



Dear Neighbor,

Happy Monday everyone! Now that we are out of session I will be sending my weekly updates on Mondays during the interim.

Governor Parson last week officially signed the congressional redistricting bill that unfortunately stalled the Senate chamber nearly all session long that resulted in the Missouri General Assembly only passing a near record low of 41 actual legislative bills that were not resolutions or appropriation (budget) bills.

Among those 41 bills is House Bill 1720, an omnibus agricultural bill that includes many good provisions for the agriculture industry for our Missouri farmers.

**Included in House Bill 1720 is legislation that I have sponsored for two years which is the urban farm tax credit bill (similar to my House Bill 1570). This bill allows a person to claim a tax credit up to 50% of that person's eligible expenses for the construction or improvement of an urban farm. The person's tax credit shall not exceed**

**\$5,000 for each urban farm.**

*This is a great win for cities like Kansas City which have a robust urban farming community. It will incentivize more people to look into urban farming, even on a small level. I hope that legislation like this will spark more interest amongst our youth in urban farming.*

Locally, there will be a free family event this Friday for the LightsOnKC event from 6-9pm at St. Luke's/St. James UMC at the northwest corner of Bannister Rd. and James A. Reed Rd. LightsOnKC is a community violence prevention initiative, and I encourage everyone to consider attending. Dinner will be served from 6-7pm, plus there will be games, a scavenger hunt, free books and other giveaways. The event will be held inside in case of rain.

See the flyer below for more details.

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](mailto:Mark.Sharp@house.mo.gov).

**Here are my committee appointments:**

**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 Kaylee Bauer at [Kaylee.Bauer@house.mo.gov](mailto:Kaylee.Bauer@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, May 23rd, 2022

## GOVERNOR SIGNS REDISTRICTING BILL

Bringing a months-long political saga to a conclusion, Gov. Mike Parson signed a congressional redistricting bill into law on May 18, allowing for the new districts to be used for the Aug. 2 primary elections.

The new districts are likely to preserve the existing partisan split in Missouri's congressional delegation of six Republicans and two Democrats.

Missouri lawmakers needed to update the state's eight congressional districts to reflect population shifts under the 2020 U.S. Census. That process normally would have taken place during the 2021 legislative session, but the pandemic delayed the detailed Census data needed for redistricting from being provided to the states until the following fall.

Parson had been expected to call a special session on congressional redistricting for the final months of 2021 so that new districts could be established well before candidate filing for the upcoming primaries opened in February. However, Parson surprised most lawmakers by dismissing the need for a special session, saying they could handle the task in the early months of the 2022 regular session, which began in January.

**While the House of Representatives passed a redistricting bill two weeks into the session, the process hit a roadblock**

**in the Senate, where a faction of hardline conservative Republicans prevented the bill – and numerous other important bills – from being passed for months amid demands for an aggressive gerrymandered redistricting plan they hoped would produce a 7-1 partisan split favoring Republicans.**

**The process remained in limbo until the session's waning days, when Republican leaders pushed a revised version of a 6-2 map through both legislative chambers. Although the hardline faction ultimately didn't attempt to block a final vote, the Senate immediately adjourned for the year – one day ahead of the constitutional adjournment deadline – after sending the bill to the governor, killing chances for passage of several other bills awaiting Senate action.**

Because new districts weren't yet established when candidate filing closed in March, candidates filed under the outdated congressional map enacted in 2011. Since passage of the new map, one would-be congressional candidate already has dropped out because she no longer lives in the district she was seeking to represent.

## **VOTERS TO DECIDE ON HANCOCK EXEMPTION**

Missouri voters will decide later this year whether the state constitution's Hancock Amendment should be revised to allow lawmakers to impose an unfunded mandate on Kansas City by requiring the city to increase minimum funding for its understaffed police department. By default, the measure will go on the Nov. 8 statewide ballot.

**Originally, Senate Joint Resolution 38 would have allowed the legislature to impose unfunded mandates relating to law enforcement spending on all Missouri cities and counties. However, the Senate scaled it back so it applies just to Kansas City.**

One provision of the tax-limiting Hancock Amendment prohibits the legislature from imposing mandates on local governments unless it provides state funding to fulfill the mandate. However, unfunded mandates in place at the time voters ratified the Hancock Amendment in 1980 are allowed to continue.

**Under a pre-Hancock state law, Kansas City is required to allocate at least 20 percent of its general revenue to the police department. Senate Bill 678, a companion measure to SJR 38, seeks to bump that minimum to 25 percent. But unless voters ratify SJR 38 to carve out an exemption to the Hancock Amendment, SB 678 would almost certainly be found unconstitutional.**

The House of Representatives granted final passage to both measures on May 13. The Senate previously approved them in March. Although SJR 38 heads straight to the ballot, SB 678 goes to the governor to be signed into law.

## **BILL WEAKENS WASTE REGULATIONS**

The House of Representatives on May 13 voted 100-45-1 to grant final approval to legislation to prohibit the state

Hazardous Waste Management Commission from adopting regulations that are stricter than federal rules. The Senate previously approved the bill on May 5 by a vote of 21-11. I voted against it.

**In addition to limiting the Commission's authority, House Bill 2485 also authorizes so-called "advanced recycling" facilities to operate in Missouri without permits.**

**Supporters say such facilities allow for the recycling of certain plastics that typically can't be recycled. Opponents argue the process results in the production of more toxic chemical waste.**

The bill also allows recycled asphalt shingles to be used as fill without a permit, as long as the use isn't within 500 feet of a lake or river or within 50 feet of a water table.

## **LEGISLATION AUTHORIZES PRISON NURSERIES**

Mothers who give birth while incarcerated in Missouri prisons will be able to stay united with their babies for up to 18 months under legislation the House sent to the governor on May 13 authorizing prison nurseries.

The nurseries provision was attached to a larger measure relating to child care, Senate Bill 683, which passed on final votes of 32-1 in the Senate and 144-1 in the House of Representatives.

**A handful of states already have established nurseries in women's prisons. Supporters say it helps build and**

**maintain the crucial bond between mothers and babies during the early months of life and also reduces recidivism among offenders. Nearly a half-million dollars is included in the state budget for the upcoming fiscal year to help launch the program.**

According to the Missouri Department of Corrections, 25 women gave birth in Missouri prisons in 2021, with an average time served post-delivery of 3.1 months.

# The Lights Are Back On!

Join us as we relaunch "LightsOn KC" - a community violence prevention initiative.

With safe,  
recreational activities for families/youth/  
young adults.



Free Outdoor Event For Families In KC

Friday May 27, 6p-9p

Dinner served from 6p-7p, Snacks, Beach Blanket Volleyball, Craft  
Projects, Scavenger hunt, Karaoke, Free Library Books & Giveaways,  
Board Games, Inflatable Obstacle Course & more..

**St. Luke's / St. James UMC**  
**9420 James A Reed RD,**  
**KCMO 64138**



*If there is rain, the event will be held indoors.*



# Parenting Skills Training

## A CAPA Parent Education Class

Parenthood isn't always easy and CAPA understands that sometimes parents need a helping hand. CAPA's **Parenting Skills Training Class** is offered to families with one main goal:

**To help parents develop skills that create strong and resilient families.**

### Topics Include:

- ♥ Positive discipline techniques
- ♥ Effective communication skills
- ♥ Problem-solving skills
- ♥ Child development
- ♥ Conflict management

### Upcoming Virtual Classes

#### May & June 2022 Sessions

**Saturday, May 14 & 21**

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Saturday, May 28**

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Saturday, June 11 & 18**

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Saturday, June 25**

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Internet required. Once registered, you will receive a link to connect using Zoom. Visit <https://zoom.us> for use and compatibility information.

*If needed, a certificate of completion will be provided to those individuals who have completed all sessions of a scheduled class.*



To register, call Alexis Wright,  
Community Education  
Manager, at (816) 534-0623 or  
sign-up online at:  
[capacares.org/what-we-do/education](https://capacares.org/what-we-do/education)



**capa** [capacares.org](https://capacares.org)

Registration  
is **Free**

Open to kids  
ages 6-12

# SUMMER *Care* CAMP

*first call*



The Caring Camp program helps kids gain a healthy,  
productive lifestyle by focusing on education,  
resilience, and safety.



Join us for a **FREE 3-day camp** intensive. We look forward to unpacking the impact of substance use in the family. CARE CAMP helps children develop and/or maintain healthy communication and a positive, productive lifestyle by focusing on education, resilience, and safety. All the while enjoying some camping favorites (s'mores, dirt 'n worms, and on the last day ending with some hot dogs!) Contact Danielle Reeves if you are interested and if these dates don't work - be on the lookout more will be announced!



Contact Danielle Reeves, Family Services Youth Counselor, at 816-895-8386 or

[dreeves@firstcallkc.org](mailto:dreeves@firstcallkc.org)



Please Join Us

## JOINT CHAMBER LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

Friday, June 3, 2022  
8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.



KCPD - South Patrol Division  
9701 Marion Park Drive  
Kansas City, MO 64134

Join us to hear our local legislators recap the 2022 Legislative Session!

***The following legislators have been invited to attend:***

**Senator Greg Razer  
Senator Barbara Washington  
Representative Mark Sharp  
Representative Richard Brown  
Representative Annette Turnbaugh  
Representative Patty Lewis  
Representative Ashley Bland Manlove**

**Friday, June 3, 2022  
8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.**

**Location:  
KCPD-South Patrol Division  
9701 Marion Park Drive  
Kansas City, MO 64137**

**No Cost to attend but registration is requested.**

**[Register Now!](#)**

Registration requested by 6/2/2022  
You don't have to be a Chamber member to attend.

Sponsored by:



**June 17th | 7:30 PM**  
**Colonial Presbyterian**  
**9500 Wornall Rd, KCMO 64114**

**BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIR OR BLANKET**



- POPCORN
- HOT DOGS
- PRE SHOW ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL!

**RAIN? NO PROBLEM - WE'LL MOVE INSIDE!**



**Thanks to  
our sponsors:**



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# FREE DAY AT THE BAY

Swim for **FREE** at South KC's  
Premier Waterpark, or join us for  
some food and dry fun!



## The Bay Water Park

7101 Longview Rd  
KC MO 64134

**June 18th,  
12:00-6:30PM**

**Sponsored By:**

KC Parks, Ruskin Heights HOA, Ruskin  
Hills HOA, Kirkside HOA, Southern  
Communities Coalition, Hickman Mills  
United Neighborhoods, Fairwood HOA



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## Need Help Paying for Internet?

The COVID-19 pandemic has made internet access more important than ever. If you need internet access for work, school, job seeking, or accessing services, we may be able to help.

This program is open to people who live in the greater KC region. It is only open to households with limited incomes.

### It can help you:

- Find affordable internet service
- Pay off an old balance
- Get caught up on your current internet service
- Pay for internet service for six months

## Funds are limited. Apply Now!

Call **816-200-0599**, visit  
**<https://kcconnect.me>**  
or scan this code with your  
mobile device. Some  
restrictions apply.



# Medicaid Enrollment

We can help!

**Kansas City Health Department**

2400 Troost Ave, Kansas City, MO 64108

Every Tuesday 12:00pm - 4:00pm

## FREE assistance

from experts with

**KC Care Health Center & Swope Health**

(Since Medicaid was expanded to include more people,  
you could be eligible!)



**swopeHEALTH**





## SPORTS, COOKING & ARTS

Every Wednesday Night  
5:00 - 7:30 PM

- Open to Ages 8-13
- Dinner Provided

9701 Marion Park Drive | KCMO 64137  
2ND BUILDING ON CAMPUS IN THE GYM



ONE TIME REGISTRATION AT THE DOOR!

# FREE

## Smoke Alarm

### 816-513-4648

### KCFD

CITY OF  
KANSAS CITY,  
MISSOURI

For more Fire Safety information visit:

## KCMO.GOV/FIRE

# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 913-313-0250 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. 103<sup>rd</sup> 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. 111<sup>th</sup> 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 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. 117<sup>th</sup> 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**

**KCcrimestoppers.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](mailto:mark.sharp@house.mo.gov)**

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