

# 'Turnaround' marks halfway for session of state Legislature

By the end of this week, we will have reached turnaround, meaning each chamber will begin debating bills from the other house. The process has been slow moving bills out, and budget, tax and education bills are still not ready for debate on the floor.

The redistricting committee has looked at three different maps drawn from western Kansas. I made a motion to keep all districts whole in order to get the debate going. The committee will not vote until the next meeting because a member was absent.

I am really concerned about the future of the 36th District. At the pace the committee is working, it could be awhile before a Senate map is produced.

Secretary of Labor Karin plans to have a conference call with me and House members from the 40th District and the chairmen of area home-owned carnivals next week to try and resolve the safety issue. I will see if I can get the governor's staff to listen in.

We have passed two very emotional veterans bills honoring Kansan heroes who paid the ultimate price. The first was for Bryan Nichols from Hays. He was buried at Palco in my district.

I was privileged to meet his parents. His father was a decorated Vietnam veteran, who was so proud of his son, and his mother still grieves and prays that she will someday understand.

The other bill honored the Frankfort Boys of World War II. With a population of 20,000, Marshall County had 529 men and women who served in the war. That was just a part of the 2,106 who were drafted or enlisted.

The town of Frankfort lost 39 people, the most per capita for any small town in the U.S. Frank Bente-man, one of the surviving World War II veterans,



## Letter from Topeka By Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer

was honored for his work in getting the Frankfort community this recognition.

SB393 would require the Board of Regents to establish a career technical education incentive program, which would award \$1,000, subject to appropriations, to a school district for each high school graduate who earns an industry-recognized credential in a high-need occupation as identified by the secretary of labor.

The bill would allow governing bodies of technical and community colleges to apply to the board permission to establish a new technical program, outside the institution's service area, if the program is not currently being offered. The bill would require the Regents to initiate development of a statewide agreement on career technical education among high schools, community colleges, technical colleges and the institute of technology.

This bill could very easily fill a void with graduates who don't intend to attend a four-year college. These technical degrees take less time and will definitely help the student be more qualified to get employment in a specific area.

To reach Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer, write him at State Capitol, 300 SW 10th Street, Room 128-S, Topeka, Kan. 66612 or call (785) 296-7399. His e-mail address is ostmeyer@senate.state.ks.us.

# Lots on the table in Topeka

I know of no other time in the history of Kansas politics when there have been so many ideas for change in government operations offered all at once.

The method I prefer would be to carefully evaluate changes to one or two key policy areas at a time. Analyze the change, offer the changes for comment to all interested parties and then gauge the reaction.

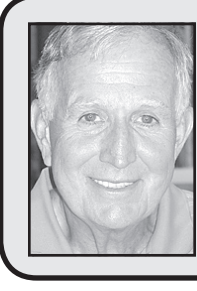
This is now a House tax plan, a Senate tax plan and the governor's proposed tax plan. One part of the House Plan that I like is the proposal to allow .6 of 1 cent of the 2010 penny sales-tax increase to expire in 2013. The governor wants to renew the full 1 cent tax.

If the money filling state coffers continues to come in, reducing the sales tax would benefit a lot of people.

The Kansas Department of Transportation would keep its .4 of 1 cent of the increase under both the House and governor's plans. What I don't like in the House plan is that it would freeze transportation spending for two years.

The House tax committee said the fund would be restored and that the department would not lose any dollars in the long run. The transportation plan gives about \$8 million to each of my counties, and I can't support putting that on hold. I have also seen where the Legislature says it will return money - and then something changes over time.

As if we needed any more issues,



## Letter from Topeka By State Rep. Ward Cassidy

2353 was passed out of committee. This would allow concealed-carry permit holders to carry in all public buildings, including libraries, hospitals and college campuses, unless all entrances to those buildings have metal detectors.

I have a concealed carry license, but I will have trouble supporting this bill, considering the possible cost and dangers. I never thought I could oppose any bill relating to our 2nd Amendment, but I am planning to oppose this one.

Last week, the governor issued his first executive reorganization order of the session. Order No. 41 would consolidate the financing arm of Medicaid in the Department of Health and Environment, Division of Health Care Finance; rename the Department on Aging as the Department for Aging and Disability Services; and consolidate all disability and mental health services with Social and Rehabilitation Services, and rename that department as the Department for Children and Families.

If neither chamber rejects this

order within 60 days, it will go into effect July 1. Despite the many concerns from advocates and interested parties, the governor's office contends that there is no stopping it. I would say that this topic is the one that dominates my calls and e-mails.

We heard a disturbing fact in committee: today in America, there are nearly twice as many people working for the government (22.5 million) than in all of manufacturing (11.5 million). This is almost an exact reversal of the situation in 1960, when we had 15 million in manufacturing and 8.7 million in government.

You can draw your own conclusions.

# Legislature moves forward at half

By State Rep. WARD CASSIDY  
Republican, 120th District

As you probably realize, the bulk of the work done so far in the Legislature affects a limited number of Kansans, but is still essential for those industries, communities or individuals.

It takes longer to get any real consensus on the complex and sometimes divisive issues we face. Items like tax policy, school finance, immigration policy and the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System will all come up enough.

This week is what we call "Turnaround," when most bills must be advanced out of the house of origin and sent to the other house for consideration. That means long days in session, deliberating and voting for all members of both chambers.

An issue that made headlines this week was the proposal by the adjutant general to create a \$40 million disaster relief fund.

Northwest Kansas has been concerned about SB 356, which would remove the exemption for home-owned carnivals from state regulation. The bill has not yet been brought to committee, although that could still happen. All of the northwest Kansas representatives and our senator are working hard to stop this bill.

I really appreciate the good turnout last week for the "town-hall" meetings in my five counties. Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer and I had a chance to answer many questions from

voters. I continue to stress that we need to hear from people to be able to fight for your concerns.

The number of deer-car accidents was brought up at several of the meetings. Several bills try to address this issue, which is a real problem, not only in the 120th District,

but throughout the state. The most up-to-date information about these accidents on the Department of Wildlife website is for 2008. That year, 248 accidents causing at least \$1,000 worth of damage per accident, were reported in the 120th. There have been more each year.

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RAWLINS COUNTY HEALTH CENTER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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March 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Dr. Reeves Podiatry	2 Dr. Reeves Podiatry	3
4	5 Dr. Rubowitz Oncology	6 Dr. Frederick C. Miller Cardiology	7 Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Diabetic Clinic	8	9 Cardiac Rehab MRI's	10
11	12 Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	13 DEXA Bone Density	14 Dr. Frankum Surgery	15	16 Nuclear Medicine Cardiac Rehab MRI's	17
18	19 Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	20 Dr. Frederick C. Miller Cardiology	21 Dr. Curtis Cardiology	22	23 Cardiac Rehab MRI'S	24
25	26 Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab	27 Dr. Frederick C. Miller Cardiology	28 Ultrasounds Cardiac Rehab Diabetic Clinic	29	30 Cardiac Rehab MRI'S	31

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# LAND AUCTION

## 812 (+/-) Acres

### Bottomland, Grassland & CRP

#### Rawlins County, Kansas

Date: Friday, March 16th, 2012

TIME: 10:00 a.m. CST

AUCTION LOCATION: St. Mary's Hall, Herndon, KS 67745

LAND LOCATION: From Herndon, KS, 3 miles west on Rd. X, 2 miles South on Rd. 31.

Sellers: Kelly Kimbel & Lexie Mumm

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: This is a rare opportunity to buy good bottomland and grassland located along a well maintained county road. This is excellent hunting property with an abundance of deer and wild turkey.

TRACT I: NW¼ of NW¼ of 18-2-31, Rawlins County, consisting of approximately 29.5 acres 1st bottomland.

TRACT II: S½ of NW¼ and S½ of 18-2-31 and N½, Less SW¼ of NW¼ of 19-2-31, Rawlins County, consisting of approximately 46.6 acres CRP, 586 acres grassland.

TRACT III: SE¼ of NE¼ of 13-2-32, Rawlins County, consisting of approximately 28.9 acres 1st and 2nd bottomland, 7.51 acres pond and timber.

TRACT IV: NE¼ of NW¼ and N½ of NE¼ of 13-2-32, Rawlins County, consisting of approximately 99.9 acres 1st bottomland, 9.7 acres timber and grassland.

Tract	Legal	Cropland Acres	Grassland Acres	Wheat Base/YLD	Milo Base/YLD	2011 Taxes
Tract 1	NW¼ of NW¼ of 18-2-31	30.5	9.5	18.9/31	1.046	\$48.75
Tract 2	S½ of NW¼ and S½ of 18-2-31, and N½, Less SW¼ of NW¼ of 19-2-31	46.6	586	17.41/31	4.5/46	\$342.14
Tract 3	SE¼ of NE¼ of 13-2-32	28.94	7.9	16.3/31	2.6/46	\$57.69
Tract 4	NE¼ of NW¼, and NW¼ of NE¼ of 13-2-32	96.76	9.7	54.9/31	8.9/46	\$141.78

MANNER OF SALE: This land will be sold in four individual tracts only.

TERMS: 10% down day of sale, balance due on or before April 17th, 2012.

POSSESSION: Buyer(s) shall receive possession of all cropland after the 2013 wheat harvest. January 1st, 2013 on all grassland and CRP.

TAXES: 2012 and subsequent years shall be the responsibility of the Buyer(s).

MINERALS: All, (100%) of the Sellers' interest shall go to the Buyer(s) at closing.

CROPS: The present Tenant shall retain all, (100%) crops for the crop year 2012 and 2013.

FSA PAYMENTS: The present Tenant shall receive all, (100%) of the 2012 and 2013 FSA payments.

LEASES: This land is being sold subject to the Tenant's rights. The Buyer(s) shall receive all, (100%) of the cash lease payments pursuant to the present lease agreement between the Sellers and the Tenant.

TITLE INSURANCE: Sellers shall provide title evidence the day of the sale. The premium shall be paid one-half by Buyer(s) and one-half by Sellers at closing.

CLOSING: On or before April 17th, 2012. Decatur County Title & Abstract, 181 S. Penn, Oberlin, KS 67749 shall be the escrow agent and closing agent. The closing fee shall be paid one-half by Sellers and one-half by Buyer(s).

GENERAL INFORMATION: Tract 2 has a submersible well and domestic well for livestock water supply. Tract 3 has a pond stocked with fish and is spring fed. The Beaver Creek passes through Tract 4.

INSPECTIONS: All bidders are responsible for their own inspections concerning facts about the property. Neither the Sellers, Glad Real Estate, its agents and representatives make no warranties about the property, expressed or implied.

AGENCY: Glad Real Estate, its agents and representatives are the exclusive agents of the Sellers.

Announcements made day of sale shall take precedence over printed matter. All acreages are based on US Government (FSA) measurements and are considered approximate. Selling subject to easements, reservations, leases, and right-of-ways of record. Glad Real Estate is representing the Sellers only, in this transaction.

For additional information, photos, or a tour of the land, contact Rocky Hayes at:

### Glad Real Estate

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