



Dear Neighbor,

Please urge your friends, neighbors and relatives not to engage in sometimes deadly celebratory gunfire this New Year's Eve.

Indiscriminate and celebratory gunfire in KCMO are city ordinance violations that can result in a fine or jail time, and if someone is struck and killed by this extremely dangerous and irresponsible behavior it can result in the perpetrator being charged with involuntary manslaughter, a state felony, and sentenced to prison if convicted.

I have lived in other metropolitan areas like Atlanta and Dallas that have high rates of gun ownership, and have never heard the amount of celebratory gunfire I hear in our city which sometimes sounds like we're living in a war zone, especially on New Year's Eve.

To deter this dangerous practice, on December 1st I introduced House Bill 109 to make discharging a firearm within or into city limits with criminal negligence (with

certain clearly defined exceptions) a state offence.

This measure which will be considered during the 2023 Session of the Missouri General Assembly is named Blair's Law to commemorate the life of 11-year-old Blair Shanahan Lane who was mortally wounded here by celebratory gunfire while playing outside on July 4, 2011. One of the men involved in the incident pled guilty to involuntary manslaughter and served a prison term.

The Missouri House in 2021 and 2022 passed the language in earlier versions of Blair's Law that I introduced, but the Missouri Senate failed to act on the legislation both years prior to adjournment.

I have promised Blair's mom who has testified on behalf of this legislation and has devoted countless hours of her time warning people of the dangers of celebratory and indiscriminate gunfire that I will not rest until this life-saving legislation is signed into law!

On another matter, KCMO residents should remember that this is trash amnesty week that according to the city website www.kcmo.gov allows them to sit out up to 12 bags of trash without tags curbside by 7 a.m. Tuesday-Thursday, Dec. 27-29, and up to 14 bags Friday & Saturday, Dec. 30 & 31, to make up for the lack of trash collection due to the weather last Thursday & Friday. This week's trash collection is delayed one day due to the December 26 Christmas holiday.

Bags cannot contain hazardous waste, leaves & brush or

other yard waste and must weigh less than 40 pounds. Bulky items also will not be accepted.

Trash collection will be delayed one day next week too due to the January 2 New Year's holiday.

If anyone would like to contact me about legislation they would like me to support or oppose, please email me at Mark.Sharp@house.mo.gov.

Here are my current committee appointments (some of these could change with the new session):

**Crime Prevention
Elementary & Secondary Education
General Laws
Joint Committee on Legislative Research
Special Committee on Urban Issues
Special Committee on Public Policy: Ranking Minority
Member**

Email is probably the best way to reach my office. If you are unable to quickly reach me, you can contact my legislative aide Rachael Cunningham at Rachael.Cunningham@house.mo.gov.

Please scroll down to read about other state government matters and important upcoming local events.

Feel free to forward this newsletter to your friends and family who might want to know the latest news about what is happening in state government and about important local events. Be safe and God bless.

Yours in Service,
Mark A. Sharp



WEEKLY CAPITOL UPDATE

Monday, Dec. 26, 2022

PARSON TO APPOINT STATE TREASURER

Gov. Mike Parson on Dec. 20 announced his intention to appoint Vivek Malek of Wildwood as Missouri's next state treasurer when the post becomes vacant next month. Malek, 45, is a native of India and will become the first person of color to hold statewide office in Missouri.

Malek will replace State Treasurer Scott Fitzpatrick, a fellow Republican who will step down Jan. 9 to be sworn in as state auditor after winning election to that post in November. Parson appointed Fitzpatrick as treasurer in January 2019 to fill a vacancy, and Fitzpatrick won election to a full four-year term in 2020.

Malek has operated his own legal practice since 2011 specializing in immigration litigation and consulting. He has never previously held elected office, but is currently on the Southeast Missouri State University Board of Regents, a post Parson appointed him to in 2020.

During a news conference announcing his appointment, Malek said he intends to seek election to a full term in 2024.

Malek could be sworn-in as treasurer immediately after Fitzpatrick resigns. However, he might wait a few days to preserve his ability to serve longer in the post. The treasurer, along with the governor, are the only two of Missouri's six statewide executive branch elected offices that are subject to a limit of two full four-year terms. Although a partial term of two years or less doesn't count toward term limits under the Missouri Constitution, a longer partial term does.

Since Fitzpatrick's term as treasurer doesn't end until Jan. 13, 2025. If Malek takes office on Jan. 9, 2023, then his partial term would last two years and four days and count as a full term, allowing him to only serve one full term, or six years total. But if he waits until after Jan. 13 to officially replace Fitzpatrick, Malek could serve two full terms, or 10 years total.

Fitzpatrick delayed taking office by several days to preserve his option to serve up to 10 years when Parson appointed him as treasurer in 2019. However, Fitzpatrick's decision to move to the auditor's office will limit his tenure as treasurer to just four years, spread over two partial terms.

Malek's appointment marks the fifth time Parson has appointed someone to fill a vacancy in one of Missouri's elected statewide offices. Weeks after becoming governor in June 2018 following the resignation of his predecessor, Parson, who had been lieutenant governor, appointed his own replacement and subsequently has filled both the offices of attorney general and state treasurer twice.

\$11.83 BILLION IN RELIEF FUNDS RECEIVED

Missouri had received roughly \$11.83 billion in federal pandemic relief funds from April 2020 through November 2022 and has spent \$8.82 billion of that amount, according to a report issued Dec. 21 by State Auditor Nicole Galloway whose office has tracked expenditures of the unprecedented amounts of federal funding the state has received in recent years.

The report says a significant portion of the state's expenditures to date are for Medicaid and other programs receiving federal matching funds. Under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, the federal government increased its share of Medicaid program costs.

The American Rescue Plan also provided Missouri a temporary increase in the federal matching rate for states that expanded Medicaid. As of Nov. 30, the federal government has provided \$2.07 billion in additional funding for Missouri's Medicaid program, according to the auditor's report.

Other federal funding has been distributed to local governments, schools, higher education institutions, child care providers, long-term care facilities and developmental disabilities waiver providers.

Funds also have been used for mental health services, personal protective equipment, virus testing, contact tracing, vaccine preparedness & access, workforce development, economic development programs for small businesses, COVID-19 dedicated personnel costs, emergency rental assistance and other disaster relief purposes.

KC PET PROJECT ♥

HOME *for the* HOLIDAYS

ADOPTION SPECIAL

\$22 ADOPTIONS

Puppies, kittens, specialty breeds excluded.

DECEMBER 1ST - 31ST

*At the KC Campus for Animal Care, Petco on 95th (cats only),
Zona Rosa Adoption Center, and pets in foster homes.*

New Meeting Time!

Coffee

and

CONVERSATION

with



COUNCILWOMAN PARKS-SHAW

SATURDAY

JANUARY
21ST

STARTS AT 10:00 AM



11900 Blue Ridge Blvd.



sponsored by  RYANA PARKS-SHAW
COUNCILWOMAN 5TH DISTRICT



Formula Distribution!!



Cradle **kc** 
Community Health Council
of Wyandotte County

CHC and Cradle KC are a formula distribution site! We have a variety of infant formula available. If we do not have the type of formula you need, we can request it.

Scan the QR code to
submit your
request



ee.

contact us at 913-371-9298 if you have questions



Understanding and Accessing **MISSOURI MEDICAID**

More Missourians than ever now qualify for Medicaid expansion, including parents who have not qualified before, and adults without children. Learn to see if you qualify for Medicaid and how to apply.

Am I eligible?

Medicaid eligibility depends primarily on the size of your household and your gross **monthly** household income (before taxes and deductions). If your monthly income is lower than the number of people living in your home, **you may qualify**.



1

\$1,481

2

\$2,003

3

\$2,525

4

\$3,048

5

\$3,570

6

\$4,092

How do I apply?

GOOD NEWS!

Applying is easy, and there are several convenient and accessible ways to do it!

Online:

Visit <https://mydss.mo.gov/healthcare/apply> to apply quickly via the DHSS web portal

By Phone:

Call the Missouri Family Support Division at (855)-373-4636 or (855)-373-9994

By Mail or Email:

Print and fill out an application provided at the web address listed above and mail to:

Family Support Division
615 E 13th St
Kansas City, MO 64106

Or email to:

FSD.Documents@dss.mo.gov

KIDS EAT FREE



MEAL DISTRIBUTION

- CHILDREN DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT -

UNITED BELIEVERS COMMUNITY CHURCH
5600 E. 112 TERRACE, KCMO 64134
FRIDAY'S 3PM - 6PM

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT **314.701.7245** OR EMAIL US
AT **KIDSEATFREE@INFLUENCECHURCH.COM**

***THIS SITE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER**



South KC Food Pantries

South Kansas City is fortunate to have several food pantries to help less-fortunate residents have enough healthy food to eat. These include:

Community Assistance Council, 10901 Blue Ridge Blvd. on the north end of the Ruskin High School campus, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Persons should call 816-763-3277, ext. 100, or email info@cackc.org for appointments or questions.

Red Bridge Area Food Pantry, 100 W. Red Bridge Rd. in the First Baptist Church of Kansas City, from 10 a.m. to noon on the third Saturday each month. Persons must call 816-908-7800 for appointments by the prior Wednesday.

Harvesters (the community food network) brings the semi-truck that serves as its mobile food pantry to seven sites in south Kansas City monthly to distribute fresh produce and other healthy food to families in need. The sites are:

Center School District, 8701 Holmes Rd., from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. as long as food is left on the first Saturday of the month. Persons should drive through the bus parking lot to the district warehouse. The event is sponsored by Three Trails Community church in partnership with the Center School District.

Center District Warehouse, 8701 Holmes Rd., from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. the second Friday of each month. Persons should go to the entrance to the Center Administrative Office and drive through the bus parking lot to the warehouse where volunteers will load the food. Persons should take the Troost Ave exit. The event is sponsored by the Center Education Foundation in partnership with the Center School District.

Evangel Church, 1414 E. 103rd St., from 7 to 8:30 a.m. the second Saturday of the month. Persons may remain in their vehicles, and food will be brought to them.

United Believers Community Church, 5600 E. 112th Terr., with vehicles lining up at 8:30 a.m. and contactless food distribution running from 9 to 11 a.m. the third Wednesday of the month.

Ruskin High School, 7000 E. 111th St., from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month. Vehicles should line up on Ruskin Way on the east side of the school, and staff and students will load the food when vehicles reach the school.

Colonial Presbyterian Church, 9500 Wornall Rd., with registration beginning at 8 a.m. and food distribution running from about 8:30 to 10 a.m. on the third Saturday of the month. Families are asked to bring two cardboard boxes for volunteers to put the food in.

Red Bridge United Methodist Church, 636 E. 117th St., from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. on the fourth Friday of the month in the church parking lot.



REMAIN ANONYMOUS • RECEIVE CASH REWARDS



TIPS HOTLINE

816-474-8477



WEB TIPS

KCrimestoppers.com



FREE MOBILE APP

P3Tips.com



State Representative Mark A. Sharp

Missouri House of Representatives

Room 102-BA

201 W Capitol Ave

Jefferson City, Mo 65101

Phone

573-751-9469

Email

mark.sharp@house.mo.gov

**Please don't hesitate to contact me
with any feedback, questions or ideas!**