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Forward

Dear Neighbor,

More details have been released about the special session of the General Assembly called by the Governor to consider legislation the state can enact to finally focus on reducing the horrendous number of homicides in Missouri's largest cities and other violent crimes caused at least in part by Missouri's extremely weak gun laws.

As of today, there already had been 107 homicides (almost all caused by gunfire) in KCMO this year, far outpacing the number ever recorded by this date.

I joined Mayor Lucas in requesting the special session, and we both asked the governor to include on its agenda legislation to establish and fund a long overdue pretrial witness protection program in Missouri such as the legislation I co-sponsored during this year's regular session. Fortunately, the governor did include it on the agenda.

The cooperation of witnesses is usually essential to successfully prosecute violent offenders, but witnesses often are reluctant to testify

for fear they would be putting their own safety and the safety of their families at risk. **Providing pretrial witness protection will encourage more witnesses to testify which will help take repeat violent offenders off the streets before they can harm more victims.**

The Senate is scheduled to convene July 27 to start the session, but won't reconvene until August 5 after the primary election when it will begin its deliberations on legislation. The House is scheduled to have a procedural session on the 27th and to reconvene on August 12.

Under the state constitution, the session could last up to 60 days running through September 25, but it is not expected to last nearly that long.

On other matters, please scroll down through the report to learn about the free COVID-19 testing to be offered by the Jackson County Health Department from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, July 29, at the Metro Christian Fellowship Church, 2217 High Grove Rd. in Grandview and how to register for the testing.

Email is probably the best way to reach my office. If you are unable to quickly reach me, my assistant [Brian Farmer](#) is ready to help you.

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

Mark A. Sharp Weekly Capitol Report

Friday, July 24th, 2020

PARSON CRITICIZED FOR DOWNPLAYING VIRUS' RISK TO KIDS

Governor Mike Parson sparked national criticism and condemnation after stating with certainty on a St. Louis radio program that Missouri children will contract COVID-19 when they return to school, but that “they’re going to get over it.”

Parson made his comments on July 17 during an interview on KFTK FM during which he discussed the need for public schools to reopen as scheduled next month.

“These kids have to get back to school,” Parson said. “They’re at the lowest risk possible. And if they do get COVID-19, which they will – and they will when they go to school – they’re not going to the hospitals. They’re going to go home and they’re going to get over it.”

Parson’s statement quickly spread on social media, with commenters denouncing his seeming ambivalence to children contracting the disease and ignoring the risk they would pose to older family members they might infect, even if the children themselves suffer few ill effects. Major national news organizations also picked up the story.

Parson attempted to walk back his comments during a July 22 interview on KMOX AM in St. Louis, saying: “I didn’t do a good job of explaining the point I was trying to make.” He also attacked those who criticized him as “sick individuals,” according to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Missouri has continued to frequently break daily records for new reported cases. On July 21, the state reported 1,138 new cases – marking the first time it topped the 1,000-case mark in a single day. Missouri shattered that record the next day with 1,301 new cases.

STATE FAIR CANCELLED FOR FIRST TIME SINCE WW II

After planning for weeks to forge ahead with a scaled-back Missouri State Fair, organizers abruptly cancelled most of what was left on July 17 because of safety concerns due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All that will remain at this year's version of the annual event in Sedalia are the outdoor youth livestock shows.

Gov. Mike Parson repeatedly had touted the importance of holding the fair, which he said had previously been cancelled just once during its history, during World War II.

Lack of sponsor support likely contributed to the fair's cancellation, despite the governor's desire to push ahead. The day before organizers made their announcement, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported at least 20 major sponsors had pulled out of the event.

This year's fair was scheduled to run from Aug. 13-23. Five of the eight states bordering Missouri had already cancelled their state fairs, according to the Post-Dispatch. Only Arkansas, Kentucky and Nebraska still planned to hold theirs.



The HelpKC: Reentry Program for Women Hosts:
REENTRY RESOURCE FAIR

Any women who have been subject to any stage of the criminal justice process are welcome!

- TOILETRIES/HYGEINE PRODUCTS
- FRESH PRODUCE
- GIFT CARD GIVEAWAYS
- BACKPACKS FILLED WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES GIVEAWAY
- MAMMOGRAMS
- EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING, FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MORE!

SATURDAY
AUGUST 1, 2020
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
VICTORIOUS LIFE CHURCH
Parking Lot
3400 PASEO
KANSAS CITY, MO 64109

If you are interested in a Mammogram, please contact our office prior to the event!

We're bringing
MOBILE MAMMOGRAPHY
to YOU!



The HelpKC assist any women who have been formerly incarcerated and/or convicted of a felony. Please contact our office for additional information:

OFFICE: 1734 E 63rd St, Suite 108, Kansas City, Missouri 64110
PHONE: 816-227-6020 EMAIL: info@thehelpkc.org

www.thehelpkc.org





Councilwoman Parks-Shaw & Blue Hills Neighborhood Assoc. Hosts:



FREE FOOD GIVEAWAY



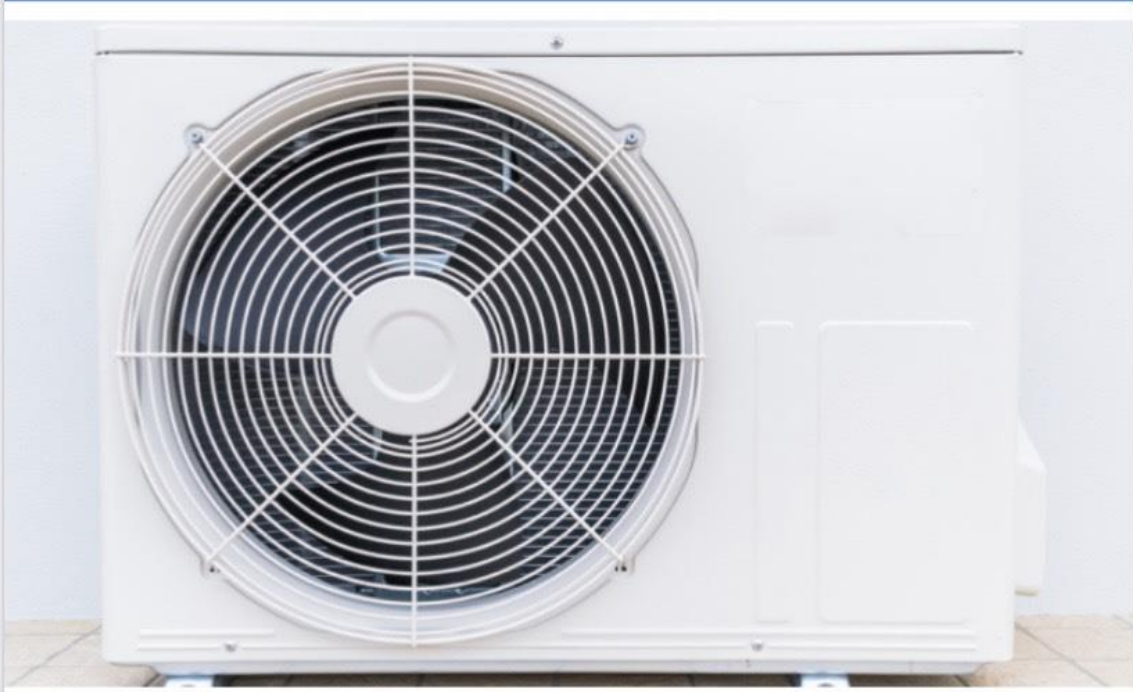
AUGUST 7TH | 2- 4PM
PARADISE BAPTIST CHURCH
1600 E 58th St, Kansas City,
MO 64110

Food donated by Harvesters



HEALTHY HOMES

FREE AIR CONDITIONER DISTRIBUTION



**DISTRIBUTING EVERY MONDAY BEGINNING JULY 13TH
THROUGH AUGUST FROM 9:00 AM TO 11:00 AM**

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Give us a call at 816-358-6868 to see if you meet our eligibility guidelines to receive an air conditioner at no cost to you.

DISTRIBUTION SITE:

6323 Manchester Ave.,
Kansas City, MO 64133

WWW.CAAGKC.ORG

*This program is funded 93% at \$2,529,241.00 with federal funds and 7% at \$174,011.00 with nongovernmental sources for a total amount of \$2,703,252.00. The federal funds



A Warm Welcome for New Gorillas



West Africa will be open to the public beginning Thursday, July 23! Our gorilla troop and other animals will be happy to welcome you back. Please note that face masks will be required

to cross the swinging bridge to enter West Africa, as well as near the Amur leopard habitat. The pathway will also be one-way traffic.

While West Africa has been closed, there's been a lot going on behind-the-scenes with the addition of two new 400-pound male gorillas! After spending their earlier years at the Denver Zoo, brothers Curtis (25) and Charlie (24)

are now a bachelor group of their own in Kansas City. Male gorillas typically live with their family groups until they reach 5-9 years of age. At that time, they may leave to form a family group of their own, live solitary, or create a bachelor group. In zoos, we manage the population of Western lowland gorillas through a consortium called the Species Survival Plan (SSP). Curtis and Charlie will stay at the Kansas City Zoo until the SSP determines if they should make a family of their own here or at another zoo.

Curtis and Charlie will be viewable to the public several days each week, alternating time in the habitat with the rest of the gorilla troop. We hope you'll visit soon and help us welcome these boys to Kansas City!

[Make a Timed Reservation](#)

It's Time to Safari!

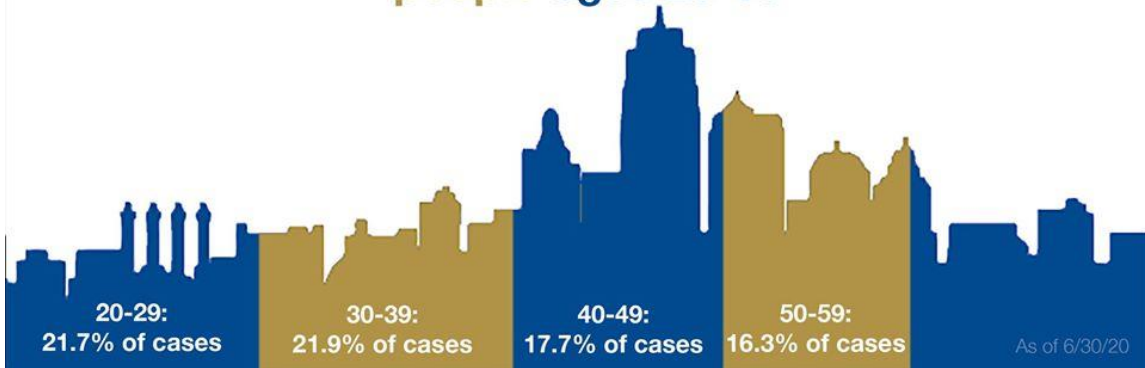


African Sky Safari is also reopening on Thursday, July 23! You'll be able to once again ride



#MASKUPKC

77.6% of Kansas City's COVID19 cases are in people ages 20-59



News from the
City Communications Office

City of Kansas City, Missouri
kcmo.gov

Public Improvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) Hearings

PIAC Public Hearings

The Public Improvements Advisory Committee (PIAC), in cooperation with the Mayor and City Council, will be holding public hearings across the city. These hearings are being held so that the Committee and Council can hear from citizens about the city's public improvements needs. The PIAC will use information gathered through the hearings to recommend projects for funding to the Council for Year Thirty- Eight (Fiscal Year 2021-22) of the one-cent sales tax for public improvements .

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, PIAC is modifying the public hearing process to include a remote meeting in each district. Two hearings will be held for each district and will include one virtual meeting and one in-person meeting. The PIAC is making a full effort to ensure that all those who wish to participate in the PIAC district hearings are able to do so in a safe manner. If you have further questions or concerns, please contact PIAC@kcmo.org. Each district's PIAC representatives are also available for contact and further information. Additional information about City impacts, help, resources, and more on the City's response to COVID-19 can be found at kcmo.gov/coronavirus.

In addition to coming to the hearings, citizens can also tell PIAC about needed public improvements by completing a PIAC application request form. These forms will be available at the hearings or are available from the Capital Improvements Program by phone: (816) 513-8828 or by e-mail.

The 2020 deadline date to submit a request is August 31.

PIAC District Hearings Schedule

PIAC District Hearings will be held for each district. Meetings will accommodate a virtual option through Zoom and one meeting in each district will accommodate an in-person option. Meetings with an in-

person option are identified in the schedule below. Please note that applicants and community members wishing to participate virtually (speak or show content) should do so through the video conference platform.

District Five – Public Improvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) Hearings

Virtual Meeting with In-Person Option

Tuesday, August 25, 2020

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Southeast Community Center (gymnasium); 4201 E 63rd St

<https://zoom.us/j/98964150726?pwd=OGxVT1Z1OFc5SzJNFBZUxIWkt1QT09>

Password: 327522

Zoom call in option – 312.626.6799

Zoom Conference ID – 98964150726

*PIAC representatives for **District Five** are Ruth Turner and Eric Dickinson. City Council members for District Five are Lee Barnes and Ryana Parks-Shaw.*

District Six – Public Improvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) Hearings

District Six– Public Improvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) Hearing

Virtual Meeting with In-Person Option

Monday, August 17, 2020

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: First Baptist Church of KC Missouri – 100 W. Red Bridge Rd.

KCMO

64114

<https://zoom.us/j/99993086422?pwd=emVGc0tqZGJ2RGtabmdvNVRraXZXQT09>

Password: 327522

Zoom call in option – 312.626.6799

Zoom Conference ID –99993086422

*PIAC representatives for **District Six** are Melanie K. Miller and John A. Sharp. City Council members for District Six are Andrea Bough and Kevin McManus.*

Citywide - Public Improvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) Hearing

Virtual Meeting

Friday, August 28, 2020

11am- Noon

<https://zoom.us/j/92156907195?pwd=MmFudjEzMW9mUXR4Z0J3UTMrNkJVdz09>

Passcode: 609466

Zoom call in option – 312.626.6799

Zoom Conference ID –92156907195

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.

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.





COVID-19

FREE TESTING CLINIC

Testing symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals!

Wednesday, July 29

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Metro Christian Fellowship Church

2217 High Grove Rd.
Grandview, MO 64030



Register today at:

<https://form.jotform.com/202024277365148>

Thursday, July 30

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Spirit and Truth Ministries Church

1809 NE Bren Mar Rd.
Lee's Summit, MO 64086



Register today at:

<https://form.jotform.com/202024254531138>

Testing provided by:



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.

**On August 4,
Missouri votes to
expand Medicaid.**



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, at-risk 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.

UNEMPLOYMENT

How to File?

If you're eligible, you'll need 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 uinteract.labor.mo.gov, 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 unemployment 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: 816-889-3101 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>



The August 2020 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](#)

**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



[State Representative Mark A. Sharp](mailto:mark.sharp@house.mo.gov)

Missouri House of Representatives

Room 109G

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!**