



Dear Neighbor,

House Minority Leader Crystal Quade, a Springfield Democrat, and Lt. Gov. Mike Kehoe, a Jefferson City Republican, secured the nominations of their respective parties for governor in the Aug. 6 primary elections. The winner of the Nov. 5 general election will replace departing Gov. Mike Parson, a term-limited Republican.

Also at the top of the ticket, Lucas Kunce, a former Marine from Independence, claimed the Democratic nomination to challenge U.S. Sen. Josh Hawley, a Republican seeking a second Senate term.

The only two statewide executive branch officeholders seeking another term this year were both appointed to their posts by Parson to fill vacancies and fended off significant Republican primary challenges to advance to November. Attorney General Andrew Bailey will face Democrat Elad Gross, a St. Louis attorney, while State Treasurer Vivek Malek will be challenged by Democrat Mark Osmack of Manchester.

In the remaining two statewide contests, Assistant House Minority Leader Richard Brown,

D-Kansas City, and Republican David Wasinger, an attorney from Des Peres, will be the major party nominees for lieutenant governor, with state Sen. Denny Hoskins, R-Warrensburg, and state Rep. Barbara Phifer, D-Kirkwood, vying for secretary of state.

By a much tighter margin than the first time around, Missouri voters on Aug. 6 again ratified a constitutional amendment authorizing the state to impose unfunded mandates to increase police funding on taxpayers in Kansas City.

Amendment 4 passed with just 51.2% of Missouri voters in support – far less than the 63.2% support the measure received when it previously was on the statewide ballot in November 2022.

While statewide support for Amendment 4 dropped substantially, opposition to it grew in Kansas City, which for now will be the only city affected.

Amendment 4 carves out a temporary exception to a provision of the state constitution's Hancock Amendment prohibiting the state from imposing unfunded mandates on local governments. Under the exception, state lawmakers have through Dec. 31, 2026, to force any city whose police department is controlled by the state to allocate more local funding for policing.

At present, only Kansas City's police department is state controlled, but Amendment 4 also would apply to St. Louis if Republican lawmakers are successful over the next two years in their efforts to impose a state takeover of that city's police force.

Amendment 4 was on the ballot for a second time after the Missouri Supreme Court in April nullified the original ratification, ruling the measure's fiscal summary materially misled voters by falsely claiming it would have no financial impact on local governments.

Kansas City estimated it would cost local taxpayers at least an additional \$38.7 million each year in mandatory new spending that would force the city to either increase local taxes or cut other city services. The court wrote a new fiscal summary for the revote.

When it passed the legislation placing Amendment 4 on the ballot in 2022, lawmakers also approved a companion statutory measure boosting the amount Kansas City must allocate to the police department from 20% of its general revenue budget to 25%. Litigation remains pending over whether that legislation is enforceable since it violated the Hancock Amendment at the time of its passage or if the subsequent ratification of Amendment 4 retroactively cures the constitutional infirmity.

In an apparent attempt to avoid being deposed over allegations of unethical conduct, Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey on Aug. 7 requested the dismissal of a lawsuit he filed last year claiming Jackson County violated state law during its most recent property tax reassessment cycle.

Clay County Circuit Judge Karen Krauser on Aug. 8 dismissed the case with prejudice, meaning Bailey is prohibited from refileing it later.

The dismissal came just hours before Bailey's scheduled deposition. Krauser ordered Bailey to be deposed under oath after allegations he privately met with a Jackson County legislator regarding the lawsuit without getting permission from the county's attorneys as required by a state Supreme Court rule that prohibits an attorney from communicating about a case with someone represented by opposing counsel without that counsel's consent.

Krauser has already determined one of Bailey's assistants had violated the rule for meeting with the legislator, who while a critic of county's assessment practices is also a defendant in the case and privy to the county's defense strategy.

In his dismissal motion, Bailey claimed the case is moot since the Missouri State Tax Commission issued an Aug. 6 order finding Jackson County hadn't followed proper assessment procedures and directing county officials to reduce increases that were in excess of 15%.

The case is *State of Missouri ex rel. Attorney General Andrew Bailey v. Jackson County*.



After 13 years the Missouri General Assembly passed Blair's Law that was included in Senate Bill 754 which is a large public safety bill including several other anti-crime measures. This legislation that I've championed the last five sessions seeks to reduce the amount of reckless gunfire we have in our major cities across the state of Missouri. I am extremely grateful to Senator Tony Luetkemeyer and Representative Lane Roberts for helping ensure that this bill made it to the Governor's desk.



We had many supporters along the way including Moms Demand Action and the business community to help pass Blair's Law, but we could not have passed this legislation without the help from our law enforcement community especially the Kansas City Missouri Police Department. Chief Stacey Graves has been an advocate and also came to Jefferson City for the bill signing as she has given me her commitment to enforce Blair's Law once it goes into effect August 28th. I also have a commitment from the current Jackson County Prosecutor Jean Peters Baker that she'll prosecute if any cases are brought her way. With me in the photo from left to right are KCPD Chief Stacey Graves, Brian and Michele Shanahan DeMoss (Blair's parents), me, Governor Mike Parson, Senator Tony Luektemeyer, Senator Brian Williams and Senator Mike Bernskoetter.



Most importantly I want to thank Michele Shanahan DeMoss, the mother of Blair Shanahan Lane. Since 2012 she has been making frequent visits to the Missouri Capitol to advocate for Blair's Law. It took years for the bill to receive a committee hearing in the Missouri House. More years passed before the bill was voted out of committee and passed out of the Missouri House chamber to only be stalled in the Senate chamber and even vetoed by Governor Mike Parson last session because of a separate provision. Then Missouri Senators began seeing the positive impact this bill could have in places like KCMO & STL, and it became clear to me that we could pass this bill. I've known Michele for over five years and we're practically family at this point. However, I'd be remiss if I didn't acknowledge her dedication. I know the difficulty of reliving the loss of losing a loved one and without her strength this simply wouldn't have been possible.



Earlier this summer, me and a host of other Missouri and Kansas elected officials were invited to our nation's capitol to help celebrate the Super Bowl winning Kansas City Chiefs. I will continue supporting efforts to keep both the Kansas City Chiefs and Kansas City Royals in KCMO. I also sent a letter to Governor Mike Parson in June urging him to consider having a special legislative session to fully fund renovating Arrowhead stadium.



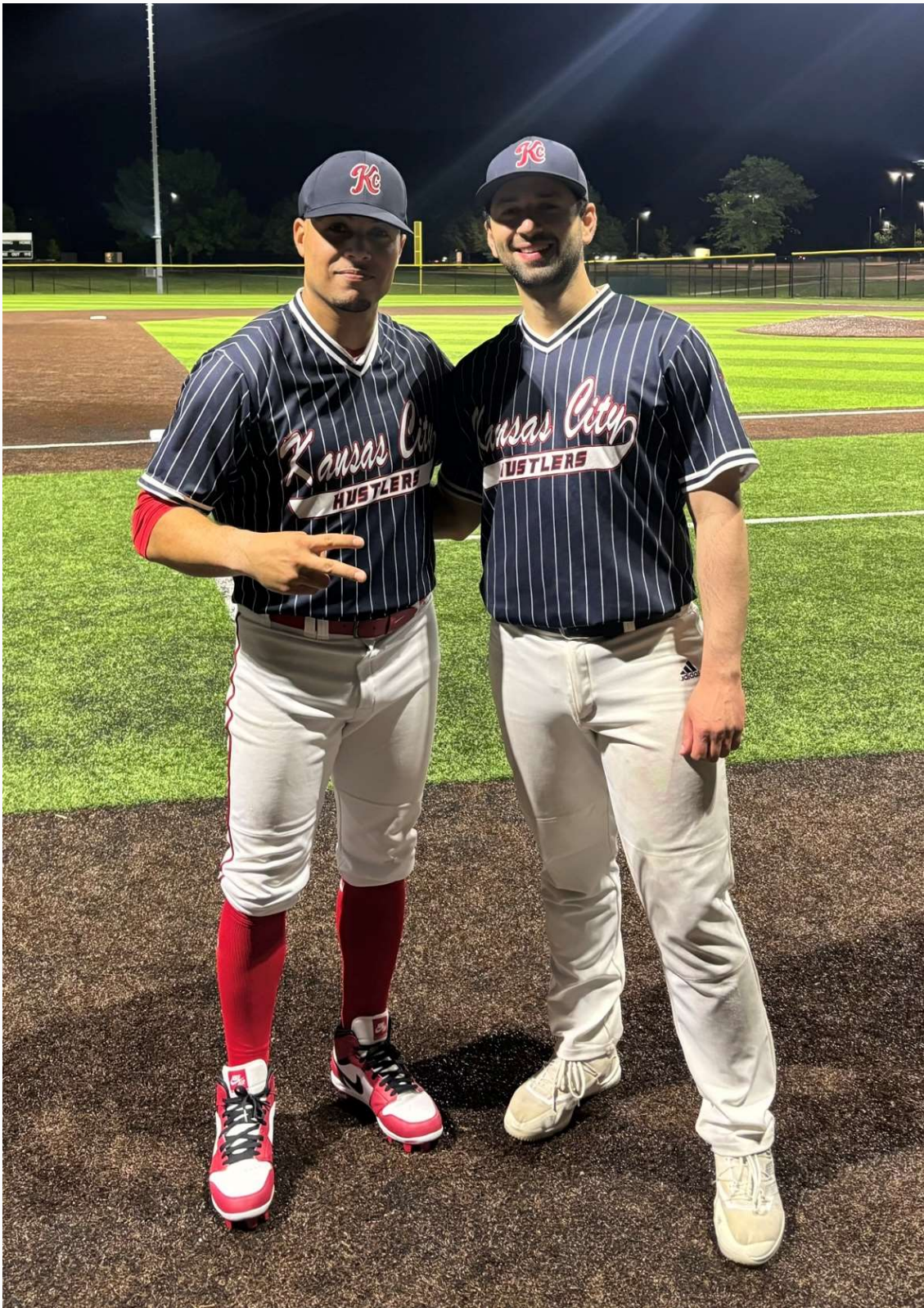
Recently I attended a South Kansas City Alliance meeting with two of my colleagues, Representative Patty Lewis and Representative Kemp Strickler, to give a general overview of this past legislative session. We also briefly discussed the potential of Governor Mike Parson calling a special legislative session to address the Kansas City Chiefs potentially relocating to the state of Kansas.



Exiting Speaker of the House Dean Plocher recently created several special interim committees, two of which I was appointed to. One of those committees is the House Special Interim Committee on Higher Education Performance Funding. This committee has been charged with looking at creative ways we could potentially distribute state dollars in a more equitable manner. We will meet several more times before we go back to full legislative session in January.



In July Governor Mike Parson signed Senate Bill 1388 which authorizes a state & local sales tax exemption to help expand the National Nuclear Security Administration's campus located in south Kansas City. This facility develops the non-nuclear components for our nation's stockpile of nuclear weapons and will bring many high paying jobs to the south Kansas City and Grandview area. I was extremely happy to be a co-sponsor of this transformative legislation. Shown with Governor Parson from left are Senator Rick Brattin, former Senator Greg Razer, Representatives Anthony Ealy, Chris Brown and me.



Even though I don't get a chance to play quite as often as I would like to, it's always a great time playing some summer baseball with the KC Hustlers. With me in Shawnee, Kansas at the Mid-America Sports Complex is my teammate Gavri Schreiber.



**8th ANNUAL SHREDDING AND
RECYCLING EVENT**
Saturday, September 7, 2024
9:00 a.m. to noon

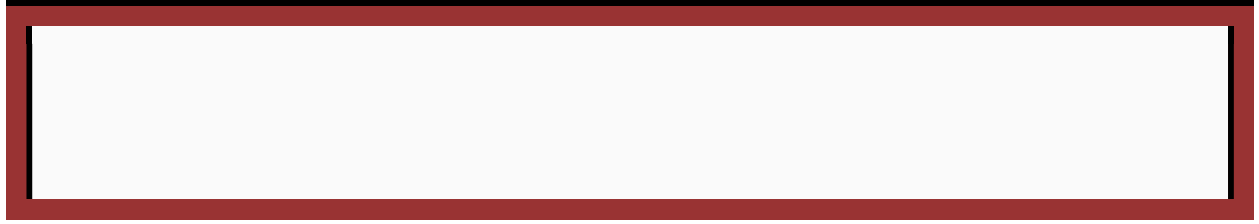
St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church
Parking Lot Behind the Church
(access from 74th Terr off of Main)

Shredding: Bring up to 5 bags/boxes of your old documents. The rangers will help you unload them and take them to the ProShred truck for shredding.

Electronic Equipment: Here's a list of what you can bring. There is a small fee for TV's and monitors.

- ALL TV's - \$40-\$45 each
- ALL Monitors \$25 each
- Desktop computers
- Laptops
- Tablets
- Printers
- Copiers
- Fax Machines
- Scanners
- Keyboards, mice, and other peripherals
- Cell Phones
- Phone systems
- Video games & video game equipment
- Batteries (including vehicle batteries)
- UPS battery backups
- Stereos
- Blue-ray/DVD players/VCRs
- Portable music players (iPods, MPC players, etc.)
- Alarm clocks
- Speakers
- Radio equipment
- Calculators
- Network equipment (modems, Routers, etc.)
- Cables, cords, and power supplies
- Electronic musical equipment (sound pedals, electric instruments)
- Recording equipment (sound boards, digital recorders)
- Power tools
- Microwaves
- Toasters
- Metal scrap
- Basically anything with a circuit board.

Cost: **FREE** – except for Monitors (\$25 charge) and TV's (\$40 charge). Donations are gratefully accepted and will be used to support the Urban Ranger Corps. Check us out at www.urckc.org





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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 816-908-7800 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.

Serve and Lift Center – South KC, 8001 Longview Rd., from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Walk-in, call for an appointment or order online at <https://catholiccharities-kcsj.org/pantry/>



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