



Capitol Report
2020

December 17,

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Dear Neighbor,

This is not the year to get everything you want. This is the year to appreciate everything you have.

Health is the most precious gift we have. For many of us, the only time we think of our health is when we lose it. Then the realization hits us: without our health we have nothing.

***Green** I would like to wish you and your family the love, peace and joy that come with the spirit of Christmas.*

***Red** May your New Year be happy, healthy, and prosperous.*

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
***Green** Yours in Service,*

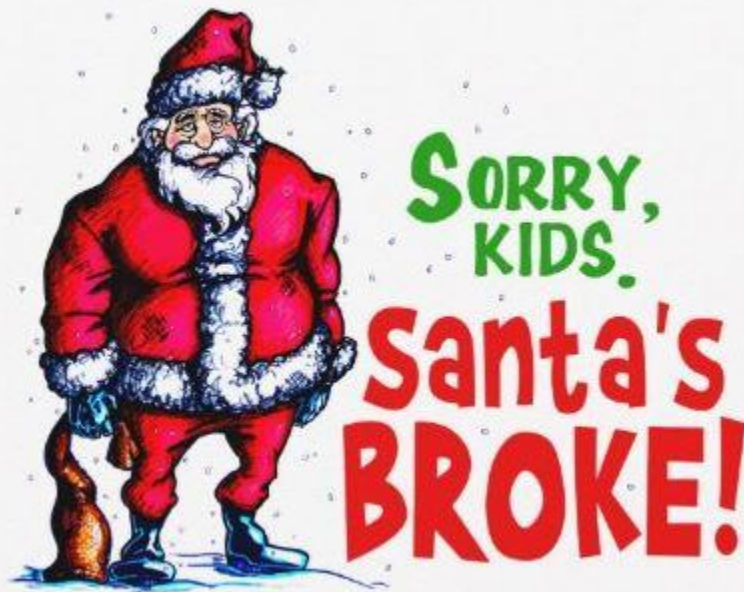
***Blue** Rich*



Missouri unveils new COVID-19 vaccine website

Missouri has launched a new vaccine website, which answers common questions and clarifies what it calls misinformation.

The new website is mostopscovid.com, and provides Missourians with information about the safety of the vaccines, research and production processes and when they could be eligible for vaccination.



STATE REVENUE EXPECTED TO DROP \$418.8 MILLION IN FY 2022

State budget officials expect that net state general revenue collections for the upcoming fiscal year will decline by 4.1 percent compared to the anticipated collections for the current fiscal year, dropping by a hefty \$418.8 million.

The governor's administration and budget leaders in the Senate and House of Representatives agree to the so-called consensus revenue estimate most years just before the annual state budget process gets underway to ensure all parties are working from the same assumptions regarding how much money the state will have to spend in the coming fiscal year.

The budget process for the 2022 fiscal year begins in January when Gov. Mike Parson presents his proposed spending plan to lawmakers, who have through May 7 to pass a final budget. The FY 2022 fiscal year begins July 1.



SENATE PASSES BUDGET BILL, LAWSUIT IMMUNITY DROPPED

After shelving a controversial proposal to provide businesses,

schools, churches and medical providers with blanket legal immunity from lawsuits relating to COVID-19, the Missouri Senate on Dec. 2 voted 23-1 to grant final passage to a \$1.28 billion supplemental budget bill that reallocates federal coronavirus relief funds the state has already received but that must be spent by the end of December.

Although some procedural sessions are scheduled, no further legislation is expected to be considered before lawmakers formally adjourn from the lame-duck special session on Dec. 10. This will mark the second time this year that the Republican-controlled General Assembly has ended a special session without passing key legislation Gov. Mike Parson had requested.

This year's first special session ended Sept. 16 with lawmakers passing just two of the seven crime-related bills Parson, a Republican, had requested. The second special session, which began Nov. 5, originally was for the sole purpose of passing the supplemental budget bill. However, Parson expanded the session a week later to include legal immunity from COVID-19 lawsuits. Under the Missouri Constitution, the governor controls what topics lawmakers may consider in special session.

Despite vocal support from the business lobby, which has pushed for additional legal protections against lawsuits since the pandemic began last spring, enthusiasm for the bill never caught hold, particularly after a COVID-19 outbreak among Senate Republicans forced a two-week suspension of legislative activities in the chamber.

Although a committee hearing was held on the lawsuit immunity Dec. 2, the Senate already announced it had no plans to consider the bill at its Dec. 3 session. While the hearing was underway, Parson sent word requesting the proposal be withdrawn. However, the issue is expected to remain a priority for the governor when

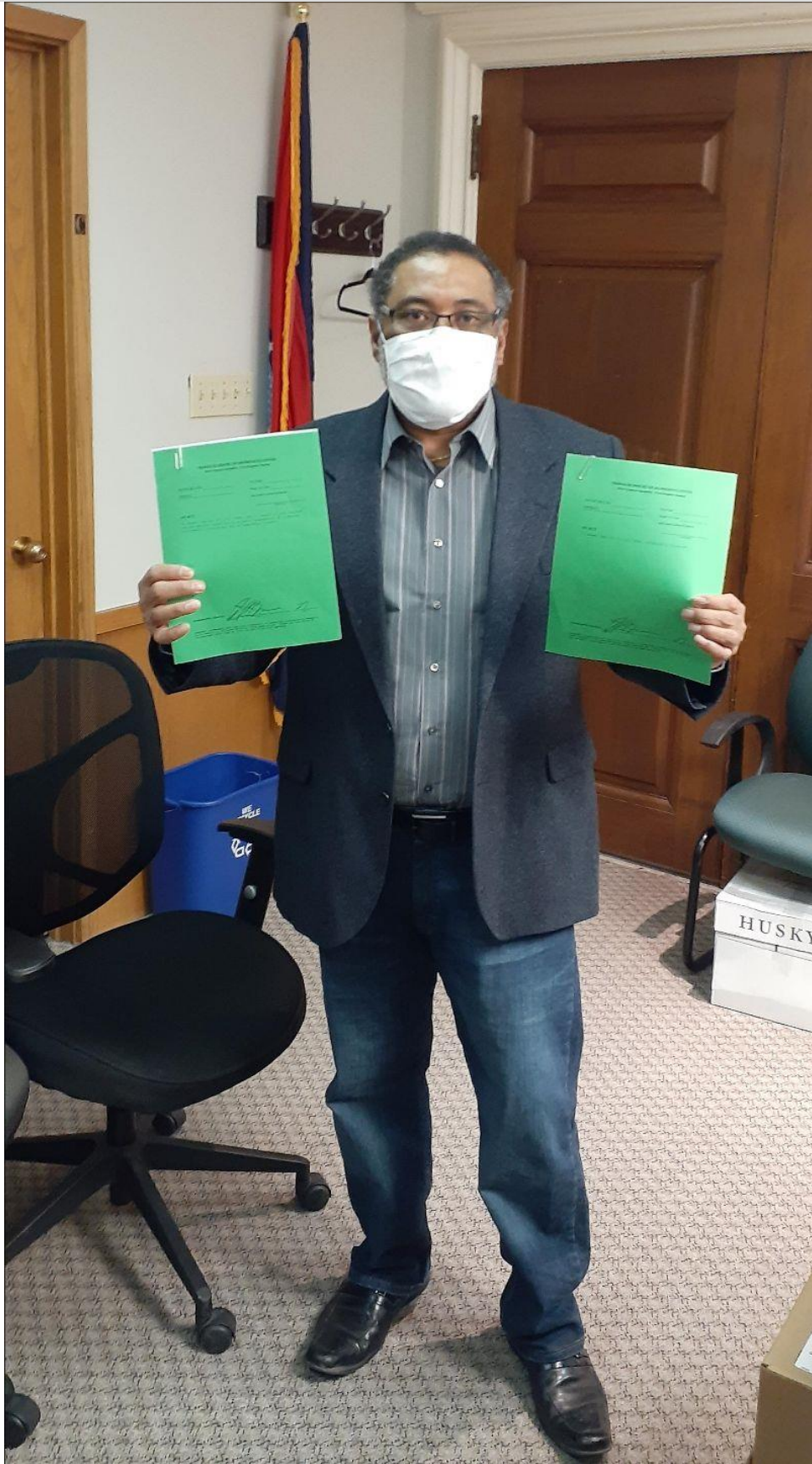
the 2021 regular legislative session gets underway Jan. 6.

This was the first lame-duck session – one held after a general election but before new lawmakers take office – since 1970, when Gov. Warren Hearnes, a Democrat, brought the legislature back to pass an income tax increase.

House Legislative Dashboard



So far, there have been 558 Bills prefiled for the upcoming legislative session.



For the upcoming 2021 Regular Legislative Session, I prefiled [House Bill 40](#) and [House Bill 41](#). House Bill 40 will prohibit persons convicted of domestic abuse from owning firearms in the state of Missouri. House Bill 41 repeals current legislation prohibiting local municipalities the authority to enact their own gun legislation. These two pieces of legislation are much needed in Missouri. Only wife beaters and child abusers should be fighting me on House Bill 40. In the year where Kansas City has seen a record number of homicides something responsible needs to be done to help stop the killing. [#momsdemandaction](#)



Missouri's largest public retirement funds continue recovery

Economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic slowed in July, August and September compared to the three months before, but most of the largest statewide public retirement funds in Missouri had still regained more than they lost in the spring's economic crash.

by [Phillip Sitter](#) Dec. 7 2020 [NewsTribune.com](#)

Economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic slowed in July,

August and September compared to the three months before, but most of the largest statewide public retirement funds in Missouri had still regained more than they lost in the spring's economic crash.

The Legislature's Joint Committee on Public Retirement discussed third-quarter results last week, and data shared by Executive Director Michael Ruff showed an average quarterly growth of more than 4 percent for each of the state's six largest statewide public retirement funds: County Employees Retirement Fund (CERF, which had growth approaching 5 percent); Local Government Employees Retirement System (LAGERS, which had growth of 2.4 percent); Missouri State Employees Retirement System (MOSERS); MoDOT & Highway Patrol Employees' Retirement System (MPERS); Public Education Employees' Retirement System (PEERS); and Public School Retirement System (PSRS).

PSRS is the single largest public retirement system in the state, worth more than \$42 billion at the end of the third quarter, out of a combined value of more than \$78 billion between all public retirement funds listed — which include municipal funds from across the state for cities' and other district's police officers, firefighters, transportation workers, librarians and other public workers.

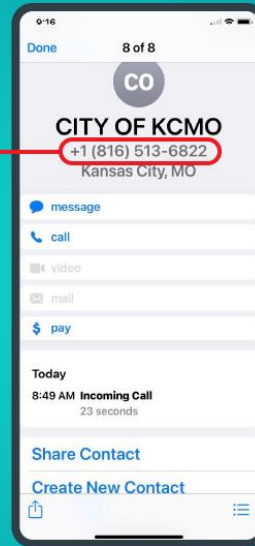
PSRS alone lost more than \$4.15 billion in value in the spring, with other large statewide funds each having lost tens or hundreds of millions of dollars. Many of the largest statewide funds had lost 9-10 percent of their value.

Most of the largest statewide funds regained at least 7-8 percent of their value in the second quarter, and the lesser but continued gains from the third quarter meant CERF, MOSERS, PEERS and PSRS had all actually come out ahead of the value they started the year with, before the pandemic.

[Read the rest of the article here.](#)



SCAM ALERT



An alert resident has reported receiving a phone call from scammers who were pretending to be from the City, and who claimed that her social security number was about to expire.

Warning about scammers calling from a “spoofed” City Hall phone number

No city staff will call to talk about your social security number

The scammers set up a “spoof” phone number so that it would appear they were calling from a city phone number. The number shown on the screen is not a working number and is not connected to any city office.

No city staff member would ever call a resident to discuss their social security number.

The City of Kansas City, Missouri, warns residents and taxpayers to stay vigilant against an increase of impersonation scams. These bogus calls may come from a real person but use a fake phone number.

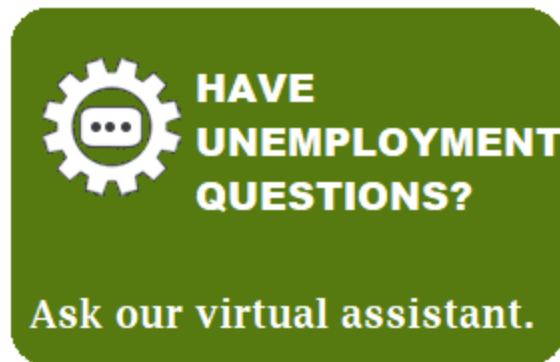
The City of Kansas City will never:

1. Call and ask you for your social security number.
2. Call to demand immediate tax payment over the phone, nor will the City call about taxes owed without first having mailed you a bill.
3. Demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe.
4. Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

If you get a phone call from someone claiming to be from the City Finance Department/Revenue Division, or any other city office, and asking for your social security number or asking for money and you don't owe taxes, here's what you should do:

1. Do not give out any information.
2. Hang up immediately.
3. If you think you might owe taxes, call the City's Finance Department Revenue Division directly at 816-513-1120.

Media questions about the scam alert can be directed to Chris Hernandez, City Communications Director, at 816-513-3474 or chris.hernandez@kcmo.org



Need food and hygiene items, emergency rent or utilities assistance, diapers or pull-ups, help with medicines and medical devices?

CAC may be able to help.

Click [HERE](#) for more information

Harvesters Community Food Network

Click [HERE](#) to find service in your area

Spire - Natural Gas Assistance

Click [HERE](#)

Best quote for 2020

This is not the year
to get everything you want.
This is the year to appreciate
everything you have.

| TheMindsJournal

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.

TMC
TRUMAN MEDICAL CENTERS


university
health



A salute to our healthcare workers who are keeping us safe during the worst days of the pandemic. These workers are from Hope Family Care Center and are working in conjunction with the Kansas City Health Department. They administered my most recent COVID-19 test on December 11th which came back negative.

**This year is
almost gone
Not all our friends and
family made it. Never
take for granted
the people
you love.**

Amen



Practice Social Distancing





Donna and I wish you a Happy and Safe Christmas 2020.
Remember to Social Distance!



MERRY & SAFE!





If people can believe Donald Trump won the Election,
Why can't I believe in Santa Claus?





[Click here for the latest COVID-19 statistics for Missouri.](#)

**As of the time I have sent this mailing, there have been
261 homicides in the Kansas City metro area in 2020.**

In Kansas City, Missouri, 173 people have been killed.

[Click here for the Homicide Tracker.](#)



Let's Respond As A Community To Callous Act Of Violence With Generous Act Of Kindness

A mother of eight found herself caught in the crossfire of a shooting at 79th and Troost in Kansas City on Thanksgiving evening. While she and her family are safe, this senseless crime killed one and left this busy family without a vehicle. Multiple bullets hit their van, totaling it.

The Jackson County Prosecutor's Office and ArtsTech are leading efforts to raise funds to purchase the family a new van.

Together as a community we can respond to this wanton act of violence with an act of kindness.

» [GoFund Me Donation Page](#)



COMMUNITY NEWS AND HAPPENINGS





**KCMO residents can set out extra bags without tags
the week of Dec. 26-31**
Holiday tree & light recycling encouraged

The upcoming Christmas and New Year's Day holidays mean that trash and recycling collection will be [delayed one day](#) for residents with Friday pickups. So, if your trash day is Friday, Dec. 25, your trash and recycling will be collected on Saturday, Dec. 26. The same schedule holds true for Friday, Jan. 1. There are no other delays in service.

Also in time for the holidays, KCMO residents will be able to set out up to 12 bags of trash, weighing less than 40 pounds each, during the week of Dec. 26-31. This free, no-tag service is provided to help ease your burden of having to dispose of the extra trash accumulated during the holiday season. However, hazardous waste, bulky items or leaf and brush will not be

accepted.

After the holidays, you're encouraged to recycle holiday lights and real trees. Kansas City residents can dispose of trees for free on Saturdays only through Jan. 16, 2021. Just trek over to one of our three [leaf and brush sites](#). Trees must be free of tinsel, lights and other ornaments. You must bring proof of residency. Trees can also be dropped off at the sites Monday through Friday, but there is a \$5 fee.

Residents are also encouraged to recycle plastics #1-7, cardboard, seasonal gift boxes and non-working strands of holiday lights. You can bring them to one of our three [recycling centers](#). The centers are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. Check our [website](#) before going to the centers because operating hours may change due to the holidays.

Remember, gift wrap and tissue paper are not recyclable. Here are a few sustainable, alternative options:

1. Consider reusable gift bags and gift boxes.
2. Wrap gifts in reusable fabric gift bags.
3. Display gifts in a basket.
4. Wrap gifts in fabric scraps or brown grocery sacks decorated by your kids.

This holiday season, get creative and help reduce what goes to our landfill.

For more information, contact Shannon Dooley, Solid Waste Services Marketing and Customer Care Manager at Shannon.Dooley@kcmo.org.

THIS IS CHIEFS KINGDOM



The reward has been raised to
\$30,000 for Dominic



**GREATER KANSAS CITY CRIME STOPPERS
816-474-TIPS HOTLINE**

**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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

*** A program of the KC Metropolitan Crime Commission**

My office in Jefferson City is available to assist you with questions you may have about state government or legislative issues. Please call, email or write anytime. If you are unable to reach me, my assistant, Donna Gentsch is ready to help you. If you are in Jefferson City, come by my Capitol office in room 130 DB, and introduce yourself. The door is always open and I encourage you to visit.

Please forward this email to your friends and family who want to know how what is happening in Jefferson City will impact them here at home.



Rep. Richard Brown

MO House of Representatives

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Email:

richard.brown@house.mo.gov

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

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