Mayor of the Year and KMA Board Nominations

If you have a mayor whose service to the community is worthy of special recognition please take the time to complete the nomination form and write a short one-page letter listing their accomplishments. Nominations will be accepted until March 17, 2023. Get all the information on how to submit on our website. The winner will be announced at Leadership Summit & Kansas Mayors Association Conference, April 14 & 15 in Hays. To register for that event, click here.

KMA also invites you to submit nominations for the KMA Board of Directors. You may nominate yourself or another KMA member to any eligible seat (eligibility rules are listed for each Board position). Voting will take place at the annual business meeting on Friday, April 14th, at the conference. Each position serves a term. Contact Tami Martin with any questions.

Hear from Leadership Summit Keynote Speaker - Jackie Stiles!

Kansas knows Jackie Stiles from her historical roots in Claflin, KS where she led the country in women’s basketball scoring, then rewrote the NCAA women’s basketball record at Southwest Missouri State, and onto her professional career in the WNBA! The League is pleased to welcome Jackie as our keynote speaker on Friday, April 14 at the Kansas Mayors Association Conference & Leadership Summit. Jackie will share Leadership stories about her journey through professional basketball, and a message about becoming the best version of yourself. The 4p.m. General Session on Friday is open to all conference attendees, and Saturday's keynote will be a follow-up Q&A with Jackie at 9 a.m.

You can find more information about the conference, including a schedule of events and hotel information here.

Watch the movie trailer that recently came out about her life here.

League Strategic Plan - Elected Officials Focus Group

Earlier this month, the League announced that it is embarking on a new strategic plan to guide its path forward. The process is being facilitated by the Public Policy & Management Center (PPMC) at Wichita State University with the support of the Public Management Center at the University of Kansas and the Docking Institute at Fort Hays State University. The planning process will include a series of focus groups in March, a member survey in May/June, regional meetings in July/August, and a status report at the Annual Conference in October.

We are scheduling a focus group for elected officials to be conducted virtually at 9 a.m. March 29. We are searching for volunteers from across the state to participate in the discussion. We hope to get diverse representation – from size of community to geographic location to gender, age, race and ethnicity. If you are interested in participating in this focus group, please contact Corinthian Kelly. Once we've gathered who's interested in participating, we'll be able to finalize a list and extend invitations. If this time does not work for you, please plan to respond to the survey in May/June to ensure we hear your ideas.

We are looking forward to our discussion and appreciate your willingness to assist in charting a course for the League of Kansas Municipalities.

MTI Graduate Check

Have you taken several of our MTI courses in the past? Each spring, we graduate local government officials who have completed Level 1, 2, or 3 of the MTI program at the Leadership Summit. If you want to check your credits toward graduation, please watch this video on how to find and review your transcript OR email sbannister@lkm.org.
CALL FOR KGJ ARTICLES - MAY AND JUNE
We are looking for cities who have stories to share in the *Kansas Government Journal* (KGJ) on the following topics:

- Asian Americans and Pacific Islander Heritage Month (planned celebrations for the month of May)
- Mental Health Awareness Month (mental health services offered by your city/planned events for the month of May)
- Pride Month (planned celebrations for the month of June)
- Juneteenth (planned celebrations on or near June 19, or making the date a recognized holiday)

If you are interested in writing an article on any of the above topics or others, please email Sydney Bannister.

3/29 REGISTRATION NOW OPEN! RESILIENCE AND MITIGATION GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FROM FEMA

Registration is now open for the 3/29 MTI Resilience and Mitigation Grant Opportunities from FEMA, presented by Regional Administrator Andrew Spillars. This MTI will provide an overview of grant opportunities and the type of projects that can be funded. Over the past couple of years, there have been new Resilience/Mitigation grant programs and additional funding appropriated for those programs. Andrea will discuss the types of projects that can be funded and provide tips/best practices. Register [here](#) today!

Bind Your Kansas Government Journals for Future Reference!

Each year, the League sends sets of the *Kansas Government Journal* off to a bindery that preserves the issues into a hardbound cover. To have your city’s *Kansas Government Journals* bound, contact us by July 15.

All 10 copies of the 2022 *Kansas Government Journal* will be bound in book form with the name of the magazine, the year, and the volume stamped on the cover and spine for just $45 per volume, plus shipping. Missing copies of the magazine? The League will supply any copy of the *Kansas Government Journal* for $5 per issue, except for March, which is $10.

Please have all your magazines sent in no later than July 15, 2023. Questions? Please contact Sydney Bannister, Communications and Education Manager, at [sbannister@lkm.org](mailto:sbannister@lkm.org)
**Spread Good Energy - Hometown Grants**

NOW OPEN! The Evergy Spread Good Energy Hometown Grants program is back for a second year. Evergy is offering a limited-time grant opportunity of up to $10,000 for an idea or project that can Spread Good Energy in your community!

Evergy is looking for innovative projects that make a difference. Your organization could be one of four winners to receive a grant of up to $10,000 for your project. Plus, a team of Evergy employee volunteers are ready to join you for a day to help accomplish your efforts.

How does the grant work?

- Submit a completed application online, telling us your good idea.
- Evergy will review all the applications and announce the Top 10 finalists.
- If in the Top 10, go to the Evergy Facebook page and vote for your project (and get your fans to vote as well)!
- The four projects will the most votes will each win up to $10,000, plus volunteer help!

Visit here for more details and to read the official rules or contact hometowngrant@evergy.com.

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**Kansas Broadband Roadshow**

The Kansas Office of Broadband Development (KOBD) wants you to share your thoughts on internet connectivity in your neighborhood. Help build the future of the Internet in Kansas. The KOBD recognizes the importance that digital connectivity plays in thriving and growing communities. We know we have areas of improvement, along with success stories. KOBD would like to hear from you and your neighbors regarding connectivity, access, and internet opportunities that exist when connecting all Kansans.

Join KOBD as they embark on an eight region state listening tour! They want to hear your voices as they shape the State Digital Equity Plan and five year Strategic Broadband Action Plan. The listening tours will consist of both onsite and virtual focus groups. This is an open meeting. If you need accommodation to help you participate, please contact Corinthian Kelly within 10 days.

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Spread Good Energy - Hometown Grants

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