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# The Anderson County Review



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THE ANDERSON COUNTY REVIEW 11-28-2024 / DANE HICKS



## Private car deals to get sales tax break in 2025

**New law allows tax reduction for buyers who sell old vehicle**

BY DANE HICKS THE ANDERSON COUNTY REVIEW

TOPEKA - Car buyers in Kansas will catch a break on sales tax in the coming year when a new provision in state law lowers the tax they'll pay if they sold an older car in order to buy a new or newer one.

House Bill 2098 included a number of tax reductions that was vetoed by Governor Kelly in the last session of the Kansas Legislature but overridden by the Republican-led veto proof majority in both houses.

The provision works this way: An individual who sells a used vehicle within 120 days before or after purchasing a new or newer vehicle will only

pay sales tax on the difference between the sale of the old vehicle and the price paid for the new one. If that individual "traded down" - or bought a new vehicle of lesser value than the one they sold - they pay no sales tax at all. Proof of the amount of both sales in the form of documentation like bills of sale or cancelled checks must be produced at the time the new vehicle is registered. The law becomes effective January 1, 2025.

The bill was an effort to wrap a number of tax relief provisions into a single law aimed at cutting tax obligations for working class and poorer Kansans. It's remaining benefits include exempting all sales tax on items purchased by permanently disabled with the

SEE CARS ON PAGE 8

## No-show dust control company from 2023 wants second chance

BY DANE HICKS THE ANDERSON COUNTY REVIEW

GARNETT - The Overland Park chemical company that no-showed Anderson County dust control customers the summer of 2023 tried to make amends with Anderson County Commissioners this week and got a cordial, if not warm, reception.

Greg Stiles with Scottwood Industries told commissioners the company ran into difficulties in 2023 with the contractor it hired to apply the chemical used on county gravel roads as a long-term method to help reduce dust, telling commissioners the application teams left the company and apparently couldn't be replaced. Second District County Commissioner Anthony Mersman noted coun-

ty road crews prepped the contracted customer roads on two separate occasions.

"That cost us dearly to prep those roads and we did it twice," Mersman said. "Twice they promised they'd be there, and twice they didn't show up."

The county ended up refunding some \$58,000 in payments made by more than 100 county residents for the service that was never delivered.

The company declined to respond to the Review's inquiries at the time, and Third District Commissioner Dave Pracht said the lack of communication from the company to county officials was one of the most frustrating points of the debacle. Stiles was apologetic.

SEE APOLOGY ON PAGE 8

## DEI in black & white

**Kansas educators say DEI not taught here; evidence says otherwise**

BY DAVID HICKS THE SENTINEL

TOPEKA - The Kansas State Board of Education told the Legislature that the principles of Critical Race Theory (CRT) are not used in schools, but in December 2023, KSBOE approved a contract with a company that says most teacher prep programs are "significantly whiter than the public school population."

Board members may not have known about The New

Teacher Project (TNTP) views on "whiteness" as the documentation provided in the Board packet was very generic, saying "Smoky Hill Education Service Center will contract with The New Teacher Project (TNTP) to initiate statewide support for High Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM) as we look to strengthen quality instruction in Kansas."

TNTP published "A Broken Pipeline" in 2020, which included these findings:

Teacher preparation programs are significantly whiter on average than the public

SEE DEI ON PAGE 11

## Just in time

**Ralph Rockers finds another vocation in grandfather clocks after career in cabinetry**

BY DANE HICKS THE ANDERSON COUNTY REVIEW

GARNETT - One of Garnett's premier craftsmen has segued his custom cabinet making operation into the production of family heirloom grandfather clocks that will mark time for area families for generations to come.

Woodworker Ralph Rockers partnered with Kendall Eichman and his High Time Clock Shop at Westphalia at first as a one-off project to make use of some clock works Eichman had been storing for some 40 years. Sometime in 2014 or 2015 he paid Rockers a visit.

"He approached me about it and I turned him down the first time because I'd never done one," Rockers said. "He came back a couple days later and I said okay I'll try to build one, but if I'm going to do it I'm going to build a big one. And so we did, and it just took right off."

The result became a new prod-

uct line for both men - a synergy of Rockers' renown woodworking skills and Eichman's penchant for intricate mechanics in clock building and repair. In culmination, they form a functional centerpiece of stately beauty that will transform the legacies of the families and the homes they serve and adorn. They're unique in the genre of family heirlooms and can appreciate in value if properly maintained.

Rockers, who grew up on a farm next door to his present home/shop combination northwest of Garnett, said he never would have imagined himself a clockmaker. Back then, he assumed pigs and farming would be his future. But the 1980s intervened.

"Things got tight in the 80s - interest was super high," Rockers said. He knew a girl who worked at Bethers Cabinet Shop recently moved to Richmond - the business a refugee from the devastating downtown fire that claimed 10 businesses in downtown Garnett in early January 1978. Rockers got hired with a high school wood shop class under his belt and a desire to do something other than farm. By August 1980 he'd accumu-

lated some tools of his own and decided to strike out as an independent. "They said you'll never make it - you'll be back," Rockers said. "And I look at it now - I've done so many cabinets."

His cabinetry in high demand, Rockers also branched out into just about anything that can be made of wood - other interior woodwork for homes and commercial buildings; lots of drinks have been served and conversations held over bars he's built for local restaurant/drinkeries. He crafted a detailed miniature replica of the family's barn he worked in growing up and has made additional doll-house size barn replicas. And jewelry boxes - he thinks he's made over 300 of them - one of them given as a gift to Louise Mandrell at a concert appearance in Ottawa in 1980.

Rockers said the intricacy of some of his work is detailed not from any real

SEE CLOCKS ON PAGE 11

## Local church extends goodies, Christ's story to kids through "Operation Christmas Child"

GARNETT - Garnett's Dunkard Brethren Church has partnered with Operation Christmas Child, a project of international relief organization Samaritan's Purse led by Franklin Graham, to lend a helping hand to children in need all over the world.

Project leader Karen Edgecomb said the local site is a drop off location for Operation Christmas Child, collecting shoe boxes of Christmas items for children in need as part of the worldwide Christian outreach program.

"This year we collected 216 boxes from the Garnett area," Edgecomb said. "Since 1990, 220 million shoe boxes have been delivered to more

than 170 countries." Along with the shoe boxes, each child also receives "The Greatest Gift" story booklet.

"Many of the children receiving these shoe boxes have never heard the gospel of Jesus Christ before," Edgecomb said.

These shoe boxes can be filled with toys, school supplies, hygiene items, personal care items, and personalized notes from the donors. Collection week for the shoe boxes is the third week of November each year, which is also the week before Thanksgiving.

"The mission of OCC is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children around the world,"

Edgecomb said. "Through this project, Samaritan's Purse partners with the local church worldwide to share the good news of Jesus Christ and make disciples of all nations."

"Together we are working to see a great multitude which no one could number of all nations, tribes, peoples and tongues, standing before the throne, and before the Lamb," (Revelations 7:9-10)

Edgecomb said the church hopes

SEE CHURCH ON PAGE 8

Kids in the Dunkard Brethren Church join in prayer during work session filling gift shoe boxes for children across the globe.



THE ANDERSON COUNTY REVIEW 11-28-2024 / SUBMITTED

# NEWS IN BRIEF

## REVIEW OFFICE CLOSED

Our offices will be closed Thursday, Nov. 28 and Friday, Nov 29 for Thanksgiving.

## SENIOR CENTER THANKSGIVING DINNER

You're invited to a community Thanksgiving dinner hosted by the Garnett Senior Center on November 28th at 12 p.m. Turkey, mashed potatoes, dressing, gravy and beverages provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert. Everyone is welcome.

## AMERICAN LEGION BINGO

Bingo at American Legion Post 48 Garnett will be held every Tuesday, starting time at 6:30 p.m.

## HOLIDAY PARADE

The Garnett Chamber of Commerce's 54th annual Christmas parade and lighting ceremony will be on November 30th at 6:30 p.m. at the downtown square.

## BPW HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

On December 1st the Garnett BPW is holding the Holiday Boutique at the Senior Center from Noon to 4:00pm. Start your Christmas shopping at the many booths from Pampered Chef, Tastefully Simple, Christian Crafters, Major Popcorn, Homemade Jams, Jellies by Kris, Painted bricks, jewelry by Rosalee, Guest Homes Estates and more.

## CORNHOLE TOURNAMENTS

Everything Thursday their will be a cornhole tournament at the Garnett VFW, 1507 S. Elm St. It is a family friendly event open to everyone. Registration begins at 6 p.m., tournament begins at 6:30 p.m. Entry fee is \$15.

## UNPLANNED PREGNANCY

Advice & Aid Pregnancy Center in Overland Park helps women and their families make an educated decision about an unplanned pregnancy by providing evidence-based, medical information about parenting, adoption and abortion. Call (913) 962-0200 or visit www.adviceandaid.com.

## ANDERSON COUNTY COMMISSION NOVEMBER 18, 2024

Chairman Leslie McGhee called the meeting of the Anderson County Commission to order at 9:00 AM on November 18, 2024 at the Anderson County Commission Room. Attendance: Leslie McGhee, Present: David Pracht, Present: Anthony Mersman, Present. The pledge of allegiance was recited. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as presented.

### Rural Fire

Mark Locke, Emergency Management Director met with the commission. He discussed the radios that would need to be purchased to make the panic alarm system work with the 800 radios. The Commissioners requested a meeting with Wes McClain and Mark Locke at the next meeting to discuss the logistics of the alarm system communications.

### General Election Canvass

Julie Wettstein, County Clerk, met with the commission. A canvass of the 2024 General Election was conducted to certify the official election results.

### Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM due to no further business

## CREST UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 479

### November 11th, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Education of Crest Unified School District #479 was held at the Crest Board Office, Colony, on Monday, November 11th, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board President Travis Church.

### Roll Call

Board Members Present – Nathan Beckmon, Seth Black, Travis Church, Jamie Henderson, Kevin Nilges, and Laura Schmidt. Board Members Absent - Lance Ramsey  
Others Present – Superintendent Shane Walter and Board Clerk Lynette Prasko.

### Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Nathan Beckmon and seconded by Mrs. Jamie Henderson to approve the agenda as presented. Vote: 6-0

### Approval of Consent Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Nathan Beckmon and seconded by Mr. Kevin Nilges to approve the consent agenda including the minutes of the October 13th regular board meeting, bills in the amount of \$486,590.14, Enrollment Report and Budget Expenditure Report. Vote: 6-0

### Information Items

ANW Special Education Minutes – The minutes of the October 9th, 2024 ANW Special Education Cooperative meeting were reviewed.

Superintendent/Principal Report – Mr. Walter reported that the Music Christmas Concert will be November 25th and the staff will be attending Greenbush Resource Fair as part of researching middle school curriculum. He also stated that students had just completed the interim assessments and that the main drive and parking will soon be altered for the new construction.

### Items of Business

Track Renovations, Michael Dixon – Mr. Walter invited Michael Dixon

with Track Renovations, Inc. to join the meeting remotely (by Zoom) to discuss details and estimates for the track improvements including the elevation concerns.  
Wellness Policy – Mr. Walter reviewed the Local Wellness board policy JGCA and ideas discussed at the wellness committee meeting that was just held. Ideas included fresh fruit and veggies for snacks, hydroponics farm produce for district cafeteria and community. In addition, there will be First Aid, AED and CPR training for all high school students on November 15th.

CTE Perkins Consortium – Mr. Walter discussed joining the new CTE/Perkins Consortium forming that may include Humboldt, Marmaton Valley, Altoona-Midway and Yates Center. It would be beneficial for CTE equipment funding and the Greenbush CTE/Perkins Consortium that we are currently a part of will no longer exist.

Open Enrollment – Mr. Walter discussed the current policy and any future changes for non-resident (out of district) open enrollment with the board, including capacity to be set in May.

KESA – Mr. Walter reviewed the teacher's meeting with two other schools and December 2nd site council meeting.

Cardiac Emergency Response Plan – Mr. Walter presented the new Cardiac Emergency Response Planning board policy EBBG recommended by KASB to the board. He also discussed AED's and Life Vacs provided on school premises.

Board Policy Review – Mrs. Prasko reviewed the changes from new legislation in the Workers Compensation GAOE board policy with the board. It was moved by Mr. Nathan Beckmon and seconded by Mr. Seth Black to approve the updated Workers Compensation GAOE board policy as presented. Vote: 6-0

District Insurance – Mr. Walter discussed the roof damage insurance claim and renewal dates for property insurance.

Facility Improvements – Mr. Walter presented to the board security improvements that are being considered for the school facilities.

It was moved by Mr. Kevin Nilges and seconded by Mrs. Laura Schmidt to approve the quote from

C. Allen For Your Doors for side-door armor plates not to exceed the amount of \$12,174.00 Vote: 6-0

### Personnel – Executive Session

It was moved by Mr. Travis Church and seconded by Mr. Kevin Nilges to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing district staffing. The reason for the session was the non-elected personnel exemption under KOMA. The meeting was to resume in the board room at 8:50 p.m. Mr. Walter was invited to attend. Vote: 6-0

The open meeting reconvened in

the board room at 8:50 p.m. and it was moved by Mr. Kevin Nilges and seconded by Mrs. Laura Schmidt to hire Marla Bain as Middle School Assistant Girls Basketball Coach. Vote: 6-0

### Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Nathan Beckmon and seconded by Mr. Seth Black to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m. Vote: 6-0

## ANDERSON COUNTY LAND TRANSFERS

Brecken Hess, Brecken McDaniel F/K/A and Benjamin Hess to Benjamin D Hess and Brecken Hess: W2 w2 sw4 se4 16-21-18.

Janon Gordon to Allen A Yoder and Marie Ann Yoder: The ne/4 of the se/4 of 16-21-19.

Trinity Lutheran Church (U.A.C) of Garnett, Kansas, Inc to Bunkard Brethren Church Inc.: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 block 1 in Bailey's Orchard Park Addition, (revised 1978) to the City of Garnett.

Jennifer Epting-Williams to Randy E Dilley: All lots 16 & 17 & west 18' lot 18 in blk 18 in Chapman's Addition to City of Garnett, along with e2 vacated alley between lots 15 & 16 in said blk 18 of Chapman's Addition to City of Garnett.

Stephen R Yutzy to Jabez Investments LLC: A tract of land in s2 30-21-18, described as follows: beg at secor 30-21-18, thence north 2520 feet to south r/w line of missouri pacific railroad; thence in a generally southwesterly direction along south r/w line of said railroad 5744 feet to pt of intersection with west section line of said section 30; thence south 550 feet to swcor said section 30; thence east 1 mile to pob.

## ANDERSON COUNTY TRAFFIC CASES FILED

Mani Surya Sava has been charged with speeding 94 mph in a 65 mph zone.

Richard Le Hiestand has been charged with speeding 75 mph in a 65 mph zone.

Yang Gong has been charged with speeding 67 mph in a 55 mph zone.

Shaquan Miik Arnold has been charged with speeding 76 mph in a 65 mph zone and driving while license cancelled/suspended/revoked.

Stephanie Kay Liebig has been charged with speeding 91 mph in a 65 mph zone.

Matthew Darin Lutz has been charged with speeding 65 mph in a 55 mph zone.

Shane Anthony Lamb has been charged with speeding 75 mph in a 65 mph zone.

Abeni Danielle Michels has been charged with speeding 75 mph in a 65 mph zone and for not having vehicle liability insurance.

## ANDERSON COUNTY CRIMINAL CASES FILED

James Neal Gochenour Jr has been charged with interference with a law enforcement officer; falsely report

information intending to obstruct. Stephen James Woods has been charged with possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. Tessa Jean Thomas has been charged with violation of a protection order.

Dylan Mathew Adamson has been charged with possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. Tyler Nathan Tush has been charged with aggravated battery and reckless driving.

## ANDERSON COUNTY ACCIDENT REPORTS FILED

On July 27, ANDERSON COUNTY ARRESTS FILED

On November ANDERSON COUNTY JAIL ROSTER (as of November 13, 2024)

Joseph Wilper was booked into jail on October 20, 2023.

Chester Casida was booked into jail on April 5, 2024.

Kevin Labelle was booked into jail on April 25, 2024.

Joshua Caddell was booked into jail on May 12, 2024.

Shawn Harris was booked into jail on May 23, 2024.

Jason Boothe was booked into jail on June 26, 2024.

Chad Kammerer was booked into jail on May 12, 2024.

Dawon Paine was booked into jail on July 12, 2024.

Stuart Wieland was booked into jail on July 21, 2024.

William Vandenberg was booked into jail on July 25, 2024.

James Chambers was booked into jail on August 15, 2024.

Stephen Putthoff was booked into jail on August 30, 2024.

Hollis Grewing was booked into jail on October 6, 2024.

Porfirio De La Cruz-Cantu was booked into jail on October 10, 2024.

Carlos Marquez-Mejia was booked into jail on October 14, 2024.

Jennifer McSwane was booked into jail on October 21, 2024.

Joshua Lohff was booked into jail on October 22, 2024.

Erika Bond was booked into jail on October 31, 2024.

Jennifer McBrearty was booked into jail on November 8, 2024.

## ANDERSON COUNTY JAIL FARM-INS (as of November 13, 2024)

Christomer Hassell was booked into jail on September 12, 2024.

Doyle Stryker was booked into jail on September 14, 2024.

Delwin Watkins was booked into jail on September 14, 2024.

Jesse King was booked into jail on September 30, 2024.

Eric Green was booked into jail on October 29, 2024.

Curtis Lucas was booked into jail on October 29, 2024.

Eli Collis was booked into jail on October 29, 2024.

Charity Blackburn was booked into jail on October 30, 2024.

Joseph Steinke was booked into jail on November 9, 2024.

David McGinn was booked into jail on November 9, 2024.

Allen Bailey was booked into jail on November 9, 2024.

Julio Casanovavega was booked into jail on November 9, 2024.

Edward Hunter was booked into jail on November 9, 2024.

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**JOHNSON**

FEBRUARY 4, 1943 - OCTOBER 19, 2024

James (Jim) Keller Johnson passed away on October 19th, 2024, in Overland Park, Kansas, at the age of 81.



Johnson

Jim was born and raised in Williston, Ohio, married Norma Frobose in 1966, and graduated from the University of Toledo in 1968. After graduation, he began a life-long career in hospital administration starting at Parkview Hospital in Toledo, Ohio, and followed by positions in Sandusky, Ohio; Colorado Springs, Colorado; Denver, Colorado; Kansas City, Missouri; and Horton, Kansas. In 1988, Jim was named Chief Executive Officer at Anderson County Hospital in Garnett, Kansas, and was integral in bringing the hospital into the St. Luke's Health System. He became Chief Executive Officer of Hedrick Medical Center in Chillicothe, Missouri, in 1998. Jim and Norma returned to Garnett in 2008 after his retirement. His devotion to healthcare culminated in successfully

campaigning for a 2013 bond issue which built a new hospital in Garnett.

He was active throughout his life with service to many organizations and to the communities in which he lived including: Anderson County Commissioner, President of Livingston County Community Foundation, Director of Fundraising for Chillicothe Habitat for Humanity, Rotary Clubs of Chillicothe and Garnett, and board member for the Grand River Area YMCA, the Garnett Public Library and the Anderson County Hospital Foundation.

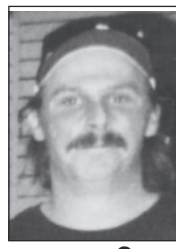
Jim is survived by his three children: Jeff Johnson of Loveland, Colorado, Keller Johnson of Overland Park, Kansas, and Jennifer Thomas of Overland Park, Kansas; Grandchildren Annabel Thomas, Evalee Johnson, Miles Thomas, and Finley Johnson. He was preceded in death by his wife, Norma Jane Johnson.

Services will be held at The First Christian Church in Garnett, Kansas, on Saturday, December 14th, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. A reception immediately following the service will take place at The Kirk House from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**CAREY**

JUNE 15, 1972 - NOVEMBER 23, 2024

Richard Anthony Carey, 52, passed away on Saturday, November 23, 2024 in Overland Park, Kansas.



Carey

He was born June 15, 1972 in Garnett, Kansas the son of Arthur Richard and Belva Carey. Richard enjoyed listening to 80s music, motorcycles and working on cars, especially derby cars. Sometimes you might even catch him fishing. Richard's favorite drink by choice by ice tea, he always had a big mug wherever he was.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents, grandparents, brother Richard Lee Carey and sister Tammy Bunce.

Richard is survived by his son Nikita Carey, sisters Jennifer Garwood and husband Clayton of Walker, MO., Mary Asburn and Joe Peterson of Carbondale, Kansas, Joyce Thompson, Garnett, Angela Owens, brother Don Carey and wife Terri of Garnett, numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and many other extended family and friends.

Richard was an organ donor. Cremation has taken place and a small celebration of life will take place at a later date.

**Colony Christian Church - 'Being Thankful for a place at the table'**

Pastor Chase Riebel spoke from Psalm 23 on "Being Thankful for a Place at the Table." As it says in Revelation 19:9, Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb. People have many excuses for not taking part in the banquet the Lord provides but there is not a good excuse.

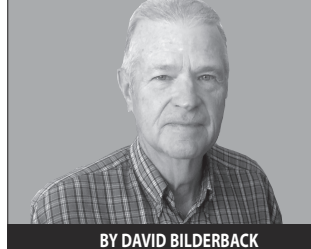
Larry Wittmer gave communion meditation. He spoke of how Jesus was unmatched in history. Jesus was unique in

substance, prophecy, mission, birth, ability, existence, position and reign. The prophecies were accurate, His position was equal with God, and His reign is forever.

Elka Billings led worship singing "Yes I Will," "Evidence," "Build My Life" and "How Many Kings." Mike and Isla Billings were on guitar, Petra Billings was on percussion joined by Ben Prasko on keyboard.

**A confident expectation!**

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL



BY DAVID BILDERBACK

We hope for many things, good health, success, safety for ourselves and our families and a long life. As our life begins to wind down our hopes don't always line up with reality. If we were to define hope we would say it is a feeling of expectation and a desire for a certain thing to happen. The trouble with this kind of hope is we cannot have any confidence in our expectation becoming reality.

When the Bible speaks of hope it's talking about a confident expectation in who God is, what he has done and what he has promised to do in the future. In John 14 Jesus gives us every reason to have a confident expectation concerning his ultimate return and in our eternal life when he says. "In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go to prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." You see hope in the Biblical context has a completely different meaning than hope that comes from our personal wants and desires. For us to hope for things is

quite natural and leads us to accomplish important things for ourselves and others but it will also never completely satisfy us, nor did God create us to be able to exist without his influence in our life.

When someone loses hope they also lose their perspective. When this happens many times they begin searching for God. As broken and flawed human beings we often seek God only as a sanctuary when everything else fails. The Christian hope is in him. (Jesus) and him alone. By his birth, life, death, burial, resurrection and ascension Christ secured for us what is often referred to as the blessed hope. A confident expectation.

*Ministry on the Holiness of God. Author of the book, "On the Other Side of the Door" Like David Bilderback on Facebook*

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brianna@fccgarnett.org

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# Here's how Trump can kick "woke" out of the U.S. military

## NATIONAL COMMENTARY



SPENCER LINQUIST – THE DAILY WIRE

From "anti-racism" trainings to bans on "misgendering," the Biden administration made the American people all too familiar with the increasing "wokeness" of the United States government.

Now, President-elect Donald Trump has pledged to undo the Biden-Harris administration's diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) push. His allies and opponents alike anticipate Trump will quickly shutter DEI offices. But thoroughly purging woke people and policies from the government will take more than a few executive orders. Trump has his work cut out for him.

Fortunately, he's building a team that will help him achieve this goal. If confirmed, Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL), Pete Hegseth, and former Rep. Tulsi Gabbard will be instrumental to Trump's DEI purge as Secretaries of State and Defense and Director of National Intelligence, respectively.

The Trump team will have no shortage of targets on their quest. So, we here at The Daily Wire dug through our past reporting on government wokeness and thought we could offer some suggestions as to where they could start.

### End Pride Month Celebrations

Every June agencies throughout the federal government use taxpayer dollars to celebrate Pride Month — and they spare no expense.

This year, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI), which Gabbard is slated to helm, hosted a series of events, including a talk on "trans rights" from a "transgender non-binary first generation Filipinx-American activist" and a nail painting session, where intelligence agents could get the transgender flag painted on their nails during work hours. Agents were also invited to take a crochet class, to learn how to make pride flags.

The Air Force, meanwhile, hosted a keynote speech from Brian Bond, the head of a far-left non-profit organization called PFLAG that opposes legislation protecting minors from irreversible medical sex change attempts that threaten to render them infertile. PFLAG also compiled a "transgender reading list for children," including one about a child who began identifying as transgender at two years old.

The Pentagon also hosted Lieutenant Colonel Bree Fram, an engineer with the United States Space Force and activist for pro-transgender policies in the military, as a speaker at an annual Pride Month celebration.

"Remember that we mark Pride not begin-

ning with a celebration, but with a riot," he went on to say in the speech. "I'm not asking you to pick up your bricks, but I am asking you to pick up your ideas about how we can be a more inclusive service."

### Abolish 'Affinity Groups'

The most ostentatious displays of fealty to the woke agenda aren't always the handiwork of formal DEI offices, however. Some bureaucrats have taken it upon themselves to push their agencies farther to the Left, coalescing in identity-based employee organizations that seek to promote DEI and change agency policies. Affinity groups, sometimes referred to as "employee resource groups," are organizations divided by racial or sexual identity that are often used as activist nodes within agencies to advance left-wing agendas.

Biden gave his stamp of approval to the employee organizations in his June 2021 executive order pushing DEI, and many have since gone on to enlist rank-and-file bureaucrats in the DEI crusade, leveraging civil servants as woke activists.

In the ODNI, for example, one leaked document obtained by The Daily Wire revealed that one of the agency's employee resource groups was able to modify the language guidelines used when intelligence agents discussed one of our foreign adversaries.

"IC employee resource groups advocating for Asian and Pacific Islander heritage have been particularly successful in creating a new framework and language guidelines for how we talk about the People's Republic of China," the leaked document, a newsletter called "The Dive," explained.

That same edition of The Dive also highlighted ways in which discussions about Islamic



umbrella of the DEI office, the State Department has two prominent roles that exist for blatantly ideological reasons.

Desiree Cormier Smith, spotlighted by The Daily Wire, serves as the State Department's first Special Representative for Racial Equity and Justice in a new role that was created under the Biden-Harris administration. Cormier, whose role could be eliminated under the Trump administration, previously worked for Democrat megadonor and billionaire George Soros.

terrorism could be changed in order to avoid "problematic phrases." The newsletter goes on to include an article from an anonymous agent who claims that cross-dressing while at work makes him a better intelligence agent.

The ODNI's aforementioned pride celebrations, complete with nail painting and pride-flag crocheting, were organized in part by the office's Pride Employee Resource Group.

Similar organizations are also common in the State Department, which boasts chapters like Blacks in Government, LGBTQIA+ Pride in Foreign Affairs Agencies, and the Hispanic and Latin Employee Council of Foreign Affairs Agencies, among several others.

### Eliminate The State Department's Race And LGBT-Based Special Envoys

In addition to shutting down DEI offices and firing the personnel that staff them, there are other roles, most notably in the State Department, which the new administration could scrap as it works to banish the far-left agenda from the halls of government.

While not officially existing under the

Smith is tasked with creating "global partnerships to combat systemic racism, discrimination, and xenophobia" and has repeatedly endorsed the core tenets of Critical Race Theory. "Structural racism, discrimination, and xenophobia are global scourges that require global solutions," Smith said in one interview, also adding that "violent white supremacy" is a "global threat." Smith's role could be left vacant or axed under Trump altogether.

Smith is not the only left-wing activist who now occupies an influential role at the State Department. Jessica Stern, the Special Envoy to Advance the Human Rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex Persons, travels the globe pushing pro-transgender ideology.

Stern has marched alongside transgender Brazilians and celebrated at the sight of children at LGBT pride events. The State Department official's priorities under the Biden-Harris administration have included establishing "legal gender recognition based on the principle of self-determination" and addressing the "vulnerability of LGBTIQ asylum seekers and refugees."

SEE LINQUIST ON PAGE 6

# The checkered past of the man who killed Ashli Babbitt

## NATIONAL COMMENTARY



JOSHEPH HANNEMAN – THE BLAZE

The U.S. Capitol Police officer who shot and killed Ashli Babbitt on January 6 once fired his service weapon at fleeing vehicles near his home while his neighbor was in the line of fire, a congressional oversight committee reported.

Michael L. Byrd was promoted from lieutenant to captain in 2023 despite a "significant" history of referrals to the Capitol Police Office of Professional Responsibility, said U.S. Rep. Barry Loudermilk (R-Ga.), chairman of the Committee on House Administration Subcommittee on Oversight.

The records of three disciplinary cases against Byrd are missing, according to Loudermilk.

"This is disappointing, as the inability to locate these documents hinders the subcommittee from fulfilling its responsibility to conduct comprehensive oversight over the USCP," Loudermilk wrote in a Nov. 20 letter to Capitol Police Chief J. Thomas Manger.

Disclosure of the Loudermilk letter was first reported by John Solomon at Just the News.

Loudermilk also cited "favorable treatment" given to Byrd, including a \$36,000 retention bonus, more than \$21,000 in security upgrades at his personal residence, and instructions that Byrd not sit for a fitness-for-duty evaluation after Jan. 6, 2021.

"The Subcommittee is aware that the USCP recently promoted Michael Byrd from lieutenant to captain," Loudermilk wrote. "I have concerns about this decision given Byrd's lengthy disciplinary history and the apparent political influence of internal operational decisions related to

Byrd following January 6, 2021."

As a captain, Byrd is paid \$189,787 per year, a Capitol Police source told Blaze News. He is assigned to the Library of Congress.

Byrd shot Babbitt at 2:44 p.m. as she climbed into a broken-out window panel leading to the Speaker's Lobby. He was cleared by the U.S. Department of Justice and Capitol Police, even though he never sat for an interview with the Metropolitan Police Department detectives investigating the shooting. He told NBC's Lester Holt in 2021 that he feared for his life, although he could not see if Babbitt had anything in her hands or even if she was male or female.

### Shooting incident

In an April 2004 shooting incident, then-Sergeant Byrd armed himself with his service pistol after hearing loud banging noises near his

Maryland home, Loudermilk said.

Byrd told Prince George's County Police that one of two vans parked near his neighbor's home accelerated in an attempt to hit him, so he fired a shot at the vehicle. Byrd said the second van also attempted to hit him and he fired a shot into the driver's-side windshield, the Loudermilk letter said.

After police located and searched the vans, they found no bullet hole in either windshield. There was a single bullet lodged in the rear quarter panel near the gas cap of one vehicle.

"Police determined that the bullet entered the van 'from a rear angle,' indicating the van was shot at from behind," Loudermilk's letter said.

Byrd's neighbor told police "he was in the line of fire when Byrd discharged his service weapon."

The Capitol Police OPR investigation found Byrd violated the USCP weapons and use-of-force policies by firing his gun in a "careless and imprudent manner." It found there was "insufficient evidence" that Byrd violated the department's truth policy in his statements to county police.

Retired USCP Inspector Yancey Garner wrote a letter to Capitol Police Chief Terrance Gainer "concurring with OPR's findings," Loudermilk said.

Byrd appealed the decision to the Disciplinary Review Board, which overturned the OPR findings and ruled that the complaint was "not

SEE HANNEMAN ON PAGE 5

# "Trans" activists' attempts to bully America bring mass Democrat defeats

## NATIONAL COMMENTARY



RICH LOWRY, King Features Syndicate

"How dare you say that" isn't a persuasive political argument.

Yet the side that has believed it can bully its way to victory on cultural issues by policing the debate in its favor continues to act as if it is one, even after getting soundly beaten in the election.

The Left's game has been to insist that everyone adopt its tendentious vocabulary, to call opponents bigots and to use moral blackmail -- and the threat of punishment -- to keep any left-of-center doubters in line.

This model, which has been quite successful over the years, has a flaw, though. If a given cause is exotic and unpopular enough, and if it becomes subject to a political debate where the broader public can weigh in, the attempt to define common sense as a thought crime is doomed to fail.

This is what happened on trans issues in the election. Donald Trump's "she's for they/them" attack ad was the most effective and consequential political spot of this century.

How is the Left taking it? By clinging to the old rules.

In an exchange on CNN that's gotten attention, the Republican strategist Shermichael Singleton said a lot of families don't think that boys should play girls' sports, eliciting an outraged reaction from progressive panelist Jay Michaelson.

Interrupting, Michaelson said heatedly that he wasn't going to listen to such "transphobia" and maintained with great vehemence that it is "a slur" to describe "trans girls" as "boys."

Notably, the anchor Abby Phillip --the moderator on what is supposed to be a straight-down-the-line news network -- intervened, not to say

that Singleton was free to use whatever term he thinks is most appropriate, but to rebuke him and ask him "to try to talk about this in a way that is respectful."

The Left's attitude on this issue is not, "You may disagree, but I believe trans girls are indeed girls," but rather, "They are girls and you have absolutely no moral right to say or think otherwise."

It adds a spirit of hectoring intolerance to the underlying absurdity of the position on the merits -- making it all even more off-putting.

The problem is that progressives consider whatever new boutique obsession they've come up with at any given moment to be the great moral issue of our time, indeed always to be the moral equivalent of the fight for civil rights.

So, someone who doesn't want to see boys competing in girls' sports, and simply rejects the fashionable terminology, is viewed as a modern-day Bull Connor.

This means no compromise is acceptable, even on the most pragmatic political grounds.

The longtime chairman of the Texas Democratic Party, Gilberto Hinojosa, just got defenestrated, at least in part for daring to say the obvious on the trans issues.

"You can support transgender rights up and down all the categories where the issue comes up, or you can understand that there's certain things that we just go too far on, that a big bulk of our population does not support," he said in an election postmortem.

He'd have been better off saying that the party should in the future call for the official end of the gender binary, by violence if necessary.

After getting slammed by his own side, Hinojosa groveled: "I extend my sincerest apologies to those I hurt with my comments today." And now he's gone anyway.

A top aide to Democratic representative Seth Moulton resigned after the congressman had the temerity to say that he doesn't want his daughters "getting run over on a playing field by a male or formerly male athlete, but as a Democrat, I'm supposed to be afraid to say that."

Well, he's supposed to be afraid for a reason. He, too, was fiercely denounced by left-wing groups.

The Left's moralistic browbeating may succeed in reinforcing the trans-orthodoxy among its own. As we learned on Nov. 5, though, the rest of the country won't play by these poisonously stupid and illiberal rules.

--Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

## The Anderson County Review's

# PHONE FORUM

Record your comments on the topic of your choice at (785) 448-2500. You do not need to leave your name. Comments may be published anonymously. Calls may be edited for publication or omitted.

Kamala Harris is the first billion dollar candidate, and her campaign still managed to end with \$20 million in debt. Did our economy dodge a bullet or what?

They're eating the dogs; they're eating the cats, and the voters who live there in Clark County, Ohio, where Trump was so solidly mocked and falsely fact checked by the Left over those debate comments, went for the bad, orange mean tweeter by 29 points in the November election -- 6 points more than his margin there in the 2020 election. What's that tell you?

The extra large American flag flying in front of Patriots Bank on Maple Street is a beautiful sight. Thank you Patriots Bank. God Bless America.

### Contact your elected leadership:

#### 3rd Dist. Congressman

**Sharice Davids**  
1541 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C., 20515  
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#### 12 Dist. Sen. Caryn Tyson

300 SW 10th St. Rm 236-E  
Topeka, Ks. 66612 (785) 296-6838  
P.O. Box 191 Parker, Ks. 66072  
(913) 898-2366  
caryn.tyson@senate.ks.gov



#### 9th Dist. Rep

**Fred Gardner**  
State Capitol Room 512-N  
Topeka, KS 66612  
Office: (785) 296-7451  
fred.gardner@house.ks.gov



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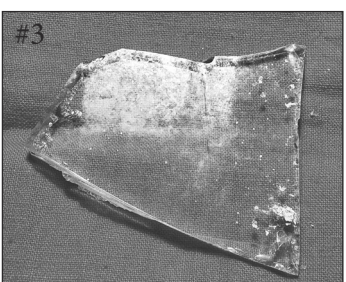
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# More Capper site finds

My third trip to the Arthur Capper site. It had showered during the night so it did make it a tad easier to find and dig artifacts. After today I should only have one more grassy area to metal detect. Here are the photos of today's finds.

- #1 - Most farmers should recognize this brass rivet and burr.
- #2 - Brass overall button.
- #3 - This is the only window glass shard that I found. I found it while digging for a metal target.
- #4 - Is this a military ID?

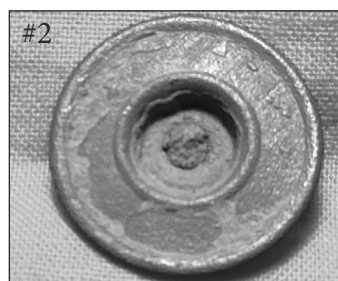


## DIGGING UP THE PAST



**JAMES REDFEARN. USA**  
#5 - Is this a military ID number. R. 471061

Respectively submitted by: Henry Roeckers. 18Nov2024



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# HANNEMAN...

FROM PAGE 4

sustained," Loudermilk's letter said.

### High-school football altercation

In 2015, Byrd was referred to OPR after he got into an altercation with a Montgomery County Police Department officer at a high school football game in Maryland.

The police officer was providing security to keep spectators in the stands from accessing the track and football field. Byrd "became argumentative with the officer and began yelling profanities at the officer, calling him a 'piece of sh\*\*, a\*\*hole, and racist,'" the letter said. Byrd accused the officer of "targeting the 'black side' of the field and then jumped the fence" to confront him.

A charge of conduct unbecoming an officer against Byrd was sustained by OPR, and he was suspended for seven days without pay, the letter said.

In 2019, Byrd was referred to OPR after leaving his loaded service weapon in a bathroom at the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center.

"Then-Lieutenant Byrd's weapon was left unattended in a public restroom for approximately 55 minutes before it was discovered by another officer," Loudermilk wrote. Byrd was suspended without pay for 33 days.

Loudermilk said Byrd has received favorable treatment compared to other officers since the Jan. 6 shooting.

He was awarded an unrestricted \$36,000 retention bonus in August 2021. At around the same time, other officers — including those injured on Jan. 6 — were given \$3,000 retention bonuses. In June 2022, officers were offered an \$8,000 retention bonus. The letter said it was not clear whether Byrd also received the two other bonuses.

Capitol Police also planned to use their Memorial Fund for fallen officers to pay Byrd's expenses, including overtime pay he lost by being off work following Jan. 6, the report said. The plan was to submit Byrd's proposal ahead of any other Memorial Fund payments, including those for 90 officers injured on Jan. 6. The department helped Byrd establish a GoFundMe account in November 2021 that eventually raised more than \$164,000. As a result of the success of the GoFundMe, Capitol Police decided against using the Memorial Fund to pay Byrd, the report said.

Former U.S. Rep. Adam Kinzinger (R-Ill.) made a \$200 donation to Byrd's GoFundMe

on Nov. 18, 2021. At the time, Kinzinger was a member of the now-defunct Jan. 6 Select Committee appointed by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.). Kinzinger wrote on Twitter, "A worthy cause, as this man has faced quite an onslaught of misinformation and extreme threats."

Capitol Police paid for more than \$21,000 in security upgrades at Byrd's home, the report said. The department also paid for Byrd to be housed at an on-base hotel at Joiry County Police Department officer at a high school football game in Maryland.

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Capitol Police paid for more than \$21,000 in security upgrades at Byrd's home, the report said. The department also paid for Byrd to be housed at an on-base hotel at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland. Any time he left the secure base, Byrd had a USCP dignitary-protection detail.

"On at least one occasion in September 2021, Byrd's DPD escorted him to a cigar lounge where he stayed out until 1:30 a.m., necessitating 'extended DPD coverage,'" the report said.

Judicial Watch sued the U.S. Air Force for records related to Byrd's stay at Joint Base Andrews. Costs for his accommodations at the Presidential Inn totaled more than \$35,000 from July 8, 2021, through Jan. 28, 2022, according to records obtained in 2023 by Judicial Watch.

Capitol Police instructed Byrd not to sit for a fitness-for-duty evaluation following Jan. 6, "concerned that Byrd may fail" and if he did, "he would not be permitted to carry his service weapon," the letter said.

In September 2021, Byrd attempted to purchase a shotgun but failed the mandatory background check required by federal law, the report said. The department "took steps to provide him with a USCP-issued shotgun and intended to 'lend' him a shotgun even if his background check 'did not come through,'" the report said.

Byrd failed his shotgun proficiency and ultimately was not provided a USCP-issued shotgun, Loudermilk wrote.

### Telework no-show

Capitol Police entered into a "telework" agreement with Byrd in July 2021, allowing him to work remotely five days a week, "but he did not return to work," Loudermilk said. He was not disciplined for refusing to work. The department extended his paid administrative leave

from Jan. 6 to cover days in July and August 2021 when he refused to work, the letter said.

"USCP then encouraged officers to donate their annual leave to Byrd in an internal bulletin," Loudermilk said. "Byrd did not return to work until December 2021, months after he signed the telework agreement and nearly a year after January 6, yet he was never referred to OPR or disciplined."

Loudermilk said based on the information his subcommittee unearthed during its investigation, "I have concerns about USCP's decision to promote him to the rank of captain."

The letter instructed Chief Manger to provide responses to a two-page list of requests from the subcommittee by Dec. 4.

Blaze News reached out to Chief Manger for comment but has not received a reply. Blaze News also contacted attorney Mark Schamel, who represented Byrd after Jan. 6, but has not received a reply.

The accounts of weapons negligence in Loudermilk's letter are similar to accusations against Byrd in a \$30 million wrongful-death lawsuit filed in 2024 by Judicial Watch Inc. on behalf of Aaron Babbitt and his late wife's estate.

The lawsuit stated that when Byrd shot Ashli Babbitt, "he breached multiple applicable standards of care" on the safe use of a firearm, the perception and assessment of "imminent threats," use-of-force levels, escalation and de-escalation of force, use of warnings, firing backdrops, and obtaining "timely, appropriate medical aid," the suit states.

Byrd violated Capitol Police Directive 1020.004, which states that "firearms may be withdrawn from their holsters only when officers are preparing for expected, prudent and lawful discharge" in order to protect themselves or others "from imminent death or serious physical injury," the suit said.

"Lt. Byrd breached this standard of care by entering the demonstration at Level 5, the highest level of force, unholstering his firearm, and pointing it at Ashli and others through the windows of the east lobby doors," the suit said.

"Lt. Byrd's firearm was also aimed in the direction of four officers from the USCP's elite and well-armed Containment and Emergency Response Team (CERT), who had just reached the hallway," the suit said.

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# PUBLIC NOTICE

## Notice of Sheriff's Sale

(First published in The Anderson County Review, Thursday, November 14, 2024.)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF ANDERSON COUNTY, KANSAS

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK AS TRUSTEE FOR REGISTERED HOLDERS OF CWABS, INC., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2004-12 PLAINTIFF

vs. BRAD MCGREGOR, et al. DEFENDANTS

Case No. AN-2024-CV-000029 Div. No. K.S.A. 60 TITLE TO REAL ESTATE INVOLVED

a.m., of said day the following described real estate located in the County of Anderson, State of Kansas, to wit:

ALL THAT CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE IN THE CITY OF WELDA, COUNTY OF ANDERSON AND STATE OF KANSAS, BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS FOLLOWS: THE NORTH HALF OF LOTS 4, 5 AND 6, IN BLOCK 3.

Commonly known as 18879 Southwest Iola Street, Welda, Kansas 66091

This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Vernon Valentine SHERIFF OF ANDERSON COUNTY, KANSAS

LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP Attorneys for Plaintiff 6811 Shawnee Mission Parkway - Suite 309 Overland Park, KS 66202 (913) 831-3000 Fax No. (913) 831-3320 Our File No. 24-014155

nv1413\*

### NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Under and by virtue of an Order of Sale issued by the Clerk of the District Court in and for the said County of Anderson, in a certain cause in said Court Numbered AN-2024-CV-000029, wherein the parties above named were respectively plaintiff and defendant, and to me, the undersigned Sheriff of said County, directed, I will offer for sale at public auction and sell to the highest bidder for cash in hand at the west door of the courthouse in the City of Garnett in said County, on December 12, 2024, at 10:00

## Notice of filing application

(Published in The Anderson County Review, Thursday, November 28, 2024.)

Before the Kansas Corporation Commission NOTICE OF FILING APPLICATION

RE: King Oil Inc. - Application for a permit to authorize the injection of saltwater for the enhanced recovery of oil on the following leases in Anderson County, Kansas.

TO: All Oil & Gas Producers, Unleased Mineral Interest Owners, Landowners, and all persons whomsoever concerned.

You, and each of you, are hereby notified that King Oil Inc. has filed an application to commence the injection of saltwater into the Squirrel formation for the enhanced recovery of oil for the following lease. Gadelman KW-1 NW SW, Kw-2 NW SW, KW-3 NW SW, KW-4 NW SW of Sec 8 Twp 21S R 21 E with the

maximum injection rate of 25 bbls per day and maximum injection pressure of 700 psi.

Any persons who object to or protest these applications shall be required to file their objections or protest with the Conservation Division of the Kansas Corporation Commission within thirty (30) days from the date of this publication. Protest shall be filed pursuant to the Commission regulations and must state reasons why granting the applications may cause waste, violate correlative rights or pollute the natural resources of the State of Kansas.

All persons interested or concerned shall take notice of the foregoing and shall govern themselves accordingly.

King Oil Inc. 27224 NE Utah Rd Garnett, KS 66032 785-448-7529

nv281t

## Notice for operating only

(Published in The Anderson County Review, Thursday, November 28, 2024.)

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR OPERATING ONLY (5311)

Anderson County Council on Aging and General Public Transportation is submitting an application for Operating Assistance for Transportation under the U.S.C. 49-5311 (Rural

Public Transportation) of the Federal Transit Act. The application will be for operating funds to help provide transportation services in the area. Written comments and questions in regard to this application are encouraged and will be accepted until December 6, 2024 and should be sent to: Julie Wettstein, Program Director, 100 E 4th Ave, Garnett, KS 66032.

nv281t

## DBE notification for CTD advertisement

(Published in The Anderson County Review, Thursday, November 28, 2024.)

DBE NOTIFICATION FOR CTD ADVERTISEMENT

Anderson County Council on Aging and General Public Transportation receives Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Operating dollars. This funding is utilized for the purchase

of fuel, insurance, equipment, maintenance and storage. This agency is seeking Kansas Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Certified companies as potential vendors for these services. Please contact Julie Wettstein, Program Director for Anderson County Council on Aging and General Public Transportation. 785-448-6841.

nv281t

## Notice of Ordinance assessing court costs in the City of Kincaid

(Published in The Anderson County Review, Thursday, November 28, 2024.)

and parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the publication in the official city newspaper of the City of Kincaid, Kansas.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of November, 2024.

THE CITY OF KINCAID /s/Cristin Fuller Mayor, City of Kincaid

ATTEST: /s/Marla Bain, City Clerk

nv281t

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF KINCAID, KANSAS: SECTION 1. There will be assessed to every person found guilty or in violation of the ordinances of Kincaid, Kansas, costs for the administration of justice in the municipal court of Kincaid, Kansas in the amount of \$100.00.

SECTION 2. All ordinances

## LINDQUIST...

FROM PAGE 4

Both of these roles could be axed entirely or, at the very least, left vacant. And Smith and Stern are well aware. The special envoy admitted as much in one interview, where she said, "We can't say for sure that we'll exist in two years," adding, "Our eye is always on the clock."

### Review Grant-Making To Ensure The DEI Agenda Isn't Outsourced

Even if DEI offices are shuttered and the personnel that staffs them are sent pink slips, there's still another way bureaucrats can push their far-left agendas in federal agencies, albeit somewhat indirectly.

A sprawling network of non-profits and think tanks are more than happy to promulgate DEI dogma, especially when they're rewarded with federal dollars. Under the Biden administration, the DEI agenda hasn't just been pursued by federal agencies themselves, but by a litany of external organizations that have been contracted by the federal government to advance the cause.

Accordingly, the full scope of the left-wing agenda may not be immediately apparent unless a review of grant-making is conducted.

The DOD, for example, has enlisted various outside organizations to assist it in advancing the DEI agenda. A Daily Wire investigation found that the Air Force paid an undisclosed sum of money to the Rand Corporation to commission a report outlining how the Pentagon could fight resistance to DEI. In their report, the Rand Corporation encouraged the Air Force to "develop techniques and tools to mitigate resistance" to DEI, warning that "across organizations, a resistance to DE&I is growing, while discriminatory and xenophobic expressions are increasing."

"Some researchers describe the presence of 'denial perspectives' and 'diversity defiance,' or 'White fatigue,'" the report said, also urging the Defense Department to "exercise caution to guard against" opposition to DEI.

A thorough review of DOD grantmaking could ensure that the Pentagon hasn't simply outsourced its DEI activities to outside organizations like academic institutions or non-profits.

The State Department has similarly used taxpayer dollars to push a far-left agenda. One Daily Wire investigation found that the State Department was planning to spend roughly \$50,000 to push pro-transgender policies in Indian corporations in Chennai and Hyderabad. The

department awarded another \$30,000 to an organization in Kyrgyzstan to promote transgender sensitivity training.

### Investigate And Abolish Any Identity-Based Employment And Recruitment Programs

Conservatives slammed critical race theorist Ibram X. Kendi when he infamously stated that "the only remedy to racist discrimination is anti-racist discrimination." While some blasted Kendi for his endorsement of race-based discrimination, others took his advice.

Over the last four years, federal agencies have sought to "diversify" the bureaucracy and the armed forces, with some programs openly attempting to recruit certain demographics while disadvantaging others.

One Daily Wire investigation revealed that the Pentagon used taxpayer dollars to implement race-based job candidate selection practices in the name of DEI. The Department of Defense awarded a \$760,000 grant to the University of Missouri — Kansas City to create an "equity-focused" career pipeline program that gave preferential treatment to women and non-white students in STEM.

"To meet our equity-focused programmatic goals, campus internship selection will be equitable such that qualified

applicants from underserved and underrepresented cohorts ... will be provided first choice," the DOD explained, outlining its race and gender-based career program.

The Pentagon later had to revise its program at the University of Missouri — Kansas City after the Supreme Court ruled against affirmative action in 2023.

Other efforts to diversify the DOD were far more blatant, however. Internal Air Force documents revealed that the military branch set specific demographic recruiting goals, with one presentation slide explaining that the "white male population will decline as other demographics increase" if the goals are met.

Much of the military's push to diversify its ranks has been justified by a flawed McKinsey study, which erroneously claimed that there was a positive correlation between private sector profits and the racial and ethnic diversity of its executive team.

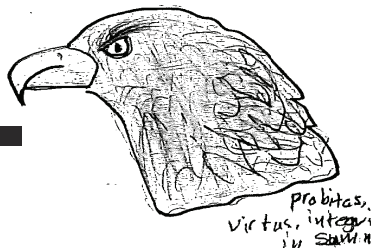
The study has since been debunked, though not before it was used in multiple reports from the United States Navy advocating for DEI policies.

Spencer Lindquist is a Field Reporter with The Daily Wire, a conservative media company based in Nashville. Support conservative media by subscribing at www.dailywire.com.

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## A Boy From El Paso

Kyle Shilling 4th grade Westphalia Elementary Mrs. Madden

There once was a boy from El Paso He was just learning to lasso His rope got all tangled His nose got all mangled

He said "I should just sell Jello". When people started buying Jello One man was a very big fellow He stopped to take a look A sample he took And then said he would take yellow.

## Going Fast

Dillon Feuerborn 4th grade St. Rose School Mrs. Foltz

Vroom! Vroom! The sound of engines roaring and the smell of rubber sliding filled the whole track and big lights were on every corner. My dad, brother, and I and a few others were going on it too. We turned on our go-karts. Then the green flag was down. We took off and smoke flew everywhere.

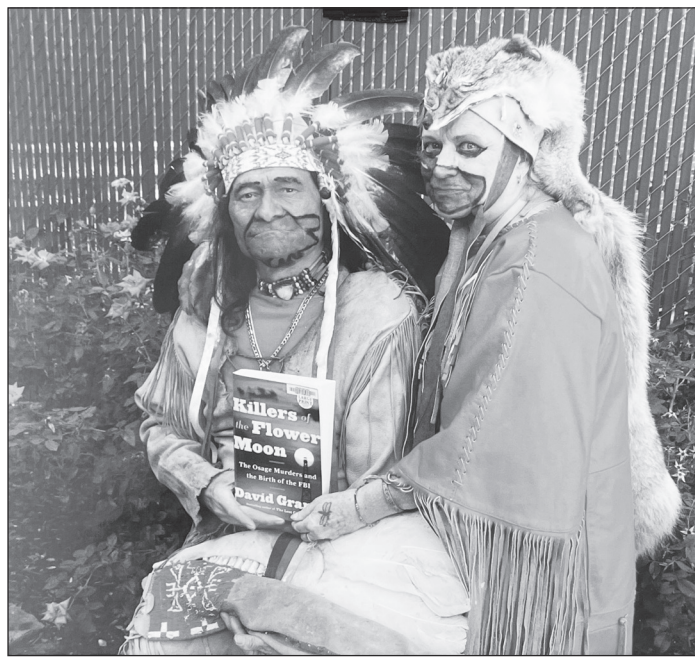
ready." I was on the top of the spiral track. It was a humungous hill going down. At the bottom of the hill there was a huge turn then a straight path ahead. I was in 2nd place and I could see the finish line. My dad's kart started sputtering and I was catching up. I stomped on the gas to try my hardest to beat my dad. I passed him in the last three feet of the track. I sped over the line getting first place, my dad cruised in at second place, and my brother rolled in at third. "Good game buddy!" exclaimed my brother. It will always be a day to remember.

Advertise. Call (785) 448-3121 or email review@garnett-ks.com

## CALENDAR

**Thursday, November 28, 2024**  
 Thanksgiving Day  
**Friday, November 29, 2024**  
 8:45 a.m. - AM Yoga  
**Saturday, November 30, 2024**  
 4:00 p.m. - Garnett Fire Department Chili/Soup Supper  
 6:30 p.m. - 53rd Annual GACC Christmas Parade  
**Sunday, December 1, 2024**  
 1:00 p.m. - Holiday Boutique hosted by the Garnett BPW  
 1:00 p.m. - Holiday Homes Tour  
**Monday, December 2, 2024**  
 8:45 a.m. - AM Yoga  
 9:00 a.m. - Anderson County Commission Meeting  
 9:00 a.m. - Friendship Quilters Mtg  
 4:00 p.m. - Greeley PTO  
 5:30 p.m. - TOPS Meeting  
 6:00 p.m. - Celebrate Recovery  
 6:00 p.m. - Garnett Lions Club Mtg  
 6:00 p.m. - Hot Yoga with Jenelle  
 7:30 p.m. - Kincaid Masonic Lions Lodge No. 338 Meeting  
**Tuesday, December 3, 2024**  
 10:00 a.m. - Storytime For Preschoolers  
 12:00 p.m. - Rotary International Club Meeting  
 5:30 p.m. - Garnett Community Foundation Board  
 5:30 p.m. - PM Yoga  
 6:30 p.m. - American Legion Bingo  
 7:00 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous  
 7:00 p.m. - Garnett Senior Center Board Meeting  
**Wednesday, December 4, 2024**  
 8:45 a.m. - AM Yoga  
 1:00 p.m. - Duplicate Bridge  
 3:30 p.m. - Tinkering & Tech hosted by the Garnett Public Library  
 5:30 p.m. - Bulldog Booster Club Mtg  
 5:30 p.m. - Garnett Elementary Site Council  
 5:30 p.m. - Zumba Class  
 6:30 p.m. - Shotokan Karate Training  
 6:30 p.m. - Parks & Recreation

## “A Page From My Book” currently on exhibit at the Garnett Public Library



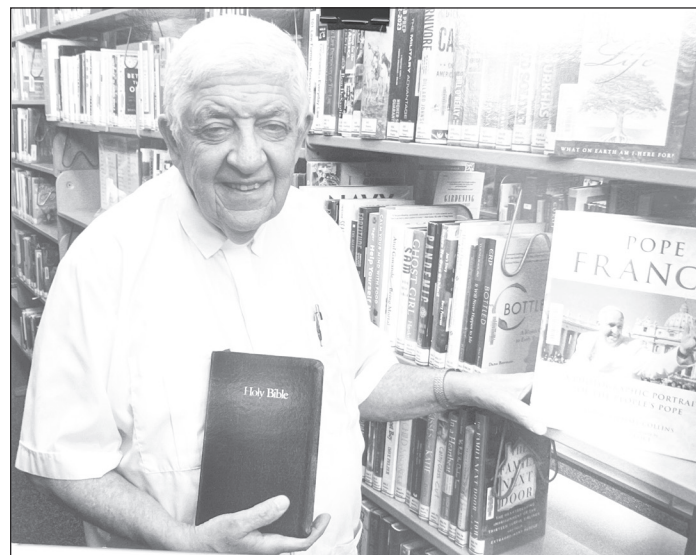
Chief Leroy Standing Cloud & Donna Jean Diaz with the book Killers of Flower Moon.

In a joint effort between the East Central Kansas Area Agency on Aging and the Garnett Public Library a photo exhibit is now on display at the library through December. The exhibit features 24 photos of Anderson County residents with a book that fostered their love of reading, impacted their life in ways unexpected or created a connection to other people, places or professions. Each photo contains a brief bio of the reader and a narrative that explains the book and how it shaped them as a child or adult.

Fred Kautt of Centerville helped make the project possible

by serving as the photographer. Kautt, a Linn County native and avid reader, worked as a photographer for Hallmark for over 35 years before his retirement. He met with each person to capture their photo within the library to help tell the tale of their book. Deb Henningsen, ECKAAA Administrative Project Assistant, interviewed the project participants and compiled the bios and narratives and from there the staff of the Garnett Public Library took over to put the final exhibit together.

A reception was held on November 3, 2024, for the project participants and



Father Jerry Williams holding the Holy Bible and also alongside a Pope Francis book.

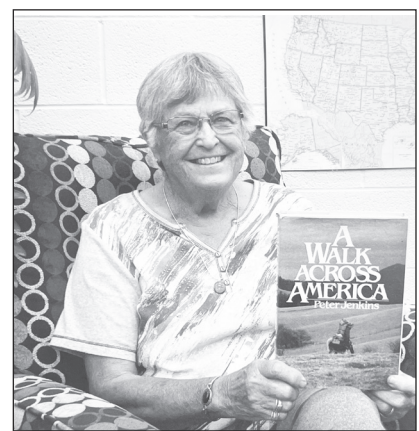
their guests to tour the exhibit before it opened to the public. A list of each book and author was provided to all guests and is also available for those who tour the exhibit. The photos will be gifted to the participants at the end of the exhibit.

I have lived a thousand lives and I've loved a thousand loves. I've walked on distant worlds and seen the end of time. Because I read. -George R.R. Martin

Ask any of the 29 participants of the project, A Page From My Book, if George R.R. Martin was onto something and you would most likely

hear a resounding, Yes!

The display is open for viewing from 10-5:30 Monday-Friday and 10-2 on Saturday thru the end on this year.



Mary Ann Umbarger holding the book A Walk Across America.

## Keller elected to head local Republican committee

GARNETT - Anderson County Republican Precinct Committee members elected 29 year-old Wesley Keller of Garnett to head the local party at the local party's bi-annual reorganization meeting held Nov. 14.

Keller is employed by Carpenter & Sons in Garnett and is a homeschool graduate, earning his GED in 2018. He's been extensively involved in conservative politics both locally and in the 3rd Congressional District. He previously served as a county precinct committee-man from Garnett's Precinct I and continues to hold that post. Keller replaces long-time county GOP chairman Dane Hicks, who will continue to serve as precinct committeeman from Monroe Township.

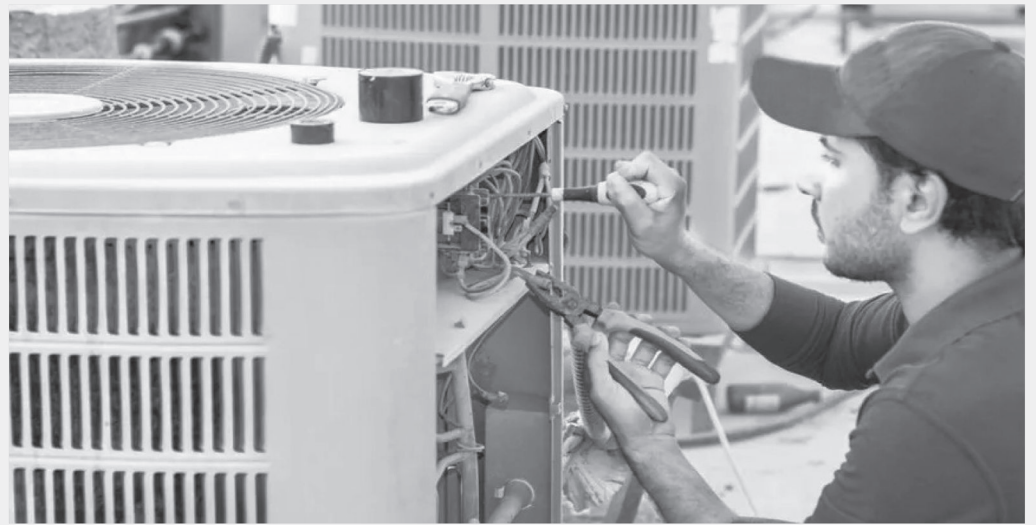
Keller noted the Republican wins in the recent election.

"I'm grateful to the many patriots I've met and worked with, and we hope to increase local voter turnout and public participation so the people may have their voice heard at every level of government.

Cathy Hoke of Garnett was re-elected as vice-chair and Jeremy DuPont of Scipio was re-elected as secretary/treasurer. Speed Elsasser of Garnett and Rochelle Smart of Colony were elected as alternate delegates from Anderson County to the Republican 3rd District Committee meeting.

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# A feast of thanks

Glenn Brunkow, Pottawatomie County farmer and rancher

We are on the eve of Thanksgiving and one of the most iconic meals of the year. Who does not crave the turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, rolls, cranberries, pumpkin pie, etc. I know my plan is to fall asleep in front of the TV in a turkey induced food coma.

The American Farm Bureau Federation has come out with its annual comparison of the cost of a traditional dinner for 10 and the price has fallen for the second year in a row. The cost is \$58.08, or \$5.80 per person. This is a reduction of 5 percent from 2023 and down from \$64.05 in 2022.

I do not know if anyone else finds this interesting — maybe it is just my ag econ degree talking — but I like comparing one year to the next. I saw one commentator who disputed whether Thanksgiving dinner could be purchased at that price, but I really think that is

irrelevant. The fact is one of the things we must be thankful for is living in a country where we have an affordable, abundant food supply.

I also like to think that Thanksgiving is a time when we should celebrate agriculture and all that we, as an industry, do to make the United States the greatest nation in the world. The foundation of any stable nation is a stable food supply. It is really hard to accomplish great things on an empty stomach.

I know we all take the food choices we have for granted. This past week I went to the grocery store to buy our Thanksgiving turkey, and I was met with a wide selection of brands and weights of turkeys. Driving down the street I saw restaurant signs offering to prepare the bird. The possibilities presented on the aisles of our grocery stores are endless. Consider the fact that you do not even have to go to the

grocery store to buy food and you start to get the idea.

Most of us do not have to worry about where our next meal is coming from, we just must figure out what we want to eat. That is where those of us in agriculture come in. Without the incredible network of farmers and ranchers this safe, abundant food supply is not possible.

We are so good at what we do that most of our consumers take it for granted, and maybe that is why I find the annual comparison from the American Farm Bureau so fascinating. Most of us will go to the grocery store, pick up the necessary items and never give a thought to the cost or how they got on the shelves. We are good at what we do, but we are not good at tooting our own horn.

Without our incredible production it is not possible to serve a feast to 10 people for less than \$60, and that is some-

thing the rest of the world is in awe of. So, this Thanksgiving, stop and take a minute to be proud of being part of what feeds the United States, we are really good at what we do. That is something to be thankful for.

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

## CARS...

FROM PAGE 1

the exception of motor vehicles, alcohol, cigarettes and other personal consumption items, exempting the amount of manufacturers' coupons from taxable transactions, as well as taxes on the sale of equipment and software used providing communications services.

## CHURCH...

FROM PAGE 1

to build on the program for next year.

"We're looking forward to having more people to join us in packing shoe boxes next year," Edgcomb said. "You

can pack individually or get a larger group together and have a 'packing party' event.

For more information contact Edgcomb at jkedgcomb@gmail.com.

## APOLOGY...

FROM PAGE 1

"I'd love to get back into your good graces," Stiles said. "I'd love to come in with a fresh perspective."

Commissioners conveyed that they would entertain a bid

from the company when the time came to contract the service again but stopped short of making any commitment with the company.

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THE REVIEW'S 26TH ANNUAL

# THE GREAT Christmas GIVEAWAY

### RULES

1. Collect your receipts and coupons dated Nov. 14-Dec. 17 from any of these participating merchants, and bring your receipts and coupons to Garnett Publishing each week. Receipts must be turned in by 5 p.m. Dec. 17.
2. For every \$10 spent at these partic-

ipating merchants, receive one ticket (excludes bank deposits). Maximum 250 tickets per receipt. Take your receipts and coupons to Garnett Publishing to receive your tickets.

3. In addition to sales receipts, Garnett Publishing will issue one ticket per week, per household, no purchase necessary. Simply stop by 112 W. 6th Avenue in Garnett to get your weekly

ticket. Garnett Publishing, Inc. is also a participating merchant and will issue tickets for every \$10 of your purchases.

4. Grand prize winning ticket number published in the December 19 edition of The Anderson County Review. Grand prize must be claimed by 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 23.

5. Weekly winning ticket numbers will be hidden within The Great Christmas Giveaway ad section during the Nov. 21, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, and Dec. 12 issues of the Review. Weekly winning ticket numbers must be claimed by 5 p.m. the following Tuesday.

6. All prize monies are issued in certificates redeemable only at The Great Christmas Giveaway participating

merchants.

7. Any unclaimed prizes as of 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17, will be awarded to the Grand Prize winner.

8. Must be 14 or over to play. Business owners, employees and their families are eligible to play, but may not submit receipts from their affiliated business.

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# The December library 2024 display case highlights collector model trains

With the holiday season upon us, the Garnett Public Library filled its display case with some more historical model trains from the Mike Canavan and Skip Landis collections. Mike's collection specializes in "N" gauge while Skip's collection is vintage "O" gauge.

The "O" gauge sets, from Skip Landis, give a glance back to late 30's and late 60's with a series of Lionel steam driven trains. This month's display offers 1930's-50's Pennsylvania GG-1 electric passenger train. We have vintage K-Line steam switcher with coal cars and a late 40's Lionel freight train that might have been under someone's Christmas tree. Also displayed are some of the

collector train action accessories from the late 50's and 60's. This year's "N" gauge display, from Mike Canavan, features a Kansas City Southern engine with cars representing various Midwestern rail lines including an Atchison Topeka Santa Fe caboose and a Leigh Valley engine with various cars representing Eastern rail lines. Also being displayed are pieces of railroad working equipment.

Stop by, and once more, take a look at the display case, and perhaps visions of your childhood, or the love of those steam engines set under the Christmas tree could bring you back in time. Happy New Year and may the spirit of model rail roading be with you and yours.

# It's Fall, and leaves are everywhere

More information: Cynthia Domenghini, Cdom@ksu.edu

MANHATTAN, Kan. — Cold temperatures came on quickly in Kansas, and leaves have fallen from most trees.

While keeping up with leaves every fall is a challenge, Kansas State University horticulture expert Cynthia Domenghini says the amount of leaf cover on the ground has an impact on the underlying plants.

"Photosynthesis will be restricted in a lawn covered with a dense layer of leaves, preventing it from storing enough energy to survive winter," Domenghini said.

Leaves can be added to a compost heap, but Domenghini recommends shredding them first. This can be done by mowing over them on the lawn and collecting them in the mower bag or they can be added directly into the planters.

"Incorporate 2-3 inches of

shredded leaves to the soil," Domenghini said. "Shredded leaves can be used as mulch around trees, shrubs and perennials as well."

Leaf mulch on lawns can help prevent weeds from germinating between grass plants. Leaf mulch has not been shown to negatively affect turf quality, color or soil pH as long as it is shredded, she said.

Shredded leaves can be left on the lawn if they are not too dense, Domenghini adds. As the lawn is mowed, the leaf pieces will fall in between the blades of grass and eventually break down into the soil.

"It may require multiple passes with the lawn mower to get the leaf size small enough. It is also necessary to mow frequently to keep up with the leaf drop," Domenghini said.

If incorporating leaves into a cool-season lawn, Domenghini said it makes sense to be on a fall nitrogen fertilization program and have done core aer-

ation this fall. You can mow leaves into a warm-season lawn but wait until late May or early June to fertilize and core-aerate, she said.

Domenghini and her colleagues in K-State's Department of Horticulture and Natural Resources produce a weekly Horticulture Newsletter with tips for maintaining home landscapes and gardens.

Interested persons can subscribe to the newsletter, as well as send their garden and yard-related questions to hort-support@ksu.edu, or contact your local K-State Research and Extension office.

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## Week 1 winner...



## Loretta Coltrane

Loretta Coltrane of Garnett won \$50 for matching the single weekly winner published last week. Is your number published somewhere on these pages today?

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### HAPPY ADS

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**Happiness is...** Winning \$\$\$\$ in the Great Christmas GIVEAWAY! See today's paper for details. nv21t4

**Happiness is...**Buying your ticket to attend the annual Friends of the Library Holiday Homes Tour. Sunday, December 1st, 1pm-4pm. Tickets on sale at the library. \$8 advance, \$10 day of tour. nv21t2



*We would like to thank everyone who attended or sent cards, etc., for our 50th Anniversary celebration. It's wonderful to live in such a great community.*

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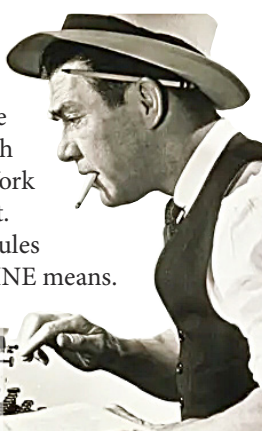


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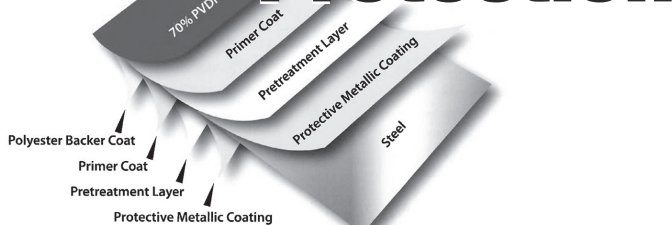
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THE ANDERSON COUNTY REVIEW 11-28-2024 / SUBMITTED

The ACHS Drama and Music departments hosted their annual musical with performances on November 15 and 16 in the ACHS auditorium. The classic board game 'Clue' came to life. Pictured are crew members in the front row. From left: Lucas Mills, Owen Hawkins, Emily Sobba, Emma Baumann, Emma Self, Nora Thompson, Raelynn Morrison, Jack Nienstedt, Addy Kueser and Landon Schillig. Back row, from left: Crew member Jordan Miller followed by the cast members Brodie Wiesner

(Professor Plum), Khloe McCarty (Mrs. Peacock), Jack Dykes (Colonel Mustard), Danika Metcalfe (The Detective), Owen Thompson (Mr. Boddy), MaKenna Goetz (Miss Scarlet), Zach Schaffer (Mr. Green) and Kris Holloway (Mrs. White) and crew member Katie Garrett. Not pictured: Carter Hermann and Grant Nienstedt. The play was directed by Vicki Markham, Natasha Goetz and Aly Young (student director).

DEI...

FROM PAGE 1

school population. Teacher prep diversity gaps exist in almost every state.

A significant percentage of programs serving a significant number of future teachers are more than 90 percent white.

Alternative certification programs are significantly more diverse than traditional programs.

The Sentinel asked TNTF for research justifying its recommendation to hire teachers with preference for the color of their skin rather than their effectiveness will improve student outcomes, but they did not respond.

**KASB tells local board members that liberty is the opposite of equality**

Further evidence that the Kansas public school system is pushing the principles of CRT via Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) programs was on display last week at the Kansas Association of School Boards (KASB) annual conference. This is the description for a session entitled "Decoding DEIB."

This presentation aims to decode the complex concepts of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB), providing participants with a comprehensive understanding of each element and how they connect. Through interactive discussions and real-world examples,

participants will gain insights into the importance of DEIB in creating equitable and inclusive environments. Practical strategies for integrating DEIB principles into organizational culture and practices will be shared, empowering participants to champion diversity, promote equity, foster inclusion and cultivate a sense of belonging for all individuals and communities.

DEI promoters claim it will improve student outcomes by making students feel more welcome, but there is no evidence to support such a claim. In fact, student outcomes for Black and Hispanic students have declined in Kansas.

Proficiency levels in Math and ELA are mostly below 20%, and the percentage of students below grade level is alarmingly high. For example, 42% of Black students were below grade level in Math in 2015; it was 50% in 2019, and now 57% are below grade level.

The DEIB presenter shared slides showing that Liberty, characterized by Freedom, Choice, Opportunity, and Individuality, is the oppo-

site of Equality, described as Fairness, Justice, Tolerance, and a Level Playing Field.

The presenter and KASB apparently oppose magnet programs, online learning, open enrollment, homeschooling, all forms of school choice, and even local control.

Local school board members were also instructed that Prosperity is the opposite of Community. KASB apparently believes that work training programs, performance pay, school/business partnerships, and, of course, testing and measurement are bad things.

KASB also declined to respond to The Sentinel's questions about the presentation.

Dave Trabert, CEO of The Sentinel's parent company, Kansas Policy Institute, says these examples continually demonstrate that school administrators and state officials are not honestly dedicated to resolving the state's student achievement crisis.

"KSDE, the State Board of Education, and others may want to see better outcomes, but they seem unwilling to change their behaviors for

that to happen. State School Board members know from two audits that school districts are not using over \$500 million in At Risk funding to provide "above and beyond" services for students at risk of failing as required in state law but have refused to take action for several years. A state law requiring the State Board to have an accreditation system based on improving achievement levels is also ignored.

"Hopefully, the newly-elected board members will begin holding school districts accountable. Until then, nothing will change."

CLOCKS...

FROM PAGE 1

artistic ability—"I was never really somebody who could draw" – but from visualizing what would work with each individual project. His graphed cabinet plan drawings look like they were drawn by an engineer, but he claims no real expertise not offered up by a measuring tape and a few math equations.

After more than four

decades turning wood into function and beauty, Rockers said he's ready to start backing off his schedule. He'll make a few clocks and do a few more projects, he said, but eventually there's going to come a time to turn off the saw.

"I love this and I love that people like my work, but I'm figuring out I can't keep doing this forever."

MISSION:

Make Christmas a little brighter.



Please help out by dropping off a new, unwrapped toy at Garnett Publishing, Inc., 112 W. 6th, Garnett, by the end of the day December 9, 2024.

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**Wed:** Chicken pot pie with biscuit, mashed potatoes with chicken gravy.

**Thurs:** Fried Chicken Dinner w/roll, mashed potatoes & gravy.

**Fri:** Amish Wedding Feast, chicken stuffing, green beans, maxhd potatoes and chickn gravy

**Sat:** Chicken Fried Steak Dinner w/ homemade mashed potatoes & gravy, dinner roll



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THE ANDERSON COUNTY REVIEW 11-28-2024 / SUBMITTED

Members of the Friends of the Prairie Spirit Rail Trail decorated Harris Park for the holidays on November 13. Those assisting were: Denise & Richard Weber, Ruth Theis, John Malone, Glenna & Kent Murray, Richard & Diane Doran, David Theis, Brenda Weiss, Joyce Malone, Helen Norman, Donna Flamez, Ed & Dee Harris, Mike Norman.

PSRT met 11/13 - Decorated Harris Park

Sixteen Prairie Spirit Rail Trail Members met November 13, 2024 for a 1:00p.m. meeting at the depot.

Richard Weber reported from a Professor at KU that his students would be interested in working on a project of adopting a section of the trail for control of invasive species next year.

Planting of flowers around the depot will be done in the spring.

Bob Salazar and Donna Snavelly are finished with their work on the south end of the depot Prairie Spirit Rail.

Trail members will be sponsoring the Golf Cart Rides on

the trail June 4, 2025 or an alternate date of June 11, 2025.

No January PSRT meeting.

The trail Christmas Party will be December 9, 2024 at the Chamber Players Theater. It will be a pot luck supper and beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Chocolate Night will be at the February 2025 meeting.

Ruth Theis will be appointing a nominating committee for next year's officers.

Glenna Murray was thanked for decorating at the depot for Christmas. After the meeting all members went to the Harris Park and decorated it for the Christmas Season.

Advertisement for I-Stop restaurant featuring a menu with items like Tacos, Enchiladas, and Pan-fried Chicken, along with a 'Homemade PAN-FRIED CHICKEN' promotion.

MAKE MONEY. USE THE CLASSIFIEDS!!

Advertisement for Kansas Informer with the text 'It's ONLINE...It's RIGHT...It's FREE!' and the website www.kaninfo.com.

Advertisement for Memory Lane Christmas Tree Farm celebrating 26 years, featuring Christmas tree farms and light displays.

Advertisement titled 'Who knows?' promoting a subscription service for local news.

Large advertisement for 'Support Local Small Family-Owned Businesses' and 'Celebrate Small Business Saturday' on Nov. 30, 2024, featuring a 'Shop Small' logo and images of women shopping.

These area sponsors invite you to think Small Business first:

- A grid of 20 small business advertisements including Adamson Bros. Heating & Cooling, Bauman Carpet & Furniture, D&M Mini Barns, Patriots Bank, Terry Solander, Atty. at Law, and many others.