

Legislators try to override ag tourism veto

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Legislators said they will try to override Gov. Kathleen Sebelius' veto of a bill intended to help agricultural tourism. The bill had won unanimous approval in the Senate, where Agriculture Committee Chairman Derek Schmidt expressed confidence that the necessary two-thirds majority would vote to override the veto.

Under the measure, such farming and ranching activities as picking crops and riding horses would be classified as "recreational" activities for which paying visitors cannot sue property owners if they are injured. Owners of private property already have immunity from lawsuits over injuries suffered by paying visitors while hunting, camping and fishing.

Injury lawsuits would still be allowed, however, if tourism operators knowingly exposed visitors to dangerous conditions. Legislators were surprised by Sebelius' veto of a bill they hoped would promote agricultural tourism by protecting farmers and ranchers from liability.

University of Kansas grads pledge \$3 million for hall

LAWRENCE (AP) — A couple from Seattle has pledged \$3 million to build a new scholarship hall on the University of Kansas campus. Roger and Annette Rieger, both 1967 graduates of the school, pledged the money for the hall in honor of Roger's late brother, Dennis.

school's 11th scholarship hall, is expected to open in fall 2005. The hall will have two wings with suite-style living areas for four to eight people. It will also have a courtyard, a dining area, a living room, a kitchen and a recreational room.

Sebelius relaxes security at Statehouse building

TOPEKA (AP) — Visitors to the Statehouse will no longer have to sign in, and an additional entrance will be open for them, Gov. Kathleen Sebelius said Wednesday.

Sebelius said she ordered relaxed security at the Statehouse and nearby government office buildings effective immediately because federal homeland security officials last week downgraded the national terrorist alert level to "yellow" from "orange."

However, Sebelius said Secretary of Administration Howard Fricke could continue having visitors to the five office buildings near the Capitol sign in "as needed."

She also said the state will have random, unannounced increases in security staffing and review security issues around individual events.

Fund raising project underway

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP) — An effort to raise \$1 million for a Lewis and Clark bicentennial event next year is about halfway to its goal. The Wyandotte County Bicentennial Lewis and Clark Task Force and the Friends of the Kaw have received a \$400,000 commitment from the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kan., for a project at Kaw Point.

years ago at Kaw Point and for the Kansas Riverkeeper program. "I think the UG is really excited about this project and the opportunity to let people rediscover our rivers and hopefully spearhead some more development down by the riverfront," Wilson said.

Burnham resigns as Raytheon CEO, Swanson promoted

BOSTON (AP) — Daniel Burnham, who has tried to return Raytheon Corp. to its core defense business during five years leading the company, is resigning effective July 1.

Raytheon's annual meeting at its Lexington, Mass. headquarters. "It's hard to move on. I'm going to miss this place, but it's time."

Burnham, 56, arrived from AlliedSignal in 1998, with Raytheon starting to suffer the aftereffects of an acquisition binge undertaken to diversify itself and survive post-Cold War defense budget cuts.

dragging down its stock. Burnham spent much of his tenure trying to return Raytheon to its defense-industry roots. Burnham cut Raytheon's debt nearly in half to under \$7 billion through a reorganization and by shedding businesses including its construction and engineering division.

Kansas senior citizens cautioned about moving industry scams

By OTTO HANDWERK
Crime Victim Volunteer Johnson County District Attorney's Office

move of an elderly mother, being moved from a southern state by her Overland Park adult children, became a costly scam. These two cases involved the use of computer on-line bids by the moving companies.

\$9,800 or "they would take off with the stuff if we didn't pay." The original moving company that made the bid and picked up the household goods was not the same moving company that appeared to deliver the property on the West Coast.

New York had a satisfactory record, but the one in California had an unsatisfactory record based on "a pattern of complaints that included increasing the price after the belongings are on the truck, prices exceeding bids, lost or stolen items, late deliveries, and refusing to deliver goods without complying with their demands."

but are typical moving scams you can encounter. I want to suggest how you can protect yourself. Tips on Selecting a Moving Company: Make plans well in advance. Leave enough time to have movers come to your home and give you a detailed in-home estimate with the name, address, and phone of the moving company.

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