



Capitol Report

March 23, 2023

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Dear Neighbor,

This week moved at a pretty brisk pace as the House finally approved sports betting, advanced a bill to eliminate the corporate tax rate, passed a property tax measure and created a buffer for a landfill that impacted numerous homeowners in Cass County.

I am really disappointed as the House passed the largest corporate tax break in our state's history. The bill was passed along straight party lines as no Democrat voted for the measure. This corporate tax break is bigger than the one passed a few years ago in Kansas and we know how badly that turned out for then Kansas Governor Sam Brownback. In fact, that tax cut was so bad in Kansas, it put the state on the brink of financial disaster so much so, that they now have a Democrat for governor who was not only elected over Brownback, but was also re-elected in 2022.

Last year, the Missouri legislature passed a sweeping tax reform, but we have yet to see the impact of those tax cuts. Given what

happened in the state of Kansas a few years ago, I fear what is to come. Unlike Kansas, should these tax cuts fail, our legislature is unable to restore the tax increases as our state constitution would require a vote of the people to once again raise the tax rate and no one likes to vote to increase taxes.

I will be monitoring the situation.

Yours in Service,

Rich





Legal sports gambling clears House, Senate fate uncertain

A bill to legalize sports wagering in Missouri cleared the House of Representatives March 22 but faces an uncertain future in the Senate, where similar legislation has failed in recent years in a dispute over how to address the proliferation of unregulated slot machines around the state.

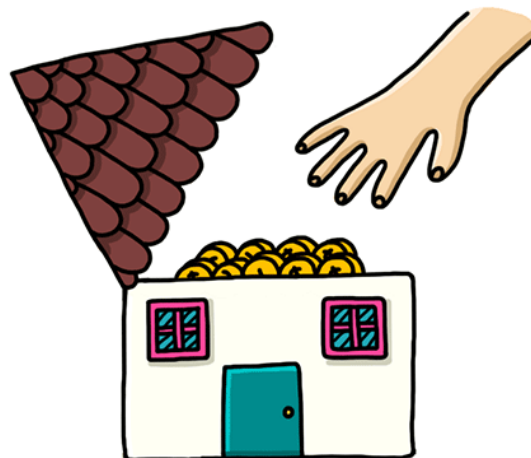
House Bill 556 would authorize Missouri's 13 licensed casinos to operate sports books on their premises, as well as offer online wagering. It also would impose a 10 percent tax on sports bets, less than half the usual tax rate levied on casino gambling. **I voted YES.**

Thirty-six states have legalized sports betting since the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a federal ban on the practice in

2018. Missouri has lagged, however, as some lawmakers insist on tying legalization of sports betting to the regulation of video lottery terminals, which are slot machine-style games that have become common in gas stations, bars and other locations.

The Missouri Gaming Commission, the regulator for the state's casinos, considers VLTs illegal slot machines, as does the State Highway Patrol, which is charged with enforcing state gambling laws. While some county prosecutors successfully have brought criminal cases regarding VLTs, others have been reluctant to do so, claiming the legality of the machines is ambiguous.

Although sports betting supporters want to keep the issues separate, lawmakers seeking to legalize, regulate and tax VLTs so far have been successful in blocking the issue from advancing in the Senate. A Senate committee approved a similar sports betting bill earlier this year, but the chamber hasn't yet brought it up for debate due to filibuster threats.



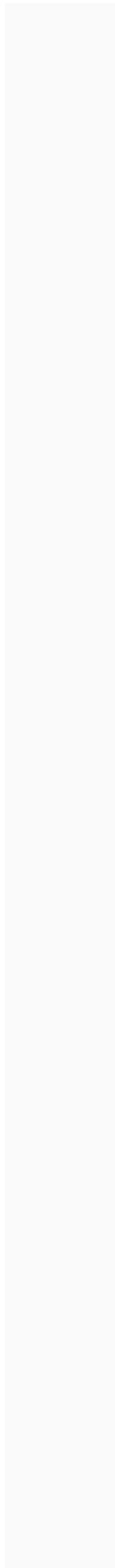
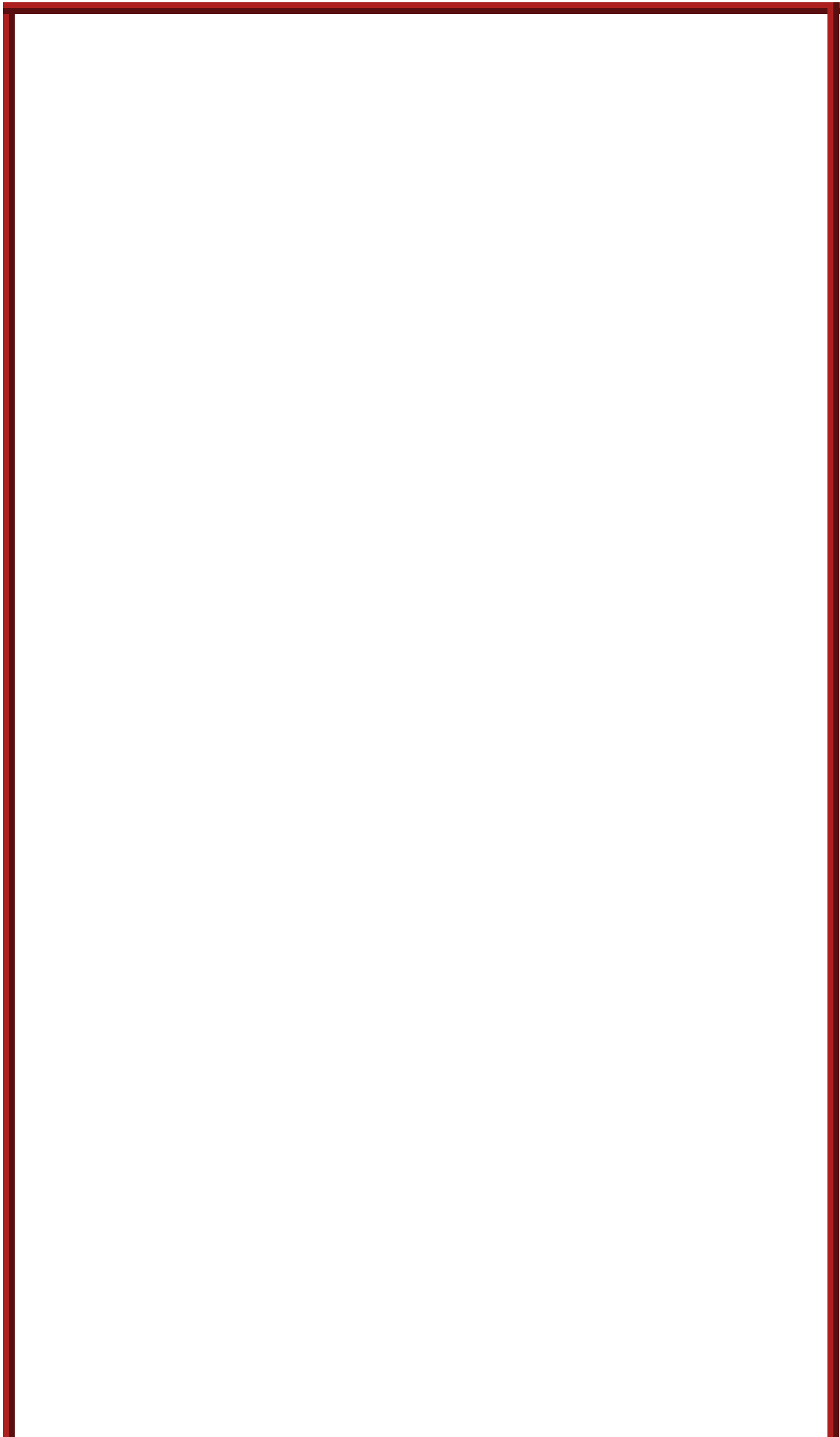
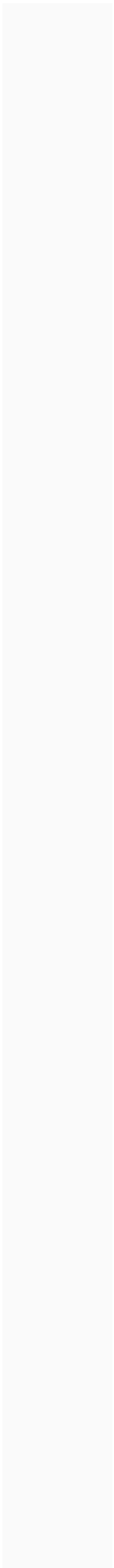
House endorses limits on growth in residential tax values

Increases in the tax value for residential property would be restricted under a proposed constitutional amendment the House of Representatives approved March 23 by a vote of 102-37. The proposal also would freeze the tax value of homes owned and occupied by taxpayers age 65 or older.

Supporters of House Joint Resolution 33 say it would protect homeowners, especially senior citizens, from being taxed out of their homes by skyrocketing real estate prices and the corresponding increases in property taxes.

Opponents say the solution proposed by HJR 33 would create new inequities, with some homeowners paying far more in taxes than their neighbors based on arbitrary factors such as age or how recently a home's ownership has changed. The latter is factor since would cap the rate of growth in tax values for homes that remain under the same ownership, while a sale would reset a property's tax value based on its sales price. **I voted NO.**

If also approved by the Senate, HJR 33 would automatically go on the November 2024 statewide ballot for voter ratification.





Tammy Buckner, CEO and co-founder of WeCode KC is one of ten recipients of the 2023 Lieutenant Governor's Women of Achievement Award.



House approves eliminating Missouri's corporate income tax

The House of Representatives on March 23 voted 111-48 to eliminate Missouri's corporate income tax, legislation estimated to cost the state another \$1.175 billion in lost revenue once fully implemented and further erode a state tax base already severely weakened by several other significant tax cuts over the last decade. **I voted NO.** The bill now advances to the Senate.

The latest proposal comes less than six months after majority Republicans enacted a \$2-billion-a-year tax cut during special legislative session timed to bolster GOP prospects just ahead of the November 2022 elections. Because of that round of cuts, which took effect Jan. 1, net state general revenue collections are expected to slow to a trickle for the foreseeable future after posting robust growth during the prior two fiscal years.

Missouri's corporate income tax rate is currently 4 percent. Starting in 2024, House Bill 816 would gradually reduce the rate each year until it is completely eliminated in 2027.



Workers and staff from Southeast Enterprises visited with me this week. I am a supporter of sheltered workshops and employment opportunities for persons with disabilities.



Missouri House passes bill that could stop Kansas City landfill plans

by:

Heidi Schmidt

<https://fox4kc.com/news/missouri-house-passes-bill-that-could-stop-cass-county-landfill-plans/>

Posted: Mar 22, 2023 / 12:35 PM CDT

Updated: Mar 22, 2023 / 12:49 PM CDT

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The future of a possible landfill in south Kansas City is now up to the Missouri Senate.

On Wednesday, members of the Missouri House passed a bill that could kill plans for the rumored landfill. **I voted YES.**

It now moves to the Senate. The next step is for the bill to be assigned to a Senate committee.

The bill, introduced by Rep. Mike Haffner, R-Pleasant Hill, seeks to place a

1-mile buffer between landfills and their neighboring communities

. The bill would double the buffer zone from one-half mile to 1 mile.

The proposed location of the landfill is from 155th Street to 150 Highway and from Peterson Road to Horridge Road.

The distance in the bill is key. If the bill becomes law, it would likely kill the landfill plans because the entire landfill is within a mile of Raymore city limits.

In the past three months, the city councils of **Raymore, Lee's Summit, Grandview, Belton, Jackson County**, as well as the Lee's Summit school board, have all passed resolutions opposing the landfill.

Top Missouri lawmaker moves to strip library funding

Earlier this month,

Kansas City followed suit and voted on a six-month moratorium in opposition of any potential new landfills until an impact study can be completed in the proposed area.

Senate advances bills targeting

transgender kids to House

The Senate on March 23 approved one bill that would legally restrict medical care for transgender minors, along with a second prohibiting transgender athletes from participating on sports teams that don't correspond to their birth gender. Both measures now advance to the House of Representatives.

Senate Bill 49, which passed 24-8, would ban gender-affirming surgery for minors, which currently only happens in rare situations, and also outlaw the use of puberty-blocking drugs and hormone therapy for transitioning minors. Those who have already started transitioning by the time the bill takes effect later this year would be exempt from the latter restriction.

Senate Bill 39 would prohibit public and private schools from allowing transgender athletes to compete on sports teams that correspond with their gender identity. In addition to K-12 sports, the restriction would apply to organized college athletics, potentially putting Missouri colleges out of compliance with NCAA rules relating to transgender athletes. The bill passed 25-8.

Both bills are sponsored by majority Republicans, who have made limiting the rights of transgender Missourians a top priority for the 2023 legislative session. As a part of a compromise brokered with Democrats, the restrictions on athletic participation and the limits on puberty-blocking drugs and hormone therapy would expire in 2027 unless lawmakers later renew them.

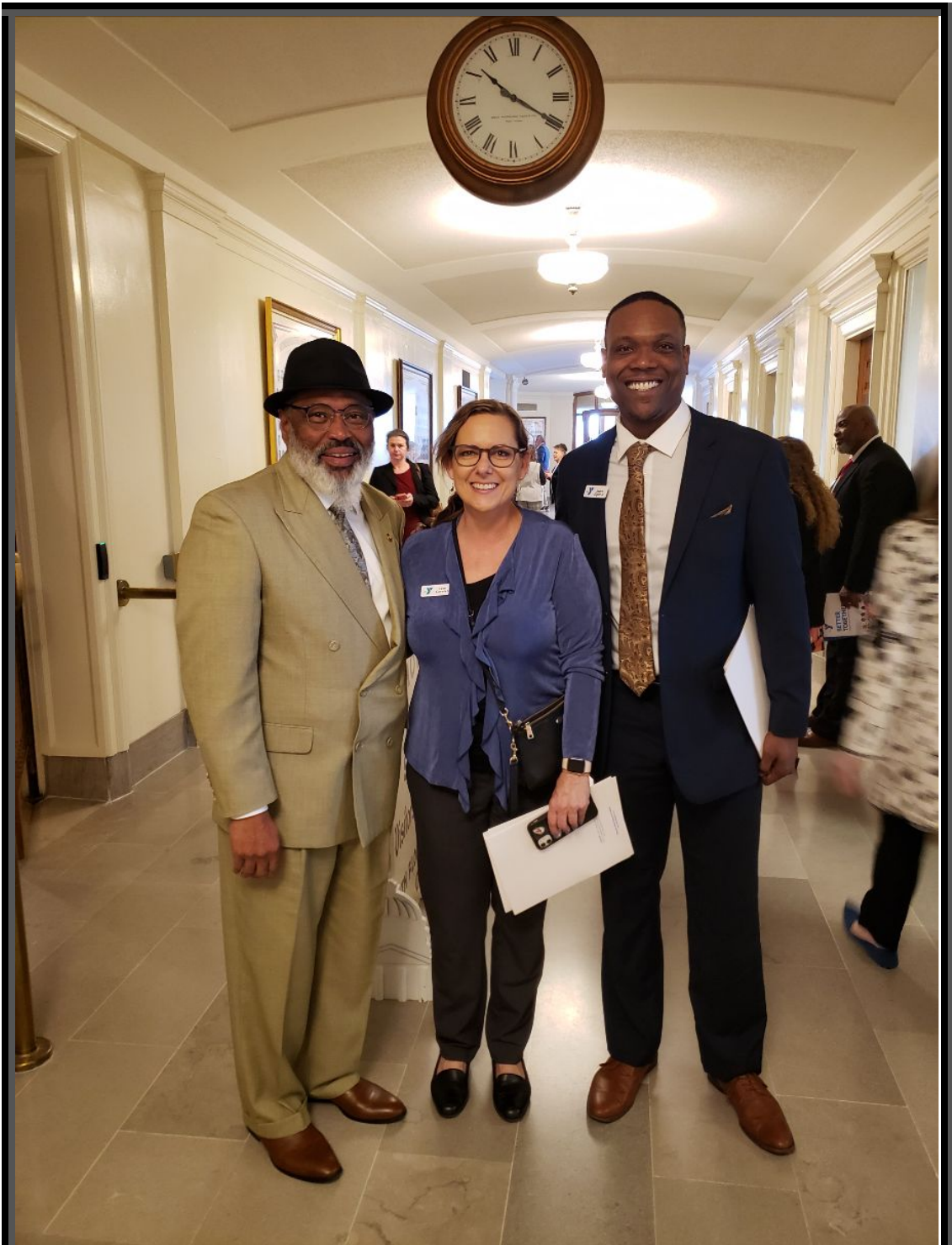


Members of the Leadership South Kansas City Class of 2023 sponsored by the South Kansas City Chamber of Commerce paid a legislative visit this week.

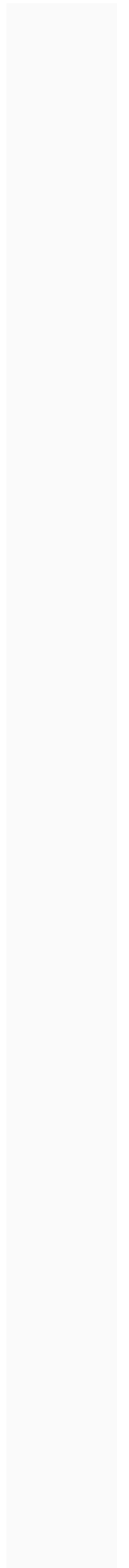
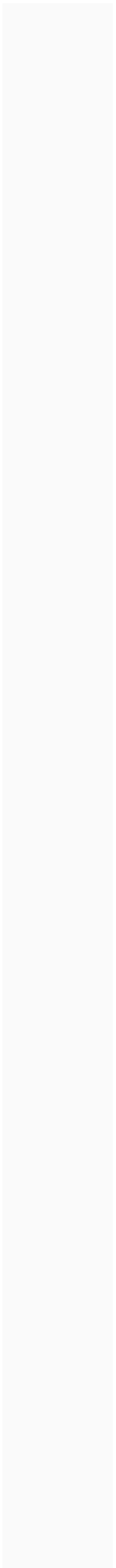




Two of my favorite "Do Gooders" stopped by for a visit. Andrea Toney (left) of the YMCA and Kristen Wood (right) of Goodwill Industries.



Tami Carolan, Executive Director of Cleaver Family YMCA and Andre Sigler, Jr., Associate Executive Director of Linwood YMCA / James B. Nutter Community Center





I thought I was a sharp dressed man until little Zachary paid a visit to the Capitol.



PEACE FOR  UKRAINE

COMMUNITY NEWS AND HAPPENINGS



DEADLINE REMINDER

2023 Personal Property Declarations are due April 30

★ ★ EARLY VOTING ★ ★



United Believers Community Church
5600 East 112 Terrace
Kansas City, MO 64137

First day- March 21st

Last day- April 1st

Weekdays, March 21-31:

10am - 6pm

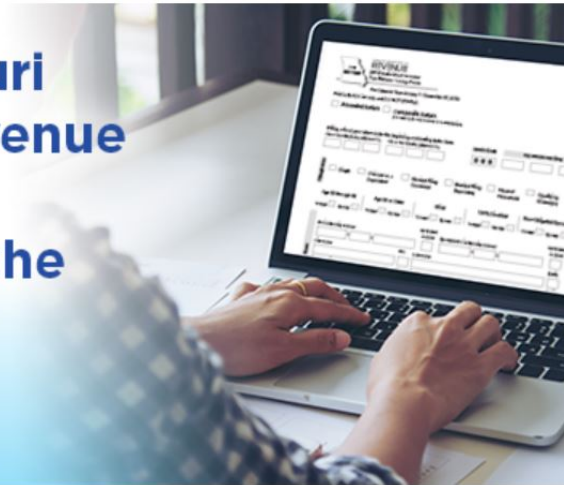
Saturday, April 1:

8am - 12pm
(This is the only Saturday)

Individual Income Tax Electronic Filing

The IRS and Missouri Department of Revenue are now accepting e-filed returns for the 2022 tax year

[Click here for more information](#)



Obtaining the status of your tax return

The Missouri Return Inquiry System provides information regarding the status of your Missouri tax return. After entering your information, you will also have the option of being notified by text or email when the status of your tax return changes. You may only view the status of 2018 or later year returns.

Sign up

to receive
automatic updates!

Receive text or email notifications each time the status of your return changes.

Access the
**Missouri Return
Inquiry System**
to find out how.



What tax years and returns can I check on?

- 2018 and forward Missouri Individual Income Tax returns
- 2018 and forward Missouri Property Tax Credit (PTC) claims

What information do I need to get started?

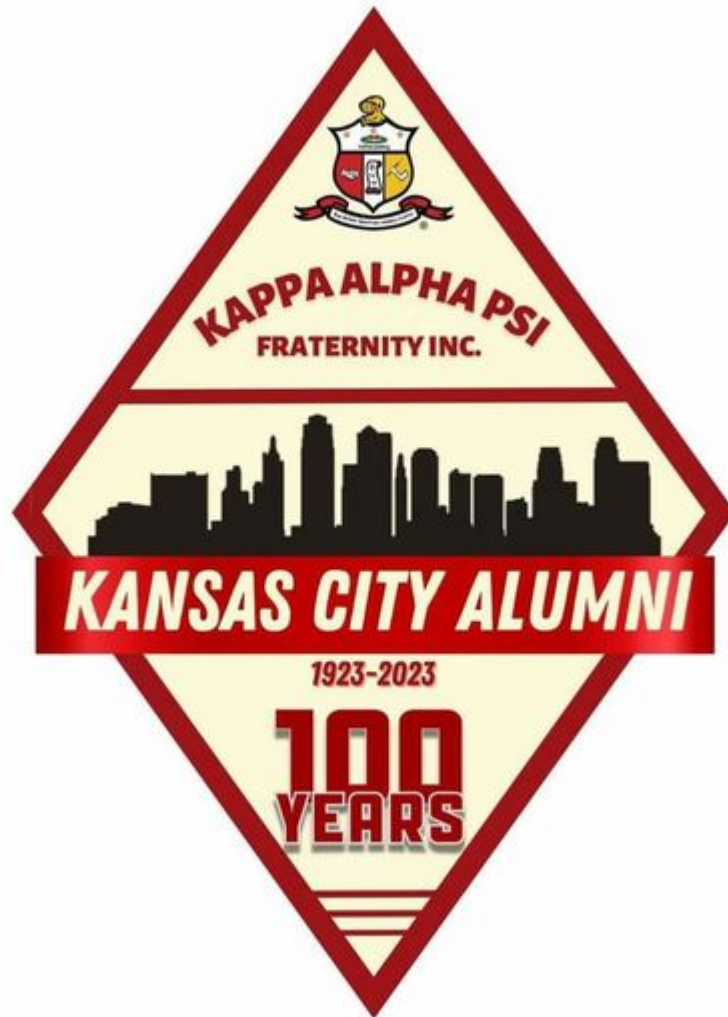
- Social security number
- Filing status
- Anticipated refund or balance due

When will my return information be available?

- Up to 5 business days after filing electronically
- Up to 3 - 4 weeks after mailing your paper return

What information will I receive?

- Easy-to-read graphics indicating the status of your return
- Refund issue date, if applicable



Congratulations to the Members of the Kansas City Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity which celebrates its 100th Anniversary of its chartering on March 23rd.



Welcome Hunger Stoppers!

2023 Pantry On Wheels! *NO COST shopping for fresh produce, proteins, dairy, and nonperishables.*

FEB 19 | MAR 19 | APR 16

2 pm - 4 pm

7820 Prospect, KCMO 64132

Heavy Construction Laborer's Union Hall Parking Lot



FEB 2 | MAR 2 | APR 6

2 pm - 4pm

8200 Paseo, KCMO 64132

NEW! Enter Marlborough Community Center Front Door on 82nd to Sign In

Resource Rep's Inside: Community Assistance Council, ReStart Outreach, ReDiscover Outreach

Distribution while supplies last. Check cor.org/hunger for inclement weather and COVID updates.

POWERHOUSE
CYCLE & DYNO

BASHLIN
INDUSTRIES INC
UP / DOWN / ALL-AROUND COMPONENT



Local 53 Riding Group
Invites you to ride for



**Working
Families'
Friend**

SATURDAY, MAY 6TH

(RAIN DATE SATURDAY MAY 13TH)

REGISTRATION AT 9:30 AM TO 10:30 AM

KICKSTANDS UP AT 11:00 AM

STARTS AND STOPS AT

IBEW LOCAL 53 UNION HALL

1100 ADMIRAL BLVD

KANSAS CITY, MO

RIDER \$25
PASS \$10
RAFFLE, FOOD &
DRINKS PROVIDED

For More Information Contact

Chad McGregor

816.699.9437

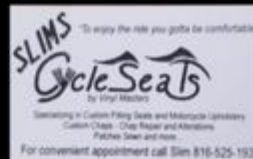
Bruce VanCompennolle

816.289.3356

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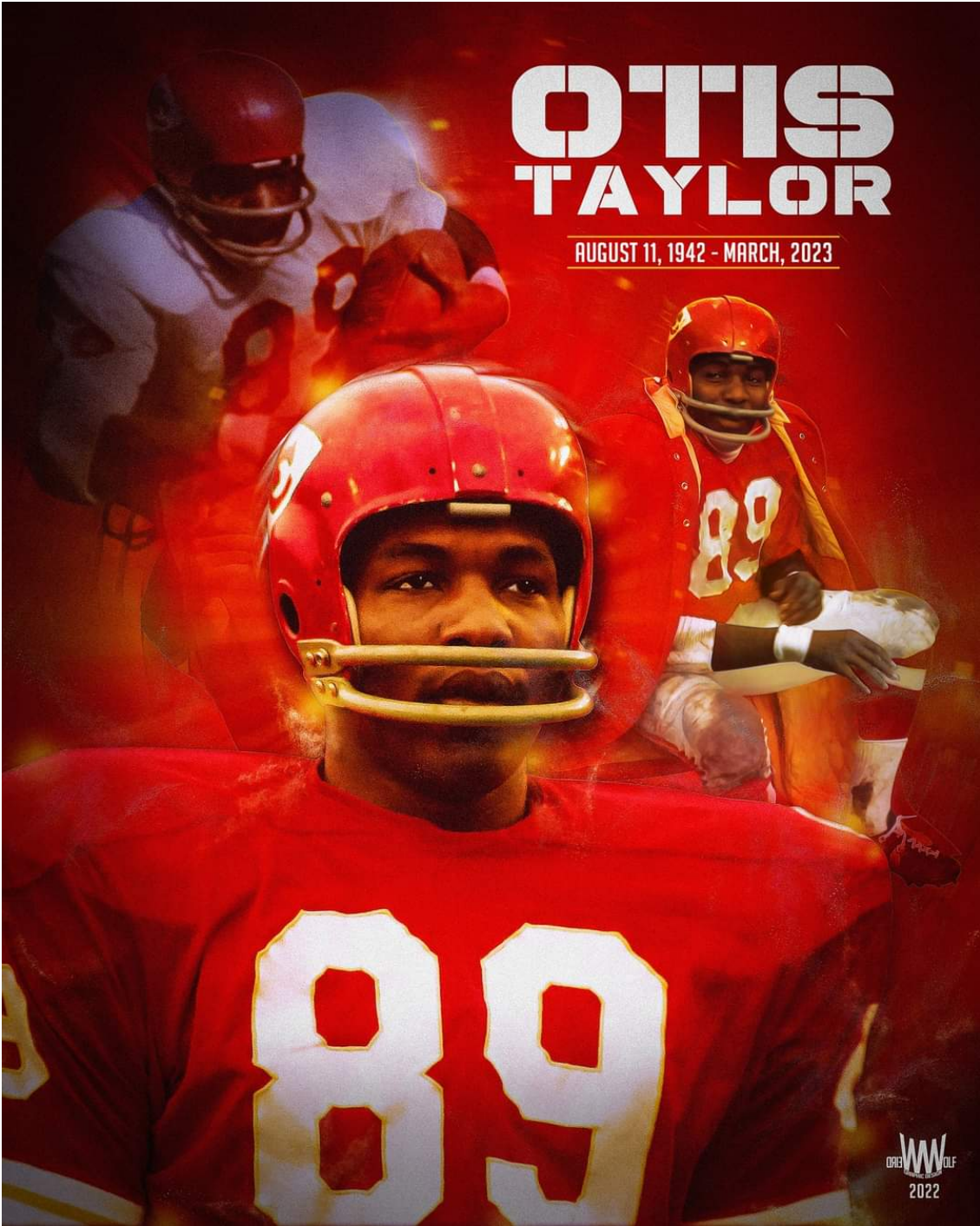


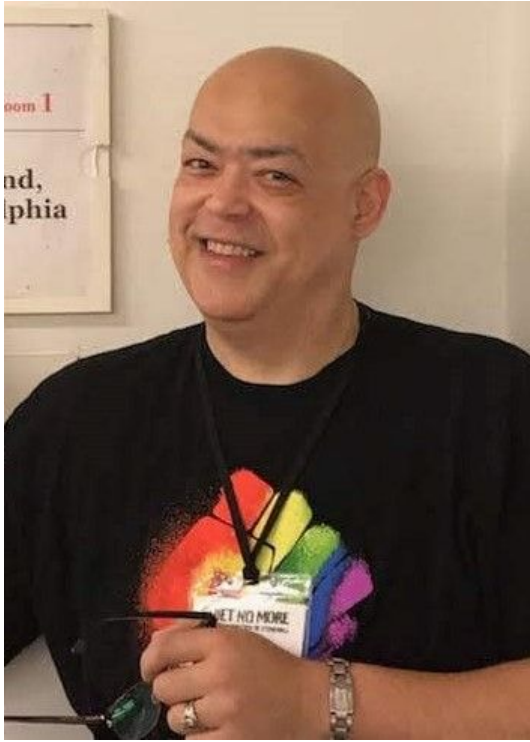
chriskeegan816@yahoo.com





Happy 60th Birthday to Lawrence Davis!





Three of my favorite people passed within the last week. Hometown hero Otis Taylor, Jr., my childhood best friend Kelly Marzett (left) and a neighborhood favorite, Lil' Melvin (right). I will miss them all and forever cherish the memories.

**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 134, 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

Assistant Minority Floor Leader

MO House of Representatives

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

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