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JUEVES, 11 DE FEBRERO DE 2021 | PERIÓDICO BILINGÜE KANSAS CITY

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First round of COVID-19 vaccines came to KC Westside neighborhood

Primera ronda de vacunas COVID-19 llegó al vecindario Westside KC

BY JOE ARCE
AND COREY CRABLE
IN-DEPTH REPORT

Residents of Kansas City's Westside neighborhood waited in line inside the Tony Aguirre Community Center this week to get a first dose of protection against COVID-19.

A partnership between multiple community organizations – including Truman Medical Center, the Westside's CAN Center, Mattie Rhodes, Guadalupe Centers, Tony Aguirre Community Center, and

TRUMAN MEDICAL.... / PAGE 3

TRADUCE
GEMMA TORNERO

Los residentes del vecindario Westside, de Kansas City, hicieron fila dentro del Centro Comunitario Tony Aguirre esta semana para obtener una primera dosis de protección contra COVID-19.

CENTRO MÉDICO.... / PÁGINA 2



Charles Lona was among the 300 Kansas City Westside residents to receive his COVID-19 vaccine shot this week. He was grateful and Lona praised President Joe Biden for getting vaccines into arms within the first 100 days of his administration.

Charles Lona estuvo entre los 300 residentes del Westside Kansas City que recibieron su vacuna COVID-19 esta semana. Él estaba agradecido. Lona elogió al presidente Joe Biden por poner las vacunas en los brazos de la gente durante los primeros 100 días de su administración.

Alvey running for second term as KCK mayor

Alvey se postula para un segundo mandato como alcalde de KCK

BY JOE ARCE
AND COREY CRABLE

Kansas City, KS, Mayor/CEO David Alvey has announced his candidacy for a second term, listing supporting small businesses, improving the city's infrastructure, and open communication with citizens as his top priorities.

Alvey, who was elected to his first term in 2017, says these goals will carry over from his first term.

"My goals have remained the same – to be honest and straightforward about what our challenges are, and look

at what we can do to meet those challenges," Alvey tells Kansas City Hispanic News.

Chief among those challenges is improving an aging infrastructure.

"We have a long road ahead in terms of improving our basic infrastructure of the city – our streets and our parks, our bridges, our storm water system, our sewer system. We have to find a way to start tackling some of the big challenges facing us, and we have to do it with limited resources," Alvey explains. "People will say, 'Mayor, we need more

INCUMBENT STRESSES ... / PAGE 8

TRADUCE
GEMMA TORNERO

El alcalde/director ejecutivo de Kansas City, KS, David Alvey, ha anunciado su candidatura para un segundo mandato, enumerando el apoyo a las pequeñas empresas, la mejora de la infraestructura de la ciudad y la comunicación abierta con los ciudadanos como sus principales prioridades.

Alvey, quien fue elegido para su primer mandato en 2017, dice que estos objetivos se trasladarán desde su primer mandato.

"Mis metas siguen siendo las mismas: ser honesto y directo acerca de cuáles son nuestros desafíos y ver qué podemos hacer para enfrentar esos desafíos", le dice Alvey a Kansas City Hispanic News.

EL TITULAR ENFATIZA.... / PÁGINA 8



"We have to work to be more efficient in providing services. We also have to grow our tax base – more businesses and more housing. The more people who own property, the more we can spread out the tax burden," KCK Mayor David Alvey said.

"Tenemos que trabajar para ser más eficientes en la prestación de servicios. También tenemos que hacer crecer nuestra base impositiva: más negocios y más viviendas. Cuantas más personas posean propiedades, más podremos distribuir la carga fiscal", dijo el alcalde de KCK, David Alvey.

Centro Médico Truman vacunó a 300 personas mayores; segunda dosis programada para principios de marzo

CONT./PÁGINA 1

Una asociación entre varias organizaciones comunitarias, incluido el Centro Médico Truman, Centro CAN Westside, Mattie Rhodes, Centros Guadalupe, Centro Comunitario Tony Aguirre y el Departamento de Parques y Recreación de Kansas City, trabajaron juntos para llevar las vacunas al vecindario, con una segunda dosis en camino para el mes que viene. En este momento, las vacunas se han reservado para residentes mayores de 65 años.

Las temperaturas en toda el área metropolitana de Kansas City llegaron a un dígito durante el fin de semana, causando accidentes automovilísticos y lesiones tanto en autopistas como en calles secundarias. Aun así, las gélidas temperaturas y las condiciones de hielo no lograron mantener fuera del centro comunitario a los aproximadamente 300 receptores de la vacuna, donde el personal del Centro Médico Truman las administró las vacunas.

“Hoy es un día de celebración”, anunció Jorge Coromac, director del Centro CAN, en una conferencia de prensa a principios de semana. “Nos estamos asociando con el Centro Médico Truman y realizar las primeras vacunas comunitarias para los residentes mayores del Westside. Estamos muy agradecidos de tener la oportunidad de poner esas vacunas y ayudar a la comunidad en general”.

Para recibir la vacuna, las organizaciones ponen a los residentes mayores en una lista de espera. Las vacunas se administraban por orden de llegada, lo que significaba que si un residente programado para recibir una vacuna en cualquiera de los dos días que se le ofreció no podía asistir a la cita, perdía su lugar en la fila.

La residente local Anita Medina fue una de las muchas que recibió su primera vacuna y no iba a permitir que las temperaturas bajo cero la detuvieran.

“Eso fue bastante fácil, y eso es todo”, dijo después de recibir la inyección en su brazo. “Estábamos decididos a lograrlo y fue muy fácil”.

Otro residente local, Charlie Lona, conoce de primera mano el camino de dolor y destrucción de COVID-19. Su hermano murió recientemente por complicaciones del virus.

Lona criticó a la administración Trump por una respuesta lenta a la pandemia global. “Si la administración pasada se hubiera preparado para COVID, no hubiéramos visto malos tiempos como éste, con tanta gente sufriendo”, dijo Lona a Kansas City Hispanic News. “Culpo a la administración anterior por la muerte de estas personas. Espero que el gobierno busque justicia para ellos. ... Nunca debemos olvidar el

pasado. Todavía hay que solucionarlo”.

Lona elogió al presidente Joe Biden por poner las vacunas en los brazos de la gente durante los primeros 100 días de su administración.

“Estoy muy agradecido”, dijo Lona. “Joe Biden es responsable de esto, y es a quien agradezco hoy”.

Niki Lee Donawa, directora de relaciones comunitarias del Centro Médico Truman, dijo que quiere que la comunidad del Westside sepa que el hospital, las organizaciones comunitarias y el gobierno de Kansas City no se han olvidado de ellos.

“Hemos venido al Westside para que sepan que nos preocupamos por ellos”, dijo Donawa. “Son tan importantes como cualquier otra persona en esta ciudad”.

Cuando se trata de sentirse protegido y cuidado, los datos muestran que los afroamericanos y los hispanoamericanos en su conjunto pueden no sentir el mismo sentido de unidad. Según los Centros para el Control de Enfermedades, los hispanos en todo el país están muriendo de COVID a una tasa casi tres veces mayor que la de los blancos. Los hispanos representan más de una cuarta parte de las muertes por COVID hasta ahora.

A fines del año pasado, los CDC publicaron un informe que exploraba por qué los hispanos como grupo pueden ser más susceptibles a la infección por COVID.

Según un artículo publicado en The Kansas City Star en diciembre pasado, los hispanos con COVID-19, mostró el informe de los CDC, “eran más propensos a decir que tenían trabajos esenciales y seguían trabajando mientras estaban enfermos. ... Las situaciones se encuentran entre las que tienen el potencial de generar un mayor riesgo de exposición”, según los CDC.

El artículo también informó que los residentes hispanos y latinos constituían aproximadamente el 19 % de la población de Estados Unidos; aquellos que trabajan en industrias esenciales, como la agricultura, tendrán más probabilidades de ir a trabajar mientras están enfermos si no se les asigna tiempo libre remunerado, encontró el informe de los CDC.

Entre sus otros hallazgos, el informe mostró que las comunidades predominantemente hispanas no tenían acceso a la información sobre COVID y la vacuna. Eso es algo que Coromac dijo que ha estado trabajando para cambiar en el vecindario del Westside. Dijo que quiere deshacerse de la creencia errónea de que el Westside es un “desierto de vacunas”.

“Hemos estado educando (al público) desde octubre”, dijo. “No se puede simplemente decir: ‘Aquí está la



“Hoy es un día de celebración”, anunció Jorge Coromac, director del Centro CAN, en una conferencia de prensa a principios de semana. “Nos estamos asociando con el Centro Médico Truman para realizar las primeras vacunas comunitarias para los residentes mayores del Westside.

“Today is a day of celebration,” Jorge Coromac, director of the CAN Center, announced at a press conference earlier in the week. “We are partnering with Truman Medical Center doing the first community vaccinations to the older residents of the Westside.”

vacuna’. La gente no entiende lo que está sucediendo”.

Esa vacilación para vacunarse proviene de una desconfianza profundamente arraigada en el gobierno y la comunidad médica, los cuales han violado la confianza de las comunidades de color durante siglos. Uno de los ejemplos más recientes se encuentra en los experimentos de Tuskegee de 1932-72, en los que los investigadores médicos estudiaron los efectos de la sífilis no tratada en los hombres negros. A los participantes del estudio se les mintió y se les dijo que recibirían atención médica gratuita del gobierno a cambio de su cooperación. Los experimentos de Tuskegee, considerados poco éticos por los profesionales médicos en los últimos 40 años, se han convertido en sinónimo de motivo para desconfiar del gobierno y de los tratamientos médicos que apoya.

Hasta ahora, dijo Coromac, él ha visto una fuerte demanda de la vacuna entre los residentes mayores, lo que demuestra que la campaña de educación del Centro CAN parece estar funcionando.

“Estamos tratando de continuar la conversación”, dijo. “Queremos mantener esta asociación y poder servir a la comunidad”.

En particular, Coromac dijo que está tratando de hacer que los procesos de educación y vacunación sean lo más fáciles posible para los residentes mayores del Westside. Por ejemplo, las enfermeras de la Asociación Hispana de Enfermeras están trabajando con los receptores de la vacuna que no son hablantes nativos de inglés. Además, Coromac dijo que es importante recordar que el público esta semana solo recibió su primera dosis de la vacuna COVID, y que la máxima protección contra el virus requiere una segunda dosis.

Los profesionales de la salud del Centro Médico Truman y otros de las organizaciones

asociadas de este proyecto se volverán a reunir en el centro comunitario para que aquellos que recibieron su primera dosis de vacuna reciban su segunda dosis el 9 de marzo.

El Centro Médico Truman (TMC, por sus siglas en inglés) llevó a cabo una clínica de vacunación COVID-19 muy organizada y eficiente ésta semana, que incluyó más de 30 referencias del Centro Mattie Rhodes. El presidente/director ejecutivo de Mattie

Rhodes, John Fierro, dijo a Hispanic News: “Aprecié mucho la paciencia y la compasión mostradas durante todo el día por parte del equipo de TMC; desde el equipo de seguridad que maneja el tráfico en el frío gélido, la persona que registró a las personas, hasta el personal médico que administra la vacuna, todos fueron muy amables y profesionales. Gracias TMC”.

Y aunque Coromac se mantuvo ocupado el día de la vacuna, KC

Hispanic News observó que estuvo escuchando palabras de gratitud todo el día, Coromac dijo que nunca se cansó de escuchar las palabras “muchas gracias” de quienes esperaban su vacuna.

“Es increíble. Se me llenan los ojos de lágrimas y se derrite el corazón”, dijo Coromac. “Las personas mayores dicen: ‘Gracias, muchas gracias’. La conclusión es que estamos muy felices de celebrar este evento”.

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Truman Medical Center vaccinated 300 seniors; second dose set for early March

CONT./PAGE 1

Kansas City’s Parks and Recreation Department worked together to bring the vaccines to the neighborhood, with a second dose on the way next month. At this time, the vaccines have been reserved for residents over the age of 65.

Temperatures throughout the Kansas City metro area plunged into the single digits over the weekend, causing car accidents and injuries on both highways and back roads. Still, the frigid temperatures and icy conditions failed to keep the roughly 300 vaccine recipients from the community center, where the vaccines were administered by Truman Medical Center staff.

“Today is a day of celebration,” Jorge Coromac, director of the CAN Center, announced at a press conference earlier in the week. “We are partnering with Truman Medical Center doing the first community vaccinations to the older residents of the Westside. We are so grateful to have opportunity to put out those vaccines and help the community at large.”

In order to receive the vaccine, the organizations put older residents on a waiting list. The vaccinations were first come, first serve – which meant that if a resident slated to receive a vaccine on either of the two days it was offered couldn’t keep the appointment, they lost their place in line.

Local resident Anita Medina was one of the many who received her first vaccination, and she wasn’t going to let freezing temperatures stop her.

“That was fairly easy, and that’s it,” she said after getting the shot in her arm. “We were determined we’re going to make it, and it was so easy.”

Another local resident, Charlie Lona, knows the pain of COVID-19’s path of destruction firsthand. His brother recently died of complications due to the virus.

Lona criticized the Trump administration for a slow response to the global pandemic.

“If the past administration would have prepared for COVID, we wouldn’t have seen bad times like this with so many people suffering,” Lona told Kansas City Hispanic News. “I blame the previous administration for the deaths of these people. I hope the government seeks justice for them. ... We should never forget the past. It still has to be dealt with.”

Lona praised President Joe Biden for getting vaccines into arms within the first 100 days of his administration.

“I am so grateful,” Lona said. “Joe Biden is responsible for this, and that’s who I thank today.”

Niki Lee Donawa, chief community relations officer for Truman Medical Center, said she wants the Westside community to know that the hospital,



Anita Medina (left) told Hispanic News just seconds after receiving her vaccine, “That was fairly easy, and that’s it,” she said after getting the shot in her arm. “We were determined we’re going to make it, and it was so easy.”

Anita Medina (izquierda) le dijo a Hispanic News segundos después de recibir su vacuna, “Eso fue bastante fácil, y eso es todo”, dijo después de recibir la inyección en su brazo. “Estábamos decididos a lograrlo y fue muy fácil”.



the community organizations, and Kansas City government haven’t forgotten about them.

“We have come to the Westside so they know we care about them,” Donawa said. “They are just as important as anyone else in this city.”

When it comes to feeling protected and cared for, the data shows that Black and Hispanic Americans as a whole may not feel that same sense of unity. According to the Centers for Disease Control, Hispanics nationwide are dying of COVID at nearly three times the rate of White people. Hispanic people make up more than a quarter of the COVID deaths so far.

Late last year, the CDC published a report exploring why Hispanics as a group may be more susceptible to COVID infection.

According to an article published in The Kansas City Star last December, Hispanics with COVID-19, the CDC report showed, “were more likely to say they had essential jobs and kept working while sick. ... The situations are among those that have the potential to bring increased risk of exposure,” according to the CDC.

The article also reported that Hispanic and Latino residents made up roughly 19 percent of the U.S. population; those who work in essential industries, such as agriculture, will be more likely to go to work while sick if they aren’t allocated paid time off, the CDC report found.

Among its other findings, the report showed that access to information about COVID and the vaccine was lacking in predominantly Hispanic communities. That’s something Coromac said he has been working to change in the Westside neighborhood. He said he wants to shed the misbelief that the Westside is a “vaccine desert.”

“We have been educating (the public)

since October,” he said. “You can’t just say, ‘Here’s the vaccine.’ People don’t understand what is happening.”

That hesitation to get vaccinated comes from a deeply rooted mistrust in the government and the medical community, both of which have violated the trust of communities of color for centuries. One of the most recent examples lies in the Tuskegee experiments of 1932-72, in which medical researchers studied the effects of untreated Syphilis on Black males. The study participants were lied to and told they would receive free government healthcare in exchange for their cooperation. The Tuskegee experiments, deemed unethical by medical professionals in the past 40 years, have become

synonymous with cause to mistrust the government and the medical treatments it supports.

So far, Coromac said, he has seen strong demand for the vaccine among older residents, showing that the CAN Center’s education campaign seems to be working.

“We are trying to continue the conversation,” he said. “We want to keep this partnership and be able to serve the community.”

Most notably, Coromac said he is trying to make the processes of education and vaccination as easy on older Westside residents as possible. For instance, nurses from the Hispanic Nurse Association are working with any vaccine recipients who aren’t native English speakers. In addition, Coromac said it is

important to remember that members of the public this week only received their first dose of the COVID vaccine, and that maximum protection from the virus requires a second dose.

Truman Medical health professionals and others from this project’s partner organizations will reconvene at the community center so those who received their first vaccine dose will then receive their second dose on March 9.

Truman Medical Center (TMC) held a very organized and efficient COVID-19 vaccination clinic this week that included over 30 referrals from Mattie Rhodes Center. President/CEO of Mattie Rhodes John Fierro told Hispanic News, “I was so appreciative of the patience and compassion shown throughout the day

from the TMC team; from the security team managing traffic in the frigid cold, the individual who checked people in, to the medical personnel administering the vaccination, everyone was very kind and professional. Thank you TMC.”

And though Coromac stayed busy on vaccine day, when KC Hispanic News observed that he must have been hearing words of gratitude all day long, Coromac said he never got tired of hearing the words “muchas gracias” from those waiting for their shot.

“It’s incredible. It brings tears to my eyes and it melts my heart,” Coromac said. “The seniors say, ‘Thank you, thank you, muchas gracias.’ The bottom line is, we are so happy to celebrate this event.”

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Important information from JCDHE regarding COVID-19 vaccinations

JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS
- Dr. Sanmi Areola, director of the Department of Health and Environment, announced on Feb. 5 at the regular meeting of the Johnson County Board of County Commissioners the following vaccination plans for the **week of Feb. 8:**

- Beginning today, when people take the interest survey, they will receive a confirmation email that it was successfully completed. This is an improvement we are making based on

- Health care workers** – JCDHE is reaching out today to 3,800 people whose second doses are due for appointments next week. Appointments are being scheduled via a unique link.
- 80+ population** - The county will continue vaccinating persons in this category. The majority of those contacted this week and next will be vaccinated at clinics next week on Wednesday and Thursday.

Please complete the interest form. Those who have successfully completed the county's interest form and have not been vaccinated will receive a follow-up email or phone call from the county on how to book an appointment. We are regularly monitoring our data to ensure that everyone who takes this survey is being contacted when they are eligible for an appointment.

- 65+ population** - Johnson County hospital systems –

Advent Health, Menorah, Overland Park Regional, Olathe Health, KU-Med, St. Luke's Hospital are beginning vaccinations. Go to their websites for more information.

- K-12 public and private school staff and daycare providers** – These individuals will continue to be vaccinated through Children's Mercy next week at various locations. Eligible staff should receive information from their school or district administration. Next

Saturday will be a clinic for daycare center staff and home child care providers who completed the county's interest survey.

- First responders (fire, police and Sheriff's Office)** – The last clinic for this group will be held on Monday.
- Anyone in the Tier 1 categories who missed their dose** – These individuals can make an appointment at any available vaccination clinic.

Olathe Health Vaccinating About 3,000 with First Vaccine Shipment

Olathe Health has already vaccinated more than 1,000 of the 3,000 patients it will inoculate with the health system's first shipment of vaccine supply. All 3,000 doses will be administered throughout this weekend and next week.

Olathe Health began vaccinations within KDHE's Phase 2 of patients 65 and older on Wednesday, Feb. 4. The health system is currently using an appointment structure to administer the first set of vaccines. The appointment structure allows the organization to quickly and efficiently administer the vaccine and to schedule the second injection ("booster") during the check-in process for the first dose.

On the first day Olathe Health opened vaccine scheduling, the appointments were completely filled by noon. As additional shipments are received, more appointments will be available. In addition to vaccinating at Olathe Health clinics, the health system is working closely with the Johnson County Department of Health and Environment (JCHDE) and area health systems to help provide resources to help vaccinate our community as quickly as possible.

"Throughout the pandemic, we've had great collaboration among our area health systems, the county and state health departments and the CDC as we all try to put the best processes in place," Stan Holm, President/CEO of Olathe Health said. "We are happy our community is so eager to be vaccinated, and are working together to make it available as soon as we receive additional supply of vaccine."

For the latest information about Olathe Health's vaccine availability, please use any of the following resources:

- Visit olathehealth.org/vaccine.
- Sign up to receive email notifications. You can sign up at olathehealth.org/vaccine.
- For those who do not wish to use electronic forms of communication, please call your Olathe Health clinic and provide a phone number where you can be contacted for more information.
- Visit the KDHE vaccine website, kansasvaccine.gov, or the CDC website, [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov), for information about state and national vaccine supply and phasing plans.

Source Olathe Health

Missouri moves to allow recently retired healthcare providers to administer COVID-19 vaccine

JEFFERSON CITY, MO – Retired healthcare providers are now added to the list of those authorized to administer the two currently approved COVID-19 vaccines. Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) Director, Dr. Randall Williams, issued amended standing orders detailing who in Missouri is authorized to administer the vaccines following a move by federal partners to increase the available workforce.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently issued a fifth amendment to the Declaration under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act) to add additional categories of qualified persons authorized to prescribe, dispense, and administer COVID-19 vaccines authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Missouri's revised standing orders will:

- Allow any individual, with the exception of medical students and intern pharmacists, who would have had authority to vaccinate under the standing order within the last five years to be allowed to do so. Prior to vaccinating, such individual must: (1) confirm that the reason for their withdrawal from practice was not due to discipline, etc.; (2) complete the CDC COVID-19 vaccine training modules; (3) document their identification and prior license, etc.; and (4) certify that they do not have a condition that should prevent their ability to safely administer the vaccine. Such individuals will be under the initial observation of a licensed Missouri healthcare provider to confirm the individuals competency.

- Allow healthcare providers who are licensed in another state to administer COVID-19 vaccines in Missouri.

"We value our all-hands-on-deck approach as we continue implementing our vaccine plan, and partnerships will become especially vital as vaccines become more widely available in the future," said Williams. "We have been listening to feedback from our colleagues from throughout the state, and we are so grateful to those recently retired healthcare workers who are willing to help their fellow Missourians as we anticipate the arrival of more vaccines as they become approved for use."


Those authorized based

on the standing orders are encouraged to communicate with their local public health agency regarding the current need for vaccine administrators and register as a volunteer at ShowMeResponse.org. The Show-Me Response Program works to recruit and coordinate health care staffing volunteers as necessary to assist with vaccinations or other operational duties.

- Standing Order for Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine (Revised Feb. 9, 2021)
- Standing Order for Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine (Revised Feb. 9, 2021)

Source Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

COVID-19 Vaccine




The COVID-19 Vaccine will NOT give you COVID-19!

Do the COVID-19 vaccines have a live virus?
None of the COVID-19 vaccines currently in development or in use in the United States contain the live virus that causes COVID-19.

Will the COVID-19 vaccine make me sick?
The goal for each of the vaccines is to teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19. Sometimes this process can cause symptoms, such as fever or flu like symptoms. These symptoms are normal and are a sign that the body is building immunity.

How long after I get the shot until I am immune to the virus?
It typically takes a few weeks for the body to build immunity after vaccination. That means it's possible a person could be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 just before or just after vaccination and get sick. This is because the vaccine has not had enough time to provide protection. You must have both doses of vaccine to have full immunity.



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A win is a win until it's not



BY JOSE FAUS

It was not the expected outcome, at least for most Kansas City Chiefs fans. There was a sense, in spite of all the weaknesses the team brought to the biggest game of the year, they would be able to overcome them. They had made us believers. During the regular season, through the spate of games when they did not play focused and did not put opponents away, they still managed to grin and win.

The beginning of the first quarter proved that for me. They moved the ball and shot themselves in the foot a couple of times but they took a three-point lead. I like this team's chances if they are playing from in front. The defense held the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in check through their first two possession and honestly in yeoman fashion through that first half.

It was at that point that Mary, one of the folk I watched the game with, apropos of nothing looked up and said, "He (Tom Brady) is going to take them down and they are going to score a touchdown." I did not dismiss it out of hand because that was my feeling also. It is hard to hold Tom Brady to continuous three and outs. Sure enough, five minutes later Kansas City was behind and an unease set in.

The officiating was an issue in that first half. I think it contributed mightily to a Bucs touchdown. What passed muster in Buffalo and in Green Bay two weeks before was flagged. The inconsistency makes you want to believe conspiracy theories. But a good team balances out and on this day Kansas City played like a bad one. The tempers started flaring early. When you need your best players leading by example, temper tantrums by Chris Jones and Tyrann Mathieu did no bode well. The other team was in their heads.

It was becoming obvious the front line was starting to suffer. Tony Romo, as laid back a Nostradamus as there is, called it. "To paraphrase he

noted, "The Chiefs are always a danger when behind when they have number 15 at the helm, but this time it feels different." He could see what most were trying to deny.

The AFC championship game against the Buffalo Bills, when the defense played an inspired and disciplined game, masked the serious loss of left tackle Eric Fisher. The line was already playing above their weight when he went down. Shuffling positions across the board augured problems.

Yet going into the game, I felt the line would once again rise up - they would take their lumps, but they would hold up enough for Patrick Mahomes to find Tyreek Hill and Travis Kelce and the rest of the skill players to take advantage of the creative play calling that was sure to come from the brain trust of Andy Reid and Eric Bienemy.

But the coaching staff was muddled. I can't for the life of me relieve that last minute of the first half without asking why are you calling time out? Surely I was not the only one that recalled the last minute of the first half in the Bucs Packers championship game? Knowing right off the bat that four players were committed to covering your best two targets for most of the game, that left space for one more defender at the line and creative counters away from coverage for your other skill players. I totally expected they would have a field day.

The plays were called but they did not execute them. The five man protection did not fare well, but you have to wonder if it was a result of mostly being on pass protection backing up? A few more runs. You could see the frustration in Mahomes mount as players were not where they were supposed to be or adjusting the way they should.

Nothing was more illustrative than a quick throw by Mahomes to Mecole Hardman on the sideline. It was obvious the Bucs were coming in hard and Hardman even appears to notice it, but instead of anticipating that his quarterback is needing him to react back, he kept running the route as the ball settle behind him. At least he was able to see it just barely pass out of reach of the defender.

Trailing 21 to 6 at the half I was not

feeling good. I began to decompress, setting myself up for defeat. The only things that carried me through the most forgettable halftime show I have ever witnessed, was the thought the offense would get the ball to start the half, and they would march down and make it 21 to 13. I took heart from the big goal-line stand the defense put up. I expected them to reach deep and make possessions for the offense to make the magic needed to win.

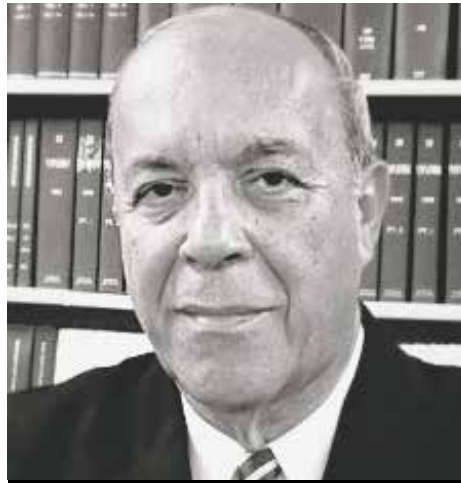
All the hoping could not make it happen. That is the futility of being a fan. When Kansas City scored a field goal to start the half, it did nothing for me. I threw in the towel. The next Bucs possession just capped it.

I have to admit Mahomes kept me watching in spite of what was obvious on the screen. As Mary pointed out "Mahomes was the lone wolf in the pack. ... I think there are more Bucs than Chiefs on the field." It sure looked that way, but damn he almost pulled off three plays that would have been enough for anyone quarterbacks career highlight film. The balls were dropped.

Many will have left the bad taste behind by the time this column comes out. I will be thinking of other things by then as well. Kansas City needs to shore up the offensive line. The coaching staff needs to really look at what happened on the field. The creativity was either not there or your supporting staff could not execute it. I'm not sure what it says about this team if Sammy Watkins is here next year, or if they have no better offensive line options. And that defense could use some help.

It's going to be a long off-season made worse by a pandemic that is just not giving up its grip. I may watch this game again if only to reinforce my sense that this was a complete breakdown in all facets of the game. It happens. I just did not expect it to happen this badly. They had me believing all year long. I will believe again next year, because they only lost the world championship. As far as I can tell 30 other teams didn't get a chance to play. Though one is the ultimate, two is better than 30 any other day.

"Donald Trump Impeached Again"



COMMENTARY BY RAOUL LOWERY CONTRERAS

Americans are embroiled in a history-making Presidential impeachment in which former President Donald J. Trump has been impeached for the second time. We now enter the Senate trial segment of the Old English procedure of putting political leaders and officers through a political process of punishment for "High Crimes and Misdemeanors."

Unfortunately, most Americans have no clue about what impeachment is or if this particular effort is "unconstitutional."

The answers are in the Constitution and in its English history the American founders of the United States drew on for this specific constitutional language; to wit:

Article 1, Section 2 -- "The House of Representatives shall...have the sole power of impeachment." In practical terms that means the House and only the House shall define "high crimes and misdemeanors" and sets the rules for impeachment, not statutory law nor by court decisions and precedents. The defined violations or "high crimes and misdemeanors" are to be made and only made by the House of Representatives. Only.

Impeachment is not a statutory item as is, say, a Grand Jury indictment the Constitution defines in Amendment 5 with "No person shall be held to answer for a capital or infamous crime, unless on presentment or indictment of a grand jury..."

Article 1, Section 3 -- "The Senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments...no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two thirds of the members present." Notice: Conviction is by a super-majority not by a unanimous jury verdict required in criminal judgments.

Punishment, if the impeached is convicted: Article 1, Section 3 -- "Judgment in cases of impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust or profit under the United States; but the party (e.g. Trump) convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to indictment, trial judgment and punishment, according to law."

Removal from office is the first action after conviction, however, if no longer in office, a simple 50% plus one vote of senators present will ban running for or holding any future federal office. Then, of course, criminal state or federal indictments can come down on the impeached former officer or President.

How, then, and why do critics disapprove of the second Trump impeachment?

They say it is unconstitutional because former President Trump is no longer President. Wrong. It doesn't matter if he is in office or not. The Founding Fathers knew that the impeachment process in England started exclusively against people no longer in office.

They say his words to the crowd that attacked Congress on January 6 were an exercise of his 1st Amendment speech rights. Wrong. If the jury decides the attacking mob responded directly to three months of Trump decrying the election's results and his verbal exhortation to "walk" that moment to the Capitol to "fight" for America, he's convicted.

They say a senate trial is a waste of time because 45 senators have already voted that the trial is unconstitutional. Wrong. It matters not what a minority of 45 senators voted or even thinks. The Constitution clearly states that, "The Senate (and only the U.S. Senate) shall have the sole power to try all impeachments..." The Senate must go through a trial because the Constitution states it must "try all impeachments," not just the ones it wants to.

Lastly, the Constitution is clear, the House has the sole power to impeach, neither the Senate or the U.S. court system can interfere with that "sole power."

The House majority has passed an impeachment; former President Donald J. Trump has been impeached for the second time. A trial starts this week.

Charges have been filed and approved by a House majority.

President Donald J. Trump has been impeached.

The House proposes and the Senate disposes.

Nonetheless, Donald J. Trump has been impeached, again, and the history books, paper and digital, for all time will include the words, "twice impeached" or "impeached twice" in the first or second sentence of anything written about former President Trump.

Contreras is the host of THE CONTRERAS REPORT - USA, THE CONTRERAS REPORT - MEXICO, and The CONTRERAS REPORT -- INTERNATIONAL EDITION audio and video podcasts available at: Youtube.com...<https://empoweringcontent.news/the-contreras-report/> Or on your favorite Podcast venue... Apple, Spotify, etc.

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¿Me enfermará la vacuna COVID-19?

El objetivo de cada una de las vacunas es enseñar a nuestro sistema inmunológico cómo reconocer y combatir el virus que causa COVID-19. A veces, este proceso puede causar síntomas, como fiebre o síntomas similares a los de la gripe. Estos síntomas son normales y son una señal de que el cuerpo está desarrollando inmunidad.

¿Cuánto tiempo después de recibir la vacuna hasta que sea inmune al virus?

Por lo general, el cuerpo tarda algunas semanas en desarrollar inmunidad después de la vacunación. Eso significa que es posible que una persona se infecte con el virus que causa COVID-19 justo antes o después de la vacunación y se enferme. Esto se debe a que la vacuna no ha tenido suficiente tiempo para brindar protección. Debe tener ambas dosis de vacuna para tener inmunidad total.



**CHIEF EQUITY OFFICER
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(Job Opening ID #512954)

Full-time position available with KCMO’s Office of the City Manager, 414 E. 12th St. Normal Work Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. May be required to work evenings, weekends and holidays. **The rights and well-being of Kansas City citizens and employees are a priority of the City Council and with the creation of the Chief Equity Officer (CEO) role, we seek to marshal the necessary leaders and resources to advance social equity and reduce and ultimately eliminate disparities experienced by Kansas City’s most marginalized populations. Because the people of Kansas City have an interest in a system of government, rules, policies, practices and programs that are equitable and fairly administered, the CEO will oversee the review of internal and external practices and programs to ensure diversity, equity and inclusion that ensures fair administration for City employees and citizens.** Supports city agencies and departments in normalizing concepts of racial and social equity. Organizes staff to work together for transformational change. Operationalizes new practices, policies, and programs to drive greater equity. Ensures equitable policy-making, service delivery, and distribution of resources that account for the different histories, challenges and needs of the people we serve in Kansas City. Leads efforts to nurture and facilitate the development of citywide, multi-sectoral programming and policy to effect change in the city’s approach to diversity, equity and outreach strategies. Reports to the City Manager and leads efforts to create new policies that proactively implement programs and strategies to promote equity and equality within Kansas City’s internal structure and throughout the city, including regular collaboration with internal departments and the leadership of a task force established by the City Manager to ensure that the city is using innovative approaches to address race and equity both internally and citywide. Creates new policies to advance equity and equality and develop methods to advance equity in budgeting, contracting, community engagement and high priority service delivery. Develops communication and feedback mechanisms to equip city representatives to identify and address equity issues, processes, policies and legislation. Operationalizes an equity lens into city wide policy, programs, and budget decisions to advance and supports equitable service delivery to the community including:

- Providing leadership, guidance, and support to internal and external partners in the delivery of equity policy and programs;
- Developing and recommending performance indicators and progress benchmarks to ensure accountability and to achieve fair and equitable delivery of city services from city departments;
- Creation of a citywide equity action plan based on data driven analysis that encompasses equity tools and provides a blueprint of systems and structures for each department; and
- In partnership with the city leaders and other key stakeholders, conducts an environmental scan of service delivery in the city to identify disparities and gaps in service and programs.

Works collaboratively with all stakeholders to develop the Equity framework which includes:

- Assessment and data tools that help departments identify disparities in services and programs;
- Analytic tools that help identify disparities in resource allocation;
- Recruiting and developing equity champions within departments; and
- Conducting regular reviews of City practices and programs to ensure equity for employees and all citizens.

Leads a task force established by the City Manager with oversight from the City Council to review City practices and programs to ensure that they are equitable on their face and fairly administered. The task force shall include a diverse representation of City employees, including members of management, Local 500 of the Association of Federal, State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), Local 42 and 3808 of the International Association of Fire Fighters, representatives from recognized Employee Resource Groups and community leaders. Collects, analyzes and presents data measuring equity program efforts and progress for monthly reporting by the City Manager to the City Council. Utilizes relevant data resources to track and analyze diversity, equity and outreach strategies within the City. Meets with various citizen groups regarding problems of discrimination, equal employment opportunities within the City’s government and with the provision of housing and health services by the City to ensure equity and fair administration in the provision of those opportunities and services. Performs related duties as required. **REQUIRES** an accredited Bachelor’s degree in business administration or related field and 3 years of experience in the Office of the City Manager or equivalent qualifying experience. **Preference given for an accredited Juris Doctor degree or an accredited Master’s degree in public administration, multicultural, equity or diversity studies or related field and at least 7 years of experience in diversity and equity work and experience overseeing diversity efforts in a mid-large size organization; 5-7 years of experience working with or in a public or governmental organization serving large complex urban environments, a working understanding of the effective methods of organizational and institutional change, and experience in operationalizing diversity, equity and inclusion policies and programs in an organization or department, including but not limited to budget management, supervision, strategic planning, policy and program creation and implementation.** Salary Range: \$5,719-\$10,262/month. **Applications accepted until position is filled.** Apply online at www.kcmo.gov/jobs. *EOE. The City of Kansas City, Missouri is an equal opportunity employer committed to a diverse workforce.*

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Bids for Masa Breach Recalation Project, Barton County, Liberal, MO, Project No. Y2102-01 will be received by FMDC, State of MO, UNTIL **1:30 PM, March 11, 2021.** For specific project information and ordering plans, goto: <http://oa.mo.gov/facilities>

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KCHISPANIC NEWS

Incumbent stresses importance of honesty, communication with citizens

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traffic patrols because people are blowing through stop signs.’ ‘Mayor, we need our curbs repaired.’ Mayor, I have water coming into my yard because our ditches aren’t being taken care of.’

Citizen concerns about high taxes are common as well, Alvey adds.

“They will say, ‘Mayor, you need to lower our taxes.’ We need to offer better services to improve quality of life for our residents, and we need to lower our tax burdens,” he says.

Alvey continues, “We have to work to be more efficient in providing services. We also have to grow our tax base – more businesses and more housing. The more people who own property, the more we can spread out the tax burden.”

Right now, too many vacant lots and vacant buildings have dotted the city’s skyline; once that blight is eliminated or lessened, Alvey says he feels confident that homeowners and business owners will take greater pride in their structures. That surely is possible, especially with new investment funds reported by Wyandotte County officials last calendar year. “This past year in Wyandotte County, we have had more than \$900 million in new investments, but we have parts of our

neighborhood that are vacant. (These neighborhoods) used to have houses or businesses, and they are no longer there,” Alvey says. “They are owned by the city, so the city has to take care of those properties. We continue to spend money. If we have a house that cannot be saved, we spend \$10,000 to \$20,000 to demolish it. So that’s a big hole in our tax base. If we had houses or businesses on those properties, that would broaden the tax base. The fewer people we have, the heavier the burden is. We have to continue to work on that.”

The businesses that do still exist, meanwhile, have been ravaged by the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has shuttered doors of businesses throughout the county for the past year. Alvey says he believes that with the rollout of the COVID vaccine, coupled with greater educational resources about how to stay healthy and safe, mean that residents are better armed to protect themselves from falling ill.

“Most restaurants know how to protect their customers,” Alvey observes. “What happens is that there are some folks that still don’t get this deadly virus, that it can kill you. Too many people denied or ignored the virus. The longer we do that, the longer we



Kansas City, KS, Mayor/CEO David Alvey refiled with the Kansas Election Board his candidacy for a second term. Alvey, who was elected to his first term in 2017, says he will carry his goals over from his first term.

El alcalde/director ejecutivo de Kansas City, KS, David Alvey volvió a solicitar con la Junta Electoral de Kansas su candidatura para un segundo mandato. Alvey, quien fue elegido para su primer mandato en 2017, dice que trasladará sus metas desde su primer mandato.

have to put restrictions in place. But I think more people are thinking, ‘If I do what I can to not get the virus, the sooner we can get back to normal.’”

Alvey acknowledges that much work needs to be done in other areas of the city’s operations, too, including the Kansas City Kansas Police

Department. Citizens haven’t forgotten about the delicate relationship between former Police Chief Terry Zeigler and disgraced former KCKPD Detective Roger Golubski, who led an investigation several years ago that resulted in an innocent man being imprisoned for 23 years. Protests

against the police chief and the mayor in 2019 showed that the community’s wounds are still raw and in need of healing. Alvey defended Zeigler and his actions or inaction in certain cases.

“Zeigler disciplined many officers and brought many investigations and findings to the District Attorney, and the DA (might choose) not to prosecute. But the chief did his part by bringing those issues forward,” Alvey says.

Alvey also says that those who have accused the police department of not being as engaged with the community as it should be are simply not correct.

“We have a community relations unit that has been in place for decades, and that story doesn’t get told,” Alvey says. “There are some groups out there promoting this narrative that our police department is resistant to change and behind the times, and that isn’t accurate. We have a task force for police and community relations, and we asked for input from the community so people can share their hopes for a new police chief.”

Concerns coming from inside the police department from employees themselves continue to circulate as well, with some employees saying that being promoted from within is a difficult goal to achieve. Alvey says

he understands that recruiting and retaining a diverse array of officers has proven to be a challenge.

“The hard part is the department does not yet reflect the diversity of our community,” Alvey observes. “It’s a struggle to get people from recruitment to training to being sworn in. We have to continue to work on recruitment so we have a diverse pool of applicants to choose from. That’s a continuous effort. We have to keep pushing and pushing.”

Ultimately, Alvey says he is a big believer in open, honest communication, and it’s a winning strategy for everyone in Kansas City, from citizens to city employees to elected officials.

“I prefer to be honest and straightforward about the problems we face. It’s hard, but we’ve been making good progress on that,” he says.

If everyone works together, Alvey says, the city will thrive – and he’s asking for a second term in which he can make that happen.

“There are so many good things happening in our county by so many good, smart people,” Alvey says. “I want to continue to help those things along and push some initiatives along that will be critical for us moving forward.”

For more information, visit www.wycokck.org/Mayor.aspx.

El titular enfatiza la importancia de la honestidad y la comunicación con los ciudadanos

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El principal de esos desafíos es mejorar una infraestructura envejecida.

“Tenemos un largo camino por delante en términos de mejorar nuestra infraestructura básica de la ciudad: nuestras calles, parques, puentes, nuestro sistema de aguas pluviales, sistema de alcantarillado. Tenemos que encontrar una manera de empezar a abordar algunos de los grandes desafíos que enfrentamos, y tenemos que hacerlo con recursos limitados”, explica Alvey. “La gente dirá, ‘Alcalde, necesitamos más patrullas de tránsito porque la gente se pasa las señales de alto’. ‘Alcalde, necesitamos que reparen nuestras aceras.’ ‘Alcalde, tengo agua entrando en mi patio delantero porque no están atendiendo nuestras cunetas’.

Las preocupaciones de los ciudadanos por los altos impuestos también son comunes, agrega Alvey.

“Dirán, ‘Alcalde, necesitamos reducir nuestros impuestos’. Necesitamos ofrecer mejores servicios, para mejorar la calidad de vida de nuestros residentes, y necesitamos reducir nuestra carga fiscal”, dice.

Alvey continúa: “Tenemos que trabajar

para ser más eficientes en la prestación de servicios. También tenemos que hacer crecer nuestra base impositiva: más negocios y más viviendas. Cuantas más personas posean propiedades, más podremos distribuir la carga fiscal”.

En este momento, demasiados lotes y edificios vacíos han manchado el horizonte de la ciudad; Una vez que se elimine o disminuya ese deterioro urbano, Alvey dice que confía en que los propietarios de viviendas y negocios se sentirán más orgullosos de sus estructuras. Eso seguramente es posible, especialmente con los nuevos fondos de inversión informados por los funcionarios del Condado de Wyandotte el año pasado.

“El año pasado, en el Condado de Wyandotte, tuvimos más de \$ 900 millones en nuevas inversiones, pero tenemos partes de nuestro vecindario que están vacías. (Estos vecindarios) solían tener casas o negocios, y ya no están allí”, dice Alvey. “Son propiedad de la ciudad, por lo que la ciudad tiene que cuidar esas propiedades. Seguimos gastando dinero. Si tenemos una

casa que no se puede salvar, gastamos entre \$ 10,000 y \$ 20,000 para demolerla. Así que ese es un gran agujero en nuestra base impositiva. Si tuviéramos casas o negocios en esas propiedades, eso ampliaría la base impositiva. Cuanta menos gente tengamos, más pesada será la carga. Tenemos que seguir trabajando en eso”.

Mientras tanto, los negocios que todavía existen han sido devastados por la propagación de la pandemia COVID-19, que ha cerrado las puertas de los negocios en todo el condado durante el año pasado. Alvey dice que cree que con el lanzamiento de la vacuna COVID, junto con mayores recursos educativos sobre cómo mantenerse sanos y seguros, significa que los residentes están mejor armados para protegerse y no enfermarse.

“La mayoría de los restaurantes saben cómo proteger a sus clientes”, observa Alvey. “Lo que pasa es que hay algunas personas que todavía no contraen este virus mortal, que puede matarte. Demasiadas personas negaron o ignoraron el virus. Cuanto más tiempo hagamos eso, más tiempo tendremos para

imponer restricciones. Pero creo que más personas están pensando: “Si hago lo que pueda para no contraer el virus, podremos volver antes a la normalidad”.

Alvey reconoce que también se necesita hacer mucho trabajo en otras áreas de las operaciones de la ciudad, incluido el Departamento de Policía de Kansas City. Los ciudadanos no se han olvidado de la delicada relación entre el exjefe de policía Terry Zeigler y el ex detective del KCKPD Roger Golubski, quien dirigió una investigación hace varios años que resultó en que un hombre inocente fue encarcelado durante 23 años. Las protestas contra el jefe de policía y el alcalde, en 2019, mostraron que las heridas de la comunidad aún están abiertas y necesitan curarse. Alvey defendió a Zeigler y sus acciones o inacción en ciertos casos.

“Zeigler disciplinó a muchos oficiales y presentó muchas investigaciones y hallazgos al fiscal de distrito, y el fiscal del distrito (podría optar por) no procesar. Pero el jefe hizo su parte al presentar esos problemas”, dice Alvey.

Alvey, también dice, que aquellos que han acusado al departamento de policía de no estar tan

comprometido con la comunidad como debería, simplemente no tienen razón.

“Tenemos una unidad de relaciones comunitarias que ha estado funcionando durante décadas y esa historia no se cuenta”, dice Alvey. “Hay algunos grupos que promueven esta narrativa de que nuestro departamento de policía se resiste al cambio y está atrasado, y eso no es exacto. Tenemos un grupo de trabajo para la policía y las relaciones comunitarias, y pedimos la opinión de la comunidad para que la gente pueda compartir sus esperanzas de un nuevo jefe de policía”.

Las preocupaciones que provienen del interior del departamento de policía por parte de los propios empleados también continúan circulando, y algunos empleados dicen que ser promovidos desde adentro es un objetivo difícil de lograr. Alvey dice que entiende que reclutar y retener una variedad diversa de oficiales ha demostrado ser un desafío.

“La parte difícil es que el departamento aún no refleja la diversidad de nuestra comunidad”, observa Alvey. “Es una lucha lograr que las personas pasen de

la contratación a la formación y a que presten juramento. Tenemos que seguir trabajando en la contratación para tener un grupo diverso de candidatos para elegir. Eso es un esfuerzo continuo. Tenemos que seguir empujando y empujando”.

En última instancia, Alvey dice que cree firmemente en la comunicación abierta y honesta, y es una estrategia ganadora para todos en Kansas City, desde los ciudadanos hasta los empleados de la ciudad y los funcionarios electos.

“Prefiero ser honesto y directo sobre los problemas que enfrentamos. Es difícil, pero hemos progresado mucho en eso”, dice.

Si todos trabajan juntos, dice Alvey, la ciudad prosperará, y está pidiendo un segundo mandato en el que pueda hacer que eso suceda.

“Están sucediendo tantas cosas buenas en nuestro condado por parte de tanta gente buena e inteligente”, dice Alvey. “Quiero seguir ayudando en esas cosas e impulsar algunas iniciativas que serán fundamentales para que avancemos”.

Para obtener más información, visite www.wycokck.org/Mayor.aspx.