



Dear Neighbor,

I filed the following five bills on December 1 for consideration during the 2022 regular session of the Missouri General Assembly that starts January 5.

House Bill 1568 – Cited as Blair’s Law to commemorate the life of 11-year-old Blair Shanahan Lane who died soon after being struck by celebratory gunfire here on July 4, 2011, makes discharge of a firearm within or into city limits with criminal negligence a state offense.

House Bill 1569 – Allows any individual found guilty of a felony and imprisoned to apply for restitution of \$100 a day for each day of post-conviction imprisonment if the person is later determined to be actually innocent and exonerated. Currently restitution is only available to persons who are exonerated based solely on DNA analysis.

House Bill 1570 – Provides a tax credit of up to 50% of a person’s eligible expenses for establishing an urban farm (including a community-run garden) in a food desert that is not close to a full-service grocery store. An individual’s tax credit is limited to \$1,000 per urban farm.

House Bill 1679 – Establishes a sales tax exemption for diapers defined as “absorbent garments worn by infants or toddlers who are not toilet-trained or by individuals who are incapable of controlling bladder or bowel movements”.

House Bill 1680 – Requires persons to temporarily use an ignition interlock device on their vehicles that prevents the vehicle from starting if the person is intoxicated after conviction for an intoxication-related traffic offense. Currently ignition interlock devices are not required until after the second such conviction.

I greatly appreciate the support of the KCMO City Council that on December 2 passed a resolution without dissent stating the City's position on matters that may come up for consideration during the 2022 legislative session that supported passage of Blair's Law.

In this year's regular legislative session I added Blair's Law by amendment to another bill that passed the Missouri House and was recommended for passage without dissent by a Senate committee, but the session ended before it could be taken up by the full Senate. I am optimistic 2022 will be the year this life-saving legislation will finally be enacted into law.

Please contact me at Mark.Sharp@house.mo.gov if there is other legislation you would like me to consider sponsoring, co-sponsoring or supporting or legislation you would like me to oppose.

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



I was at the State Capitol December 1 to file five bills I am sponsoring for consideration during the 2022 regular session of the Missouri General Assembly that will run from January 5 to May 13. That was the first day bills could be filed for consideration during the session.

WEEKLY CAPITOL UPDATE

Friday, December 3rd, 2021

DATA SHOWS MASK MANDATES ARE EFFECTIVE

A data analysis conducted by the Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services last month showed that mask mandates in more populous areas of the state helped reduce COVID-19 infections and deaths during the recent delta variant wave, the Missouri Independent reported Dec. 1.

The study was obtained by the Independent as part of an open records request.

Gov. Mike Parson's office requested the analysis in early November, the Independent reported. It compared infection and death rates in St. Louis City, St. Louis County, Kansas City and Jackson County to the rest of the state. Those four jurisdictions had re-imposed mask mandates as the delta variant was sweeping Missouri.

According to the analysis, jurisdictions with mask mandates averaged 15.8 cases per day for every 100,000 residents compared to 21.7 cases per day in unmasked jurisdictions, the Independent reported. The period covered by the analysis ranged from the end of April through the end of October.

In a Nov. 3 email also obtained by the Independent, Health & Senior Services Department Director Donald Kauerauf said infection and death rates are influenced by several variables but that masks are effective in reducing both.

"I think we can say with great confidence reviewing the public health literature and then looking at the results in your study that communities where masks were required had a lower positivity rate per 100,000 and experienced lower death rates," Kauerauf wrote.

The Kansas City and Jackson County mask orders have expired, but those in St. Louis City and St. Louis County remain in place.

Attorney General Eric Schmitt has sued several local jurisdictions, largely unsuccessfully so far, seeking to block their mask requirements.

JUDGE STRIKES DOWN STATE COVID REGULATIONS

After a Cole County judge declared unconstitutional state regulations empowering local health officials to enact orders aimed at controlling the spread of COVID-19, some local jurisdictions say the ruling doesn't apply to them since their restrictions are based on a state law enacted this year and not the disputed regulation.

On Nov. 22, Cole County Judge Dan Green ruled regulations promulgated by the Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services authorizing local health departments to issues orders aimed at controlling the spread of the disease violate the separation of powers clause of the state constitution.

"This case is about whether Missouri's Department of Health & Senior Services regulations can abolish representative government in the creation of public health laws, and whether it can authorize closure of a school or assembly based on the unfettered opinion of an unelected official," Green wrote. "This Court finds it cannot."

However, the restrictive orders enacted during the pandemic's early months that Green finds constitutionally objectionable expired long ago. Those in place today must comply with a new state law requiring elected local city and county governing boards to approve restrictions and periodically vote to renew them.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported Nov. 30 that some city, county and school officials have said their COVID-related orders will remain in effect despite Green's decision since those orders follow the new law, which the ruling didn't address.

The paper also reported that the Health & Senior Services Department issued a letter to local health officials on Nov. 29 stating that for now its regulations remain in effect since Green has stayed enforcement of his ruling. "It is not

currently in effect, as it is stayed by court order for 30 days,” the letter says. “Further, there is an appeal pending the decision so this matter is far from determined.”

Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt has signaled his office doesn’t want to appeal the ruling, with a spokesman saying the office is “prepared to enforce compliance with the court’s order across the state.”

However, since Schmitt’s office is not a party to the case but instead is representing the Health & Senior Services Department, the final decision isn’t necessarily Schmitt’s to make, and the Nov. 29 letter indicates the Department is weighing an appeal. As of Dec. 1, no appeal had been filed.

LEGISLATOR RESIGNS FOR CHILD ADVOCACY POST

State Representative Becky Ruth, R-Festus, resigned from the House of Representatives on Nov. 30 to accept a gubernatorial appointment as director of the Office of Child Advocate, an independent agency that serves as watchdog over the Children’s Division of the Missouri Department of Social Services.

Her first day on the job was Dec. 1.

Ruth, a real estate agent and retired high school teacher, is best known in the legislature for her work as chair of the House Transportation Committee.

Parson currently isn’t expected to call a special election to fill Ruth’s vacant House seat, which will be up for election for a full term in November 2022. Ruth was serving her fourth House term and couldn’t seek re-election next year due to term limits. Her departure leaves three House vacancies, all previously held by Republicans.

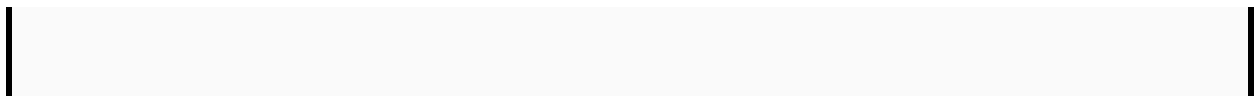
Date		Time		Location		Activity	

**Hickman Mills Educational Foundation is Sponsoring a
Raffle to Raise Funds for Scholarships and
Classroom Grants
For the HMC#1 School District**

**Patrick Mahomes' Autographed and
Framed KC Chiefs NFL Jersey
With Super Bowl and AFC Patches
With Certificate of Authenticity
Raffle Tickets are \$25
Only 100 Tickets for Sale**



**Drawing will be December 17th
Tickets are available by emailing
hmc1hmef@hickmanmills.org**





Free Construction Apprentice Ready Program Now Accepting Applications

- 5 weeks alongside industry experts
- Weekly program stipends available
- Pathway to USDOL registered apprenticeships

APPLY TODAY!

Requirements to Participate:

- 18 years of age or older
- Eligible to work in the United States
- Meet Military Selective Service requirements

Preferred Credentials:

- WorkKeys Applied Math: Level 5
- WorkKeys Workplace Documents: Level 5
- Pass a drug test
- High School Diploma or equivalent

Currently Accepting Applications!

For more information, please
contact Rudy Chavez at
(816) 806-1840
rudychavez@moaflcio.org or
visit **moworksinitiative.org**



In partnership with the Missouri AFL-CIO and the Missouri Works Initiative



Kansas City Health Department

VACCINATION CLINIC



**Saturday,
Dec. 4**
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Smith-Hale Middle School
9010A Old Santa Fe Rd,
Kansas City, Missouri 64138

- School Immunizations
- Flu shots: 6 months and up
- COVID vaccines: 5 years and up
- COVID Boosters all 3 Vaccines





PRESENTS

Gateway to the Holidays
John C. Carmichael, Ph.D.
Conductor

John R. Locke, Ph.D.
Co-Conductor and Special Guest

Center High School
December 5, 2021
2:00 pm

Tickets available on website (pinnaclewinds.com)
and at the door
\$10.00 adults \$5.00 seniors or students



**Wednesday,
December 8, 2021**

4:00 p.m.

**Tanner's Bar & Grill
11134 Holmes Road
Kansas City, MO 64131**

You're invited to a
Ribbon Cutting!



Please join us for a

Please join us for a Ribbon Cutting to celebrate the Grand Opening of Tanner's Bar & Grill in the Red Bridge Shopping Center.

Plan to stick around after the ribbon cutting ceremony for a holiday happy hour. Be sure to wear your favorite holiday sweater to participate in the Ugly Sweater Contest. The winner will receive a \$50 Tanner's gift card! Don't forget to wear your Santa hat!

**Wednesday, December 8, 2021
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony 4:00 p.m.
Happy Hour to follow**



CRAM-A-CRUISER

HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE

WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 8TH



4:00 - 6:00 PM

1118 Blue Ridge Blvd
Kansas City, MO 64134



Bring a new, unwrapped toy to benefit
Hickman Mills, Center & Grandview School
district families



Get your picture with Blue Santa,
local officers & SuperHeroes

THANK YOU!

DOLLAR GENERAL



SOUTH PATROL DIVISION





santa & mrs. claus's

TOY DRIVE

benefitting  **Children's Mercy**
KANSAS CITY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11 / 2-5 PM

LOCATED NEAR CALEB'S ON THE NW CORNER



Stop by OR drive by to see Santa & Mrs. Claus and share your holiday spirit by donating a new, unused toy to a child in need at Children's Mercy Hospital!



ENTERTAINMENT
& LIVE HOLIDAY
MUSIC FROM:





JILLIAN RISOCE

SWEET TREATS & HOLIDAY CHEER FROM:





DECEMBER 16, 2021
4:00PM-6:00PM

DOLLAR GENERAL®

302 Blue Ridge Boulevard



DONATE AN UNWRAPPED TOY



VISIT WITH BLUE SANTA AND GRANDVIEW OFFICERS



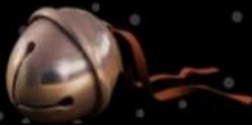
Your ticket awaits...



**DECEMBER 17TH
KCPD SOUTH PATROL DIVISION
9701 MARION PARK DRIVE
KCMO 64137**

**6:00 PM SANTA, CHRISTMAS CAROLS,
FOOD, CRAFTS & FUN
7:00 PM MOVIE TIME**

*Wear your favorite pajamas &
bring a lawn chair or blanket*







Holiday Gift Drive

BENEFITTING  CORNERSTONES OF CARE YOUTH



This season the Martin City Community Improvement District is asking for your help with a Holiday Gift Drive benefitting the youth of Cornerstones of Care at Ozanam. This is your opportunity to bring holiday warmth and cheer to a population that is sometimes overlooked by traditional holiday drives: adolescents and teens.

DONATION DROP-OFF LOCATIONS:

**ALL STAR CHIROPRACTIC - JESS & JIM'S STEAKHOUSE -
KC RUNNING COMPANY - LUKAS LIQUOR - MARGARITA'S -
MARTIN CITY COFFEE - MARTIN CITY PIZZA & TAPROOM -
RC'S RESTAURANT**

Teen gift ideas include:

- headphones/earbuds
- bluetooth speakers
- activity tracking watches/bracelets
- journals
- room decor
- hoodies/sweatshirts
- hydro flask
- hair accessories
- nail polish, makeup
- lotion
- perfume/cologne
- electric razors
- watches/jewelry

GIFT CARDS

\$20 increments, please

- Target/Walmart
- Grocery Stores
- QuikTrip
- Restaurants

BASICS

- comforters/blankets
- sheet sets (twin size)
- socks/underwear
- scarves, gloves, and hats

QUESTIONS:

Contact Vickie Wolgast with the MCCID at 816-308-1023
or email: manager@martincity.org



DONATION MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19TH.

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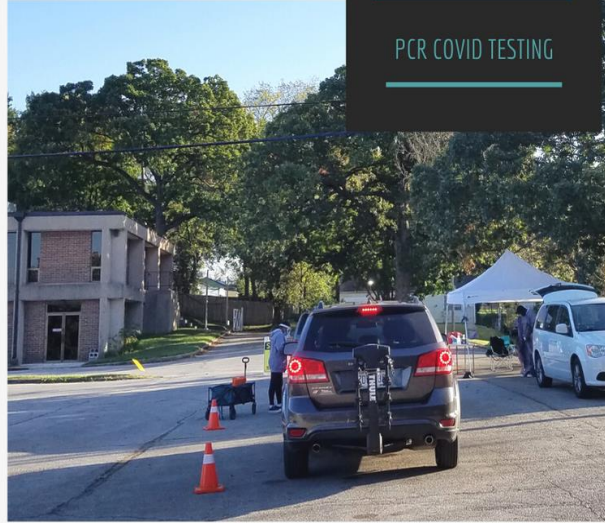
FREE COVID TESTING

DRIVE-THRU COVID TESTING PROVIDED BY THE STATE OF MISSOURI



NEXTGEN
DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES

PCR COVID TESTING



PCR TESTING

- Completely FREE
- Drive-thru
- No appointment
- Results within 48 hours, but usually by next day

4 DAYS A WEEK AT 2 KC LOCATIONS

MONDAYS, THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS

Labor Union Local #663
Parking Lot
7820 Prospect
KCMO 64132
10am - 6pm

SATURDAYS

Teamsters Local #955
Parking Lot
4501 Emanuel Cleaver II
KCMO 64130
10am - 6pm



HOURS: 10A - 6P

MON: 79th & Prospect

TUE: n/a

WED: n/a

THU: 79th & Prospect

FRI: 79th & Prospect

SAT: 45th & Cleaver Blvd

SUN: n/a

<https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/novel-coronavirus/community-test.php>

South KC Mobile Food Pantries

Many 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 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. (There will be no pantry in January.)

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., our new dates during the holidays are Monday November 29th and Monday December 20th from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. In the new year we will continue with our fourth Friday of the month in the church parking lot.



The December 2021 issue of Kansas City's Most Wanted is now available.

Your monthly delivery of Kansas City's Most Wanted is here! Take a look at this month's local fugitives and see if you recognize anyone. If so, submit an anonymous TIP and you could receive a cash reward! No one will ever know except you.

TIPS can be anonymously submitted via the following methods:

- The TIPS Hotline at 816-474-TIPS (8477)
- Online at www.kccrimestoppers.com
- The P3 Mobile App

Thank you for your continued support of the Greater Kansas City Crime Stoppers program.

**Note: If your browser is still displaying last month's issue, please try opening the page in an incognito window.*

[View Now](#)



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!**