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Our cover this month features the Keeper of the Plains Plaza, 650 N. Seneca. The Keeper of the Plains is a 44-foot tall steel sculpture standing at the point where the Big and Little Arkansas rivers join together in downtown Wichita.
Obituaries

Lee Emerson Parker, 61, Wichita, died on July 9, 2017. Lee was an attorney, retired municipal court judge and former professor of criminal justice and public administration at Wichita State University. He was preceded in death by his parents, Eugene and Patricia Lee Parker. He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Patricia Jane Parker, his twin sons, Austin and Bryant Parker, and his brother Dean Parker.

Jan Pauls, 64, Hutchinson, former Kansas State Representative, died July 5, 2017. Jan graduated from Sterling College and The University of Kansas School of Law where she received her Juris Doctorate. She worked as a private practice attorney, was a Reno County Prosecutor, District Court Judge and served as a Kansas State Representative for the 102nd District from September 1991 to 2017. Jan was proud to be the longest serving woman to ever serve in the Kansas Legislature. She served as a commissioner for the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws and on the Kansas Sentencing Commission.
Ah, Kansas! After a stretch of time where I was out of the office - and sometimes the state - more than I was in it, it feels great to be travel-free for a stretch and enjoy the late summer of our state. And, view the solar eclipse! Unfortunately, mostly of our adventure took place in the rain and under clouds for the eclipse but I do think I got three impressive looks at it. The eclipse viewing was my mom’s choice for her birthday. We made the City of Effingham our destination. The Atchison County Fairgrounds had a nice collection of residents and visitors (one bunch all the way from Florida!) taking in the event, playing games and picnicking. Quintessential Kansas.

Throughout much of the summer, our attention here at the League has been focused primarily on pulling together a great conference for you. Our sessions will provide timely information from several excellent presenters, and our schedule continues to be tweaked to provide you with more opportunities to connect with your fellow municipal officials. While we are able to provide you a lot of information, we also know opportune conversations with fellow attendees can help you discover solutions that might not have otherwise crossed your path.

A face familiar to many of you at conference now will be wearing a League name badge. Trey Cocking, our new Deputy Director, has attended every one of our conferences since he became a city manager. Trey most recently spent eight years with the City of Atchison, overseeing all municipal operations. While we had over 30 candidates for the position, Trey stood out with his knowledge of local government, his work with local elected officials, and his experience with legislative issues. I have no doubt Trey will quickly establish himself as a key player in the statehouse, building on the renewal of our team’s reputation in recent sessions.

With so many national issues taking center stage at the moment, I am very pleased to have the National League of Cities CEO and Executive Director Clarence Anthony joining us in Wichita at our conference. Clarence not only has his finger on the pulse of cities across the country in his current position, he also has the perspective of someone who served as mayor of his city for 24 years. We are thrilled to have him coming to Wichita and we look forward to seeing you there!

Part of my summer travels took our family to the heart of U.S. history: Boston and New England. All of us are huge history buffs; getting to walk among the formative history of our nation was awe-inspiring. One thing that struck me was the close proximity of many of the sites. Events leading up to the Revolutionary War and early battles were not abstract stories that Bostonians would have heard; they were realities occurring down the street or within a mile or two of their homes. For instance, Bunker Hill (at which I survived the 294-step journey to the top of the monument with our son), the Old North Church, and the Old State House are all within two miles of each other. The struggle to found our country was localized; they saw it every day and had it impact their families and their neighbors.

Winding our way up north to Burlington took us through beautiful mountains and farmland in both New Hampshire and Vermont. The states were a bit greener than Kansas (that’s an understatement!), but in many ways were similar to our state: small cities dotting the landscape, lots of farms and friendly people.

The fact we have so much in common is what deserves our attention. Across the country, across our cities and across our streets, we generally have more in common than that which divides us or makes us different. Sadly, our country has been reminded in recent weeks that not everyone feels that way. I am not really sure if I can describe my reaction to watching video of the car plow into a collection of protesters on a street in Charlottesville. Horror and disbelief are probably the two things that came to mind. Replaying the scene in my mind, I still cannot believe the choice of that individual.

Flipping through the pages of this month’s Kansas Government Journal, you will see dedicated individuals who have been recognized by their peers for their service. They excel at their jobs, helping citizens and bettering their cities. They are who we should be paying attention to, not people professing wrong-headed beliefs of what should be a bygone era. Please join us in thanking them for their hard work and congratulate them when you see them at conference.

We love hearing from you, either with your questions or comments. Please share both with me at esartorius@lkm.org or (785) 354-9565.
# Municipalities

## How Many City Employees are There?

### Number of City Employees

Each Icon Equals 1,500 Local Government Employees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City Employees</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CITY EMPLOYEES</td>
<td>20,513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES</td>
<td>124,343</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Local Government Employees in Kansas equals 144,856

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015

### City Employees Provide:

- Police
- Fire
- Admin
- Water
- Parks
- Streets
- Sewer

### Employees Serving Kansans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ONE LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE SERVES</th>
<th>20 KANSANS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ONE CITY EMPLOYEE SERVES</td>
<td>118 KANSANS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number based on state population of 2,907,289
Number based on total city population of 2,411,182

### Cities With Paid Employees

- 197* Non-Paid Employees
- 428 With Paid Employees

625 Total Cities

* Non-Paid = Contracted or Volunteer

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The term “local government” is often defined as the lowest tier of administration in the United States. This broad terminology does not account for the many divisions within local government including municipalities, townships, counties, school districts and other special districts. In Kansas, 82.9% of the state’s population resides in incorporated cities; however, municipalities represent only 14.2% of local government employment. The number of municipal employees in each city varies, but they all address the same challenges when striving to meet the needs of their residents.

Municipal employees are essential to a community. They are responsible for an abundance of tasks, ranging from police officers who have a duty to protect and serve their neighborhoods, to parks and recreation staff who promote a thriving community through the creation of wellness programs and team activities engaging residents of all ages. Every city must meet economic demands, which are becoming an ever-increasing challenge even with the advances in technology and public management innovation. Municipal employees are passionate about serving their cities and stop at nothing to make their neighborhood safe, enjoyable and stable.

The League appreciates the work of municipal employees and we thank you for your service to residents of our state.
Mayor Herbert C. Bath of Altamont was named the 2017 Mayor of the Year by the Kansas Mayors Association (KMA). Mayor Bath was recognized at the 2017 Leadership Summit and Mayors Conference in Dodge City in April.

Mayor Bath has served Altamont since 2005. Altamont is a community of approximately 1,080 residents in southeast Kansas. Prior to his service as mayor, he owned and operated the Bath Funeral Homes of Altamont and Chetopa. Mayor Bath’s nomination for the award outlined his strong commitment and love for his community.

“When I first met Herb he was not only the local funeral director, but our one-and-only first responder, EMT and ambulance driver,” said Lizabeth Finley, City Clerk and Finance Director for Altamont.

“When not serving us for medical purposes or taking care of our families during the loss of a loved one, he was working with the local Jaycees on community service projects.”

When Mayor Bath retired from his business, he was ready to serve his community in local government. He ran an overwhelmingly successful campaign and has won the mayoral position each election since 2005. Mayor Bath begins each day in City Hall meeting with the staff and citizens. He has rarely missed a day during the past 12 years.

Herb’s passion for his community is evident.

“When our local grocery store was purchased and needed to be refurbished, Mayor Bath could be found painting the walls and building shelves,” said Finley. “Anytime we had a community service need, Mayor Bath would wield a paint brush, broom, shovel or rake. Whenever he heard there was a family ailing or experiencing a difficult time, he was at their door delivering one of his homemade casseroles or his absolutely delicious smoked barbeque ribs.”

Mayor Bath served on the League of Kansas Municipalities Governing Board and has served Altamont on several state and local boards.

The Mayor of the Year is selected annually by KMA members. The KMA has a membership of 350 mayors throughout Kansas and exists to advance the proficiency of Kansas mayors and improve the quality of life in Kansas communities. As part of its efforts, the KMA annually recognizes individuals, like Mayor Bath, who have uniquely contributed to their communities and provide exceptional community leadership.
Debra (Debbie) Wendt, MMC, retired City Clerk, Herington, Kansas, was selected as the recipient of the 2017 Mildred Vance City Clerk/Finance Officer of the Year for the State of Kansas. The award was announced at the 67th annual City Clerks and Municipal Finance Officers Association of Kansas (CCMFOA) Conference in Wichita in March.

Mrs. Wendt worked for the City of Herington for 38 years, serving as the City Clerk for 37 years. In addition, she was appointed Interim City Manager four times. Debbie earned the distinction of Certified Municipal Clerk in 1987 and the prestigious Master Municipal Clerk in 2000. Education is important to Debbie; she’s been a member of CCMFOA and served on several committees over many years. Debbie has mentored numerous clerks during her time in CCMFOA. When a tornado hit the City of Chapman, she coordinated a schedule for volunteer clerks to assist with the daily duties so the City Clerk in Chapman could focus on post-disaster paperwork.

Debbie is a strong leader and strives for perfection in every task she undertakes. She has helped her city prepare for the annual parade and fair. She has been active in Orange Express Booster Club, where she organized fundraisers and worked in the food stand. Debbie also served for many years on the Tri-County Fair Board. She is active in her church serving as an usher, greeter and assisting with funeral dinners. Debbie has been active on many more boards and committees in her community.

Brenda Wildman, current City Clerk for the City of Herington stated, “Debbie is dedicated to the City of Herington and her life has been the city. She knows the importance of, and followed through, completing tasks in the workplace. She is a person who works hard and loved her job. But, at the same time, she never sought recognition of her accomplishments.”

The Clerk of the Year award is presented annually to a City Clerk or Finance Officer who has made significant contributions to the state association, the profession and their city. The award was named in honor of Mildred Vance, former auditor and City Clerk/Municipal Finance Officer of Parsons, who served her community from 1948 to 1988. Mildred was instrumental in developing and promoting professional education programs for city clerks and finance officers at the state and national levels. She was one of the first 100 clerks to receive the Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation in 1972. Mildred was later accepted into the Academy for Advanced Education (AAE) and served as a director of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. She strongly believed that city clerks and finance officers should contribute to their communities and she unselfishly gave of her time and talents in church, community and civic activities.
It is with great pride and sincere appreciation that the League of Kansas Municipalities announces Representative Jim Kelly (R-District 11) has been selected to receive the 2017 Intergovernmental Leadership Award. Representative Kelly was selected for the honor due to his outstanding leadership and support of issues affecting local governments. Since 1995, the Intergovernmental Award seeks to honor those who support cooperation between the various levels of government. Recipients of this award have demonstrated, in both promise and practice, an understanding that public servants at all levels serve the same citizens and should work together to provide the best service possible.

“Chairman Kelly is everything constituents and colleagues could want in a legislator,” said League of Kansas Municipalities Executive Director Erik Sartorius. “He listens, builds consensus and asks questions to root out issues that might not otherwise surface and be discussed. He wants to hear all views on a topic, and truly wants to make sure legislation avoids unintended consequences whenever possible.”

Representative Kelly is a life-long Kansan who was born and raised in Independence. In January of 2011, he was appointed to fill a Kansas House seat being vacated by Jeff King. Representative Kelly was re-elected in 2012, 2014 and 2016 to the Kansas House of Representatives.

Representative Kelly was chosen in 2017 to chair the House Financial Institutions and Pensions Committee (FIPC). He also serves on the House Health and Human Services Committee, Taxation and Insurance committees. As the chair of the FIPC, and a member of the committee for his full tenure in the House, Representative Kelly has extensively researched KPERS and knew changes were needed to address laws surrounding public employees and Working After Retirement legislation. His work, both leading up to and in the 2017 legislative session, led to significant changes in Working After Retirement legislation and allowed the same rules to apply to all levels of public employees at the state, local and school level.

“I wanted to make it easier for municipalities to hire qualified retirees and level the playing field for cities, counties and local government entities,” said Representative Kelly. “I feel that, by discussing the issues ahead of time and working together, we developed good legislation. I especially appreciate how gracious the League and the Kansas Association of Counties have been in helping me understand the issues.”

League Legal Counsel Amanda Stanley worked with Representative Kelly during the 2017 legislative session.

“Representative Kelly went above-and-beyond to identify potential pros and cons of the new rules for Working After Retirement,” said Stanley. “It was clear, through his actions, that his goal was to enact quality legislation that would benefit his constituents.”

During his time in the legislature, Representative Kelly is proud of his work developing the Rural Opportunity Zone Program and his efforts to expand healthcare initiatives in rural Kansas.

“I consider it a big accomplishment that we were able to expand the Rural Opportunity Zone Program and I see the success of the program in Montgomery County regularly,” said Kelly.

Representative Kelly was also instrumental in passing a compact that allowed Kansas to participate with 12 other states for medical licensure. He also plans to work on healthcare issues in the 2018 session with a specific interest in expanding telehealth and payment parity in rural areas of Kansas.

“I live in a community where our local hospital closed,” said Kelly. “I am interested in looking for opportunities to ensure
The League of Kansas Municipalities invites all member Kansas city officials to join us for the 2017 Regional Suppers. We hope you will take this opportunity to join our staff, in a city near you, to discuss the upcoming legislative session and the League’s 2018 legislative priorities.

**October 4 • Cimarron**
Cimarron Public Library
120 North Main
$18 per person
RSVP by Sept. 29

**October 5 • Colby**
HP Chuckwagon
Cookshack
1945 County Road W
$20 per person
RSVP by Sept. 29

**October 11 • Lawrence**
Carnegie Building; Heritage Room
200 W 9th Street
$22 per person
RSVP by Oct. 6

**October 4 • Hays**
Sternberg Museum
3000 Sternberg Drive
$22 per person
RSVP by Sept. 29

**October 5 • Derby**
Pavilion at Madison Ave
Central Park
512 East Madison Avenue
$18 per person
RSVP by Sept. 29

**October 12 • Coffeyville**
Senior Citizens Center
601 South Walnut
$16 per person
RSVP by Oct. 6

Registration is available online at www.lkm.org/RegionalSuppers
Check-in for all locations will begin at 5:30 p.m. with dinner served at 6:00 p.m.

Written cancellations must be made 72 hours prior to the meeting date, or the participant will be responsible for payment. Cancellations by phone will not be accepted.
For the 2016 PRIDE Awards, I wrote about change. “Change is good,” I said. The truth is, in 2017, change is great! As of July of 2017, the PRIDE Program gained a second coordinator for our program, Jan Steen.

Our program’s growth would not have been possible without the impact of Kansas PRIDE communities and their expanding visibility. As our program grows, new partnering entities have come to the table, and some figurative silos are being dismantled to pave the way for a new era of collaboration.

What is the Kansas PRIDE Program? The Kansas PRIDE program is a community improvement initiative supported by K-State Research and Extension, the Kansas Department of Commerce, Kansas PRIDE Inc. and The Kansas Masons. In 2017, through the Kansas Masons’ generosity and our partnership, five communities across Kansas received the Volunteers Impact PRIDE Grant, which has allowed those communities to take on larger-scale community projects. Those Kansas PRIDE communities are Almena, Norton, Grinnell, Lincoln and Russell.

The First Impressions program, piloted in northwest Kansas and made possible by the Dane G. Hansen Foundation, continues to gain momentum throughout Kansas. The Board Leadership Series, through K-State Research and Extension, provides an opportunity to give community-based boards that are elected, appointed, or recognized by local units of government, the training necessary to be the most effective and efficient with their responsibilities. In 2016, over 120 participants from fair boards, 4-H (clubs, councils and program development committees), township boards, rural water districts, community foundations, civic organizations, school boards, church boards, city councils, county commissions, extension councils, and recreation councils benefited through high-tech and hands-on training through 20 K-State Research and Extension host sites.

During the past 46 years, over 400 Kansas communities have participated in the PRIDE Program with approximately 65 communities enrolled per year. To enroll, a group of interested volunteers collaborate with city government to organize a local community PRIDE Committee. Then, with technical support from the state organization, cities assess their current situation, set goals for the future, implement appropriate community improvement projects evaluate their impact and celebrate their success!
PRIDE PARTNERSHIPS

The Kansas Freemasons

As a partner of the Kansas PRIDE program, the Kansas Masons, from over 200 lodges across the state, have pledged their support to local communities. Since the partnership was established in March of 2016, 15 Masonic Lodges have taken part in supporting 20 communities by assisting in fundraising, volunteering and celebration of local community success. If your community does not have a Masonic Lodge, contact the Kansas PRIDE office and we can get you a contact in your area.

The Dane G. Hansen Foundation

The First Impressions program, piloted in northwest Kansas, was made possible by the Dane G. Hansen Foundation. In 2016 the program was implemented in 31 communities in northwest Kansas. Nine of the participating communities are PRIDE communities, and through the process, four communities not involved in PRIDE formed local PRIDE organizations. Because of this successful pilot, First Impressions is now open to communities statewide.

K-State Research and Extension

4-H Youth Development

The Kansas PRIDE Program is proud to work with K-State Research and Extension 4-H Youth Development to promote local partnerships which cultivate leadership skills in youth and community members to make Kansas communities a great place to work and live.

WEEK OF PRIDE

The Kansas PRIDE program partnered with 48 Hours of 4-H, inviting 4-H clubs to partner with PRIDE Organizations for volunteer opportunities during Week of PRIDE 2016. In the spring of 2016, 356 adults and 241 youth in 25 PRIDE communities spent 2,309 hours planning and implementing projects and raised more than $26,460 to invest into their communities. Seventy-four youth from 15 4-H clubs assisted in 11 communities.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

The PRIDE Program recently adopted a framework, referred to as the Community Capitals, for their community planning and recognition model. Research around this model suggests communities that evaluate and invest in ALL seven of the Community Capitals have a greater chance of future sustainability. This past year, the following Kansas communities were recognized for their Excellence in PRIDE related to one of the seven Community Capitals.

PRIDE STAR Capital Awards

The following communities received awards recognizing their outstanding work on community projects:
Financial

Olsburg’s Land Utfard was a success as the first ever community ride. Seventy miles of back road was traveled by ATV’s and Side-by-Sides hauling community members.

Rossville PRIDE invited community members to use their creativity to make anything out of pallets. The Pallets of PRIDE Auction was held and all profits made helped with the installation of a gazebo and sidewalks at Andrick Park.

Social

The Delia community educated their citizens about the Walk Kansas Program that promotes physical exercise and healthier eating. Teams were put together to motivate each other to walk daily.

The Olsburg Festival continued to grow this year with citywide garage sales, car show, horseshoe tournament and street dance. Olsburg PRIDE continues to attract visitors who live outside of city limits.

Cultural

Delia Days continued to expand, with this year’s festivities incorporating Delia’s history and culture into their celebration. A parade, quilt show, historical speakers and displays were added.

Community history is important, which was shown in Olsburg PRIDE’s history book reprint. The treasures of the small town were revitalized and sold to locals.

Natural

Olsburg PRIDE and community members came together to beautify Greenwood Park. With a lot of cleanup and transformations, the park is now an oasis for travelers and the community.

Human

Youth of Delia participated in a new summer reading program that provided a fun, interesting and educational program. The theme for this past summer was “Sports, Exercise and Staying Active.”

Built

A brightly lit cross has become a product of Alton PRIDE that stops everyone in its path to gaze with wonder and awe at the powerful symbol of faith on top of the Alton bluffs.

Delia PRIDE took on the completion of concession stand repairs on a recently closed Delia Grade School. They completed the project just in time for Delia Days.

Lucas PRIDE made improvements to the K-18 baseball field which made the players, fans and volunteers happy. The tournaments at the field bring in revenue for the community so the improvements were greatly appreciated.
Growth and Action Awards:
- Columbus
- Mount Hope
- Park City

Partners in PRIDE
- Council Grove was awarded $2,000 for a Riverwalk Park Sign;
- Delia was awarded $1,000 for a landscaping project;
- Humboldt was awarded $1,100 for ADA--accessible picnic areas; and
- Rossville was awarded $2,000 for park beautification.

Volunteers Impact PRIDE
Provided through the generosity of the Kansas Masons and our partnership, the Volunteers Impact Pride (VIP) grant program was developed by Kansas PRIDE, Inc. to provide incentives to communities for projects that will enhance the quality of life and help communities help themselves through sweat equity and volunteerism at the local level. This is a single activity grant considering the measurable impact of the project on the community.

The 2017 VIP recipients include:
- Almena for playground replacement
- Grinnell for roof repairs
- Lincoln for sidewalks and improvements
- Norton for community signage
- Russell for walking trail and wellness

Jaime Menon, Kansas PRIDE Program Coordinator. You can reach her at jmenon@ksu.edu or (785) 532-5840.
Driving community and industry forward, together.

Community investment goes beyond transportation, infrastructure and water needs. It’s about trust, reliability and a vision for tomorrow. When you need future-focused solutions with a community-minded approach, Bartlett & West is your ally for success.

League Membership Offers Benefits All Year!

Are you Making the Most of Your Membership?

Training Opportunities

The League offers many options for appointed officials, elected officials, city management and staff to learn more about local government. Trainings are offered as webinars, seminars, on-site classes and conferences. Education opportunities range from “hot topics” in local government to perennial pertinent information about open government procedures (KOMA/KORA), municipal finance, personnel management, emergency planning, legal analysis, and legislative topics affecting municipalities.

Communication & Alerts

Do you receive League News, our weekly e-news digest with the latest information for Kansas municipalities? If not, you are missing out on important information for your city! Sign up today by e-mailing webmaster@lkm.org and we’ll add you to the distribution list. Make sure you add webmaster@lkm.org to your contacts to ensure timely delivery of League e-mails.

Social Media & Website

Whether you prefer Facebook or Twitter, we’ve got you covered. Follow us and share information with your constituents or just stay informed about interesting topics in local and state government. The League’s website, www.lkm.org, has an extensive collection of resources for local government officials including municipal research, sample policies and ordinances, and grant/external funding organizations for municipalities. Contact the League if you have not set up your individual user profile yet!
As tattoos become more prevalent in today’s culture, local government leaders must weigh legal considerations surrounding freedom of speech and personal expression in public service.

By Kelci Weber, League of Kansas Municipalities Extern

Sam, a police officer for the city of Greenacre, pulls over Becky, a government employee, who is on her way to work. While Sam is asking Becky for her information, Becky notices Sam has a tattoo of his favorite football team’s logo on his arm. Believing police officers should not be allowed to have tattoos, Becky writes a memorandum to city officials and condemns Officer Sam for having a tattoo. Part of Becky’s job is writing memoranda to city officials to keep them updated on events occurring around the city. Becky presented the memorandum to the city council during a council meeting, which was an open session. The memorandum was an open record under the Kansas Open Records Act (KORA) so the local newspaper picked it up and published it in the paper. Local citizens were outraged at Becky’s memorandum because Officer Sam is a well-known and respected officer. Local citizens started bombarding Becky’s employer with calls demanding she be reprimanded. Becky’s employer received so much backlash from her memorandum they were unable to efficiently conduct business. Seeing no end to the flood of calls, Becky’s employer fired her. Becky claims her employer cannot fire her because her memorandum in the paper was protected by the First Amendment. Is Becky right? How about Officer Sam? Is he allowed to have a tattoo?
When deciding whether a public employee’s speech is protected by the First Amendment, there are two questions that must be asked. First, did the employee speak as a citizen on a matter of public concern, and second, was the employee’s speech made pursuant to their official duties. If the employee did not speak on a matter of public concern, the employee has no First Amendment cause of action based on the employer’s reaction to the speech. If the employee did speak on a matter of public concern, the question becomes whether the employer had adequate justification for treating the employee differently from any other member of the general public.

The Supreme Court has found several matters that are considered “public concern.” Some of these matters for example include: testifying before a state legislature, the manner in which police and fire fighters performed upon a particular occasion, the adequacy of funding for emergency services, environmental violations at wastewater treatment plants and, where speech criticizes government inefficiency and waste, not as an aggrieved employee, but as a concerned citizen. If it is decided the employee spoke on a matter of public concern, then the Pickering balancing test is used. The balancing test, which comes from the case Pickering v. Board of Education, weighs the interest of the employee as a citizen, in speaking on matters of public concern, against the employer’s interest in promoting the efficiency of the public services it performs. The court would likely decide if Becky’s interest as a citizen outweighs her employer’s interest in promoting the efficiency of the public services it performs.

Next, did the employee make the statement pursuant to their official job duties? If the employee did not make the statement pursuant to their official job duties, their speech is protected by the First Amendment because they are speaking as a citizen. If the speech was part of what the employee is employed to do, or if it is part of their job description, then the employee is not speaking as a citizen for First Amendment purposes, and therefore the speech is not protected and the employee could be subject to employer discipline.

Although many consider tattoos a form of speech and believe they should be protected under the First Amendment, there is not much law that exists protecting public employees with tattoos. When it comes to a religious tattoo, an employer can require the employee cover the tattoo(s) up unless the tattoo is required by a sincerely held religious belief. There is a 9th Circuit Court of Appeals case where the court held that tattoos, the act of tattooing, and even the business of tattooing are purely expressive activity and fully protected by the First Amendment. Since this case is only persuasive authority, there is no binding precedent that would apply to the State of Kansas regarding First Amendment protection of tattoos.

Going back to the hypothetical, would Becky’s memo be protected speech under the First Amendment? The answer is probably no. Becky’s memo is not likely regarding a matter of public concern. Although the Supreme Court has found that speech discussing how police officers performed on a specific occasion is protected, Becky is not criticizing Officer Sam’s performance when she was pulled over. She was expressing her distaste for Officer Sam having a visible tattoo. Officer Sam’s tattoo is not affecting the general public in any way so Becky’s memo would not likely be considered a matter of public concern. If Becky’s memo had been over a matter of public concern, then the court would have to decide if Becky’s interest as a citizen outweighs her employer’s interest in promoting the efficiency of the public services it performs. The court would likely decide in the employer’s favor because local citizens were inundating Becky’s employer with calls complaining and demanding Becky be reprimanded. Becky’s employer was unable to efficiently conduct business so their interests would outweigh Becky’s interest as a citizen in commenting on matters of public concern.

The Harris Poll released a survey in 2016 on tattoo acceptance in America. According to their online polling, Americans are more comfortable with visible tattoos in certain professions including public safety, education and healthcare. Today, 3 out of 10 Americans have at least one tattoo.

Tattoo Acceptence in America

Percent of Those Comfortable With Visible Tattoos Serving in Different Professions.

Table: Percent of Those Comfortable With Visible Tattoos Serving in Different Professions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Comfortable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctor</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presidential Candidate</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary School Teacher</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banker</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: www.theharrispoll.com/health-and-life/Tattoo_Takeover.html

Continued on pg 213
Leage President Kim Thomas, Mayor for the City of Stockton, has appointed a seven member committee to serve as the 2017 League Nominating Committee. These appointments were confirmed by the League Governing Body at its September meeting in Hays. The Committee will be chaired by Larry Wolgast, League Past President and Mayor for the City of Topeka. There are four director positions on the Governing Body, each with a three-year term of office, considered each year. In addition, the Committee will consider nominations for President and Vice President for one-year terms.

The League encourages officials from all member cities to participate in our organization and to consider serving on the Governing Body. Being part of the Governing Body is an excellent way to shape the future development of your organization. The League welcomes officials from both large and small cities, from all regions of Kansas, to nominate their colleagues or even themselves for Governing Body positions. See the guidelines for selection below.

Article 4 of the League Bylaws charges the Nominating Committee with submitting a written report at least 24-hours before the start of the annual business meeting of the organization. This year’s business meeting, including elections, will be held Monday, September 18, during the League Annual Conference.

Pursuant to Article 4, Section 3 of the League Bylaws, the Governing Body has established the following guidelines for League Governing Body and Officer Elections:

Section 1. Primary Considerations. The overall strength of the individual candidates for the League Governing Body should be the primary consideration of the nominating committee. Candidates should be evaluated based upon the length of term in office, past service to the League, potential leadership contributions, and their willingness to serve the organization. In addition, the nominating committee should consider the following factors: A) Class and Size of City. A concerted effort should be made to provide for diversity on the Governing Body based on city population. B) Elected and Appointed Officials. The large majority of the Governing Body members should be elected officials. The office of city manager/city administrator should be represented by one or two members. Other appointed officials may be represented by one or two members. C) Regional Distribution. It is important to try to reach a regional distribution that is as diverse as possible. The League Governing Body has adopted a regional map as a benchmark but we all recognize that this is not a perfect system. Regional diversity is a general goal that we strive to maintain. D) Gender, Race, and Ethnicity. The Committee should factor in gender, race, and ethnicity considerations in order to achieve diversity as well.

Section 2. Officer Candidates. A) President. In keeping with long-standing League tradition, the Vice President ascends to the position of President. This policy enables the Vice President to participate on the League Executive Committee for a year before leading the organization. B) Vice President. Candidates for Vice President should be evaluated primarily based upon the length of term in office, past services to the League, potential leadership contributions, and their willingness to serve the organization. Other considerations include: 1) at least one year of prior service on the League Governing Body; 2) alternation between large and small cities; and 3) geographic diversity.

“Large city” directors shall also be eligible for these offices, provided they meet the stated criteria.
What is your position and what do you do?
I began serving as the Deputy Director of the League in August. As I enter the position of Deputy Director, I feel it is my job to be the chief advocacy officer for Kansas cities in Topeka. I want to know your stories and how legislation will either have a positive or negative effect on your city. I will also be working closely with the Kansas Mayors Association and the Kansas Association of City/County Managers. I look forward to participating in, and helping grow, the League’s initiatives to broaden communication efforts, strengthen educational opportunities for municipal leaders and continue to provide the quality contract services the League offers.

What is your favorite thing about Kansas?
The passionate nature of Kansans — no matter the subject — Kansas basketball, Kansas State football, barbeque, Royals, Chiefs, airplanes, tractors, church or family. I love how Kansans want to tell you about what drives them and why they do what they do.

Have you always lived in Kansas?
I have lived in Kansas my entire life, except for the two years that I attended Texas A&M in College Station, Texas.

What is your favorite scenic part of Kansas?
That’s a tough one; I am going with a four-way tie. First, growing up in Sedgwick County, nothing compares to downtown Wichita decked out for Riverfest. Second, I am awed every time I walk into the Capitol Building in Topeka. Third, nothing compares to the Flint Hills, covered in green, on a late-April day. Finally, I would have to say the Atchison Riverfront during the Amelia Earhart Festival is a tremendous site filled with community pride and excitement.
Intergovernmental Awards Continued
access to healthcare for Kansans, especially those in rural and small communities.”

Although Representative Kelly now serves the Montgomery County community in the Kansas Legislature, he spent six years in local government on the Independence City Commission and served eight years on the Independence School Board.

Outside of the legislature, Representative Kelly has worked in the banking industry since 1969. He has been active in economic development in his community and has worked throughout the communities of Coffeyville, Independence and Cherryvale.

“I have been very fortunate, and honored, to be able to serve my home community and county in various ways for over 40 years,” said Kelly. “Now, as a member of the legislature, I am truly blessed to represent everyone in District 11. I am very appreciative to have the opportunity to get to know and work with many other legislators, local and statewide leaders in many organizations, like the League, that are all truly striving daily to do their best for the State of Kansas and everyone we all represent.”

Representative Kelly is married to Eloise Meyer-Kelly and has one daughter, Beth. He holds degrees from Independence Community College and Emporia State University. Representative Kelly also graduated from the Graduate School of Banking at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

The League thanks Representative Kelly for his unwavering work on behalf of Kansas cities and his decades of service to the people of Kansas. We congratulate him and are proud to honor him as the 2017 Intergovernmental Leadership Award recipient.

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Next, was Becky’s statement done pursuant to her official duties as an employee? Part of Becky’s job is to write memoranda to city officials, which is exactly what she was doing. Becky’s memo about Officer Sam and his tattoo was created pursuant to her official duties, meaning she was not speaking as a citizen for First Amendment purposes and she is therefore not protected from employer discipline.

What about Officer Sam’s tattoo? As a public employee, is he even allowed to have a tattoo? Assuming Greenacre is in Kansas, there is no law regulating First Amendment protection of tattoos but the 9th Circuit *Garcetti* case would be good persuasive authority should Kansas courts ever see a similar case. Officer Sam’s tattoo clearly has no religious meaning; it is simply a team logo. If the Greenacre Police Department wants employees to cover all visible tattoos, then Officer Sam would be required to hide his tattoo. The police department would need to be careful when implementing a policy prohibiting tattoos. The policy must be facially neutral so that there is no disparate impact. Disparate treatment occurs when the employer simply treats some people less favorably than others because of their race, color, religion or other protected characteristics. A facially neutral policy is all or nothing. The police department must either prohibit all tattoos, all of a certain type of tattoo, or none at all.

In another case which serves as persuasive authority in Kansas, Chicago police officers were told to cover their tattoos while on duty. The officers sued claiming the policy violated their First Amendment rights to free speech. The court stated, "the Supreme Court has recognized that when government employees speak or write on their own time on topics unrelated to their employment, the speech can have First Amendment protection unless the government provides a strong justification beyond mere speculation for regulating the speech." The court ruled in favor of the city because the interest of the city to have all of the officers looking professional and uniform far outweighed the officers’ interest in personal expression. The city’s justification for the policy was strong enough to enforce the tattoo policy.

Again, since there is no precedent here in Kansas, if the Greenacre Police Department implemented a policy requiring police officers to cover their tattoos, Officer Sam would likely be required to follow that policy because his tattoo is a form of personal expression. Since he is a city employee, his tattoo would probably not be protected under the First Amendment. The Greenacre Police Department would have a strong enough justification in wanting the officers to look professional and uniform to enforce this policy.

Kelci Weber is a former extern for the League of Kansas Municipalities. She is a law student at The University of Kansas.

Sources:
2. Id.
5. Renner, supra note iii, question 8.
7. Id.
9. *Anderson v. City of Hermosa Beach*, 621 F.3d 1051, 1060 (9th Cir. 2010).
12. Id. At 988.
Take a moment to question the assumptions about the youth in our communities. What are the common perspectives of young people’s interest in government? What do we want young people’s involved in government to be? The League of Kansas Municipalities decided to take these questions head-on and expand their youth education program based on the findings.

Here’s what we found:
- Youth are incredibly connected to global issues;
- Youth want to be change agents;
- Youth want to be considered “social stakeholders;”
- Youth want to feel that their voice matters; and
- Youth want to have purpose.
As it turns out, youth are not so different from adults in this respect. Providing opportunities for Kansas youth to connect their global concerns to local concerns is the challenge.

One such opportunity is the League’s Youth Civic Education Program. First, we needed to understand how people “grow” into their civic knowledge and how to facilitate this process. In order to do this, we’ve designed a framework for youth civic education:

- In elementary school, we inspire youth’s interest in politics by demonstrating how government affects their world and how to follow news.
- As conceptual understanding increases, we expand their civic literacy in middle school by introducing vocabulary and systems of local government.
- By high school, youth feel capable of learning the civic skills necessary to make changes in their community through the political process.
- Finally, we engage young adults in the community’s objectives, goals and vision for the future. This shows them the various municipal career paths and community service opportunities.

Using our civic learning path, the League created three lesson plans for elementary, middle school, and high school age students. These lesson plans are designed to facilitate critical thinking, to cultivate interest and to connect students to inspiring resources.

The lesson plans include the civic learning process framework and a civic resource guide for more interactive learning!

Review and download our youth civic education materials and civic learning path infographic online at www.lkm.org.

The program includes an activity book for 3rd grade, a writing contest for 7th graders, and an Instagram video challenge for high schoolers.

Utilizing a vibrant social media campaign including youth profiles, infographics, resources, career profiles and more, we hope to stoke the passion for public service in these young community leaders.

This campaign will kick off with The League’s annual “If I Were Mayor” contest for 7th graders. This year, the contest is in a memo format to align with the civic education and employment skills standards of the Kansas Department of Education. Visit www.lkm.org for the memo template and instructions. Memos can be typed directly into the template and uploaded for easy submission. Deadline to submit a memo is November 18, 2017.

The League will choose six regional winners. Five will receive a cash prize of $125. The sixth winner will represent the state of Kansas and receive a $250 cash prize. All six winners will have their memos published in the Kansas Government Journal and be invited to Topeka for a special ceremony with local leaders and state legislators on February 24, 2018.

Kansas youth are eager to engage in the political process, and we hope this program is a step toward creating opportunities for the active involvement of youth in government.

Chelsea Ren Morton is the Management Intern for the League of Kansas Municipalities. You can reach her at intern@lkm.org or (785) 354-9565.
Public Works Superintendent
Frankfort

The employee supervises personnel and performs all aspects of public works related to the management/maintenance of streets, alleys, curbs, gutters, street sweeping, ice and snow control; management of vehicles and equipment; pool prep, building and grounds facility maintenance; water/waste water/storm water infrastructure maintenance, (etc.). Applicant should possess or be willing to obtain Water/Wastewater Operator Certifications and a valid driver’s license. High School diploma or GED required. Competitive salary based on experience and qualifications. Competitive benefits include family health and dental insurance, KPERS, sick and vacation leave. Applications and resumes will be accepted until position is filled.

How to Apply:
Apply/contact City Clerk, 109 North Kansas, Frankfort, KS 66427 or call (785) 292-4240.

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Chief of Police,
Valley Center

The Chief of Police is responsible for enforcing laws and ordinances in the interest of public safety and for directing the operations of the police department. The Chief should supervise and evaluate subordinate police personnel, encourage community policing by participating in community relations actions, and is ultimately responsible for the development of a department budget. Special preference may be given to an applicant with experience in a public safety setting, or the willingness to assist Water/Wastewater Operator Certifications and a valid driver’s license. High School diploma or GED required. Competitive salary based on experience and qualifications. Competitive benefits include family health and dental insurance, KPERS, sick and vacation leave. Applications and resumes will be accepted until position is filled.

How to Apply:
Apply/contact City Clerk, 109 North Kansas, Frankfort, KS 66427 or call (785) 292-4240.

_________________
City Administrator
Anthony

The City of Anthony is looking to fill the City Administrator’s position. Located in Harper County, southwest of Wichita. A progressive city, known for its thriving agriculture, high-quality medical center and excellent education system. For more information on Anthony, visit http://www.anthonykansas.org/.

The City operates under a commission form of government, composed of four commission members and a mayor. The City Administrator facilitates the day-to-day operations of the municipality, and oversees all operations and departments based on guidance from the governing body. Anthony operates electric and water/wastewater utilities.

Experience:
Applicants must have a bachelor’s degree in public administration or a related field, master’s degree preferred. The ideal candidate will have at least five years of local government experience, a reputation for innovative problem solving, open communication and transparency. Candidates must possess strong leadership skills, budgetary experience, administrative and organizational skills, and demonstrate the ability to make decisions and handle all situations professionally.

Salary Range:
Competitive benefits; Salary $65,000-$75,000 DOQ.

How to Apply:
Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and three work-related references to LEAPS-Anthony@lkm.org or LEAPS-Anthony, 300 SW 8th, Topeka, KS 66603. If confidentiality is requested, please note in application materials. Position will remain open until filled. Application review will begin September 18. EOE.

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Assistant City Administrator
Prairie Village

The City of Prairie Village is seeking an Assistant City Administrator. Prairie Village (21,500) is located in northeast Johnson County and is part of the Kansas City Metro area. The position’s primary responsibilities are similar to the role of
Classified Advertising

a Community Development Director including the oversight of the City’s planning & zoning services, building codes, code enforcement, economic development, comprehensive plan and the solid waste contract. The position works closely with the other department managers and supervises the administrative services of municipal court and requires responsive and courteous service to the public. The position staffs several volunteer committees, which require a few evening meetings per month, including Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, and Arts Council.

**Experience:**
Qualified individuals will demonstrate the ability to work with the public, business leaders, government officials and the media. A graduate degree in public administration, planning, or a related field is desired, with a minimum of five years experience demonstrating increasing responsibility in municipal government with supervisory experience.

**Salary Range:**
Starting salary range is $94,850 - $142,270 annually, DOQ. There is no residency requirement. The position is appointed by the Mayor with confirmation of the City Council and works at the direction of the City Administrator.

**How to Apply:**
Interested candidates must submit an application for employment along with a resume and cover letter via the City’s website, www.pvkansas.com. The resume should reflect experience in relation to the position’s job description, which can be viewed in the posting. Resume review begins September 11. For further questions, please contact the City’s Human Resources department via e-mail at ahunt@pvkansas.com or (913) 385.4664.

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**Street Maintenance Superintendent, Olathe**

**Key Responsibilities:**
Manage the Street Maintenance Section functions for the City of Olathe, including development of policies and procedures and an annual budget in excess of $3.5 million. Monitor and evaluate efficiency and effectiveness of the Streets Division utilizing City provided tools. Plan, direct, and coordinate through subordinate level supervisors the Street Maintenance Section’s work plan including assigned projects and programmatic areas. Monitor and evaluate safety policies, practices and procedures and ensure employees receive proper safety training.

**Experience:**
5 – 7 years of increasingly responsible experience in a heavy construction, maintenance or field operations setting, including 2 – 4 years administrative and/or supervisory responsibility. Bachelors Degree or equivalent from an accredited college or university with major course work in Construction Science, Engineering or similar related field preferred; 10+ years demonstrated proficiency in field operations management may be substituted for education requirement.

**How to Apply:**
Apply at www.olatheks.org.

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Connect with the League Online to see our latest news, updates, and events.

www.LKM.org @LeagueKSMunis http://tinyurl.com/hoqv2wh
The City of Dodge City was recognized by the American Public Works Association (APWA) for three separate project-of-the-year awards:

- Long Branch Lagoon
- Boot Hill Monument Park & Cowboy Restoration
- Primary Lift Station Screening Building Improvements
We are always seeking content ideas for stories and briefs. Please send your ideas and thoughts for content or story ideas to Megan Gilliland at mgilliland@lkm.org

Derby

Master Derby Police Officer and Community Education Coordinator, Matt Lister, received the Joe Harris Memorial Instructor of the Year Award from the National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO). Lister has worked for Derby since 1992 and was the city’s first School Resource Officer. He has worked at the high school and middle school and teaches two fifth-grade DARE classes.

Manhattan

The City of Manhattan received the gold-level “Breastfeeding Employee Support Award” from the Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition in recognition of their comprehensive lactation support policy and their “gold-level” lactation room.
Leavenworth: Hog Wild BBQ
September 8-9

Enjoy an annual Kansas City Barbecue Society-sanctioned BBQ Contest in historic downtown Leavenworth. Those registered may participate in the team competition. All are invited to come to the fun events that include the Team Competition, People’s Choice Tasting, Kids Q competition, Adult Chicken Wing Eating and Kids Tater Tot Stuffing Contests. There will be live music both days featuring “Saucy Jack” on Friday evening; “People Watching” and “Penny Black Band” on Saturday. “Cars 4 Heroes” will donate a car to a military veteran and Sacred Circus will perform on Friday evening. Saturday features free balloon twisting, magic, face painting, souvenir photo booth and more. Enjoy great festival foods, beverages and vendors. Activities will take place 4-11 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday in the 200 block of Delaware Street in Leavenworth. For more information visit www.leavenworthmainstreet.com or call (913) 682-3924 or director@leavenworthmainstreet.com.

Kingman: Fall Festival and Art Fair
September 9

The City of Kingman and the Kingman Park Board are hosting the 4th annual Kingman Fall Festival and Art Fair from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., September 9. Come join us for a day of singing, dancing, games and crafts in downtown Kingman. Vendors and Artist will be set up along Main Street. The event is free to the public and there is no charge for vendors. Visit our website at www.cityofkingman.com or call (620)-532-3111 or email us at admin@cityofkingman.com for more information.

Garden City: A Wild Affair
September 9

The 12th annual “A Wild Affair” is scheduled for 6 p.m. September 9 at the Lee Richardson Zoo & Safari Shoppe located at 312 E Finnpup Drive in Finnpup Park. The event features live music, live and silent auctions, chilled beer and wine served while local restaurants and caterers provide a delicious “taste of Southwest Kansas.” Guest must be 21 to enter. Proceeds will go towards the new primate exhibit and the event proves to be our largest fundraiser of the year. The event will take place in and around the zoo’s Wild Asia and Cat Canyon exhibit from approximately 6 - 10:30 p.m. Call (620) 276-6243 for more information or visit www.folrz.com. Ticket prices are $40.

Caldwell: Chisolm Trail 150th Celebration
September 16-17

The Caldwell Chamber of Commerce is hosting a celebration of 150 years of the Chisolm Trail featuring a cattle drive, Talking Tombstone Tour, Cherokee Strip Land Run, live music, Spirits of the Trail Tasting Parlour, beer garden, and Main Street Show with saloon girls and cowboys. For more information contact Casie Risley at (620) 845-6677 or email at crisley@caldwellkansas.com.

Event start times are Saturday Sept. 16 at 7 a.m. and Sunday, Sept. 17 at 12 p.m.

Great Bend: Hahn Brother's Supercross Shootout
September 23-24

The Annual Hahn Brothers Shootout hosted by professional riders Wil & Tommy Hahn! Join in the races and action at the Great Bend Expo Complex Motocross Track. Visit our website at www.greatbendks.net or call us at (620) 793-4111 or email us at chayes@greatbendks.net. Event start times are Saturday at 10 a.m. and Sunday at 11 a.m.
Since its beginning in 1987, Botanica continues to grow while remaining a special place to experience the wonders of nature. This botanical paradise on the plains provides a rich horticultural and visual learning environment for all visitors. Botanica is a place where memories are made, birthdays and anniversaries are celebrated, and life is enjoyed. Whether watching a butterfly emerge from its chrysalis in the Butterfly House, playing games in the Downing Children’s Garden, learning about another culture in the new Chinese Garden of Friendship or watching a miniature train in the Gene E. Spear Train Garden, visitors are captivated by the beauty of the gardens.

Since its opening with four gardens, Botanica has added 30 additional themed gardens and exhibits. Botanica comprises over 18-acres of stunning gardenscaping that features over 4,000 species of plants both native and new to the region.

All gardens are designed to emphasize collections that feature plants particularly well-suited to south-central Kansas. The gardens are decorated with a collection of elegant sculptures, flowing streams, fountains and waterfalls that complement the beauty of plants and that create a visually stunning atmosphere.

Botanica also takes pride in developing the community. In keeping with its mission to promote community development and provide cultural experiences in a pleasant garden setting, Botanica has a wide-array of special events throughout the year.

In 2015 Botanica opened the Chinese Garden of Friendship, which honors Wichita’s friendship with its Sister City of Kaifeng, China. The Scholar-type garden demonstrates traditional Chinese architecture, art and culture to inspire the community.

Botanica will soon have its own carousel! In 2014 Botanica accepted the historic Joyland Merry-Go-Round as a gift from Joyland. Botanica is currently restoring 36 carousel horses and has selected an architect to design the Botanica Carousel Pavilion, which will be located west of the Downing Children’s Garden.

Hours of Operation:

The Gardens are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Saturday, year-round.

Visit us at 701 N. Amidon Wichita, KS 67203-3199. For directions or information on our extended hours and admission fees call us at (316) 264-0448 or visit our website at www.botanica.org.
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