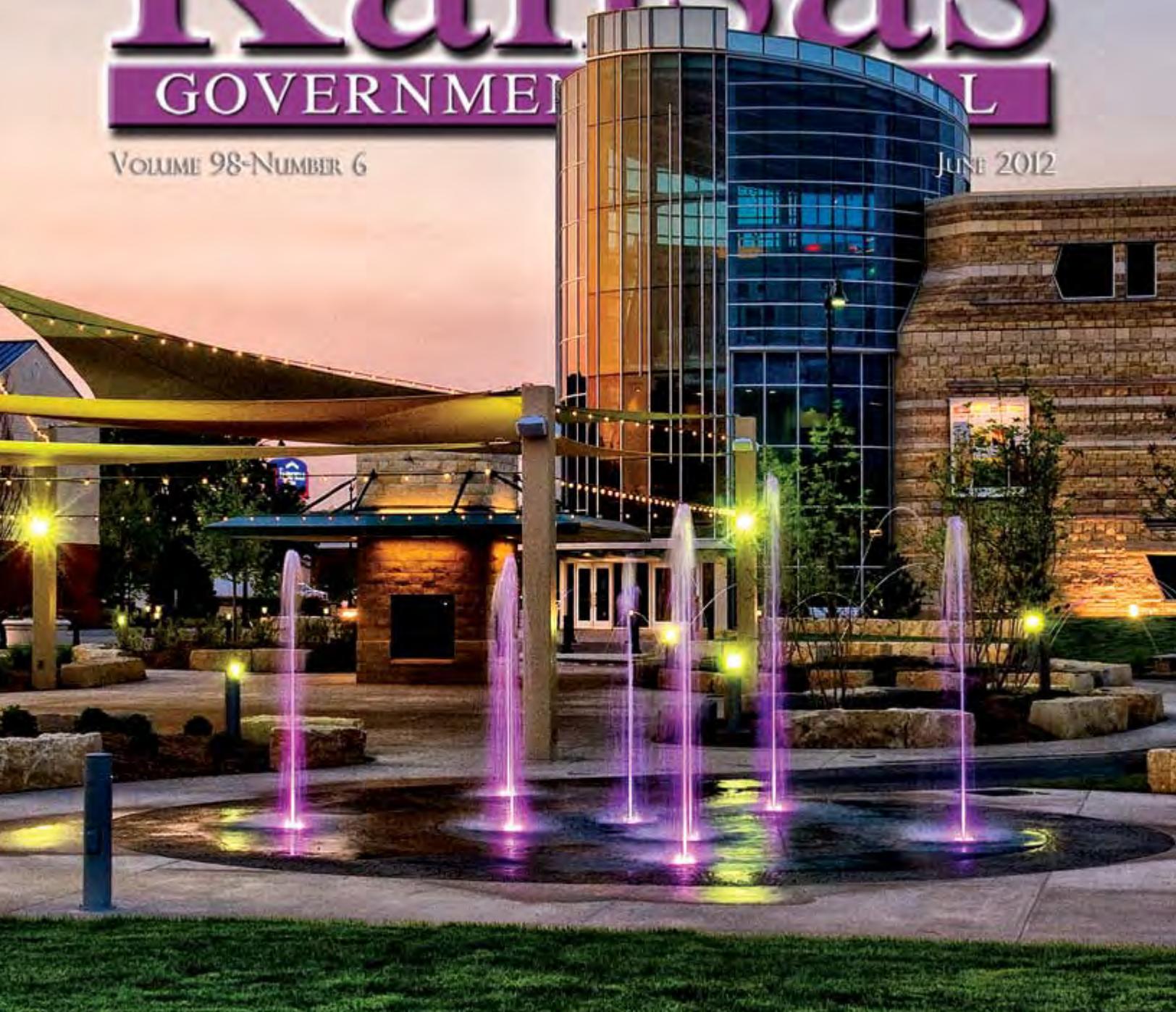


Kansas

GOVERNMENTAL

VOLUME 98-NUMBER 6

JUNE 2012



Inside:
Flint Hills Discovery Center Opens
2012 Legislative Update
The Origins of Home Rule



Dion Avello

Mayor - City of Derby



“For years, we tried to manage employee benefits ourselves. We hired Hardman & Howell to help us. They provide great advice and saved us money.”

Hardman & Howell Benefits focuses 100 % of their time helping clients manage their employee benefit plans including group insurance, voluntary plans, communication, technology solutions and HR assistance. These solutions have a positive impact for their clients and make a real difference in the lives of the employees. Their success is attributed to their ability to discover the specific and unique challenges of each client.

Hardman & Howell Benefits ...There is a difference!



174



177



181



186

Contents

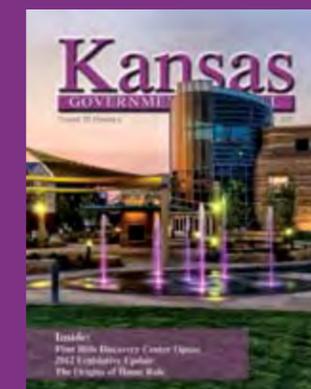
Volume 98 • Number 4 • April 2012

Features

- 173 In Memory of Representative Bob Bethell
- 174 Mini-Boom Comes to Stockton
- 177 Flint Hills Discovery Center Opens
- 181 2012 Legislative Update
- 186 The Origins of Home Rule
- 191 Mayor Brewer Appointed to Search Committee
- 193 Governmental Ethics Commission Releases New PSA Opinion

Departments

- 176 Mainstreet News
- 180 State Scene
- 189 Legal Forum
- 190 Best Practices
- 192 On the Road
- 194 Classified Advertising
- 195 Professional Services
- 198 Moler's Musings



About the Cover: Blue Earth Plaza shown in the foreground and the Flint Hills Discovery Center shown behind. See related article, beginning on page 177. Photo by Rob Mikinski of Bowman, Bowman, Novick, Inc. who designed the landscape architecture of the new center.



316.977.9779 | hhben.com

The *Kansas Government Journal* is published monthly by:
 © League of Kansas Municipalities
 300 S.W. 8th Ave. • Topeka, Kansas 66603-3951
 phone: (785) 354-9565 • fax: (785) 354-4186
www.lkm.org

General subscriptions are \$40 annually. Subscriptions for League member cities and research subscribers are \$20 annually. Individual issues cost \$5, with an additional \$5 charge for the Tax Rate Book edition.

Nothing herein shall be construed to have the endorsement of the publisher unless expressly stated.

Governing Body

President

Jim Sherer, Vice Mayor, Dodge City

Vice President

Brenda Chance, City Clerk, Phillipsburg

Immediate Past President

Carl Brewer, Mayor, Wichita

Past Presidents

Mike Boehm, Mayor, Lenexa
 Carl Gerlach, Mayor, Overland Park

Joe Reardon, Mayor, Unified Govt. of Wyandotte County/KCK

Directors

Herb Bath, Mayor, Altamont
 Bill Buntin, Mayor, Topeka
 John Deardoff, City Manager, Hutchinson
 Donald DeHaven, Mayor, Sedgwick
 Joe Denoyer, Vice Mayor, Liberal
 Tom Glinstra, City Attorney, Olathe
 Daron Hall, City Manager, Pittsburg
 Blake Jorgensen, Mayor, Ottawa
 John "Tiny" McTaggart, Mayor, Edwardsville
 Lynn Peterson, Mayor, Abilene
 Terry Somers, Mayor, Mount Hope
 Kim Thomas, Mayor, Stockton

Executive Director

Don Moler, Publisher

Kansas Government Journal Staff

Editor in Chief

Kimberly Winn

Managing Editor

Amanda Schuster

League Staff

Jay Bachman, Information Services Manager
 Larry Baer, Assistant General Counsel
 Kate Cooley, Conference/Marketing Coordinator
 Anna DeBusk, Secretary to the Executive Director
 Deanna Furman, Administrative Assistant
 Nikki Harrison, Administrative Assistant
 Sandy Jacquot, Director of Law/General Counsel
 Michael Koss, Member Services Manager
 Candis Meerpohl, Administrative Assistant
 Don Moler, Executive Director
 Don Osenbaugh, Director of Finance & Field Services
 Rynae Plue, Accountant
 Nicole Proulx Aiken, Staff Attorney
 Amanda Schuster, Communications Specialist
 Kimberly Winn, Deputy Director

The mission of the League shall be to unify, strengthen, and advocate for the interests of Kansas municipalities to advance the general welfare and promote the quality of life of the people who live within our cities.

© 2012 League of Kansas Municipalities



Calendar of Events

July

- 4 - Independence Day
- 20 - MLA: Neighborhood Building, Webinar
- 21 - MLA: Neighborhood Building, Webinar

August

- 10 - MLA: KOMA/KORA, Garden City
- 11 - MLA: KOMA/KORA, Abilene
- 24 - KMIT Board of Trustees Meeting, Lindsborg

September

- 3 - Labor Day
- 7 - LKM Governing Body Meeting, Kansas City
- 7 - MLA: Preparing for Retirement, Webinar
- 8 - MLA: Preparing for Retirement, Webinar

October

- 6-8 LKM Annual Conference, Topeka
- 7 - LKM Governing Body Meeting, Topeka
- 7 - KMIT Annual Meeting, Topeka
- 23 - Regional Supper, Liberal
- 24 - Regional Supper, WaKeeney
- 30 - Regional Supper, Kansas City

Obituaries

Vincent L. Bogart, 90, died March 26, 2012. Bogart served on the Wichita City Commission, and as Mayor in 1964. From 1972 to 1974 and again in 1976, he was the special assistant to the Attorney General for the State of Kansas. He served on the local, state, and national bar associations. In addition, he served under Governor Sebelius as Judge of the Workers Compensation Court.

The Honorable Wesley E. Brown, 104, died January 23, 2012. Brown served as a federal district judge for nearly five decades. Among his awards were the 1998 Kansas Bar Association's Philip H. Lewis Medal of Distinction, the 2000 Wichita Bar Association's Lifetime Achievement Award, the 2002 Judicial Council of the Tenth Circuit's Lifetime Achievement Award, the 2007 Wichita Crime Commission Criminal Justice Professional of the Year Award, the 2008 Kansas Bar Foundation's Robert K. Weary Award, and the 2008 Wichita State Alumni Association's Award of Distinction.

William Caldwell, 80, died March 3, 2012, at Midland Hospice Care. Caldwell spent four years in Sterling, Kansas, serving on the City Commission, as Mayor, and as a member of the Chamber of Commerce. He also worked 41 years for the Abilene, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad.

Richard J. Massieon, 65, died March 25, 2012, at his home in Seneca. Massieon served 29 years as Seneca City Attorney and 4 years as Onaga City Attorney. He was a member of the Kansas Bar Association and served as President of the Nemaha County Bar Association, Treasurer of the Northeast Kansas Bar Association, and was on the 22nd Judicial Bar-Bench Committee.

Donald G. Storck, 80, died February 24, 2012. In 1974, Storck served two years on the Derby City Council. In 1981, he successfully ran for Mayor and served for six years. Storck retired as a Boeing metal bond manager.

A view of shops that align the streets in downtown Alden. Photo provided by the City of Alden.



IN MEMORY OF REPRESENTATIVE BOB BETHELL

by Timothy Carpenter

Representative Bob Bethell from Alden, Kansas died in a single-car traffic accident Sunday, May 20, 2012. His death shocked politicians

who worked at the Statehouse with the Republican lawmaker for more than a decade.

Bethell, 69, was killed in a crash on Interstate 70 near the Paxico exit about an hour after the 2012 Legislature adjourned. He was on his way home when the wreck occurred.

On Monday, May 21, 2012, Governor Sam Brownback ordered flags to be flown at half-staff from sunup until sundown throughout Kansas until Bethell's burial.

"Representative Bob Bethell was a man of deep faith and passion for his family and state," the Governor said. "The community of Alden, and the entire State of Kansas, lost a passionate and motivated public servant."

Bethell, from the small town of Alden, northwest of Wichita in Rice County, carried the last piece of substantive legislation offered in the full House before closure of the annual session.

He urged colleagues—unsuccessfully—to endorse creation of a new 11-member oversight committee of the House and Senate to monitor Medicaid reform initiated by Brownback. The Senate had voted unanimously for the bill.

"I really feel that is a necessity," Bethell said in his speech on Sunday [May 20, 2012].

Brownback, also a Republican, said the lawmaker had "leaned in and poured himself into issues and causes important to Kansas and was a voice for our state's most vulnerable citizens."

House Speaker Mike O'Neal, a Hutchinson Republican, said he was "shocked and saddened by the tragic loss."

"He was a valued member of our caucus," O'Neal said. "I send my deepest condolences to his wife, Lorene, and his family."

Attorney General Derek Schmidt, a former member of the Kansas Senate, said the state had lost a devoted advocate for the state's elderly population.

"I am deeply saddened by the tragic death of our friend Bob Bethell," Schmidt said. "Bob was a tireless advocate for the interests of Kansas seniors, including as a valued member of the attorney general's senior consumer advisory council. Kansas is diminished by Bob's death, and we will miss him."

Bethell, who also was a pastor, represented Kansas's 113th District in the House since 1999. The district includes Rice County and parts of Barton and Reno counties.

He was Chairman of the House Aging and Long-Term Care Committee, and was a member of the Transportation and Health Committees.

Representative Bob Grant, a Frontenac Democrat, worked with Bethell each year to raise money for Kansas Special Olympics. Legislators hosted a shrimp peel and charity auction. Both would stand together on the House floor and urge members to chip in.

"Bob Bethell was a great guy and a great legislator. I thoroughly enjoyed him as a friend," Grant said. "I'm sure going to miss him because we had a lot of fun with the *Bob and Bob Show* with the Special Olympics."

This article was reprinted with permission from cjonline.com. Tim Carpenter is a writer for the Topeka Capital Journal. He can be reached at timothy.carpenter@cjonline.com.

Mini-Boom Comes to Stockton

by Keith Schlaegel

The Native Americans were the first to use the area for hunting and summer camps.

Then in the 1860s, settlers from the east homesteaded the broad valley along the south fork of the Solomon River. Cattlemen and their families were drawn to the grassland that grew between the bluffs along the river. The area that had once provided a home for buffalo was supporting an increasing population of pioneers.

In 1872, the City of Stockton, originally known as Stocktown, was chartered at what is now the intersection of Highways 183 and 24 and was incorporated in 1880. An early leader in the area, it found its population swelling throughout the middle part of the 19th Century. However, as has happened to many cities in rural Kansas, there was a downturn in population and business.

Recently business and construction has gone the other way, taking an upturn as there has been a mini-explosion of growth in the Stockton area. The centerpiece of the development in the city is the new medical clinic. Built on Highway 24 in the downtown area, the clinic is a modern, state-of-the-art facility staffed by two doctors and a physician's assistant. The million dollar project was funded almost entirely through donations and tax credits with very little public money used.

"This is one of Rooks County's largest donor supported projects," explained Kathy Ramsay, Director of the Rooks County Health Foundation. "It offers a rural facility where family medical care is available. The new clinic was made possible through the generosity of citizens of Stockton along with those throughout Rooks County and the surrounding area. Without their tremendous support, it would not have been possible."

The seed for the clinic was planted by a small group of representatives from the Rooks County Health Foundation, the City of Stockton, local physicians, and Rooks County. One of the driving forces behind the construction of the clinic was Genny Robben-Rahjes, APRN. "I have worked in this community for decades and am proud of what has been accomplished," Robben-Rahjes said. "The new clinic was much needed and I am so proud of the community embracing the project from the start. It's amazing what a lot of love and hard work can accomplish," she added.

Money for the clinic was also raised through donations, raffles, community dinners, and tax credits that were obtained through the State. Area residents were amazed to see the money raised in such a short time.

One of the new physicians, Dr. Beth Loney, was drawn in part to the community because of the new clinic. "As a new physician, I feel blessed to have moved to such a great city," she said. "The residents of Stockton have done an amazing job coming together financially and building a beautiful new clinic that has created health care opportunities that were not previously available."

Just down the street from the new medical clinic is another project for Stockton that opens July 1, 2012. Stockton Estates Apartments is an independent living facility that is aimed toward senior citizens. The apartments were built by Bainter Construction

of Hoxie, Kansas. The eight unit complex features two-bedroom apartments with attached garages. It sits close to the downtown business district and is one block from the new medical clinic.

Bainter Construction has been building senior apartments for 10 years and currently operates complexes in the cities of Hoxie, Hill City, and Smith Center. Each apartment is 1,330 sq. ft. in size, has handicapped accessible bathrooms, a laundry area, storage space, and individual heating and cooling. Electricity, water, trash pick-up, and a noon-meal each weekday are all included in the rental cost.

"It's a great project for our community," said Mayor Kim Thomas. "We truly appreciate the belief Mr. Bainter has shown in the community by building this wonderful facility. When he is done, we will have a beautiful complex where there once was an open grass lot."

A badly needed update has brought another construction project to the area. The Stockton sewer plant is an antiquated facility that has outlived its projected lifespan by 20 years. Thanks to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), the City was able to secure a loan with a 40% forgiveness included in the loan. The project is going to feature a lagoon system which after holding the water for a period of time, will send the effluent to the golf course located south of town.

"KDHE was all for the idea of sending the water from the lagoons to the golf course for them to use for irrigation," said Jon Voss, Superintendent of the sewer and water departments. "They saw it as an opportunity to use the water twice," Voss added. "Through the

cooperation of KDHE and the Department of Water Resources, it appears we will have an agreement which will be in place for many years. It will be beneficial to both parties."

The project is initially estimated to come in at over \$4 million. The effluent will be pumped from the sewer plant to land south of the city where the lagoons will be located. From there, it will be pumped another six miles to the golf course and deposited into the ponds at the course. Bids for the lagoons are projected to be let in May with construction to begin summer 2012.

Another area of concern for Stockton is its water department infrastructure, which has been addressed through recent efforts. The finishing touches on a water project that the City has been working on for the past couple of years is in the works. The original scope of work was for new underground water lines to replace antique, cast iron, and steel pipes. Because of the bid coming in lower than original estimates, additional work was added to the project. The City has been able to clean up wells that had been neglected for a number of years, put in pitless adapters

at the well sites, add a telemetry system at the water plant, and do much needed repairs on the interior of the water tower.

The project is being funded through a loan and grant with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and a loan with the Community Development Block Grant program. A previous loan for the City's water plant was combined with the water line project loan through USDA, which reduced the loan payments for the City.

Another City project that added a boost to area contractors was an energy grant awarded through the State Energy Office. The grant paid for 60% of improvements with the City picking up the rest of the cost. Improvements included new windows at the Solomon Valley Manor, a City owned nursing home; insulation at city hall; new lighting and thermostats at city hall, nursing home, library, water plant, and electric plant; and new insulated garage doors at the fire station.

"All our improvements will save the City a lot of money in upcoming years," said Mayor Thomas. "Things like lighting and new thermostats make a huge difference in energy savings, but it isn't something a commission usually has the money for in their budget."

All the work in the energy project was done by area contractors and was headed up through the general contractor, Kuhlmann Construction of Stockton.

In addition to the area construction connected to the municipality, there are also three new businesses coming into the community. A new attorney and his family are moving to the community and he is renovating an old building on Main Street. The attorney is originally from Stockton and he, his family, and practice will be a welcome addition.

A new auto parts store has just been constructed along Highway 183 and is another great new business, and a bakery will be opening along Main Street. The bakery is currently located on the south end of town and is in combination with a restaurant, but the owners have decided to separate the two businesses and put the bakery downtown.

A final improvement for the area is the recent completion of a new county airport. The 5,000 ft. concrete runway is located about halfway between the cities of Stockton and Plainville. It is the first new airport built in the state for a number of years and the runway will be long enough to allow Learjets to land. The airport will have a fuel station and a private hangar area with two hangars already starting construction.

The airport opened in April and was funded with a 90% grant through the Federal Aviation Administration. In addition to private aircraft, the new airport will be a benefit for the local medical facilities, allowing specialists to fly in and critical need patients to be taken to larger hospitals in the state.

Keith Schlaegel is the City Manager for the City of Stockton. He can be reached at cosmgr@ruraltel.net or (785) 425-6703.



Stockton Estates Apartments is a newly built independent living facility which is aimed towards senior citizens. Photo by Delwin LaRue.



The new Stockton Medical Clinic is located on Highway 24 in the downtown area. Photo by Delwin LaRue.



Mainstreet News

Kansas Sites Nominated for National Register

Ten Kansas sites are nominated for the National Register of Historic Places. The nominations will be sent to the Keeper of the National Register for consideration. Below is a complete list of the nominations and a complete description can be found at http://www.ksallink.com/?cmd=displaystory&story_id=22189&format=html:

- Arvonía School – Arvonía Township, Osage County
- Calvinistic Methodist Church – Arvonía Township, Osage County
- Congregational Church – Osawatómie, Miami County

- Soldiers' Monument – Osawatómie, Miami County
- David R. Gordon House – Abilene, Dickinson County
- Riverside Park – Oswego, Labette County
- Battin Apartments Historic District – Wichita, Sedgwick County
- Cudahy Packing Plant – Wichita, Sedgwick County
- Amos Gish Building – El Dorado, Butler County
- Norden Bombsight Storage Vaults – Pratt Army Airfield, Pratt County

New Restroom Lures Hundreds

Hundreds of people gathered in the central Kansas city of Lucas on Saturday, June 2, 2012 for the grand opening of the City's quirky new public restroom, the culmination of a four-year effort to make a bathroom stop something of an experience.



The outside entrance to the Bowl Plaza. See more photos at <http://www.grassrootsart.net/Events/BP-BuildingConstruction2012.html>

The rectangular men's and women's building at the City's new Bowl Plaza is shaped like a toilet tank, and the oval-painted entrance resembles an upraised toilet seat lid. The *Salina Journal* reported. The walkway to and from the restrooms is shaped like an unfurling toilet paper roll.

The day long Bowl Plaza Grand Opening included a toilet seat toss and Tubular Olympics with empty toilet paper rolls. Lucas, a city of about 400 residents, 65 miles northwest of Salina.

Residents of Lucas and visitors from as far away as Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C., gathered on the street leading from the Lucas Community Theater to Bowl Plaza.

Kansas Communities Receive Grants

Five Kansas communities will receive more than \$21 million in grants for community health centers from the new health care law.

Grants from the Affordable Care Act will help build and expand health centers, create jobs, and expand access to an additional 860,000 patients nationwide.

Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced \$21,689,730 in grants awarded to community health centers in Pittsburg, Junction City, Hutchinson, Salina, and Wichita because of the Affordable Care Act. Grantees estimate these awards will help them serve about 39,496 new patients, the department said.

"President Obama's health care law is making community health centers in Kansas stronger," Sebelius said. "For many Americans,

community health centers are the major source of care that ranges from prevention to treatment of chronic diseases. This investment will expand our ability to provide high-quality care to millions of people while supporting good paying jobs in communities across the country."

Kansas grant recipients are:

- Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas, Pittsburg: \$4.7 million.
- Konza Prairie Community Health Center, Junction City: \$4.5 million.
- Prairiestar Health Center, Hutchinson: \$5 million.
- Salina Health Education Foundation, Salina: \$2.7 million.
- The Hunter Health Clinic, Wichita: \$4.6 million.

Peter Robinson and his wife, Theresa, were among the spectators. The Robinsons, who moved from England four years ago and live in Kansas City, Missouri, found the event oddly familiar.

"I have concluded all the eccentric people moved out of England and came to Lucas," Peter Robinson said.

Plans for the Bowl Plaza took shape in 2008 when Eric Abraham, a ceramic and porcelain artist who owns a studio in Lucas, and Rosslyn Schultz, Director of the Lucas Grassroots Art Center, received an attraction development grant from the Kansas Department of Commerce to build Bowl Plaza.

Abraham said the plaza was intended as an art attraction with a functional purpose.

In the middle of an oval seating area in front of the restroom is a ceramic sculpture created by Abraham of swirling water that contains things one might accidentally flush down a toilet—keys, a toothbrush, hairbrush, and even an alligator.

The interior of the restroom is filled with colorful mosaics made of glass bottles, broken pottery, dishes, tiles, stained glass, and mirrors. The mosaics were created by Marquette artist Mri-Pilar with the help of students from Fort Hays State University. Mri-Pilar said she was amazed at the turnout for the opening.

The third floor rooftop terrace of the Discovery Center overlooks the limestone retaining walls with native landscaping.



by Lauren Palmer

Once, not that long ago, a seemingly endless sea of tall grass covered well over 150 million acres of what is now the central United States—from Texas to Canada and Kansas to Indiana. Today, less than 4% of the tallgrass prairie remains in the Flint Hills of Kansas and the Osage Hills of northern Oklahoma.

Located in the heart of downtown Manhattan, Kansas, the Flint Hills Discovery Center celebrates the importance of the geology, biology, and cultural history of the Flint Hills. The facility opened to the public on April 14, 2012, with exhibits designed to encourage visitors to explore firsthand the many special places within the 22-county Flint Hills region of Kansas. This family-focused, informal learning center interprets the science and history of the Flint Hills and the ongoing role of Kansans to act as stewards for this diverse and ecologically complex place.

The Discovery Center is the cornerstone of Manhattan's \$200 million downtown redevelopment project that began in 2002 and has evolved over the last decade. In 2006, the City received an award of \$50 million in Sales Tax and Revenue (STAR) Bonds from the State of Kansas to support the South End Downtown Redevelopment Entertainment Area. The area includes a Hilton Garden Inn hotel, 30,000 sq. ft. conference center, a 400-stall public parking garage, and a one-acre public park—Blue Earth Plaza. Additional hotel and mixed-use residential and commercial development is anticipated for the remaining vacant areas in

the South End. The STAR Bonds are also backed by sales taxes generated in the North End Downtown Redevelopment Area, a mixed residential and commercial corridor with anchor tenants including Best Buy, HyVee, Longhorn Steakhouse, Olive Garden, Petco, and Dick's Sporting Goods. However, no STAR bond proceeds were expended in the North End.

The Discovery Center was the attraction component of the STAR Bond application. A committee of 28 citizens served on an Attractions Committee that developed the initial concept. The Committee held numerous public brainstorming sessions to determine what Manhattan could market as a multi-state attraction. People quickly settled on the unique ecosystem of the Flint Hills and Manhattan's important relationship with the region as its largest urban center. Former Mayor Bruce Snead explains that, "[i]t's better to build on local strengths and resources than to create something new. The Discovery Center is built on something we already have and know and need to preserve."

After the STAR Bond application was approved, the City issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) and hired a museum consulting team led by Verner Johnson & Associates (VJI) of Boston, Massachusetts, and Hilferty & Associates of Athens, Ohio. The consultants worked with a citizen steering committee to develop a comprehensive master plan of the facility with initial design and exhibit concepts and proposed operating and capital budgets. There was still a lot of skepticism in the community about whether or not the facility

could be successful. It was through the master planning process that public opinion started to turn as the city released more information about what this could be for the community.

The Immersive Experience is a 15-minute high definition video that allows visitors to experience the dynamic sights and sounds of the Flint Hills.

Following the master planning process, VJI was selected as the architect for the building. The firm met the challenge of designing an iconic building to reflect the nature of the Flint Hills and make a strong initial impression for visitors due to its central location at a main entrance to the community. The facility houses over 10,000 sq. ft. of dynamic interactive exhibits, an immersive multimedia experience, classrooms, gardens, gift store, and a temporary exhibit gallery. The building is made of local limestone, layered in striated patterns that are reminiscent of the hills themselves. The stone façade is complimented by a glass cylinder lobby tower, with interior balcony overlooks at the second and third floors. The entire exhibit areas of the first and second floors are situated beneath terraced green roofs with undulating limestone retaining walls and extensive native plantings. The third floor roof terrace is an ideal location for educational programming and private events.

The internal structure of the building was designed with the ecosystem in mind using criteria from the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification program of the U.S. Green Building Council. The Discovery Center is anticipated to receive LEED Gold certification, which would make it only the second LEED Gold building in Manhattan. Some of the LEED components include a geothermal heating and cooling system, energy efficient lighting, and eco-friendly construction materials, with over 85% of the building's materials and labor coming from within a 50-mile radius of the site.

Hilferty also stayed with the project as the exhibit design firm. Exhibits range from the images and information written for adults and younger visitors, to mechanical interactive exhibits and audio-visual components, as well as dynamic play areas for smaller children to



laugh and learn. There are over 1,200 graphic images in the exhibits that capture the magic of the prairie landscape and cultural history of the people of the region. A Technical Committee of 24 scholars in relevant subject areas assisted Hilferty in crafting and reviewing the exhibits content. These specialists volunteered their time and knowledge to ensure that the Discovery Center tells an authentic and accurate story. Former Mayor James Sherow, a faculty member in the History Department at Kansas State University, served on the Technical Committee and stated, “[i]t is important that so many K-State faculty and others shaped the stories that are represented throughout the exhibits. We present a lot of information, and it all has to be current research.”

Utilizing a thorough review process, McCownGordon Construction of Kansas City, Missouri, was selected as the Construction Manager At-Risk for the project. McCown worked early with the architects to value engineer the project before final construction documents were produced or the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) was set. This coordination contributed to a project that was built on time and under budget. The \$24.5 million project was completed with \$18 million in STAR Bonds that were used to construct the building. The remaining \$6.5 million of exhibit costs are being funded through General Obligation Bonds of the City of Manhattan. The Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation, a private, 501(c)3 non-profit entity, is coordinating a capital campaign to raise private funds to help offset the public obligation for the exhibits. The Center's annual operating budget is supported by hotel/motel guest tax revenues and self-generated revenues such as admissions and gift store sales.

City Manager Ron Fehr recognized early that applying the Construction Manager At-Risk strategy to the exhibits could create efficiencies. “I saw early on the level of

Visitors from the Boys and Girls Club enjoy an exhibit in the Family Fun Zone.

attention that McCown was bringing to the process, so we expanded their scope to the management of exhibits fabrication and installations as well,” Fehr stated. This high level of integration among the building, the building systems, and the exhibits helped maximize the funds available for the project. Certain elements that had previously been removed from the project due to budget limitations, including completion of the temporary exhibits gallery and the lobby terrazzo flooring, were reinstated due to savings identified through the value engineering process.

The purpose of the Flint Hills Discovery Center is to educate visitors of all ages about the fragile ecosystem of the Flint Hills, to inspire them to celebrate and explore it, and to help them become better stewards of the last stand of the tallgrass prairie. To that end, the exhibits are supplemented by dynamic programming and outreach activities led by interpreters and docent volunteers. “We have worked



The entryway into the main exhibit area features an audio-visual dome exhibit and a terrazzo floor map of the Flint Hills.

to develop a truly regional tourism project,” Bruce Snead, former Mayor and President of the Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation said. “The Discovery Center will serve as a portal to the entire region by providing information on other attractions such as Fort Riley, Alma, Emporia, and Cottonwood Falls.” The facility will also serve as a prominent attractor for statewide, national, and international tourism destinations.

Placing the importance of the Discovery Center into a global context, Sherow stated, “It is one of the most endangered ecosystems on the face of the planet... If we learn how to sustain a human-grass relationship that gave rise to the tallgrass prairies, then we've learned how to sustain a living ecosystem. If we learn how to do that, perhaps we can also extend that lesson to the earth itself.”

Lauren Palmer is the Assistant City Manager for the City of Manhattan. She can be reached at palmer@cityofmnhk.com or (785) 587-2402.



Photo left: Governor Sam Brownback, Former Mayor Jim Sherow, and Former Mayor and President of the Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation Bruce Snead, join with other friends and supporters for the Flint Hills Discovery Center ribbon cutting.



Photo below: Former Mayor Jim Sherow welcomes guests to the grand opening of the Flint Hills Discovery Center. Seated in the background are Governor Sam Brownback, City Manager Ron Fehr, and former Mayor and President of the Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation Bruce Snead.

All photos provided by the City of Manhattan.

Flint Hills Discovery Center Hours of Operation

Memorial Day to Labor Day
Monday – Thursday: 10am – 8pm
Friday – Saturday: 10am – 5pm
Sunday : Noon – 5pm

Labor Day to Memorial Day
Monday – Wednesday: 10am – 5pm
Thursday: 10am – 8pm
Friday – Saturday: 10am – 5pm
Sunday : Noon – 5pm

Admission Rates
Adults: \$9.00
Military, Students, & Seniors (65+): \$7.00
Children (Ages 2 – 17): \$4.00
Children under 2: FREE
Membership Options are available.
Visit www.flinthillsdiscovery.org



State Scene

New Opportunities for Disabled Kansans

Kansas Governor Sam Brownback signed into law legislation aimed at creating job opportunities for Kansans with disabilities.

House Bill 2453 (formerly HB 2442 and SB 444) will establish preferences to award state contracts to certified businesses if their bids are no more than 10% higher than the most competitive bid. Businesses would be certified by the Kansas Department of Administration to ensure they meet the following criteria:

- Do business primarily in Kansas.
- Employ at least 20% of full-time employees in Kansas that are individuals with disabilities.
- Contribute at least 75% of the total health insurance premium cost for all employees.

Kansas Lieutenant Governor Jeff Colyer led the Brownback Administration's efforts to gain legislative approval for the bill.

"The policies in HB 2453 will build paths to independence for persons with disabilities that do not exist today," Colyer said.

"When we traveled throughout Kansas listening to Kansans' ideas on Medicaid reform, one consistent theme was the need for more work opportunities for persons with disabilities. Studies consistently show that those with disabilities who work lead happier and healthier lives. HB 2453 and other disability employment initiatives will assist in supporting Kansans with disabilities to live more productive, healthier, and independent lives."

Colyer led a working group with members of the Governor's Cabinet to fundamentally reform the State's Medicaid system to improve consumer outcomes while controlling costs of the program. One component of the Brownback Administration's effort to reform Medicaid is to create "off-ramps" for long-term Medicaid consumers. Most long-term Medicaid consumers are individuals with disabilities.

Kansas Launches High-Profile PSAs

Read Kansas Read, a summer reading program launched by Governor Sam Brownback, the Kansas State Board of Education, and the State Library of Kansas, released a series of new television and radio public service announcements.

Governor Brownback said the announcements will feature some high-profile Kansans, including University of Kansas Head Men's Basketball Coach Bill Self, Wichita State's Head Baseball Coach Gene Stephenson, Pittsburg State University Head Football Coach Tim Beck, and others.

"The goal of the program is to keep Kansas children reading over the summer," Governor Brownback said. "These new advertisements are designed to catch the eye of young Kansans and to raise awareness that their local heroes are reading during the summer, and they should too."

The group of advertisements include coaches and players from a number of Kansas Regents Universities.

The Kansas Association of Broadcasters (KAB) has partnered with the program to help distribute and air the PSAs. Kent

Cornish, the President of KAB, said the organization is happy to support such an important cause.

In August, the top two summer readers from each of the 10 Kansas State Department of Education districts and their families will join the Governor and First Lady for a special picnic celebration catered by Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers at Cedar Crest, the Governor's mansion, in Topeka. Special guests and mascots from Kansas universities and colleges also will attend the celebration.

Kids interested in participating can sign up at the local library or download their own book tracking form from the program's website, www.ReadKansasRead.ks.gov. All participating libraries and individuals must complete and return their form by August 1st.

For more information and to view all the completed PSAs to this point, [visit www.ReadKansasRead.ks.gov](http://www.ReadKansasRead.ks.gov).

Kansas Supports Small Business

Thumbtack.com, in partnership with the Kauffman Foundation, released new data showing that small business owners ranked Kansas among the top 10 easiest states nationwide for starting a small business. Thumbtack.com, a website that links freelancers and small businesses with people needing services, released its "Small Business Survey" that reviews data gathered from an extensive, nationwide group of small business owners, freelancers, and entrepreneurs in order to rank the best places in the country to do business.

Some findings for Kansas include:

- Kansas earned an "A" grade and an "A-" grade in two categories where it achieved top rankings: No. 5 best publicized networking programs nationwide and No. 9 easiest state for starting a small business.
- Women-owned small businesses in Kansas felt significant support by the state. Female entrepreneurs were 28% more

likely than male entrepreneurs to rate Kansas as "supportive" or "very supportive" of small business.

- Metro Kansas City is the state's stand-out region, receiving No. 1 rankings for 4 out of the 17 categories rated by small businesses. Small businesses rated eastern Kansas as being the state's No. 1 lowest-cost region for hiring a new employee.

Thumbtack.com surveyed 6,022 small businesses across the United States. The survey asked questions about the friendliness of states towards small business and about small business finances.

The full survey can be found at www.thumbtack.com/ks/ and includes the full set of rankings, quotes from Kansas small businesses, regional comparisons within states, and Census data comparing Kansas' key demographics against those of other states.



-2012- Legislative Wrap-Up

by Kimberly Winn

The 2012 Kansas Legislature met for 99 official days of work. By all accounts, this was one of the most challenging sessions in recent years with a number of major policy questions on the table for consideration. Issues involving reapportionment, Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (KPERs), and tax policy dominated the debate. Election-year politics combined with these difficult issues to make compromise and agreement nearly an impossible task.

While there will be some changes with regard to the future of KPERs (see discussion below), there were few bills passed during this session that will have a direct impact on local governments. The most dramatic debate concerning local governments had to do with an attempt by some in the business community to expand the machinery and equipment property tax exemption. In response to two particular reappraisals of large industry facilities, a bill was introduced that, in the opinion of local government officials, would have expanded the definition of property that is considered exempt under the definition of machinery and equipment. Despite a fierce attack by the business community, cities and counties were able to stop this legislation from going forward at this time. Because the reappraisals in question are still being litigated, this issue will likely be on the table again in the future.

Also in the area of taxes, there were several attempts at reinstating some form of a property tax lid. Most often, these attempts were tied to an exchange of sorts where cities and counties would receive some Local Ad Valorem Tax Reduction (LAVTR) funds. However, those entities that utilized those funds would be limited in their budget decisions going forward. There was a lot of confusion surrounding this legislation as the language of the bills did not match the budget process making it very difficult to interpret exactly what was intended. At the end of the day, there was not a tax lid passed and there was no money appropriated to LAVTR. Look for both of these tax issues to be up for consideration again in the next session.

As everyone is aware, 2012 is an election year with all 125 seats in the Kansas House and all 40 seats in the Kansas Senate on the ballot. No matter how the elections go, it is clear that there will be

significant changes in the make-up of the Kansas Legislature when it goes back into session in January, 2013. It is very important that local government officials follow the happenings in the Topeka. Decisions that are made during the legislative session will have an impact on your communities for years to come. Make sure you are signed up for the *League News* for weekly updates during the session and periodic updates throughout the rest of the year. Contact Amanda Schuster at aschuster@lkm.org to sign up for this electronic publication.

It is also very important for city officials to participate in the LKM policy process. This organization has a very open process for determining our policy positions. All policies are vetted through our policy committees and ultimately adopted by our Convention of Voting Delegates at the LKM Annual Conference. Anyone who is a city official in Kansas may serve on an LKM Policy Committee. For a complete description of the LKM policy process, see page 185, or go to our website at www.lkm.org.

The following is a summary of key legislation of municipal interest that was passed during the 2012 Legislative Session. For a complete copy of any of these bills, go to http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2011_12/measures/reports/laws_bn/.

General Local Government

Publication of Ordinances (HB 2166). Throughout the 2011 interim, LKM worked with the Kansas Press Association to reach agreement on ordinance publication. That agreement is contained in **HB 2166** and includes the following key elements:

- **Regular Ordinances.** This legislation applies only to regular ordinances. Charter ordinances must still be published in their entirety for two consecutive weeks pursuant to Article 12, § 5 of the Kansas Constitution. This bill does not address other required publications and notices. This bill also does not address the issue of selecting the official city newspaper. For information on selecting the official city newspaper, see K.S.A. 12-1651 (cities of the 2nd and 3rd class) and K.S.A. 64-101 (cities of the 1st class).

- **Alternative Process.** The process spelled out in **HB 2166** is an alternative to full publication designed to save publication costs. Cities may choose to continue publishing ordinances in their entirety if they want to do so.
- **Summary Required.** A summary of the ordinance must be published. The summary must identify that it is a “summary.” The summary must be certified by the city attorney that it is legally accurate and sufficient. And, the summary must contain the city’s official website address where a reproduction of the original ordinance is available for a minimum of one week. If the ordinance is subject to petition, the summary must contain a statement to that effect. The idea is to publish a brief summary with the “peanut” of the bill and directions as to how an individual would get a copy of the entire ordinance. An example follows:

Ordinance No. 352 Summary
On June 20, 2012, the City of Happy Valley, Kansas, adopted Ordinance No. 352, amending Ordinance No. 241, in order to increase dog registration fees from \$5 to \$10. A complete copy of this ordinance is available at www.HappyValley.gov or at city hall, 300 SW Main St. This summary certified by Joe Smith, City Attorney.

- **Online Publication.** The original ordinance must appear on the city’s website for at least one week. We recommend that cities simply scan the original copy of the ordinance and put it on their website. We also recommend a button on the front of the website that says “newly adopted ordinances” in order to make it easy for individuals to find the ordinance.
- **Copies.** Complete copies of ordinances adopted under this process must be provided free of charge.

This procedure becomes effective July 1, 2012. It is our sincere hope that this new process will save taxpayer dollars while providing enhanced access to information for the citizens of our state.

Alcoholic Liquor (HB 2689). This legislation made a number of changes with regard to the alcoholic liquor laws of the state. First, it provides for a “public venue” license for an arena with at least 4,000 permanent seats and at least two private suites. The bill also extends the possible time frame for a special event permit to 30 days. **HB 2689** defines a microdistillery and provides for their licensure. The bill allows farm wineries to sell for consumption without a drinking establishment license. It also allows retailers and manufacturers to provide free samples on-premise while microdistilleries can provide samples on-premise or at a licensed special event. Finally, the prior rule prohibiting “happy hour” and “ladies night” has been repealed.

Contractors’ Licenses (HB 2666). For those cities and counties that require the licensing of plumbers, electricians, or mechanical heating, ventilation and air

conditioning contractors, you are now required to verify the validity of the documentation of minimum experience required before issuing the certificate.

Kansas Open Records Act (HB 2427 and HB 2569). **HB 2427** adds a new exemption to protect records that contain the home address for law enforcement officers and other court personnel. **HB 2569** extends for an additional five years, the exemptions that were set to expire on July 1, 2012.

Scrap Metal Dealers (HB 2470). This bill amends the scrap metal law to remove wires or cables owned by a telephone, cable, electric, water, or other utility provider that has had the sheathing removed from the list of items that scrap metal deals are prohibited from purchasing. Further, the bill clarifies the application of the renewal fees. Initial registration fees can be \$100 - \$400 and renewal fees can be \$25 - \$50.

Dissolution of Treece (HB 2412). LKM supported this legislation to provide for the dissolution of the City of Treece. The residents of Treece have been relocated by the Environmental Protection Agency and there were not enough citizens remaining to go through the traditional dissolution process. This legislation accomplishes that dissolution, but does not have an impact on any other cities.

Amusement Rides (SB 356). This bill removes home-owned amusement rides from the definition of “amusement ride” for the purpose of state regulation. A city or county that regulates amusement rides can choose to use the state definition and exempt home-owned amusement rides or can continue to regulate home-owned amusement rides pursuant to home rule authority.

Home Loan Deposit Program (SB 40). The Kansas Housing Loan Deposit Program has been amended to add not-for-profit adult care homes as eligible participants.

Converting a School District Recreation Commission (SB 207). New Section 2 of **SB 207** authorizes the conversion of a school district recreation commission into a city recreation system in certain circumstances.

State Festivals (HB 2563). The City of Wellington has been designated the home of the official Kansas Wheat Festival. And, the City of Clyde has been designated the home of the official Kansas Watermelon Festival.

Public Employees

KPERS Overhaul (HB 2333). The primary changes to the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System are included in **HB 2333**. The following is the summary of the changes provided by KPERS:

Sub House Bill 2333 creates a tier 3 retirement plan for new hires. It also includes benefit changes similar to those proposed last year for current members and employer contribution increases. Changes are necessary to make KPERS more sustainable and to pay promised benefits long-term.

- **Most Significant Changes.** The change that will most help the current funding shortfall is higher employer contributions. Employer contributions will increase faster starting in fiscal year 2014 (calendar year 2014 for local employers) until they reach the actuarially required rate. This will mean more than \$500 million in additional funding from employers over the next 10 years, bringing the 10-year total to almost \$10 billion.

- **Tier 1 Changes.** Tier 1 changes are not exactly straightforward. Changes will come in stages and may involve you making a choice in 2013, if the IRS approves. If the IRS doesn’t provide approval, the contribution and multiplier increases to the right will automatically take effect.
- **Tier 2 Changes (members hired July 1, 2009+).** Tier 2 members will lose their COLA, but will have a higher multiplier for all service.

Tier 1 Now	Tier 1 (Change) Jan 2014	Tier 1 (Change) Jan 2015+	July 2013 Election Choice* <i>If election is held</i>
4% contributions	Increase to 5% contributions	Increase to 6% contributions	Stay at 4% contributions (No change to 5% and 6%)
1.75% multiplier	Increase to 1.85% multiplier Future service only	Continue with 1.85% multiplier	1.4% multiplier Future service only (Start July 2014, past service stays at 1.75%)

**Without IRS approval for an election, contributions, and multiplier will automatically increase.*

Tier 2 Current	Tier 2 New
6% Contributions	Continue with 6% contributions
1.75% multiplier	Increase to 1.85% multiplier All service, not just future
Have cost-of-living adjustment (COLA)	Lose COLA Start July 2012 (Doesn’t affect members retiring before July 2012)

- **Some Other Items in the Bill.** It extends working after retirement exemptions through July 2015 for licensed school members. It also directs a percentage of Expanded Lottery Act Revenue Funds (ELARF) to KPERS’ unfunded liability.

For a more detailed discussion of the cash balance plan for new employees, see http://www.kpers.org/tier3_051812.pdf

Kansas ADA (HB 2335). **HB 2335** amends the Kansas Act Against Discrimination to alter some definitions and standards to bring it more in line with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act.

Health Insurance for Firefighters (SB 250). If a city, county, or township pays for the premium for any health plan for its firefighters, then the local government must pay the COBRA premiums for up to 18 months for a surviving spouse and dependent children for a firefighter who dies in the line of duty.

Hiring Information (SB 306). All employers must provide information concerning each new employee to the Secretary of Labor within *20 business days* of the hiring or rehiring of an employee.

Finance and Taxation

Military Housing (HB 2769). This bill, which is retroactive to tax year 2011, clarifies that all housing on a U.S. military installation is exempt from property taxation.

Motor Fuels Tax (HB 2455). This legislation directs the Kansas Department of Transportation to organize a discussion “with the public and all interested stakeholders” regarding the feasibility of continuing to rely on the motor fuel tax as the primary mechanism for funding the state’s highway system and as the major contributor

of state aid to local government transportation budgets. The report must be delivered to the Governor and the Legislature by January 1, 2014.

Bonded Debt Limits (HB 2420). The bonded debt provisions for the City of Junction City that were set to expire on June 30, 2015, have been extended to June 30, 2020.

STAR Bonds (HB 2382). The STAR Bonds Financing Act, which was set to expire on July 1, 2012, has been extended to July 1, 2017. The method for calculating the maximum state interest rate was altered as well.

Abandoned Commercial Property (SB 207). K.S.A. 12-1750 has been amended to authorize cities to repair or remove unsafe or dangerous commercial real estate if it has been abandoned. Abandoned commercial real estate is defined as that property for which the taxes are delinquent for the preceding two years and which has a blighting influence on surrounding properties.

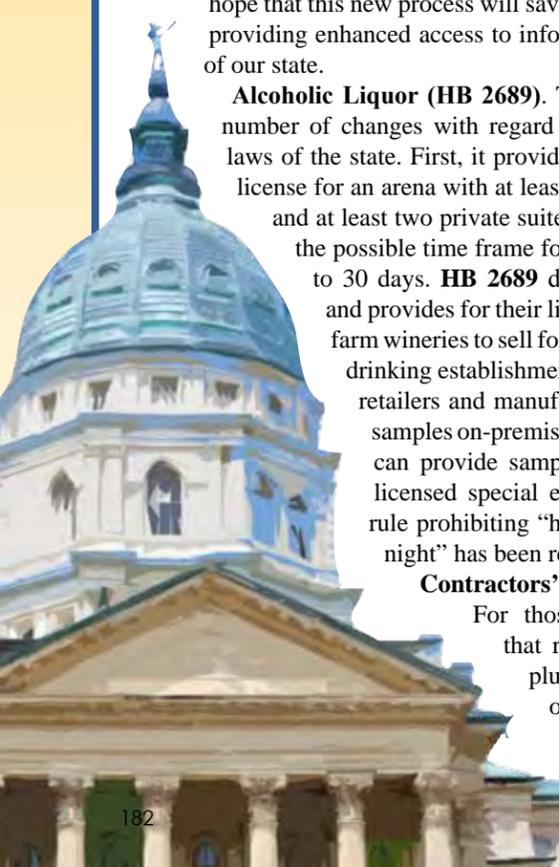
Motor Vehicles

Weight Limitations for Trash Trucks (SB 298). K.S.A. 8-1901 has been amended to specify weight limits for trash trucks as 60,000 pounds for trucks with three axles and 40,000 pounds for trucks with two axles.

DUI (SB 60). This legislation is a follow-up to the overhaul of the DUI laws in 2011. There are a variety of changes throughout the DUI laws, but there are two components of particular interest. First, the bill clarifies that \$250 from each fine imposed by a municipal court for a DUI violation shall be sent to the Community Corrections Supervision Fund. This actually corrects an error in last year’s legislation wherein the requirement that cities send this money to the State was left out. While cities may have been retaining this money for the past year, it was always the intent to have those fines sent to the Community Corrections Supervision Fund. The other key change in **SB 60** deals with criminalizing the refusal to submit to a drug or alcohol test. Under this new legislation, it is a crime for an individual who has a test refusal or a conviction for DUI on or after July 1, 2001 (and that person was at least 18 at the time), to refuse to submit to such test. The *2012 Standard Traffic Ordinance* Codifies these changes.

Water

Reservoir Improvement Districts (HB 2685). Modeled on the Watershed District Act, this legislation authorizes the creation of Reservoir Improvement Districts. It establishes a procedure for the creation of the district and election of a board of directors.



The board is charged with developing a general plan for the district. Such plan must be approved by the Kansas Water Office. From there, the district has the authority to carry out a variety of projects, subject to statutory and financial limitations.

Water Banking (HB 2516). The Water Banking Act is a program that allows irrigators an opportunity to “bank” water for future use. **HB 2516** removes the limitation on the number of water banks and establishes a specific process for the review of a water bank in determining whether the bank should be continued.

Use It or Lose It (HB 2451 and SB 272). **HB 2451** amends K.S.A. 82a-718 to provide that a groundwater right in an area that has been closed by order of the Chief Engineer shall be deemed to have sufficient cause for nonuse and such right shall not be considered to be abandoned. Additionally, **SB 272**, allows for multi-year flex accounts for certain groundwater rights.

Division of Water Rights (SB 148). This bill specifically authorizes the division of a water right without losing priority. If all persons with an ownership interest in the water right consent; the priority of the divided water rights is designated; the division will not increase consumptive use; and, the division does not violate the Kansas Water Appropriation Act, the Chief Engineer must approve the division.

Utilities

Natural Gas Cooperatives (HB 2489). Certain natural gas cooperatives will now have the opportunity to exempt themselves from the rate-making jurisdiction of the Kansas Corporation Commission.

Kan-Ed Dissolution (HB 2390). The purpose of this legislation is to phase out the Kan-Ed network. Kan-Ed is a program that utilizes Kansas Universal Service Funds to provide broadband technology to local schools, libraries, and hospitals. This program will end by June 30, 2013, and the local entities will have to transition to a commercial broadband connection by that date.

Elections

Voter Identification (SB 129). Based on the law that was passed last year, voters in Kansas are now required to show a photo identification when they cast a vote. In addition, beginning January 1, 2013, persons registering to vote for the first time in Kansas will be required to provide proof of citizenship. **SB 129** clarifies that an identification card issued by an Indian tribe is sufficient to prove one’s identity when voting. The bill also allows for a free certified birth certificate for anyone 17 years of age or older, when needed for registering to vote or for the purpose of voting if the applicant lacks an allowable photo identification.

Reapportionment. During the 99-day legislative session, lawmakers were unable to reach agreement on the state election maps which needed to be altered as a result of the 2010 Census. A federal lawsuit was filed and a three-judge panel heard testimony from a variety of interested parties on the issue. Following the hearings, the panel drew up the State’s maps which dramatically

shift a number of districts. To review the new maps, go to http://redistricting.ks.gov/Plans/district_court.html.

Public Safety

Kansas 911 Act (SB 384). This bill amends the Kansas 911 Act that was passed in 2011 to make a number of technical changes. Several definitions have been amended and the terms of office for the voting members of the state 911 Coordinating Council have been staggered. The legislation also provides for monies from prepaid wireless fees (in excess of \$2 million annually) to be distributed to counties based on their share of the state’s population. The money is then distributed to PSAPs within the county based on their share of the county’s population.

Conditions for Parole (SB 159). **SB 159** requires that defendants who are released on parole are subject to search and seizure as a condition of parole. Further, the bill requires sex offenders to agree in writing not to possess any pornographic materials as a condition of parole.

Fleeing or Eluding (SB 282). K.S.A. 60-4104 has been amended to add felony violations of fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer as an offense that gives rise to the civil forfeiture statutes.

Controlled Substances (SB 134). In addition to making a number of changes with respect to pharmacists and the writing of prescriptions, this legislation adds carisoprodol to the schedule IV list of controlled substances and adds ezogabine N-[2-amino-4(4-fluorobenzylamino)-phenyl]-carbamic acid ethyl ester to the schedule V list.

Domestic Violence (SB 304). This bill creates the Batterer Intervention Program Certification Unit within the Attorney General’s office. In addition, it amends numerous statutes related to domestic violence. In particular, after July 1, 2013, a municipal judge will be required to determine if a defendant committed a domestic violence offense as defined in K.S.A. 21-5111.

Sheriffs’ Fees (SB 293). Fees for service of process by the sheriff for any summons, pleading, writ, order, or notice issued by a court clerk or court have been set at \$10. On July 1, 2013, this fee increases to \$15.

Crimes and Criminal Procedure (HB 2318). This is comprehensive legislation that amends many statutes regarding crimes and criminal procedure. In addition to very specific changes with respect to drug violations, the bill also amends statutes dealing with endangerment, unlawful use of recordings, burglary, interference with law enforcement, simulating legal process, escape from custody, smoking, disposal of explosives, cruelty to animals, and multiple convictions.

Electronic Cigarettes (HB 2324). This bill defines electronic cigarettes and makes it unlawful to provide such products to minors.

 *Kimberly Winn is the Deputy Director for the League of Kansas Municipalities. She can be reached at kwinn@lkm.org or (785) 354-9565.*

Since our founding in 1910, advocating on behalf of the cities in Kansas has been a core function of the League of Kansas Municipalities (LKM). Our positions on key issues are guided by the *Statement of Municipal Policy* which is amended and adopted annually by the Convention of Voting Delegates. Decisions about positions on specific pieces of legislation are made by the elected LKM Governing Body.

Participation by member cities is critical to our ultimate success as an advocate for municipal interests. All city officials from LKM member cities are invited to participate on a policy committee. All LKM member cities may designate voting delegates to participate in the Convention of Voting Delegates. All city officials are asked to contact legislators about key issues that are important to your community.

Steps in the LKM policy process include:

- **Policy Committees.** Each year in August, the LKM Policy Committees meet to review the *Statement of Municipal Policy*. There are three committees that are focused in specific areas: Finance & Taxation, Public Officers & Employees, and Utilities & Environment. Following the meetings of each of those committees, the Legislative Policy Committee reviews the recommendations of the three specific committees and the remainder of the *Statement*. The amended *Statement* is approved by the LKM Legislative Policy Committee and forwarded to the Governing Body for consideration. To participate on an LKM Policy Committee, go to <http://www.lkm.org/legislative/policycommittees/> or contact Anna DeBusk at adebusk@lkm.org or (785) 354-9565.
- **LKM Governing Body.** At its meeting in September, the LKM Governing Body considers the amended *Statement of Municipal Policy* and makes additional changes if necessary.
- **Joint Policy Committee Meeting.** On the first day of the LKM Annual Conference, all four policy committees come together to review the amended *Statement of Municipal Policy*. All city officials are invited to participate in this meeting. Following discussion and any amendments, the *Statement* is then forwarded to the LKM Governing Body once again for consideration.
- **LKM Governing Body.** On Sunday at the LKM Annual Conference, the LKM Governing Body considers the *Statement* one final time and provides an opportunity for individuals to

discuss specific issues with the Governing Body. The Governing Body then forwards the *Statement* to the Convention of Voting Delegates for consideration.

- **Convention of Voting Delegates.** All LKM member cities are entitled to have voting delegates participate in the Convention of Voting Delegates. The Convention is held on Monday of the LKM Annual Conference. Pursuant to the rules adopted by the convention, no **new** matters relating to the official policy of LKM, not submitted to the Governing Body or already contained in the proposed *Statement of Municipal Policy*, can be considered without a 2/3 vote of those delegates voting. City officials can seek changes in the *Statement of Municipal Policy* at any step in the process until it is adopted by the Convention of voting delegates.
- **Regional Suppers.** Following the adoption of the *Statement of Municipal Policy*, LKM hosts a series of regional suppers around the state. All city officials and state legislators (and candidates) are invited to participate in these dinners to discuss the upcoming session and the priorities identified by city officials. Dates and locations for the 2012 Regional Suppers are as follows:

Oct. 23 – Liberal	Oct. 30 – Kansas City	Nov. 7 – Neodesha
Oct. 24 – WaKeeney	Nov. 1 – Mount Hope	Nov. 8 – Minneapolis
- **City Hall Day.** Early in the legislative session each year, LKM hosts a City Hall Day in Topeka. This is an ideal time for city officials to come to Topeka to discuss key issues with their legislators. In addition, the LKM Policy Committees meet again to discuss specific legislation that is being considered. The next City Hall Day will be February 6, 2013.
- **League News.** Weekly during the legislative session (and more often, if necessary), LKM publishes an electronic newsletter to keep city officials up-to-date regarding the Kansas Legislature. Through this publication and periodic Legislative Alerts, city officials are asked to make legislative contacts on key issues. To sign up to receive the *League News*, contact Amanda Schuster at aschuster@lkm.org or (785) 354-9565.
- **Legislative Summary.** At the conclusion of each session, LKM provides a complete wrap-up of the session and law changes of municipal interest. This is usually found in the June edition of the *Kansas Government Journal*.



League Policy Committees Forming Now!

League policy committees help to establish the policies that guide the organization’s legislative efforts. Any city official is eligible to serve on a single policy committee. The four committees include:

Finance and Taxation Policy Committee-August 14

This committee reviews and recommends League positions on finance and taxation issues, including local option taxes, property tax lid, tax exemptions, motor vehicle tax, etc.

Public Officers & Employees Policy Committee-August 16

This committee reviews and recommends League positions dealing with a range of employment matters, including wage and hour laws, unions, workers compensation, unemployment insurance, etc. This committee also handles League positions relating to public officials, including ethics, elections, and other requirements of holding public office.

Utilities and Environment Policy Committee-August 21

This committee reviews and recommends League positions on water supply, water quality, water planning, solid waste, air quality, and other environmental quality issues.

Legislative Policy Committee-August 23

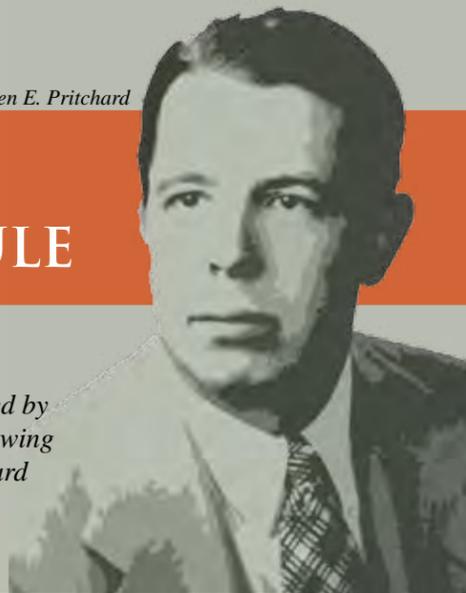
This committee reviews and recommends League positions in all other policy areas and provides general oversight of the policy statement.

All meetings will be held at the League office and begin at 10 a.m. and adjourn by 2 p.m.

For more information about the League policy committees, go to <http://www.lkm.org/legislative/policycommittees/> or contact Anna DeBusk at (785) 354-9565 or adebusk@lkm.org.

THE ORIGINS OF CONSTITUTIONAL HOME RULE

Allen E. Pritchard



Editor's Note:

For more than 50 years, Kansas cities have operated under the authority granted by the Constitutional Home Rule Amendment (Kan. Const., Article 12, § 5). The following is an excerpt of a letter sent by former League Executive Director Allen E. Pritchard discussing the League's advocacy role in the establishment of Home Rule.

April 25, 2011

Mr. Don Moler, Executive Director
League of Kansas Municipalities
300 S.W. 8th Street
Topeka KS 66603-3951

Dear Don:

Mary Mosher sent me a copy of the 100th Anniversary issue of *Kansas Government Journal* (KGJ). Congratulations to you and your staff for putting together a wonderful overview of the development of the League and the environment in which it grew. The array of pictures of the Presidents gives substance to the leadership of outstanding citizens who have contributed to the fine reputation of city governments in Kansas and of the League.

As I turn 90 next month, I am inclined to want to add some detail to the KGJ history of League events and contributions. It is not my intention to gather personal credits or to be critical but simply to fill in some details that may be of interest to you and future historians. So here I go:

I was recruited personally by John Stutz to replace him when he retired. At the time I was Executive Director of the Ohio League and had previously served in a similar position with the Colorado League and as Assistant Director of the Wisconsin League. I started in Kansas in mid-1955. At that time, the Kansas League had the largest budget and the largest staff of any League in the country. It was an honor and a challenge to replace John who had a great national reputation.

The League I inherited occupied two floors of the Capitol Federal Building. Most of that space was used to house row after row of old wooden file cabinets containing a file for every city, county, and school district in the state. At least two full time staff sorted clippings from clipping services and filed them in the proper community file. Significant news items were passed on to the Executive Director to decide which should be reported in the KGJ. This was a significant component of the "research service." The major component was the excellent work of

Albert Martin and his staff in providing legal counseling and codification services to city attorneys. Otherwise, "Research" was a misnomer. The League did not have anyone on staff capable of performing research. The annual convention and frequent meetings with constituent city and county organizations and ad hoc groups encouraged the exchange of ideas and practices. KGJ provided a regular statewide overview of events and trends in local governments that proved useful to local and state officials. For the most part, these were the functions the League performed for cities. The counties used the so-called research services, some legal counseling, and help with the KOC annual convention. School boards had a part-time secretary of their own. They subscribed to KGJ.

It became very clear to me in early meetings with city constituent groups and the Board that the weak part of the League program was legislative advocacy. John had been very successful in advocating for the League and KGJ but not for the members. If you look at pages 296 and 297 of the Anniversary issue of KGJ, you get the flavor of that activity. During the legislative session before I arrived, John had sold the legislature on providing what he hoped would be an annual grant of \$25,000 to the League for "research" purposes. When the next legislature convened two city attorney/senators came to see me to determine if we wanted to renew that grant. They said it would be a tough fight to continue the funding but they would try to push it through if we wanted them to. I told them to forget it. It seemed to me to be impossible to press issues in the legislature for our members while pleading for funds to finance the advocate. It turned out to improve our standing with the Senate in particular.

The major barriers to Kansas cities' collective legislative advocacy were the Dillon Rule and the legislature's dealing with each of the four classes of cities through separate committees. This left individual cities to deal with the legislature one on one and made collective action through the League impractical.

Early in the fall of 1955, Governor Fred Hall asked me to accompany him to a dinner with the KU chapter of our fraternity. On the return ride, he brought up his frustration with the amount

VOTE YES HOME RULE NOV. 8TH

of time the legislature spent on local government issues at the expense of statewide issues. He said he was going to press the Legislative Research staff to look anew into what could be done to give more Home Rule to cities. While the Governor was a Kansas native, he graduated from USC and was familiar with Home Rule in California via city charters and wondered about their possible use in Kansas. A few months later Jim Drury, from the KU Governmental Research Center, stopped in to talk to Albert and me about what he was doing to help Legislative Research on that subject.

Their combined research was following traditional concepts of Home Rule. Any analysis of related literature at the time produced discussions of the Dillon Rule and states writing charters for individual cities or permitting cities to write charters within parameters prescribed by the state. They were analyzing the best of those approaches in other states and their language to apply to Kansas.

With the Governor's interest and the activity of the legislative staff and KU and the frustrations expressed by the League's constituents, it seemed the League staff should accelerate our involvement.

In meetings with our members, staff focused on what members specifically wanted more freedom to act on locally. It became clear that, for the most part, officials found it OK to work under most state statutes. They flirted with the term Home Rule, but there was nowhere near a consensus on what it should look like. The issues they wanted to deal with had no statewide significance, i.e., set up staggered terms for members of a city council, change the structure of city boards, and most important, set their own tax levy rates. Drawing on my experience with the Wisconsin Home Rule statute, I posed the concept of thinking of the existing statutes under which each Kansas city operated as their "Charter" and then have the authority to amend those laws by a charter ordinance. That seemed very appealing. The staff was requested to try to draft such a law.

In the process, we encountered several important issues. First, Home Rule by statute would always be subject to legislative tampering in each session (as Kansas county Home Rule has experienced.) In Wisconsin, we spent most of the time during each legislative session convincing cities they didn't need legislation and fighting off special interests who wanted to restrict Home Rule. We decided to recommend a Constitutional Amendment. Second, we assumed that the Governor and some legislators would raise the legitimate question of the possible need for some statewide policies. It would be foolhardy to contend

that some issue would not come up that required uniform response from all jurisdictions. Then, there was the problem of what to do about local taxes.

Historically, cities had been required to get legislative approval for their property tax rate. This was one of the justifications for classes of cities and four legislative committees.... It did not seem likely that the legislature and some local special interests would support a Constitutional Amendment that, in their view, let cities run wild imposing taxes. But, we didn't want individual legislators dictating a tax rate to individual cities. (This was a regular practice. Some legislators acted like "Super Mayors").

The draft staff proposed tried to accomplish several objectives: First, to give cities a broad grant of power to act on local issues where no state statute existed. Second, to limit the states' ability to intervene in local matters by requiring that the state could only control or override city actions by a law that applied equally to all cities. Third, to reserve to the legislature the authority to divide cities into four classes for the purpose of permitting or prohibiting the levying of specific taxes, but any such action had to apply uniformly to all cities in the class. Fourth, to set up a procedure by which cities could choose by charter ordinance not to be governed by a non-statewide statute and substitute a local ordinance. Those procedures were designed to strengthen representative government as

Allen E. Pritchard, (right) newly elected Executive Director, receives congratulations of John G. Stutz (left), retiring Executive Director, at the League Governing Body Meeting, July 27, 1955. Photo from the September 1955 issue of the Kansas Government Journal.



compared to pure democracy by requiring only the city council could propose a charter ordinance excluding any citizen initiated charter ordinances. Finally, to instruct the legislature and the courts that the broad grant of power to cities should be liberally interpreted to favor local discretion.

The pervasive objective here was to keep the state dealing with statewide issues and local governments dealing with local issues. Any attempt by the state to individualize action would run into the statewide or group-wide requirement. In addition to legal attacks, such actions would give cities a better opportunity to organize and express their position on the issue, hopefully through the League.

The presentation of the drafts brought virtually universal approval from constituent organizations. Then, Albert Martin, LKM Director of Research came up with a roadblock. He was concerned that cities financed many local improvements by special assessments and those were authorized under a whole series of special assessment laws. Individual acts applied to different classes of cities and to different kinds of improvements. (My favorite was different assessment statutes for one class of city depending on whether a street to be improved had a convex or a concave surface.). Albert's concern was that bonds issued by cities to be financed by special assessments had been accepted by bond houses under those time tested statutes. If under the proposed constitutional amendment, cities started using charter ordinances to change a special assessment statute in all sorts of ways, the bond market and local improvements could be thrown into chaos.

While we were working on the Home Rule issue, the city attorneys of Kansas City and Lawrence were talking to Albert about some special assessment problems. Kansas City wanted to build one or more downtown parking garages and levy varying special assessments on all benefiting properties but existing law only permitted uniform assessments on properties adjacent to the improvement. Varying benefit assessments based on proximity, potential use or traffic generated, for example, were impossible. Lawrence wanted to construct a network of sidewalks in residential areas to service children walking to school. The problem was how to allocate the assessment to all properties in the area when the walk is only on one side of a street. All the properties in the service area benefitted, but not equally.

Drawing again on my Wisconsin (WI) experience, we called up a WI special benefit law that authorized the establishment of broad benefit districts with assessments assigned to benefiting properties on any reasonable basis. We drafted the statute drawing on the WI law, ran it by pertinent bodies and with

approval prepared it for introduction. We concluded that it was imperative to clear up this issue before bringing up Home Rule. We did not discuss our version of Home Rule with KU or Legislative Research because we did not want them to expedite their work and end up with a Home Rule proposal in the legislature before we could introduce our version with the special assessment issue resolved.

When the 1957 session of the Legislature convened, I talked to the chairmen of the four classes of cities in the House and explained in detail what the League was proposing in the form of a uniform special assessment statute. I requested that instead of presenting the bill to each committee individually, they call a joint meeting of the four committees. (As far as we could determine, that had never been done before). But, they agreed. The four committees met in the gallery of the House. Albert and I were present. One of the chairmen introduced me and said I would present a new uniform special assessment statute that could be used by all cities. I said about four words when one committee member interrupted to ask who drafted the bill. I responded Albert Martin. Someone else moved the bill reported out. It was seconded and passed out by a unanimous voice vote. It went on to pass the House and Senate with no problem.

The action was a real tribute to the integrity of the League and most importantly, Albert Martin. It also bolstered our confidence in presenting the Home Rule proposal in the next session.

After the legislature approved the Special Assessment statute, we felt safe in surfacing our proposed constitutional amendment. It was a major subject of discussion at the 1958 League convention. We presented it to the Legislative Research staff, but also arranged to have it introduced in the Senate by two Senators. After a brief series of hearings, the Research Service endorsed our proposal with only minor suggestions. It was approved by both houses with little debate. Jim Drury covered some of this in his booklet, *Home Rule in Kansas*. A major discrepancy in his narrative is in describing the Legislative Research's pick up on the Wisconsin concept. All of their and KU's research, as noted, was on the city charter approach. Even today it is hard to find anything in texts recognizing that Wisconsin, or Kansas, has Home Rule. It was not until the League started public discussions of the Wisconsin Home Rule approach that those agencies picked it up.

To everyone's surprise, the legislation passed both houses with minimal debate and overwhelming votes.

Respectfully,

Allen E. Pritchard



Election Policies

Election season has arrived, and with impending elections come some cautionary public policy considerations. These include city policies, policies for city employees and officials, and policies for elected officials. Often, elections for both state and local office are emotionally charged in communities and it is important to understand the limitations on political activity so the rules are not inadvertently violated.

The first consideration is compliance with K.S.A. 25-4169a. This statute began by only applying to cities of the first class, but was amended twice in the 2008 Legislative Session to expand the application to all cities. Specifically, this statute states:

No officer or employee of... any municipality, shall use or authorize the use of public funds or public vehicles, machinery, equipment or supplies of any such governmental agency or the time of any officer or employee of any such governmental agency, for which the officer or employee is compensated by such governmental agency, to expressly advocate the nomination, election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate to state office or local office.

The statute goes on to state that the provisions prohibiting the time of the officer for these purposes do not apply to the incumbent candidate for the office or the incumbent's personal staff. What this means for cities is that no city employee may work for any candidate for elected office on work time and no city equipment or funds may be used to the benefit of a candidate for any elected office. Cities, however, could allow candidates or their representatives to rent a community building or other facility, so long as such rental regulations are evenly applied and available to everyone.

The second important provision in K.S.A. 25-4169a is that cities may not allow any distribution of fliers, posters, political fact sheets, or any other document that advocates the election or defeat of any candidate for state or local office unless every candidate is allowed to distribute or have distributed their campaign material. That means if a city allows posters or fliers at city hall for any candidate, it must allow it for every candidate that wants to distribute the material.

The inevitable question arises as to what types of restrictions may cities impose on city employees. The limitation on such restrictions is, of course, the United States constitutional guarantee of free speech and freedom of association. Some restrictions that are likely within the purview of the city to enact include conduct during working hours and on city property. However, it is unwise and could create constitutional issues for a city to attempt to regulate employees' conduct outside of working hours and away from city property.

One common rule, a prohibition on wearing political buttons, caps, or clothing while at work, might be justified on the basis that the city has a legitimate interest in minimizing potentially disruptive

interactions in the workplace over the display of candidate affiliation. In addition, such regulation may also be justified on the basis of not promoting a perception that the city itself is supportive of a particular candidate, when the public comes in contact with the employee who is sporting a VOTE FOR _____ FOR COUNCIL t-shirt. The city, however, must be very careful not to take any adverse employment action based upon the employee's political beliefs or who the employee supports for public office. Terminating the employment of a city official who has engaged in political activity, even for an ostensibly legitimate unrelated reason, could give rise to a claim of retaliation for such activity, causing the city the expense of litigation. There are a line of U.S. Supreme Court and other court cases standing for this proposition.

Some cities have imposed ethics types of regulations on elected officials and city employees. For example, a prohibition on soliciting campaign contributions from city employees limits the potential coercive nature of such requests, i.e. give money or there could be consequences for the employee's job. This can protect the city in the future if it does find it necessary to take an adverse employment action against the employee, rather than one who was solicited and gave some amount of money to a sitting governing body member. In addition, some cities have adopted regulations prohibiting city employees from running for city office, or require that the individual take a leave of absence while running for city office. The public policy behind this type of regulation is that it is hard to perform one's work for the city while also being a candidate for city office. People, including other employees, want to discuss issues with the candidate during working time, and it often creates hard feelings with either an elected official running for reelection, or someone outside the city running for office. This could be even more of a problem for the city and the employee if the employee loses the election.

The important things to take away from the discussion above are, first, K.S.A. 25-4169a has regulated much of the problematic political activity that might have been subject to policies adopted by cities in the past. Know the parameters of the statute. Second, regulating political activity during employee working hours and on city property can be justified as long as the regulation is narrowly tailored to accomplish a legitimate governmental purpose. Third, it is very difficult constitutionally to regulate employee political activity outside of the employees' work day and off of city property, and such regulation should be avoided. Finally, any policy the city wishes to impose and enforce should be in writing, reviewed by the city attorney, and provided to employees. Further, employees should know who they may contact for more information and clarification about the written policy.

 Sandy Jacquot is the Director of Law/General Counsel for the League of Kansas Municipalities. She can be reached at sjacquot@lkm.org or (785) 354-9565.

HISTORY OF HOME RULE

-1959-

IN 1959, THE KANSAS LEGISLATURE PASSED THE LEGISLATION THAT PLACED THE ISSUE OF CONSTITUTIONAL HOME RULE FOR KANSAS CITIES ON THE BALLOT.

-1960-

ON NOVEMBER 8, 1960, THE VOTERS OF KANSAS APPROVED CONSTITUTIONAL HOME RULE.

-1961-

JULY 1, 1961, THE AMENDMENT GRANTING CONSTITUTIONAL HOME RULE BECAME EFFECTIVE.



Best Practices by Michael Koss

Cities and Colleges Partner to Create Jobs

After four years of recession, our economy is still struggling to rebound. In May, the unemployment rate ticked up from 8.1% to 8.2%, the first time since the Great Depression that this rate has risen during an economic recovery. Many experts believe the increase isn't a result of temporary stagnation, but the consequence of a fundamental change in the country's economy.

Large corporations, although flush with profits, aren't hiring new employees. Their choice not to take on more workers is partially due to economic uncertainty, but a more important reason is the efficiency gains made while dealing with tight budgets. Because technological innovations have allowed companies to achieve pre-recession productivity with diminished labor costs, investors justifiably demand that companies not sacrifice profits by hiring unnecessary workers. A similar phenomenon has occurred in the public sector. Many citizens have demanded tax relief during these difficult economic times, forcing smaller public workforces to achieve what larger staffs accomplished in the past. This trimming of public budgets has caused the public sector to lose 706,000 jobs since April 2009. (http://www.nytimes.com/2012/06/20/business/public-workers-face-continued-layoffs-and-recovery-is-hurt.html?_r=3&pagewanted=1&smid=tw-share)

Without the hiring support of large corporations and governments, policymakers are searching for new ways to support the American labor market. Many have put their faith in entrepreneurs, since small businesses have accounted for 5% more job creation than big companies during the recession. Unfortunately, starting a small business is a risky activity, with only 5% surviving after 5 years. Because the risks are so high, many potential business owners sit on the sidelines, not wanting to gamble their own resources. However, because of their job creation potential, policymakers aren't giving up on finding ways to support this risk taking. One promising strategy that has emerged is utilizing the human capital from community colleges to increase the success rate of start-up businesses.

In recognition of the potential of community colleges to spur economic growth, President Obama and Governor Brownback have both recently implemented programs to support these institutions. This support is due in large part to their ability to adapt to the changing needs of students and industry, as well as to changing economic conditions. Community colleges train first-time workers and give existing workers the skills they need for new careers, increasing the productivity of the local workforce. By increasing the productivity of the local workforce, community colleges create more earnings within their communities, which can generate additional tax revenue. However, several community colleges are going a step further than just training students or "re-skilling" existing workforces—some are taking a direct role in job creation, partnering with cities to form "incubators" for small businesses.

An incubator is a site where entrepreneurial tenants share resources, develop products, or services, and identify markets. The goal is to foster infant companies by giving them collaborative office space, legal guidance, and access to professional mentors. Community colleges enter the picture because one of the most important features of successful start-up programs is advice from mentors with experience on how to take a new idea and create a company. Community colleges are often staffed with faculty who've experienced real-world success,

making them great resources for providing this counsel. Unsurprisingly, the most successful start-up programs have occurred in communities that have a relationship with a major university. These new businesses are able to interface with experts in their respective field, and access the latest technology and ideas. Many universities will in turn allow access to equipment and student assistants.

Independence, Kansas is one community that has decided to team up with a community college to facilitate small business development. In 2009, the City of Independence had a brainstorming session, and decided they wanted a business incubator. The next year, Independence Community College (ICC) entered into an agreement with the City, the Montgomery County Action Council, and other economic development groups to form the community-based Independence Business Resource Center (IBRC). The IBRC's main goal was to aid and educate new businesses or grow existing businesses within the community with mentoring programs.

The formation of Independence's incubator took a great deal of planning and hard work. Shortly after its formation, the IBRC received a grant to purchase and renovate two vacant, distressed buildings. After the renovations were complete, the buildings were used as retail incubator space, where ICC staff mentored entrepreneurs on how to run their businesses. Clients were asked to develop a business plan, implement a financial tracking system, work with their mentor, and demonstrate how their business would succeed. If they accomplished these tasks, they were rewarded with rent incentives at the incubator site. The sites are for sale, and if sold, the profits will be used to renovate other downtown buildings and expand the incubator program.

Because of the successes of groups like the IBRC, community incubator projects are starting to receive national attention. On May 31, the Kansas City-based Kauffman Foundation established a \$1 million grant to replicate the success of a similar community college's business mentoring program. The grant program was inspired by Lorain County Community College, which has succeeded in fostering high-growth startups and spurred regional economic growth in a depressed area of Ohio. Thom Ruhe, Kauffman Foundation Vice President of Entrepreneurship, says the program "has had a tremendous and positive impact on the entrepreneurial ecosystem of [the region]," and believes "it's a model [to] replicate in other regions, [that] will show that community colleges can, with the right resources, be at the center of local entrepreneur-led growth." (<http://www.prweb.com/releases/2012/5/prweb9559330.htm>)

The strength of capitalism and the American economy has always been the potential for reinvention. By partnering with community colleges, cities are generating their own small business incubators and bringing about a new era of entrepreneurial job creation. Kansas has its own outstanding group of community colleges that can help cities in Kansas facilitate this new economic era and re-employ a frustrated workforce. For information on which of our state's 19 community colleges services your region, visit <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=1967>.

Michael Koss is the Membership Services Manager for the League of Kansas Municipalities. He can be reached at mkoss@lkm.org or (785) 354-9565.

Mayor Brewer Appointed to NLC Search Committee



Wichita Mayor and League of Kansas Municipalities Past President Carl Brewer has been appointed to the National League of Cities (NLC) Executive Director Search Committee.

The NLC recently announced that Executive Director Don Borut will be retiring at the end of 2012. A nine-member committee has been formed to carry out the search for a new Executive Director for the NLC.

Committee members include:

- Carl Brewer, Mayor, Wichita, Kansas, NLC Board Member
- Marie Lopez Rogers, Mayor, Avondale, Arizona, NLC First Vice President

- Chris Coleman, Mayor, St. Paul, Minnesota, NLC Second Vice President
- Bernita Sims, Council Member, High Point, North Carolina, NLC Board Member
- Debbie Quinn, Council Member, Fairhope, Alabama, Advisory Council Chair
- Matthew Greller, Executive Director, Indiana Association of Cities and Towns
- Christopher McKenzie, Executive Director, League of California Cities
- Michael Sittig, Executive Director, Florida League of Cities

The NLC officers and Executive Search Committee will go through a process to select the best candidate. The NLC hopes to introduce the new NLC Executive Director to the membership at their next Congress of Cities Conference in Boston in late November, 2012.

Bartlett & West & YOU

Public Works Services

- Right-of-way and legal descriptions
- GIS development and implementation
- Wastewater collection and treatment
- Traffic analysis
- Street and highway design
- Stormwater collection & management
- Water treatment and distribution

At Bartlett & West, you are our priority. When your needs grow, we grow to meet that demand. By creating cost-effective design, adding new technology and providing innovative services, we become more than your engineering firm - we become your solution.

From start to finish...it's Bartlett & West and you.

BARTLETT & WEST
SERVICE. THE BARTLETT & WEST WAY.

TOPEKA • LAWRENCE • MANHATTAN • 888.200.6464 • WWW.BARTWEST.COM



On the Road by Don Osenbaugh

...in Southeast Kansas

Some months ago, Baxter Springs City Clerk Donna Wixon asked me to come to her city and give a short talk to the staff there, mostly with my KMIT hat on. Following a busy late-winter and spring, mid-June was going to be my first opportunity. And, I needed to meet up with a couple of others in nearby cities, so on a warm and windy Tuesday, I left the homeport at mid-day for a jaunt to the southeast.

The first stop on my short over-nighter was in Columbus. I first met Mayor Marie Nepple a couple of years ago, at the League's Mayors Conference and Leadership Summit (which was in Lawrence that time around). Then, and several times since, she invited me to stop by her city. Hey, two years goes by quickly! I spent a couple of delightful hours in Columbus, first in Marie's office at City Hall (including saying hi to City Clerk Janice Blancett and her office staff), and then on a short car tour of the city. Mayor Marie told me all about how the city is really getting fired up about its image and about community and economic development, which includes strong and active partnerships with the local chamber and with a new group of community activists known as the Columbus Crusaders. A development plan has been completed, and projects are lined up to be done. A very aggressive plan, I might add. The highlight of our tour was, no-doubt, an up-close look at and in the Maple UnCommon Hotel and Gallery (www.mapleuncommonhotel.com), owned and operated by about the most dynamic duo you will ever meet, Mel and Laura Lowry-Green. The hotel is located just off the square on Maple Street, in an old three-story JC Penney store (you would recognize the model if you have visited many small towns in Kansas). What a FABULOUS job they have done. There are seven rooms, including two large suites which actually utilize the space of the front display windows...VERY cool! Mel and Laura live on the third floor. Local artists display in the lobby. Laura operates a catering service out of the hotel and also fixes breakfast every day. Each room has a big TV and high-speed Internet. The couple's community activities go way beyond the hotel, and they have also recently purchased an 1872 building in the square—which is already being turned into an event center. A LOT of things are happening in Columbus. Stop by and take a look...first chance YOU get.

My dinner that evening was bought for me by the brand-new City Manager in Pittsburg, my buddy Daron Hall. Daron recently had to resign his position as President of KMIT, when he resigned as City Administrator in Ulysses and moved his family to the other end of the state. Daron spent a number of years in the Kansas City, Missouri city government organization before taking the Ulysses position four years ago, so he has plenty of the all right kinds of experience to be very successful in Pittsburg. Daron and Jenny and their two beautiful young kids are justifiably very excited about this new phase in their lives. PS...the food at Jim's Steakhouse was fabulous, as usual.

The next morning, I did my gig in Baxter Spring. It was fun. About 25 city staffers paid attention to me quite well (I was impressed with them for that) as I shared a small bit of knowledge about safety and KMIT with them. And, afterwards, I got a chance to chat a while with safety coordinator (and cemetery and streets supervisor) Jimmy Morton, and then Donna, after the training session. Thanks for inviting me to Baxter Springs, Donna; I always enjoy my time in beautiful and historic Baxter Springs. On my way out of town, I drove by the Baxter Springs Little League Museum (I was told there might be some Mickey Mantle stuff there), but, alas, it was not open; next time...

My book recommendation this month is yet another look at Truman Capote and his famous tome about a Kansas tragedy now over 50 years past. Ralph F. Voss is a native Kansan (Plainville), and a retired professor of English from the University of Alabama. Capote started researching and writing, *In Cold Blood* shortly after the Herb Clutter family (of four) was shotgun-murdered in their rural Holcomb home in the early-morning hours of November 15, 1959; the book was finally finished and published (following the April 14, 1965 execution hangings of Richard Hickock and Perry Smith) in 1966. As a young teenager in Kansas at the time of the murders, Voss has been very familiar with the story virtually his whole life (as have I...I vividly remember hearing about the crime during my seventh grade year at Haysville Junior High). Voss' 2011 work, *Truman Capote and the legacy of In Cold Blood*, is a literary and historical analysis of Capote's book and of all the various directly-related books and movies to come along since then (most notably the films, *In Cold Blood* (1967) and *Capote*, for which Philip Seymour Hoffman won an academy award, for his portrayal of Capote, in 2005). Voss explores many issues and subtexts which have come about as a direct result of the book, including (but not limited to): whether or not a new literary genre (the "non-fiction novel") was "invented" by Capote; the personal relationship between Capote and Perry Smith; Capote's close "insider" friendships with key investigators and others, and how they played into his work—often aided by his assistant, Nelle Harper Lee (whose own rather-famous novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the only book she ever wrote, by the way, came out just after the murders occurred); the book's effect on capital punishment (George York and George Latham were hanged two months after Hickock and Smith; there have been no executions in Kansas since then); and many other really interesting things. The book is an intellectual examination of a very important (for many reasons) literary effort. I found it to be challenging and very worthwhile reading, though perhaps not for the casual reader; it is not a novel, and does not read as one.

 Don Osenbaugh is the Director of Finance and Field Services for the League of Kansas Municipalities. He can be reached at dosenbaugh@lkm.org



Governmental Ethics Commission Releases New PSA Opinion

by Chairman Daniel Harden • April 18, 2012 / Opinion No. 2012-03

SYNOPSIS: The public service announcement or advertisement by candidates law (PSA law) applies to any candidate for a state or local elected office in which the candidate's name appears on a primary election ballot during the specified time frame, which is a period beginning 60 days before any primary election in which the candidate's name appears on the ballot and ending with the conclusion of the general election.

In response to the questions you posed, the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission provides the following responses:

During the specified time period, a candidate may do the following to promote or announce an issue of public importance, concern or welfare:

- personally appear at a public function or event;
- personally appear on a scheduled radio or television program;
- participate in a newspaper interview;
- use his or her name when providing written information, such as a press release to a newspaper, radio or television station, for use as a news item;
- allow his or her name or photograph to appear on printed literature promoting a program so long as it is: (a) used regularly throughout the year in the regular course of business and (b) not distributed in an unsolicited direct mail advertising campaign at a cost exceeding \$2,000;
- appear, and allow his or her name to be used, in a campaign advertisement whether newspaper, radio, television, or any other electronic, telephone, or print media;

- use his or her personal website or Facebook page;
- allow his or her name or photograph to appear on the website and Facebook page of his or her government agency; and
- distribute refrigerator magnets and key chains that include the candidate's name.

Additionally, a candidate may:

- provide a newspaper with information that is required by law to be published in a newspaper; and
- allow his or her name or photograph to appear on office envelopes, stationary, business cards, etc.

During the specified period of time, a candidate not do the following to promote or announce a program of public importance, concern or welfare:

- appear in an outside organization's PSA which promotes or announces an issue of public importance, concern or welfare that is unrelated to the office of the public official. Cited herein: K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 25-4189.

For full text of the opinion visit, <http://www.kansas.gov/ethics/opinion/opinions/2012-03.html>.

 This opinion was written by Chairman Daniel Harden of the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission, by direction of the Commission. The Governmental Ethics Commission can be reached at (785) 296-4219 or www.kansas.gov/ethics.

See How We Stack Up!

CenterPoint® Accounting and Payroll Software for Municipals

www.redwingsoftware.com • 1-800-732-9464






Assistant City Administrator
 The City of Tonganoxie seeks a public administration professional for the Assistant City Administrator position. Tonganoxie lies 15 minutes west of Kansas City and boasts high quality of life, spectacular scenery, superb education, and major metropolitan conveniences. Under the direction of the City Administrator, this position provides senior administrative and business support for all municipal operations. Position may represent the City Administrator in his absence.

Applicant must have completed a minimum of a Bachelor's degree in public administration, business administration, accounting, or related field plus four (4) years of progressively responsible experience or a Master's degree with at least three (3) years of experience. Prefer experience in local government and in the State of Kansas.

Send application, resume, and three (3) professional references to the City Administrator, City of Tonganoxie, 321 S. Delaware, P.O. Box 326, Tonganoxie, Kansas 66086. See www.tonganoxie.org. Salary begins at \$4,515 monthly and final salary commensurate with qualifications. Application deadline: close of business July 15, 2012. Residency preferred within six months.

City Clerk
 The City of Tonganoxie, Kansas, is accepting applications for the position of City Clerk. This position performs highly responsible administrative work as required by state statute (KSA 13-518) for maintaining the public records, taking oaths of office, preparing the agendas for the city council, and providing a wide range of public information to elected officials, appointed bodies, public, and staff. Requires a high school diploma and four (4) years of progressively responsible administrative experience or an equivalent combination of higher education plus experience. Prefer Bachelor's degree and knowledge of city clerk duties in Kansas. Residency preferred within six months.

Send application and resume in care of the City Administrator, City of Tonganoxie, 321 S. Delaware, P.O. Box 326, Tonganoxie,

Kansas 66086. Applications are available online at www.tonganoxie.org. Salary range: \$3,118 to \$4,298 per month. Application deadline: close of business July 15, 2012.

City Clerk
 The City of Edwardsville is accepting applications for the position of City Clerk due to the retirement of the incumbent. Edwardsville, located in Wyandotte County near the intersection of I-70 and I-435, is strategically positioned in the Kansas City metropolitan area for growth and development. The city is looking for an energetic professional to serve as a key member of the management team who is capable of performing a variety of highly responsible administrative activities.

The ideal candidate will have a Bachelor's degree and progressively responsible administrative experience, preferably in an administrative or city clerk's office. Certification by IIMC as CMC or MMC is desirable, but not required.

Applicants should send a resume and cover letter to Michael Webb, City Manager, City of Edwardsville, PO Box 13738 or mwebb@edwardsvilleks.org. Applications should be submitted no later than Friday, July 13.

Financial Analyst/Human Relations Coordinator
 Barton County solicits applications for the position of Financial Analyst/Human Relations Coordinator. This position is designed to perform various functions to include analyzing county finances, assisting with budget preparation, assisting the county administrator with human relations issues and performing other duties as assigned. The position shall report to the county administrator.

Barton County prefers applicants with considerable experience in financial analysis, preferably in a governmental setting. Applicants with degrees in finance or business administration are preferred. Applications will be accepted from an applicant with a strong background in human relations who has the willingness and ability to learn financial analysis functions.

Compensation will be dependent upon qualifications and experience.

Applications will be received until August 3, 2012 and candidates chosen for interviews will be interviewed in mid to late August.

Send a letter of introduction, a resume, and at least three work related references to: Richard Boeckman
 Barton County Counselor/Administrator
 1400 Main Street
 Great Bend, Kansas 67530
 Barton County is an EOE.

Wastewater Superintendent
 The City of Hays, Kansas, population 20,000 and home of Fort Hays State University, is accepting resumes for the position of Wastewater Superintendent. For more information about Hays, please visit www.haysusa.net. The Wastewater Superintendent is an exempt employee and is responsible for supervising subordinate personnel and managing the operation of the Wastewater Plant. The Wastewater Plant is an Activated Sludge Tertiary Treatment facility and is listed as a Class 4 plant. The ideal candidate will have a strong background in wastewater utility operations, 5 years experience in a similar or related position in a supervisory role, and excellent organizational, administrative and communication skills. Applicants are required to have a college degree or have equivalent experience in a related field. A current KDHE Class 3 Wastewater certification is required and with the ability to get a Class 4 certification in a reasonable time. Within six months, a Kansas Commercial Driver's License (CDL), Class B with tanker and airbrakes endorsement is needed. For more information about the job visit www.haysusa.com. Salary hiring range: \$47,820-\$77,940 plus excellent benefits. Residency within 3 miles of Hays' city limits required within 180 days of employment. Job offers contingent on passing a physical and drug test. Resumes must include a minimum of 3 references, 5-year salary history, and cover letter. Incomplete resumes will not be reviewed. Resumes can be emailed to jrupp@haysusa.com or mailed to Human Resources, P.O. Box 490, Hays, KS 67601. Position is open until filled. Phone: (785) 628-7320 Fax: (785) 628-7323 EOE

Architecture, Engineering & Planning

Architecture, Engineering & Planning

LOCHNER
 Enhancing People's Lives through Sustainable Infrastructure
 Salina 785.827.3603 • Kansas City 816.363.2696 • www.hwlochner.com

WILSON & COMPANY
 Higher Relationships
 Water/Wastewater/Stormwater
 Transportation Planning & Design
 Mechanical & Electrical Engineering
 Structural Engineering
 Architecture
 Surveying, Mapping & GIS
 Salina - 785.827.0433
 Kansas City - 816.701.3100
 www.wilsonco.com

Computer Software

AOS
 Expect the Best!
 Your LOCAL technology partner
 Networking, Security, Data Center, Unified Communications, Wireless
 Physical Security, Virtualization, Microsoft, VMware, Cloud Computing
 Visit us online: www.aos5.com / E-mail: info@aos5.com

Professional Business Advertising
 Call (785) 354-9565 today.

PONZER-YOUNGQUIST
 Consulting Engineers & Land Surveyors
 Engineers serving Kansas communities since 1973
 227 E Dennis Ave. • Olathe, KS 66061
 913-782-0541 • Fax 913-782-0109
 www.pyengineers.com

For information about advertising in the **Kansas Government Journal**, call (785) 354-9565
Advertise HERE

Financial & Investments

Jim Heinicke, LLC
 Pathways to Realistic Solutions
 www.jimheinicke.com
 (316) 573-9903 • 501 Mead • Newton, KS 67114 • jim@jimheinicke.com
 Municipal Consulting • Economic Development • Planning • Finance

Central States Capital Markets
 245 N. West, Ste. 345
 Wichita, KS 67202
 (316) 265-9411
 1-800-444-9411
 (316) 265-9413 (fax)
 Contact: Mark Dettler and Dave Makare
 Mark Dettler: mdettler@centralstatescapital.com
 Dave Makare: dmakare@centralstatescapital.com
 • Full Service Financial Advisors
 • Full Service Broker / Dealers
 • Municipal Bond Underwriting
 • Financial and Capital Planning Services
 Member FINRA • SIPC
 UMB & SV Registered Member Financial Advisors

Attorneys

NEWMAN, REYNOLDS & RIFFEL, P.A.
 A powerful combination of collection agency strategies and proven legal tactics
 Collect your accounts!
 1-866-954-6800
 in partnership with LML Payment Systems Corp.

Kansas GOVERNMENT JOURNAL
 Advertise Today
 Call (785) 354-9565

RANSON Financial Consultants L.L.C.
 200 W. Douglas, Ste. 600
 Wichita, KS 67202
 Voice: 316.264.3400
 Fax: 316.265.5403
 TOLL FREE: 866.436.1100
 www.ransonfinancial.com

Dedicated UMB service. Now wallet-sized.
 UMB Commercial Card Solutions have the benefits to make your job easier.
 Learn more about one of the nation's largest issuers of purchasing cards:
 umb.com/cards
 Tom Carignan - 816.860.7033

HARDMAN & HOWELL BENEFITS
 8110 E. 32nd St. N., Suite 100
 Wichita, KS 67226
 Phone: (316) 977-9779
 Toll Free: (855) 399-9779
 www.hhben.com
 Gary Hardman
 Mike Howell
 Jeremy Gilson
 Mike Keller
 Rich Ewen

Auctions

Turn what you have into what it's worth.
 Sell equipment - vehicles - surplus
 1.866.608.9283 www.purplewave.com
 purple wave auction

HOLBROOK & OSBORN, P.A.
 Commerce Plaza II
 7400 W. 110th St., Ste. 600
 Overland Park, Kansas
 Phone: 913-342-2500
 Fax: 913-342-0603
 www.holbrookosborn.com
 Holbrook & Osborn represents public entities on a variety of legal issues:
 • PUBLIC FINANCE • REAL ESTATE
 • CONSTRUCTION • LITIGATION
 • PLANNING/ZONING • NEGLIGENCE
 • PUBLIC CONTRACTS • EMPLOYMENT
 • Eminent Domain • CIVIL RIGHTS
 • EDUCATION
 Reid Holbrook / Jeff Bullins
 Attorneys

Utilities

Natural gas system design, construction, maintenance & operations services for cities.
 For information contact lezli.root@blackhillscorp.com or call 785-832-3925
Black Hills Energy
 Improving life with energy

BOB WESTMORELAND
 AME/AMI Systems Sales & Service
 11510 Strang Line Rd
 Olathe, KS. 66062
 T 913.469.5820
 F 913.469.5825
 bob.westmoreland@hdsupply.com
 CELL: 913.660.8800
WATERWORKS
SENSUS

PLACE A NEW AD IN THE KANSAS GOVERNMENT JOURNAL TODAY!
 THE ONLY STATEWIDE PUBLICATION FOR CITY, COUNTY, AND STATE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.
 Kansas GOVERNMENT JOURNAL
 Rates start at only \$275.
 CONTACT KATE COOLEY AT kcooley@lkm.org OR (785) 354-9565.

A more comfortable, safe and sustainable world.
Johnson Controls
 Cris Christenson 913-217-0482
 cris.allen.christenson@jci.com

Leverage money already in your budget to fund energy efficiency and infrastructure upgrades.
 Call 866-822-4636 or visit www.schneider-electric.us/go/performancecontracting
 15200 Santa Fe Trail Drive
 Suite 204
 Lenexa, KS 66219
Schneider Electric

Kansas Government Journal Classifieds
 Employment • For Sale • Bid Requests • Wanted Ads
 Place your next classified in the *Kansas Government Journal* and online at www.lkm.org
 50 words or less • \$40
 51-100 words • \$65
 101-150 words • \$90
 151-200 words • \$115
 201-250 words • \$140



Moler's Musings

by Don Moler

The Farmers' Market



For a number of years, Topeka has had a farmers' market. The market, as with many events of this type, has grown considerably and is now quite an event for those people who want to buy locally grown produce and other goods that are produced within the greater Topeka community.

The location for the farmers' market in Topeka has moved ever so slightly over the years. It originated in the large parking lot directly south of the Docking State Office building in downtown Topeka. It stayed on that location until a couple of years ago when it moved across the street to the parking lot directly South of the Kansas Judicial Center. It is open every Saturday morning from 7:30 a.m. until noon from April through November. As a matter of course, wife Judy and I participate by attending on a regular basis. We have several things that we usually seek when at the farmers' market. Our old standby's are sweet corn and home grown tomatoes. As I have told Judy more times that I am sure she cares to have heard, there really isn't anything like home grown sweet corn in the summertime. As far as I'm concerned, it's about as good as it gets for a natural food delicacy. Our farmers' market also includes a variety of craft booths, and food booths where you can sample various types of ethnic food and sit and eat your breakfast or lunch while attending the market. There are always a few street musicians around providing entertainment for the milling crowd, as well as booths where folks will produce various types of yard art, signage, or other types of decorations for your home and yard.

This past weekend, while I was on my weekly search for sweet corn and tomatoes, (with a eye toward purchasing some early season okra, which I was unable to find as it is still a little too early in the season for that particular vegetable), I happened across a cut flower stand. It contained perhaps 25 or 30 buckets full of water and cram packed full of beautiful home grown flowers on stems of about two to three of feet long. They were separated by size, type, and color and made a beautiful array of freshly cut flowers in this booth. It was fascinating to watch the way the proprietors of this booth operated. The congenial lady dealt with the customers and handled the money, and the man in the booth put together the flower arrangements. It was a sight to behold. I spent some time standing there watching him do it. He was a true artist when it came to putting together a flower bouquet. This gentleman took his time and selected the flowers very carefully, one at a time, for placement into the bouquet. About once or twice on every bouquet he would pick up a flower, look at it critically, and then discard it. He would arrange between 15 and 20 flowers for each bouquet, then carefully cut the stems to wa uniform length, and then tie a rubber band around the freshly cut ends. Then rather than simply handing the cut flower bouquet to the customer, he would then take a small plastic bag, put about one inch of water in the bottom, and insert the cut stems in the bag. He would then put a second rubber band around it so that the people could carry the flowers around the farmers' market and not worry about them drying out. It was fascinating, and as I said, the flowers were beautiful. But this is where something struck me about their operation.

They had a great product, and the price of \$10 was certainly inexpensive enough, but I was never able to get to the front of the line because the bouquets were being made up while the people stood and watched, and therein was the entire problem. It took this artistic gentleman about five minutes to complete the entire operation for a single bouquet. I would stand there and watch people walk up to admire the flowers and the bouquets that were being assembled, clearly wanting to purchase something, and then turn and walk away without purchasing anything simply because there was no product there for them to purchase. This is, in fact, exactly what happened to me. I saw this booth when I first arrived at the farmers' market, stood and watched for perhaps 10 minutes, and then decided I would go get my sweet corn and tomatoes and continue my search for the okra and come back and pick up the flowers as I was getting ready to leave, figuring that the crowd would have been taken care of by the time I came back. When I returned shortly thereafter, much to my dismay I found that not only had the crowd not gotten smaller, but it had in fact increased by a factor of two. So I decided to wait to get a flower bouquet for Judy. After 20 minutes, I was still in line behind three other people, and I became totally dispirited when the next lady in line said she wanted multiple bouquets for herself. It then became clear that I was going to be late for my next appointment, so I shook my head and headed to my car.

In a nutshell, the couple had a great product. Certainly, the bouquets were beautiful, ingeniously assembled, and worth every penny of the asking price. But, it worried me that perhaps they weren't able to sell all of their flowers by the end of the morning simply because they could not produce the product in a timely fashion. A number of their potential customers left without buying anything, much as I had done earlier in the day. It reminded me of several things having to do with business, and government that it is not enough to simply have a wonderful product or a great place to live. You have to do the little things that make it attractive to people who want to buy it, live in it, or be a part of it. If the opportunities are limited, and we can't produce enough of whatever it is to satisfy the demand, you create a problem much like that couple at the farmers' market. I have thought about them several times this week, and I hope that they sold every flower and went home happy. But, I have this nagging concern that their business model needs a little improvement. While it is all well and good to ask people what they would like in the bouquet, and custom-make every bouquet for every person, that by its nature means a number of people will not get a bouquet at all. So, the dilemma faced by these vendors was whether to pre-make a variety of bouquets or to assemble each bouquet as a custom order for each person who came up to the stand. This is a real dilemma I think, and something that can hit us in government as well as business. That said, what I can conclude is that having civic events, such as farmers' markets, is essential to the lifeblood of a community. It is important to have events that allow people to congregate to see old friends and to make new ones. It is important to have events that allow for the community to gather so as to strengthen community bonds and to cement a love of the community and its civic life.



Serving the State of Kansas

SPECIALIZING IN:

- ◆ **TRAFFIC PAINTS, INDUSTRIAL PAINTS & HOUSE PAINTS**
- ◆ **TRAFFIC SIGNAGE**
 - ◇ Construction Signs
 - ◇ Highway Regulatory Signs
 - ◇ Warning Signs
 - ◇ School Zone & Crossing Signs
 - ◇ Structural Panel Signs
 - ◇ Parks & Recreation Signs
 - ◇ Custom Signs
- ◆ **CUSTOM METAL PRODUCTS**
 - ◇ Detention Furniture
 - ◇ Outdoor Furnishings
 - ◇ Metal Furniture
- ◆ **CHEMICAL PRODUCTS**
 - ◇ General Cleaning & Disinfecting Products
 - ◇ Floor Wax & Strippers
 - ◇ Laundry & Dish Soaps
- ◆ **FURNITURE**
 - ◇ Desks & Credenzas
 - ◇ Bookcases
 - ◇ Dormitory Furniture
 - ◇ Multi-Use Tables
 - ◇ Office Chairs
- ◆ **CLOTHING & BEDDING**
 - ◇ Inmate Clothing
 - ◇ Mattresses, Pillows & Toweling
- ◆ **DOCUMENT IMAGING**
 - ◇ Computer Logging
 - ◇ Contract Data Entry
 - ◇ 16mm & 35mm Large Document
- ◆ **BLM SPONSORED WILD MUSTANG ADOPTION PROGRAM**



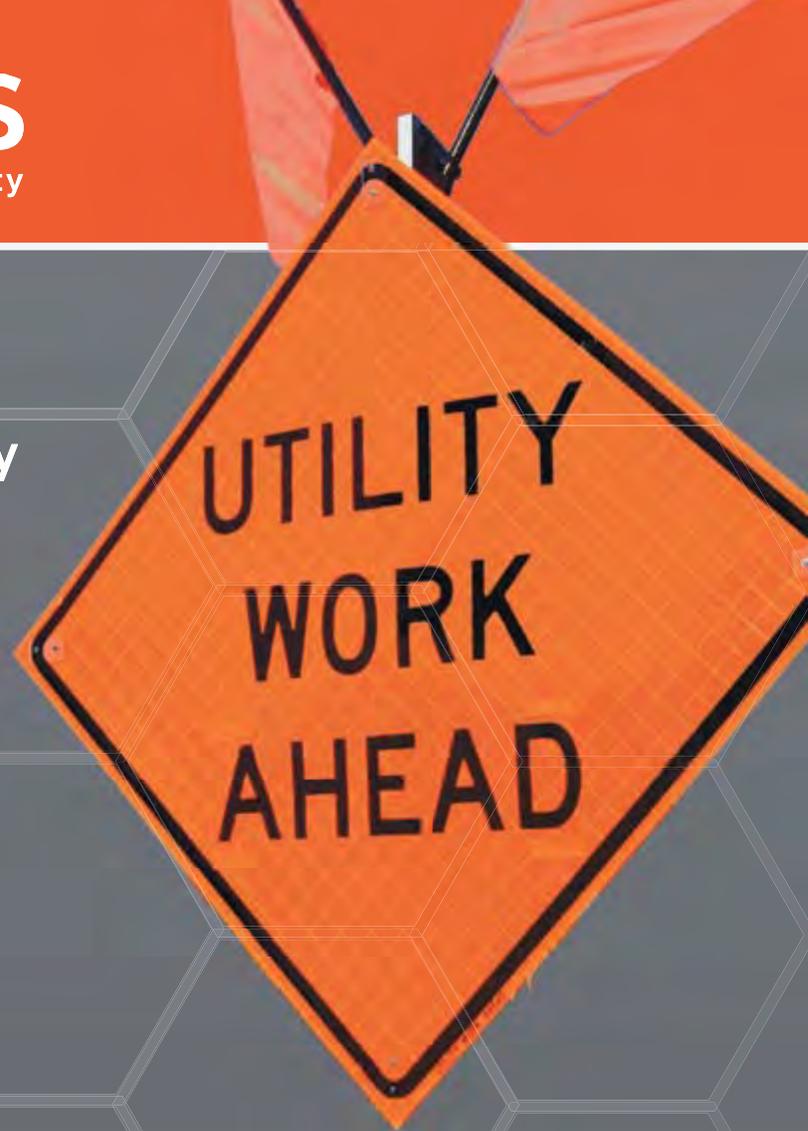
Contact Us:
Phone: (913) 727-3254
Fax: (913) 727-2331
Email: kci_sales@doc.ks.gov
Web: kancorind.com
Kansas Correctional Industries
4th & Kansas
P.O. Box 2
Lansing, KS 66048



RICE SIGNS

Your Leader In Transportation Safety

- Traffic Signs
- Roll-Up Construction Signs
- Sign Stands & Work Zone Safety
- Pedestrian Safety Signs
- Custom Street Name Signs
- Sign Posts & Hardware



**CALL FOR
FREE CATALOG**

Contact Us:

Orders / Quotes / Bids

Phone: 888-728-7665

Fax: 877-546-6165

Email: sales@RiceSigns.com

Web: www.RiceSigns.com

EASY Online Ordering