



Dear Neighbor,

Good afternoon and Happy 4th of July to everyone! It is that time of the year again when we encourage everyone to be safe and responsible with how they celebrate during the holiday.

We've already suffered three homicides by firearms over the weekend, one in my legislative district. Having a firearm is a matter any gun owner should take seriously, and I believe the vast majority of gun owners do.

If anyone you know is considering shooting their gun in the air to celebrate the 4th, please remind them that those bullets come down and have killed people in Kansas City in the past.

There will be children and families out all day today stretching into the evening, so let's all do our part to keep our friends and neighbors safe on what is supposed to be a fun (and safe) family day!

This past week in Jefferson City Governor Parson continued to sign bills into law including my own House Bill 2627.

House Bill 2627 was actually one of the few bills that I did not pre-file before this year's legislative session began. Early in the session, I was looking at different Missouri designations and noticed that our state had never officially designated February as Black History Month.

On February 1, I introduced House Bill 2627 to change that. One week later, that bill was referred to the Special Committee on Urban Issues that I sit on. When I presented this bill to the committee, many members were just as surprised as I was that February had never been officially designated as Black History Month. In committee, we added language that also designated November as Native American Heritage Month.

This bill was then sent to the Senate where several more designations that I supported were added with the backing of members of both political parties including naming the U.S. Highway 54 bridge crossing the Missouri River in Jefferson City the Senator Roy Blunt Bridge.

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 Kaylee Bauer at 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



I was very pleased that on July 1 Governor Mike Parson signed into law House Bill 2627 that I sponsored to finally officially designate February as Black History Month in Missouri. The bill was amended to include numerous other state designations that I supported including designating November as Native American Heritage Month, designating the third week of September as Historically Black College and University Week and designating the U.S. Highway 54 bridge over the Missouri River in Jefferson City as the Senator Roy Blunt Bridge.

WEEKLY CAPITOL UPDATE

Monday, July 4, 2022

ALMOST ALL MISSOURI ABORTIONS NOW ILLEGAL

Abortion became illegal in Missouri in nearly all circumstances – including those involving rape or incest – after the U.S. Supreme Court voted 5-3 on June 24 to eliminate the constitutional right of women to make their own reproductive choices first established 49 years ago in the court’s landmark *Roe v. Wade* decision.

And Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas signaled other constitutional rights the court previously recognized such as the right to contraception and same-sex marriage could fall as well.

The high court’s decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* resulted in nearly immediately outlawing almost all abortions in Missouri under a provision of a 2019 so-called “trigger law” – House Bill 126 - imposing a near-total ban on the procedure in the event *Roe* was overturned “in whole or in part”.

Shortly after the ruling was announced, Gov. Mike Parson issued a proclamation stating HB 126 was now in effect. Attorney General Eric Schmitt likewise issued a legal opinion declaring the law in effect.

Under the law, which had been blocked by a federal court for violating *Roe*, abortion is a crime in all circumstances except for cases of “medical emergency” narrowly defined as the medical condition of a pregnant woman that necessitates “the immediate abortion of her pregnancy to avert the death of the pregnant woman or for which a delay will create a serious risk of substantial and irreversible physical impairment of a major bodily function”.

The law makes knowingly inducing or performing an abortion in violation of the law a class B felony punishable by five to 15 years in prison. There is no exemption for pregnancies resulting from incest or rape.

It states that a woman who undergoes an abortion in violation of the law shall not be prosecuted for a conspiracy to violate the law.

In *Roe*, the Supreme Court found the right to abortion was a liberty guaranteed under the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment. But since abortion was illegal in most states including Missouri at the time the 14th Amendment was ratified in 1868, the conservative majority in *Dobbs* reasoned the amendment was never intended to protect abortion rights.

While the majority opinion stated other rights the court has recognized under the Equal Protection Clause in modern times that were outlawed in 1868, including the right to contraception and the rights to same-sex intimacy and marriage, aren’t threatened by *Dobbs*, Justice Thomas

said that's only because those issues weren't before the court in this case.

In a concurring opinion, Thomas said the court should overturn those other precedents at its earliest opportunity.

Such reasoning if adopted by the court also could jeopardize the constitutional protection for interracial marriage the court recognized in its 1967 decision in *Loving v. Virginia* which invalidated that state's law prohibiting interracial marriage. At that time, 15 other states including Missouri banned interracial marriage.

Missouri's law was repealed in 1969, and Alabama was the last state to repeal its ban on interracial marriage in 2000, although such bans were no longer enforceable after the Loving ruling.

PARSON SIGNS PHOTO VOTER ID LAW

Gov. Mike Parson on June 29 signed legislation into law that seeks – for the third time – to require voters to show photo identification in order to vote.

The Missouri Supreme Court struck down the state's two previous photo voter ID laws for unconstitutionally infringing on the right to vote. A lawsuit challenging the latest law is expected.

House Bill 1878 also includes other controversial provisions making it harder to register people to vote, granting the

secretary of state the power to withhold state funding from local election officials in certain circumstances and eliminating Missouri's presidential primary election. The bill will take effect Aug. 28.

With the state's presidential preference primary eliminated, Missouri in 2024 will revert to the caucus system under which members of each party meet in person to determine which candidates will get the state's delegates to their respective party's national presidential nominating convention.

While much larger numbers of Missourians vote in presidential primaries, only diehard party loyalists typically participate in nominating caucuses.

GOVERNOR SIGNS KC POLICE FUNDING BILL

Gov. Mike Parson signed a bill into law June 27 to require Kansas City to allocate at least 25% of its general revenue for the city's police department, an increase from the 20% required under current state law.

A provision of the state constitution's tax-limiting Hancock Amendment prohibits the legislature from imposing spending mandates on local governments unless it also appropriates state funding to pay for them. Senate Bill 678 bumps the minimum amount the city must spend on police without providing corresponding state funding.

In an effort to bring the bill into constitutional compliance, the legislature also passed Senate Joint Resolution 38

which will appear on the Nov. 8 statewide ballot to carve out an exemption to the Hancock Amendment to allow lawmakers to impose mandates on Kansas City relating to police funding without providing state funding for them.

Kansas City Mayor Quinton Lucas has said a lawsuit will be filed challenging the new law.

PARSON SIGNS CHARTER SCHOOL FUNDING BILL

Missouri charter schools will soon get a funding boost under legislation Gov. Mike Parson signed into law on June 29. The additional funding is expected to cost about \$62 million for the 2023 fiscal year which began July 1.

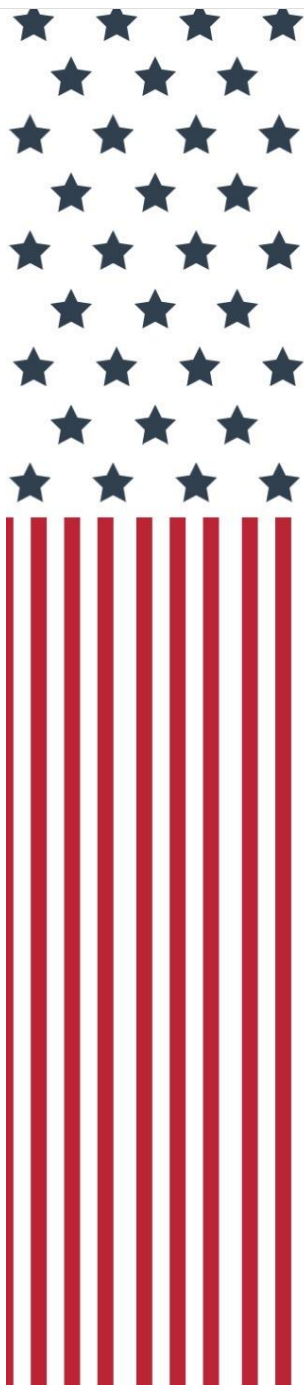
Charter schools - which under state law currently can operate only in Kansas City and St. Louis City - have long complained of being shortchanged of their rightful amount of funding and had sought legislative changes to siphon millions of dollars from the Kansas City and St. Louis City school districts.

Charter schools are public schools that operate independently of their local school districts and are exempt from many state education regulations.

In a compromise, House Bill 1552 adjusts the statutory formula for distributing state funding to local schools so that charter schools will receive additional funding directly from the state without taking away money from their home districts.

HB 1552 also requires that charter schools be run by non-profit entities – not by for-profit companies – and mandates only Missouri residents can be charter school board members, among other reforms.

In addition, the bill updates rules for operating on-line virtual schools.



HELP KEEP OUR COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN SAFE

**BULLETS FIRED INTO THE
AIR ALWAYS COME
DOWN, SOMETIMES
WITH **DEADLY** RESULTS**

**PLEASE DON'T
FIRE YOUR GUN
INTO THE AIR THIS
JULY 4TH**

**A MESSAGE FROM STATE
REPRESENTATIVE MARK A.
SHARP, DISTRICT 36**



KANSAS CITY
MISSOURI

FOURTH of JULY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
JULY 4	JULY 5	JULY 6	JULY 7	JULY 8	JULY 9
NO pick-up	Monday trash collected today	Tuesday trash collected today	Wednesday trash collected today	Thursday trash collected today	Friday trash collected today

HOLIDAY TRASH SCHEDULE & TRASH AMNESTY

RESIDENTS CAN PUT OUT UP TO 12 BAGS CURBSIDE WITHOUT ANY ADDITIONAL TAGS

Load the kids in the car and head to Longview Lake Beach to watch Disney's SOUL on the giant inflatable screen! Admission is \$10 per car. Gates open at 7:30 pm. Movie will start around 9 pm or dusk. Social distancing protocols will be observed. Please, no outside food, drink or pets. Concessions are available.





July 15th | 7:30 PM

KCPD South Patrol

9701 Marion Park Drive, KCMO 64137

.....
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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



"Lights On KC"

A FREE POOL PARTY FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Friday ~ July 22, 2022 ~ 6:30-9:30pm

The River Pool

7130 Ralston ~ Raytown, MO 64133



This FREE Pool Party is designed for Elementary School Students (Grades K-5).
Parental Authorization & Release MUST be submitted for Students to participate.

Registration Deadline: 7/12/22

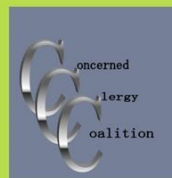
Register by emailing: Concernedclergykc@gmail.com or call 816 497-4886

{Leave Parent's Name / Child's Name(s) / School / Grade / Age / Contact Info}



"Lights On KC" is a community Violence Prevention Initiative providing safe recreational activities for youth/young adults.

****In case of heavy rain, we will have to reschedule at a future time.****



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You

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kim.wilson@kcmo.org

Come Join
Us

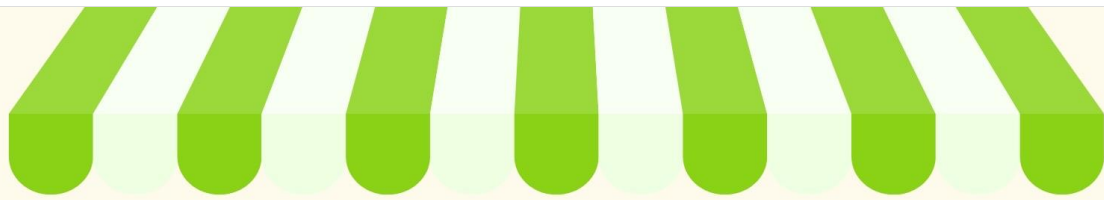
Earn \$225 per month to have conversations

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FREE MEALS

Breakfast & lunch

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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.



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816-474-8477



WEB TIPS

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State Representative Mark A. Sharp

Missouri House of Representatives

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