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Dear Neighbor,

I am sad to report that yesterday with over two months left in the year KCMO already has matched the all-time record of homicides for any year (151) set in both 2017 and 2019.

The Police Department had recorded 153 homicides in 1993, but that included four officer involved shootings that are no longer included in the homicide totals.

Almost all of the homicides were committed by firearms.

This wave of violence makes it more important than ever to quickly fund and implement the new law I co-sponsored that was signed into law last month by the governor to establish a long overdue pretrial witness protection program in Missouri which will encourage more witnesses to tell law enforcement what they know about murders and other violent crimes.

This will help successfully prosecute and incarcerate the relatively small number of extremely violent persistent offenders who commit so many of our city's violent crimes before they can hurt other victims.

In another matter related to public safety, please scroll down through this report to read the fact sheet prepared by Jackson County about Jackson County Question 1 on the November 3 ballot to replace the county's current 7% tax only on landlines with a monthly fee not to exceed \$1 on both landlines and cell phones to fund the county's share of maintaining and operating the metropolitan 911 system.

With the number of persons who still use landlines for their telephone service steadily shrinking, the General Assembly passed legislation in 2019 that allows jurisdictions such as Jackson County to replace the charge just on landlines with a monthly charge on landlines and wireless lines.

The proposed fee is expected to be much less than most landline users are now paying, but including wireless lines will generate more overall revenue for operation, maintenance and improvements of the regional 911 system.

Thanks to the organizations and everyone that participated in last Saturday's 6th Council District Cleanup that included most of my legislative district. It was sponsored by the City Neighborhoods & Housing Services Department and Councilmembers Andrea Bough and Kevin McManus in cooperation with the South Kansas City Alliance and Community Assistance Council.

The cleanup collected 550 old tires, 6,939 pounds of electronics and tons of unwanted items such as furniture & mattresses and leaves & brush at its two drop off sites at Ruskin High School in my district and South-Broadland Presbyterian Church.

When I arrived yesterday afternoon at Ruskin High School to volunteer loading free food from Harvesters into the vehicles of needy families, vehicles were already lined up for blocks waiting for food distribution to start, showing the growing need for food assistance in south Kansas City.

If you know of any individuals or families who may be struggling to put food on the table, please pass this Report on to them since it always lists the locations and hours of the regularly scheduled four monthly drive through food distributions in south Kansas City plus special food distributions that I hear about.

And also please pass the word that KCMO voters who live in the Jackson County portion of the city can cast absentee ballots in person at the two satellite voting locations in south Kansas City that are open now through October 31 at **United Believers Community Church, 5600 E. 112th Terrace**, and at **Gregory Hills Church, 7020 James A. Reed Road**. Their hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Voters should bring identification.

Voters may vote absentee for specific reasons listed on the Kansas City Election Board's website www.kceb.org including absence from the KC Election Board's jurisdiction election day and being in an at-

risk category for contracting COVID-19. Those categories are being 65 years of age or older; living in a licensed long-term care facility; being immunocompromised; and having chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma, chronic kidney disease and undergoing dialysis, diabetes, liver disease or serious heart conditions.

Please scroll down for announcement and updates about important upcoming community events.

Email is probably the best way to reach my office. If you are unable to quickly reach me, my assistant [Brian Farmer](#) is ready to help you.

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

Mark A. Sharp Weekly Capitol Report

Friday, October 16th, 2020

**AMENDMENT 1 WOULD EXPAND EXECUTIVE BRANCH TERM
LIMITS**

Missouri voters on Nov. 3 will decide whether to impose a limit of two four-year terms on the offices of lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state auditor and attorney general. The measure will appear on the ballot as Amendment 1.

The governor and state treasurer have been subject to the two-term limit, with partial terms of less than two years exempt, since 1965. There currently are no term limits for the remaining four statewide executive branch offices. However, only 13 people in state history have served more than eight years in any of those offices.

The Republican-controlled General Assembly placed Amendment 1 before voters with the passage of Senate Joint Resolution 14 during the 2019 legislative session before I took office. Lawmakers approved SJR 14 by votes of 31-3 in the Senate and 114-32 in the House of Representatives.

Amendment 1 supporters say it would create uniformity with the offices of governor and state treasurer. Opponents say leaving it to voters to decide how long a particular person stays in office has worked well for a long time and there's no compelling reason to limit their choices.

The most recent person elected to more than two terms in a single statewide office was Lt. Gov. Peter Kinder, a Republican who served three terms from 2005-2017. Another recent example is Attorney General Jay Nixon, a Democrat who served four terms from 1993-2009 before going on to serve two terms as governor. The record for longest tenure in a single statewide office belongs to Secretary of State James Kirkpatrick, a Democrat who served five terms from 1965-1985.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS MOVING TO FOUR-DAY WEEK UP 72 PERCENT

The number of Missouri school districts that have permanently switched to a four-day school week spiked sharply during the 2020-2021 school year,

going from 61 last year to 105 this year, the Springfield News-Leader reported on Oct. 1.

Slightly more than 20 percent of Missouri's 518 public school districts now have embraced the four-day school week, which has been allowed under state law for more than a decade. The newspaper's figures don't include districts that temporarily are holding in-person classes less than five days a week due to COVID-19 precautions while providing on-line instruction on the remaining weekdays.

The switch to four-day school weeks by 44 more districts for 2020-2021 continues a trend that has accelerated in recent years.

The Lathrop School District in Clinton County in northwest Missouri became the first in the state to move to a four-day week, making the switch for the 2010-2011 school year. Few others initially followed suit, with just 25 districts having done so by the 2017-2018 school year. But with the 2018-2019 school year, the total jumped over a fourth to 33 districts before nearly doubling to 61 districts the following year.

According to the paper, most districts initially made the switch to reduce operating expenses and save money. However, some district officials now see it as a recruitment tool to attract teachers and staff who want the flexibility a four-day work-week provides.

DIFFERENT COURTS ISSUE MIXED RULINGS IN VOTING CASES

Hours after the Missouri Supreme Court ruled on Oct. 2 that certain provisions of state law restricting absentee and mail-in voting don't unconstitutionally infringe on the right to vote, a federal district judge in a separate case ordered state and local election officials to accept mail-in ballots that are submitted in person. A day later, the judge stayed that ruling

so Republican Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft could appeal it, leaving the situation undecided for now.

Under state law, Missourians can only vote absentee if they have a statutorily authorized excuse. Absentee ballots can be mailed, with some required to be notarized and others not, depending on the excuse invoked. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the legislature this year created a new and separate mail-in voting process that is open to everyone but always requires notarized ballots.

Chapters of the NAACP and League of Women Voters challenged the notarization requirements as inconsistent and confusing. The Supreme Court rejected the plaintiffs' arguments, noting that there is no constitutional right to vote by absentee or mail-in ballot.

"The Missouri Constitution authorizes the legislature the discretion to allow those who are absent from the polls to vote, and the legislature has so provided by statute for more than 100 years," the court said in its unsigned majority opinion. "In light of concerns raised by COVID-19, the legislature chose to put in place additional provisions allowing broader use of absentee ballots and temporarily permitting mail-in voting. The new absentee and mail-in ballot statutes do not affect the right of voters to go to the polls."

The federal case challenges a statutory requirement that prevents mail-in ballots from being counted if a voter personally delivers the ballot to his or her local election authority rather than sending it through the mail. U.S. District Judge Brian Wimes issued a temporary restraining order requiring election officials to count all otherwise valid mail-in ballots delivered personally, but later stayed enforcement of his order at Ashcroft's request. The case is pending before the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

What to Know About Jackson County Question 1 for the November 2020 General Election Ballot

Fixes Jackson County's outdated 911 funding mechanism, which is supported entirely by a 7% landline surcharge.

Data shows that most 911 calls are made by **CELLPHONES**, but the system is wholly funded by **LANDLINE** users. This threatens emergency response with decreasing revenues.



Would impose a fee of up to \$1.00 on ANY device capable of contacting 911 (i.e. both landlines and cellphones). Fees will be included on telephone service bills, whether landline or cellphone.



This fee would **REPLACE** the current funding mechanism, not be in addition to it. Fee is based on each line, so if a household has multiple lines they will be assessed a fee of up to \$1.00 for each line every month.



Fees will be assessed based on the location/address associated with the cellphone account or landline within Jackson County.



The fee will be assessed on up to a **MAXIMUM** of 100 lines per location/address. If a business or organization has more than 100 lines, the fee will only be imposed on 100 lines.



Restricts the spending of the new fee revenues to the 911 system, so none of the funds can be spent for other purposes.



Broadens the funding base for 911 by including all users. Provides tax relief to landline users by decreasing their monthly fee from a 7% surcharge to a maximum of \$1.00 per line.



Creates a sustainable funding structure which will allow Jackson County to adequately and efficiently plan maintenance and upgrade costs. Would allow Jackson County to continue to make critical improvements and investments in the 911 system to keep up with changing mobile phone technology.



If Question #1 were to pass, and the Director of Revenue for the State of Missouri was notified promptly thereafter, the new fee would go into effect on April 1, 2021.



Information provided by the Jackson County Legislature, the Jackson County Clerk's Office, and Jackson County Communications.



News from the
City Communications Office

City of Kansas City, Missouri
kcmo.gov

Call the health department to schedule your flu shot

Lower your chances of getting the flu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Oct. 15, 2020

The health department is urging Kansas City residents to make appointments to take their flu shots as soon as possible because of the risk of getting the flu and COVID-19 at the same time.

To make an appointment, call 816-513-6108. The vaccination clinic is located at 2400 Troost Ave. Everyone in the building over two-years of age is required to wear a mask.

“Public health recommends everyone six-months and older receive a flu vaccination each year, unless they have a severe, life-threatening allergy to it. It is especially important this year, as it’s possible to get both COVID-19 and the flu, increasing the dangers to one’s health and life, and the lives of those they love,” said Tiffany Wilkinson, manager of the Division of Communicable Disease Prevention and Public Health Preparedness.

Vaccines are available for both the uninsured and the insured. There will be no out-of-pocket cost for children and adults who are uninsured or under-insured,

or those with Medicaid or Medicare B. Those with Medicare Advantage plans will need to go to their primary care physician to be vaccinated.

The health department accepts most private insurance plans, and many insurance plans pay the full cost of the flu vaccine. If the private insurance plan is not accepted or does not pay full cost, the fee is \$23 for those six-months to 64-years old.

People over 65 who need a high-dose flu shot will be charged \$52 if their private insurance rejects the charge. The vaccine provides protection against four different flu virus strains, including two Influenza A and two Influenza B viruses. The health department encourages residents 50 years and older to also ask for the shingles vaccine.

Vaccinations will not be given on a walk-in basis.

Appointments are available:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

8 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Find more information on the flu shot at [kcmo.gov/health](https://www.kcmo.gov/health).



Satellite Locations and Times

October 13 – 31

Monday – Thursday: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Friday: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Gregory Hills Church of God

7020 James A. Reed Rd.
Kansas City, MO 64133

United Believers Community Church

5600 E. 112th Ter.
Kansas City, MO 64134

The Whole Person

3710 Main St.
Kansas City, MO 64111

Union Station (Innovations Room)

Level B, Suite 100
30 W. Pershing Rd.
Kansas City, MO 64108

Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Center (Opens October 14)

3700 Blue Parkway
Kansas City, MO 64130

Virtual Neighborhood Accountability Board Training

SEARCHING FOR WAYS TO BE ENGAGED IN OR SUPPORTIVE OF YOUR COMMUNITY?

The Center for Conflict Resolution is offering our **FREE**, Neighborhood Accountability Training **online** to provide community members the opportunity to be a part of restorative justice processes that happen in their communities around Kansas City.

Neighborhood Accountability Boards allow for all parties affected by harm, such as shoplifting, underage drinking and more, to share their side of the story and work together on a solution that makes this right.

Friday October 16, 2020 | 9 AM- 4 PM
Zoom Online Interactive Training

To register for this training, send email to dbayless@ccrkc.org or go to our website, www.ccrkc.org for more information.

Internet and computer access required.



Funding for this training provided by Jackson County COMBAT.



COME ONE, COME ALL!
drive-thru

Trunk OR treat

Don't forget
your mask!



OCTOBER 24, 2020 | 3-5 PM

Kansas City Missouri Police Department
9701 Marion Park Dr., Kansas City MO 64137



PIC -OR- TREAT

WIN A ONE-YEAR
MEMBERSHIP TO

Wonderscope
Children's Museum of Kansas City

RED BRIDGE
SHOPPING CENTER

OCT. 26 - 31
PHOTO CONTEST

Red Bridge Shopping Center will be transformed into the ultimate Halloween destination where each merchant will decorate a "spooky spot" outside of their storefront.



TO ENTER:



Visit Red Bridge Shopping Center & snap a photo at your favorite "spooky spot"



Post your photo on Facebook and tag Red Bridge Shopping Center



Like Red Bridge Shopping Center on Facebook



Every photo you post from a different "spooky spot" counts as one entry!





Child Care Subsidy

If you have an eligible school-aged student who is not attending school in person, the Department of Social Services is extending fulltime child care subsidy benefits through December 31, 2020. The extension of this benefit, effective beginning September 1, ensures children remain safe and supervised during the school day and supports working parents to meet the demands of their jobs and stay employed

To increase your benefit:

Contact the Family Support Division by calling
855-FSD-INFO (855-373-4636).

If you are not receiving benefits and have a school-aged student not attending school in person, you can apply by:

1. Going [online](#)
2. Completing the [Child Care Application](#) and mailing it to your [local Family Support Division office](#) .
3. Contacting the Family Support Division at **855-FSD-INFO (855-373-4636).**

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

If you are in crisis and need assistance with your summer cooling bills, you now have until October 31, 2020 to apply for the [Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program](#) (LIHEAP). This allows low-income Missourians more time to apply for the summer cooling program and remain safe in their homes.

The Department of Social Services also increased the income level for Missourians to qualify for help and added the option to apply online.

To apply for LIHEAP, complete and submit one [application form](#) online for your household. You can also mail or fax the completed paper application form to the office serving your community listed on last page of the application.



KC Job FAIR

CONNECTING YOU WITH
KANSAS CITY'S TOP EMPLOYERS

Women's
Employment
NETWORK
Proud partner of @DCAWOMEN

**HOT 103
JAMZ!**

NEW 2020 DATES

SEPT 29th | OCT 27th | NOV 24th

NOW VIRTUAL

FREE for Job Seekers! All genders welcome!



WELCOME
TO *Fabulous*
LAS VEGAS
NEVADA

You're Invited!

Hickman Mills Educational Foundation's
Virtual
18th Annual
Silent Auction and Gala

Visit www.32auctions.com/HMEF20
Auction begins: November 2, 2020 at 8 a.m. CST
Auction ends: November 6, 2020 at Midnight CST



Check it out!



Who:
The KCMO Health Department has partnered with the Harvesters Community Food Network to help individuals and families in need of food assistance.

What:
Variety fruits and vegetables available at no cost to you

When:
2nd Tuesday of every month, starting at 1:30pm until supplies run out

Where:
KCMO Health Department in the UMKC Health Sciences District
2400 Troost Ave., Kansas City, MO 64108



South KC Mobile Food Pantries

With so many people out of work due to the coronavirus pandemic, a growing number of families in south Kansas City are being forced to rely on community food pantries such as Community Assistance Council's to have enough to eat.

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

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.

Ruskin High School, 7000 E. 111th St., from 4 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 food will be loaded in the vehicles when they reach the school by staff and student volunteers. This event is sponsored by the school and Community Assistance Council.

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.

Martin City K-8 School, 201 E. 133rd St., from 11 a.m. until food runs out on the

third Saturday of the month. This event is sponsored by Three Trails Community church.



Walk-ins welcome, appointments preferred



**Monday - Friday
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

*Lunch will be held from 11:50 a.m. - 12:40 p.m.,
and there will not be testing during this time.*

Visit jacohtd.org/events to see
dates + locations and to register.

Testing provided by the Jackson County Health Department

Truman Medical Centers has available services for Jackson County residents during the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

If you are experiencing a fever, a new cough or new shortness of breath, you can call **404-CARE (2273)** and speak to a health care professional to be screened for COVID-19.



Coronavirus Facts and Resources

Kansas City

If you would like to receive updates about what the City is doing in response to the coronavirus, **text COVIDKC to 888777** or go online to kcmo.gov/coronavirus

Missouri

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services is operating a [hotline](#) for residents and health care providers to call for information and guidance about COVID-19

The statewide hotline number is **877-435-8411**. The hotline is being

operated by medical professionals and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

UNEMPLOYMENT

How to File?

If you're eligible, you'll need the following:

- Your Social Security number.
- Any amount you were paid in the past week before taxes and deductions.
- The name and mailing address of each job you worked in the past 18 months.
- The dates you started and ended work at each of those jobs.

If this is your first time filing for unemployment please watch [this video](#) on unemployment basics. Visit uinteract.labor.mo.gov, create an account and file your claim. If your job loss is related to coronavirus issues, make sure to check a box that says "COVID-19" in your application to waive a requirement to search for a new job amid the crisis.

Missouri provides benefits for up to 20 weeks, which can be extended to 33 weeks under the federal provisions.

The state will pay you up to \$320 per week, and the federal government will provide \$600 on top of whatever you get from the state for each week you're on unemployment prior to July 31.

Benefits can be paid within 22 days unless there is an issue with your eligibility, which on average can take 4-6 weeks to resolve.

You should continue filing weekly requests for payment even if you have not yet received benefits.

Regional Claims Center representatives are available by phone Monday – Friday from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM by calling:

Kansas City Claims Center: 816-889-3101 or visit

[Missouri Unemployment Website](#)

Please visit the Missouri Department of Labor's website for more information about COVID-19 FAQ's for Businesses and Workers: <https://labor.mo.gov/coronavirus>

US Department of Labor has a few sites dedicated to Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic/ffcra-employee-paid-leave>

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic/ffcra-questions>

**GREATER KANSAS CITY CRIME STOPPERS
816-474-TIPS HOTLINE**

FROM: Det. Kevin Boehm, Crime Stoppers Coordinator

SUBJECT: Reward Increase – 9-Year-Old Dominic Young Homicide

KANSAS CITY, MO --- The Kansas City, Missouri Police Department and the Greater KC Crime Stoppers TIPS Hotline continue to seek information in the January 20, 2018 homicide of 9 year old Dominic Young Jr. at 71 Highway and Emanuel Cleaver II Blvd.

Dominic Young Jr. was apparently hit by a stray gunshot while occupying a vehicle driven by his father and died as a result of his injuries. Dominic, his father and brother were en route

to Grandview at the time. The vehicle driven by Dominic's father was hit by gunshots from other vehicles apparently engaged in a gunfight according to statements.

KCPD found a possible crime scene near the intersection where the father said the shooting happened.

When the father arrived home in Grandview, Dominic was not responsive. Grandview police initially responded to the father's home and found the boy in critical condition. He was later pronounced dead at a hospital.

A number of community leaders and organizations including State Representative Richard Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McManus, former City Councilmen Scott Taylor, Scott Wagner, John Sharp; the City of KCMO and Concord Fortress of Hope Church (Pastor Ron Lindsay) have come forward to increase the existing reward in the case up to \$30,000.00. Those leaders are available for comment in regard to the case.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers Greater Kansas City TIPS Hotline at 816-474-TIPS (8477), TIPS may also be submitted electronically at www.KCcrimestoppers.com, or by downloading our NEW mobile app, P3TIPS, on Google Play or the Apple iOS stores for FREE. Information leading to an arrest and/or filing of charges could be eligible for up to \$30,000.00 in reward money. ALL INFORMATION IS ANONYMOUS.



Remain Anonymous • Receive Cash Rewards

Tips Hotline

816-474-8477

Web Tips

www.KCcrimestoppers.com

Free Mobile App

www.P3Tips.com



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