



Dear Neighbor,

I had the privilege of helping distribute healthy food to families in need this week with other volunteers when the Harvesters mobile food pantry made its monthly visit to Ruskin High School. Hundreds of families with members of all ages were served, and they all seemed truly grateful to receive so much nutritious food.

The four sites the mobile food pantry visits monthly in south Kansas City are included in this issue, along with the days of the month and the hours each site is open.

Email is probably the best way to reach my office during the partial

closure of the State Capitol Building. If you are unable to quickly reach me, my assistant <u>Brian Farmer</u> is ready to help you.

Feel free to forward this newsletter to your friends and family who might want to know the latest information about how to keep safe during the pandemic and about what is happening in state government and how it will impact them. Be safe and God bless.

Yours in Service, Mark A. Sharp

Mark A. Sharp Weekly Capitol Report

Friday, April 17th, 2020

GENERAL ASSEMBLY PLANS TO RESUME SESSION APRIL 27

The General Assembly plans to reconvene on April 27 to complete the final three weeks of the 2020 legislative session. In a joint statement issued April 15, the top four Republican legislative leaders said they had to balance the health and safety of lawmakers, employees and Capitol visitors amid the COVID-19 pandemic with the legislature's constitutional obligation to pass the state budget.

"The decision to move forward on April 27 was not an easy one, however, it is absolutely critical for the people of Missouri that we keep the state government-funded and services operating without interruption," the statement said. "We will use the intervening time to monitor the trajectory of Missouri's coronavirus cases as well as

assess the impact of newly issued federal guidance and disaster funds on the state budget."

The legislative session largely has been suspended since mid-March, although both chambers did briefly reconvene on April 8 to pass an emergency spending bill covering the final months of the current fiscal year.

If lawmakers return April 27, there will only be three weeks remaining in the legislative session before its constitutionally mandated end at 6 p.m. on May 15 and only two weeks until the May 8 constitutional deadline for passing the FY 2021 state operating budget.

Although the statement indicated the focus would be on the budget, there are indications Republicans, who hold supermajorities in both the Senate and House of Representatives, may try to salvage parts of their political agenda during the session's closing weeks, including passing a proposed constitutional amendment that seeks to reverse the Clean Missouri redistricting reforms voters overwhelmingly approved just last year.

At his April 14 press briefing, however, Republican Gov. Mike Parson said that when lawmakers return their only priorities, other than the budget, should be legislation related to the state's COVID-19 response and restarting Missouri's economy.

"We've got to get the economy going, and we've got to get people back to work because if we don't do those things, the rest of the priorities are not going to matter much." Parson said.

Until recent days, it had been expected that lawmakers likely wouldn't return for the remainder to this year's regular legislative session and instead pass the state budget during a special session in late May or early June. Some lawmakers questioned the wisdom of reconvening in late April, which is right around the same time the pandemic is currently anticipated to peak in Missouri.

House Minority Leader Crystal Quade, D-Springfield, agreed with the governor that if lawmakers return to the Capitol, the agenda should be limited to passing the budget and enacting only those laws necessary to assist the state's COVID-19 response and providing economic relief to Missouri workers and businesses.

"Under no circumstances should the lives of the public, legislative staff and lawmakers be jeopardized to advance a partisan political agenda or grant special interest favors," Quade said.

COUNTIES PUSHING FOR EXPANDED ABSENTEE VOTING

Some county elections authorities are pushing to allow voters to cite the COVID-19 pandemic as a valid reason to vote by absentee ballot under state law, despite opposition from Gov. Mike Parson and Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft.

Unlike the majority of states that allow voters to cast an absentee ballot without stating a reason, Missouri law allows absentee voting only under certain conditions, such as the voter plans to be away on Election Day or can't make it to their polling place due to "incapacity or confinement due to illness."

St. Louis County officials cited the latter provision as authorizing absentee voting under the current circumstances since Missourians are under a statewide order to stay at home, subject to certain exemptions, and limit gathering to no more than 10 people. As a means of minimizing the spread of COVID-19 in crowded polling places, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends encouraging vote-by-mail or early voting in jurisdictions that allow it.

When asked at his April 14 press briefing if he believes the COVID-19 pandemic is a valid reason for Missourians to request an absentee ballot for upcoming elections, Parson said he does not. He also said "now is not the time to talk about elections."

"The absentee ballot is more of a political issue than it is anything," Parson said. "That's a Democrat-Republican issue, and that's where this is all headed, to a political answer of what's driving behind this force."

According to an April 10 story by The Kansas City Star, Ashcroft bizarrely claimed, without evidence, that expanded absentee voting or voting by mail somehow would lead to foreign meddling in Missouri's elections.

"In-person voting is the most secure way to have an election and make sure Russian spies or North Korea or whoever can't mess with our election," Ashcroft said. "That is the gold standard of having a secure election."

Missourians are next scheduled to go to the polls on June 2 for municipal elections originally scheduled for April 7. Parson ordered the municipal elections postponed due to concerns about the safety of voters and poll workers.

Governor Parson Extends Statewide "Stay Home Missouri" Order Through May 3



Missouri Governor — Michael L. Parson

Office of Communications

April 16, 2020

Governor Mike Parson extended the statewide "Stay Home Missouri" Order through May 3, 2020, and announced the state's initial framework to help Missouri safely and gradually move into the recovery phase of COVID-19.

"We are seeing very early signs in the data leading us to be cautiously optimist that Missouri is beginning to slow the course of the infection and see improvement, even in our hardest hit areas like St. Louis and Kansas City," **Governor Parson** said. "Today, I am extending the 'Stay Home Missouri' Order through Sunday, May 3, so we can prepare to reopen the economy and get Missourians back to work."

Governor Parson thanked Missourians for their efforts and commitment to following the "Stay Home Missouri Order," which has helped improve projections for the course of COVID-19 in Missouri.

For more information and resources regarding COVID-19, please visit the CDC's website at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus and the DHSS website at www.health.mo.gov/coronavirus.

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

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.

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.

Martin City K-8 School, 201 E. 133rd St., from 11 a.m. until food runs out on the third Saturday of the month. This event is sponsored by Three Trails Community church.

Website for Essential Companies Hiring NOW!!

Missouri faces unprecedented times due to the impacts of COVID-19. Here at the Department of Economic Development, we recognize that many of the low-income, atrisk citizens your organizations work with will be hit the hardest and be the first to lose employment. With that in mind, we wanted to direct your attention to the Missouri Now Hiring website https://missourionestart.com/now-hiring. Missouri One Start is connecting unemployed workers to essential companies who are staffing up to meet the increased demand for their products and services. There you will find a list of companies that are hiring right now. This site takes workers directly to the hiring/application pages of the respective companies. The list is updated on an ongoing basis, so checking back daily is advised. Please link your clients in-need to this website so our workers can make it past this situation as painlessly as possible.

We also want to make sure you are aware of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act that recently passed Congress. Nonprofits may be eligible for a number of programs including disaster and paycheck protection loans. The link can be found here https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/paycheck-protection-

<u>program</u>. If your organization is struggling with aspects like keeping employees on the payroll, we encourage you to look into these resources.



St. Joseph Medical Center is doing everything we can to be a strong resource for our community during the COVID-19 pandemic. We have a dedicated team working together to meet the needs of South Kansas City.

We would like to invite you and our community to come out and support our staff during this time. We are planning a "**Honking for our Heroes**" on Wednesday, April 22 from 6:30pm-7:45pm to honk for staff during shift change to help lift them up during these times.

We are requiring everyone stay in their cars for their safety and to maintain social distancing. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Many members of our community have asked how they can assist. We cannot tell you how much we appreciate you thinking of our providers and staff who are working every day to help keep us all healthy.

We are accepting donations for the items listed below. If you have any questions or wish to discuss supporting our hospital in this way or ways not described in this communication, please contact Kim Chalmers, Supervisor of Senior Care Services at 816-943-4543 or by email at KChalmers@primehealthcare.com.

What to donate:

- Homemade Masks
- Disposable face masks
- N95 masks, sometimes called respirators
- Eye protection including face shields and safety goggles
- Disposable gowns
- Disposable gloves, especially non-latex
- Disposable surgical caps
- Disposable foot covers
- · Wipes: bleach or antimicrobial
- Hand sanitizer



The latest on CORONAVIRUS kcmo.gov/coronavirus

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**.

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services is operating a <u>hotline</u> 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.

During this urgent and unprecedented public health crisis, the United Way of Greater Kansas City wants to remind you of the referral services available through 211, a one-stop resource for community relief – food, financial help, utility assistance, tax services and more. Through 211, callers are connected to more than 8,000 programs run by nonprofit organizations and government agencies throughout the 23-county United Way 211 service area. For assistance, visit 211kc.org or dial 211.

Kansas City's website has a <u>page</u> dedicated to the coronavirus. It has the latest updates on the state of emergency proclamations, orders and <u>Changes in City</u> <u>Operations and Online Resources</u>. The page includes resources such as a <u>Guide for Businesses and Organizations</u> and links to the <u>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</u> and the <u>KCMO Health Department</u>.

Kansas City, Missouri Health Department (KCHD)

- 1. Call (816) 513-6008 for general help and information:
- Email at: health@kcmo.org.
- 3. Visit in person, Monday Friday, 7:30 AM 5:00 PM

Kansas City, Mo. Health Department: 2400 Troost Ave. Kansas City, MO 64108

Please Visit KC City Hall website dedicated to COVID-19 for Coronavirus FAQ's

The City encourages everyone to watch public meetings <u>online</u> or on <u>Channel 2</u> and submit public comments by <u>email</u>.



KIDS EAT FREE!

Free lunch is available to all children 1 to 18 years old Monday through Friday "Grab and Go" sack lunch is available at the following locations and times:

Children's Mercy Clinics on Broadway: 3101 Broadway, Kansas City, MO 64111

- 11:30 am 1:00 pm, fresh sack lunch and allergy-free lunch
- On Fridays, fresh bag of produce provided to each family while supply lasts

Children's Mercy East: 20300 E Valley View Pkwy, Independence, MO 64057

- 12:30 3:00 pm, shelf stable meal Don Chisholm Building: 610 E 22nd St, Kansas City, MO 64108
- 11:30 am 1:00 pm, fresh sack lunch and allergy-free lunch On Fridays, fresh bag of produce provided to each family while supply lasts

Children's Mercy Northland Clinic: 501 NW Barry Rd, Kansas City, MO 64155 • 12:00 – 1:00 pm, shelf stable meal

Children's Mercy West Clinic: 4313 State Ave, Kansas City, KS 66102 • 11:30 am – 1:30 pm, fresh sack lunch Parent/guardian may pick up meal(s) for child(ren) if child is not present.

For more information, visit www.childrensmercy.org/kidseatfree

Missouri State Resources

24 hour hotline: 877-435-8411

or https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/novel-coronavirus/

Unemployment

Kansas City Claims Center: 816-889-3101 or

Missouri Unemployment Website

DO YOU QUALIFY FOR BENEFITS?

If you lost income or health insurance due to COVID-19, you may now qualify for help.

Monthly Income per Family Size

	Food Stamp (SNAP)	TANF (Cash Assistance)*	Medicald for Kids**	Medicald for Families	Help paying for Child Care
ŤŤ	\$1,832	\$234	\$4,310	\$234	\$1,944
iii	\$2,311	\$292	\$5,430	\$292	\$2,454
iiii	\$2,790	\$342	\$6,550	\$342	\$2,961

*A child must be present in the home to qualify.

**Some income levels require a monthly premium.

NOTE: There are more requirements to qualify, not just income. Visit mydss.mo.gov to learn more.

HOW TO APPLY

If you think you may qualify for benefits, you can apply in one of these ways:

- Visit myDSS.mo.gov
- Call 1-855-FSD-INFO (1-855-373-4636)
- Email or fax your application and documents to FSD.Documents@dss.mo.gov or 573-526-9400



Questions? Call 1-855-FSD-INFO (1-855-373-4636)

UNEMPLOYMENT

How to File?

If you're eligible, you'll <u>need</u> the following:

1. Your Social Security number;

2. Any amount you were paid in the past week, before taxes and deductions;

3. The name and mailing address of each job you worked in the past 18 months;

4. The dates you started and ended work at each of those jobs.

If this is your first time filing for unemployment please watch **this video** on unemployment basics. Visit <u>uinteract.labor.mo.gov</u>, create an account and file your claim. If your job loss is related to coronavirus issues, make sure to check a box that says "COVID-19" in your application to waive a requirement to search for a new job amid the crisis.

Missouri provides benefits for up to 20 weeks, which can be extended to 33 weeks under the federal provisions.

The state will pay you up to \$320 per week, and the federal government will provide \$600 on top of whatever you get from the state for each week you're on employment prior to July 31.

Benefits can be paid within 22 days unless there is an issue with your eligibility, which on average can take 4-6 weeks to resolve.

You should continue filing weekly requests for payment even if you have not yet received benefits.

Regional Claims Center representatives are available by phone Monday – Friday from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM by calling:

Kansas City Claims Center: <u>816-889-3101</u> or visit

Missouri Unemployment Website

Please visit the Missouri Department of Labor's website for more information about COVID-19 FAQ's for Businesses and Workers: https://labor.mo.gov/coronavirus

US Department of Labor has a few sites dedicated to Families First Coronavirus

Response Act.

https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic/ffcra-employee-paid-leave https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic/ffcra-questions

SCHOOL BREAKFAST & LUNCH PROGRAMS

GO TO THE WEBSITES BELOW FOR INFORMATION ON BREAKFAST & LUNCH PROGRAMS FOR AREA SCHOOL DISTRICTS DURING THE CURRENT CLOSURE.

CENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

www.center.k12.mo.us

GRANDVIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT

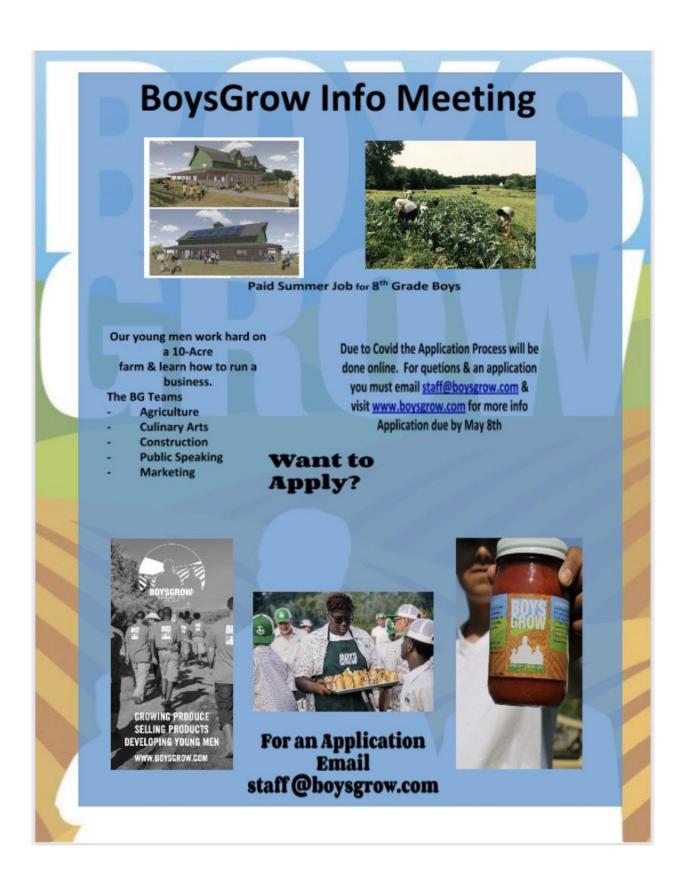
www.grandviewc4.net

HICKMAN MILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

www.hickmanmills.org

KANSAS CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.kcpublicschools.org



Important Medical Information

HOSPITALS

Children's Mercy Hospital	
2401 Gillham Rd, Kansas City 64108	
Emergency	<u>(816) 234-3430</u>
Non-Emergency	(816) 234-3000
Volunteer Services	<u>(816) 234-3496</u>
North Kansas City Hospital	<u>(816) 691-2000</u>
2800 Clay Edwards Dr, Kansas City 64116	
Emergency	<u>(816) 691-2098</u>
Research Medical Center - Brookside Campus	(816) 276-7000
6601 Rockhill Rd, Kansas City 64134	
St. Joseph Medical Center	(816) 942-4400
1000 Carondelet, Kansas City 64114	
Saint Luke's Hospital	
4401 Wornall Rd, Kansas City 64111	
Non-Emergency	<u>(816) 932-2000</u>
Pharmacy	
Nurse Line	<u>(816) 932-6220</u>
Swope Health Services	<u>(816) 923-5800</u>
3801 Blue Parkway, Kansas City 64130	
Samuel Rodgers Health Center	<u>(816) 474-4920</u>

825 Euclid Ave, Kansas City 64124

Truman Medical Center	<u>(816) 404-7000</u>
7900 Lee's Summit Rd, Kansas City 64139	
Transportation	<u>(816) 404-3375</u>
Veterans Administration Medical Center	<u>(816) 861-4700</u>
4801 E Linwood Blvd, Kansas City 64128	

Truman Medical Centers has available services for **Jackson County residents** during the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

If you are experiencing a fever, a new cough or new shortness of breath, you can call **404-CARE (2273)** and speak to a health care professional to be screened for COVID-19.



Feeling ill with COVID-19 symptoms?

Fever, cough, new shortness of breath, flu-like symptoms?



Call 816-404-CARE (2273)

to get tested outside
St. James United Methodist Church
55th and Paseo - North Parking Lot.

On site testing only available: Wednesday, April 22, 12 pm-4 pm







Testing provided by Truman Medical Centers/University Health

GREATER KANSAS CITY CRIME STOPPERS 816-474-TIPS HOTLINE

FROM: Det. Kevin Boehm, Crime Stoppers Coordinator

SUBJECT: Reward Increase – 9 Year Old Dominic Young Homicide

KANSAS CITY, MO --- The Kansas City, Missouri Police Department and the Greater KC Crime Stoppers TIPS Hotline continue to seek information in the January 20, 2018 homicide of 9 year old Dominic Young Jr. at 71 Highway and Emanuel Cleaver II Blvd.

Dominic Young Jr. was apparently hit by a stray gunshot while occupying a vehicle driven by his father and died as a result of his injuries. Dominic, his father and brother were en route to Grandview at the time. The vehicle driven by Dominic's father was hit by gunshots from other vehicles apparently engaged in a gunfight according to statements.

KCPD found a possible crime scene near the intersection where the father said the shooting happened. When the father arrived home in Grandview, Dominic was not responsive. Grandview police initially responded to the father's home and found the boy in critical condition. He was later pronounced dead at a hospital.

A number of community leaders and organizations including State Representative Richard Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McManus, former City Councilmen Scott Taylor, Scott Wagner, John Sharp; the City of KCMO and Concord Fortress of Hope Church (Pastor Ron Lindsay) have come forward to increase the existing reward in the case up to \$30,000.00. Those leaders are available for comment in regard to the case.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers Greater Kansas City TIPS Hotline at 816-474-TIPS (8477), TIPS may also be submitted electronically at www.KCcrimestoppers.com, or by downloading our NEW mobile app, P3TIPS, on Google Play or the Apple iOS stores for FREE. Information leading to an arrest and/or filing of charges could be eligible for up to \$30,000.00 in reward money. ALL INFORMATION IS ANONYMOUS.



Remain Anonymous • Receive Cash Rewards Tips Hotline

816-474-8477

Web Tips

www.KCcrimestoppers.com

Free Mobile App www.P3Tips.com

My Legislation

HB2107- Modifies residency requirements for the A+ Schools Program

<u>HB2169</u>- Establishes Blair's Law, which creates the offense of unlawful discharge of a firearm for discharging a firearm within or into the limits of a municipality with criminal negligence

HB 2635 - Provides that the period of detention on arrest without a warrant is 48 hours for criminal offenses involving a dangerous felony or deadly weapon

HB 2636 - Modifies provisions regarding the expungement of records

<u>HB 2690</u> - Establishes a Negro Leagues Baseball Museum special license plate

Update: <u>HB2169</u> was passed out of General Laws Committee by a vote of 12-1. The bill has moved to the Rules Committee.



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