



Dear Neighbor,

The United States Supreme Court ruling that overturned Roe v. Wade was an earthshaking event across the country including here in Missouri.

In 2019 (before I took office) the Missouri General Assembly passed a so-called “trigger law” (House Bill 126 - the Missouri Stands for the Unborn Act) to take effect after the Supreme Court “has overturned, in whole or in part, Roe v. Wade”.

That law makes performing or inducing an abortion upon a woman a class B felony punishable by 5 to 15 years in prison except in cases of medical emergency. There is no exception for pregnancies resulting from rape or incest.

With the ruling last week by the U.S. Supreme Court, that law is now in effect. This has always been a decision I felt should be left to a woman and it's extremely unfortunate to see this day come.

I fear we will continue to see legislation filed at the state level seeking to restrict women's' access to certain forms of

contraception that I will stand against.

Finally, just over a month after the mass shooting that killed 19 children and two adults at a Texas elementary school and 10 days after a racist mass shooting that killed 10 African-Americans in a Buffalo supermarket, President Biden signed into law the first significant piece of gun safety legislation passed by Congress in nearly three decades.

This legislation includes language that was supported by at least some members from both sides of the aisle.

It will increase funding for mental health programs and school security, which is legislation I'm considering filing at the state level next session. It also includes incentives for states to pass red flag laws that allow courts to order the removal of weapons from persons found to pose a threat to themselves or others.

The legislation also broadens the definition of who must register as a federally licensed firearm dealer and creates new penalties for firearms trafficking.

There will be more thorough background checks of persons between the ages of 18-21 who are attempting to purchase a firearm.

It also closes the so-called “boyfriend loophole” that allowed an individual to have a firearm who has been convicted of domestic violence against a dating partner. The old law only barred firearm ownership by persons convicted of domestic violence against spouses or

partners they lived with or shared children with.

The new law will bar anyone who is convicted of domestic violence against someone they have a “continuing serious relationship of a romantic or intimate nature” with from having a firearm. Those convicted of misdemeanor domestic violence can have their right to own a firearm restored after five years if they haven’t committed other crimes.

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 recently returned to a familiar place at the 3 & 2 baseball complex at 9600 Blue River Road. When we're not in session I continue to play in the Kansas City Men's Senior Baseball League. This field is named after John J. Hager whose association with 3 & 2 baseball in Kansas City as a coach and league president spans over 50 years. This is a complex where I regularly played summer baseball from middle school through college.

WEEKLY CAPITOL UPDATE

Monday, June 27, 2022

PARSON SIGNS WORLD CUP SALES TAX EXEMPTION

Shortly after Kansas City was named one of the host cities for the 2026 Men's FIFA World Cup Soccer Tournament, Gov. Mike Parson as expected signed legislation into law at Arrowhead Stadium exempting ticket sales for the tournament games to be played at Arrowhead in June and July 2026 from state and local sales taxes.

Lawmakers passed Senate Bill 652 in May to strengthen Kansas City's bid to be one of the U.S. host cities for the

men's soccer tournament that is held every four years and draws far more fans than any other sporting event in the world.

The World Cup games are expected to draw tens of thousands of soccer fans from around the globe to Kansas City to watch the games at Arrowhead. One study estimated the economic impact for the Kansas City area could be between \$160 and \$620 million, dwarfing the impact of hosting the Super Bowl.

Area State Sen. John Rizzo sponsored the sales tax exemption bill that I proudly voted for which was considered essential for winning the intense competition to be one of the 11 metropolitan areas in the U.S. selected to host tournament games.

All ten of the other metropolitan areas in the U.S. selected as tournament sites – Atlanta, Boston, Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New York/New Jersey, Philadelphia, San Francisco and Seattle – have much larger populations than our area.

There also will be two tournament sites in Canada – Toronto and Vancouver – and three in Mexico – Guadalajara, Mexico City and Monterrey.

SENATE LEADER REPORTS EX-GOVERNOR TO MSHP

A top state Senate leader on June 20 said he reported former Gov. Eric Greitens to the Missouri State Highway Patrol after the release of a campaign video featuring a shotgun-toting

Greitens and several heavily armed masked men in tactical gear claiming to be hunting fellow Republicans whom he deems insufficiently conservative.

“We have been in contact with the Missouri Highway Patrol and hope that former Gov. Greitens finds the help he needs,” Senate Majority Leader Caleb Rowden, R-Columbia, said in a Twitter post. “Anyone with multiple accusations of abuse toward women and children should probably steer clear of this rhetoric.”

Rowden was referring to accusations Greitens had abused and sexually blackmailed a woman prior to becoming governor, as well as more recent claims brought by his ex-wife in a custody dispute that he had physically abused her and their two children. Greitens has denied the allegations, although the earlier claims contributed to his resignation as governor in June 2018 after just 17 months in office.

Greitens, seeking a political comeback, is running for the Republican nomination for U.S. Senate from Missouri. In the video, Greitens says: “Today we’re hunting for RINOs. The RINO feeds on corruption and is marked by cowardice.”

RINO is a derisive acronym that stands for “Republicans in name only.”

According to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Greitens said during a June 21 interview on talk radio station KFTK that the depiction of him hunting people was intended to be a humorous metaphor.

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

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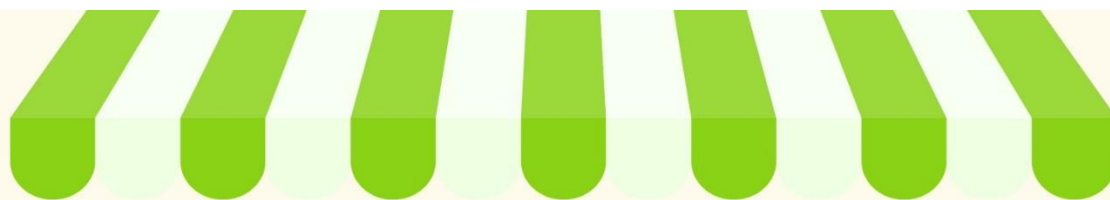
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South KC Food Pantries

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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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!**