# Disney Employee 'Tell All'



## Former Disney Employees Spill The Beans and There's More To It Than We'd Think

Sarah Schuman This article was originally published on Kueez Depending on your location, you probably dreamed of a trip to Disney World growing up. The luckiest kiddos got to visit all the Disney parks, and they enjoyed the fun and fantasy. But what was it like for the workers who made the magic real? Now that we are all grown up in age — though not at heart — we can consider the other aspects of the happiest place on earth. But what is the real deal for the thousands employed there? We assure you, it's not what you would think!

(Continued on Page 5)

(Continued on Page 5)

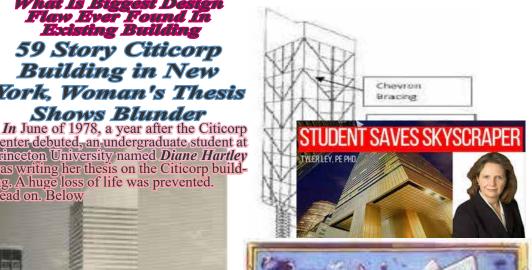
What Is Biggest Design Flaw Ever Found In Existing Building

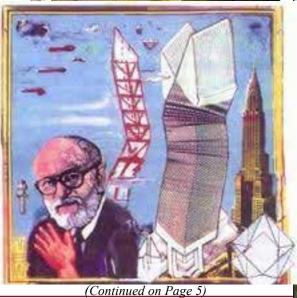
59 Story Citicorp

Building in New

Shows Blunder

g. A huge loss of life was prevented.





### TRUCK MONTH]

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### Bunn

By Ethel Mae Brewer

The Easter Season was always a time of celebration. We had traditions that mostly will be remembered by people my age or older. On Thursday,we would

get to boil the eggs that would be used in the Easter egg hunt at church. After the community Good Friday Service, we would get to spend hours coloring and decorating the eggs.
Saturday, all the kids would come in for the Eas-

ter Egg Hunt. It was such a fun time. We didn't

(Continued on Page 5)

Gazette publisher honored with A Special Star from Debbie Miller Star From Retired Us Flags at church dinner recently. "I feel greatly honored by Debbie and her husband, Jim, also a Veteran and thank them for this honor."

Are Given To Us Military



Debbie Miller presents US Army veteran Keith Johnson with a star from an American Flag that came from a tattered & t orn flag that has been retired. The inscription on the accompanying

J. HARWELL BORN 1914 GAVE UP SMOKING 1959 GAVE UP BOOZE 1973 GAVE UP RED 1983 DIED ANYWAY 1991

Veterans Across The Country.



I am a star from a tattered, faded and worn flag that was ready to be retired. Because of YOU, I was able to fly over the land of the free. Now I am a treasure given to you by a grateful citizen who honors your service and your sacrifice. I have been saved from the fire by the United States Daughters of 1812, Arkansas Society.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!!

note states, "I am a star ... from a flag that flew over the Land of the FREE. I am a treasure given to you by a grateful citizen who honors your service and sacrifice. I have been saved from the US Daughters of 1812, Arkansas Society. "

This is Jonas Salk (1914 - 1995) who decided not to patent his 1955 Polio Vaccine so that it would be affordable for

millions of people who couldn't afford it. As a result,

he lost out on an

estimated 7 billion dollars.

You are not too dirty for God to cleanse. You are not too broken for God to fix.

You are not too far for God to reach. You are not too guilty for God to forgive.

And you are not too worthless for God to love.

### THE LAW OFFICES OF MEOWSKI, CLAWSEN AND PURRTLE like it or not.



Do you have PTSD from spray bottles, vacuum cleaners or brooms? Do you have trauma from the elusive, uncatchable red dot? You may be entitled to catpensation

CALL MEOW! 1-800-CLAWYERS

Thought for today .....

So let me get this straight, I go to the grocery store and buy:



a loaf of bread in a plastic bag, a gallon of milk in a plastic jug, a pack of napkins in plastic wrap, a storemade salad in a plastic tub, a plastic bottle of mustard and ketchup, but they won't give me a plastic bag to carry it home because the plastic bag is bad for the environment?

### "Columbo can't figure this out."

**n, <u>Mo Tours</u> P. 11 rves NYC Bldg** P. 1 Olathe Ford Truck Month P. Dale's Easter Greeting P 12 Lecompton Capitol P. 12

Jumpin' Catfish P. 9

Dr Earl Martin. School Safety P. 3

State Farm P. 8, **H.E.R.S Free Lunch** P. 14

### The **8 Stupidest** Things Americans Overspend On (Hint: C

isn't One of Them I'm a massive coupon/savings nerd, and an embarrassing amount of my time is spent talking to people to find out how much they're spending. In my experience, the average American is overpaying for things on an almost daily basis.

(Continued on Page 7)

God. You know I won't stop

praying for my grandkids.

No matter how far

away they are.

no matter how

no matter

whether they

They are Yours. Please protect

them from

harm, and

deliver them

old they get, and



yarn made from ordinary plastic bags, Ann Johnson makes a 6 foot-long bed roll for homeless users. She's collecting plastic bags. If you wish to donate some plastic bags to this cause, drop them off at our house



Congresswoman (Ks-3rd Dist. D) Sharice Davids (right) spoke to the Olathe Noon Rotary Club recently. With her, former Rotary District Governor & Olathe City Councilman R. Wesley McCoy (center) and Club President Gregg Herbert, retiree from Enterprize Bank.

### In This Issue:

\*\*Culinary Cuisinartist Beverly Wittenborn on Asparagus \*\*Singl Mother Raise Quality Kids RJ Thesman p. 4 David Highfill Sports Sports at a Glance \*\*. Ethel Mao on The Green Easter Bunny 1\*\*\*\*Janine Clark-Barry on On P.1. Ed Hayes = Talk Radio I

and on **Hiring the Right Contractor Saves Headaches** Later P. 8 " \*\*\* \*\* Send us your story ideas to jocogazette@gmail.com
Please watch for Red Light runners \*\*- \*\* Please thank store managers for allowing the Gazette racks.\*\*

Please thank store

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

### The Hair Shop

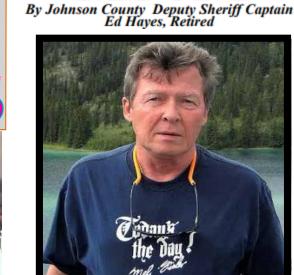
& RETAILING CENTER East Olathe Location 16120 W. 135th St (near Kohls) Santa Fe & Brougham-Next to Olathe Library 397-9888 397-8808

K-7 (Parker) & Santa Fe near Price Choppe 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\*

Patti Bagley has been a hair stylist for over 35 years and has worked at Hair Shop West 28 years of that time. "I'm married and have two children and four grandchildren. I do the usual haircuts and styles, highlights and prints and most colors. I'd love the opportunity of meeting you soon."





Captain Edward (Ed) Hayes (Ret.) From "Officers Down Memorial Page.<sup>2</sup> 135 Dead in 24 in '24 Police Officers!

(Continued on Page 10)



Sunflower Care Homes P. 4,13

SleepEasyChimneySweep P. 9 **r Care Co**i Sunrise Tours P. 2



(Continued on Page 4)

Cercis canadensis I (heart) U

By Janine Clark-Barry

tufts all along its branches.

es saying, "STILL ALIVE!".

for my toast on pancakes.

the springtime.

Greetings to New Friends & Old Ones

David "The King" Highfill, Bill Cole,

Becky Hernandez; All Our Readers:

Tony Otrosko, Sean Trammell, Ron

Nelson, Captain Geis, My precious

sister and second Mother, Jan Johnson Clark, The Helwigs, Karen & Max

Beets, Ken & Jean Kassen, Dale Ap-

dicott, Bob Daniels, John Felts, John &

Cheryl Calvert, Dave & Rosalie Sode,

Bob & Lila, Bev & John Wittenborn,

Ted Boone, Macy & Della, Tom & Ka-

Hougland, Dee Millbern, Sue Langs-

eth, Kiel & Nadine, Mick & Dave Mur-

phy, Wes & Nancy McCoy Don & Glo-

ria Bowman, Janice & Scott Tow, Joan

McDaniel, Hannah Minguicci, Luke

& Adrienne, Everyone at Dale's Body

Amanda York, Charles Losh, Heather

Schoonover, The Edgecombs, Cody at

Sutherlands; The First Sergeant, "Hol-

lywood". Chelsey at Dale's Tow, Ed &

Pat Hayes, Mary & Floyd, Bill & Lois,

Gene & Beanie, Stuart Stiles, Cassan-

dra T. Becky Gilmore Davis, Boost,

Angie Rainwater, Sharon Lydick,

From the Publisher

**NOT** put checks in your mail box

you knew of them, because <u>y</u>ou read

From the Publisher

New Horizon Academy Visit the New Horizon

S. Blackbob Road.

254-3614 or

Academy in Olathe at 15251

This beautiful facility is directed by Samantha Hughes and Brandy Thayer and is open for children 6 weeks to 5 years. Hours are 6:30 am to 6

p.m. Monday-Friday.

Their infancy through pre-kimdergarten programs use award-winning, research-based curriculum to prepare

children for academic success. Contact the Academy at 913-

newhorizonacademy.net

Happy Birthday, ANGIE! Happiest of Birthdays to Angie Rainwater. One of the best Gazette

supporters we have ever had. Make March 25 a great day, Angie!!

A man standing next to her suggests, "I don't know... why don't you play your age?"

grabbed by a great commotion at the roulette table. Maybe she won! He

The operator replies, "I don't know. She put all her money on 29, and 36

came up. Then, she just fainted!'

Moments later, his attention is

He walks away.

ind, thoughtful

### Visit One of the Area's Greatest Historic Sites! "A Remarkable Piece of History in our Own Backyard! Open !! We Are Open !! Where Slavery Birth Place Began to Die Kansas & National Historic Landmarks Tour -Shop - Eat Make plans to visit Lecompton to tour both museums, shop at Lecompton boutiques, and eat at Lecompton eateries!!

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640 East Woodson - Lecompton, Kansas Wed thru Sat. 10AM-4PM 785-887-6148

Sunday, 1PM-5pm.

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Lecompton, Ks 66050 785-887-6520 or 785-887-6148 Call

Lecompton is easy to find, from KC take K-10 (or Ks Turnpike) west to Douglas County Rd 1029, follow signs, 4 miles northwest 319 Elmore, cilities there. The docents Paul, Tim, Cyncilities there. The docents Paul, Tim, Cynthia & others are outstanding & very very Kansas friendly souls. A great day trip "kej

### Silvers Jewelry 115 S. Mur-Len, Olathe Ks. 66062 913-782-5551 It's time to Clean house so... We're having a... **SPRING CLEANING SALE** We need to make room for new arrivals so are consolidating and have an ENTIRE case of 50% off From now until it's gone! Tuesday-Friday 9am-5pm Saturday 10am-2pm We are closed Sunday and Monday

PLEASE DO NOT FEED THE PARK ANIMALS THEY BECOME DEPENDANT AND WILL SOON WANT **CELL PHONES** 





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

it how much We say, "T so very, much"

Since October 1977
Beets, Ken & Jean Kassen, Dale Ap-Olathe's Only Newspaper Call me with plebaugh George White, Margaret En-your news (913) 782-3399 / (913) 782- dicott, Bob Daniels, John Felts, John & 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 tie Marsh, Dave & Deanne Carr, Bob & Carol Watson, Cristina at Frye's, Steve

From The Publisher Bahamas dangerous, two Carnival Cruise passengers, raped on "safe beach"\*\* \*\* \*\* When charging your gas purchase, tug on the card scanner and see if it's a fake to steal your identity, and credit. \*\* \*\*Your eyes have receptors that tell brain to cut-off melatonin (makes you sleepy) when you wake up. \*

Two guys were riding in a car, arguing about how to say the name of the city that they were in. One said "Louie-ville" and the other "Louise-

They went on arguing and arguing, until they came upon a fast-food restaurant. The one guy goes inside and says to the waitress, "Please tell me the name of the place where I am right now, really, really, really

The waitress goes, "Bur-ger-King."

\*\* \* \* As we get older, we often are seeing someone *for the last time*. It is essential you give them a good lasting impression, not anger them, not hurt feelings. Works the other way, too. You want to be remembered as a nice person, agreeable, supportive, helpful, kind thoughtful You never know when you've said,
"Good bye!" for the last time. Be remembered as a good person. \*\* .\*\*DO Life is like a car for the letter carrier to get. \*\*\* Our paper is **FREE** because of our advertisers who pay for the printing. So, it is essential that, if you use one ride. Sometimes you go to the vet, sometimes you go to the park, and you don't know of our advertisers, that you tell them about their business in the **Gazette**. God bless you for reading our paper where you're going until you get there so just enjoy the

From the Publisher \* \*\* Need a quick approx. measure, a **Dollar Bill** is 6 inches long. \*\* I am now at the age where I can hide my own Easter Eggs. \*\* I don't know why, but players voted Chiefs management & ownershop least popular in NFL, who likes their boss, anyway, except me? Ann's my boss. \*\* Two Asian commercial \*\* I am now at the age where I can hide my own Easter Eggs. \*\* I don't know why, but players voted Chiefs management & ownershop least popular in NFL, who likes their boss, anyway, except me? Ann's my boss. \*\* Two Asian commercial passenger jet pilots both fell asleep in flight, fortunately chief pilot awoke or we'da been hearin' 'bout it



Care Prayer Concern ,Wilma & Bill Wilcox, Adis Stults, Wes Torneden, Dr Bob Hull, Dave Tebbe, Robert "Bob" Edwards skin Sandhy Edwards, pneumonial; Becky Morgan, Bill Cole, Lyn Ketterman, Dennis Ficken, Alyssa Smith, Wanda Gourd, Nancy Carr, Anita Lofquest, Coach Dan Eakin, Peter Mitchell, Beverly Rainwater, Gary Osborn, Wes &Nancy McCoy, Dave Sode, Jason Prine, Jim Steele, Don Miller, Sgt E-7 Jerome, Deena Logsdon, Dolores Cortland, Dona Edwards, Gary Underwood, Lanny & Barb Smith, Jim Kennedy, Rick Jones, Lovce Backus, Brenda Herrig, Dorig Joyce Backus, Brenda Harris, Doris Bender; Michael Tuttle, Lucas Butler: Todd Lambert, Mark Swenson, Gary Wells, Robert Walker, Lee Hammond, Dave Harold, Sheila S, Caroline Cowden, Rachel Thornburg, Elvie Cain, Joe Marvil, The American Public & Its Leaders; Kenny McCoy, Anne Metcalf, Jack & Kelly Smith, Mary Ann Noll, Ricky Jo Bjorgaard, Richard Kauffman, Mary Cochran, all bed-ridden Gazette readers, the family of Randy Osler, the Family of Ann Hanlon ~~~~~~~

A man and his wife arrive from business trip and go to his favorite steakhouse unaware of the mad cow outbreak in his town. The waiter sits them and says, Our special today is duck or hrimp.

The man replies, I want a T-bone steak medium-vell."

The waiter, a bit miffed continues, What about the mad cow?" The man looks at the waiter and

"She can order for herself."



"Nathan, there's a gentleman here trying to pay with his phone.'

What defines a Thoroughbread

Thoroughbred horses are a breed of horse that trace their origins back to three key sires, or "father" horses: **National Puppy Day** is on Saturday, Darley Arabian, Godolphin Arabian, March 23, and Camp Bow Wow is re-and Byerly Turk. The owners, for

leasing the top dog names in Kansaswhom the horses are named, trans-

great basketball player

Scott Pollard

"Congratulations for what?!?" says
had a heart transplant. \*\* Barney Allis
Plaza parking garage to be demolished.
I recall my dear departed grandmother,
Clara Aiken Speer, then a Missouri State
Legislator being present at the dedication in 1954. \*\* A Terabyte of memory
in a computer can store 100,000 photos
or 250,000 documents. \*\* Self-checkout may be on the way OUT. Target cutting them out soon, we hear. Too much
blatant, outright theft. We're not too
surprised. Sad, our thieving, sick culture
\*\* Look both ways twice, before pulling out into traffic. And as it warms up
watch OUT for MOTORCYCLES.

Saint Peter. "We're celebrating the fact
that you lived to be 160 years old."

"Tonly lived to be forty."

"That's impossible," says Saint Peter.
"We've added up your time sheets."

From the Publisher

Is it bad to take 1000 mg of ibuprofen?

Use the lowest dose that is effective
in treating your condition. An ibuprofen overdose can damage your
stomach or intestines. The maximum

stomach or intestines. The maximum amount of ibuprofen for adults is 800 milligrams per dose or 3200 mg per day (4 maximum doses).\*

Chiefs Butker kicker has had 9 consecutive field goals of more than 50 yards. I recall **Dempsey** of the Saints doing a 52 yd FG in the 80's and it was considered phenomenal. Now it is so common. **Field goals** are an essential part of most every game and should part of most every game and should never be deleted. \*\* Be sure to read front page story on NYC skyscraper that could have toppled if it had not been for a student finding an erro in structural engineer's work. \*\*Mexica was the name those down south called their native Americans. That is why they call it Mexico. The Spanish gave them the name Agec\*\* Roundabouts can be confusing, just remember, you always VIELD to the car or truck of always YIELD to the car or truck already IN the roundabout. They cut down on fatalities.\*\*\*\*

#### Gazette Humor

Sitting on the highway waiting to catch speeders, a state police officer saw a car puttering along at 22 M.P.H. He thinks to himself, that car is just as dangerous as a speeder. So, he turns his lights on and pulls the car over. Approaching the car, he notices there are 5 old ladies, two at the front and 3 at the back, wide eyed and looking like ghosts.

The driver obviously confused said, "Officer, I don't understand, I wasn't doing over the speed limit!,

wasn't doing over the speed limit!. What seems to be the problem?" "Ma'am," the officer said, "you should know that driving slower than the speed limit can also be dan-gerous". "Slower than the speed limit? NO SIR! I was doing exactly 22 miles an hour", the old woman said

proudly.

The officer containing a chuckle explains that 22 was the route number, not the speed limit. A bit embarrassed, the woman grinned, thanking the officer for pointing out her error. "Before I go Ma'am, I have to ask, is everyone OK?

These women seem badly shaken and haven't uttered a word all this time" "Oh! they will be alright in a minute, Officer, we just got off Route 142."

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.

Our Next Three Issues
We operate on advertising dollars
We will print on *March* 29, 2024
The deadlines are one week prior, so
any ad for the *next* issue, would have
to be at our office by March 22.
Future issues are March 29, April
26, May 24, June 28

Please send us your snapshots, your news items, and even your humor, by then. Mail to us at

Johnson's County Gazette,

1616 E. Sunvale Dr.; Olathe, KS 66062

or send by email to jocogazette@gmail.com 913-782-3399/913/782-1133

While on a car trip, an old couple stopped at a roadside restaurant for lunch.

The old woman unfortunately left her glasses on the table, but didn't miss them until they were back on the highway.

By then, they had to travel quite a distance before they could find a place to turn around.

The old man fussed and complained all the way back to the res-

When they finally arrived, as the old woman got out of the car to re-trieve her glasses, the old man said, "While you're in there, you might as well get my hat, too."

An old man is 85-year old and insists on taking his wife's hand ev-

erywhere they go. When a man asked him why his wife kept looking away, he responded, "Because she has Alzheimer's." the old man said

Then the man proceeded to ask him, will your wife worry if you let her

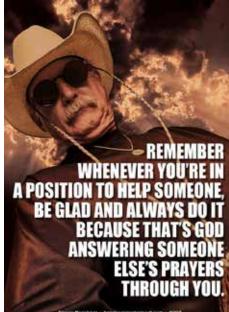
He then replied,

"She doesn't remember anything, she doesn't know who I am anymore, she hasn't recognized me for vears. Surprised, the old man said,

"And you have continued to guide her every single day even though she doesn't recognize you?" The elderly man smiled and looked into the man's eyes and said,

'She may not know who I am, but I know who she is, and she is the love of my life."





Boy aged 4: Dad, I've decided to get married.
Dad: Wonderful, do you have a girl in mind?!

Boy: Yes...grandma! She said she loves me. I love her, too...and she's the best cook and story teller

in the whole world! Dad: That's nice, but we have a small problem, there!!

Boy: What problem?! Dad: She happens to be my mother. How can you marry my

Boy: Why not?! You married mine!!!!

### COME TO JESUS

Forgiveness and **Eternal Life** Await You, "God forgive my sins and heal my life. Amen"

Post Office Box 23705 Shawnee-Mission, Ks 66283

Running through the sprinklers. Chasing down the ice cream truck. Riding bikes with friends around the neighborhood. Swinging so high that the poles lifted up out of the ground. Picking blueberries. Catching fireflies.

No internet. No cell phones. No social media. We headed home when the streetlights came on.

Those were the summers of my childhood... How lucky I was to have grown up before technology took over the world



### Charlotte O'Hara Gives Views on Matters in **Johnson County**



Johnson County District Three ommissioner Charlotte O'Hara

### Taxes Increase For You and Pay Increases For BOCC

Well, where to begin? Let's see, county. reappraisal notifications have been The current compensation packages mailed and again we'the people are for the remainder of the BOCC, per hammered by an average increase 2023 position detail: in value of nearly 8% (Spring Hill District 1, Commissioner Becky folks, over 12%). As we all know, Fast: \$72,198 the percentage of increase in valuation will result in a nearly identical \$67,733

is over 40%!!! For our neighbors in \$72,198 Spring Hill the increase is well over Chairman Kelly: \$97,639
50%. Since 2017 Spring Hill's averso why, suddenly, for Chairman Kelly agevaluations have increased 102% is increasing the BOCC pay NOW of Hill's valuationshave more than dou-bled with taxes following suit. The number of BOCC meetings rest of Johnson County is not far be-nearly 50% from 46 to 26. That went

missioners. This idea was brought to fatten his pay check to make up for forward andwas defeated as a recomthe loss of all those billable hours at mendation by a MINORITY of the his big fancy law firm? Charter Commission in their report

A priest is told by the bishop he is being moved to a new parish The

priest tells the congregation the news and after the service a wom-

an comes up to him crying: "This

is terrible news father, just terrible. You can't leave us. Refuse the move, tell the bishop to find someone else for the other church." The

priest puts his arm on the woman's

shoulder and says "I realize this is

difficult news for you Mrs. Johnson, but who knows? Maybe the

next priest for this parish will be

even better than me." "Oh sure," Mrs. Johnson says in hysterics.

"That's what they told us the last

the middle of the

road and hold up a

sign begging for

money for 6+ hrs

then you can get a

job! I said what I

said!!!

Jerry Walter

deeper it cuts.

time!'

mission's 2022 MINORITY opinion highlighting the urgency of address-ing the "underpayment of commis-sioners". Failure to increase compen-

sation would impinge upon the quality of those who seek to serve on the BOCC, according to the MI-NORITY report.

What are the current commissioner salaries? The base is \$47,349.00 fo district commissioners and \$75,000 for the Chairman. Then add benefits health insurance, phone allowance, car allowance, matching 401 K contributions and oh, the wonderful Kansas Public Employees Retirement System. I could never understand why ANY elected official would be allowed to be in the KPERS system Elected officials are not employees, or so I thought. Additionally, without a vote, for 2024 we were given a \$1,200 "technology" allowance. That would

be called a stealth pay increase.

I declined KPERS and health insurance and my total compensation for 2023 was \$53,458.38, according to my tax records sent to me by the

increase in our property tax bills.

The overall Johnson County average increase in valuation, since 2020,

The overall Johnson County average increase in valuation, since 2020,

District 4, Commissioner, Commissioner Hanzlick: \$67,733

District 5, Commissioner Ashcraft:

That's correct, in seven years Spring utmost importance? Remember late

over like a lead balloon. Perhaps be-Next, let's explore the HUGE and cause the 50% reduction of his time IMPENDING DISASTER, if not commitment as Chairman of the John immediately dealt with: increasing son County BOCC was not supported the pay for Johnson County Com- by the majority, it is now CRITICAI

Meanwhile, your taxes continue In our February 29 th Committee of the Whole, called by Chairman Kelly, staff dusted off the Charter Com-

abcdefghijklm 01234567891

Earl Martin, Ed.D. from Baker University, M.Ed. from Rutgers University; Special Education teacher, Principal of Countryside

By Earl A Martin, Ed.D

Elementary, and Director of Elementary Education in Olathe School District; retired as education instructor for Emporia State University.

#### **School Safety is** Paramount By Dr. Earl A. Martin

Who would have thought that within two years, Olathe Schools would have two student gun issues in schools: at Olathe East in 2022 and another this year at Olathe Northwest. The difference: that assistant principals and the SRO officer were shot during the incident at Olathe East and no-one was shot at North-

Who would have thought. Since the 1999 horrific Columbine school shooting, there have been 394 school shootings, killing 349 students and teachers – with the number of school shootings increasing dra-matically in the last 5 years (except

for the 2020 pandemic school year).

The average school shooter is 16 years old. And yet, there has been very little change at the political level. The United States is the only country in the world, where children are legitimately at risk at school. It is up to the school districts to take the lead in keeping kids safe. In Florida, high schools are now installing metal detectors. Who would have thought.

The Olathe School District does an exceptional job in implementing school safety protocols. From front door access control to visitor management, video cameras, to SRO availability, to ALICE (alert-lockdowninform-counter-evacuate) training for students AND staff, school safety has been on the ODS radar for many

ALICE was a training protocol that was implemented sometime ago. It basically means: hide, flee,

or fight. The "fight" piece was new to the school safety repertoire, with the idea that, if no other options are available and you are confronting a shooter, pick up something to throw at them or whatever to protect yourself, instead of just submitting to be-

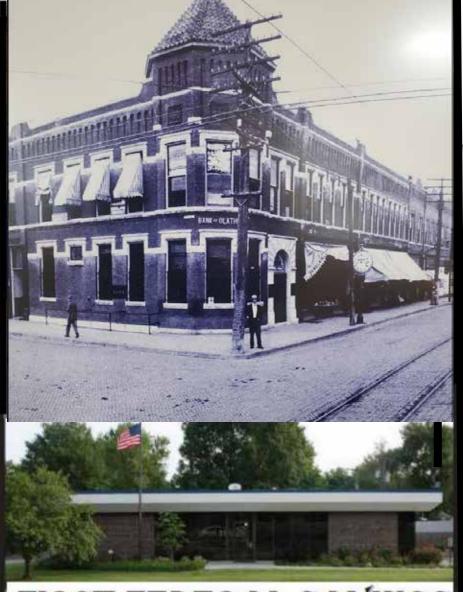
If you look at recent examples of school shootings, you'll often find one of these key strategies missing. The shooting in Uvalde, Texas apparently lacked school door access control. The shooter just walked right in. A recent 2023 school shooting was prevented because the front doors were locked and the would-be

shooter could not get in.

Recently, the Olathe School District introduced a new safety measure: Alert badges that allow any school staff member to alert the office if there is a safety emergency and even bring the school to lockdown if needed. Especially, in our large high school facilities, something like this can avert a tragedy when time is of the essence when time is of the essence.

The motto: "It takes a village" applies here. We all have a responsibility to cooperate with school safety measures AND "to say something if we see something." In both cases at Olathe high schools, a student reported that another student had a gun. In 80% of the time, a school shooter tells somebody about their

And maybe we should think about insisting that our elected representatives make school safety a priority by enacting common-sense gun safety laws that keep disturbed 16-year-olds from accessing high powered killing machines.



FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS FDIC & LOAN BANK

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FOUNDED DECEMBER 15, 1923

### Letters to the editor

Hi, Dave.

I hope you are well! I must apologize for being so absent from responding for a while. I just got quite behind on emails the last couple months!

Thank you for the copy of the Gazette! That was great to see. It's been a while since I held a newspaper in my hands. You've got so Thought For The Day – When your children are teenagers, it's important to have a dog, so that someone in the house is happy to see you.

Jerry Walter

paper in my hands. You've got so much interesting and entertaining information! We appreciate the opportunity to include LUMC information.

I wondered if it might be easiest,

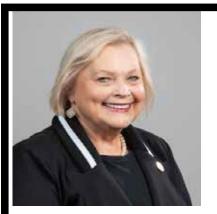
I wondered if it might be easiest, If you can stand in weekly newsletter, CrossLinks. It has information about Maundy Thursday, Palm Sunday activities (egg hunt for the kids), Easter, and a few other activities.

A returning activity this month is Park and Play, a time for families to meet up at different local parks once a month to play (and there will be a little music/story time at the end). https://lenexaumc.org/ crosslinks/ (This can also be found on the website, www.lumc.org, un-der "resources.")

Thank you again for reaching

back out, and again, my apologies for taking so long to get back to you! Hope you have a great rest of your week!

Thought For The Day – A tongue is like a knife. The sharper it is, the Lenexa United Methodist Church **GAZETTE** 



Johnson County District Six Commissioner Shirley Allenbrand

#### Top 5 News and Highlights from Johnson Sounty Government – Feb. 2024

Interested in some of the ways ohnson County Government is benefitting your community? Here are the Top 5 Things to know from Feb. 2024! 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

1) The application window is open until April 15 for the Senior and Disabled Veteran Property Tax Relief program. Johnson County residents who are 65 or older or are a disabled veteran and who meet income and other requirements may now apply for up to \$200 in property tax relief.

Learn more at ocogov.org/PropertyTaxRelief. 2) If you get your drinking water from WaterOne, you probably heard about a one-time adjustment that

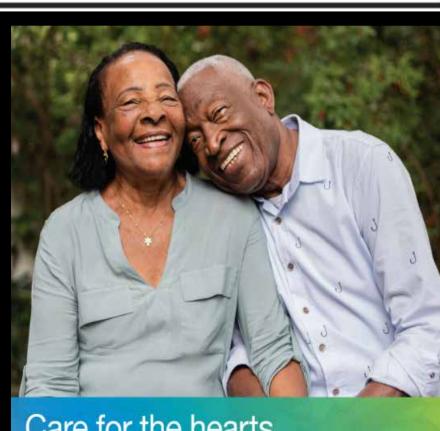
will shift the date they will issue you water bill. If Johnson County Waste water is your sanitary sewer

provider, that bill cycle will also b adjusted because your wastewate bill is based on your usage of wate provided by WaterOne. If you hav questions about your Johnson Count Wastewater bill, please call 913-715

3) By now, you should have received your property's Notice of Appraise Value. While Johnson County exper enced double-digit average increase in valuations the past few years, th county is experiencing single digi increases this year. The Appraiser' Office has launched a new appeal portal for property owners to file a online appeal. Learn more at jocogov org/appraiser.

4) Thanks to a multi-year project that involved several public comment op portunities, Land developers in John son County will have a better under standing of what is allowed near th county's airports after a change to th land use compatibility plans approve on Feb 22. The Johnson Count Board of County Commissioners ac opted these changes as amendment to Johnson County's Rural Compre hensive Plan.

5) The Johnson County Board County Commissioners approved one-time spending allocation of nearly \$658,000 from an opioid settle ment fund set up to support opioid a diction treatment, community opio education and the fight against opio trafficking and misuse. Examples uses for these dollars include funding for our Adult Drug Court program drug-testing kits, a blood chemistry analyzer for MED-ACT, and Narca doses/supplies.



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1616 Sunvale Drive; Olathe, Kansas 66062-2109.

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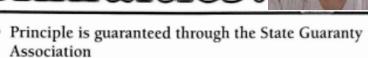
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Thought for today .... Life is so ironic. It takes sadness to know what happiness is, noise to appreciate silence and absence to value

presence.

Math Teacher: "If I have 5 bottles in one hand and 6 in the other hand, what do I have?"
Student: "A serious drinking





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Statisticians fill out charts and mathematically deal with life. However, when dealing with numbers, they sometimes forget the heart and tenacity

If we believe the stats about children of single moms, they will fill us with dread. But these are just numbers someone recorded - not necessarily the truth about our kids.

Plenty of children who grow up in a single-parent home succeed. They finish high school, add to their education with higher degrees and accomplishments. They remain clean, never try drugs, or even cigarettes. They become CEO's of companies, National Hall of Fame ball players, and scientists who discover new cures and vaccines.

These are the children who grow up with strong single moms who raise them to do their chores, focus on integrity, and study hard. These are the kids who watch their mom work more than one job so she can save money for college expenses. These are the single-parent families who eat meals together and play together.

These are the children who thrive and succeed. These are our kids. Believe in the best for your children. Always believe in the good. RJ Thesman is the author of 26 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



Whispers of Hope

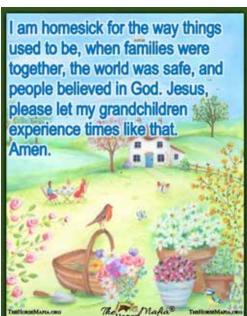
by RJ Thesman

"Here's the book you asked for. Would you like one of our staff to help you take it home?"

March 23 - Olathe Public Schools Foundation, Taste of the Town. Enjoy an evening supporting student mental health and wellness in Olathe Public Schools, including: wine, spirits and craft beer tasting; local gourmet food sampling; and live and silent auctions. 6:30 p.m.,

Embassy Suites - Olathe, 1401 S. Ridgeview Rd., Olathe. Reserve your tickets today and learn about sponsorship opportunities at www.olathepublic-schoolsfoundation.org or call (913) 780-8222. We gratefully accept live and silent auction donations.

Overheard a lady saying she won't let her kid watch Peppa Pig because it encourages bad behaviour like "jumping in puddles". I watched Road Runner as a kid and haven't blown anyone up with dynamite - yet.





WHENEVER YOU'RE II A POSITION TO HELP SOMEONE BE GLAD AND ALWAYS DO IT BECAUSE THAT'S GOD A wealthy old man looked around

the table at his two sons and five daughters and their spouses gathered for a family reunion. "Not a single grandchild," he said with a sigh. "Why, I'll give a million dollars to the first kid who presents me with a little one to bounce on my knee. Now, let's say grace." When the old man lifted his eyes again, his wife was the only other person at the table.

**Cercis Canadensis** 

you unfamiliar with making jelly: https://www.facebook.com/ watch/?v=980561466198850 Personally, I like to add vanilla and/or lavender at the very end of the process before pouring into jars as redbud has a

very light flavor.

If that jelly isn't love from a tree, I don't know what is! Yet, even when I have taken many of its flowers; it still treats me to hearts every day of the growing season. Those heart-shaped leave are not just lovely, but they provide the perfect shade under which I can take a break from yard work or have a snooze in my hammock on a hot summer day.

Picnics are a no-brainer under the shade of a redbud too. For any who appreciate art, redbuds provide beautiful gnarled and wide spreading branches, becoming the pièce de résistance in an otherwise boring yard. Even the bark is interesting in texture and colors over the course of

I told a neighbor last year how I thought her redbud was the most beautiful and interesting tree on the whole block. This tree had obviously struggled through some damage, but had held fast to a spartan form. She was delighted and said she took pride in that tree herself.

Trees with character like that hold our attention even through the winter. Redbuds provide great forking branches that make choosing a nest site easy for Robins and often have cavities which please the bluebirds and woodpeckers looking for lodging too. Even through the fall and winter, the

branches provide great places with their forks and the alternate zig-zags for birds to perch and check out what's on the horizon or what's in your feeders, but enough cover to avoid direct hunting by raptors, like hawks.

Happy ( *Janine* 

RANDOM THOUGHTS..... 1-7-24

They keep telling us to get in touch with our bodies. Mine isn't all that communicative but I heard from it the other day after I said, "Body, how'd you like to go to the six o'clock class in vigor-ous toning?" Clear as a bell my body said, "listen witch... do it and die!"

The trouble with some women is that they get all excited about nothing (and then they marry him.)

Many we love have passed away too soon... Without reason.

We remember them often in a thousand different ways ... In the morning... In the night... When we look at the stars.. A date.. A song.. A place.. A smell.. In memory of all those who left us too soon....

Click "share" if you miss somebody who is watching down on you from heaven.

Thought for today..... In a society that has you counting money, pounds, calories and steps, be a rebel and count your blessings instead.

The judge warned the witness, "Do you understand that you have sworn to tell the truth?" "I do."

"Do you understand what will happen if you are not truthful?"
"Sure," said the witness. "My side will win."

Papal Tour

On a tour of Ohio, the Pope took a couple of days off his itinerary to visit Lake Erie on an impromptu sightseeing trip. His 4x4 Pope-mobile was driving along the beautiful shoreline when there was an enormous commotion heard just

off the headland. They rushed to see what it was and upon approaching the scene, the Pope noticed in the water a hapless man wearing an Ohio State football jersey, struggling frantically to free himself from the

jaws of a 12-foot sturgeon.
At that moment a speedboat containing three men wearing Michigan football jerseys roared into view from off the point. Spontaneously, one of the men took aim

and fired a harpoon into the sturgeon's ribs, immobilizing it instantly. The other two reached out and pulled the Ohio State man from the water and then, using long clubs, beat the fish to death. They bundled the bleeding, semiconscious man into the boat along with the dead sturgeon and then prepared for

a hasty retreat when they heard frantic

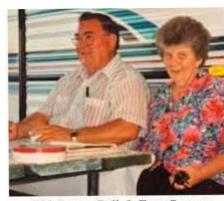
shouting from the shore. It was the Pope and he summoned them to the beach. After they reached shore, the Pope went into raptures about the rescue and said, "I give you my blessing for your brave actions. I had heard that there was bitter hatred between the people of Ohio and Michigan, but now I have seen with my own eyes this is not true. I can see that your society is a truly enlightened example of true harmony and could serve as a model on which other states could

He blessed them all and drove off in a cloud of dust. As he departed, the harpooner asked the others, "Who was that?"

"That", one answered, "was his Holiness the Pope. He is in direct contact with God and has access to all of God's

"Well", the harpooner replied, "he knows nothing about sturgeon fishing. Is the bait holding up or do we need to get another one?"

### The Sawyers' Living on Wheels for 21 Years



RV Gurus Gail & Fran Sawyer

TRIP TO CATALINA ISLAND
Gail Sawyer

Back in the 1960's before Fran & I were married, I went to Long Beach California to see some friends and decided to take a cruise to Catalina Island to tour the Wrigley Home and other things of interest. After leaving Long Beach i got very seasick. I was using the bathroom on the ship, and I was dry heaving, and the Captain of the Boat said it was going to be rougher coming home.

I replied it was not for me because I was flying back to Long Beach. After arriving at Catalina Island, the first thing they put me on was a glass bottom boat and you could look down and see the fish swimming around and that did not help my being seasick at all. I immediately booked a flight back to Long Beach. I should have known I would get sick because I get sea sick on a pontoon

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included thought it was a perfect place to have those events.

Ann & I used the Olathe American Legion for our daughter's wedding

reception and for our 50th Wedding Anniversary. All of us, my daughter

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have the big blow-ups and such but we played games like Red-Rover, Drop the Hankie, and Duck, Duck,

Goose especially for the little ones. Easter Sunday was always a full day. It would start off with a beautiful Sunrise service normally out in the country then back to the church for a breakfast. We then would get on our best Sunday outfits and off to church.

I wonder how my mother accomplished all she did during the season!

After church we would come home for a wonderful meal which included decorated deviled eggs. Mother normally would top them with a sprinkle of paprika, but on Easter she would sprinkle the tops with little green and pink crystals that she used occasionally when decorating

Not all of these traditions have always been followed, but one special one has been carried on for 84 years.

Mother would take a round angelfood cake, cover it with white frosting then green colored coconut. A paper cup would be stuck in the center, frosted over and a green plastic bunny would be placed on it. Jelly beans would be scattered on top of the cake.

Our daughter still has the bunny and it appears, along with a lot of special memories, at our Easter meal.

### **Biggest Design Flaw**

information. Hartley double-checked her figures several times, then decided to reveal her frightening discovery within the

Her professor, David Billington, reviewed the calculations in Hartley's thesis, and made a notation on the report questioning the numbers. Hartley was sure her calculations were right, so she decided to call her contact at LeMessurier, Joel S. Weinstein, to verify her numbers. She was told they were correct, and expressed her concerns. But she was reassured the building was structurally sound, and could withstand the winds. So she dropped the issue.

NYC only requires skyscrapers to account for perpendicular winds when calculating risk. This is because most buildings that are strong enough to handle perpendicular winds can also handle any quartering winds that might occur, since perpendicular winds are typically much stronger and more dangerous

But this was no ordinary building. Hartley had done thorough calculations, and the results had shown that the building was particularly vulnerable to being toppled over, if high quartering winds

#### The Realization

Meanwhile, Weinstein, who took the call, wisely decided that perhaps he should at least mention it to LeMessurier. At first, LeMessurier dismissed the student's claims. However, it stuck in the back of his mind, and after some time, he began to consider it seriously. He realized he had not factored in quartering winds, so he ran the numbers himself. Then he ran them again. And again.

Next, he pulled weather data and factored that in. Although LeMessurier's initial feelings are not recorded, we can only assume images must have flashed through his mind of public humiliation. His career would most assuredly be over he truth was revealed. LeMessurier had confirmed Hartley's findings.

The Data & The Dilemma LeMessurier was able to determine that a storm with winds strong enough to topple the building occurred in NYC once every 55 years on average. That was bad enough, but he had previously found an-

other critical error: **the bolted joints**. Even with both of these issues, the TMD (Tune Mass Damper) would theoretically render the risks negligible. However, the TMD would have to be functioning properly, and if the storm caused a power outage, it would be rendered

The risk was completely unacceptable. What if something happened and people were hurt or killed? LeMessurier first ran tests of his own, and then visited a windtunnel expert he knew in Canada, who ran more tests and confirmed his fears. He agonized over his next move, even considering suicide by traveling 100 miles an hour into a bridge abutment.

But he says he didn't consider it very long, "Because if I did that I would miss finding out how the story ended—and that might be a rather stimulating expe-The explanation conspicuously left out public safety issues. His ethics in handling the situation were shaky at best, yet he is known for them in history.

### The Decision

Ultimately, he did the right thing—mostly. LeMessurier informed the architect's attorney, his own liability insurance company, the architect, and the owner of Citicorp, who all decided to collaborate in secret. LeMessurier later told an audience of students at M.I.T. in 1995, "We had to cook up a line of bull, I'll tell you. And white lies at this point are entirely moral," citing the reason as not wanting to incite panic.

But the fact of the matter is, all those "people in charge" were in on the subsequent coverup. Though few people were told at all, among them were building officials, Mayor Ed Koch, the Red Cross, the police, and the head of the welders' union. These groups developed plans for repairing the structural inadequacy of the tower and implemented them.

The entire process of the repair work took place at night, after employees got off work. It stopped when they were about to enter the building in the morning. They were told the crew were performing "routine checks and repairs," and there was nothing to be worried about. a construction crew welded two-inch-thick steel plates over each of the skyscraper's 200 bolted joints, permanently correcting the

With the tuned mass damper active, LeMessurier estimated that a wind capable of toppling the building would occur on average once every 55 years. If the tuned mass damper could not function due to a power outage, a wind strong enough to cause the building's collapse would occur once every 16 years on av-

About halfway through the repairs, a storm just the right size, Hurricane Ella, was headed for New York. Luckily, Ella turned east and never hit land. But NYC was just hours away from evacuation, with the Red Cross and other emergency personnel standing by—and no one even knew it. Later, the Red Cross estimated that 200,000 people could have been killed, with hundreds of thousands potentially injured (Continues Above Right)

The Impact Thanks to Mother Nature, as certainly no one else can be credited, it was the disaster-that-wasn't. A couple of odd but strategic facts came into play during this time period. Number one, Citicorp and local officials (like Mayor Koch) collaborated and came up with an emergency evacuation plan for a "just-in-case" scenario, but purposely did not publish that plan—even though

public safety was at risk. Secondly, the three major NYC newspapers were on strike during this time. Also, repairs were completed before the newspapers returned from the strike. And lastly, nothing happened to cause anyone to be questioned: No hurricane hit, and no structural failure occurred. All these things combined created the perfect "disguise" for the issues to remain a secret.

#### The Discovery

You'll never guess how the story got out to the general public, when it did. In a strange twist of fate, Joseph Morgen-stern, a reporter for The New Yorker, was at a cocktail party one evening, listening to people's stories. He overheard the story being told there, and called LeMessurier to ask for an interview.

Perhaps LeMessurier consented to the interview, because he was feeling guilty after all his efforts to keep the incident quiet, and after receiving several awards and praise for his structural design of the

Whatever LeMessurier's reasons, Morgenstern got the interview, and the story broke in 1995. Only after the BBC issued a documentary about the event did Diane Hartley (the former student) find



59 floors Could Have Toppled
Built in 1977 for Citibank, it is 915 feet (279 It might sound parware but follows) m) tall and has 59 floors with a combined It might sound perverse, but folks keep 1.3 million square feet (120,000 m2) of of-fice space. The building was designed by ar-at the park. Why is Disneyworld a popuchitect Hugh Stubbins, associate architect lar destination for ashes? Maybe it was Emery Roth & Sons, and structural engineer a child's favorite place, and it seems like William LeMessurier

A tuned mass damper (TMD) is a device consisting of a mass, a spring, and a damper that is attached to a structure in order to reduce the dynamic response of

In July 1978, a possible structural flaw was discovered in Citicorp Center, a skyscraper that had recently been completed in New York City. Workers quietly made repairs over the next few months. The bûilding, now known as Citigroup Center, occupied an entire block and was to be the headquarters of Citibank.

Its structure, designed by William LeMessurier, had several unusual design features, including a raised base supported by four offset stilts and a column in the center, diagonal bracing which absorbed wind loads from upper stories, and a tuned mass damper with a 400-ton concrete weight floating on oi to counteract oscillation movements.

It was the first building that used active mechanical elements (the tuned mass damper) for stabilization. LeMessurier agonized over how to deal with the over and over. Great ghouls, Disney! problem. If the issues were made known to the public, he risked ruining his professional reputation and causing panic in the immediate area surrounding the building and the occupants.

LeMessurier considered never bringing the issue up, and he also briefly contemplated committing suicide before anyone else found out about the defect. LeMessurier ultimately contacted Stubbins's lawyer and insurance carrier. LeMessurier then contacted Citicorp's lawyers, the latter of which hired Leslie E. Robertson as an expert adviser

Citicorp accepted LeMessurier's proposal to weld steel plates over the bolt-ed joints, and Karl Koch Erecting was hired for the welding process.[30] Very few people were made aware of the issue, besides Citicorp leadership, mayor Ed Koch, acting buildings commissioner Irving E. Minkin, and the head of the welder's union.

Construction crews started installing the welded panels at night in August city's three major newspapers had gone

Officials barely acknowledged the issue, instead describing the work as a routine procedure. Henry DeFord III of Citicorp claimed the Citicorp Center could withstand a 100-year wind and that there were no "noticeable problems in the building at all".

As precautions, emergency generators were installed for the mass damper, strain gauges were placed on critical beams and weather forecasters were engaged.[20] Citicorp and local officials created emergency evacuation plans for the immediate neighborhood.

However, these evacuation plans were not publicized at the time, although thousands of people could have been killed in a potential collapse. [Six weeks into the work, a major storm (Hurricane Ella) was off Cape Hatteras and heading for New York. The reinforcement was only half-fin-

ished, with New York City hours away from emergency evacuation, but at that point the backup generators were in place and the mass damper was being continually monitored by special staff, and enough of the bracing had been completed that the tower was estimated to be able to survive a 200-year storm.[Ella eventually turned eastward and veered out to sea. The weather watch ended on September 13. Repairs were completed in October

1978, and most of the newspapers remained out of production for weeks after it was completed. LeMessurier claimed a wind strong enough to topple the repaired building would occur only once every 700 years. Stubbins and LeMessurier's insurance carrier covered all of the repair costs, estimated to be several million dollars.

**Disney Employee Tell-All** 

There Is a Disney Jail for Wild Guests With so many visitors to the theme park, there are bound to be at least a few trouble makers who make it in. 50,000 people pay to play, each and every day. At that scale, even 1% means 500 crazy guests. For these folks, Disney has a jail on-site to prevent chaos. There is a hold-

ing area for thieves, lunatics, and Mary-

jane smokers. This isn't just a myth, as

funny as it may sound. After jumping through all the hoops of training to become a part of the Disney universe, one might think the coast is clear. But no, it never is. Once you make it into full-time work, it's a reason to celebrate, but that's not all. It's also a time to start paying attention to the many rules and restrictions to ensure you keep the gig. Past fired cast members have made many errors. Smoothing another worker, for example. Or gaining weight, as a princess. Yikes!

### All Costume Characters Have to Be Wordless

There are life-sized characters all around the park, and we know that a real human is inside. But for just a little while, we like to pretend that's not the case. It's Mickey, in the flesh! But really, those cast members must abide by a specific protocol to stay on the job. You might want to have a conversation with them, and that's understandable. But by Disney regulation, they are not allowed to chat

No matter how excited guests beg you to play along, you cannot verbally respond if you are in a costume. But is that really so sad? It might affect the magic if they started talking in the wrong voice! Keep Watching
Don't You Dare Ask For an

Autograph From Celeb Guests Few of us can say we would keep our

cool if we ran into our favorite celeb. If you are a worker at Disney, that's bound to happen once in a while. And when it does, you're not allowed to acknowledge them. You cannot ask for an autograph, for sure. The famous want to enjoy time with their kids, and Disney wants them to have a day to remember for the right

Anyway, how would Mickey Mouse know about Ryan Reynolds? They live in different universes, and this should be the only time they cross paths. Staying in character is essential at all times, even if you are starstruck behind the mask.

### Please Resist the Temptation

a sentimental place to leave their spirit. Apparently, this happens often enough that the management has a policy on it. It's highly against the rules, and we are not surprised to find out that it will get you a lifetime ban.

Sure, the grieving process is hard. But unleashing this dust while a roller coaster is in motion is a big mess for everyone. It will just get swept up at the end of the day, anyway. In summary: Just don't. **Spooky Cast Members Are** 

#### **Not Allowed to Crack Smiles** Much of Disney is whimsical. But visi-

The Haunted Mansion is one of its most popular and enduring attractions. It's a ghost train kind of situation, and for the mood to be authentic, the cast members need to make sure their usual grins are left at the door. If things are haunted, you've got to act like you're undead. Is that so hard?

For the less smiley among the staff, the mansion is the perfect place to show off their dead eyes. It's part of the reason why people return to get freaked out,

#### It's Time to Hear About the **Disney Princess Diet**

In the modeling biz, thin is always in. Sure, there are plus-sized ads now, too. But for the most part, the industry favorite remains the same. One would think that Disney is a little more welcoming since it's a place for kids. But no! The company does want its princesses to be quite trim, just like their animated selves. The question is, how do female employ-

ees keep their figures and their jobs?

Anonymously, one former princess claimed: "Some of the princesses did cleanses to stay fit; a lot of the girls were naturally thin. We'd go to the gym after work or do workout videos together during our breaks.'

### This Unappealing Green Is All Over for a Reason

We already know that an incredible amount of planning is put into every building and attraction. But what about the ugly space in between? As it turns 1978. Officials made no public mention out, Disney planners have that covor any possible structural issues, and the ered, too. Whenever there is something guests might find irrelevant to the overall theme, it gets painted. One special color is always used, as seen here. It's a mean green, and allegedly, you're not supposed to like it. (continues at right)

#### Johnson County's Only Locally-Owned Newspaper for 48 Years **Disney Employee Tell-All**

(Continued from P1)
So, what do you think? The hue is used for non-magical distractions. You will see it on staff doors and eyesores, galore. With these things coated in the same color, the mind starts to ignore them as a pattern. Sneaky, really!

It Turns Out That The Castles Are Optical Illusions

Sleeping Beauty copied Neuschwanstein Castle in Germany. Snow White showed off a style taken from Alcázar de Segovia in Spain. The animators were inspired by the best of the best when they created those fairytale visuals for us. And at Disneyworld, we can visit them without flying all the way to the mountains of Europe. But there's one thing only park workers know for sure: Their size is a sneaky engineering trick.
What do we mean? Disney planners de-

cided to use a shortcut to make the structures appear larger than they really are. By placing smaller bricks at the top, it fools the human eye into thinking buildings are taller. Additionally, the second and third stories are scaled-down. Fooled

It's Not an Accident You Hear Cloppy Horse Feet

On main street at the park, you can hear the sounds of horses walking all around you: Clop, clop, it never stops. Since you probably don't hang out with stallions every day, you might think that's normal. But it's not! Disney has intentionally enhanced the feet of their horses for your enjoyment. It's a magical little detail you would never plan. But at Disney, they have truly thought about

Each Disney horse is fitted with a unique horseshoe to enhance the sound of their step. They are coated in a special polyurethane material to make the sound as pleasant as possible. Incredible!

Real Cats Roam the Park as Animal Employees

If you were to get trapped in Disneyworld after hours, you might be surprised to find what comes out at night. The park unleashes a legion of felines that it uses to keep things clean. In what way? Why, their natural instinct to hunt rats, of course! No Disney experience should involve rodents. The planners at this world-class park are willing to use any method to ensure your satisfaction.

When the park was first constructed, workers found some strays hanging out. At first, they tried giving them away to staff as pets. But after a while, they reconsidered. Why deal with the cat and rat infestation separately? It's a natural ecosystem, as is!

#### Cedar Creek Art Fair: A One-day Only Pop-Up Immersive Wonderland

The Cedar Creek Social Committee is thrilled to announce the Cedar Creek Art Fair: A One-day Only Pop-Up Immersive Wonderland that will immerse attendees in a captivating world of local fine arts. April 27, 2024 from 12 PM to 4 PM Rain out date is April 28, 2024 same time

Stroll the curated collection and have a chance to purchase from 100% KC local artists, be a part of a hands-on workshop, and watch performances on the main stage all under the beautiful backdrop of Shadow Lake at Cedar Creek. Kids also will have a chance to create something in the kids zone, learn from a performing artist, get popcorn and cotton candy, and enjoy the inflatable course. Tickets are \$8 per child and \$15 per adult and includes all activities and one complimentary drink. Additional food and drink will be available for purchase. Our drink sponsor and provider is Tall Trellis Brew Co.

We believe in the power of art and connecting with our neighbors in Cedar Creek as well as the greater Johnson County community to spark joy, connectivity, conversations, and cultivate an atmosphere of creativity. This event is not just about showcasing local fine arts and gifts, but also about celebrating the diverse talents that make our community thrive.

Here are just a few of the Cedar Creek Resident Artists, Olathe, Overland Park, and Kansas City artists: Ann Modricin, Barry Osborn, Cristina Walker, Donald Osborn Karen Baruth, Kyle Selley, Lovespac3, Nancy Scheer, Natalie Hunsaker, Madeleine Pettes and much more.

Live stage performances include theatrical performances, dance and tumbling acts, ensemble choir, live art demonstration, and acoustical *performances including*:

Miss Marias Dance-Cheer-Gymnastics Trilogy Cultural Arts Adrian Toader Lovespac3

Special thanks to our initial sponsors: Ce dar Creek Realty, Academy Bank, Trilogy Cultural Arts, Sunnybrook Dental, Farmers Bank, Hickok Homes & Hickok Home Team by James Hickok & Linda H Bury, Cedar Creek invites residents, art enthusiasts, community leaders, and passionate individuals alike to join them for an after-noon filled with artistic discovery, connections, and inspiration.

For on-going event updates and RSVP information visit https://www.cedarcreekso-







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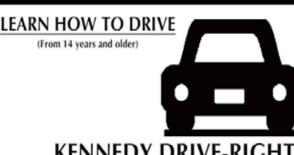
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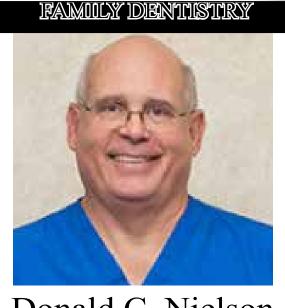
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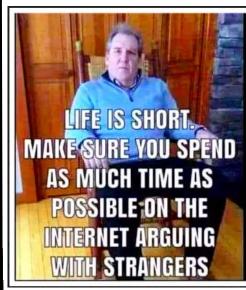
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PICKUP, MOWER & CAR PORT: 2013 F 150, XLT, ext cab, 3.7 L, full power, 65,315 m, LineX bed liner, very nice; JD, Z425, zero turn w/320 hrs; 18'x20' alum carport w/sides-like new. APPLIANCES & FURNITURE: Older Whirlpool 14.3 CF frig; & W/D. 4 stack oak bookcase; oak curved front China cab; corner desk; 3 cushion floral sofa; 3 pc bed set-comp; marble top commode; reg & dbl recliners; sm rd

COLLECTIBLES: Westclox, Gruen, Verithin, Illinois, & Waltham pocket watches; Roseville baby bowl; BSB bank, Ideal safe, Metal Lion, Turkey & Pig, US Mail, Geo Washington, Kaw Valley bank, Wellsville bank, Tin Monkey banks; Burlington, Lawrence, Eudora, Oskaloosa, Westphalia, Williamsburg & Harris Ruby flash souvenir glassware; Hurricane style lamp; lg & sm castor sets; brass teacher bell; metal owl, elephants, Jayhawk & Pony Express Rider figurines; 1969 & 71 Jayhawk decanters; 4 oak sewing mach drawers; Gene Autry 4, 78 rpm record set; Columbia records set C-120; Columbia 9 records set, 78 rpm; 2-1968 Garnet Lake Grand Prix programs; 1988 & 91-new Royals & Jayhawk t-shirts; '51 flood books & pixs; CI skillet; Ig F Grayson Sayre covered wagon print.

MISC: 24"x30" x43" Safe-File; sm fire resistant lock box; sm safe w/combo; Bushnell & other binoculars; 9' & 10' alum ext ladders; concrete birdbath; 2- cast flower pots; metal lawn chairs; Salad Master SS cookware & knives; Cast alum bucket; few other kitchen items & glassware; sm air comp; few hand tools, numerous Western shirts-some new; outerwear-jackets; sm amt of ammo

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Both Fanduel and BetOnline are giving K-State roughly 3-to1 odds to win the Big 12 in 2024, with Utah (7-2) and Kansas (13-2) coming in as other top contenders.

Oklahoma and Texas are headed to the SEC and Arizona, Arizona State, Colorado and Utah on way to the Big 12. That left many to wonder which teams would be best positioned to win the conference next season. For now, K-State has the vote.

The Cats went 9-4 a year ago and beat North Carolina State in the Pop-Tarts Bowl. Avery Johnson has taken over the offense as a sophomore quarterback and several key starters return on defense. Early Big 12 Championship

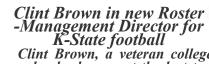
odds Kansas State-plus 340 Utah-plus 380 Kansās-plus 650 Arizona-plus 750 Texas Tech-plus 800 *UCF-plus 1000* Iowa State -plus 1100 Oklahoma State-plus 1600 *TCU-plus 1600* West Virginia -plus 1900 Colorado-plus 4000 Baylor-plus 5500 Cincinnati-plus 6500 Arizona State-10000 BYU-13000 Houston-13000

man Arena in Park, City..

Mermis, 145 pounds.

157 and Chase Wilson at 144.

at 132, and Austin Ross won a match at 138.



Clint Brown, a veteran college coach who has spent the last two years as an offensive control coach in Manhattan, has been named the new Roster Management director for K-State football.

Thanks to the rise in transfers, this position will become important for K-State. He will be in charge of tracking transfers, NIL evalua-tions, and scholarship numbers.

Other college football teams, including the Kansas Jayhawks, have hired staffers to similar roles in recent years.

2 Broncos Sign Football

**Scholarships** Spring Hill head coach Jason Feeback recently announced the football scholarship signings of Cooper D'Albini and Keanu Tia-fau. D' Albini will stay close to home and play at Washburn University in Topeka while Tiafau will take his talents to Southern Virginia University. Congrats from the Gazette!

> **Cobin Sets Desoto High Scoring Record**

Senior David Cobin put in a game-high 26 points and set the Desoto school record career record with 1,208 points, breaking the previous mark of 1,204 set by Mason Wedel. Cobin led Desoto to a 64-42 win over Basehor-Linwood.

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Gracie Oppeau (Sr) 130 lbs - 2nd Place; Avery Bartek (Jr) 150 lbs - 5th Place; Avery Feeback (Sr) 190 lbs - 6th Place; Brock Slimmer (Fr) 106

Spring Hill Wrestling Teams Impressive At State
by Dave highfill, Gazette Sports
Spring Hill high school wrestling squads turned in top performances at the
5A-As state meet in 12 to 12 t

The Broncos qualified 17 to state, including 5 girls and 12 boys.

Earning silver medals were Gracie Oppeau, 130 pounds and Campbell

Brock Slimmer brought back a 4th place at 106 pounds while Avery Bartek was 5th at 150 pounds. Avery Feeback took 6th place at 190 pounds.

Also qualifying were Rylee Jones, 105 pounds, Ellie Ruffin, 135, Maddoc Johnston, 113, Ryan Pahl won a match at 126, James Sheldon won a match

Congratulations! They are doing great! These are great!

Noah Anderton won a match at 156. Also qualified were Brodie Pipkin at

lbs - 4th Place; Campbell Mermis (Jr) 145 lbs - 2nd Place; Tucker WoofterHead WrestlingStrength & Conditioning

**Bronco State Wrestling Medalists** 

Caitlyn Clark Beats Pete Caitlyn Clark passes Pistol Pete Maravich's record and becomes alltime NCAA Division 1 scoring leader. Iowa's Caitlyn Clark is now the all-

time scoring leader, breaking the late Pete Maravich's 54-year old record when she made two free throws after a technical foul in the Hawkeyes recent win over Ohio State.

Maravich's mark was one of the more remarkable feats in sports history. There was no shot clock or 3-point line in his era. The 3-point line was adopted in 1986.

## Spring Hill Wrestling Qualifiers We qualified 17 to state. 5 girls and 12 boys.

Gracie Oppeau Sr 130 lbs. 2nd Place Campbell Mermis Jr 145 lbs 2nd Place Avery Feeback Sr 190 lbs 6th Place Brock Slimmer Fr 106 lbs 4th Place Avery Bartek Jr 150 lbs 5th Place The following kids all qualified Rylee Jones So 105

Ellie Ruffin Jr 135 Maddoc Johnston So 113 Ryan Pahl sr 126 (won a James Sheldon Sr 132 (won a match) Austin Ross Jr 138 (won a match) Chase Wilson Jr 144

Brodie Pipkin Jr 157 Noah Anderton Sr 165 (won a match) Caden Bartek Sr 175 Kasey O'Neal Sr 190 (won a match) Logan Alexander Jr (won a match)



Riedinger, Smith Win State Wrestling Titles For GEHS by Dave Highfill, Gazette Sports

Madalyn Riedinger and Kasen Smith won individual state titles and Karen Rodriquez won silver leading the GEHS wrestling contingent at the 5A-6A state meet, Hartman Arena, Park City,

Ty Hammers brought back 3rd place honors and Roman Clouse took 4th rounding out the Blazers top scorers.

"It was a great state tournament for the Blazers, "said Coach Tyler Cordts, in his 8th year at the GEHS helm. We put 3 in the state finals and 5 total on the podium. We return the bulk of the state qualifiers and look forward to the 25-25 season."



"Public drinking fountains with complimentary splash guards. ... Is this a great country or what?!"

#### **Overspending Culprits** (Continued from Page 1)

Here are the 8 worst culprits for overspending (and how you can save money by avoiding them):

1. Online Shopping
You might be surprised how often you're overpaying on Amazon and elsewhere. Big stores like Amazon know that no one has time to price shop through doz-ens of sites, so there's often no incentive

for them to offer bargain prices. typically hate browser extensions with fiery passion, but if you don't have Capital One Shopping installed yet, do yourself a favor and grab it. When you shop online (on Amazon or

lsewhere) it will: Auto-apply coupon codes for you to save you money.

Compare prices from other sellers to make sure you're not missing out on a better deal. It's saved me a ton of money more than

once. Here's a quick example: Savings will vary, this is just an examle, of course.

That same exact blender was \$26 heaper at another store (with 2 day hipping) when I shopped.

Here's a link to install Capital One hopping, if you're interested.

Not Using An Ad Blocker.

If you aren't using an ad blocker yet, am begging you to try one. I am not exaggerating when I say it will change

A good ad blocker will eliminate virtually all of the ads you'd see on the in-No more YouTube ads, no more banner ads, no more pop-up ads, etc. It's incred-

Most people I know use Total Adblock (link here) – it's \$2.42/month, but there are plenty of solid options.

Ads also typically take a while to load, so using an ad blocker reduces loading

times (typically by 50% or more). They also block ad tracking pixels to protect your privacy, which is nice. Here's a link to Total Adblock, if you're interested.

3. Auto Insurance.

Believe it or not, the average American family still overspends by \$417/year1 on car insurance.

Here's how to quickly see how much you're being overcharged (takes maybe 30 seconds): Pull up Coverage.org – it's a free site that will compare prices for youAnswer the questions on the page It'll spit out a bunch of insurance quotes for you. That's literally it. You'll likely save yourself a bunch of money. Here's a link to Coverage.org

(Continues Above Right)



#### **Gazette Sports Editor** DAVID HIGHFILL

Gazette Sports Glances, By Dave Highfill, Gazette Sports Congratulations to Coach David Birch and the 6A State boys basketball Shawnee Mission Northwest Cougars!

Birch, a former Olathe East and Ottawa University basketball star, guided Northwest to a perfect 25-0 record. The Cougars defeated Wichita Heights 47-39 to win the school's first state basketball crown last Saturday in Wichita. The Kansas City Metro's last un-

defeated boys state champion was Lansing in 2014. Alven Riley led the way with 13 points while Keaton Wagler added

Meanwhile, the Bishop Miege girls basketball team won its fifth straight 4A state title with a 75-64 win over Wellington last Saturday in Salina. Mary Grant led Miege

with 20 points.
The Olathe North boys basketball team capped an outstanding season with an 18-5 record. The team lost its first round 6A state game to Mill Valley 69-57.

Leading scorers for North this season were Jaalan Watson, Aiden Bruce and Sam Simmons.

In 3A boys basketball, the Wellsville Eagles won their third state title and first since 1994 by virtue of a 68-58 decision over Good-

Willie Dorsey-whose father Brent Dorsey starred for the school's last title in 94-led the Eagles with 23 points. Calvin Dwyer added 15 and Dezmond Winton 10 in a game played at the Hutchinson Sports Arena.

Individually, DeSoto senior David Cobin recently set the school's scoring record with 1,208 points, breaking the previous mark of 1,204 (set by Mason Wedel).

Also reaching the 1,000 career point milestone was Heritage Christian Academy senior Caelyn Ferguson. Ferguson has signed to play basketball at John Brown University in Northwest Arkan-

The HCA girls won the Kaw Valley conference title before bowing to Topeka Hayden in first round 3A state action.

Congratulations from the Joco Gazette and on to the great sport of Track and Field!

### Credit Card Debt.

Debt can make you feel hopeless even if you're responsible about making payments on time, the interest sometimes prevents you from paying off the debt.

But, believe it or not, plenty of companies (Accredited Debt Relief, for example) are willing to help you pay off your debt.

Here's how it typically works: A company like Accredited Debt Relief (there are plenty of others, too) negotiates with your credit card companies, banks etc. to try and reduce your debt
If possible, they'll consolidate all

of your different sources of debt so you only have to make one monthly payment to one place. A lot of times you'll end up pay-

ing significantly less than you owe. Here's an example from Accredited Debt Relief's site:

E.g. he was \$80k in debt, and ended up saving around \$30k. If things go well, you could be debt-free in 24-48 months or so. Here's a

calculator you can use to get a savings estimate, if you're interested.

5. Not Getting A Financial Advisor. 99% of people don't have one,

and it's typically a huge mistake. Sure, you can manage things on your own if you want to, but most people don't have the time to actually do things right. There are huge benefits to having somebody pay attention to your money all the time. People with financial advisors tend to beat the market by  $\sim 3\%$ /year (according to a 2019 Vanguard Study). That can make a huge difference over time.

But more important: a good advisor will handle ALL of the annoying retirement stuff & bizarro tax implications you would have never thought of .If you don't know a financial advisor personally,use a comparison site (like WiserAdvisor) and find somebody near you that has good reviews.

Or if you want something easier, here's a quiz you can fill out that will find an advisor/planner based

on your reqs.
6. Home Repair Bills (Let A Company Pay Them For

You Instead). Picture this: your trusty furnace suddenly throws a tantrum in the dead of winter, leaving you shivering and facing a repair bill that

could cost you way more than you anticipated. If you had a home warranty, you could be covered the next time something breaks down. It's like having a safety net for your home (think plumbing, electrical, appli-

ances, etc). If you don't have one yet, use a free resource like AmericanHome-Warranty.org to find a good warranty provider in your area and check

their reviews. Bonus: home warranty companies usually have qualified, pre-vetted maintenance and repair workers

ready to get the job done (which is (Continued on Page 12)



### **PUBLIC AUTO AUCTION** MARCH 30th 2024

Preview opens @ 9:00 A.M. \* Bidding starts @ 10:00

15607 S. KEELER ST. OLATHE, KS 66062 **AUCTIONEER: Eddie Powers** 

ACURA TSX HONDA CIVIC 2004 BUICK CENTURY ACCORD CADILLAC DEVILLE HONDA FIT CHEVROLET IMPALA HONDA RIDGELINE CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER HYUNDA SONATA CHEVROLET 2006 IMPALA HYUNDA **ELANTRA** HYUNDAI ELANTRA CHEVROLET TRAVERSE 2010 2010 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 JEEP LIBERTY 2012 CHEVROLET JEEP LIBERTY CRUZE 1992 CHRYSLER LE BARON JEEP PATRIOT 2005 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY 2013 KIA SOUL IC 53' DRY VAN 2013 TRAILER DODGE DAKOTA 2004 **LEXUS** ES 330 DODGE **GRAND CARAVAN** MAZDA PICKUP **RAM PICKUP 1500** MAZDA MAZDAS DODGE 2005 DODGE DURANGO MAZDA MAZDA3 2016 JOURNE MERCURY **GRAND MARQUIS** 1997 FORD E SERIES CARGO MERCURY **GRAND MARQUIS** 2004 FORD FOCUS MERCURY SABLE 2005 FORD F150 MITSUBISH MIRAGE 2005 FORD **FOCUS** NISSAN MURANO 2007 FOCUS NISSAN MAXIMA 2008 **FOCUS** NISSAN ARMADA 2008 FORD ESCAPE NISSAN 350Z CONVERTIBLE 2012 F150 NISSAN ALTIMA 2016 FORD FOCUS NISSAN MURANO 2005 ESCAPE 201E NISSAN VERSA 2013 GMC TERRAIN OLDSMOBILE ALERO 1999 HONDA ACCORD OLDSMOBILE ALERO ACCORD PONTIAC ACCORD PROMASTER CARGO

| AUCTION |      | TANDEM AXLE TRAILER |            |         |
|---------|------|---------------------|------------|---------|
|         | 2004 | TOYOTA              | SIENNA     | 3"      |
|         | 2005 | TOYOTA              | COROLLA    |         |
|         | 2006 | TOYOTA              | COROLLA    |         |
|         | 2006 | TOYOTA              | MATRIX     |         |
|         | 2006 | TOYOTA              | COROLLA    |         |
|         | 2009 | TOYOTA              | COROLLA    | AUCTION |
|         | 2002 | TOYOTA              | CAMRY      |         |
|         | 2006 | TOYOTA              | COROLLA    | \$      |
|         | 2008 | TOYOTA              | HIGHLANDER | 100     |
|         |      |                     |            |         |

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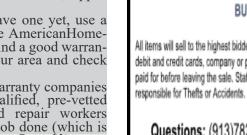
Fee will be waived when paid with cash or approved check. Paperwork/titles for vehicles will be sold after the sale for \$125. Paperwork for vehicles will assist in application for title. Auction is subject to storage laws of the State of Kansas, Vehicles have till the following Wednesday t be removed from the lot before storage charges starts.

DUE TO CURRENT EVENTS. TITLE PAPERWORK IS NOT GUARENTEED. VEHICLE'S ARE PURCHASED "AS IS" "WHERE IS", WITHOUT WARRANTIES OR GUARANTEE BY SELLER AND OR AUCTIONEER. BUYER WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR VEHICLE PURCHASE

All items will sell to the highest bidder. The final bidder is required to pay for the purchase regardless of its faults. Everything will sell for cash, debit and credit cards, company or personal check when accompanied by bank letter of credit guaranteeing payment. Purchases must be paid for before leaving the sale. Statements made the day of auction take precedence over anything previously stated or printed. Not

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My niece's class assignment was to interview a senior citizen about his or her life, so she asked me many questions about my life. She asked about cars, wars, etc. Then she asked, "What was the biggest historical event that happened during your childhood?"

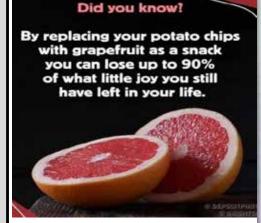
"I'd have to say the moonwalk," I replied.

She looked disappointed. "That dance was so important to you? I would of thought you'd be too old to dance by the time that came out!"

#### WHY?

from Diane Hart (serialized 3-5-24)

Why do peanuts float in a regular coke and sink in a diet coke. Go ahead and try it...



Good event for Highfills 'at ag Olympics the hay bale throw. Jared Highfill says he would win it!!Our *Gazette* investigative reporter tells us.

The mine operator called the nearby state prison and asked them to by state prison and asked them to send over a safe cracker to open his jammed safe. Soon a convict showed up, spun the dials, listened intently, and calmly opened the safe door. "Well," said the mine operator, "what do you think I owe you?" The prisoner said, "Uh, the last time I opened a safe, I got \$25,000."

Thought for today ..... If you made a promise, keep it. If you have love, cherish it.

If you did wrong, apologize for it. If you want trust, earn it.

#### IRISH PHILOSOPHY

There are only two things to worry about either you are well or you are sick.

If you are well, then there is nothing to worry about.

If you are sick, there are two things to worry about.

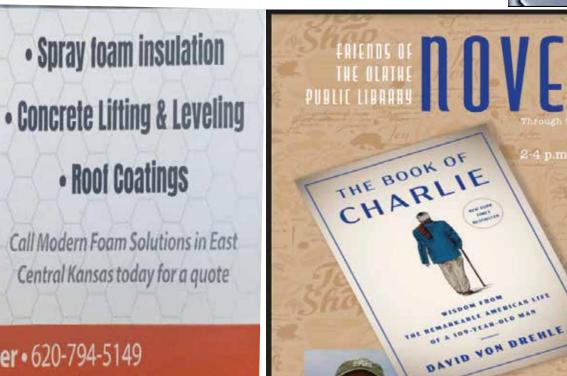
Either you will get well or you will die, If you get well,

there is nothing to worry about. If you die,

there are two things to worry about. Either you will go to heaven or hell.

If you go to heaven, there is nothing to worry about.

But if you go to hell, you'll be so damn busy shaking hands with your friends. You wont have time to WORRY!!



APRIL 6, 2024 Join us for tea and light refreshments, creative table settings and giveaways. Tickets will go on sale for \$20 at the Indian Creek Library on Saturday, March 9 at 10 am. After March 9, tickets will be on sale in the Indian Creek Library bookstore until REMARKABLE AMERICAN SIFE

FRIENDS

If someone confided in you, re-

**Steve Hougland** 

Susan Lowe

**Allison Hougland** 

The Hougland

Team

Hiring the Right Contractor
Whether you're thinking about selling your home, or just want to do renovations for yourself, finding and hiring the right contractor can be a challenge! The following tips also apply to hiring a tradesperson for

1) Get referrals! Ask your family, neighbors and friends for the names ofpeople they have used. Check the *Better Business Bureau*, too.
2) Get in touch with the referrals, once you have a list of names. Whenspeaking with the company, be sure to ask about their completed

jobs and experience. Ask how many other projects, they may have going as this will impact them getting to your job.

3) Research your options. Once you have narrowed your search, start to check them out! The Better Business Bureau, but also look for on-line reviews. If possible, talk to their previous clients. Ask to make sure they are a licensed contractor, too.

4) Some questions to ask: How long have you been in business? Have you worked on similar projects? Do you have references you can give me? ARE YOU BONDED? Do you carry workman's compensation insurance? Who will supervise the project on-site? What work will you be doing and what do I have to subcontract?

Finally, *beware* of doing business with someone who does the

Gives you a quote *before* seeing your job. **Demands a large deposit up front**. Most contractors will have a

charge account for supplies.

3) Don't let the contractor get you to sign on the first visit. You should

get a plan and written estimate after your initial visit.

4) Get everything in writing: Detailed description of the project, all building permits if needed, price and terms of payment.

Hopefully, these guidelines will help you determine what is best for you and your home! And as always, The Hougland Team will be happy to help you sell your home. Thank you!

Keller-Williams

"Ann & I used Steve Hougland for two real estate transactions and Contact were very pleased."....Keith and Ann Johnson

Steve Hougland at **913-449-9920** Suzy Lowe at 913-927-3416
Allison Hougland 913-709-0945

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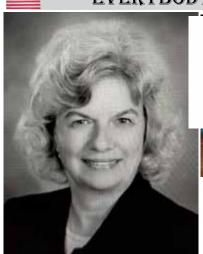
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Bev Wittenborn Gazette Culinary Cuisinartiste ''At Your Service Recipes'



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 Moth**er of 2 sons, married to former TWA. Ozark, and American Airlines Captain, **US Air Force Lieutenant Colonel John** Wittenborn; grandmother of four; who is a former Betty Crocker Award Winner and former Olathe Mayor Pro-Tem.

"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 March! We leaped out of February into the month of March Madness! There is so much to think about and do in this month of green! We Spring Forward and set out clocks up an hour which is known as Daylight Savings Time. Did March come in like a lion and will it go out like a lamb? The weather has been so different these last few months. We just had that day of 78 degrees that dropped over 40 degrees in just a few hours. And then bam! Up again to 70's! I'll take that! The weather crew just shared that February

I remember being on an airplane being de-iced so we could fly off to warm and sunny Arizona. Think we'll see any more snow this season? It's hard to tell, so stay tuned! There are plenty of special holidays in March, the 8th is Peanut Cluster Day! Many of us know the Queen of Peanut Cluster production! She just happens to write a column for the Gazette! I like March 11th because it's Napping Day! An afternoon nap comes in handy, and really can be helpful when I don't know what we're having for dinner, so I take a nap and give all of my quiet time to figure out what to cook! So, I have more than a March Nap Day—it's almost every day! March 14th---everyone remembers

was the 3rd warmest since way back when. It's almost Spring Break for the

One of our local grocery stores had a magazine that on front cover had some really delicious looking pies—lemon meringue, chocolate, coconut crème, so I thought I might find a recipe in there for pies. Nope, they only want you to order those pies from them! I'll look for a yummy pie recipe to share with you! I found one that is "Impossible" to make. I've not made it, but it must work to make its own crust! Pi day is followed by the Ides of March on the 15th. Back to food! March 16th is Artichoke Day! I just happen to have a jar of artichokes in my pantry, which recipe shall I pull out for that day? And then

Yes, March 17th! Don't forget to wear green that day, or someone may pinch you! Some spring green vegetables include asparagus, peas, and broccoli. Spring flowers already are in bloom, daffodils and crocus. My surprise lilies, aka "naked ladies" have started showing their green growth. For those of you who are getting read to start gardening, get those potatoes planted on St. Patrick's Day! And get the peas planted so you can have new potatoes and peas by Memorial Day! Easter falls on the last day of March this year, so let's start thinking about our traditions when it comes to food to celebrate that special day. Meanwhile, ladies, March is Women's History Month so read up on famous women who have been recognized and their achievements.

May Good Luck be with you wherever you go,
and your blessings outnumber the Shamrocks that grow

#### Chicken and Artichoke Heart Stroganoff

4 chicken breasts

1 (6 oz.) jar marinated artichoke hearts

½ c. chopped onion 1 clove garlic, crushed or

1 tsp. garlic powder ¾ c. water 2 chicken bouillon cubes, dissolved in hot water

2 Tbsp. flour ½ tsp. dry mustard

½ tsp. dill weed ½ c. sour cream

½ c. cooking sherry Salt and pepper to taste

Cut chicken breasts into ½ inch strips. Drain 2 tablespoons oil from artichokes into skillet and heat. Add chicken, onion, and garlic. Sauté over medium heat until chicken is lightly browned. Combine remaining marinade, water, bouillon cubes, flour, mustard and dill weed. Add to skillet and bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Reduce heat and simmer until chicken is cooked. Stir in sour cream, artichoke hearts, and sherry. Heat through. Add salt and

Beverly Wittenborn

#### Italian Style Asparagus

pepper to taste and serve over noodles or rice. Serves 4.

1 1/2 lb. fresh asparagus, trimmed

1 Tbsp. water 1½ c. cherry tomatoes, halved ½ c. light balsamic vinaigrette dressing

3/4 c. shredded Italian three cheese blend Microwave asparagus and water in a 10x6 inch dish or shallow casserole on HIGH for 4 to 5 minutes or until asparagus is crisp-tender; drain. Add tomatoes and dressing; toss to coat. Add cheese; mix lightly. Let stand 30 minutes or up to 1 hour before serving.

Linda Theno

#### Asparagus Rolls

16 slices white or whole wheat bread 1 (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese, softened 8 slices bacon, cooked and crumbled 4 green onions, chopped finely

1 (16 oz.) can asparagus spears, drained

3 Tbsp. melted butter or margarine Grated Parmesan cheese

Tear crusts from bread and flatten with rolling pin. Mix cream cheese, bacon, and green onions. Spread cheese mixture on bread slice, covering to edge. Place 2 spears of asparagus on each slice of bread, trimming to fit bread. Roll up and place in a well-greased baking pan. Baste with melted butter and sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. Bake at 400 degrees for 10 to 15 minutes or until golden brown.

Janet Henry

### Impossible Pie

1 c. sugar 1 c. coconut

¼ c. margarine, melted 2 c. milk

Basements

ood Rot

4 eggs, well beaten ½ č. flour

1 tsp vanilla

Mix ingredients in blender or with mixer. Pour into well-greased 10" pie pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 40 to 50 minutes. Cool before cutting. This recipe makes it own crust when baking.



And More



Johnson County's Only Locally-Owned Newspaper for 48 Years



Thought for today ...

Keep people in your life that truly love you, motivate you, encourage you, inspire you, enhance you, and make you

#### Some Words Redefined

EGOTIST...A conceited person who have you done?

thinks he knows as much as you do. What was the main and the street been born, people would wonder why.

FLATTERY...The art of telling a person and of the head of GIRDLE...An ingenious device invented end of the ham, she placed it in a to keep an unfortunate situation from pan for baking. Her friend asked

HIGHBROW...A person educated be-yond their intelligence. LAZINESS...The habit of resting before

MEMORY...The thing I forget with.
OLD AGE...A time of life when men pay
more attention to the food than they do

to the waitress. PARENTS...People who bear infants, bore teenagers, and board newlyweds. PARKING METER...A piggy bank on a

hitching post.
PARKING SPACE...An area which disappears as you are making a U-turn. POISE...The ability to keep talking while the other person picks up the check. PREJUDICE...Weighing the facts with your thumb on the scale.

PROVERB...A short sentence based on long experience.

PRUNE...A plum that has seen better

RELATIVES...People who come to dinner who aren't friends.

SKIING...Something you learn in many

SMALL TOWN...A place where it's no sooner done than said.

### **GOOD QUESTIONS**

Is there another word for synonym? Why do they put Braille on the drive-through bank machines? Why don't sheep shrink when it

What was the best thing before

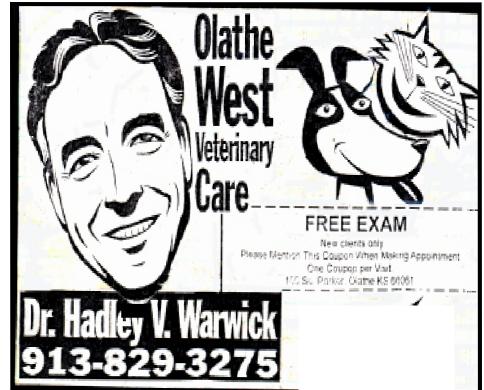
A young woman was preparing a ham dinner. After she cut off the her, "Why did you cut off the end of

the ham? And she replied, "I really don't know but my mother always did, so thought you were supposed to." Later when talking to her mother she asked her why she cut off the end of the ham before baking it, and her mother replied, "I really don't know, but that's the way my mom always did it.'

A few weeks later while visiting her grandmother, the young woman asked, "Grandma, why is it that you cut off the end of a ham before you

Her grandmother replied, "Well dear, it would never fit into my baking pan until I cut the end off."

When older people say, "Enjoy them while they are young." They are talking about your knees and hips not your kids.





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George Horochowski

A Gazette Feature Column:

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

Ed Hayes (Continued from Page 1)

# **BROWN RECLUSE**

Look for a dark brown violin-shaped marking on the spider's carapace

Seek medical help if you believe you were bit by a brown recluse spider

<u>Management</u>

- · Reduce clutter
- Use sticky traps

**N** EXTENSION

24 Officers Killed in the Line of Duty This Year, in a quote, "Giving Kids a Fighting Chance with School Choice." His 135, last year.

From Officers Down Memorial Page

Here's a huge disappointment! Missouri Governor, Parson has handed Britt Reid, son of Chiefs coach, Andy Reid, prison sentence commuted. Reeves pardon for nearly killing a young girl, speeding and driving while drunk. IF you are like me, and many

others, we are disappointed in the governor for this pardon as he leaves the railroaded KCMO Detective Eric DeValkenaere, in prison. In my opinion Reid should have served the entire

Some of our *Gazette* readers likely listen to a local FM radio talk program on KCMo, 95.7.

The Pete Mundo program, from 6 to 10AM, weekdays. I listen for several reasons; one is that Mundo tells it like it is in honest points and conversation. Calls taken on both sides of iswith the subject matter, such as "Larry" from Prairies Village, grow up, not Larry, who is the poster child for liberals.

Law Enforcement. One County Prosecutor, Jean P Baker, who he says needs to go! Welp, Thank you Lord, she's gone in a few months!

He has some weekly guests such as **Dave Trabert of the** Kansas Policy Institute. Dave also tells it like it is. He had me the first time I heard him speak, talking about educational issues, our not so esteem governor and Kansas taxes, property taxes included.

The Kansas Policy Institute located in Wichita and Overland Park, has been in the game since founded in 1996 by George Peterson. Their goals are, "protecting freedom, we will improve everyone's quality of life, make Kansas more competitive, and attract new

citizens and businesses.' This from the Kansas Policy Institute, not my words but facts and figures quoted to me by Dave Trabert and from the Institutes web site and books. Hopefully I get this right because I have to say, the facts and numbers are well above my

paygrade. To begin with, Trabert is critical of Governor whatserass, her decisions, actions and non-actions. He is critical of the Kansas education system for the same reasons. He and Mondo "thank" RINO senator Pyle AKA "GOMER" for helping the governor get elected, which GOMER denies but he did it. with "GOMER" in a future article. He's a RINO and a liar.

quote, 'less credibility and sincerity than Eddie Haskell' OR "the Kansas public school bureaucracy bears a lot of resemblance to Eddie Haskell." These were mentioned in a chapter of the book, regarding Critical Race Theory, the CRT in which is denied exists in some Kansas schools. I nteresting enough is the fact

that some superintendents mentioned, when asked questions, refused to respond, some in Johnson County. And not only do they not respond to questions they **DO NOT FOLLOW THE LAWS** that are directed towards the Kansas education system. They simply ignore laws, do not respond to questions and they get by with it, WHY? And we all know this, because of the teacher's union that has nearly all politicians fearful of not being reelected.

A lot of tongue and cheek criticisms towards the system and those Calls taken on both sides of issues from listeners who love of us that question why we pay so to call in, to agree or disagree, with the subject matter, such as an excess of 1.25 billion dollars in reserve. Just sitting aside for a rainy day? All the while education goes on and on. Some Liberals rainy day? All the while education mature, when and IF they ever taxes continue to rise, significantly.

ow up, not Larry, who is the ster child for liberals.

While being critical when where else? Nope, not that I am aware of. I don't know about you, appropriate Mundo IS very but I do not have even hundreds of dollars in reserve for a rainy day, of Mondo's critical subjects why is that? Welp, My property (to my satisfaction) is Jackson taxes continue to be elevated by our state counties and cities, EVEN THOUGH THEY, the state and education system have this huge reserve of cash.

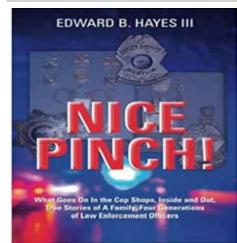
Starting this school year, their numbers still have gone up. From 2005 to 2023, a 7% increase in classroom teachers, a 5% increase in students, and are you ready for this? A 28% increase for managers, other non-teachers, and everyone else up 18%, while the decline in achievement have all gone down.

A question I have is why are all the top-tier managers even needed? What do they do? I can think of several reasons but it's all to accommodate them and not the kids. That's the sad part, the money granted does not go where it should go, in a way it should to the students, special education and more, and they continue to ask for more money. AND THEY GET IT! And again, why do they need so "top management employees?" And an excess of 1.25 billion dollars of OUR money!

Here's the bottom line from Chapter 4 in the book: School Officials Ignore State Law, Administrative Policy, and Legislative Intent. The law: "shall conduct (should require) annual meetings to determine the barriers." And superintendents mentioned, when asked questions, refuse to respond. Until they follow state laws! Cut the budget, they WILL come around!
Deception of parents is another
thing we sadly must put up with.
This criticism is very much need-

I'll mention my experience ed towards the system which tells, some would say, untruths, I would say, bold lies about curriculum, (continues at right)

about Johnson County, the metro-politan area, as well as law enforce-ment history, all branches, buy my book, "Nice Pinch." It's available in paperback and kindle, on Ama-zon or order from Barnes & Noble, you can learn
You can contact Ed Hayes, americanpatriots@sbcglobal.net or call 913 620 0771 "AND REMEMBER, PRAY FOR OUR COUNTRY! OUR ENEMIES ARE WORKING 24/7 TO DESTROY US! IN GOD WE TRUST." **EDWARD B. HAYES III** I love some of the quotes in Tar-bert's book. One mentions State School Board Member, Ann Mah,



Captain Edward (Ed) Hayes (Ret.)

IF you would like to know more

March 15, 2024

numbers, the systems money and where it's needed and used are other subjects in question of the system. In the system where students are 1/3 below grade level accredi-

More on the Kansas Policy Institute, numbers from Dave Trabert: While the state and counties continue to raise our taxes each year, another question you should have. Why, when the state has a combined surplus of 4.5 billion dollars, why did our property taxes increase 25%! plus, for some of us?

Kansas single family dwellings,

property owners' taxes have ballooned, elevated by the hucksters, in Topeka, the counties and cities. Worse since COVID, the fact that single family dwelling construction has been dwarfed, almost halted, due to the giant apartment complexes throughout the county in recent years. These complexes have gone up as rapidly as Quick Trips and in as many locations and getting tax rebates WE pay for.

IF you want more information, more quotes, more numbers, get the books by Dave Trabert: "Giving Kids a Fighting Chance with School Choice." Another is "What Was REALLY the Matter with the Kansas Tax Plan." Go to the web site for more. IF you want to hear Tarbert's interesting conversations, listen to the Pete Mundo program weekdays, Trabert is on every

Tuesday morning.
On another note, I frequently give warnings of what to do to be safe, in your homes, out and about and being aware of your surroundings. Here is another piece of advice or warning IF YA will, for widows and or widowers. I know this from personal experiences of others I've been involved with, appalling, sad information, or that's been shared with me.

At a time when you are grieving for the loss of a loved one, it is not a time to make decisions on the property of that loved one unless you have the knowledge to do so or a directive from the departed. Many times, a loved one may have collectables or other valuables BUT whatever the case IF you do not know what values are, it's not a good time to sell.

To trust a friend or even a relative to sell or dispose of said goods in some cases. You be the judge but don't kneejerk to give or sell things away without checking. The soon to be departed spouse that has such items will do justice to the survivor to have plans shared, written, or willed.

I can give examples of why this is not a good decision time: A dear friend of mine died who had a collection of guns. His wife, also a friend, asked for advice from other trusted friends of ours, who offered to liquidate the items. Not the friends I would have believed, she was given just above half the value for the goods. I was embarrassed and angry for such actions.

I had another friend who had

tools, again, gave them to friends to sell, she eventually got her money but I intervened, urged one of the "friends" to give her the money, after a while he did.

Whatever your collectibles are, guns, sporting goods, precious metals or whatever, be sure you get advice from someone who is honest and don't go to or ask just one source. Do not be in a hurry.

You can contact me IF no one else and I will try to direct you in the right direction, person or business

so you do not get cheated.

IF you would like to learn more about Johnson County, the metro area and law enforcement history, buy my book, "Nice Pinch" avail-able in paperback and kindle, at Amazon or order at Barnes & Noole. Ed Hayes can be contacted by email at americanpatriots@sbcglobal.net, or 913 620 0771.





Independence MO Officer Cody Allen, shot and killed responding to a shooting



Montgomery Co Texas, Deputy Sheriff Charles Rivette killed in a



Melgs County, TN Deputy Sheriff R.J. Leonard died, yet

### Cold Water

Cleaning
John went to visit his 90 year old grandfather in a very secluded, ru-

ral area of Georgia. After spending a great evening chatting the night away, John's grandfather prepared breakfast of bacon, eggs and toast. However, John noticed a film like substance on his plate, and questioned his grandfather asking, "Are these plates clean?"

His grandfather replied, "They're as clean as cold water can get them. Just you go ahead and finish your meal, Sonny!"

For lunch the old man made ham-

burgers. Again, John was concerned about the plates as his appeared to have tiny specks around the edge that looked like dried egg and asked, "Are you sure these plates are clean?

Without looking up the old man said, "I told you before, Sonny, those dishes are as clean as cold water can get them. Now don't you fret, I don't want to hear another word about it!

Later that afternoon, John was on his way to a nearby town and as he was leaving, his grandfather's dog started to growl, and wouldn't let him pass. John yelled and said, 'Grandfather, your dog won't let me get to my car".

Without diverting his attention from the football game he vas watching on TV the old man

Children Ages 3-5 Children are screened in vision and hearing, motor skills communication skills, cognitive skills, adaptive behavior, and personal-social-behavior. Services are provided for children identified with developmental delays. Call 913-592-7104 to schedule an appointment. TO CHECK TO THE CONTRACT OF TH

"COLDWATER, GO LAY DOWN!!!!" *(continues at right)* Special of: Free 6 pack of 1/2 pound hamburger patties with any order over \$50 (and we still have free local delivery)! Code for the March special: AHMARCH2024

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Mid-America Coca-Cola Collectors Club SPRING FLING SHOW AND SALE Saturday, April 20, 2024 Time: 9 AM to 2 PM

> Hilton Garden Inn 19677 E Jackson Drive Independence, MO 64057 816-350-3000

> > For more information www.mid-americatccccc.com

www.facebook.com/Mid-America-Coca-Cola-Collectors-Club







Sunday, March 31st Service at One *Only* at 9:00 AM

Also Join Us at 6:30 PM Maundy Thursday Service March 28th -Come Join Us!!

Hillsdale Presbyterian Church, EPC 22875 W. 225th St. • Hillsdale, Kansas



### House Rules

- 1. If you open it, close it.
- 2. If you turn it on, turn it off.
- 3. If you unlock it, lock it. If you break it, fix it.
- 5. If you can't fix it, call someone
- who can. If you borrow it, return it.
- 7. If you use it, take care of it.
- 8. If you make a mess, clean it up. 9. If you move it, put it back.
- 10. If it belongs to someone else and you want to use it, get permission.
- 11. If you don't know how to operate
- it, leave it alone. 12. If it doesn't concern you, don't mess with it.

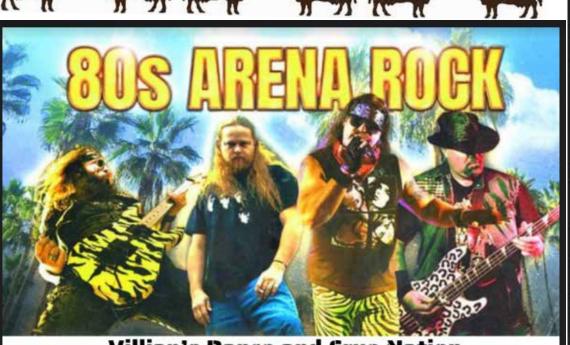
### 38th Annual Quilt Show

presented by Ottawa Sunflower Piecemakers, Ottawa KS Saturday, April 27, 2024 • 10 am - 5 pm

>>>>>Live Auction of Miniature Quilts at 2:30 pm <<<<< Auction proceeds to benefit altruistic projects in Franklin Co. and Ottawa Sunflower Piecemakers

Vendors, Craft & Gift Sales, Opportunity Quilt, **Demonstrations, Approximately 200 Quilts Donation Admission** 

ORC Goppert Building, 705 W 15th ST, Ottawa KS Additional information: Mary Schleicher email pgsteacher48@gmail.com or 785-764-0704



**Villian's Dance and Crue Nation Ottawa Memorial Auditorium** Saturday, March 30th - 7pm





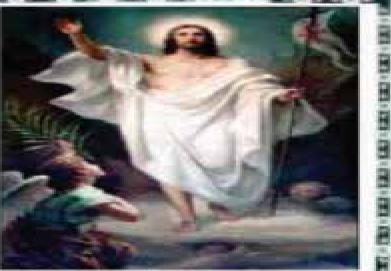
**Hillside Community Lutheran Church** 800 S. Webster, Spring Hill, KS 66083

> March 29 - Good Friday - 7:00pm March 31 - Easter Sunday - 10:00am



# CHRIST THE LORD

"He is not here - but is risen... Luke 24:6





Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up in heaven. Luke 24:51

May the Spirit of Christ be with you this Easter Season and throughout the year.

Dule's Body Shop 200 W. Ports Discount town in Citizen



#### **Overspending Culprits** (Continued from Page 1)

you a bunch of money the next time something breaks down. 7. Savings Accounts.

If you're like the average American, your savings account pays you virtually zero interest (typically under 0.3% a year, in my experience). But believe it or not, plenty of banks are willing to offer you 10x that ratm (Barclays, for example, has an account that pays a whopping ~4%/year right now (as of the time that I'm writing this).

(E.g. if you store \$100k in a 4% interest savings account today, in a year you'll have netted \$4,000 from interest alone)

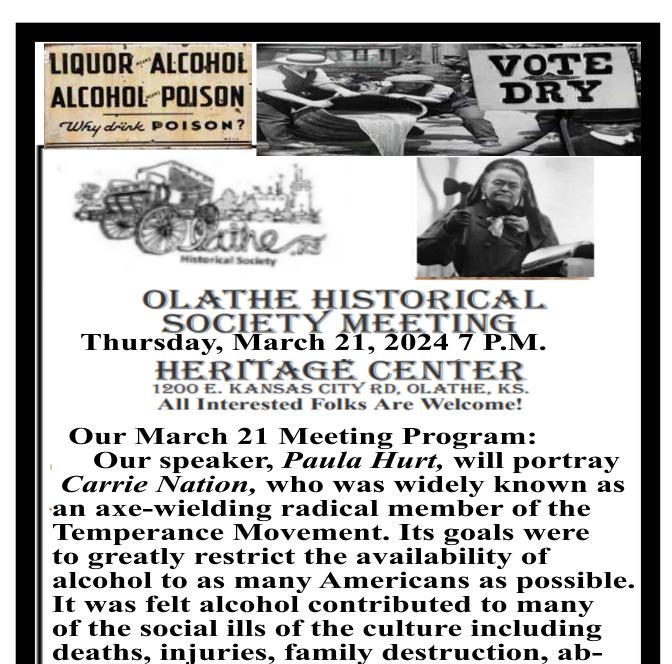
(E.g. 1f you're interested, here are a few bank accounts with solid interest rates:

8. Not Securing Your Passwords.

If you're not worried about your passwords being hacked, you probably should be. Approximately 110 million Americans are hacked each year (and over 600k Facebook accounts are hacked daily). Hackers have published a whopping 555 million stolen passwords on the dark web since 2017. Odds are, you will have an account hacked at some point in the next few years. You probably already know how to defend yourself: by using long, ultra-strong passwords, and using a different one for each website. But the issue is that nobody can remember 10+ strong passwords (especially if they're made up of random letters and numbers). The fix: experts recommend using a password manager. Think of it like a lockbox, but for your passwords. A password manager is a service that securely stores all of your logins in one app (so you don't have for your passwords. A password manager is a service that securely stores all of your logins in one app (so you don't have to remember a gajillion different passwords). They're ultra-secure, and also crazily helpful.

I typically recommend Total Password, but there are lots of other providers, too. Expect to pay \$2-\$4/month for a service like this, but it's well worth it (the average identity theft will cost you \$3,500+).





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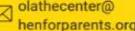
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Love and Logic Philosoppy





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Half-Day

Monday-Thursday

**Daily Devotion** 

Full Day Option for an additional cost

8:00-8:30am

8am-12am

### FLOWER, HOME & GARDEN SHOW

Saturday, March 23, 2024 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Heritage Event & Arts Center • 109 Delaware St, Leavenworth, KS 66048 (913) 682-2122 • www.heritagecenter-leavenworth.com

Admission \$2 per person

### Join us and enter to win 50/50 Raffle and Door Prizes

Leavenworth County Master Gardeners will be making presentations throughout the event.

Join us for a fun-filled and informative event! Show features flowers, plants, home décor and garden equipment.







### March Sales Event 3/1/2024 - 3/31/2024

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# OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, March 23rd, 2024 From 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Many mowers in stock:
Altoz
Dixie Chopper
Gravely
Redmax

Redmax and Maruyama Grass trimmers Hand Blowers Backpack Blowers Pole Saws instock.



Altoz Brush Hog Decks available.

### Track Mowers



### Dixie Choppers

Kick the tires and take a test drive before you buy.

Gravely

Lunch will be served from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm, or until the food runs out.

