



Dear Neighbor,

Persons who still have not received their COVID-19 vaccinations or who have friends and family who haven't should take advantage of a virtual presentation of the latest news about the availability of vaccinations in our area and the state at **6 p.m. Monday, April 12.**

At my request, **Dr. Randall W. Williams, MD, director of the Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services**, agreed to bring the latest news about vaccination availability to a ZOOM webinar from 6 to 7:30 p.m. hosted by the South Kansas City Alliance.

Dr. Williams is scheduled to be the first presenter and has agreed to accept questions as time allows. He will be joined by **Dr. Rex Archer, MD, director of the Kansas City Health Department**, so the top two health officials of the city and state will be able to give area residents authoritative answers to their questions about the vaccination program.

Persons may go to the information just below the Weekly Capitol Update for the link or call-in information to participate in the webinar and ask questions or go to the South Kansas City Alliance website www.southkcalliance.org and click on the link there at the start of the meeting.

Today, **Friday, April 9**, is the first day of Phase III of Missouri's vaccination schedule which allows all Missourians to qualify for the vaccinations if they are 16 or older or 18 or older depending on what type of vaccine they will be getting.

While mass vaccination events recently either have been conducted or announced for our area at Smith-Hale Middle School at the former Hickman Mills High School and at Grandview High School, I will do my best to continue to advocate for more of such events and sites that will provide daily vaccinations on an ongoing basis in our area where our vaccination rates are still too low.

In the past weeks and months many residents of our area who wanted to be vaccinated have had to drive to cities and towns outside our metropolitan area or other parts of our city. Hopefully, that is ending!

Email is probably the best way to reach my office. If you are unable to quickly reach me, my legislative aide, [Kaylee Bauer](#) is ready to help you.

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

Friday, April 9, 2021

HOUSE APPROVES NEW DEFENSE DEPARTMENT

The House of Representatives voted 146-6-1 on April 8 to pass House Joint Resolution 6 -- a proposed constitutional amendment that, if ratified by voters, would create a new state Department of Defense to oversee the Missouri National Guard which currently is under the Department of Public Safety.

The House also approved companion implementing legislation (House Bill 60) by a vote of 132-15-3. I voted for both measures.

The sponsor of HJR 6 said the intent of placing the National Guard under its own state department is to streamline the chain of command by having the state adjutant general report directly to the governor instead of to the public safety director.

Both HJR 6 and House Bill 60 now are awaiting Senate consideration. If the upper chamber passes HJR 6, the proposed constitutional amendment will automatically go on the November 2022 statewide ballot for voter ratification. If voters reject it, HB 60 would be rendered inoperable.

At present, the state has 16 state departments, the maximum authorized under the state constitution.

KC, STL VOTERS RENEW EARNINGS TAXES

Voters in both Kansas City and St. Louis City on April 6 again overwhelmingly supported renewing their local earnings taxes for another five years starting on January 1, 2022, by over three to one margins, with Kansas City voters approving continuation of the tax by 77.3% and St. Louis City voters approving continuation by 79.4%.based on unofficial election results.

Kansas City's 1 percent earnings tax is assessed on wages earned by residents and persons who work in the city but live elsewhere including visiting professional athletes who are assessed the taxes on their earnings while playing here. Historically, about half of Kansas City's e-tax revenue comes from people who work in the city but live outside the city limits.

The tax which is the city's largest single source of revenue also is assessed on the net profits of businesses located in the city or doing business here. Last year about 18% of Kansas City's e-tax revenue came from business profits.

Pension and Social Security payments aren't subject to the tax, and neither are disability and unemployment payments.

Kansas City's earnings tax went into effect in 1964 when it was just a half percent, and voters approved raising that to 1 percent in 1970.

Then in 2010, St. Louis multimillionaire Rex Sinquefield helped bankroll a successful statewide ballot initiative to require Kansas City and St. Louis City to put renewal on the ballot every five years. If the tax is ever not renewed it would be phased out over 10 years and could not be reinstated.

This was the third renewal vote required under the 2010 law, and none of the results have been close in either city. Continuation of Kansas City's e-tax won 78% approval in 2011 and 77% approval in 2016.

Placing the city's single biggest source of revenue in doubt every five years causes the city to pay higher interest rates when it issues bonds to finance needed capital improvements such as street and bridge construction and reconstruction. The burden of those higher interest charges ultimately falls on city taxpayers.

That's why I cosponsored the bipartisan bill introduced by Representative Brenda Shields to only require renewal every ten years. So far this session there has been no progress on this legislation, but after the third overwhelming approval of continuation of the e-tax in both cities, perhaps this proposal now will get serious consideration.

HOUSE MOVES TO EXEMPT STIMULUS CHECKS

The House of Representatives on April 7 granted first-round approval on a voice vote to legislation that would exempt the recent federal stimulus payments – and any additional such payments that Missourians might

receive in the future – from being subject to state income taxes.

A second, recorded vote is required to advance the bill to the Senate.

Because the purpose of federal stimulus payments is to immediately inject money into the economy through increased individual spending, it has been the practice for Missouri lawmakers to exempt such payments from state taxation in order to maximize the economic benefit.

The tax exemption measure, which I support, is House Bill 991.

PARSON PICKS EX-LAWMAKER FOR PSC

Gov. Mike Parson on April 1 nominated former state representative Glen Kolkmeier, an Odessa Republican, for a coveted position on the Missouri Public Service Commission, the regulatory authority for investor-owned utilities operating in Missouri. The Senate must confirm his appointment before Kolkmeier can join the commission.

All five current members of the PSC have served in either the Missouri House of Representatives, the state Senate or both.

Kolkmeier, who termed out of the House in January after serving eight years, is nominated to replace Republican Bill Kenney, a former state senator from our area. Kenney's term expired more than three years ago, but he continues to serve until a successor is nominated and confirmed.

Parson at any time can also replace a second Republican commissioner whose term expired more than a year ago.



Dedicated to a Unified Vision for South Kansas City, Missouri

Dr. Randall W. Williams, MD, Director of the Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services, and Dr. Rex Archer, MD, Director of the KCMO Health Department, will bring the latest news about the availability of COVID-19 vaccinations to SKCA's monthly ZOOM webinar from **6 to 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 12.**

See the information just below this summary of Monday's topics on how to participate and ask questions during the virtual meeting or go on the SKCA website www.southkcalliance.org and click on the link there at the start of the meeting.

Missouri is entering into Phase III of its vaccination schedule **Friday, April 9** which allows all Missourians to qualify for free vaccinations if they are either 16 or older or 18 or older, depending on the type of vaccine they are getting.

Dr. Williams serves on the Board of the Association of State & Territorial Health Officials and chairs the organization's Public Health Preparedness Policy Committee. He previously served as North Carolina Deputy Secretary of Health and State Health Director in the North Carolina Department of Health & Human Services.

Dr. Archer is a past president of the National Association of County and City Health Officials. Under his leadership, KCMO's

Health Department has twice won that organization's Local Health Department of the Year award.

Kansas City Police Chief Rick Smith will speak on the webinar about the Police Department's ongoing deployment of body cameras to its officers and policies for their use which require them to be on during every contact with the public.

The Department's policy prohibiting officers from using non-lethal weapons and munitions (other than chemical agents) to disperse crowds during unlawful assemblies also will be explained by Chief Smith. The policy notes officers "will make all reasonable efforts to allow law-abiding individuals to continue to exercise their First Amendment-protected rights."

The successful results of the current reward of up to \$25,000 for anonymous tips to the TIPS Hotline that lead to arrests or filing charges in KCMO homicide cases will be discussed as well.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82367544649?pwd=U3F5ZXIzSEJDZXFjUEgvaC9CMzQzZz09>

Passcode: 689415

Or One tap mobile :

US: +19292056099,,82367544649#,,,*689415# or
+13017158592,,82367544649#,,,*689415#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):
US: +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 669



WITH A COP

6506 MAIN STREET
GRANDVIEW, MO



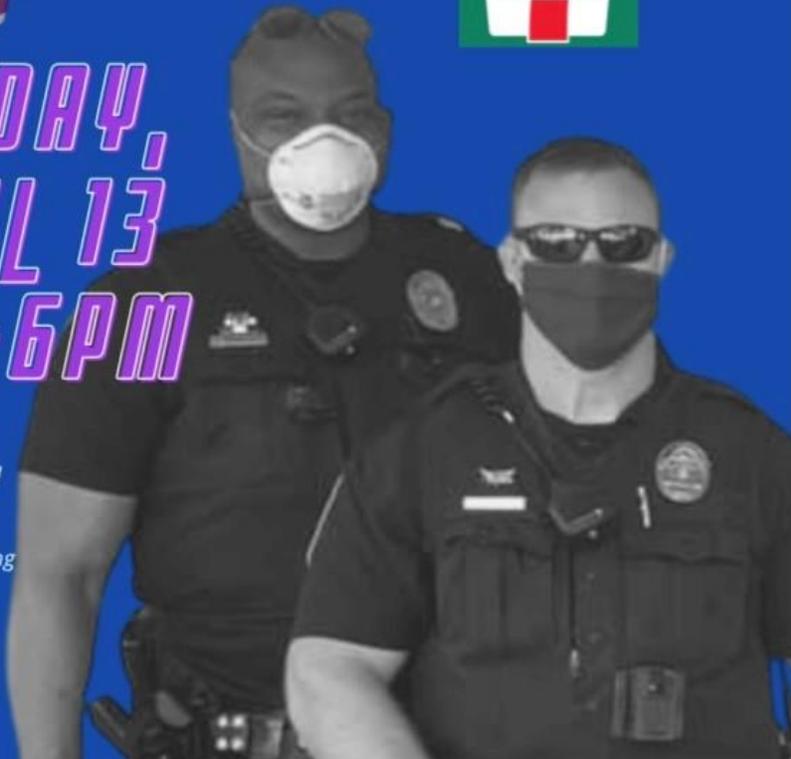
TUESDAY,
APRIL 13
3PM-6PM



Masks required



Additional parking
at Grandview
High School



THIS COMMUNICATION IS SENT ON BEHALF OF T'RISA MCCORD, INTERIM PRESIDENT & CEO, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP OF KANSAS CITY, MO:

Dear Community & Neighborhood Association Leaders,
You are invited to participate in a virtual training session on economic development incentive tools presented by the Economic Development Corporation. Below is a link to register for this session, which will be held on Wednesday, April 14, 11:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

If you prefer to schedule a separate training session to include your whole organization, please contact me separately at jquinn@edckc.com.

Please feel free to forward this message and invitation to your contacts and colleagues who may also be interested in attending.

[EDC Economic Development Incentive Tools Training](#)

**NOW OPEN: 2021 Neighborhoods Rising Fund
Application Now Open**

[The Neighborhoods Rising Fund \(NRF\)](#), a grant program for

revitalizing neighborhoods, relaunched today, thanks to a donation from H&R Block (NYSE: HRB) as the primary corporate partner to bring more revitalization to neighborhoods throughout Greater Kansas City. The relaunched NRF is supporting an expanded geographic area, an increased award cap for its one-year grants, and new, two-year award options.

The NRF's newly expanded geographic area includes Jackson, Clay, Platte, and Cass counties in Missouri, as well as Wyandotte, Johnson, and Leavenworth counties in Kansas, with a specific focus on historically underinvested neighborhoods in these seven counties, which is also CCF's newly broadened service area.

The award cap for this year's one-year grants increased from \$3,000 to \$5,000, giving neighborhoods with additional capacity an opportunity to expand their programming.

Also, this year the NRF includes two-year award options of up to \$5,000 per year for applicants that have satisfactorily completed and reported on any prior NRF-funded projects.

Administered by the Community Capital Fund (CCF), the Neighborhoods Rising Fund (NRF) is a funding collaborative that provides grants for high-impact, innovative community projects and neighborhood revitalization initiatives, which help build stronger, better connected and more effective neighborhood organizations in low- to moderate-income areas, throughout the Greater Kansas City Metropolitan Area.

Learn more about applying for this year's NRF.

The 2021 grant application period is now open with a Friday, April 23, 2021 deadline. Grant applications may be submitted in one of three ways:

Complete and submit the **[ONLINE FORM here](#)**

[Download the 2021 NRF Guidelines + Application FILLABLE PDF here](#) and then complete and EMAIL to **info@ccfkansascity.org**

If online or email submission is inaccessible or burdensome, please print the [FILLABLE PDF here](#)* and then complete and MAIL to:

Community Capital Fund
ATTN: Neighborhoods Rising Fund
3200 Wayne Avenue
Kansas City, MO 64109

*** PRINTED COPIES of the NRF Grant Guidelines + Application can be picked up at the CCF office. Please call in advance 816.502.9584.**

For questions about the program, contact (816) 502-9584 or info@ccfkansascity.org. Para obtener ayuda en español, comuníquese con Michael Carmona al (816) 502-9584 o michael@ccfkansascity.org.

DEA NATIONAL RX

DRUG TAKEBACK

SATURDAY, APRIL 24
10:00AM-2:00 PM

PRICE CHOPPER
12220 U.S. 71 HWY
GRANDVIEW, MO





MISSOURI EMERGENCY RENTAL ARREARS PROGRAM

The state of Missouri's new rental assistance program using funding through the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) was passed by Congress in December 2020. On February 11, 2021 Governor Parson signed HB 16 into law, which provides more than \$324 million in funding for rental and utility assistance for Missourians. Missouri Housing Development Commission will administer this funding under the State Assistance for Housing Relief (SAFHR) program. Please click below for more information.

[Please Click Here For Program Information](#)

Please note that the Missouri Emergency Rental Arrears Program (ERAP) is a separate program from above, and is utilizing ESG-CV funding authorized through the CARES Act. This program is open to landlords seeking rental arrears for qualified tenants.

[Please Click Here For Program Information](#)

COVID-19 VACCINE CLINIC



(877) 435 - 8411

<https://covidvaccine.mo.gov/navigator/>

VACCINATIONS FOR THOSE 65 AND OLDER
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
4401 E. BLUE PARKWAY, KANSAS CITY, MO 64130



To Register for Vaccination
Use your smartphone
camera on this code.

KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE



March 31, 2021

Food Appointments Available

CAC has food appointments available 9 to 2:30 pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. This month after-hours are 4 - 6 pm, Wednesday, April 21 and 9 am to noon, Saturday, April 24. Call 816-763-3277 x 100 for a food appointment. Hygiene items are distributed with food. Happy Bottoms diapers and pull-ups are available without an appointment 9 am to 2:30 pm, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Call 816-763-3277 x 100 to register for diapers.

Basic Financial Literacy Class:

1 - 2 pm, Tuesday, April 27

This class on basics of financial literacy is free and open to anyone.

- Presented by Pauline Eatmon-Johnson, Business Owner and Consultant, Scholar Smarts,
- Register for class [HERE](#) for ZOOM or phone link.
- Contact Julie Reid, julie.reid@cackc.org, 816-763-3277 x 110 with questions.

CAC Showing Brilliance in Resilience in 2020

CAC is thrilled to be one of three KC area nonprofits selected as a finalist for the Nonprofit Connect small nonprofit Brilliance in Resilience award - recognizing how CAC turned obstacles into opportunities in 2020!. We hope you had a chance to vote! Join us May 12 for the virtual Philly Awards to learn the winners in each category! Link [HERE](#).

Emergency Rent, Utilities Assistance Update

In response to the requirements of our current emergency rent and utilities assistance, funding, all requests for rent and utilities assistance must start by filling out the application on the City of KCMO website - <https://gkcassistanceprogram.org/>. That site can also be accessed through CAC's website [HERE](#). South Kansas City residents can select CAC Someone who does not have internet access may leave one message with detailed information on CAC's Emergency Assistance line at 816-763-3277 x 108. We know there is critical need right now, but following this process will help us serve as many as possible. Thank you.

Save the Date - Community Cleanup June 12

Sixth District Community Cleanup Day will be 8 am to noon, June 12. Locations and more details to come.

Community Assistance Council is the social services agency that covers South Kansas City, including all of Hickman Mills and Center School Districts, with a food pantry, Happy Bottom diapers and pull-ups, Giving the Basics hygiene items, KC Medicine Cabinet medicines and equipment, emergency rent and utilities assistance and limited case management. We'd love to give you a tour or provide a program for your organization!

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 five sites in south Kansas City monthly to distribute fresh produce and other healthy food to families in need. The sites are:

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 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.

Center High School, 8715 Holmes Rd., from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. as long as food is left on the third Saturday of the month. The event is sponsored by Three Trails Community church in partnership with the Center School District.

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.



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!**