

Christmas at Moonlight Nativity -



**By Stuart Stiles
Pictures by Tim Stiles**
Moonlight Nativity was held Sunday, December 17 at the Stuart Stiles Farm, south of Gardner. The event had to be canceled Saturday due to rain but had a very good turnout Sunday evening. According to our official census taker, Bob Marshall, almost 300 people signed in at his Roman office.

(Continued on Page 5)

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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48 "Reading a big city newspaper is like eating at a fancy restaurant-you pick and choose from what's offered. But reading a HOMETOWN paper is like eating one of Mom's Great Home-Cooked Meals-a fellow doesn't want to miss a thing... and gets seconds" Jan Clark

JOHNSON'S COUNTY GAZETTE

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Advertising Hot Line 913-782-3399 or email us at jccogazette@gmail.com See us at www.jccogazette.com

Anticipating the New Year

By Ethel Mae Brewer
At this age, I have learned that making resolutions at the beginning of the new year generally doesn't last long for most people. I thought about not eating chocolate for a while, but that lasted for 2 days. All was going well until I went into a store that had chocolate kisses half price. Naturally, I had to taste them to make sure they were still fresh, when I got home. I decided then, that I would find another way to lose weight. Excuses for exercising outweighed my desire to get up and doing them.



(Continued on Page 5)

Sheila Newbanks - A Study in Community Service

A high energy, unselfish volunteer to Johnson County Old Settlers
By Don Bowman
Senior Special Features Editor
Johnson County Old Settlers just closed the books on its 125th annual celebration in Olathe. As a not-for-profit organization, JOCO Old Settlers relies solely upon volunteers-in the committees, as well as to keep things going once the event opens. Each year, fair goers come to Olathe. And they don't just come from Johnson County, or even the Metro. Guests come from all over for three days of fun-carnival rides, crafts, shows, and the legendary *Grange Pups*-those tasty hot dogs with the secret batter, an *Old Settlers* tradition since 1948. But behind those three days is nearly a year's worth of effort on the part of the volunteers who plan and organize the different pieces of the puzzle. There is much more to Old Settlers than a



(Continued on Page 5)

Olathe YMCA Global Mission

STRONGER
by Maggie Little
Executive Director
Olathe YMCA
The Olathe YMCA, rooted in the global mission of the YMCA to strengthen the mind, body, and spirit of the community, has been a beacon of support and positive influence in the local community since its establishment in 2001. While offering traditional YMCA amenities such as a fitness center, swimming pool, and activities for older adults, the Olathe branch goes



GREEN NEW DEAL? HA! HA! Hum Bug!!
from Rich Gates
This is a Tesla battery. It takes up all of the space under the passenger compartment of the car.
To manufacture it you need:
--12 tons of rock for Lithium
-- 5 tons of Cobalt minerals
-- 3 tons of mineral for nickel
-- 12 tons of copper ore
You must move 250 tons of soil to obtain:
-- 12 kg of Lithium
(Continued on Page 5)



Driving Into Winter

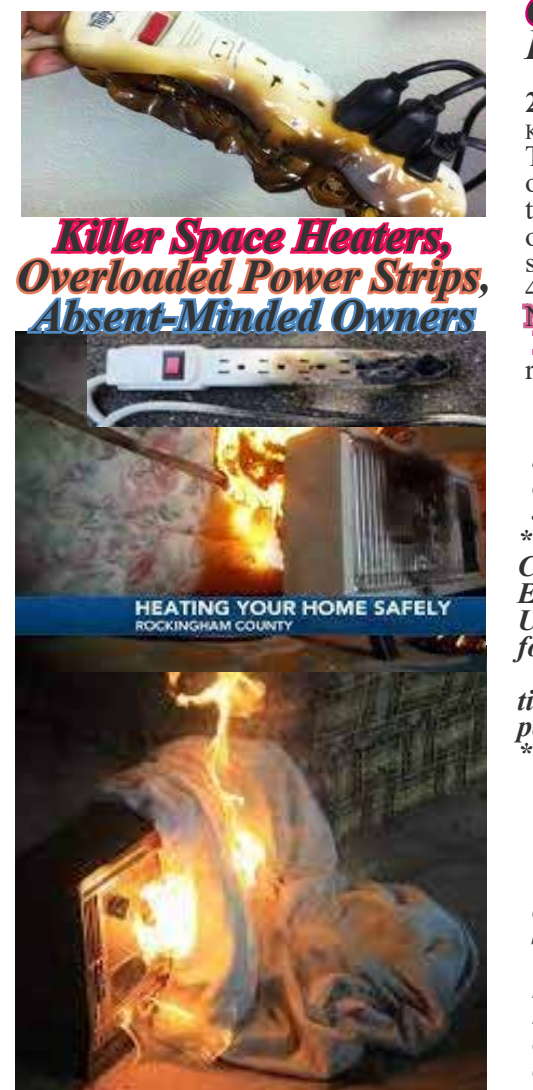
By Greg Doering, Kansas Farm Bureau
The first significant snow arrived well before winter this year. Thankfully, it fell over Thanksgiving weekend, which meant I could savor the landscape's transition to white from the comfort of my living room. This was fortunate because I hadn't yet taken the proper precautions for cold, snowy weather. My two-wheel drive truck didn't have any added weight in the back. There also was no extra coat, extra boots with wool socks and a pair of winter gloves stashed in the cab along with an emergency blanket that looks like a big piece of aluminum foil. I've added all of those and also topped up the tires with air. If I do end up in a ditch, I'd much rather be warm and dry while waiting for help. Despite all this preparation, I'd still rather not risk finding a ditch or worse during winter weather. The best course is to stay home. When that's not possible, however, it's best to be prepared with

(Continued on Page 8)

MY MISSION: TO BE SO BUSY LOVING MY LIFE THAT I HAVE NO TIME FOR HATE, REGRET, WORRY, FRET, OR FEAR.

DOGS' LETTERS TO GOD:
Dear God,
When we get to heaven can we sit on your couch? Or is it the same old story?
Dear God,
Why are there cars named after the jaguar, the cougar, the mustang, the colt, the sting-ray and the rabbit, but not ONE named for a dog? How often do you see a cougar riding around? We dogs love a nice ride! Would it be so hard to rename the Chrysler Eagle the Chrysler Beagle?
Dear God,
If a dog barks his head off in the forest and no human hears him, is he still a bad dog?
Dear God,
Dear God,
More meatballs, less spaghetti, please.
Dear God,
When we get to the Pearly Gates, do we have to shake hands to get in?
Dear God,
Are there dogs on other planets or are we alone? I have been howling at the moon and

(Continued on Page 5)



CFM Electric
Good time of year for reminders on space heater safety:
from Jim Osmon
CFM Electric
It's that time of year again, when the temperature dips and we feel those uncomfortable drafts and cold spots in our homes. I just wanted to take a moment to remind people of some safety tips and common sense, when it comes to using space heaters in our homes.
(Continued on Page 5)

Comets Select Local Duo In MASL College Draft
Comets draft two local products in 2nd annual MASL College Draft KANSAS CITY, Mo. (December 21, 2023) — The Kansas City Comets drafted a pair of highly touted Kansas City-area natives in the 2023 MASL College Draft on Thursday afternoon. The Comets selected forward **Jony Munoz** with the 4th overall pick out of **MidAmerica Nazarene** and defender **Carson Lindsey** out of UMKC with their 2nd round pick.
(Continued on Page 7)



Thought For The Day - It's never too late to change. So wait until you absolutely have to.
Jerry Walter

Chaplain of the U.S. Senate
Edward Hale, while chaplain of the U.S. Senate, was asked, "Do you pray for the senators?"
He quickly replied, "No. After getting to know the senators, I pray for the people."

Passing of Common Sense Announced
Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Mr. Common Sense.
Mr. Sense had been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such value lessons as knowing when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm and that life isn't always fair. Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you earn) and reliable parenting strategies (adults, not kids, are in charge). His health began to rapidly deteriorate when well intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place.
(Continued on Page 5)

Chiefs Coach Andy Reid.. Retirement?
Some rumors are circulating that our amazing KC Chiefs head coach might be considering it's time at 65. He was born in 1958.
Reports of a six-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate;
Teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch;
And a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.
Mr. Sense declined even further, when schools were required to get parental consent to administer aspirin to a student; but, could not inform the parents, when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.
Finally, Common Sense lost the will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband; churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their
(Continued on Page 5)

In This Issue:

- Culinary Cuisinartist Beverly Wittenborn on **for Snacking & Entertaining** **Single Mothers contributor RJ Thesman
- David Highfill on **MASL Draft Pick Jony Munoz** ** Ethel Mae on **Anticipating the New Year** P. 1 *** Janine Clark-Barry on **My Sweet Gum Tree** P. 10
- Ed Hayes on **Politicians, Elections, Our Police** P. 10
- Allison Bougland on **A Great Getaway** P. 8 *** Send us your story ideas to jccogazette@gmail.com Please watch for **Red Light runners** ** Please thank store managers for allowing the Gazette racks.*** **Extra As If Your Life Depends On It!**

Please don't get ripped off by the huge ad budget plumbers. They may be good, but you pay a fortune. Shop for local guys who have good references. We use JoeJoe Plumbing 913-208-1509, landlords use Joe

Judged Olathe Area's Best Hair Care* Salons

*Based on JCG random sampling done 9/18/20

The Hair Shop
Simply Great Family Hair & RETAILING CENTER
East Olathe Location
16120 W. 135th St (near Kohls)
Santa Fe & Brougham-Next to Olathe Library
397-9888 397-8808
K-7 (Parker) & Santa Fe near Price Chopper
West Olathe Location
829-6611 829-4868
51 Professionals in 2 Locations to Serve You
East Hours M-Thur 9-8:Fri 8-7 Sat, 8-5,Closed Sun
Hours at Hair Shop West
Hours M-Th 8-8:Fri 8-7 Sat, 8-5,Closed Sun
Based on Private Market Study 10/18

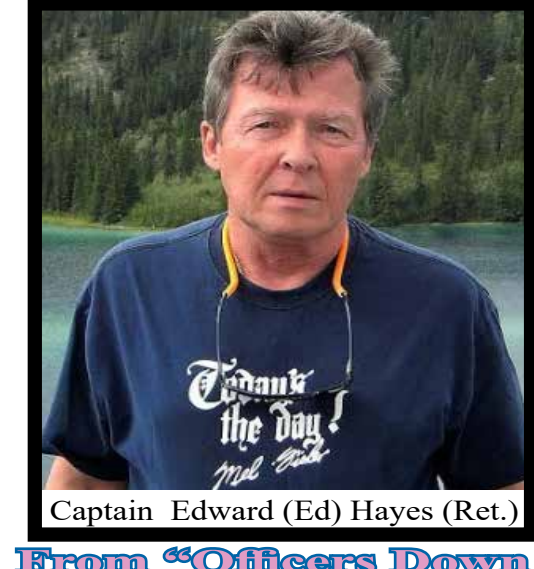
See **Coupons** Inside Page 9

Hair Shop's Featured Stylist
 Kathy Vaughn, Owner

Kathy Featured Stylist at the HairShop

THE HAYES REPORT

By Johnson County Deputy Sheriff Captain Ed Hayes, Retired



From "Officers Down Memorial Page,"
122 Dead Police Officers in 2023!
7 K-9's
(Continued on Page 10)

- Ad Content of Great Interest**
- Lexington, Mo Tours P. 11
 - Fixed 40 P. 3
 - Olathe Ford 50 Years P. 1
 - Dale's New Year P. 12
 - KLF Construction P. 12
 - Olathe Youth Baseball Quality Structures P. 2
 - Jumpin' Catfish P. 9
 - John Brown Museum P. 3
 - SleepEasyChimneySweep P. 9
 - Olathe Historical Society Sunrise Tours P. 2
 - State Farm P. 8, 10
 - Famous Realtors P. 8

The Fun Forester
TRES ARE AWESOME!
By Janine Clark-Barry, B.S. Forestry



Do you know what Services H.E.R.S. Inc. provides...

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Lawn Mower/Small Engine Repair
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Ball Joints, End Rods, Levers, Heim Joints, Swivel Eyes and more...
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Dealers for

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Bad Boy, Briggs & Stratton
Generac, Dixon and more...



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Saturday: Seasonal, Sundays: Closed

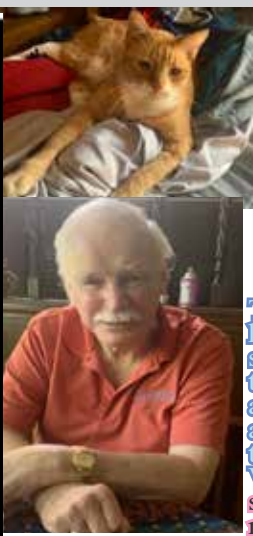
Stop in and check out our mowers, ask questions, kick the tires and take a test drive.

From The Publisher

Community Information by Keith E. Johnson

Johnson's County Gazette

Since October 1977
Johnson County's Only Locally-Owned Newspaper
(913) 782-3399, (913) 782-1133 jocogazette@gmail.com



To those of you kind souls who see us delivering the paper, please and speak to us about how much we like the paper. We say, "Thanks so very, very much!"

Since October 1977 Olathe's Only Newspaper Call me with your news (913) 782-3399 / (913) 782-1133 We love to hear from our Readers. We want you to be in print.

The Gazette is a conservative publication which runs items of a conservative nature. We will welcome liberal and left-wing articles for consideration.

From The Publisher

We at the Gazette especially salute all our school bus drivers in Gazette Country. You guys and gals are saints to put up with the nonsense, abuse, and lack of discipline in our spoiled rotten young people. I don't know how you keep your sanity. And thanks for reading the Gazettes that they allow us to leave in the BusBarn!! Uncle Kenny (Kassen) our crack and crack(ed) Delivery Specialist 1st Class tells me how you drivers are feeling. God bless you all.!! *** Kia & Hyundai car thefts are up 1,000% from last year. Ouch!! ***One of the absolute smallest particles known to man. The Quark. Millions of them could fit in the period at the end of this sentence. Prons and Leptons are other particles that are smaller than an atom. ** 2 doctors,

proctologist (your excretory system doctor) and the other a psychiatrist opened a joint office. They only had one shingle left to put their sign on. Guess what they named the practice? Smith & Jones.

Specialists in Odds & Ends. *** Asia has 48 countries, Africa 54, Latin America 33, Europe 44. N. America 23, (Caribbean, Central America) ** Elected and chosen biggest travelers' disappointments: 1. Worst is Dubai 2. Disney Parks rude crowds, huge waiting lines, \$\$\$ 3. Plymouth Rock - just a rock, no theme park LOL, 4. Niagara Falls, just water, too cold to swim 5. Los Angeles, overwhelming, horrible traffic, over-priced, rude crowds, ** Scurvy is lack of Vitamin C, why British sailors called 'limoys' 'cause you were forced to eat them to avoid the disease and Ricketts in lack of Vitamin D, bone disease**

Don't let your dog to grow up to eat money. Cecil a 7yr old Golden Doodle ate \$4,000 cash idiot owners left on kitchen table. Painsstakingly, the owners went thru his excrement and were able to assemble, partly enough to have serial number, \$3,500, evidently \$ 450 was Cecil's commission, we guess. Angry, being left behind, dogs will find something with your scent on it and destroy it. Keep money out of your canine's teeth. *** 16% of US adults are addicted to something, alcohol, pain-killers, nicotine. ** The IRS will never call you, it's a FRAUD.

It possesses the same full-bodied flavor of the toilet bowl, yet has a distinctive woody taste...

Taylor Swift and other celebrities are being exploited by scammers who call at random, trying to get you to buy some amazing bargain (fraud) and also give them all your bank and credit card info, by offering incredible offers. ** AI Artificial Intelligence is being used to imitate her voice and make stupid people believe that is she who is calling. Don't answer the phone, if you don't know who is calling, especially, if you are a senior citizen, like me. Have a friend, son or daughter show you how to block numbers, after you have once received the calls. It is so easy I can even do it. LOL . I have blocked permanently over 150 numbers. ** The name of the country to the north, CANADA, comes from the Huron-Iroquois Indian word for "small village". In 1535, two aboriginal youths told French explorer Jacques Cartier about the route to "KANATA". They were referring to the actual village of Stadacona, the site of today's Quebec City, Quebec. Now, you know!

Comments Made in 1957 (serialized 1/24)

Comments I'll tell you one thing, if things keep going the way they are, it's going to be impossible to buy a week's groceries for \$20.

Santa Claus Is Here A few days after Christmas, my six-year-old son and I were talking. He asked, "Mom, is there a Santa Claus?" "Well, what do you think?" I asked him. He replied, "Well, my PlayStation that I got and my gift from Santa were wrapped in the same kind of wrapping paper." He thought for a minute and said, "I'll tell you what ... you and Dad can go on buying me presents and let's just forget we ever had this talk!"

The New French Cook The French will eat almost anything. A young cook decided that the French would enjoy feasting on rabbits and decided to raise rabbits in Paris and sell them to the finer restaurants in the city. He searched all over Paris seeking a suitable place to raise his rabbits. None could be found. Finally, an old priest at the cathedral said he could have a small area behind the rectory for his rabbits. He successfully raised a number of them, and when he went about Paris selling them, a restaurant owner asked him where he got such fresh rabbits. The young man replied, "I raise them myself, near the cathedral. In fact, I have a hutch back of Notre Dame."

Thought for today We may give without loving, but we cannot love without giving.

Thought for today.... Life is like a camera. Focus on what's important, Capture the good times, Develop from the negatives, And if things don't work out, Take another shot.

Don't Fight in a Road Rage Call 911 immediately, stay in your car, get license numbers, witnesses license numbers. Stay in car. Rest assured prosecution rates are high for this crime, we hope.

Camping Knowledge (serialized 12-15-23) From previous camping trips, it's important to remember the lessons learned while camping. Retaining these valuable tidbits will help jump-start your next camping adventure. * You can start a fire without matches by eating Mexican food, then breathing on a pile of dry sticks. * In emergency situations, you can survive in the wilderness by shooting small game with a sling- shot made from the elastic waistband of your underwear. * The guitar of the noisy teenager at the next campsite makes excellent kindling. * Check the washing instructions before purchasing any apparel to be worn camping. Buy only those that read "Beat on a rock in stream." * It's entirely possible to spend your whole vacation on a winding mountain road behind a large motor home.

COME TO JESUS Forgiveness and Eternal Life Await You, Pray "God forgive my sins and heal my life. Amen" Post Office Box 23705 Shawnee-Mission, Ks 66283

THE REASON PEOPLE SAY VINYL SOUNDS BETTER IS BECAUSE THE MUSIC WAS BETTER

All snowmen will now be referred to as "snowpeeps"; all reindeer as "air freight specialists"; and all elves as "Santa's size-challenged assistants."

The Year Santa Hired a Consultant

Relax David it's just a small surgery, don't panic.

My name is not David.

I know, I am David.

YOU'RE BRINGING FRIENDS? WE'RE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS... WHEN ONE OF US GOES OUT, WE ALL GO OUT!

SNOWMAN FOR SALE. NEEDS REPAIRS

IF AN AIRPLANE PILOT CAN REMEMBER ALL THE BUTTONS YOU TOO CAN USE THE TURN SIGNAL LEVER

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All snowmen will now be referred to as "snowpeeps"; all reindeer as "air freight specialists"; and all elves as "Santa's size-challenged assistants."

The Year Santa Hired a Consultant

Relax David it's just a small surgery, don't panic.

My name is not David.

I know, I am David.

YOU'RE BRINGING FRIENDS? WE'RE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS... WHEN ONE OF US GOES OUT, WE ALL GO OUT!

SNOWMAN FOR SALE. NEEDS REPAIRS

IF AN AIRPLANE PILOT CAN REMEMBER ALL THE BUTTONS YOU TOO CAN USE THE TURN SIGNAL LEVER

Comments Made in 1957 (serialized 1/24)

Comments I'll tell you one thing, if things keep going the way they are, it's going to be impossible to buy a week's groceries for \$20.

Santa Claus Is Here A few days after Christmas, my six-year-old son and I were talking. He asked, "Mom, is there a Santa Claus?" "Well, what do you think?" I asked him. He replied, "Well, my PlayStation that I got and my gift from Santa were wrapped in the same kind of wrapping paper." He thought for a minute and said, "I'll tell you what ... you and Dad can go on buying me presents and let's just forget we ever had this talk!"

The New French Cook The French will eat almost anything. A young cook decided that the French would enjoy feasting on rabbits and decided to raise rabbits in Paris and sell them to the finer restaurants in the city. He searched all over Paris seeking a suitable place to raise his rabbits. None could be found. Finally, an old priest at the cathedral said he could have a small area behind the rectory for his rabbits. He successfully raised a number of them, and when he went about Paris selling them, a restaurant owner asked him where he got such fresh rabbits. The young man replied, "I raise them myself, near the cathedral. In fact, I have a hutch back of Notre Dame."

Thought for today We may give without loving, but we cannot love without giving.

Thought for today.... Life is like a camera. Focus on what's important, Capture the good times, Develop from the negatives, And if things don't work out, Take another shot.

Don't Fight in a Road Rage Call 911 immediately, stay in your car, get license numbers, witnesses license numbers. Stay in car. Rest assured prosecution rates are high for this crime, we hope.

Camping Knowledge (serialized 12-15-23) From previous camping trips, it's important to remember the lessons learned while camping. Retaining these valuable tidbits will help jump-start your next camping adventure. * You can start a fire without matches by eating Mexican food, then breathing on a pile of dry sticks. * In emergency situations, you can survive in the wilderness by shooting small game with a sling- shot made from the elastic waistband of your underwear. * The guitar of the noisy teenager at the next campsite makes excellent kindling. * Check the washing instructions before purchasing any apparel to be worn camping. Buy only those that read "Beat on a rock in stream." * It's entirely possible to spend your whole vacation on a winding mountain road behind a large motor home.

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Charlotte O'Hara Gives Views on Matters in Johnson County



Johnson County District Three Commissioner Charlotte O'Hara

China Connection in Johnson County

Happy New Year!!!! I hope you feel better now that your wallets are lighter due to YOUR Board of County Commissioners on January 4, 2024 sending another \$5.5 million to build a fire station for Panasonic.

This is in addition to \$2 million the BOCC sent earlier for design work and \$7.5 million to fund road projects for Panasonic. County funding in total for the fire station and roads for Panasonic so far is \$15 million, which represents a 1 mill increase in your property taxes.

I love crony capitalism, steal from the poor and give it to the huge wealthy corporations. So, while on the subject of crony capitalism, I have been quite alarmed by the verification of my research indicating that Cnano USA is indeed a subordinate entity of a mainland Chinese company.

This is now verified by a report published December 22, 2023 by the Daily Caller stating, "Cnano USA is a wholly-owned subsidiary of C-Nano Technology Co., Ltd., which...is an entity that the China-based Cnano Jiangsu Technology Co., Ltd. (Cnano Jiangsu)

established in the British Virgin Islands, according to the Cnano Jiangsu's 2022 annual report."

Wow!!! Johnson County has really come up in the world!!!! We have successfully landed a Chinese CCP company in New Century AirCenter, home to an Army Reserve Unit with Chinook helicopters.

BUT wait, it gets better, not only did we sell a building to the Chinese, but SUBSIDIZED it with a 10-year Industrial Revenue Bond requiring them to only pay 30 cents a square foot in property taxes!!!! Let's see 30 cents a square foot for a 2,000 square foot house would be \$600.00 a year!!!! What a deal!!!! AND the annual increase in property tax is capped at 1.5%

Boy, this is a gift that keeps on giving. BUT there's more!!!! If any of us poor peons buy or sell our houses or small industrial buildings, we are REQUIRED to fill out an affidavit of value which ends up on the desk of the Johnson County Appraiser. This information is used to justify the exorbitant property taxes we all (except for the fat cats who have been granted corporate welfare, tax incentives) are paying. Further lightening YOUR wallets.

However, Cnano was not required to fill out the affidavit of value. Therefore, no one, other than the principals involved in the transaction, not you and not me, are allowed to be privy to the sale price on this 333,000 square foot building.

Remember, this is a Chinese company whose building is built on land owned by Johnson County and sold by the firm the Board of County Commissioners hired to oversee the build out of mega warehouses on the east side of New Century AirCenter. We own this land; we lease it to the Chinese and yet we are not allowed to see the sale price?

The deck indeed is stacked against us, just normal good folks of Johnson County, who continue to be asked and required to dole out money from our pockets and into the pockets of companies such as Panasonic and now Cnano.....Stay tuned, I will continue to report on the happenings at the BOCC.

EDUCATION



By Earl A Martin, Ed.D

Earl Martin, Ed.D. from Baker University, M.Ed. from Rutgers University; Special Education teacher, Principal of Countryside Elementary, and Director of Elementary Education in Olathe School District; retired as education instructor for Emporia State University.

Satan Club in Olathe High School

By Dr. Earl A Martin

Some of my Christian friends may not like my take in this article, but I find myself not panicking because a Satan Club has been approved by the Olathe School District.

Because of the reality of "Equal Access," school district officials either have to approve the Satan Club—orthey have to deny all student sponsored clubs, including Christian clubs, like the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

There are two key concepts here: "equal access" and "student sponsorship." Public schools are just that—public, meaning that all legitimate viewpoints have a right to be heard in a public setting. The right of free speech—whether we agree with another viewpoint or not—is paramount. By law, we can't ban one viewpoint we don't like, while promoting another in a public setting.

Paraphrasing, control of the message can be supported, however, if we choose to move to a private setting, such as a Christian or parochial school. And, because of increasingly controversial issues confronting public schools, I predict that private schools and home schooling will continue to increase enrollment in the next few years.

That is a legitimate stance. Student sponsorship is the second key concept. School districts can decide if ALL student activities have to be curriculum related AND sponsored by a faculty member, or if student sponsored interest groups can be allowed. If student sponsored student interest groups are allowed, then the door must be open to varying viewpoints. Courts have ruled that students do not lose their freedom of speech just because they are in school. These clubs must be student led, not "sponsored" or "promoted" by the school, district, or faculty.

If we want to see Christian groups (like Fellowship of Christian Athletes or a student Bible Club) or activities (like "Prayer at the Flagpole") thrive, we have to provide equal access to those who do not accept the Christian viewpoint. A Satan Club is an extreme position with a lot of shock power, (hence the national news notoriety) but if we run around screaming like our hair is on fire, we will absolutely guarantee its popularity.

I believe that Christians often don't know how to live in a secular world. We can't go about banning views and demanding that only a Christian message should be heard.

We should learn how to speak the Christian message in love to those who might choose not to hear it. That is, after all, the basic nature of Christianity and Inclusion

Coalition (13 members) gathered to be sworn in, as well as receive legal and board training. They consist of community members, local leaders, subject matter experts and more. Learn about our boards and coalitions and how you can get involved at boards.jocogov.org.

3) The BOCC took actions to move forward the Nelson Wastewater Treatment Facility rebuild. This will be Johnson County Government's largest project ever. There has been a massive amount of work and innovation done to strategically phase this project, procure the best project estimates and sub-contractor bids, come up with creative cost-saving ideas and utilize financing options that provide much lower interest rates than traditional methods. The result will be a savings of more than \$210 million for the project.

4) Officials cut the ribbon on a new space at the County Communications Center in Olathe for Johnson County Mental Health Center's crisis line team that answers calls to 988 and the local crisis line. The new space will improve the infrastructure and technology supporting the crisis line and open the door to a future connection with the county's 911 dispatchers. 5) Joe Waters, assistant county manager for Johnson County Government, retired after nearly 30 years of service. As director of facilities for the county, bureau chief and assistant county manager, he has been involved in 21 brand-new buildings, purchasing and remodeling nine buildings and remodeling or expanding another 12 facilities.



Johnson County District Six Commissioner Shirley Allen Brand

Top 5 News And Highlights From Johnson County Government - Dec. 2023

New Year! Interested in some of the ways Johnson County Government is benefitting your community? Here are the Top 5 Things to know from Dec. 2023! You can learn more about all of these by visiting jocogov.org. Be sure to sign up for our JoCo Monthly e-newsletter while you are there!

1) The Johnson County Board of County Commissioners entered a real estate sales contract with the owner of the La Quinta property in Lenexa with the intention of remodeling it into a homeless services center. An owner/operator will be identified through a competitive process in early 2024. Learn more at jocogov.org/homeless-services-center.

2) Our two new BOCC-appointed community coalitions met for the first time and did so as a joint meeting. Members of the Sustainability Coalition (15 members) and Diversity, Eq-

Bumper Stickers for Women

- So many men, so few who can afford me.
- God made us sisters, Prozac made us friends.
- If there's no chocolate in Heaven, I ain't going.
- My mother is a travel agent for guilt trips.
- Princess, having had sufficient experience with princes, seeks frog.
- Coffee, chocolate, men. Some things are just better rich.
- Don't treat me any differently than you would the queen.
- If you want breakfast in bed, sleep in the kitchen.
- Dinner is ready when the smoke alarm goes off.
- I'm out of estrogen, and I have a gun.
- Guys have feelings too. But like, who cares?
- Next mood swing: 6 minutes

Thought for today

It's hard when you miss people. But, you know, if you miss them it means you were lucky. It means you had someone special in your life, someone worth missing.

These questions were reportedly asked by elementary children and appeared in a newspaper article.

Dear God: How come you only have 10 rules and our school has millions?

Dear God: When you made the first man did he work as good as we do now?

Dear God: There were no clouds Saturday so I think I saw your feet. Did I really?

Dear God: I know there's a God because I go to His house on Sunday and see all the cars parked there.

Dear God: Where does yesterday go? Do you have it?

Dear God: I'm afraid of things at night more than in the day. So if you could keep the sun on longer that would be a good thing.

Having trouble with your new \$90,000 Electric Car?



Just remember...



You coulda had a V8



That's not a charger...



This is a charger!

Pesky Tele-marketer

The phone rang as I was sitting down to my anticipated evening meal and, as I answered, I was greeted with, "Is this Wilhelm Wagenhoss?"

This didn't sound anything like my name, so I asked, "Who is calling?"

The tele-marketer said he was with The Rubberband-Powered Freezer Company or something like that and then I asked him if he knew William personally and why was he calling this number. I then said, off to the side, "Get really good pictures of the body and all the blood."

I then turned back to the phone and advised the caller that he had entered a murder scene and must stay on the line because we had already traced this call and he would be receiving a summons to appear in the local courthouse to testify in this murder case.

I then questioned the caller at great length as to his name, address, phone number at home, at work, who he worked for, how he knew the dead guy and could he prove where he had been about one hour before he made this call. The tele-marketer was getting very concerned and his answers were given in a shaky voice.

Then I proceeded to tell him that we had located his position at his work place and the police were entering the building to take him into custody. At that point, I heard the phone fall and the scurrying of his running away.

My wife asked me, as I returned to the table, why I had tears streaming down my face and so help me, I couldn't tell her for about fifteen minutes.

My meal was cold, but oh-so-very enjoyable.

Opinions expressed here are not necessarily those of the Gazette ownership, its staff, or its advertisers. Letters to the Editor are welcomed from all our readership. In a FREE country, we encourage people to voice their opinions without fear of government censorship. If you have a viewpoint and wish to express it, please send your Letter to the Editor to us at jocogazette@gmail.com or The Johnson's County Gazette; 1616 Sunvale Drive, Olathe, Kansas 66062-2109.

Inspired by Philip R. Johnson (1932-2015) Now in our 48th Year Serving Johnson County Founder, Editor and Publisher -Keith Edwin Johnson

The Gazette was founded in 1977 by Keith E. Johnson and is published 22 times a year to serve the Johnson County, Kansas with an emphasis on Olathe. It is distributed at over 150 locations including 15 area Price Choppers, Hy-Vee, 3 Hen Houses, restaurants, retail, public buildings, libraries, Olathe Medical Center waiting rooms, break-rooms, offices, and other high traffic locations in Olathe, Overland Park, Lenexa, Spring Hill, Gardner, Lawrence, Oswatimie, Hillsdale, Soto, Paola, Shawnee, Louisburg. Every issue printed is picked up by someone. None are ever destroyed without being read. There is no waste. See us on the web at www.jocogazette.com

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"Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; for it is time to seek the LORD, till He come and rain righteousness upon you." Hosea 10:12 "Yes God, be it unto usa as you have spoken. Amen." My wife took up gardening... I wonder what she's going to plant

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Whispers of Hope

by RJ Thesman



As we begin a new year, many people decide to start fresh. They make resolutions or set goals, hoping to accomplish something significant in the next twelve months.

Single moms often do the same with a word or a verse for the year. We determine to eat better, exercise more, save more money, declutter, or change to a better job.

But let me introduce a new way to 'Start Over.' It happens when we make a mistake. When we say something harsh to our children or let the frustrations of life spill over into unwise decisions. Sometimes we need to be able to say, "I'm sorry. I made a mistake. Let's start over."

By admitting our faults, our children learn humility in action. They know Mom is not perfect, but she is also willing to work on her own issues. An apology teaches our children how to deal with the mistakes of others, admit our humanity, and improve our personalities. They see the prime example at home, so they learn how to apologize when they make a mistake.

So in 2024, if you make a mistake — and you will — be the better person. Apologize and start over. Do it with grace and love for your children.

RJ Thesman is the author of 24 books and 800+ articles. She is also a writing coach and an editor. Thesman lives in Olathe with her adult son and a spoiled cat. She enjoys gardening, reading, and cooking, especially anything with blueberries. Follow her blog at: <https://RJThesman.net>

A blonde woman visits her husband in prison. Before leaving, she tells a correction officer:

"You shouldn't make my husband work like that. He's exhausted!"

The officer laughs and says, "Are you kidding? He just eats and sleeps and stays in his cell!"

The wife replies:

"Bullshit! He just told me he's been digging a tunnel for months!"

~~~~~

Thought for today...  
Whatever you decide to do, make sure it makes you happy.

~~~~~

Rabbi Bloom was getting quite a reputation for his sermons.

His synagogue was always packed because his congregation didn't want to miss a single one of his words.

One Sabbath, one member had to go to another synagogue to attend a nephew's bar mitzva.

Because he didn't want to miss the sermon, he asked one of his non-Jewish friends to go in his place and tape the Rabbi's sermon.

In that way, he could listen to it when he got back.

When other members of the congregation saw what was going on, they too decided to ask their non-Jewish friends to go in their places to record the sermon.

They could then do other things, such as play golf or go to football.

Within a short time, there were 100 gentiles sitting in the synagogue recording the Rabbi's sermon.

The Rabbi got wise to this. So the following Sabbath, he, too, asked a non-Jewish friend to attend on his behalf.

His friend brought a tape recorder and played the Rabbi's pre-recorded sermon to the 100 non-Jews in the congregation who then recorded the sermon on their own machines.

This was believed to be the first incidence in history of "artificial insemination."

Do y'all remember, before the internet, that people thought the cause of stupidity was the lack of access to information? Yeah. It wasn't that.

I really think it's time to take the warning labels off of everything and let stupidity work itself out of the gene pool.

MIDWEST BEEF MEETS WISCONSIN DAIRY

Everybody Reads The GAZETTE

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Culver's Welcome to delicious.

Conflicting Proverbs

from Dale Applebaugh (serialized 12-1-23)

Cross your bridges when you come to them.

Forewarned is forearmed.

What's good for the goose is good for the gander.

One man's meat is another man's poison.

With age comes wisdom
Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings come all wise sayings.

The more, the merrier.

Two's company; three's a crowd

A quick fix for most of America's problems...



OPEN THE PIPELINES



CLOSE THE BORDER

Paddy says to Mick
"Have you heard the news? 3 Cliff Walkers have fallen to their deaths!"

"Unbelievable, says Mick, I can't believe they all had the same name!"

Apparently there's a third option between burial and cremation.

Poster found in a Church in France... (translated):

"When you enter this church it may be possible that you hear 'the call of God'. However, it is unlikely that He will call you on your mobile. Thank you for turning off your phones. If you want to talk to God, enter, choose a quiet place and talk to Him. If you want to see Him, send Him a text while driving."

WISHING YOU A HAPPY WHATEVER DOESN'T OFFEND YOU

At the doctor's waiting room, a man was sitting opposite a mother and her little daughter. He asks the little girl, "Hi there, and how old are you?" The little girl showed him 4 fingers to indicate she is 4 years old. The man says, "That is nice, but can't you talk?" The little girl replies, "Yes I can, but can't you count?"

Calls to Tech Support....
from Dale Applebaugh (serialized 1-24)
People wonder why are they paid so much for just being on the phone. Take a look:

Tech Support: "I need you to right-click on the Open Desktop."
Customer: "Ok."
Tech Support: "Did you get a pop-up menu?"
Customer: "No."
Tech Support: "Ok. Right click again. Do you see a pop-up menu?"
Customer: "No."
Tech Support: "Ok, sir. Can you tell me what you have done up until this point?"
Customer: "Sure, you told me to write 'click' and I wrote 'click'."

Customer: "I received the software update you sent, but I am still getting the same error message."
Tech Support: "Did you install the update?"
Customer: "No. Oh, am I supposed to install it to get it to work?"

A PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS SEEMS A LITTLE PRICEY

A drunkard was brought to court. Just before the trial there was a commotion in the gallery. The judge pounded the gavel on his table and shouted, "Order, order." The drunkard immediately responded, "Thank you, your honor, I'll have a scotch and soda."

Thought For The Day – It's okay if you don't agree with me. I can't force you to be right.
Jerry Walter

A very religious man lived right next door to an atheist. While the religious one prayed day in, day out, and was constantly on his knees in communion with his Lord, the atheist never even looked twice at a church. However, the atheist's life was good, he had a well-paying job and a beautiful wife, and his children were healthy and good-natured, whereas the pious man's job was strenuous and his wages were low, his wife was getting fatter every day and his kids wouldn't give him the time of the day.

So one day, deep in prayer as usual, he raised his eyes towards heaven and asked: "Oh God, I honor you every day, I ask your advice for every problem and confess to you my every sin. Yet my neighbor, who doesn't even believe in you and certainly never prays, seems blessed with every happiness, while I go poor and suffer many an indignity. Why is this?"

And a great voice was heard from above: **"BECAUSE HE DOESN'T BOTHER ME ALL THE TIME!"**

When I was young, I was poor. But after years of hard, honest and painstaking work, I'm no longer young.

~~~~~

Thought for today....  
To strengthen the muscles of your heart, the best exercise is lifting someone else's spirit whenever you can.

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# DECEMBER 28, 1955

## TOP 10 SONGS OF THE DAY

- SIXTEEN TONS – Tennessee Ernie Ford
- MEMORIES ARE MADE OF THIS – Dean Martin
- MOMENTS TO REMEMBER – The Four Lads
- I HEAR YOU KNOCKING – Gale Storm
- LOVE AND MARRIAGE – Frank Sinatra
- THE GREAT PRETENDER – The Platters
- NUTTIN' FOR CHRISTMAS – Art Mooney & Orchestra with Barry Gordon
- ONLY YOU – The Platters
- AUTUMN LEAVES – Roger Williams
- HE – Al Hibbler




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A little girl went up to her mother one day while holding her stomach saying, "Mommy, my stomach hurts." Her mother replied, "That's because it's empty, you have to put something into it!" She then prepared a bowl of soup. Later that day when the pastor and his wife were over for dinner. The pastor began to feel bad. Holding his head he said, "I have such a terrible headache!" The little girl looked up at him, giving him the sweetest smile that any little child could give. Then she said, "That's because it's empty, you have to put something into it!"

I Thessalonians 4:13-14: Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in Him

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**Dave Highfill**  
Account Representative  
Gazette Sports Editor

\* Over 30 Years in Advertising  
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**Johnson's County Gazette**

### American Legion Post 153

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Ann & I used the Olathe American Legion for our daughter's wedding reception and for our 50th Wedding Anniversary. All of us, my daughter included thought it was a perfect place to have those events.

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Anticipating the New Year

(Continued from Page 1)

Just to remind you, I didn't say how much I would lose and for how long. As I was showering the other day, I discovered that my toenails needed to be trimmed and my legs needed to be shaved. There was my weight loss for the time being! I pray that each of you have a wonderful New Year and enjoy good health, friends, family and the love of God in your lives.

Green New Deal

(Continued from page 1)

-- 15 pounds of Cobalt To manufacture the battery requires: -- 100 Kg of RAM chips -- 200 kg of aluminum, steel and/or plastic The Caterpillar 994A is used for the earth-moving to obtain the essential minerals. It consumes 264 gallons of diesel in 12 hours. Finally you get a "zero emissions" car. Presently, the bulk of the necessary minerals for manufacturing the batteries come from China or Africa. Much of the labor for getting the minerals in Africa is done by children! If we buy electric cars, it's China who profits most! A 2021 Tesla OEM battery is currently for sale on the Internet for \$4,999 not including shipping or installation.

Moonlight Nativity

(Continued from Page 1)

This is the third year for Moonlight Nativity, which now posts its own website, moonlightnativity.com. We saw visitors from several surrounding states and I was very pleased with the nice comments. Moonlight Nativity is very appealing to young families with children and to older adults, as it is a short walk-through taking approximately 30 minutes. The children enjoy being close up to and petting the animals. We do not require pre-registration and take everybody as they come. Even though additions and improvements will be supplemented each year, the Nativity will always be just the Christmas Story, as depicted in the Gospel of Luke, including the census, an inn, shepherds, angels and a manger scene. This year we had beautifully hand-carved wooden gifts for adults, with a special thanks to Alan Crawford. Small gifts were also available for children in the gym at the end of the walk. I am very blessed to have a good set of actors and helpers and wish to thank the following who made it all possible: Scott Berry; Eric and Melanie Clark; Jay Ebeling; Dave Highfill; Julius and Rachel Kibera; Davey and Bethany Kiker; Bob and Shelley Marshall; Jason, Christelle, Chaton and Trinity Porter; Roger and Vicki, Tim, Tyler,

The Sawyers' Living on Wheels for 21 Years



RV Gurus Gail & Fran Sawyer

I was at the checkout of a local Walmart. The cashier rang up \$46.64 charges. I gave her a fifty dollar bill. She gave me back \$46.64. I gave the money back to her and told her that she had made a mistake in MY favor. She became indignant and informed me she was educated and knew what she was doing, and she returned the money again. I gave her the money back -- same scenario! I departed the store with the \$46.64. They Walk Among Us! .....

I walked into a Starbucks with a buy-one-get-one-free coupon for a Grande Latte. I handed it to the girl and she looked over at a little chalkboard that said "buy one-get one free." "They're already buy-one-get-one-free," she said, "so I guess they're both free." She handed me my free lattes, and I walked out the door. They Walk Among Us! .....

One day I was walking down the beach with some friends, when one of them shouted, "Look at that dead bird!" Someone looked up at the sky and asked, "Where?" They Walk Among Us! .....

While looking at a house, my brother asked the real estate agent which direction was north; because, he explained, he didn't want the sun waking him up every morning. She asked, "Does the sun rise in the north?" When my brother explained that the sun rises in the East, and has for sometime; she shook her head and said, "Oh I don't keep up with all that stuff." They Walk Among Us!! .....

I used to work in technical support for a 24/7 call center. One day I got a call from an individual who asked what hours the call center was open. I told him, "The number you dialed is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week." He responded, "Is that Eastern or Pacific time?" Wanting to end the call quickly, I said, "Uh, Pacific." They Walk Among Us! .....

My sister has a lifesaving tool in her car designed to cut through a seat belt if she gets trapped. She keeps it in the trunk. They Walk Among Us!

My Sweet Gum Tree

(Continued from page 1)

form in the builder's mind. He must have seen her worth or it likely would have been bulldozed in favor of non-native turf grass. What was her worth to the builder? What is her worth to me? What about to Missouri or even the world? The builder likely saw potential in this sapling as shade in the front yard. Perhaps a nice place for a garden bench where picnics could happen. It would also have been a good showpiece in a sea of grass, adding a height of green in the summer and a multi-color leaf show in autumn. Perhaps he foresaw a strong branch to which a swing could be hung for children's entertainment. I came to this tree in the latter years of her current life. I value her shade, too, and the beauty she adds to the center of my yard; her ability to power through a dry summer and hold the soil in place, giving cool relief to all things in and under her crown. She is a mother of many other trees and nanny to hundreds of plants and animals, all dependent on her ecosystem to live and die in their micro habitats over which her branches extend. Many of these I derive joy from watching out my window in winter or up close in warmer weather. She also holds much of my yard décor and the various seasonal decorations I like to put out. Missouri counts her as a native daughter dutifully supporting the natural environment it is trying to rebuild. She is a place for native populations to live and thrive in, whether you're thinking mammalian, avian, reptilian or arthropods of the animal kingdom or saprophytes, fungal bodies or monocots of the plant kingdom. Liquidambar styraciflua is a tree of strength and bounty among the Missouri natives. The world appreciates her stalwart existence in a place she is meant to be. This tree is a player in the earth's game of life helping to keep the balance that is teetering on the edge of a very different existence which even humans are struggling to find comfort in. She is a sturdy cog in this machine because of the value one man put on her life. What power we don't even recognize that we have in each of our decisions, well-thought out or whimsical, both.

Happy New Year!

Janine Clark-Barry lives with her family in southwest Missouri



Janine Clark-Barry lives with her family in southwest Missouri



They sing because they can.

The Passing of Common

She spilled a bit in her lap, and was awarded a huge financial settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust, His wife, Discretion; His daughter, Responsibility; and his son, Reason.

He is survived by two stepbrothers; My Rights and Ima Whiner.

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.



Bruce Funeral Home advertisement with address, phone numbers, and services listed.

Sheila Newbanks

(Continued from Page 1)

Saturday morning parade, craft booths, funnel cakes, live music, or winning a stuffed panda.

Sheila Newbanks, who since 2008 has been the owner of Silvers Jewelry in Olathe, credits her passion for volunteering to Jim Silvers, from whom she eventually bought the store. In 1986, Sheila was Jim's employee; he convinced her to volunteer at Old Settlers. She smiles when talking about that first year as a volunteer, on the sidelines at the parade.

"There was no organization for the parade entries," she recalls. "I just stood on a corner and relayed each entry's number to the announcer."

As one of the parade spotters, she was also responsible for keeping track of each float's sponsors for the judges. She adds that she's done "just about everything" that has to do with Old Settlers.

After several years helping with the parade, Ms. Newbanks became more involved. In 1991, she was brought onto the main committee; in 1992, she was put in charge of the parade. Later, she was on the entertainment committee in addition to her other duties. In 1999 she was elected president of the Old Settlers Committee, and in 2000 was elected secretary. She resigned last year after more than 35 years.

Old Settlers officially begins on a Thursday, but the bulk of volunteer work goes into, "Load-in"-getting set up on the previous Wednesday night. Ms. Newbanks says that work generally begins at 5:00 PM and sometimes doesn't get finished until after midnight.

This is when the booths, signs, equipment, and supplies get put into place. Then after everything closes down Saturday night, it's the same process, but in reverse: Tear-Down. This can also last until the wee hours of the morning. Ms. Newbanks says that everyone on the Old Settlers Committee is grateful for all the volunteers.

She notes that several groups are there every year, including The Boy Scouts and the MANU women's basketball team. She admits that recruiting individual volunteers has been a challenge in recent years.

"Most of the people who are young enough and strong enough to do the physical part," she says, "have young families-and jobs."

In fact, the Old Settlers Committee (of which 90 percent are retired persons) has added a new feature to its website: a link for volunteers to sign up.

The committee is now actively recruiting all kinds of volunteers. Most pressing are people willing to work the parade, and do the physical set-up and tear-down work.

"They're trying to find young blood," as Ms. Newbanks puts it-which everyone knows can be tough; many of the experienced volunteers-who have often been moved into supervisory positions-are getting older, as well.

"The parade is basically controlled chaos," she says with a chuckle.

Of special concern to Ms. Newbanks is the Grange Pup concessionaire, who has been signaling that retirement might be coming up.

During the 30 years she was in charge of the Parade Committee, Ms. Newbanks was also chair or co-chair of the Entertainment Committee, which brings all the top-of-the-line musical acts to Old Settlers every year.

She adds that work on lining up entertainment begins as early as November-January, at the latest.

"It's hard work, sometimes," she admits. "Not constant, but hard."

Anyone interested in volunteering to help with Old Settlers, or just getting a behind-the-scenes peek, should visit their website:

https://johnsoncountyoldsettlers.com

Links to sign up as a volunteer are included.

Silvers Jewelry was founded in 1974, and offers custom jewelry, as well as pieces from skilled jewelers. The store is located at 115 S. Murlen in Olathe-just south of Santa Fe. Phone: (913) 782-5551. Hours: Tuesday through Friday 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM, Saturday 10:00 AM - 1:30 PM.

Pub. Note: Sheila is a treasure and sadly we are not producing folks like her anymore in any great number.

Thought for today .... Ships don't sink because of the water around them; ships sink because of the water that gets in them. Don't let what's happening around you get inside you and weigh you down.

Killer Space Heaters

(Continued from Page 1)

- Never use the space heater that seems old or damaged in anyway. Never use a space heater with a spliced, damaged or frayed cord. Never use a space heater on any type of extension cord. Always plug it directly into an outlet in good condition. Never plug a space heater into a multi-outlet plug strip or any type of wire moldplug strip along a baseboard. Never leave a space heater unattended and never put any combustibles by it that could get too close and catch on fire such as newspapers, magazines, draperies, laundry, etc. Never run a space heater on an uneven surface.

Space heaters on average consume anywhere from 1,500 to 1,850 watts these days - that is pretty much a 15 Amp circuit and in some cases a 20 Amp circuit if it's wattage rating exceeds 1850 watts.

A person has to be careful not to overload a 15 Amp general use circuit, because it can be carrying an entire room or rooms of lighting and outlet load already. Adding a space heater in many cases will be a tipping point and an overload, potentially melting devices or wiring or tripping a breaker.

Good examples of stronger 20 Amp circuits are kitchen counter circuit, dining room circuit, washer circuit - but again if the circuits have appliances that are being used on them already it could easily overload it and trip a breaker.

This is why ideally when a space heater has to be used - if there is not a good strong circuit or a dedicated circuit for it - if it does not have to be used on its top setting, that is the most ideal to help it coincide with existing circuitry.

When in doubt, call your qualified licensed Electrician to add a dedicated circuit in for where you operate the space heater, if there isn't one already.

Publisher's Note: Contact Electrician Jim Osmun at 913-548-8720. We have used Jim and his CFM Electric for many years. He is excellent in his work. His rates are reasonable, and we endorse him 100%. The US has hundreds of space heater fires every day. Don't you get killed by your Space

Really?

- A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blown apart. He often broke into song because he couldn't find the key. A lot of money is tainted. Taint yours and taint mine. A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat. He had a photographic memory which was never developed. Those who get too big for their britches will be exposed in the end. When you've seen one shopping center you've seen a mall. Those who jump off a Paris bridge are in Seine.



Kaleb V. Hale, Agent

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THE GOAL IS TO BUILD A LIFE



Officer, give the ticket to her. She does the driving. I just sit behind the wheel and do what I'm told.

General Meeting of Olathe Historical Society, Thursday, January 18, 2024, 7:00 PM, at Heritage Center, 1200 E. Kansas City Rd., Olathe, KS 66061. All interested folks are welcome.

HAPPY NEW YEAR banner with Olathe Historical Society wishes and a quote about acceptance and equality.

Our meeting program: Olathe's Leaders: 1940s - 1960s. Mike Haskin will be our speaker. A 1967 graduate of Olathe High School, he attended Baker University, then earned his Law Degree from UMKC Law School in 1976. In addition to practicing law here, Mike served Olathe as our 55th Mayor from 1993 to 1995. Among other achievements, Mike co-chaired Olathe's 150th Anniversary Celebration committee, a celebration which lasted throughout 2007. January 18, 7pm at the Heritage Center, 1200 Kansas City Road, Olathe.

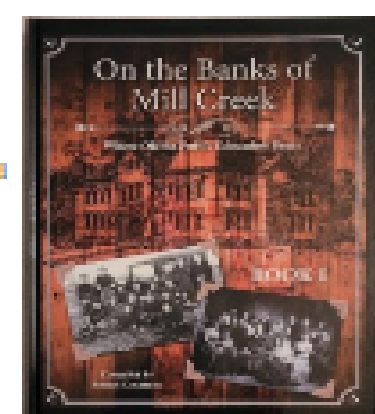


J. Michael Haskin

The Emmy Award-winning film series about the events and people who shaped Olathe's early days -- "Olathe: The City Beautiful" is now available in two video formats. To continue building your traditional DVD collection, visit Olathe Historical Society's website ...or watch the films on YouTube by going to https://www.YouTube.com/@OlatheCityBeautiful/Videos

Olathe Historical Society in the Community: A number of Olathe Historical Society members and board members volunteer their time, talent, and energy working with a variety of other local organizations. See our "Good Ol' Fashion School Days" display in the Heritage Center, 1200 E. Kansas City Rd, Olathe. Call 913-971-5501 for museum hours and admission rates.

On the Banks of Mill Creek - Where Olathe Public Education Began - Book 1: The history of education in Olathe, KS, from the late 1850s through 2022. It includes all known graduating high school seniors between 1870 - 1965. Author Robert Courtney would like this to be a resource for Olathe history and used for genealogy efforts. This book contains photographs, timeline information, excerpts from high school yearbooks and more. To order, click this picture or go to www.lulu.com and search "Olathe". Order proceeds benefit the scholarship fund of Olathe Public Schools Alumni Association (all public high schools in Olathe). Book 2 will be available in the coming months.





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### COIN AUCTION

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PREVIEW AT 12:30 PM  
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450 lots- 60 1987-2019 Silver Eagle, sev NGC graded; 35+ Sil \$ 1883-19 sev NGC graded; 10 1 oz sil rounds; 3 10 oz sil bars; 55 sil 50¢ 1900-64; 25 1967-69 50¢; 40 Standing Liberty 25¢; 35+ sil 25¢ 1928-64; 13 sets PDS dimes 1917-39; 75+ sil dimes 1897-1964; 7 V, 34 Buffalo, 7 war & 1989 proof nickels; 22 Indian penny 1897-1908; 2-1971 sil, 1972, 2-19 & 2003 mint sets; 1975 proof set; Joseph Barr \$1 note; \$1 sil cert and many other coins. Partial list.

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**TOOLS & MISC:** Miller Mig 130 EN, Miller Matic 175, Clark, Lincoln 225, & very old Miller 250 amp welders; Iron Horse 6.5 HP upright, Clark, Craftsman, 5 Hp Classic upright-vg, Pancake & Morgan air comp; 12 sp floor drill press, 5 sp drill press; Poulan Pro, Poulan 2075-like new, Mac 3200, & Homelite chain saws; 25 & 200 amp battery chgr; bench grinders on stands; band saw; 2-6' vises; 2 floor jacks; lg anvil on stand; 2 Craftsman rolling tool chests; 2 chop saws; miter saw; Schumacher sp chgr; Victor torch set & other torch set on whls; sm torch set; new Victor gauges; numerous other cutting torches & gauges; 2-1g & 1 sm O2 bottles; 5 acetylene bottles; 100 lb propane bot; 2-48" shop & Max Air fans; shop vacs; air tanks; Red Line & Reddy heaters; propane Mr. Heater NIB; lg slide hammer NIB; belt disc sander; Scotts reel mower; hi lift jacks; Milwaukee fuel M18 impact-like new; cherry picker; 2 lg hyd jacks; Drill Doctor; Fimco 12 v sprayer; pipe threaders NIB; DeWalt, Craftsman, Milwaukee, & other cordless tools some like new; port sprayer NIB; Tanaka gas string trimmer; air impact, ratchets, grinders & more; air hose; Dremel sets; body tools; tool boxes; car ramps; creeper; many el cords & jumper cables; many ratchet straps; cable come a long NIB, C & welding clamps; el drills, grinders, recip saws & routers; Skil scroll saw; Stihl gas leaf blower; sm hyd press; eng leveler; folding alum ramps; parts cleaner; 10' & 14' alum ext ladders; 1" socket set NIB; ¼"- ¾" socket sets; chain binders & boomers; lg bolt cutters; adj floor jacks NIB; many wrenches & sets up to 1 ¼" sets; jack stands; lg amt of hand tools; 30+ log chains; sev draw bars & top links; many ball hitches; power hand tools; 2 wh dollies; many yard & garden tools; 2- truck tool boxes; 2 sm tractor rear whls; yard dump cart; 3 pt dbl listers; 6' pull rotary mower; buzz saw frame & blade; heavy H beam drags; metal & wood work tables & storage cabs; screw & other jacks; pavers & concrete blocks; fire hydrant; feed store 2 whl dolly; many alum & other whls; power washer on barrel; live trap; Thompson water seal, sprays, oils, filters & anti-freeze; many gas cans; sm fridge; 5 sm crocks; antique desk & office chair.

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# Gazette Sports

Featuring Gazette Sports Editor Emeritus  
**David Highfill**



Gazette Sports Editor  
**DAVID HIGHFILL**

**Gazette Sports Glances**  
by Dave Highfill, Gazette Sports  
Congratulations to Jony Munoz (Mid America Nazarene) and Carson Lindsey (UMKC) on being drafted recently by the KC Comets. Munoz was selected in the 4th round and Lindsay in the 2nd round of the MASL draft.

"We are excited to draft two local players with great talent," said KC Comets head coach Stefan Stokic. Jony will be a great goal scorer and Carson has the potential to be a great defender. Excited to have them and see what the future holds."

A trio of former area all star football players played key roles in Kansas State's 28-19 Pop-Tarts Bowl game win over North Carolina State Dec. 28 in Orlando, Fla.

Anchoring the defense was senior weak-side linebacker Austin Moore, a Louisburg high grad. "It was a great win especially after our Senior night loss to Iowa State," said Moore.

We wanted to get this thing right and I think we did that. Our defense played a lot better."

It still took some late game heroics from former Olathe North standout Jacob Parrish to seal the win. The sophomore defensive back had a late fourth quarter interception that gave the Cats breathing room and proved pivotal in the outcome.

Not to be out done was senior Cooper Beebe, a Piper high grad. His offensive line play paved the way for 152 rushing yards by running back JD Giddens and 71 more by freshmen quarterback Avery Johnson.

Reflecting back on 2023, several area high schools celebrated state championships. The Olathe East boys soccer team claimed the 6A crown as did Kelsey Carbajo's Olathe West girls cross country team.

The Heritage Christian Academy girls volleyball team won its 5th state title and Gardner Edgerton celebrated its first boys cross country and football state titles. Congrats from the Joco Gazette to all the above teams, players and coaches on a tremendous effort!

Happy New Year  
**2024**

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**GET A QUOTE**

Ann & I have lived at 1616 E. Sunvale Drive in Old Havencroft since 1991. We have touched up the paint here and there, but sadly, realistically, being self-employed, busy as a beaver has meant, I haven't had time for preventative maintenance. This is where third generation, long-time family friend Sean Trammell and his crews comes in. "Keith, it's been a long time since we painted your house, do ya want a bid?" "Yes, sure", I said. What happened next, after they arrived was the most conscientious, thorough-going transformation of our long neglected ranch to a brand-new looking house! First, they carefully removed everything that needed to be moved, plants, trellises, broken downspouts, damaged gutters, rotten fascia boards, et al. Then, they power-washed. That alone made me feel better about our home. It was amazing what dirt & fading had done over those many, many years. Then, when dry, the courteous, thoughtful crewmen started the over 300 hundred or more feet of caulking, patching, replacing hardware, and more. Then, they removed windows, masked everything off and began the brushing, the spraying and the trim paint. I told the crew members they were not painters, they were truly ARTISTS fully restoring a 1967 vintage house to its former elegance. I rest my case. If you're ready for the Best at a Reasonable Price, do yourself and your home a favor, call Sean today!

Keith & Ann Johnson

**Comets Select Local**  
(Continued from Page 1)

Both draft picks succeeded at high levels with local collegiate men's soccer programs and will now have the opportunity to earn an MASL contract with the Comets.

"We're very excited to draft two local players with great talent," said Stefan Stokic, Comets head coach. "Jony can be a great goal-scorer and Carson has potential to be a great defender. We are very excited to have them and can't wait to see what the future holds for them."

Munoz was taken by the Comets in the 1st round and is fresh off winning a NAIA national championship with MidAmerica Nazarene University earlier this month. He was also named NAIA All-American First Team this past season after being named an All-American Honorable Mention and Heart Newcomer of the Year in 2022. Before his two years as a Pioneer, Munoz spent two years at UMKC and was Summit League All-Conference Second Team and Summit League All-Newcomer Team. He tallied 27 goals and 16 assists across 65 games at the collegiate level.

The Olathe, Kansas native became the first Kansan to win the National Gatorade Boys' Soccer Player of the Year in 2020 and was named MVP of the High School All-American Game. The former U.S. Under-16 Men's National Team player, Sporting KC Academy and Toca FC product also led Olathe West High School to its first State championship in 2019 under coach Matt Trumm.

Lindsey was drafted 4th in the 2nd round, 17th overall, after recently concluding his fifth season of collegiate eligibility and ending his three-year stint at UMKC where he played 42 games for the Roos. Lindsey transferred to the NCAA DI school after a standout two years at Columbia College, playing under former Comet John Klein. He was an NAIA First Team All-American and AMC Player of the Year his sophomore year after earning AMC Freshman of the Year and NAIA All-American Honorable Mention honors in his first year.

A native of Kansas City, Missouri, Lindsey also proved his scoring abilities in high school when he set a Park Hill South High School record with 30 goals in a single season. He played for Alliance FC before helping Columbia College to two consecutive NAIA Final Four appearances and back-to-back AMC Tournament championships.

**YMCA is ESSENTIAL**  
(Continued from Page 1)

above and beyond to address specific community needs.

Recognizing that community well-being extends beyond physical fitness, the Olathe YMCA actively engages with critical issues affecting Johnson County. Some of the largest issues that the local community faces is the lack resources, food, and loneliness. In response to these challenges, the Olathe YMCA has taken innovative steps to make a meaningful impact.

Collaborating with Harvesters, the Olathe YMCA hosts a monthly mobile food drive and maintains an in-house food pantry. However, understanding the importance of addressing food insecurity comprehensively, the YMCA has gone a step further by implementing a sustainable solution. The addition of 8 raised garden beds and a greenhouse not only supplements food resources with fresh produce but also creates opportunities for community engagement and volunteerism.

The garden beds and greenhouse initiative serves a dual purpose: addressing food insecurity and combating social isolation. Beyond providing fresh, locally grown produce, these additions create a platform for community members to come together through a shared interest in gardening. The act of volunteering in the garden not only offers a sense of purpose but also helps alleviate feelings of depression and loneliness by fostering meaningful connections within the community.

Furthermore, the greenhouse extends the growing season, ensuring a more consistent and reliable source of fresh produce throughout the year. This forward-thinking approach not only addresses immediate needs but also contributes to the long-term

~~~~~  
When I arrived at my mother's apartment complex, I was greeted by the disconcerting sight of a fire truck parked outside. There was no sign of smoke, and the firefighters didn't seem worried. Still, I asked one, "Is it safe to go inside? I'm a little wary of entering a building when the fire trucks' lights are on."

"Don't worry about it," he said. "We do it all the time."

~~~~~  
**Good idea...**  
I got kicked out of the Walmart break room today. They asked me what I was doing there. I said, "I'm on break. What do you think?" They said, "But you don't work here." I told them, "I just went through the self-checkout clearly, I do."



~~~~~  
I was on family leave, spending my days caring for my two-year-old son while pregnant with my second. To kill some time, I began watching the Game Show Network, and I got hooked.

One afternoon my husband came home from work to find the house in complete disarray and me plopped in front of the TV.

"So that's what you do while I'm at work?" he said smirking. "I just happened to have it on," I lied.

The next day we were watching the President give a speech. As he stepped out of his car and waved to his cheering supporters, my son shouted, "Look, Mommy, he won the car!"



When a woman in her sewing room says 5 more minutes... think last 5 minutes of 4th quarter and both teams have all their timeouts!

Pub Note: Our esteemed Sports Editor David Highfill endeavors to try to get all area schools to send us their sports news items. All are contacted, but few respond. If you're wondering why your school is not represented, it is most likely because the people in charge of sending out news items have not responded to our pleas.

The Gazette regrets that, as we have no favorites to run here. When people send us their news, we do everything we can to run it. KEJ



Gardner-Edgerton's Owen is Chiefs' Eric Driskell Coach of the Year

by Dave Highfill, Gazette Sports
The honors continue to come in for Jesse Owen and the 6A State champion Gardner Edgerton football team.

The Kansas City Chiefs announced Dec. 11 that Jesse Owen was named the **Eric Driskell High School Coach of the Year for the 2023 season.** The announcement took place as part of the Simone Awards held at Blue Valley Southwest high school.

"It's humbling to receive the **KC Chiefs Eric Driskell Coach of the Year Award**, said Owen who has a 25-11 record in 3 seasons at the Blazer helm. Coach Driskell was a man of great character and his message to 'Live like a Champion' still influences student-athletes today." This award is a reflection of the "quality" we have on our team.

This is not possible without the tremendous efforts of our coaching staff and players. In my opinion this is a great TEAM award to cap off our special season. I need to thank the Chiefs, the Simone family and PrepsKC."

In week four of this season Owen was named COTW honoree in Kansas after the Blazers blasted Mill Valley 49-10.

During the Blazers five-game playoff run, GEHS out-scored its opponents 179-35 and claimed the school's first-ever state football title with a 22-19 win over perennial power Derby.

"Our players and coaches were terrific this season and I am so happy for kids and community."

JESSE OWEN
HEAD COACH
FOOTBALL
owenj@usd231.com
GARDNER EDGERTON TRAILBLAZERS

Demolition Advancing At KU Football Stadium

by Dave Highfill, Gazette Sports
The 448 million renovation of David Booth Kansas Memorial stadium is well underway as crews are in demolition mode on a portion of the historic stadium.

The North and West side of the stadium are to be largely demolished and rebuilt. The east side and south will remain largely intact.

KU leaders have said they may need to move home games for the 2024 season to an offsite location. Arrowhead stadium is the most likely site and would keep the construction on schedule. Originally KU had planned to play 2024 games at Booth bit with seating capacity greatly reduced.

KU Chancellor Doug Girod said KU has not reached a deal with Arrowhead and would prefer to find a solution at home. A decision will likely be made by next month.

KSHSAA BOYS 6A BASKETBALL RANKINGS
BV NORTHWEST 5-0
SM NORTHWEST 5-0
OLATHE WEST 5-0
SM EAST 5-0
OLATHE SOUTH 4-0

GIRLS 6A KSHSAA 6A STATE RANKINGS
OLATHE SOUTH 5-0
BV NORTH 4-0
SM SOUTH 4-0
BV NORTHWEST 3-0
OLATHE WEST 4-0

AREA HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL AFTER THE HOLIDAY BREAK

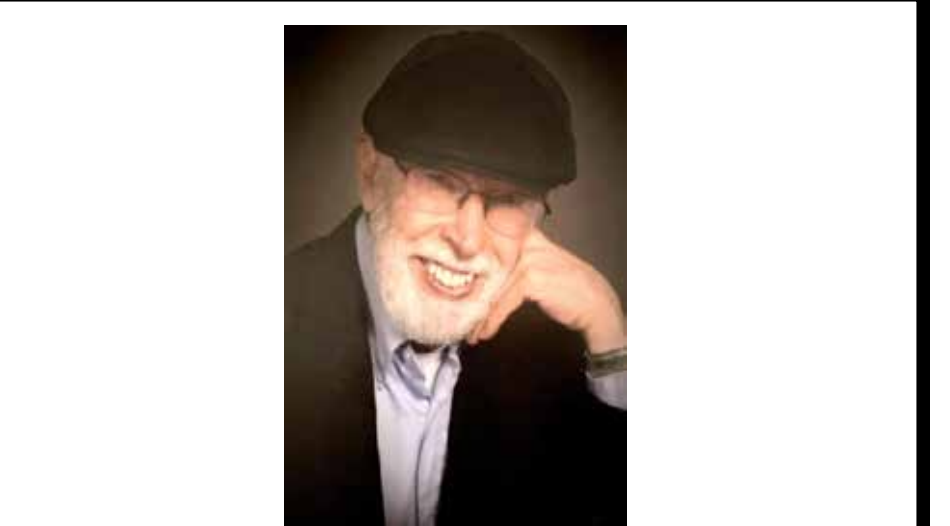
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Olathe South at Olathe North
Heritage Christian Academy at Kansas City Christian

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Good Morning



Raymond Leon Seger, 79, of Olathe, passed away on December 27, 2023 at home surrounded by his family.

He was born on August 25, 1944 to Raymond Lewis and Genevieve Magdalene Seger at Uvalde, TX.

Raymond worked as a Computer Analyst for Sprint, retiring in 2004.

On December 9th 1967, he married Janet Richardson, and they made their home in Olathe, Kansas.

He was a member of Knights of Columbus, and he enjoyed motorcycle riding, ushering at church, eucharistic ministry, baking cookies, yard work, the gun range and traveling with Jan and family and grandchildren.

Raymond is survived by his loving wife, Janet, children Raymond Todd Seger and Tara Michelle Sheaffer- Seger married to Andrew Casey Sheaffer, grandchildren Sierrah Arielle Sheaffer, Logan Michael Sheaffer, Alek Joshua Sheaffer, Alexander Caleb Sheaffer married to Astrid Gonzalez, Caitlin Rose Evans married to Prescott Evans and his sister Donna Marie Sumption.

He was preceded in death by his parents and Raymond Lewis Seger and Genevieve Magdalene Seger.

Memorials are suggested to the Knights of Columbus at Saint John Paul The Second - 18335 West 168th Terrace, Olathe KS 66062. To leave a message for the family, visit www.Penwellgabelkc.com

Don't you hate it when, you go somewhere special, and...

some cow turns up in an outfit exactly the same as yours!



Driving Into Winter (Continued from Page 1).

some extra clothes and a few essentials that should be in a vehicle regardless of the season. Items like a working flashlight, extra batteries, matches, candles and, if you regularly travel to areas with limited cell reception, some food. Cold, wet weather makes the difference between a bad day and a catastrophic one razor thin. If you do run into trouble, help will take longer to arrive and your survival will depend on what you have in your vehicle. Topping off your gas tank before a trip can ensure a few extra hours of heat if you get stranded.

Usually, your vehicle will offer the most protection from the elements and will be easier to spot in the elements than an individual. If it's safe, the best thing to do is stay inside the cab and keep warm. Being on the side of a slippery road with reduced visibility is a recipe for getting hit by oncoming traffic. And, in blizzard conditions, it's exceedingly easy to get lost just a few feet from your vehicle.

Common sense when driving also goes a long way. Check the weather on the route to your destination before leaving. You can even check road conditions at places like www.kandrive.org. Give yourself more time to account for driving slower and stopping more often if necessary. Do without the cruise control if it's snowing or icing out and remember four-wheel drive doesn't do anything to increase your ability to stop on slick surfaces.

If conditions allow you to be outside the vehicle, proceed with caution. If you're attempting to dig out of a snowbank or performing other physical tasks, take plenty of breaks and stay warm. Slow and steady will help keep one accident from becoming another.

It's far better to arrive at your destination a little late rather than never arrive at all. Take the extra time to prepare as we drive into winter so we can all enjoy the longer, warmer days that lie ahead.

"Insight" is a weekly column published by Kansas Farm Bureau, the state's largest farm organization whose mission is to strengthen agriculture and the lives of Kansans through advocacy.



"I keep writing 'Stone Age' instead of 'Bronze Age' on all my checks."

Stranger danger! When you hear a knock, look through the peephole or ask who's there before opening your door. If you didn't order room service or the drop-in seems like an odd time, double check that the hotel sent someone by calling the front desk

HUSBAND:

I want you to have this bracelet. It belonged to my Grandmother.

WIFE:

Why does it say, "Do not resuscitate?"

Honey And Bees Nature's Perfect Combination



I did not know this. I have local honey in my tea. Always using a metal spoon

Did you know that one of the world's first coins had a bee symbol?

Did you know that honey contains live enzymes?

Did you know that in contact with a metal spoon, these enzymes die?

The best way to eat honey is with a wooden spoon; if you can't find one, use a plastic spoon.

Did you know that honey contains a substance that helps the brain work better?

Did you know that honey is one of the few foods on earth that alone can sustain human life?

Did you know that bees saved people from starvation in Africa?

That a spoonful of honey is enough to keep a man alive for 24 hours?

Did you know that propolis produced by bees is one of the most powerful natural antibiotics?

Did you know that honey has no expiry date?

Did you know that the bodies of the world's greatest emperors were buried in gold coffins, then covered in honey to prevent putrefaction?

Did you know that the term "Honeymoon" (honeymoon) comes from the fact that the bride and groom consumed honey for fertility after their marriage?

Did you know that a bee lives less than 40 days, visits at least 1000 flowers and produces less than a teaspoon of honey, but for her it is the work of a lifetime.

Thank you precious bees!

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Mark McGilley, President

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Don't Get Sick or Robbed!

The Houglund Team Honors Mr Ralph Dennis

Steve Houglund Susan Lowe Allison Houglund

I hope your 2023 was a year to remember, in a good way! If you have some time, perhaps you can make a list of 2023's good (and less than good) happenings.

What are the lessons from 2023 you are taking into 2024? What I do know about 2024 is that none of us knows what it holds. That is the beauty of a brand new year. Merriam Webster has chosen the word authentic for 2024. (It's my choice as well)

Did you know that they choose the word of the year by the most searched word the year before? Does that mean people were trying to be authentic in 2023? or they were looking for authenticity in 2023?

It is definitely not a word, chosen by AI. Artificial intelligence would not be looking for authenticity! Looking to replicate it, yes. Perhaps it's the blossoming of artificial intelligence that is making people look for authenticity.

I know a lot of people have embraced, artificial intelligence, and the uses of it. There are people that would instruct AI to write this article "give me 400 words about bringing in a new year". And although that could possibly work, I don't think it would be authentic.

I think actual interaction/conversation/communication with real humans about real subjects is what we are all craving. That statement is probably a little overreaching. "All of us" don't ever want the same thing. Yet, I think possibly authentic connection could be the thing that we could all agree on.

I want to live in a world where actual intelligence is celebrated. Where mistakes are not only accepted — but celebrated — as stepping stones to knowledge. It has been said that mistakes will be repeated until the lesson is learned. Let's learn the lesson the first time. If not the first time, at least not repeat the same mistakes over and over again.

Let's go into 2024 being authentically who we are! Learning from our mistakes (and the mistakes of others) We will never really know who we could authentically connect with until we do!

Allison Houglund
The Dream Home Detective

"Ann and I used Steve Houglund for two recent real estate transactions and were very pleased with how everything went. We recommend him and his two associates!" KEJ

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2024 HAPPY NEW YEAR

Bev grew up on a farm in Carbondale, Ks., just south of Topeka, is a Kansas State graduate, in Home Economics Education. She is the Mother of 2 sons, married to former TWA, Ozark, and American Airlines Captain, US Air Force Lieutenant Colonel John Wittenborn; grandmother of three; who is a former Betty Crocker Award Winner and former Olathe Mayor Pro-Tem.

Bev Wittenborn
Gazette Culinary Cuisinartist
"At Your Service Recipes"

"At Your Service" Cookbooks are available for purchase at Feeney's Hallmark, Mahaffie Heritage Center, Junque Drawer Boutique, & Rhoades Family Dentistry. Or contact me, Beverly Wittenborn, at 782-6442.

It's a New Year! 2024! I'm very happy to have 2023 in the books! It's over! I'm more of an even numbers type of person, maybe because my birthday is 082448. No odd #'s there!

Sometimes though I do get a little odd and goofy, but most of the time I can recover from that! How did you ring in the New Year? We did the usual—watch the Ball Drop in New York Times Square at 11:00 PM Kansas Time, that makes it "Happy New Year"!

I don't remember the last time we actually stayed up until midnight Kansas time! However, I did wake up to the sound of fireworks at midnight, 2024! Or maybe that was just a late celebration for the Chiefs win earlier in the evening! New Year's Day can have some special food choices to ring in the New Year.

I made New Year's Bean Soup because I had made a ham earlier in December so had the ham hock to cook down and get a head start on the New Year's Bean Soup! My recipe is handwritten on a recipe card, so I must have had it for a long time! Some other New Year Day food traditions that are supposed to bring Good Luck include Hoppin' John, black eyed peas, collard greens, lentils, cabbage, pork and ham and fish. I learned that a German tradition is pork and sauerkraut.

I don't recall having sauerkraut on New Year's Day when growing up but I sort of remember my Aunt making sauerkraut in the fall after the cabbage harvest. The colder weather we are now experiencing is a time to make soup! I've made chili a couple of times already and my husband thought it was pretty good and told me to save the recipe. Save the recipe for chili?

I just start with a pound of ground beef, onions, can of tomatoes, can of beans, salt, pepper, garlic, and whatever else I seem to come up with! In other words, I don't really have a recipe! We went to a Chili Feed on New Year's Day at local Gardner Airport.

There were a lot of pots of chili to choose from! Chili of all types, the usual beef and tomato type, plus white chili. I tried that one, it was very good, similar to the White Chicken Chili that I make. I do follow the recipe for making that chili! I wondered what I should take to accompany the chili, and thought about cornbread, but ended up with plain ole' brownies.

I guess that was okay, because they all were consumed by others! Looking thru the recipes in "At Your Service" I see recipes from friends who have passed on and are now cooking up a feast in Heaven. I have shared those recipes before, Baked Potato Soup and Italian Sausage Soup so here are similar recipes. The Sweet Cornbread recipe is also similar to the long time ago Tippin's Cornbread. Pretty simple, made as muffins or bake in a pan.

White Cheddar Chicken Chili

- 2 lb. whole chicken
- 2 c. chicken stock, reserved
- 3 (14 1/2 oz.) cans Great White Northern beans, drained
- 1 (14 1/2 oz.) can Mexican-style tomatoes
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 (4 oz.) can diced green chilies
- 1/2 tsp. salt; 2 tsp. ground cumin
- 1 1/2 tsp. cayenne pepper; 1 tsp. oregano
- 3 c. Monterey Jack cheese, shredded
- 1 c. sour cream

In a slow cooker, cook chicken on LOW for 8 hours. Remove chicken and reserve 2 cups of chicken stock. Debone chicken and shred meat. In a stockpot, combine chicken, beans, tomatoes, onions, chilies, spices, and stock. Cook on medium heat for 1 hour. Ladle into soup bowls, sprinkle with cheese and a dollop of sour cream.

Ricki Jo Bjorgaard

Crock Pot Potato Soup

- 1 can cream of celery soup
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 ctn. chicken broth
- 1 Tbsp. dried onion flakes
- 1 to 2 oz. chopped cooked bacon
- 1 bag cubed frozen hash browns

Cook in crock pot 4 hours on LOW. Add 8 ounces cream cheese, softened and cubed. Microwave 3 potatoes; mash and then add as a thickener to soup. Cook another hour. Garnish with more bacon and shredded cheese.

Toby Schierling

Italian Sausage Tortellini Soup

- 1 lb. ground Italian sausage
- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 small chopped onion
- 1 c. shredded or chopped zucchini
- 1 c. shredded carrots
- 2 cans chopped tomatoes
- 2 cans tomato sauce
- 5 cans beef broth
- 2 bags cheese tortellini
- 1 c. red wine
- 4 to 5 cloves garlic, chopped
- Italian seasoning to taste
- Pepper to taste

Brown meat with seasonings; add veggies and cook till tender. Add tomatoes, broth, and sauce. Simmer 30 minutes to an hour. Add tortellini after soup has come to a boil. Serve with Italian cheeses.

Heidi Logan

Sweet Cornbread

- 8 1/2 oz. cornbread mix
 - 9 oz. yellow cake mix
 - 1/3 c. milk
 - 1/2 c. water
 - 2 eggs; 1/4 c. vegetable oil
- Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Grease and flour an 8-inch square baking pan. Put all ingredients in mixing bowl and stir to blend well. Pour into pan. Bake 35 minutes or until golden brown. Serve warm.

Carol Abell

Like Tippin's Corn Bread

- 2 Jiffy corn bread mixes
 - 1 yellow (2 layer) cake mix
- Prepare each mix according to instructions. Combine both mixes together. Pour into a 9x13 inch greased pan. Bake according to cake mix directions. May have to adjust time slightly.

Hint: Any size mixes will work, as long as weight of each is similar.

"At Your Service" cookbooks are available for purchase at Feeney's Hallmark, Mahaffie Heritage Center, Junque Drawer Boutique, and Rhoades Family Dentistry. Or contact me, Beverly Wittenborn, 782-6442.

Pub. Note: I envy your youth and would have gladly changed my environment to the great one that you had.



The Gazette
Women's Page
women in business - health & fitness - motherhood
kids - recipes - events - news - home life

GOOD QUESTIONS

- Is atheism a non-prophet organisation?
- I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, "Where's the self-help section?" She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.
- What if there were no hypothetical questions?
- If a deaf person swears, does his mother wash his hands with soap?
- If a man is standing in the middle of the forest speaking and there is no woman around to hear him ... is he still wrong?
- You might be a bad cook if:
- The leftover crumbs make a great replacement for kitty litter.
 - Those annoying pest control companies keep pestering you, wanting to buy and patent your recipe for candy Christmas cookies.
 - You forget and leave a gallon of your homemade ice cream on the porch overnight during a record busting heat - and the next afternoon, not only is it still solid, but it tastes better.
 - The EPA requires that all your garbage cans be marked with large bright red 'bio-hazard' symbols.
 - You use the smoke alarm as a cooking timer.
 - You consider it a culinary success if the pop-tart stays in one piece.
 - Your dog goes to the neighbors' to eat.
 - Your family buys Alka Seltzer and Kaopectate in bulk

Some Words Redefined

- ALIMONY...** The fee a woman charges for name dropping.
- CHARITY...** That generous impulse to give away something you have no use for.
- CHILDHOOD...** That happy period when nightmares occur only during sleep.
- City of Olathe Launches All-New OlatheConnect System**
- On Wednesday, Jan. 3, the City of Olathe will launch an all-new OlatheConnect system designed to provide a more streamlined and efficient experience for all users.
- The new OlatheConnect is designed to provide our residents, businesses, and visitors with a virtual City Hall, giving them the opportunity to access City Hall, 24-hours a day, 7-days a week, from a computer, mobile device, or the comfort of their own home.
- Users will need to create an account to access the new OlatheConnect, giving them more ability to track open requests and previous requests that have been closed.
- On Wednesday, Jan. 3, visit OlatheKS.gov/OlatheConnect to begin using the new system.
- A group of ten people is walking along a street as one of them finds a strange bottle. They rub it and, of course, out pops a genie. He says to them that they should form a line and he would grant each person one wish. The first person steps up and wishes to be a millionaire, suddenly there is a loud laugh from the back of the line. The second comes up and wishes to marry a beautiful woman. Again there is a loud laugh from the back of the line. The rest continue to make wishes until the last person comes up. The genie then asks him: "Alright Mr. Laughter, what's your wish?" The man replies: "My wish is to reverse all the other wishes."



"The stove is over here. How are you making egg on toast?"



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Recent Truly Heroic Americans Who Died in the Line of Service Over the Last Few Weeks



Ohio Deputy Sheriff Joshua Hamilton died in a head-on vehicle crash



Texas Sheriff's Deputy Sergeant Steven Gibson was killed in a head-on vehicle crash

A Gazette Feature Column:

Toward Being a Deputy Sheriff

Captain Edward (Ed) Hayes (Ret.) Johnson County Sheriff's Dept.

Ed Hayes (Continued from Page 1)

From Officers Down Memorial page

122 + Officers Killed in the Line of Duty This Year, the publisher gets my articles a week before it is in print. By then there will be more.

The Effects of COVID on Law Enforcement, by Officers Down Memorial Page

Beginning in early 2020, thousands of law enforcement officers and other first responders throughout the country began to contract COVID-19 during the worldwide pandemic.

Corrections agencies suffered tremendous losses due to the constant and proximity between the corrections officers and large inmate populations.

I was recently asked this question: "What are some potential reasons why the United States has not been able to come up with meaningful police reform?"

My answer: Do you, questioner, know what "police reform" IS? Please give me your definition, so I might better answer your question but for now:

The police have been "upgrading" (for lack of a better term) each and every year for decades. What they do, what training they go through, is mind boggling for anyone who has a semblance of common sense.

The amount of training and experience they get over the years, far exceeds that of the lawyer or judge who questions them in a court of law for the decision they had to make in seconds, while said lawyer has weeks, months or even years to research to make the case for the criminal they represent.

It takes years to develop the seasoned police officer, sheriff's deputy and all the rest. They go through "the police academy" depending on which state is months or a year, then they are in a ride along with an "FTO" A field training officer.

Welp, let me tell you why. The anti-American, American haters, the police haters have created a system they are now regretting. The "defund the police" movement that has taken over many or most of the larger cities and cities in between is now coming back to bite them in the ass.

NOW, they are crying for "more police" and that sort of vernacular. Why? Those of you with common sense know the answer. Because they see the rise in crime EVERYWHERE along with the enormous cuts in numbers of officers in nearly all departments over the US because of you, those that wanted the "Defund the police."

At the doctor's waiting room, a man was sitting opposite a mother and her little daughter. He asks the little girl, "Hi there, and how old are you?" The little girl showed him 4 fingers to indicate she is 4 years old.

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and now all I can say is this, and you can take it for what it is worth, and I mean this. IF there are any victims out there, I can only hope it is YOU, or your family, or fikeminded friend, not those of us that saw this coming.

What you have created here is going to take decades to repair, IF EVER.

More on the 2020 election, then we will move on. More from the Heritage Foundation: Election integrity is a pillar of our Republic, and without it, we won't last.

Unfortunately, we are not there yet. Recounts and pending litigation must be resolved to the satisfaction of the political parties and the Americans who support them and voted for them.

Election integrity is a pillar of our Republic, and without it, we won't last. For the sake of this election and all the subsequent elections in generations to come, we must come to a legitimate conclusion.

"We are an elite force, like a professional sports team, they want to be a part, politicians have taken that away from them, we are good at what we do!" That's killing bad guys, breaking their stuff, they light a fire that they can't put out so consider your invitation accepted.

My friends are really good at what they do, they train constantly, 24/7, 365, so allow my fraternity to do their job! Those that work all night need to know that politicians have their back.

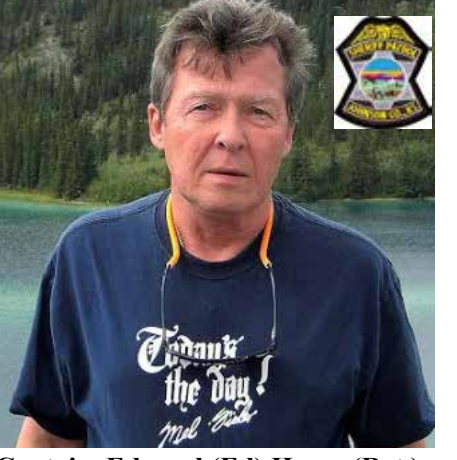
There may be mistakes, and politicians in suits and politicians wearing uniforms, fancy suit soft handed politicians need to hand them a medal, not an arrest warrant to make a point.

Comments from others: Rep Greg Steube, most Americans had concerns Official in different states changed procedures and states laws in violation of those states laws, in violation of the US Constitution where these laws changed the procedure of absentee and mail in ballots and you had no verification using COVID as an excuse for changing the law.

Jesee Jane Duff: "you have millions of ballots, they are all mailed in, yet no one is scrutinizing who actually filled out that ballot? After the election many people said "we have to challenge this, we have to have audits."

Dr. Sebastian Gorka, at 10:00 PM the president was winning and eight hours later the vote tally reverses and that's the context that changed the states.

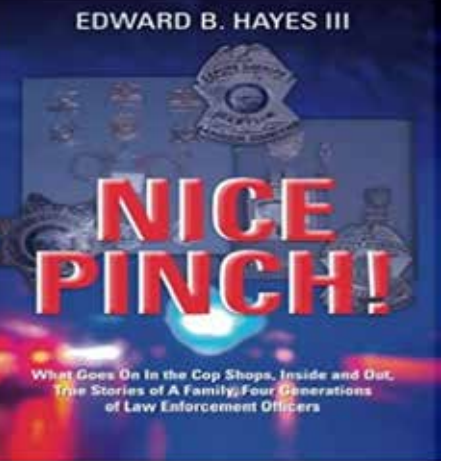
There are many other comments, evidences and documents regarding the 2020 election fraud by credible sources, not the media who will stop at nothing to convince you of an honest and fair election.



Captain Edward (Ed) Hayes (Ret.)

If you would like to know more about Johnson County, the metropolitan area, as well as law enforcement history, all branches, buy my book, "Nice Pinch."

You can contact Ed Hayes, americanpatriots@sbcglobal.net or call 913 620 0771



A federal judge in Georgia has ruled that there is substantial evidence of cybersecurity deficiencies in the state's election machines, potentially violating plaintiffs' constitutional rights.

The judge set a trial date for January 9, 2024, for the case filed by election integrity advocates and individual voters, who are requesting the use of hand-marked paper ballots instead of electronic voting machines.

The lawsuit includes expert reports highlighting weaknesses in the election system, prompting concerns and calls for compromise and legislative action.

"The Court notes that the recorded evidence does not suggest that the Plaintiffs are conspiracy theorists of any variety. Indeed, some of the nation's leading cybersecurity experts and computer scientists have provided testimony and affidavits on behalf of the Plaintiff's case in the long course of this litigation," the judge wrote.

"The Court cannot wave a magic wand in this case to address the varied challenges to our democracy and election system in recent years, including those presented in this case."

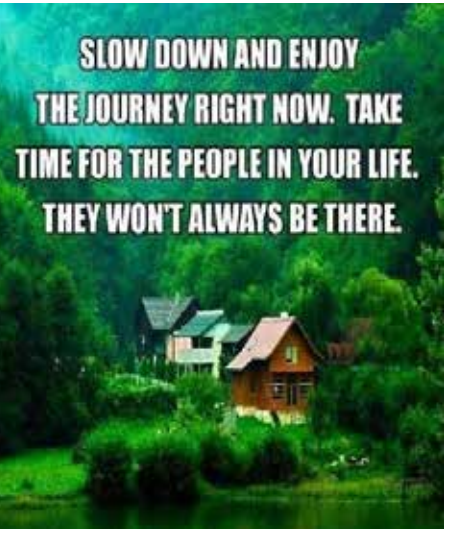
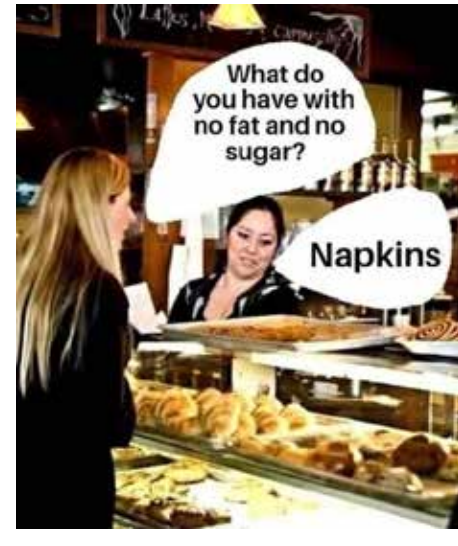
"But reasonable, timely discussion and compromise in this case, coupled with prompt, informed legislative action, might certainly make a difference that benefits the parties and the public."

The judge also rejected claims that criticism of the voting machines is based on conspiracy theories.

St. Louis lawyer Mark McCloskey and his wife, have been pardoned by Governor Mike Parsons, however "The Missouri Court of Appeals" in St. Louis refused to give back their firearms, an AR 15 and a small handgun, brandished by his wife during the Black Lives Matter parade past their St. Louis home.

If you would like to learn more about Johnson County, the metro area and law enforcement history, buy the book, "Nice Pinch" available at Amazon or order at Barnes & Noble, paperback or kindle.

Ed Hayes can be contacted by email at americanpatriots@sbcglobal.net, or call, 913 620 0771



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The employer asked the applicant, "I see you were last employed by a psychiatrist. Why did you leave?" "Well," she replied, "I just couldn't win."

"If I was late to work, I was hostile. If I was early, I had an anxiety complex. If I was on time, I was compulsive."

Thought for today
Life brings tears, smiles and memories.
The tears dry, the smiles fade, but the memories last forever.

Bernie was unfortunate enough to be hit by a truck and ended up in the hospital. His best friend Morris came to visit him.

Bernie struggles to tell Morris, "My wife Sadie visits me three times a day. She's so good to me. Every day, she reads to me at the bedside."

"What does she read?" asks Morris.

"My life insurance policy."

"Because It's A Gift That I Get To Open At The End Of Everyday."

Yesterday my daughter Grace was packing up to head back to her home after spending Christmas with me and she looked into my bedroom and said, "Do you do that everyday?" I replied, "Do what everyday?" She said, "Make your bed and put all those pillows on there?" I said, "Yes I do."

"Why, she responded, you are the only one who see's your bed?"

"Oh dear I make my bed every morning because it's a gift that I get to open at the end of everyday. A gift that not everyone has. So while I'm wrapping my bed in the morning and I'm unwrapping it at night I'm reminded of what a great blessing my bed really is in my life."

When we stop viewing what we have as little, insignificant or not enough, then we get to see what we do have as gifts we get to enjoy, great blessings in our lives and provision for our needs.

I'm thankful for my bed ♥



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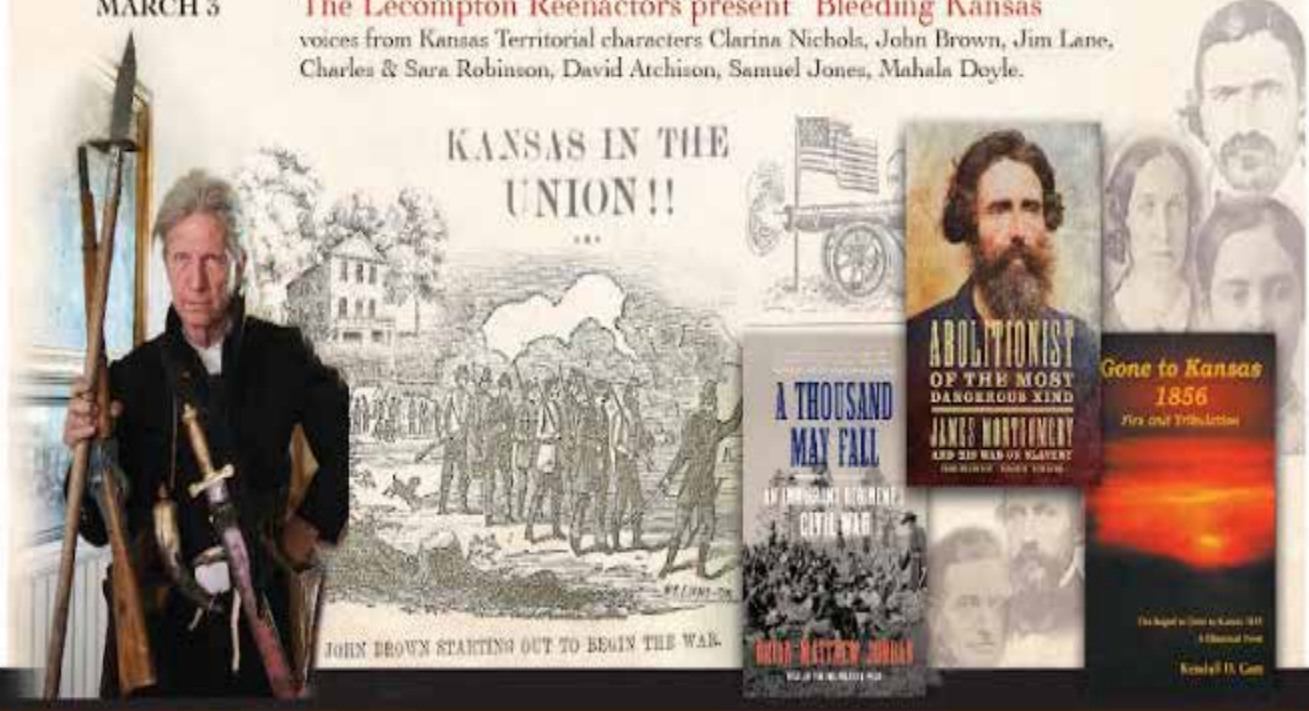
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- JANUARY 28 "Kansas Day"**
with David Toland, Kansas Lieutenant Governor and Kansas Secretary of Commerce; Patrick Zollner, Executive Director, Kansas Historical Society; Bridgette Jobe, Director, Kansas Tourism; Aiden Najafzadeh, student, Bishop Seabury Academy
- FEBRUARY 4 "Sitting on the Fence: Living in Bleeding Kansas between the Factions"**
by Kendall D. Gott, retired senior professor, Combat Studies Institute, Ft. Leavenworth and author. Book signing.
- FEBRUARY 11 "John Brown, Man of Action"**
by Grady Atwater, Administrator, John Brown Museum State Historic Site, Osawatimie
- FEBRUARY 18 "A Monopoly on Misfortune: An Immigrant Regiment in the Crucible of Civil War"**
by Dr. Brian Matthew Jordan, Associate Professor of History and Chair of the Department of History, Sam Houston State University. Book signing.
- FEBRUARY 25 "Abolitionist of the Most Dangerous Kind: James Montgomery and His War on Slavery"**
Todd Midfelt, author and retired Kansas public school educator and David D. Schafer, author and retired Park Ranger, National Park Service. Book signing.
- MARCH 5** The Lecompton Reenactors present "Bleeding Kansas" voices from Kansas Territorial characters Clarina Nichols, John Brown, Jim Lane, Charles & Sara Robinson, David Atchison, Samuel Jones, Mahala Doyle.



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May the almighty God strengthen your bond with family and friends this New Year. Wishing you a happy and prosperous New Year!

Happy New Year

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2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Jeremiah 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Isaiah 43:18-19 - "Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

Revelation 21:5 - And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

Ephesians 4:22-24 - To put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.



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victims.
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Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust, His wife, Discretion; His daughter, Responsibility; and his son, Reason.

He is survived by two stepbrothers; My Rights and Ima Whiner.

*Games Subject to Flexible Scheduling

Date	Opponent	Time	Network	W	L
Sept. 07	vs Detroit Lions	7:20 p.m.	NBC		L
Sept. 17	at Jacksonville Jaguars	12:00 p.m.	CBS	W	
Sept. 24	vs Chicago Bears	3:25 p.m.	FOX	W	
Oct. 01	at New York Jets	7:20 p.m.	NBC	W	
Oct. 08	at Minnesota Vikings	3:25 p.m.	CBS	W	
Oct. 12	vs Denver Broncos	7:15 p.m.	PRIME	W	
Oct. 22	vs Los Angeles Chargers	3:25 p.m.	CBS	W	
Oct. 29	at Denver Broncos	3:25 p.m.	CBS		L
Nov. 05	vs Miami Dolphins (Germany)	8:30 a.m.	NFLN	W	
BYE WEEK ■ HOME GAMES ■ AWAY GAMES					
Nov. 20	vs Philadelphia Eagles	7:15 p.m.	ESPN		L
Nov. 26	at Las Vegas Raiders	3:25 p.m.	CBS	W	
Dec. 03	at Green Bay Packers	7:20 p.m.	NBC		L
Dec. 10	vs Buffalo Bills	3:25 p.m.	CBS		L
Dec. 18	at New England Patriots	7:15 p.m.	ESPN		
Dec. 25	vs Las Vegas Raiders	12:00 p.m.	CBS		
Dec. 31	vs Cincinnati Bengals	3:25 p.m.	CBS		
Jan. 6 or 7	at Los Angeles Chargers	TBD	TBD		

W

