



Dear Neighbor,

In 2018 Missouri voters statewide voted to legalize medicinal marijuana by a margin of 65.6%. This November Missouri voters will have a chance to also legalize recreational marijuana.

On August 9th, Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft certified an initiative petition placing what will be listed as Amendment 3 on the November 8th ballot to legalize recreational marijuana.

If Amendment 3 passes, not only will it legalize recreational marijuana use for persons 21 and older, it also will provide for the regulation and licensing of marijuana producers and retailers, authorize the expungement of records of those convicted of certain low level marijuana offenses and impose a 6% tax on marijuana sales.

See more details in today's Weekly Capitol Update below.

Here locally, there will be a Rivalry Renewed flag football

game at 3 p.m. Saturday, September 20, between alumni of Ruskin and Hickman Mills high schools at the Hickman-Mills School District stadium located at Ruskin High School. Please come by and show your support and wish both us Cougars and Eagles luck.

See the flyer below for more details.

Now that session is over, this is the perfect time to start looking into what bills or legislative priorities I can spearhead in next year's legislative session. If you have any suggestions on what those could be, please respond back to this email.

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 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



Last week I had the opportunity to help the Missouri legislative team beat the Illinois legislative team in a bi-state softball game that was held at Busch Stadium, the home of the St. Louis Cardinals. It was nice seeing members on both sides of the aisle work together, and I look forward to continuing that next session.

WEEKLY CAPITOL UPDATE

Monday, August 15th, 2022

LEGALIZING MARIJUANA USE ON NOV. BALLOT

Missouri voters this fall will decide whether to legalize recreational marijuana use after Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft on Aug. 9 certified an initiative petition placing the measure on the Nov. 8 statewide ballot.

A separate initiative seeking to establish “ranked choice voting” for state and congressional elections failed to qualify.

The marijuana measure will appear on the ballot as Amendment 3. In addition to legalizing recreational marijuana use for those age 21 and older, it also would provide for the regulation and licensing of marijuana producers and retailers, authorize the expungement of records of those convicted of certain low level marijuana offenses and impose a 6% tax on marijuana sales.

With 65.6% support, Missouri voters amended the state constitution in 2018 to legalize marijuana use for medicinal purposes. Amendment 3 is backed by the same group responsible for the prior amendment and would grant those holding licenses to produce or sell medical marijuana preference in receiving licenses for recreational production and sales.

To qualify for the ballot, an initiative petition proposing a

constitutional amendment must have valid signatures from roughly 172,000 registered Missouri voters, as well as meet minimum signature requirements in at least six of Missouri's eight congressional districts. Amendment 3 had 214,535 valid signatures and enough valid signatures in six congressional districts.

The failed elections measure sought to establish “ranked-choice voting” when electing candidates for the state legislature, statewide executive branch offices or Congress. Such a system would allow Missourians to vote for multiple candidates for a particular office, ranked in order of preference. If no candidate got a majority on the initial count, the votes of the lowest performing candidates would be redistributed to the remaining candidates until a winner emerged.

Ashcroft's verification process concluded supporters submitted only 159,560 valid signatures and failed to get enough valid signatures in any congressional district.

COURT NIXES SOLAR ENERGY TAX EXEMPTION

The Missouri Supreme Court on Aug. 9 unanimously ruled a state law unconstitutional that purported to exempt certain solar energy systems from state, county or local taxes.

The case arose from a tax dispute between the Greene County assessor and Springfield Solar 1, a solar energy company. The assessor began assessing the equipment owned by the company for property taxes in 2017. The

company challenged the assessment, citing a state law that exempts “solar energy systems not held for resale” from taxation “for state, county or local purposes.”

The assessor countered that the Missouri Constitution only empowers the legislature to grant tax exemptions for categories of property specifically named in the constitution and expressly states that exemptions for unnamed categories of property “shall be void.” Although a Greene County judge sided with the company, the Supreme Court overruled his decision on appeal.

“Because the Missouri Constitution does not grant the legislature the power to exempt ‘solar energy systems not held for resale’ from taxation, (the law) is unconstitutional,” Judge Mary Rhodes Russell wrote for the court.

The case is *Greene County Assessor Brent Johnson v. Springfield Solar 1, LLC*.

FEDS ACT TO REDUCE MEDICAID WAIT TIMES

The federal government has intervened to help Missouri’s Medicaid program reduce wait times for applicants seeking health care coverage, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported on Aug. 10.

Under federal guidelines, wait times shouldn’t exceed 45 days but instead have surpassed 100 days in Missouri.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on July 11 approved a plan to assist Missouri in lowering application wait times, the paper reported. The plan sets a goal of achieving the federal standards by Sept. 30. The state could face federal sanctions if it misses the deadline, according to the paper.



August 19th | 7:00 PM
St. Lukes & St. James Church
9420 James A Reed Rd, KCMO 64138

.....
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:**



The poster features a central illustration of a football field with yard lines and a player in a blue and white uniform running with the ball. To the left is the Ruskin High School logo, an eagle head in a circle with the text 'RUSKIN HIGH SCHOOL' and 'HOME OF THE EAGLES'. To the right is the Hickman Mills Cougars logo, a cougar head in a circle with a sunburst background. A football is shown in the bottom right corner. The background is a mix of blue, white, and red geometric shapes.

Rivalry Renewed

Presented by YERP

RUSKIN EAGLES VS. HICKMAN MILLS COUGARS

Alumni Flag Football Game

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 2022, AT 3 PM

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
DJ - DJ MACC - HICKMAN MILLS
NATIONAL ANTHEM - ASA BARNES - RUSKIN
HOST - JUSTIN ROBINSON - HICKMAN MILLS

Other Ruskin vs Hickman Competitions Could include: Dance, Cheerleading, Band, One Last Run, Theatre, Spoken Word and Rap.

If you want to compete against a Cougar or Eagle contact Mike Rose or Donald Washington Jr. on Facebook.

Rivalry Renewed is a series of Ruskin vs. Hickman alumni competitions to bring out the community (Ole School and New School) to help the community that raised us and re-live the good memories we had in South Kansas.



**FREE >>>
COMMUNITY FUN DAY FOR STUDENTS
(GRADES K-12)**

**FRIDAY ~ AUGUST 26, 2022
6:00-10:00PM
at
KCPD SOUTH PATROL DIVISION
9701 MARION PARK DRIVE, KCMO**

DETAILS:

- Pre-Registration & Parental Authorization **MUST** be completed for every Student to participate.
- Registration Deadline: **8/19** (NO Registrations will be accepted at the door)
- Open to the first 100 Youth to Pre-register in Grades K-12
- Send completed registration form by email to: Concernedclergykc@gmail.com

JOIN US FOR:

<i>Indoor & Outdoor Activities (weather permitting)</i>	<i>Arts & Crafts</i>
<i>Dinner Meal Served from 6:30-7:30pm ONLY</i>	<i>Violence Prevention Education</i>
<i>Outdoor Basketball</i>	<i>Inflatable (Bouncy House)</i>
<i>Yard/Board Games</i>	<i>Life Skills/Conflict Resolution</i>

CALL FOR MORE INFO: 816 497-4886

"Lights On KC" is a community Violence Prevention Initiative providing safe recreational activities for Youth/Young Adults



PUBLIC WORKS

Sixth District Household Hazardous Waste Event

August 27th, 2022: 8 AM- NOON

Location:

**Ruskin High School
7000 E 111TH ST
Kansas City, MO, 64134**

*300 car max event; once reached
event will shut down

Accepted items:

- Automotive products
- Antifreeze
- Batteries
- CFL light bulbs
- Fertilizers
- Flammables
- Fuels
- Hazardous Cleaners
- Hazardous Liquids
- Household Cleaners
- Lawn and Garden Products
- Paint
- Pesticides
- Photographic Chemicals
- Pool Chemicals

- Solvents
- Thinners
- Used oils

Unacceptable items:

Appliances, Asbestos, Containers larger
than 5-gallons, Explosives, Ammunition,
Fireworks, Medical waste and needles,
Prescription drugs, Propane bottles
that are over one pound, Fire
extinguishers, Butane and Freon, Tires,
and Yard waste



Councilmembers
McManus & Bough
Sixth District



**KANSAS CITY
MISSOURI**

**For more information, contact
Robert Woods at 816-513-8442**

Fifth District Shredder/Electronics Collection Event

August 27, 2022 - 8 AM - NOON

LOCATIONS

Urban Christian Academy
2810 East 80th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64132

SPONSORS:

KCMO - Public Works

ACCEPTED ITEMS AT NO CHARGE:

Documents for Shredding
All desktop and laptop computers
Computer Flat Screen Monitors
Wires
Cables
Networking Equipment
Ink
Toners



**KANSAS CITY
MISSOURI**

For more information, contact
Robert Woods at 816-513-8442

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Administrators * THE LIST GOES ON!!!!

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We're hiring.
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MISSOURI

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AGES K-18



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 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. 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 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. 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

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

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