

Community Development News

By Christy Hopkins

Congratulations to the 2021 Greeley County High School graduates! I have a special place in my heart for this class, as I enjoyed my opportunity to work closely with you on last year's Youth Entrepreneurship Challenge and your projects. We're excited to see what the future holds for you and we're eager to see you succeed down whatever paths life takes you.

Soon, you will embark on your own adventure. You'll have new experiences, make new friends, and discover freedom unlike you've ever known before.

Make time to live, to dream, to explore, to find yourself and what makes you happy.

Wherever you go, I hope you will take a piece of Greeley County with you. Remember all the wonderful people, the supportive community, and the safe and welcoming atmosphere that brings people back over and over again.

Know that you are always welcome here—for a visit or to build your life. When I was younger, people always told me to "go and make something of myself." I didn't know that that one day I would have the incredible opportunity to build it right here, in the area that I love.

If you decide that home is where your heart is, get in touch and we'll help you find your way back to Greeley County. We would love to help you find a career that meets your goals, housing that you love, a business opportunity to fulfill your dreams, or be of assistance in any way we can.

It is people like you who've built this community. And it is people like you who will help it continue to prosper for generations to come.

Best wishes today and in the days to come. You're going to move mountains.... and the Greeley County Community will be cheering you on all the way.

School board filing

Kenton Mangan has filed as a candidate for a position on the USD #200 Board of Education.

There are four positions on the school board up for election this year. Filing deadline is June 1st, at noon, in the Greeley County Clerk's office in the county courthouse.

For more information, contact the county clerk, 620-376-4256.

Board of Education, Horace City elections this year

The terms of four Unified School District #200 Board of Education members will expire January 10, 2022. An election to fill these positions will be held this year.

Board of Education members whose terms expire are Mrs. Sheryl Crotinger, Mr. Todd Schmidt, Mr. Kenton Mangan, and Mr. Shea Stewart.

The deadline to register to run for these positions is June 1st, 2021. A primary election, if needed, would be on August 3rd, 2021. The general election will be November 2nd, 2021.

The City of Horace will also have an election this year.

For more information, please contact the Greeley County Clerk's office in the Greeley County Courthouse, 620-376-4256.



Happenings at the Capitol

by Russ Jennings

State Representative, 122nd District

Session Ends With Flurry Of Activity

The 2021 session of the Kansas legislature came to an end at 1:30 A.M. May 8th. It is customary for the final day to extend into the morning hours. It is a custom that I am not excited about since it often extends into the early morning. Thankfully, we ended at a more reasonable hour than is often the case.

Education Funding

Following years of litigation and wrangling with the courts, the legislature adopted a budget for public education for the next several years. The bill that was passed with strong support fully funds public education and will meet the requirements of the Gannon case which remains open and subject to Supreme Court intervention should the legislature fail to meet a constitutional level of funding. The bill also provides for an extension of high density at risk weighting which is very important to western Kansas schools.

Taxes

A modest reduction in the income taxes for many Kansans was approved notwithstanding the veto of the Governor. Individuals will see a \$500 increase in the standard deduction and the ability to itemize deductions was expanded for many. The field was leveled for Kansas business as sales tax will be collected for all purchases made from any company that does at least \$100 thousand in sales to Kansas residents. Nobody likes paying sales tax but it is only fair that businesses who sell on the internet collect and remit sales taxes to support the

State of Kansas and local governmental entities just as our local businesses do. While I supported this tax relief, I was disappointed that we failed to provide a reduction in property tax that would benefit both individuals and business. I intend to again introduce a bill for property tax relief next year.

COVID Business Relief

Very soon businesses that were forced to close will be eligible for relief through grants that use federal relief funds. The legislature committed to supporting businesses that were negatively impacted by state and local closure orders. The state and local governmental entities will be required to use a portion of their federal relief funds to provide grants to businesses that were required to close as a result of a state or local order in response to the pandemic. This bill will be presented to the Governor and is subject to a veto by the Governor. It was the opinion of the legislature that those who suffered a closure by government order should have a chance to use available federal funds to help them in sustaining their business operations. A condition of the grants will be that the business will not be able to file a law suit regarding any claim related to the order of closure. This will provide a much less costly means for businesses to benefit without the need to hire an attorney.

Labor Department Oversight

Following months of unemployment fraud and difficulties for individuals to have unemployment

claims processed, the legislature funded a modernization project so that the potential for fraud and timelier processing of claims will improve. There was also a commitment to restoring funds to the unemployment claims fund so that employers do not have to pay the price for the fraud that was experienced. The unemployment compensation fund is supported through employer taxes and it was necessary to assure the fraud experience did not result in increased fees to employers.

Water Committee

We all know that water is likely the single biggest issue facing western Kansas in the long-term. I am pleased that the House Water Committee will be visiting the Garden City area in August. The committee has been studying water issues throughout the session and the Chairman accepted my invitation to visit our part of the state as a part of an interim study. Having legislators from across the state see firsthand the issues we face will help them to put in context the information they have received during the session. I am looking forward to the visit of my fellow committee members in August.

You can contact me on my personal cell at 620-290-1545 or my personal email: jrussj@gmail.com if you need assistance or have questions during the summer months. A complete wrap-up of the session will be arriving in your mailbox soon.

Have a great summer and stay safe.

Greeley County Republican

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Community Calendar May 19 - May 29, 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<i>—Upcoming Events—</i>						
<p>May ...Theater opens May 28th May 31...Memorial Day June 1-4...FFA State LDE June 4-6...June Jaunt June 7...Board of Education meeting June 14...Supervisors, 10 AM June 20...Fathers' Day June 28...Supervisors, 5 PM August 4-7...Greeley County Fair & All-School Reunion</p>			<p>19 • Sr Ctr - Exercise machines 8; Coffee 8; Men's Hour 9; Bible Study, 10; Pitch 1:30; Coffee 3; puzzle hour 3:30</p>	<p>20 • Recycling 9-11 AM • Sr Ctr - Exercise machines 8 AM; Coffee 8; Men's Hour 9; Board games, 1; Coffee, 3; puzzle hour 3:30; evening games, 6-close • Men's Golf Night</p>	<p>21 • Sr Ctr - Exercise machines 8; Coffee 8; Men's Hour 9; CARDS-Phase 10, 1; Coffee 3; puzzle hour 3:30 • Theater CLOSED • HS Track Regionals</p>	<p>22 • Recycling 9-11 AM • Sr. Ctr. -Exercise machines, 8 AM; Coffee and socializing, 8 AM; Men's Hour, 9AM; Afternoon Coffee, 3 PM; Puzzle hour, 3:30 PM • Theater CLOSED</p>
<p>23 • Bingo, closed • Theater CLOSED</p>	<p>24 • Recycling 9-11 AM • Sr Ctr - Exercise machines 8; Coffee 8; Men's Hour 9; CARDS - Canasta 1 PM; Coffee 3; puzzle hour 3:30 • Supervisors, 5 PM • State Golf • Carnival Work Evening</p>	<p>25 • Sr. Ctr - Exercise machines 8 AM; Coffee 8; Men's Hour 9; Dominoes, 1; Coffee, 3 PM; puzzle hour 3:30; Pinochle, pool, ping pong, 6 PM • State Golf</p>	<p>26 • Sr Ctr - Exercise machines 8; Coffee 8; Men's Hour 9; Bible Study, 10; Carry-in Dinner, noon; Coffee 3; puzzle hour 3:30</p>	<p>27 • Recycling 9-11 AM • Sr Ctr - Exercise machines 8 AM; Coffee 8; Men's Hour 9; Board games, 1; Coffee, 3; puzzle hour 3:30; evening games, 6-close • Men's Golf Night</p>	<p>28 • Sr Ctr - Exercise machines 8; Coffee 8; Men's Hour 9; CARDS-Phase 10, 1; Coffee 3; puzzle hour 3:30 • Theater OPEN • HS State Track</p>	<p>29 • Recycling 9-11 AM • Sr. Ctr. -Exercise machines, 8 AM; Coffee and socializing, 8 AM; Men's Hour, 9AM; Afternoon Coffee, 3 PM; Puzzle hour, 3:30 PM • HS State Track • Theater OPEN</p>

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Greeley County Health Services

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MRIs -- Wednesdays • DEXA bone/CT scans M,T,W, TH

May 20...Sonograms; DEXA/CT
May 21...Dr. Issa, Rheum
May 24...Sonogramms; DEXA/CT
May 25...Dr. Grove, Hays surgery; Holistic Pain Clinic; Compass; CT/Dexa
May 26...Holistic Pain Surgery; Dr. Eboh, psych; MRI; CT/Dexa
May 27...Sonograms; CT/Dexa
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