

9. Discuss Press Conference

9:00 AM Tami Robison,
Budget and Finance Officer

10. 2017 Riley County Budget Hearing

Robison presented the 2017 Riley County Budget.

Wilson opened the Public Hearing for the 2017 Riley County Budget.

No public comment.

Wilson closed the Public Hearing for the 2017 Riley County Budget.

Move to sign the 2017 Riley County Budget as published in the amount of \$49,953,817.

RESULT: ADOPTED [2 TO 1]

MOVER: Robert Boyd,
County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ronald Wells,
County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells
NAYS: Wilson

Move to approve the 2017 Riley County Agency appropriations as listed below:

AGENCY: FINAL:
Emergency Shelter

\$ 10,000
Genealogical Society

\$ 2,000
Animal Shelter \$ 55,000

Riley County Extension
\$ 559,761

Riley County Council on
Aging \$ 250,000

Pawnee Mental Health
\$ 250,000

Big Lakes Development
\$ 213,000

Riley County Conservation
District \$ 55,136

ATA Bus \$ 120,000

Downtown Manhattan Inc.
\$ 3,000

Chamber of Commerce
\$ 40,000

Governor's Military Council
\$ 4,500

Flint Hill's Veteran's Coalition
\$ 800

Aggieville Business Association
\$ 2,000

Flint Hills Regional Transit
Admin \$ 9,540

Riley County General Eco

Devo \$ 89,922
RESULT: ADOPTED

[UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd,
County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ronald Wells,
County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

9:15 AM Lyle Butler, Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce

11. Economic development update

Butler discussed workforce development.

Armbrust reported there are three job fair opportunities in our community: August 25th a Part-time Employee Fair will be held at KSU from 10 am-3 pm., All University Career Fair September 20th-22nd, and a 2016 Statewide Job Fair in Junction City Tuesday, September 27th.

Butler discussed the need to have a good "Quality of Place" as the primary emphasis of young people wanting to move to communities.

9:30 AM Press Conference

12. Medicare Basics Program - Jennifer Wilson (3 minutes)

Wilson reported an upcoming Extension Program "Medicare Basics" will be held Thursday, August 25th at Pottorf Hall, CiCo Park from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

9:45 AM Board of County Commissioners

13. Discuss Notice of Sale of County Buildings

Wells asked the Chairman to have the floor for a minute, since he requested the item be placed on the agenda.

Wells stated he has never been in favor of the sale of the buildings, since it would take more than 12 months to construct another facility. Wells stated he is opposed to renting space for employees to use temporarily.

Wells said he is also opposed to linking the move of our EMS facilities to the sale of the Riley County properties.

Move to not sell the four properties: Courthouse Plaza East Building (CPE); Emergency Medical Services (EMS); Riley County Genealogical Society; and Pawnee Mental Health at this time and not list or publish the properties for sale.

RESULT: DOPTE [2 TO 1]

MOVER: Ronald Wells,
County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ben Wilson,
County Commissioner

AYES: Wells, Wilson
NAYS: Boyd

Michie stated there is no Exhibit A on the sale documents for the three properties on Clafin.

Michie discussed the historic value of the Genealogical

Building. Michie asked why the sale of the facilities is proposed in the first place.

Holeman stated a complete legal description of the facilities to be sold will be included in the sale documents.

Holeman said the preservation plan would be established by the Board.

Rodriguez stated his concern and asked where the Board is going to put everybody. Rodriguez said since there is nothing written down on where things will be placed it should not be sold at this time. Rodriguez said he does not support Kansas State University's attempt to "blackmail" the County to sell the properties to them.

Borst said it does seem the notice of intent to sell is premature and needs more public input. Borst stated having an ambulance station on non-county owned property does not seem as secure as being placed on county owned property. Borst stated he is also concerned with the relationship to the Pawnee Mental Health facility.

G. Rose discussed the value of the Genealogical Society. Rose said the Genealogical Society is a volunteer organization and operates on a shoestring budget and could not afford to purchase the facility. Rose stated if the facility is sold to a private organization such as KSU, the Genealogical Society's fate would no longer be decided by a public body.

Wells stated the reason for

the move of the EMS facility is due to the temporary nature of the current facility when it was built. Wells said his whole goal was to move the EMS facility.

Boyd stated the Board agrees with Michie's concerns of the unknowns. Boyd stated the Board is hoping to get more insight and that is the reason a lot of conditions have been placed on the sale of the facilities.

Boyd said Kansas State is not at all interested in a "quid quo pro". Boyd said KSU does have plans, which may put the properties back on the tax roll. Boyd stated KSU is one of our community partners. Boyd stated placing the items up for sale allows for the Board to receive input without giving up the right to reject the sale. Boyd agrees we need public input.

Boyd agreed with Borst's concerns of the close proximity of the EMS facility in regards to the NBAF facility. Boyd stated Pawnee is comfortable with the time frame the Board has proposed.

Boyd thanked Rose for his input and stated the Board does not want to sever the relationship with the Genealogical Society.

Wilson stated the Board would prefer to be in one centrally located facility for all county offices. Wilson said the Board needs to do their due diligence in exploring the options. Wilson stated if the facilities were sold we do need a longer time frame to discuss the needs.

See Page 7

Hometown Cafe

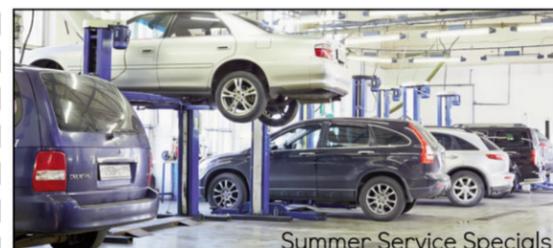
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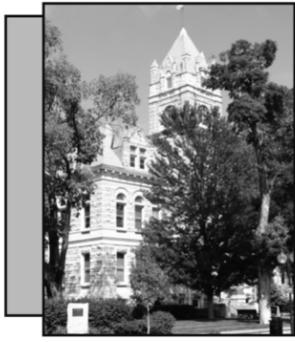
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Riley County Commission Minutes

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.

Continued from page 6

Wilson said EMS should be moved to the fire station as the location would be much better. Wilson stated he is not necessarily opposed to the sale of any of the properties, but he sees no immediate reason to sell at this time with a new commissioner coming on in January. Wilson said this would allow the County to develop a plan on how to proceed. Wilson stated at this time he is willing to wait on selling the properties.

Boyd stated three years ago the Board agreed to not make improvements to the CPE Building. Boyd asked if the Board is willing to make the improvements to the CPE Building.

Wells stated one maybe two new commissioners will be coming on board and they should be the ones making the decision.

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

14. Administrative Work Session
Holeman asked the Board to table the executive session.

The Board agreed by consensus.

Holeman stated the Board had previously instructed him to get a fee appraisal of the CPE Building. Holeman asked if the Board wants him to proceed with the fee appraisal.

The Board agreed by consensus to not proceed with the fee appraisal of the CPE Building.

15. Pending County Projects
County Counselor

16. Executive session to discuss a performance matter involving non-elected personnel

Tabled by the Board

17. Review Notices of Intent to Sell County Buildings

10:30 AM Brad Waller, Al-

fred Benesch and Co.

18. Work Session for Marlatt/Denison reconstruction
Waller discussed the Marlatt/Denison reconstruction project. Waller stated today he will be asking for consensus on the plans for the Marlatt/Denison reconstruction project.

Johnson said the City of Manhattan staff concurs with Benesch and Riley County staffs recommendations.

Waller reported the cost estimate is \$4,320,000.

Waller estimated the construction to begin in the spring of 2018.

The Board asked for cost estimates on closing off the access points as opposed to keeping them open.

The Board agreed by consensus with the proposed plans for the Marlatt/Denison reconstruction project.

11:00 AM Shilo Heger, Treasurer

19. July 2016 Revenue Reporting - Riley County Treasurer

Heger presented the August 2016 Treasurer's report.

11:15 AM Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer

20. Green-Randolph Bridge Replacement Project Bid Recommendation

Rosewicz presented the Green-Randolph Bridge replacement project bid recommendation. The low bids as submitted by King Construction, Inc. are as follows:

Base Bid + Alternate No. 1 (Shoo-fly Detour) - \$709,243.09

Base Bid + Alternate No. 2 (Road Closure) - \$547,888.92

Delbert Lund thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak about the construction project. Lund said if the road is closed he is concerned with the

impact on the community, which would impact church service, school buses, and emergency services. Lund stated he supports the shoo-fly.

Move to approve the base bid plus Alternate No. 1 (Shoo-fly Detour) from King Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$709,243.09.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

11:24 AM Adjournment

Move to adjourn.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

12:00 PM Law Enforcement Agency Meeting

21. Law Board Meeting Agenda

Riley County Commission Minutes August 18, 2016

8:30 AM Call to Order

1. Public Comments

2. Commission Comments

Wilson's Comments:

Tuesday I attended the Chamber of Commerce Board meeting. The primary topic of discussion was an update on the status of the proposed Flint Hills Welcome Center on I-70 that has been discussed for 20 years now.

Wednesday I attended the Flint Hills Regional Transit Administration Board Meeting. This agency receives an annual allocation of over \$900,000 from the federal government that can only be spent on transit-related projects, as prioritized by the local board. Yesterday, we approved the allocation of some of that money for expanding ATA Bus routes at K-State.

Boyd's Comments:

Monday 08.15.16
-Chaired the Riley County Law Enforcement Agency Meeting at the Manhattan City Chambers.

-Worked on correspondence. Tuesday 08.16.16

-Met with RCPD Director and Counsel to discuss firing range and Manhattan City ordinances.

-Met with local business leader to discuss local issues

Wednesday 08-17-16

-Worked on correspondence and JLUS contractor selection data.

Wells' Comments:
Wells said he attended the Law Board Meeting on Monday.

Wells stated he attended the North Central Juvenile Detention Facility Meeting.

Wells said he attended the ribbon cutting for the "Welcome to Manhattan" sign on the bridge pier.

Wells stated he received some e-mails on Commissioner Wilson's comments about lowering the budget.

Business Meeting

3. Ambulance trade-in with 2016 Ambulance Lease Purchase Agreement

Move for the Chair to sign the title for the Riley County Ambulance.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

(Editor's Note: It looks like the Riley County Commissioners do not want the Voters to know County Business. How much did the Ambulance Cost? What is the amount of the yearly Lease? These figures should be in the minutes and they know it.)

4. Shared Leave Donation Form(s)

Move to approve the Shared Leave Donation Form.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

5. Sign Riley County Position Action Form(s)

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Position Action Form for an As Needed Commercial Analyst, in the Appraiser's Office, at a grade Q.

6. Approve payroll/accounts payables (when completed)

Move to approve the payroll

vouchers in the amount of \$407,983.13 and the following warrant vouchers for August 19, 2016:

2016 Budget

County General \$708,248.67

Health Department 91,634.14

Teen Court Collected Fund 240.11

Court Technology 1,601.66

Treasurer Tech Fund 6,825.00

County Auction 110.68

Juvenile Intake Case Mgr 166.99

Riley Co Juvenile Service 4,890.58

P.A.T.F. 250.00

Motor Vehicle Operations 4,805.21

21st Jud Dist Teen Court 902.73

Riley Co Adult Services 16,117.08

Capital Improvements Fund 34,525.70

Economic Development 9,698.75

Emergency 911 5,108.81

Solid Waste 192,563.03

County Building 11,519.88

Road & Bridge Cap Project 61,050.76

RCPD Levy/Op 16,601.36

Landfill Closure 1,923.46

Riley Co Fire Dist #1 17,778.66

Fire Dist #1 Tuttle Cove 22.95

University Park W&S 9,634.47

Univ Park Capital Project 65,148.15

Hunters Island Water Dist 2,798.68

Carson Sewer Benefit Dist 11.38

Deep Creek Sewer 520.17

Moehlman Bottoms 1,535.67

Valleywood Operations 118.15

Terra Heights Sewer 1,443.56

Konza Water Operations 7,157.09

Lakeside Heights Sewer 46.46

TOTAL . . . \$1,274,999.99

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert

Boyd, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ronald

Wells, County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

See City page 10

Help Wanted

Part time cook at the Riley County Seniors' Services Center 3 hours per 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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Help Wanted

Part time cook at the Wamego Senior Center, 4 hours daily M-F. Benefits are sick leave, holidays, paid vacation. Application and job description at the Senior Center, 501 Ash St. or send resume to 401 Houston, Manhattan KS 66502. Call 1-800-432-2703 for information. EOE/AA

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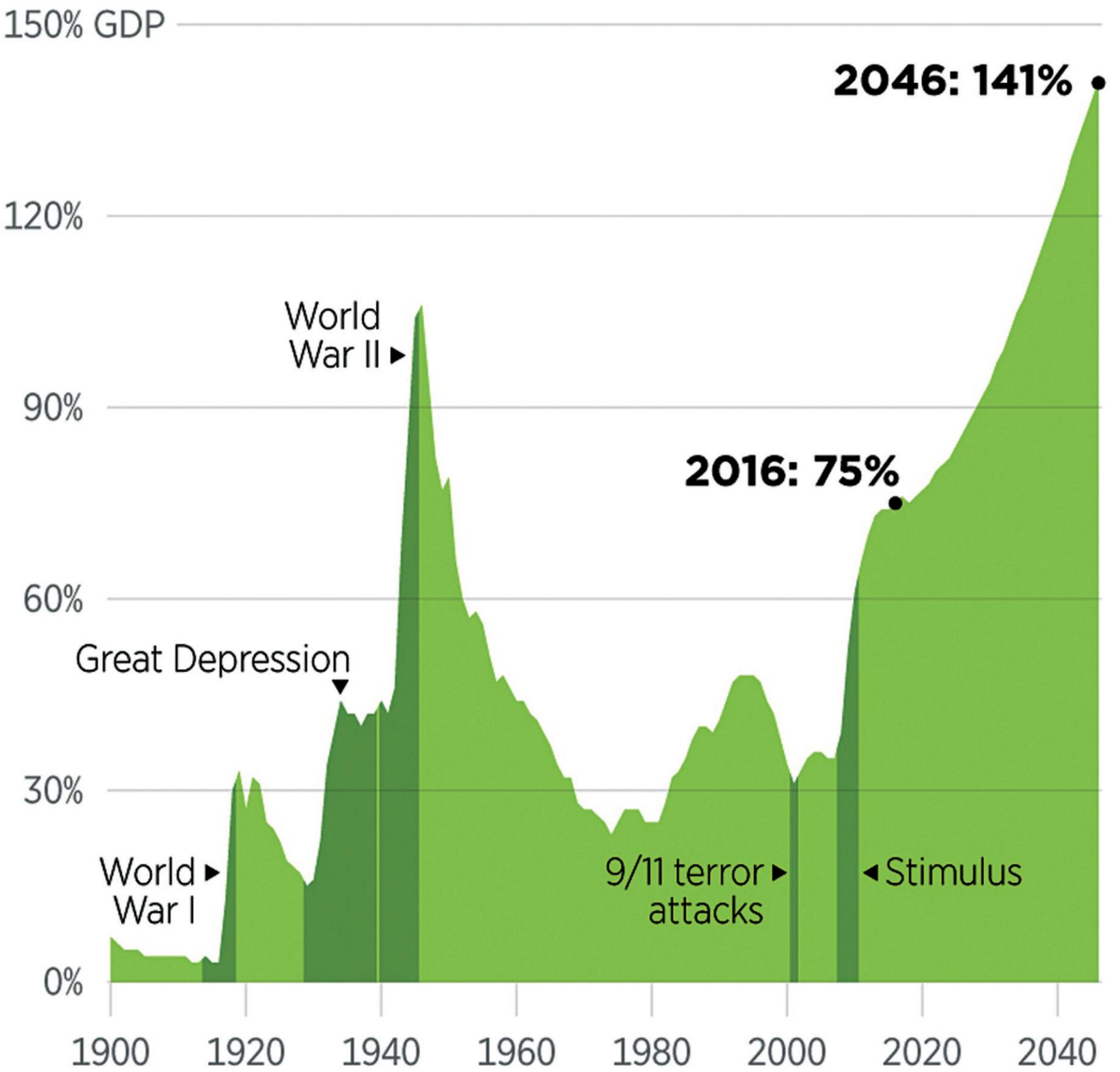
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Jim Rose

Public Debt at 66-Year High

Due to unchecked federal spending, publicly held federal debt is at its highest level since World War II and is projected to nearly double in 30 years.



SOURCE: Congressional Budget Office.

heritage.org

Iowa felons turn to legislature in search of voting rights

Kelli Jo Griffin took her four children to the voting booth in 2013 to teach them the value of democracy. Little did she know, she was breaking the law.

Earlier that year, Griffin, 42, came off probation for delivering less than a hundred grams of cocaine. When she was convicted in 2008, she lost her right to vote.

Felonies in Iowa are “infa-

mous crimes” that immediately result in voting restrictions because they involve offenses of “moral turpitude.” Currently 56,500 felons are unable to vote in Iowa; only 7,400 of those are still in prison.

“I’m a low-level felon, my crime was not against a person,” Griffin told Watchdog.

Griffin’s lawyer informed her in 2008 that under the policy in

place at that time, she would be able to vote again in 2013 upon completion of her probation.

An executive order issued on July 4, 2005, by Democratic Gov. Tom Vilsack restored voting rights to disenfranchised felons who had completed their sentences and been discharged from parole. Over the next six years, 115,000 felons regained the right to vote in the Hawkeye State.

Vilsack’s Republican successor, Terry Branstad, rescinded the order on his first day back in office in 2011. He had previously served as governor from 1983 to 1999.

On average, about 20 applications a year have been approved since Branstad reclaimed the governor’s office. In 2015, 25 people applied for restoration of voting rights in

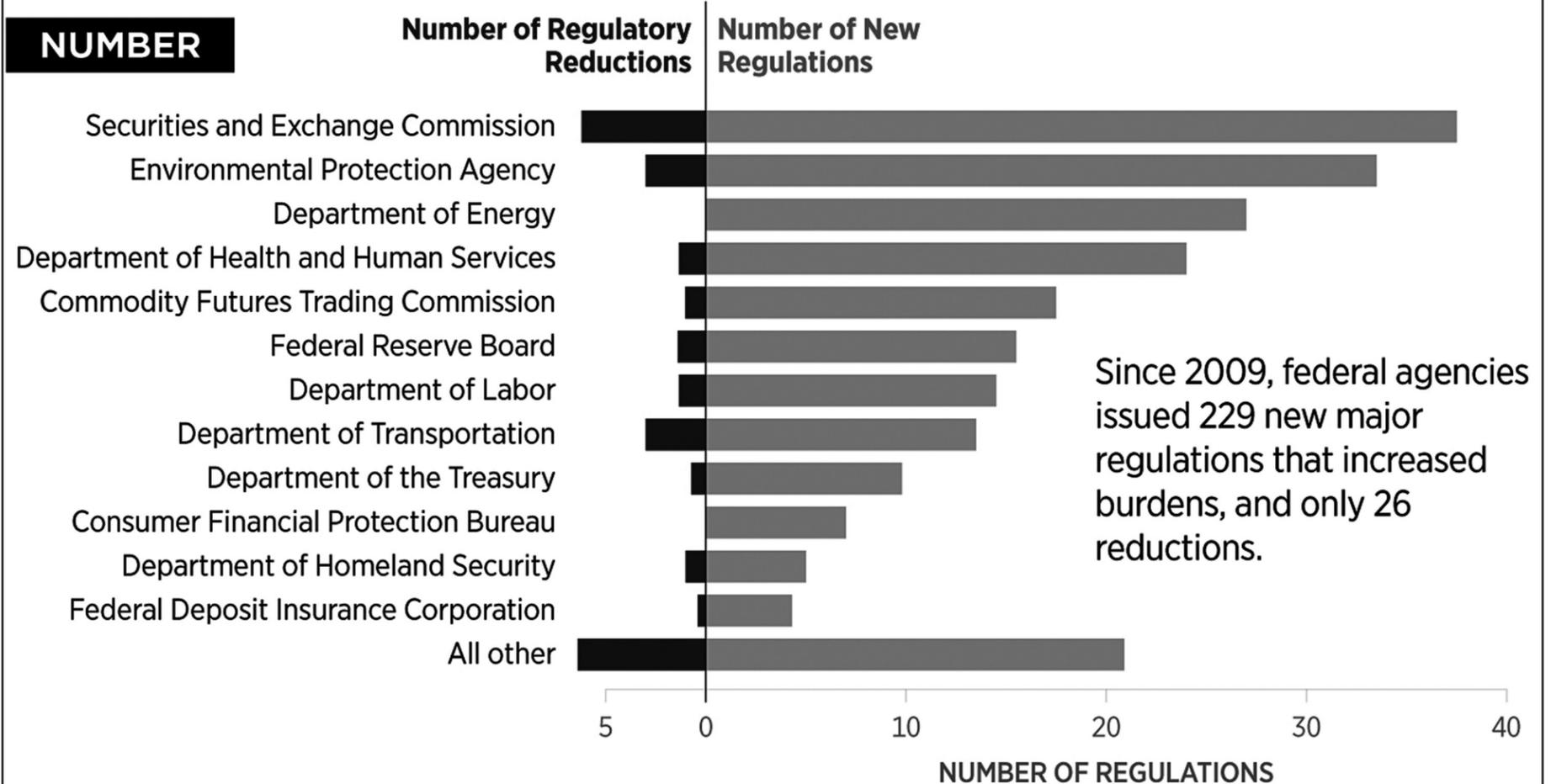
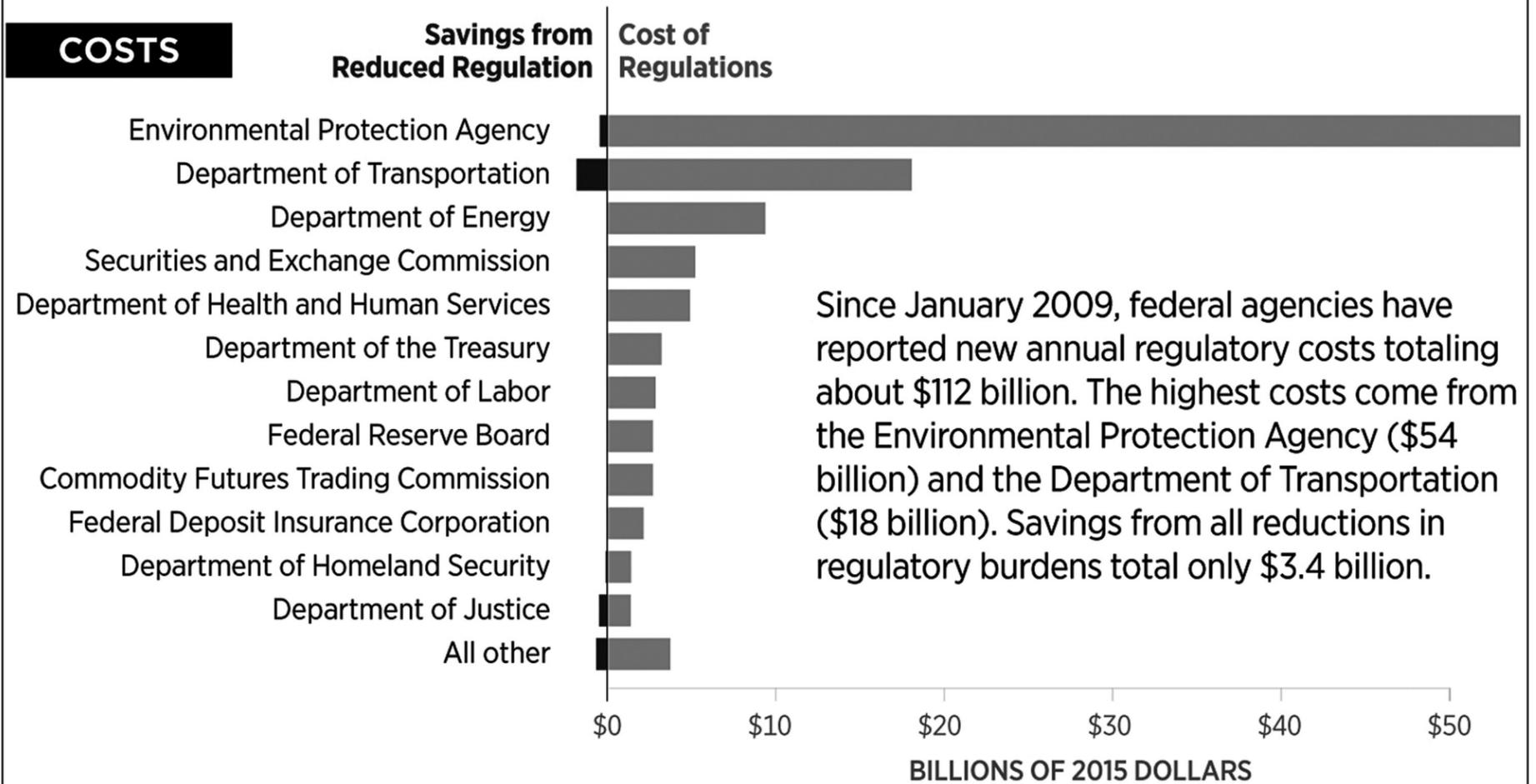
the first three and a half months alone, but he only granted 17 requests the entire year. (A request for the full year’s number of requests went unanswered by the governor’s office.)

Griffin said she did not know about the changed policy when she walked into her local voting center in Montrose, Iowa, tucked into the southeast corner of Iowa, across the Mississippi River from the onetime Mor-

mon Zion of Nauvoo. A few weeks after the election, police arrested her for voter fraud and charged her with perjury. A jury later acquitted her of the charges, but she decided to challenge the law that a nonviolent crime could be considered “infamous,” a designation that carries with it — among other things — loss of the right to vote.

CHART 3

New Major Regulations Under Obama, 2009–2015



SOURCE: Heritage Foundation calculations based on data provided by individual agencies.

County Commission Minutes

from page 7

Review Minutes
7. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Aug 15, 2016 8:30 AM
Move to approve the minutes.

RESULT: ACCEPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner
SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner
AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

8. Tentative Agenda

9. Discuss Press Conference

9:00 AM Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer

10. Bid opening for Parallel Road bridge replacement

The Board of County Commissioners opened the following bids for the Parallel Road bridge replacement:

Company	Base Bid	Add Alternate
No. 1 Bid Items		
No. 2 Bid Items		
No. 3 Bid Items		

Ebert Construction Co Inc
Box 198

Wamego, KS 66547
\$265,500.00

\$243,575.00	\$10,000.00
\$38,000.00	\$8,534.06

Reece Construction Co Inc
PO Box 168

Scandia, KS 66966
\$178,409.30 No Bid

\$ 9,140.00 \$12,600.00

\$7,524.00

King Construction Co Inc
PO Box 849

Hesston, KS 67062

\$201,574.60 No Bid

\$10,940.00 \$14,100.00

\$6,769.92

Engineer's Estimate

\$257,600.00 No Bid

\$17,500.00 \$15,300.00

\$8,232.00

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

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

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

11. Administrative Work Session

9:30 AM

Move to add an executive session.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

9:30 AM

Executive Session

Move that the Board of County Commissioners, including Chairman Wilson, Commissioner Boyd, and Commissioner Wells, recess into executive session with Clancy Holeman, Riley County Counselor, attorney for the commission, pursuant to the non-elected personnel matters exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act in order to discuss a performance matter involving a county employee, and to protect the privacy of the employee, the open meeting to resume in the Commission Chambers at 9:45 a.m.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

9:45 AM

Move to go out of executive session.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

10:15 AM Brad Schoen, Riley County Police Department Director

12. Riley County Police Department update

Schoen reported he has met with the Ogden City Council.

Schoen stated the lease for the RCPD range expires mid-2019.

Schoen reported the working group on the plan for self-insurance of workers compensation will be providing a recommendation to the City, County, and Law Board.

10:30 AM Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director

13. Staff Update

P. Collins presented an Emergency Management/Fire District #1 staff report.

Move to approve the Graduation Certification for USDA Rural Development.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

9:45 AM

Move to go out of executive session.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

10:45 AM Russell Shipley and Mike Holtman, Sink, Gordon & Associates

14. Audit presentation

Holtman introduced Russell Shipley, Audit Director of Sink, Gordon and Associates.

Holtman stated these financial statements are Riley County's Financial Statements. Holtman thanked all the Riley County staff which assisted with the 2015 Audit. Holtman stated Riley County has excellent staff.

Shipley presented and reviewed the 2015 Riley County Audit. Shipley stated the Unmodified Opinion received is the highest opinion, which can be granted under the Kansas Municipal Audit Guide.

Shipley noted all budgeted funds spent under their budget authority.

Shipley reported there were no findings of internal control and granted a clean opinion.

Wells stated he is proud to be one of the finest operating counties in the State.

Shipley presented the audit communication letter and stated there were no findings.

(Editor's Note: Audits for

Counties and Cities are a simple Audit, they are not looking for wrong doing, they only look to see if the books are according to State Law.)

11:00 AM Andrew Adams, Emergency Response Coordinator

Move to recess as the Board of County Commissioners and convene as the Board of Health.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

15. Request to travel to University of Nebraska Medical Center's National Ebola Training and Education Center for Emergency Infectious Disease Preparedness Course

Adams presented the Out of State Travel Request. Adams stated the funding for the training will be paid from the Ebola Supplemental Grant.

Move to approve the Out of State Travel Request for Andrew Adams to attend National Ebola Training & Education Center Emergency Infectious Disease Preparedness Training in Omaha, Nebraska in the amount of \$567.53 to be funded by the Ebola Supplemental Grant.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Robert Boyd, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner

AYES: Boyd, Wells, Wilson

16. Discussion of the Public Building Commission (PBC)

Wells stated the reason he brought up the Public Building Commission is because of the general public's misunderstanding of the purpose of the PBC.

Move to rescind "Resolution No. 121514-52, A Resolution of Riley County, Kansas, creating the Riley County Public Building Commission, specifying the membership of

the governing body of the Public Building Commission and stating its purpose, functions and powers".

RESULT: ADOPTED [2 TO 1]

MOVER: Ronald Wells, County Commissioner

SECONDER: Ben Wilson, County Commissioner

AYES: Wells, Wilson

NAYS: Boyd

Wilson stated he believes the PBC needs more accountability measures. Wilson stated in the future if there is a need for facilities the Board could go to the legislature and ask for more bonding authority.

Wells stated if there is an instance when a piece of property the County wants becomes available it takes too long to have an election to purchase the property. Wells said there are 37 PBC's in the State of Kansas. Wells stated those who have opposed our PBC have only been able to tell him of one instance in one community where it did not work well. Wells said Topeka would not have been able to construct a new Kansas Bureau of Investigation facility if they did not have the PBC.

Boyd stated it is a good tool. Boyd said it is incumbent for those sitting on the Board to make those decisions. Boyd stated the example of how a PBC was used successfully, to keep the KBI facility in Topeka. Boyd said there are actually more than 37 PBCs in the State as the 37 were just bond issues through our financial advisor. Boyd stated without the PBC we limit our flexibility and opportunities.

Boyd said we should do the right thing for the County and not the right thing to be re-elected.

Wilson stated he may be supportive of a PBC if there were more accountability measures. Wilson said he is in favor in rescinding the current PBC.

Boyd asked the Board to consider placing more accountability measures in the current PBC.

Wilson said he feels the public is very wary of the Commission having the authority of spending lots of money.

Boyd said the State set up the PBC in 1963 as a tool for local units of government to use for financing.

4:00 PM

City/County/County Meeting (at county offices)

17. City/County/County Meeting Agenda

Klimek presented information on the KS State Bank Lockbox Solution to collect receipts.

Gamino described how the Lockbox solution works through a PowerPoint presentation.

L. Wilson with ProfitStars described their position as the technical partner for the Lockbox solution.

Klimek said the Johnson County Treasurer's Office uses the Lockbox solution.

Dobson asked for a comparison of the cost of the solution versus the cost savings in staff.

Morris asked about the security of the product and processes.

Klimek stated he is not aware of any security breaches of the system.

Klimek asked the staff and elected officials to contact him if there is interest in the product.

Lund presented information on the Riley County Parks System.

Vargo left the meeting.

Muir attended the meeting.

Eastes presented information about possible CiCo Park improvements.

Cox said the Riley County Counselor's Office has been working on the tax sale for several months. Cox said there are currently 195 properties in the tax sale. Cox said the tax sale is scheduled for September 28th and 29th. Cox answered questions about the tax sale.

Wilson said at this time the Riley County Commission has decided not to sell the County buildings as previously discussed.

McKee suggested emergency services from the area should all use the same frequencies and we should ask for support for this from NBAF.

5:48 PM Adjournment

Move to adjourn.

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Taking heat, US officials defend \$400M cash payment to Iran

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration on Friday defended its decision to make a \$400 million cash delivery to Iran contingent on the release of American prisoners, saying the payment wasn't ransom because the Islamic Republic would have soon recouped the money one way or another.

In a conference call with reporters, senior administration officials said it made no sense not to use the money as leverage to ensure that four U.S. citizens were freed, especially as Washington was uncertain until the very moment their plane left that Iran would live up to its word.

The administration's defense came after the State Department outlined for the first time that the Jan. 17 repayment of money from a 1970s Iranian account to

buy U.S. military equipment was connected to a U.S.-Iranian prisoner exchange on the same day. Previously, President Barack Obama and other officials had denied any such linkage.

The acknowledgement kicked off a torrent of Republican criticism, who declared it evidence of a quid pro quo that undermined America's longstanding opposition to ransom payments.

"He denied it was for the hostages, but it was," Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump said in a speech Thursday night in Charlotte, North Carolina. "He said we don't pay ransom, but he did. He lied about the hostages, openly and blatantly."

House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., said Obama "owes the American people a full account-

ing of his actions and the dangerous precedent he has set."

The money came from an account used by the Iranian government to buy American military equipment in the days of the U.S.-backed shah. The equipment was never delivered after the shah's government was overthrown in 1979 and revolutionaries took American hostages at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. The two sides have wrangled over that account and numerous other financial claims ever since.

The Jan. 17 agreement involved the return of the \$400 million, plus an additional \$1.3 billion in interest, terms that Obama described as favorable compared to what might have been expected from a tribunal set up in The Hague to rule on claims

between the two countries. U.S. officials have said they expected an imminent ruling on the claim and settled with Tehran instead.

At an Aug. 4 news conference at the Pentagon, Obama said nothing nefarious occurred.

"We do not pay ransom for hostages," he said.

In a conference call with reporters, two senior administration officials intimately involved with the financial and prisoner negotiations sought to refute what they described as false reports about what happened. They weren't authorized to speak publicly on the matter and demanded anonymity.

There was no way that Washington could have avoided re-

paying the money to Iran in the short-term, one of the officials insisted.

The 1981 Algiers Accord between the U.S. and Iran that set up the tribunal made repayment mandatory, and allowed for either claimant to seize assets in international courts if the other reneged on a ruling, the official said. Iran had lived up to its commitment by repaying \$2.5 billion awarded for claims by U.S. citizens and companies.

A ruling on the military fund was expected soon, the official said, as Iran asked last year for the tribunal to hear its case and Tehran and Washington had been negotiating proposals for a hearing. Given that interest rates in the early years of the fund were as high as 20 percent, the official said Iran stood to re-

ceive a much more substantial award than \$1.3 billion in interest. As a result, the U.S. opted to settle with Iran.

The second American official argued that if there was any quid pro quo, it was the exchange of U.S. and Iranian prisoners. Washington released seven Iranians, mostly dual Iranian-American nationals convicted of sanctions violations, as part of the deal.

But even that trade-off faced several difficulties on the busy diplomatic weekend in January that also included the Iranians complying with last year's nuclear accord and the U.S. lifting many oil, trade and banking sanctions on Iran context, the official said, that played into the administration's decision making with the \$400 million.

Mystery State Dept. Official Censored 2-Minute Segment of News Briefing Video on Iran Nuclear Talks

WASHINGTON (AP) — A State Department official deliberately cut several minutes of videotape from a news briefing dealing with sensitive questions about U.S.-Iranian nuclear negotiations before posting the footage to its website and YouTube, the agency said Wednesday.

In the Dec. 2, 2013, briefing, a reporter asked about the department's denial earlier that year of secret talks between Washington and Tehran. Those discussions had been periodi-

cally occurring and eventually led to a breakthrough, seven-nation nuclear deal.

Then-spokeswoman Jen Psaki responded at the briefing: "There are times where diplomacy needs privacy."

But the exchange wasn't on video the department posted on its website and YouTube, even if it remained in the official transcript and backup video for broadcasters. Fox News discovered the discrepancy last month.

On Wednesday, the State Department's current spokesman

John Kirby said someone had censored the video intentionally. He said he couldn't find out who was responsible, but described such action as unacceptable.

"Deliberately removing a portion of the video was not and is not in keeping with the State Department's commitment to transparency and public accountability," he told reporters.

Kirby said he learned that on the same day of the 2013 briefing, a video editor received a call from a State Department

public affairs official who made "a specific request ... to excise that portion of the briefing." The video editor no longer remembers the name of the person who called, he said.

As a result, "we do not know who made the request to edit the video or why it was made," he told reporters.

While the State Department previously suggested a "glitch" occurred, the sensitivity of the removed portion raised questions.

The reporter, Fox News'

James Rosen, started his inquiry by referencing an earlier Feb. 6, 2013, briefing in which State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said no intermittent conversations were occurring between Obama administration and Iranian officials in one-to-one format, outside of larger multilateral gatherings.

Eight months later, those gatherings had become public after reporting by The Associated Press and other media. And Rosen asked Psaki if her prede-

cessor was speaking truthfully.

Upon learning of the video's editing, Kirby said he ordered the original video restored on all platforms and asked the State Department's legal adviser to examine the matter. He said no further investigation will be made, primarily because no rules were in place against such actions.

Kirby said he has ordered new rules created to prevent a recurrence.

Who is protecting Social Security whistleblowers?

MADISON, Wis. — Long-time Social Security Administration legal assistant Ron Klym says he faithfully followed the federal code of ethics that requires government employees to "disclose waste, fraud, abuse and corruption to appropriate authorities."

Now he's out of a job. Deborah Holland took the same oaths.

The SSA group manager at the Madison Office of Disability Adjudication and Review was walked out of her Madison office by armed guards, stripped of her management duties and placed on administrative leave.

Celia Machelles Keller, a legal assistant at the Madison

ODAR facility, testified at the request of investigators in an office sexual harassment investigation.

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She was long denied reasonable accommodations related to her ongoing health concerns — a medical condition, her doctor says, was the direct result of the stress she experienced in a hostile workplace.

There are many others experiencing various forms of discipline for blowing the whistle on waste, fraud and abuse in the SSA system, sources say.

But the agency, it seems, has brazenly punished people who

are supposed to be granted whistleblower protection under federal law.

It's what Klym describes as the "new normal" in whistleblower relations.

"That is, defiance of Congress — in the actions taken against the whistleblowers," Klym said.

Last week, Wisconsin's U.S. Sens. Tammy Baldwin and Ron Johnson warned the SSA they did not take kindly to "serious allegations of whistleblower retaliation in the agency."

"I will not tolerate retaliation or intimidation against whistleblowers who have come forward with information related to an ongoing investigation into ODAR operations and ask for your assurance that the Social

Security Administration will take appropriate action putting an immediate stop to any such retaliation," said Baldwin, a Madison Democrat.

In his letter last week, Johnson reminded the SSA's commissioner that federal law protects the right of all federal employees to provide information to Congress.

"Specifically, the law states that 'the right of employees, individually or collectively, to petition Congress or a member of Congress, or to furnish information to either house of Congress, or to a committee or member thereof, may not be interfered with or denied,'" he wrote.

"SSA employees have the right to talk to Congress and to

provide Congress with information without fear of retaliation or questions about their communications," Johnson added.

But what is being done to shield the whistleblowers?

As of Monday, it seemed not much.

The Office of Special Counsel, an independent federal investigative and prosecutorial agency, is the enforcement arm of the so-called Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act, signed into law by President Obama on Nov. 27, 2012.

"OSC's primary mission is to safeguard the merit system by protecting federal employees and applicants from prohibited personnel practices, especially reprisal for whistleblowing," the agency declares on its web-

site.

But SSA whistleblowers tell Wisconsin Watchdog they have heard very little from OSC investigators in recent months. Some claim OSC officials have failed to respond to their questions or treated them rudely when they did return calls.

OSC spokesman Nick Schwellenbach said the agency doesn't comment on individual cases.

"However, we prioritize the review of retaliation claims when there are imminent and/or recent severe adverse personnel actions that federal employees allege are taken in reprisal for whistleblowing," he said in an email to Wisconsin Watchdog.

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Free Press Big 12 Sports

Big 12 Standings

School	Big 12	Overall
Baylor	0 - 0	0 - 0
Iowa State	0 - 0	0 - 0
Kansas	0 - 0	0 - 0
Kansas State	0 - 0	0 - 0
Oklahoma	0 - 0	0 - 0
Oklahoma State	0 - 0	0 - 0
TCU	0 - 0	0 - 0
Texas	0 - 0	0 - 0
Texas Tech	0 - 0	0 - 0
West Virginia	0 - 0	0 - 0

Kansas State Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time/	TV
Friday Sep. 2	at Stanford	8:00pm	FS1
Sat. Sep. 10	OFF		
Sat. Sep. 17	Florida Atl.	1:30pm	FSN
Sat. Sep. 24	Missouri State	6:00pm	
Sat. Oct. 1	at West Virginia	TBA	
Sat. Oct. 8	Texas Tech	TBA	
Sat. Oct. 15	at Oklahoma	TBA	
Sat. Oct. 22	Texas	TBA	
Sat. Oct. 29	at Iowa State	TBA	
Sat. Nov. 5	Oklahoma State	TBA	
Sat. Nov. 12	---	OFF	---
Sat. Nov. 19	at Baylor	TBA	
Sat. Nov. 26	Kansas	TBA	
Sat. Dec. 3	at TCU	TBA	

Kansas Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time/	TV
Sat, Sept. 3	Rhode Island	6:00p.m.	ESPN3
Sat, Sept. 10	Ohio	1:30p.m	FOX
Sat, Sept. 17	at Memphis	11:00a.m.	ESPNU
Thu, Sept. 29	at TT	7:30p.m.	FOX
Sat, Oct. 8	TCU		
Sat, Oct. 15	at Baylor		
Sat, Oct. 22	Okla. St.		
Sat, Oct. 29	at Oklahoma		
Sat, Nov. 5	at West Virginia		
Sat, Nov. 12	Iowa State		
Sat, Nov. 19	Texas		
Sat, Nov. 26	at Kansas State		

Big 12 Schedule

Date	Home Team	Away Team	Location	Time (CT)	Media
Fri, Sep 02	Baylor	Northwestern State	Waco, Texas	6:30 p.m.	FSN
Fri, Sep 02	Stanford	Kansas State	Palo Alto, Calif.	8:00 p.m.	FS1
Sat, Sep 03	West Virginia	Missouri	Morgantown, W.V.	11:00 a.m.	FS1
Sat, Sep 03	Houston	Oklahoma	Houston, Texas	11:00 a.m.	ABC
Sat, Sep 03	Oklahoma State	Southeastern Louisiana	Stillwater, Okla.	2:30 p.m.	FSN
Sat, Sep 03	Kansas	Rhode Island	Lawrence, Kan.	:00 p.m.	JTV
Sat, Sep 03	TCU	South Dakota State	Fort Worth, Texas	7:00 p.m.	FSN
Sat, Sep 03	Texas Tech	Stephen F. Austin	Lubbock, Texas	7:00 p.m.	FSN
Sat, Sep 03	Iowa State	Northern Iowa	Ames, Iowa	7:00 p.m.	Cyclones.tv
Sun, Sep 04	Texas	Notre Dame	Austin, Texas	6:30 p.m.	ABC
Sat, Sep 10	Oklahoma State	Central Michigan	Stillwater, Okla.	11:00 a.m.	FS1
Sat, Sep 10	West Virginia	Youngstown State	Morgantown, W.V.	1:00 p.m.	
Sat, Sep 10	Kansas	Ohio	Lawrence, Kan.	1:30 p.m.	FSN
Sat, Sep 10	Baylor	SMU	Waco, Texas	2:30 p.m.	FS1
Sat, Sep 10	TCU	Arkansas	Fort Worth, Texas	6:00 p.m.	ESPN or ESPN 2
Sat, Sep 10	Texas	UTEP	Austin, Texas	6:00 p.m.	LHN
Sat, Sep 10	Oklahoma	ULM	Norman, Okla.	6:00 p.m.	SSN-PPV
Sat, Sep 10	Iowa	Iowa State	Iowa City, Iowa	6:30 p.m.	BTN
Sat, Sep 10	Arizona State	Texas Tech	Tempe, Ariz.	9:00 p.m.	FS1
Fri, Sep 16	Rice	Baylor	Houston, Texas	7:00 p.m.	ESPN
Sat, Sep 17	Memphis	Kansas	Memphis, Tenn.	11:00 a.m.	ESPNU
* Sat, Sep 17	TCU	Iowa State	Fort Worth, Texas	11:00 a.m.	FS1
Sat, Sep 17	Kansas State	Florida Atlantic	Manhattan, Kan.	1:30 p.m.	FSN
Sat, Sep 17	Oklahoma State	Pittsburgh	Stillwater, Okla.	2:30 p.m.	ESPN
Sat, Sep 17	Texas Tech	Louisiana Tech	Lubbock, Texas	6:00 p.m.	FSN
Sat, Sep 17	Oklahoma	Ohio State	Norman, Okla.	6:30 p.m.	FOX
Sat, Sep 17	California	Texas	Berkeley, Calif.	9:30 p.m.	ESPN or ESPN2
Fri, Sep 23	SMU	TCU	Dallas, Texas	7:00 p.m.	ESPN
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* Sat, Sep 24	Baylor	Oklahoma State	Waco, Texas	TBA	

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Gay pastor agrees to leave her post at Johnson County church

On a cold Sunday in January, Cynthia Meyer, pastor at Edgerton United Methodist Church, came out to her congregation.

She did so with hope that change regarding the denomination's stance on homosexuality was coming. But eight months later, that hope, for now at least, is gone. And after the end of August, Meyer will be gone as well.

To avoid a church trial, Meyer and Methodist officials agreed that she would give up her duties and go on involuntary leave. Her final sermon in Edgerton in Johnson County will be Aug. 28.

On Wednesday, she said she was glad to avoid a trial, which could have resulted in her losing her credentials to ever pastor again. Meanwhile, she plans to work in lay ministry or for a nonprofit as she continues to

hope for a policy change in the denomination's Book of Discipline so she can return to the pulpit.

"I don't think God is done with me yet," she said.

Discussions to reach the agreement lasted 13 hours. Afterward, Meyer, 53, who grew up in a small Kansas town, wrote: "I've signed away my right to live out my calling — to be most fully who God has called me to be — I hope only for a time.

"My heart is broken, yet I trust that God will work through even this for good."

A trial had been set for Aug. 24, but according to the Great Plains Conference of the United Methodist Church, the agreement was reached "to avoid the harm and trauma of a

trial."

No United Methodist church can appoint Meyer as pastor, a church statement said, "but she may be hired to perform functions equivalent to those of a lay staff person."

As severance, Meyer was paid \$37,000, the amount of a year's salary.

Rita Jones, president of the United Methodist Women in Edgerton and secretary of the church council, said the congregation was greatly disappointed to lose Meyer.

"She is the same person who walked through the door the first day," Jones said. "A congregation never agrees a hundred percent on anything, but a big majority here supported her and wanted her to stay.

"She is an excellent pastor and we are sorry to see her

leave and wish her the best."

Edgerton preacher talks about coming out to her congregation

Cynthia Meyer, pastor of Edgerton United Methodist Church, recently came out as a lesbian. Because her denomination prohibits gay clergy, she could face discipline. dbradley@kstar.com

While many other Christian denominations — including the Episcopal Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the United Church of Christ and the Presbyterian Church (USA) — already allow gay clergy, the Methodists have stuck to the ban.

Liberals in the church think it's time for change. Conservatives stick to homosexuality being a sin.

The fight came to a head in May at the Methodist General Conference in Portland, Ore., but the issue was essentially deferred until more study. The action — signaling to some that change was coming — was hailed as historic and could put off talk of a split in the denomination.

But it didn't allow for persons such as Meyer in the meantime. She said the time could come when she would leave the church altogether.

"I think we have to realize that there could come a time when staying may not be healthy," she said. "That it may be better to make a change." Read more here: <http://www.kansascity.com/living/religion/article96377412.html#storylink=cpy>

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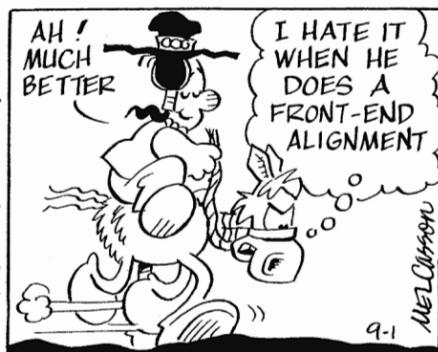
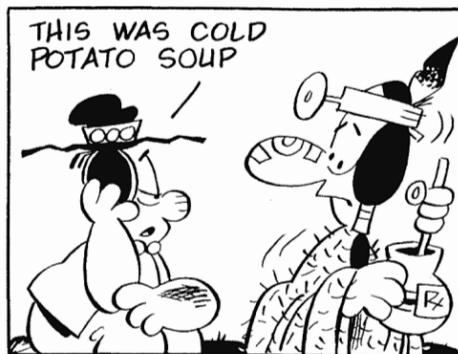
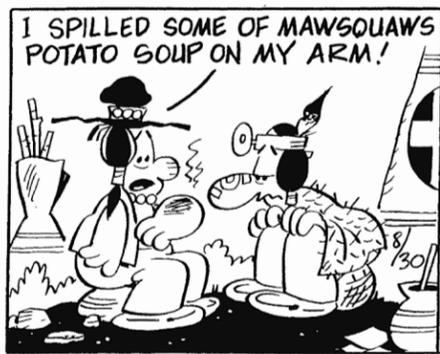
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BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Dog's tail is missing. 2. Leash is missing. 3. Tree is missing. 4. Cap is missing. 5. Backpack is smaller. 6. Glasses are missing.

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Tiny Culver logs thousands of volunteer hours for water

CULVER, Kan. (AP) — After dealing with dirty tap water for years, residents of a tiny town in north-central Kansas now have a new water treatment system thanks to some state and federal grants and thousands of hours of volunteer labor.

Residents of Culver, a town of about 120 residents in Ottawa County, have long had to deal with murky water that didn't taste good. Tests revealed there was no health issue, just a lot of manganese and iron in Culver's two city wells. Many residents bought bottled water to drink, The Salina Journal reported (<http://j.mp/2aYhKHH>).

"Without a filter in your house, the water was always brown with black sediment," said Carolyn Winebrenner, mayor of Culver from 2011 to 2015. "We had a whole house filter and a water softener, so our water wasn't that bad, but we were having to change our filter every two weeks."

Culver now has a new water treatment plant and a delivery system after residents and others put in more than a mile of water line and also helped with other required projects to get the improved water.

"I am over the moon, very

proud of this community" said Lou Ann Inscho, Culver's city clerk.

"There's some minor cleanup left and divots in the road that will be filled in, but all the water's flowing," she said. "I think it tastes wonderful. I've had people come up and say they don't have the scum on top of their coffee anymore."

With help from the North Central Regional Planning Commission, city leaders ap-

plied for and received a combined \$868,000 from the Community Development division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Kansas Commerce department. The town also borrowed \$183,000 that will be paid off over 40 years, Inscho said. That arrangement paid for the standpipe and water treatment plant.

To replace the decaying water lines with plastic pipe, the city received a \$200,061 KanStep grant from the state, to

pay for the pipe, fittings and fire hydrants. To receive that help, Culver was required to provide a local match of \$157,051, which was accomplished with \$11,000 in cash and \$146,000 in labor and equipment.

Inscho counted 5,300 hours of volunteer labor from locals, their families and others, mostly from the Culver area. Local cooks gathered daily to feed the crews in the old senior center. Others handed out bottled water. Howard and Jane Morris-

cal, of Culver, kept gas cans full, and Don Hanson, helped repair leaks and machinery.

"We came in at \$157,000 in labor hours," Inscho said.

And resident Darrell Smith, kept track of the materials, while he was battling cancer.

"He would go to chemo, come home and do inventory. He was very proud of this water project," said Renee Mattison, his widow. Smith died Aug. 1.

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



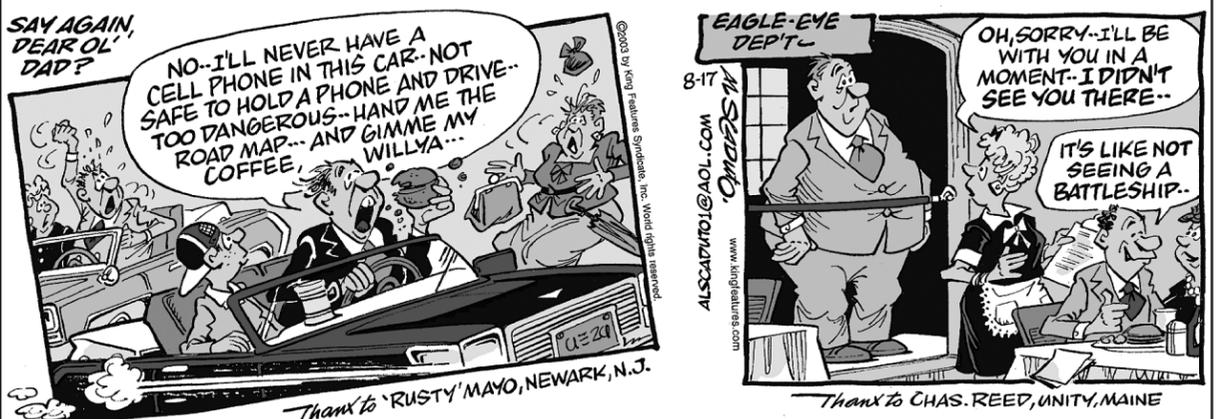
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME

BY AL SCADUTO



King Crossword

ACROSS

1	Vacationing	44	Fifth and Main, e.g.	16	Wapiti
4	Rotating parts	46	Take away (from)	20	"Mighty — a Rose"
8	Grouch	50	Dict. information	21	Troubles
12	Melody	51	Jai follower	22	Opposed
13	Garfield's pal	52	Out of jeopardy	23	Color
14	Golf target	56	Uninteresting	27	"A mouse!"
15	Not restricted by convention	57	Sweater material	29	Elsa's story
17	Facility	58	Chow down	30	Reed instrument
18	Sprite	59	Partner	31	Transvaal trekker
19	Wing part	60	Swiss range	33	With a suspicious eye
21	Strolled	61	Mound stat	35	Fond du —
24	Perched			38	"CSI" evidence
25	Yoko of music			40	Sings in
26	Storm center			60-Across?	
28	Skewered entree			43	Unstressed vowel
32	And others (Lat.)			45	Ump
34	Moray, e.g.			46	Arp's genre
36	Vagrant			47	Hebrew month
37	Aligned one self (with)			48	Lofty
39	Cosmetics mogul Mary — Ash			49	Implement
41	Caviar base			53	Swab the deck
42	Type measures			54	Corn spike
				55	Greek H

DOWN

1	LummoX
2	Evergreen type
3	Mooch
4	Java
5	Fuss
6	Actress Sorvino
7	Big rigs
8	Fast cat
9	Bellow
10	As well
11	Existed

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Answers page 2

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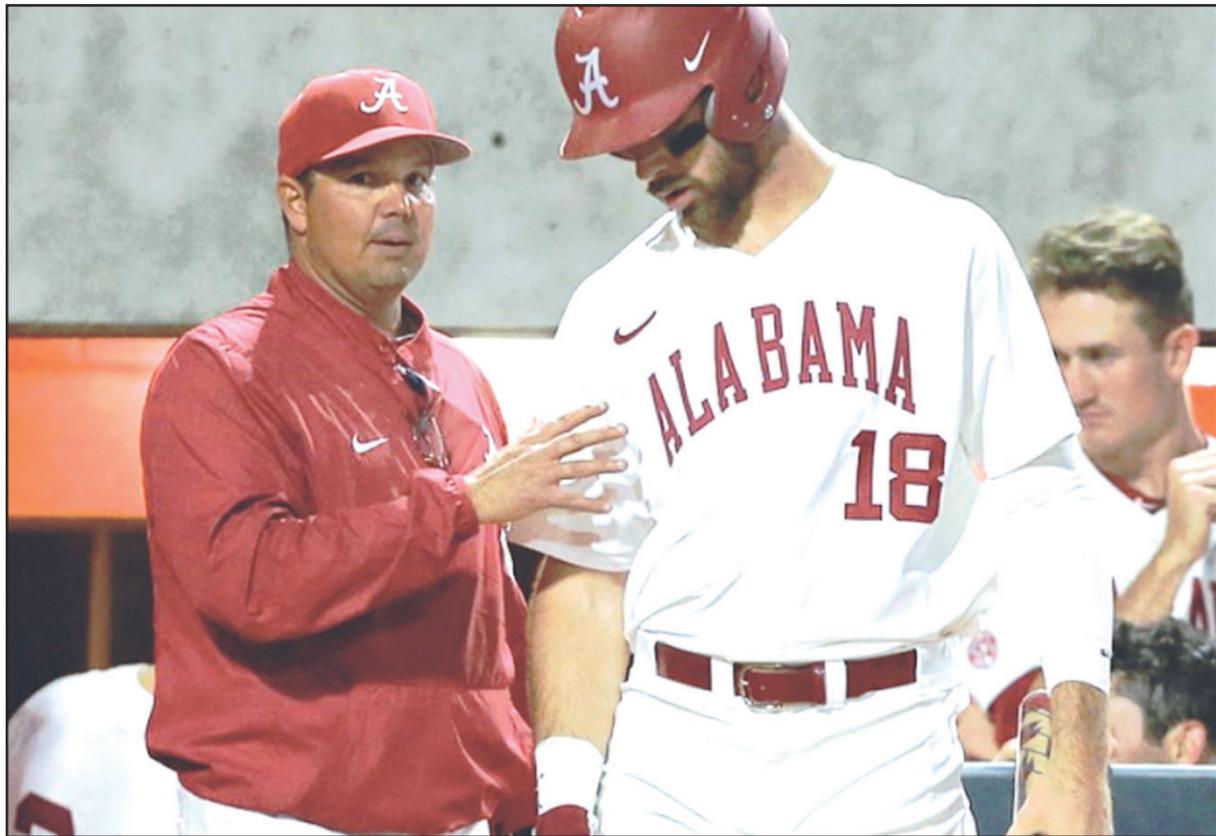
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Gaspard Hired as Associate



Coach Gaspard coming to Kansas State.

KSU Sports Information

MANHATTAN, Kan. — Mitch Gaspard, a 29-year college baseball coaching veteran with 13 years of head coaching experience, has been hired at Kansas State as Associate Head Coach/Offensive Coordinator, head coach Brad Hill announced Monday.

"We are extremely excited to welcome Mitch and his wife Kim to K-State and Manhattan," Hill said. "Mitch has an outstanding reputation throughout collegiate baseball as a talent evaluator and exceptional offensive coach, while adding someone to the staff with his head coaching experience is a big positive. Throughout this process, I had multiple people call me to talk about not only his reputation as a baseball coach but also emphasize that he is a person of high character and integrity.

"Mitch has either been a part or led teams to multiple NCAA Regional and College World Series berths, so he understands what it takes to reach the pinnacle of college baseball. When you combine a track record of winning with the numerous recruiting relationships he has built throughout his tenure, it became clear he was the best possible candidate for this position. We are fortunate he has decided to continue his coaching career here, and he is a positive

addition to the K-State Family and Manhattan community."

Gaspard, who most recently served as the head coach at Alabama from 2010-16, replaces Andy Sawyers, who accepted the head coaching position at Southeast Missouri State last month.

"I am grateful to Brad and K-State for this exciting opportunity to be a part of this program and coaching staff," Gaspard said. "With my background and experience, I am looking forward to helping Brad in any way that I can, being back on the recruiting trail and, most importantly, developing young men as not only baseball players but also preparing them for success after the game. Kim and I loved Manhattan on our visit, and we look forward to a new beginning at K-State."

Gaspard's resume also includes a head coaching stint at Northwestern State (2002-07), while he has been an assistant coach at Houston (1988), Louisiana (1989-92), Northwestern State (1993-94) and Alabama (1995-2001, 2008-09).

Boasting a career head coaching record of 439-326 (.574), Gaspard led UA to consecutive NCAA Regional appearances on two occasions in 2010 and 2011, and again in 2013 and 2014. His 2010 squad won 42 games and advanced to

a Super Regional, finishing just one victory shy of the College World Series. The Crimson Tide also advanced to the championship game of the NCAA Tallahassee Regional in 2011 and 2014.

Gaspard received his first head coaching opportunity in 2002 at Northwestern State and hit the ground running, accumulating a 210-138 (.603) record in six seasons and winning a pair of Southland Conference championships, one SLC Tournament championship and a berth in the 2005 NCAA Baton Rouge Regional.

Gaspard's head coaching opportunities have come due to his hard work as an assistant and chief recruiter. As an assistant, Gaspard has been a part of five conference championship teams, 11 NCAA Regional squads, one conference tournament championship and three College World Series berths. As both an assistant and head coach, Gaspard has been in the dugout for more than 2,000 games and his teams have compiled a 1,280-718-3 (.640) record.

During Gaspard's time as an assistant at Alabama from 1995-2001 and again from 2008-09, the Crimson Tide won the 1995 SEC Tournament and finished one victory shy of the College World Series. Through-

out the rest of his first tenure in Tuscaloosa, Gaspard helped UA earn six NCAA Regional appearances and three CWS berths, including a national championship game loss to LSU in 1997. He came back in 2008 and helped UA to another regional showing in 2009 before taking over the program prior to the 2010 season.

Gaspard has also been proven to be an accomplished talent evaluator as, from 1995-2001 as Alabama's chief recruiter, the Crimson Tide's recruiting classes ranked in the top-20 nationally five times, including three straight top-10 classes according to Baseball America and Collegiate Baseball.

Although he may be an accomplished recruiter, Gaspard has been equally successful in developing talent as his career record has shown, but he has also coached players to a combined 77 draft picks in his 29 years, including 25 that were selected in the top 10 rounds of the MLB Draft.

Gaspard began his collegiate playing career for the legendary Skip Bertman as LSU before transferring to Houston. Born on May 26, 1965, Gaspard is married to the former Kim Howell, and the couple has two daughters, Brae and Paeton.

Willis Works to Complete Game, End Career on Strong

KSU Sports Information

When Jordan Willis decided to play football at K-State, he did it knowing it would force the best out of him — whatever that may be.

Willis, an avid NASCAR fan, has picked up steam with every lap he's made in college football. The senior defensive end and Preseason All-Big 12 pick this year doesn't plan on slowing down any time soon, either.

"It's allowed me to really grow," Willis said of his time at K-State. "It's allowing me to become everything that I could be as a player, and I still got plenty of time."

So far, Willis' time with the Wildcats has displayed an upward trend across the board.

To start, Willis developed into one of the most prepared players on the team. It is a large part of his personality, evident throughout his daily routine.

"Before 6 a.m., workouts, he has breakfast ready for the whole household. Most of us would just go grab a banana or something," said senior safety Dante Barnett. "He wakes up early enough to cook a full breakfast. That tells his approach to the game."

Willis' game preparation stands out as well. On game weeks, Barnett has often caught Willis watching film before the scheduled sessions, getting as many looks at the opposing team's offensive line as possible.

"He knows about every offensive linemen across the board every week," Barnett said. "I know a lot of the younger players say, 'I'll go to Jordan to ask him about a pass rush and he knows the answer, or he tries to help me or he tells me to use this move and I use it and it works.'"

"When you have a player like

that that players can listen to about different techniques, that's perfect."

His production on the field has increased steadily as well, starting with nine games of action as a true freshman. Willis has started every game since then, totaling 25 tackles that included 6.5 tackles for loss and four sacks as a sophomore. The Rockhurst product followed that with 36 tackles last season, including 15.5 for loss and 9.5 sacks.

Echoing Barnett, Willis credited his preparation before games for his improvement in them.

"Each year, I gained the ability of learning how to play on Saturdays and what I need to do to prepare myself to be good on Saturdays. With each year, I've learned to prepare better," Willis said. "If I prepare well, then I'll play well, and I've been learning how to do that. That's been a big reason why my production has jumped up through my time here."

Though he tallied the second-most sacks in the Big 12 last season, they occurred in just four games, leaving nine others without any. To become a more valuable disruptor, Willis put his focus on developing better consistency for the 2016 season, which begins next Friday at Stanford.

"All offseason I've been focused in on being more consistent with my play and with my attitude so that can translate over to Saturdays," said Willis, one of 28 players on the preseason watch list for the Ted Hendricks Award, given annually to the top defensive end in the country. "So if I'm consistent, the coaches can expect the same thing, if not more, out of me each Saturday and not less than my best."



KSU's Jordan Willis

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