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THE NORTHEAST NEWS

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YOUR NORTHEAST NEWS TEAM

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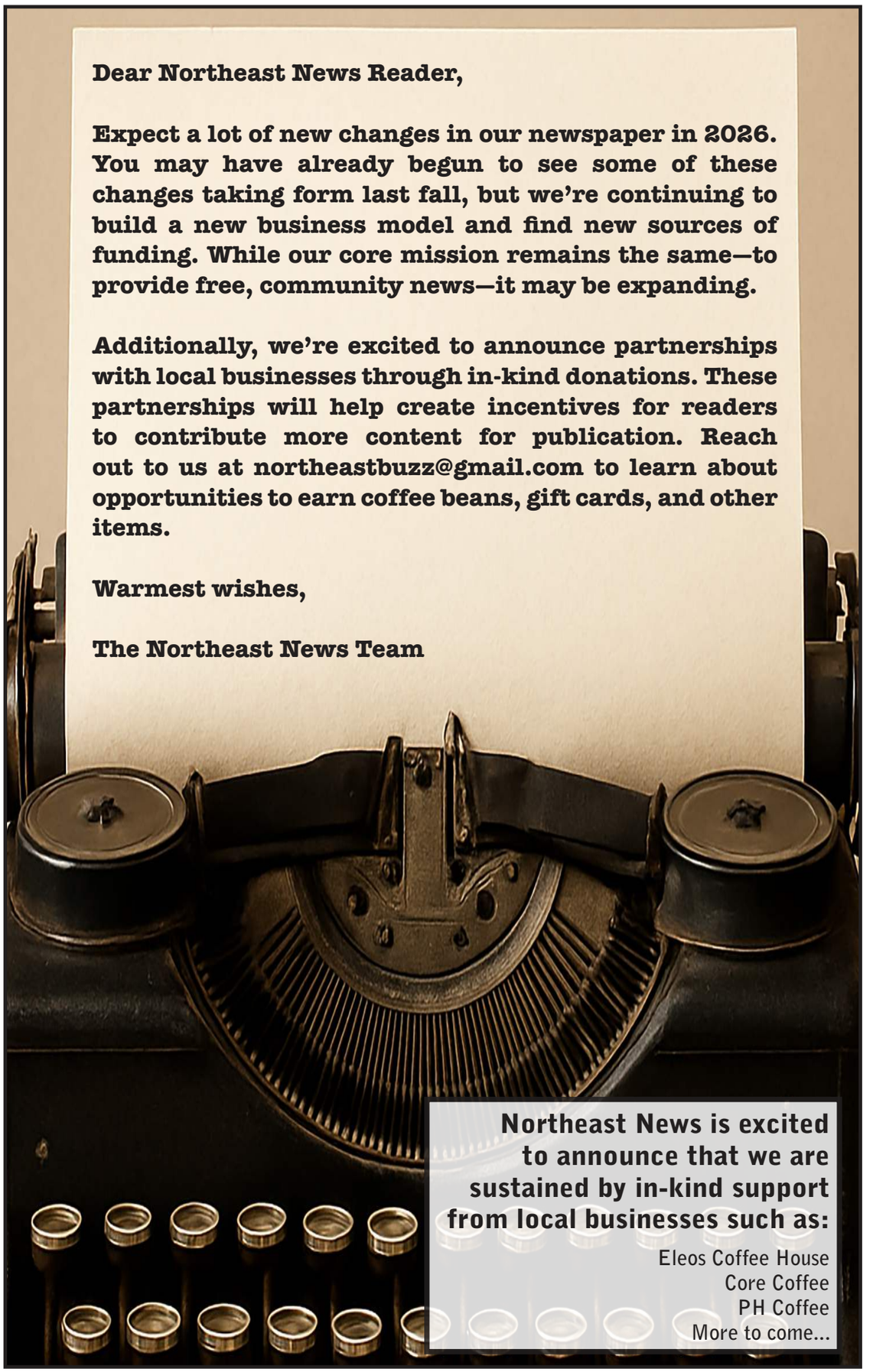
Dear Northeast News Reader,

Expect a lot of new changes in our newspaper in 2026. You may have already begun to see some of these changes taking form last fall, but we're continuing to build a new business model and find new sources of funding. While our core mission remains the same—to provide free, community news—it may be expanding.

Additionally, we're excited to announce partnerships with local businesses through in-kind donations. These partnerships will help create incentives for readers to contribute more content for publication. Reach out to us at northeastbuzz@gmail.com to learn about opportunities to earn coffee beans, gift cards, and other items.

Warmest wishes,

The Northeast News Team



Northeast News is excited to announce that we are sustained by in-kind support from local businesses such as:

Eleos Coffee House
Core Coffee
PH Coffee
More to come...

Following Maduro's Removal, Venezuela's Crisis Echoes Through Kansas City's Growing Venezuelan Community

Bryan Stalder
Contributor

For decades, Venezuela was known as one of Latin America's richest countries, buoyed by enormous oil reserves and a vibrant democracy. In the mid-20th century, oil wealth helped fund schools, hospitals and infrastructure, and Venezuelans from all walks of life could imagine a prosperous future at home.

That stability began to fray during the 1980s and 1990s as oil prices fell, debt grew and economic inequality deepened. By 1998, widespread distrust of traditional political parties helped usher in Hugo Chávez, a fiery populist who promised a "Bolivarian Revolution" to redistribute wealth and empower the poor. His supporters celebrated expanded social programs, but critics warned that Chávez's policies steadily eroded democratic institutions, concentrated power in the executive branch and politicized the economy.

For journalists like María José Ramírez Braiz, those warnings were not abstract. She left Venezuela 16 years ago, as restrictions on press freedom tightened and practicing independent journalism became increasingly dangerous.

"I am a journalist, and at that time there were already serious problems with press freedom," Ramírez Braiz said. "When Chávez moved forward with elections designed to keep power indefinitely and later left Nicolás Maduro in charge, I understood that my safety and my ability to work independently were at risk."

When Chávez died in 2013, Maduro assumed the presidency. Under his rule, Venezuela's crisis accelerated. Oil production collapsed, hyperinflation wiped out wages, basic goods became scarce and public services deteriorated. Political freedoms shrank as elections were widely disputed and dissent was harshly suppressed. What had begun as political polarization hardened into a full-scale humanitarian emergency.

The consequences have been staggering. Over the past decade, nearly 8 million Venezuelans fled their homeland — one of the largest displacement crises in the world outside of active wars. Many sought work, safety and stability across Latin America and beyond, including in the United States. In Kansas City's Northeast neighborhoods, roughly 45 percent of residents identify as Hispanic, and many Venezuelan families have quietly become part of the community's fabric.

Esta historia está disponible para leer en español en nuestra página web northeastnews.net.

Ramírez Braiz, though not a resident of Northeast, has lived in the Kansas City metropolitan area for 14 years. When she arrived, she said, there was little to no Venezuelan presence. That has changed dramatically.

"About seven years ago, the Venezuelan community really began to grow," she said. "Now it is active, connected, and contributing positively to this part of the country. Being able to connect with your culture and traditions is always meaningful, especially after so much displacement."

On January 3, 2026, events in Venezuela took a dramatic and controversial turn. U.S. forces carried out a military operation that resulted in the capture and removal of Nicolás Maduro from power. The operation, dubbed "Resolución Absoluta" by U.S. officials, involved a surprise strike in Caracas that ended with Maduro and his wife in U.S. custody, igniting global debate over sovereignty, international law and Venezuela's future.

For Venezuelans abroad, the news landed with shock — and caution.

"My first reaction was to try to understand what was actually happening," Ramírez Braiz said.

Continued on page 11

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, Jan. 8- Coffee, Culture and Conversation, 10 to 11 a.m., 2657 Independence Blvd. This month's theme celebrates the birthday of Elvis Presley, born on January 8, 1935. Come for coffee, treats and tunes that showcase the life of The King of Rock and Roll. Sponsored by the Northeast Kansas City Chamber of Commerce, free.

Thursday, Jan. 8- Art Club, 6 to 7 p.m., North-East Branch Library, 6000 Wilson Ave. Come draw, color, paint and glue to create a unique piece of art. For ages 5 to 12, free.

Saturday, Jan. 10- Frank's Final Feast and Community Farewell, 12 to 3 p.m., 328 Monroe Ave. This final chance to visit Frank The Liberty Tree welcomes community members to enjoy a hot beverage (cocoa or cider for purchase) or purchase a ticket for a Final Feast catered by Cosentino's. Contact Crystal Beasley at clbagencyllc@gmail.com for feast ticket information. Proceeds will assist with the cost to remove this historic, 250-year-old tree.

Saturday, Jan. 10- Slime Time, 1 to 3 p.m., North-East Branch Library, 6000 Wilson Ave. Create your own colorful, glittery slime. For ages 5 to 12, free.

Tuesday, Jan. 13- Health Fair, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., North-East Branch Library, 6000 Wilson Ave. Connect with health organizations that offer free health services, resources and program referrals to support your well-being.

Wednesday, Jan. 14- Teen Study Lounge, 4:30 to 6 p.m., North-East Branch Library, 6000 Wilson Ave. Come utilize the library's teen area computers to research or study and create in the studio. For middle and high school students.

Monday, Jan. 19- The Indian Mound Neighborhood Association is conducting a Spanish language meeting to discuss the organization's achievements from 2025, and how you can get involved in 2026. This meeting will also include a presentation by AIRR-KCC. At Jesus Cristo el buen Pastor, 4925 St John Ave., 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

2026 Brings Anticipated Events, Completed Projects

Dorri Partain
Managing Editor

As the new year unfolds, 2026 will bring celebrations, worldwide sporting events and the completion of several key projects around Kansas City.

250 USA

Red, white and blue will be the colors for 2026 as the United States and its citizens celebrate 250 years since our country's founding date on July 4, 1776. This semiquincentennial will be marked in celebrations large and small across the nation with concerts, festivals and parades.

FIFA World Cup

Planners and organizers are expecting 650,000 visitors coming into the greater Kansas City metro area during the six games scheduled in Kansas City, Missouri beginning June 16, 2026.

In addition to the match games hosted at Arrowhead Stadium, the National World War I Museum will be the site of a 10 to 20 day-long FIFA Fan Festival, featuring activities, food vendors, merchandise and four to five large screens live-streaming the games.

Kansas City is one of eleven sites where games will be taking place, with the first match scheduled in Mexico City on June 11. Teams that will match up in Kansas City are Argentine vs. Algeria on June 16, Ecuador vs. Curacao on June 20, Tunisia vs. Netherlands on June 25 and Algeria vs. Austria on June 27. Winners of those matches will face off during matches scheduled for July 3 and 11, with the final cup match on July 19 at New York New Jersey Stadium.

For ticket and additional game information, visit www.kansascityfwc26.com

100th Anniversary of Route 66

Known today as America's "Mother Road", this famous roadway is marking its centennial, with celebrations across the country throughout the year.

The creation of U.S. Highway 66 was a multi-year process that began in 1912, when Cyrus Avery (1871-1963) was elected as Tulsa's County Commissioner. An early promoter for better roadways, today Avery is considered the "Father of Route 66". By 1921, he was elected president of the Associated Highways Associations of America. Working collectively, numerous highway associations across America petitioned the Secretary of Agriculture to create a series of U.S. Highways, with Avery championing a route that traversed from Chicago to Los Angeles, paved for two lanes of traffic and signage to mark the designated route.

In a telegram sent by Avery from the Colonial Hotel in Springfield, Mo. on April 30, 1926, the selection of number "66" to designate this new roadway was preferred over "60", thus sealing Springfield's designation today as the "Birthplace of Route 66".

From April 30 to May 4, Springfield will host the National Route 66 Centennial Kickoff, with a parade, car shows, concerts and dedications of two new monuments. On August 6 and 7, the city will host its annual Birthplace of Route 66 Festival.

For additional celebrations along Route 66, visit https://www.route66centennial.org/

KC Streetcar Riverfront Extension

The final leg of KC Streetcar, connecting Kansas City's riverfront development to its terminal at UMKC (52nd St and Main), remains on schedule for completion in early 2026.

Construction of the 0.7 mile extension is nearing completion and testing of the system has begun with the final phase focusing on operator training, safety drills and real-world service situations.

While testing continues, crews are completing key finishing touches, including installing communications, train and traffic signals, completing shelters and station stops and restoring sidewalks and curbs in Berkley Riverfront Park.

For more information about progress, visit

https://kcstreetcar.org/about-streetcar/streetcar-riverfront-extension/

Morton Amphitheater

Music lovers will have an additional

IMAGE CREATED WITH ADOBE FIREFLY

venue for live entertainment following the opening of a new amphitheater in Riverside, Mo, just in time for the summer concert season.

This 16,000 seat venue will feature 12,00 covered seat and lawn space seating, with a full range of food and drink options. Morton Amphitheater's season will open on June 19 as Weird Al Yankovic takes the stage, followed by a full barrage of the biggest names in rock music scheduled for August, including name acts Rod Stewert, Train, Lynyrd Skynnard, Guns N' Roses, Chicago and Styx.

For a complete lineup of concerts and tickets, visit www.mortonamphitheater.com

Barney Allis Plaza and Auditorium Parking

Closure of Barney Allis Plaza and the Auditorium Parking Garage in April 2024 left a big gap in event space and parking for downtown event-goers but construction is on schedule for a completely re-designed plaza with 580 parking spaces underneath.

HOK Design envisioned a multi-functional plaza with paved areas, a sloped lawn terraced to view events, a pavilion plaza with space for food trucks, centered with an oval lawn as a flat, flexible green space.

Belgian artist duo Gijs Van Vaerenbergh designed the $2.18 million public art piece entitled "Kansas City Spirit: Memory and Resilience", to be installed at the southern entrance of the plaza.

Construction is slated to be completed later this year. Follow the progress at https://barneyallis.org

As Flu Season Worsens, Health Experts Warn of Rising Measles Risk

Fai Beal
Contributor

Hello neighbors. I am a Community Wellness Ambassador and I have been faithfully attending classes at the Kansas City Health Department, serving Kansas City, Missouri. I want to discuss the dangers of the measles and how to protect yourself and loved ones from it.

First, flu season is back. Reports from health professionals state that the flu this year is especially rough, with longer recovery times and symptoms more severe than usual. In December of 2025, Dr. Amanda Kravitz, a pediatrician at Weill Cornell Medicine states:

"This flu season is no joke. We are seeing more cases than we would expect for this time of year... symptoms that are very intense, they come on really, really rapidly."

Why does this matter when we are talking about measles?

When your immune system is fighting one infection, it can be easier for another to invade. Furthermore, measles causes what scientists call "immune amnesia," where the virus "wipes" the immune system's memory of how to fight other germs. As UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell notes:

"Measles is more than a dangerous and potentially deadly disease. It is also an early indication that there are gaps in our global immunization coverage—gaps vulnerable children cannot afford."

It's Not "Just a Rash"

There is a lot of misinformation out there, so let's walk through what measles actually is. Having the measles is not just having a rash. While a red, brown, or purple rash typically appears first on the face and behind the ears, it is often the least of a patient's problems.

Symptoms include a high fever, dry cough, runny nose, and red, watery eyes (conjunctivitis). One of the most distinct signs are Koplik spots—tiny white dots that appear inside the mouth two or three days after infection.

The long-term effects can be devastating, including death. Brain swelling (encephalitis) and high fevers can lead to permanent brain damage, deafness, or lifelong intellectual and physical disabilities. Dr. Sarah Scherger, a pediatrician at Mayo Clinic, warns:

"Unfortunately, approximately 1 in 1,000 people can get encephalitis (brain swelling)... 1 to 3 out of every 1,000 children who become infected with measles will die."

Measles are an Extreme Risk and Incredibly Contagious

While often considered a childhood disease, adults are also at risk. Measles is so contagious that if one person has it, up to 90% of the people close to them who are not immune will also become infected. This is most dangerous for our youngest neighbors. Children typically do not receive their first dose of the MMR vaccine until 12 to 15 months of age, and a second dose between 4 and 6 years old. Until they receive that second dose, they are at a higher risk. By getting vaccinated, you aren't just protecting yourself; you are protecting the infants in our community who are too young to be immunized.

IMAGE CREATED WITH ADOBE FIREFLY

In South Carolina, for their state alone, the Department of Health reports cases in December 2025 jumped from 3 to 189. Another 280 people were ordered to be in active quarantine. More than 90% of those cases were unvaccinated individuals. Unfortunately, multiple cases, both adults and children have required hospitalization for serious complications. Other states are seeing the same massive increases in cases.

How to Protect Your Family

The best thing anyone can do is to get vaccinated. The vaccines are safe and 97% effective after two doses.

For those who live in the Kansas City area, the Kansas City Health Department is ready to help:

- Cost: Free vaccinations for children without insurance. For those with insurance, the first child is $15, and every other child in the same family is only $5.
- Accessibility: Translation services are available for dozens of languages. You can request a translator for a booked appointment.
- Flexibility: Walk-ins are available (based on staff availability), or you can book ahead.

Contact Information:

- Phone: 816-513-6108 (Ask about vaccines, family health, mental health, food assistance, disability assistance, and more).
- Online: https://www.kcmo.gov/city-hall/departments/health

Be safe and healthy, friends and neighbors.

Mattie Rhodes Expands Violence Prevention Outreach to Independence Plaza with City Investment

Bryan Stalder
Contributor

Mattie Rhodes Center is expanding its community-based violence prevention efforts deeper into Historic Northeast Kansas City, announcing this month that its ParateXPaz program will now serve the Independence Plaza neighborhood.

The expansion builds on the recent opening of the ParateXPaz Violence Prevention Center at 5108 Independence Ave., which began serving residents in Lykins, Indian Mound and Sheffield in December 2024. The new outreach into Independence Plaza is supported by a $2 million city investment aimed at strengthening neighborhood-level violence prevention and intervention strategies.

That investment aligns with Kansas City, Missouri City Ordinance 250941, adopted in late 2025, which authorized funding for neighborhood-based outreach programs designed to engage individuals most at risk of involvement in violent conflict. The ordinance enabled the city to contract with community-based organizations to establish violence prevention teams in several neighborhoods, including Independence Plaza, as part of a broader public safety strategy focused on prevention rather than enforcement.

In a Facebook announcement, Mattie Rhodes Center shared the news with the community, writing:

"We're expanding our community violence prevention outreach into a fourth neighborhood — Independence Plaza.

Building on our work in Lykins, Sheffield, and Indian Mound in Historic Northeast Kansas City, this expansion allows our highly trained outreach workers to respond to violent incidents, de-escalate conflict, and provide 1-on-1 support to individuals closest to violence.

In partnership with our Public Safety Department, we're strengthening the resources families need to live safer, violence-free lives.

Together, we're showing up where it matters most."

ParateXPaz, which translates to "Stand Up for Peace," operates under Mattie Rhodes Center, a nonprofit that has served Kansas City families for more than a century. The violence prevention program combines street outreach, conflict mediation, victim support and connections to social services, focusing on people and places most impacted by violence.

Street outreach teams are a core part of this work. Team members regularly walk neighborhood corridors, connect with residents and business owners, respond to incidents, and offer mediation and support aimed at preventing retaliation and further harm. The program also collaborates with partner organizations to provide food assistance, recovery resources and referrals to housing, employment and counseling services.

Ordinance 250941 was part of a larger citywide initiative to fund preventative violence reduction efforts across multiple neighborhoods, including Ruskin Heights, North Town Fork Creek, Marlborough Heights and Ivanhoe. While separate, related ordinances addressed specific areas, the overall effort reflects Kansas City's growing reliance on community organizations to address violence through relationship-building, consistent presence and early intervention.

The opening of the Independence Avenue location was made possible through collaboration with the City of Kansas City, the Kansas City Health Department, Aim for Peace, Jackson County COMBAT, the Independence Avenue Community Improvement District and neighboring organizations, including Relentless Pursuit Outreach and Recovery.

City officials say the funding allows outreach teams to expand into neighborhoods with higher rates of violent crime using evidence-based models that have been implemented in cities across the country. In the Northeast, that approach now includes four connected neighborhoods — Lykins, Indian Mound, Sheffield and Independence Plaza — creating a broader footprint for prevention work along Independence Avenue and surrounding residential areas.


File Photo

Community leaders have emphasized that violence prevention extends beyond emergency response to include long-term relationship-building, access to resources and consistent neighborhood presence. The expanded ParateXPaz outreach is designed to support families, intervene before conflicts escalate and help create safer public spaces for children and residents.

Following the opening of the Violence Prevention Center and the addition of Independence Plaza, Mattie Rhodes Center's presence in the Northeast continues to grow, reinforcing a neighborhood-based approach to public safety that prioritizes prevention, support and community trust.

The Mattie Rhodes Center Northeast Office is located at 148 N. Topping Ave., Kansas City, MO 64123. For more information, call (816) 241-3780.

Papering the Deal: Get it in Writing!

Dr. Adrienne B. Haynes, Esq., Contributor

Relationships are the lifeline of a business. Relationships help you better understand your client and customers, financially sustain your business, and ensure that you can continue to provide your products and services over the long term.

Business can move at a fast pace, and a contract is the most clear-cut way to make sure all parties have a "meeting of the minds". For SEED Law clients, we recommend that every relationship worth having and keeping should be documented in writing. If you're working with a client, partner, or vendor who you think would be offended by a contract or is unwilling to sign an agreement- run! That can be a hard lesson to learn, but wanting a documented relationship should not deter business- in fact, it should do the opposite in good relationships. Putting your understanding in writing minimizes the guess work in conflict, making it easier to make and grow relationships.

Make sure your governing documents are in place. Your key business documentation should be transitioned from your head as a founder or leadership team, and onto paper. Who owns the business? How are decisions made as a leader or leadership team? What happens to the business in the case of death or disability? When determining your choice of entity, there are key governing documents that should be developed and filed in your corporate records. Depending on your entity type, this could include operating agreement, buy/sell agreements, bylaws, vesting agreements, and financing or investor agreements.

A major part of this key documentation includes succession and exit planning documentation.

Know your KEY terms and provisions. Contracts and documentation are important whether your business is typically signing or providing the documentation.

If you're providing the documentation, implement standard agreements that mirror the way you want to do business and the laws in your state. This is key because some rights, such as mechanics liens, are only preserved if certain notices and specific language is used.

If you're typically signing agreements, make sure you read it before you sign it! Know that it's ok to make edits and negotiate. You want to make sure it's written in a way that leads to your success and effective performance. If the timelines or payment terms are unreasonable for you- say something in advance.

In addition to client, customer, and vendor agreements, there should be key terms and provisions in your other common agreements. This may include waivers, website terms and conditions, licensing agreements, influencer agreements, etc.

While I understand do-it-yourself documentation, a challenge with piecing together documentation a la google is that it could be incorporating standards that don't reflect your business processes or the legal standards from other states. I recommend hiring an attorney so that you can focus on doing business and your attorney can be your extended brain and advocate, ensuring that your key terms and provisions are included and that it's favorable to you.

Get it in writing BEFORE you perform. Once the relationship begins, the contract usually only gets picked up again in the event that something's not going quite right. Knowing what to expect before conflict or a triggering event and the solutions and remedies available make it easier to perform in compliance and trust the relationship that's developing.

If you're used to making only verbal agreements, remember that enforceable contracts require offer, acceptance and consideration. If these elements are present, a contract is usually binding. There is a legal principle called the Statute of Frauds does require that certain contracts be in writing to be enforceable. Those contracts include those for the sale of goods over $500 and contracts regarding the sale or lease of land, contracts in contemplation of marriage, contracts promising to account for the debt of another and those that cannot be completed within one year.

Recognize your remedies. Having contracts in place is a wise business decision, but it's also important to understand your remedies. In most states, the available remedies include money damages, restitution, rescission, reformation, and specific performance.

Restitution:
Remedy designed to restore the injured party to the position occupied prior to the formation of the contract.

Rescission:
Remedy that terminates the contractual duties of both parties

Reformation:
Remedy that allows courts to change the substance of a contract to correct inequities that were suffered.

Specific performance:
When money damages are inadequate to compensate the plaintiff for the breach

Lastly, even when you have all of your "i's dotted and t's crossed", it's important to have your agreements reviewed every year to ensure that they are still consistent with the law and with the way you want to do business.

This article is an overview of contract considerations, including governing documentation, key terms, and remedies and does not cover every legal right or obligation, consideration, exception, or restriction. These documentations and decisions are complex, and should be well researched and discussed with a professional before being made.

Northeast Chamber of Commerce Collaborations

A Year of Momentum, Dialogue and Tradition: Northeast KC Chamber Reflects on 2025

Bryan Stalder
Contributor

If 2025 proved anything, it was that Northeast Kansas City continues to move forward — sometimes amid uncertainty, sometimes in celebration, but always grounded in community.

For the Northeast Kansas City Chamber of Commerce, the year unfolded as one of its busiest and most consequential in recent memory. From economic development along Independence Avenue to civic conversations sparked by political upheaval in Jackson County, the Chamber served as both a connector and a convener, bringing neighbors, business owners and leaders together during moments of growth and transition.

At the heart of the Chamber's work in 2025 was its ongoing commitment to the International Marketplace — the culturally rich corridor along Independence Avenue that has long defined Northeast's identity. That commitment was on full display during the Chamber's signature events, including the return of the International Marketplace Taste & Tour.

Held twice this year, on June 6 and September 5, the Taste & Tour invited visitors to experience the Avenue through food and storytelling. Armed with a mock passport, participants hopped on and off trolleys, sampling everything from Asian spring rolls to Cuban and South American dishes while learning about the entrepreneurs behind the counters. For many, it was both a culinary adventure and a reminder that Northeast's diversity is one of its greatest strengths.

That same spirit of visibility and connection carried into October, when the Chamber hosted its annual Elected & Appointed Officials Trolley Tour. Local, state and federal leaders toured key development sites, including Hardesty Lofts, Custom Truck, and Kansas City University, gaining a firsthand look at the progress reshaping the neighborhood. For the Chamber, the tour offered a chance to advocate for continued investment while highlighting the successes already taking root.

As global eyes begin to turn toward Kansas City ahead of the FIFA World Cup 2026™, the Chamber also focused on preparing small businesses for what lies ahead. In September, it hosted a series of talks introducing the "KC Game Plan" readiness assessment, designed to help local entrepreneurs prepare for an estimated 650,000 visitors expected to pass through the region. For many business owners along the Avenue, the sessions provided both practical guidance and a sense of optimism about future opportunities.

But 2025 wasn't only about economic growth. It was also a year when the Chamber found itself at the center of a historic political moment.

In early October, following the unprecedented recall of Jackson County Executive Frank White Jr., the Chamber's office became a gathering place for community dialogue. On October 1, residents packed into a town hall featuring legislators Manny Abarca IV, Venessa Huskey and Sean Smith. The conversation focused on what would come next: a 60-day plan that included the appointment of former Kansas City Mayor Kay Barnes as temporary County Executive and the eventual transition to an interim leader through 2026.

Residents raised concerns that had simmered for months — property tax assessments, transparency, and what many described as a lack of communication from county leadership. In response, legislators pledged renewed accountability and improved cooperation across county departments. For the Chamber, the evening reinforced its role not just as a business organization, but as a trusted civic space where hard conversations can happen.

Continued on next page

Sponsored by these NEKC Chamber Members:

Even amid change, tradition remained a steady thread throughout the year.

In March, the Chamber celebrated the return of its beloved Beans, Beads and Booze Mardi Gras fundraiser. Now in its 16th year, the event took place March 6 at J. Rieger & Co., drawing hundreds of guests. What began years ago as a modest pub gathering has grown into one of the Chamber's most anticipated annual celebrations — equal parts revelry and community support.

October also marked a quieter but meaningful milestone when Bootstraps Toastmasters returned to in-person meetings at the Chamber office after five years of virtual gatherings. The club embraced a hybrid format, blending face-to-face connection with accessibility, and reaffirmed the Chamber's commitment to fostering communication and leadership skills within the community.

As the year wound down, the Chamber turned its focus toward giving back. Through November 20, it coordinated a Food & Essentials Basket Drive, collecting canned goods, winter clothing and household necessities to support local families and the Northeast High School Food Pantry. The effort served as a reminder that economic development and community care are deeply intertwined.

Looking back on 2025, the Northeast Kansas City Chamber of Commerce can point to a year defined not by a single moment, but by a steady accumulation of connection — between businesses and visitors, residents and leaders, tradition and progress. As Northeast prepares for the opportunities and challenges of 2026, the Chamber enters the new year anchored in the same principle that guided it through the last: community comes first.

For more information, visit nekcchamber.com.

NEKC Chamber member benefits:

Monthly Business Section: The Chamber sponsors a monthly business section in the Northeast News. Businesses that commit to a monthly ad enjoy an annual feature story on their business.

Monthly Newsletter: Monthly member newsletter with updates on upcoming events, new businesses, workshops, and other important news impacting the Northeast business community.

Technical Assistance: The chamber provides technical assistance and referrals to help with business plans, developing working capital, and business licenses and permits.

After Hours Events: The Chamber invites members to host periodic After Hours events. These informal gatherings provide opportunities to enhance new and old relationships; exchange ideas on products, services, and sales; and meet new business owners and government officials.

Commercial Listings: The www.nekcchamber.com website provides free commercial property listings to members. property descriptions and a map help to encourage new businesses in the Northeast area. Non-members pay a fee for these listings.

Public Policy Advocacy: The Chamber promotes policies for economic development in the Northeast. Its Governmental Affairs Committee works with officials to keep members updated on business growth issues.

Facade Rebate Program: The Independence Avenue CID also offers member businesses the opportunity to apply for facade rebate funding to assist in updating or improving the exterior of their retail outlet in the CID's footprint.

Advice for First-Time Homebuyers: Dos and Don'ts Before You Buy

Gary Goebel, Certified Property Manager

With more than four decades in retail and office real estate, I'm offering practical advice to help tenants, landlords and everyday residents better understand real estate. This column is directed at individuals and families who are thinking about purchasing a primary residence — whether that's months away or still just an idea.

Buying a home is one of the biggest financial decisions most people will ever make. It can be exciting, stressful and confusing all at the same time. Following some basic "dos and don'ts" can help you avoid costly mistakes and put you on a path toward successful homeownership.

1. Start with a favorable mortgage

The single most important step in the homebuying process is obtaining a mortgage you can realistically afford. Until this step is complete, everything else is premature. For many buyers, this may take months or even years, and that's okay.

Begin by meeting in person with a local banker. This banker may not ultimately be your lender, but a local loan officer can help you understand your credit, income and savings and help you develop a plan. Often, you'll be encouraged to open a bank account — and that's a smart move. Very few home loans are made to individuals without an established banking relationship.

2. Maintain a healthy bank account

Once you have an account, keep a reasonable balance and use it regularly. You don't need to pay every bill from this account, but paying some recurring expenses shows lenders financial stability and consistency. These patterns matter when a lender evaluates your loan application.

3. Have legal help lined up

Real estate transactions involve contracts, negotiations and legal obligations. Having an attorney available — even if you don't end up needing extensive legal help — is a smart precaution. It's far better to have professional assistance from the beginning than to scramble for a solution after a problem arises.

4. Don't look at homes until you're ready

This is a mistake many buyers make. Looking at properties before you are financially prepared wastes time and creates unrealistic expectations. Buyers often hear about a home selling "below market" and think they missed out on a deal. In reality, most real estate transactions involve back-and-forth negotiations, inspections, repairs and compromises. What looks simple from the outside, rarely is.

5. Understand inspections and appraisals

Lenders will require an appraisal, and most buyers should insist on inspections. The most critical inspection areas include the roof, heating and cooling systems, electrical systems and the structure itself. These components can be expensive to repair and should never be overlooked.

6. Prioritize what matters most

Before choosing a property, make a list and rank what's important to you. How many bedrooms and bathrooms do you need? Is a basement essential? How many steps can you manage? Do you need central air, a large kitchen, or a specific layout? Consider which zip codes fit your lifestyle and budget. Decide whether a garage or private driveway is necessary. Knowing your priorities helps you make better decisions and avoid buyer's remorse.

7. Hire an experienced real estate agent

A knowledgeable, full-time real estate agent can guide you through the process and help you avoid pitfalls. Hiring a relative is fine if they are experienced and actively working in the market you're entering. Ask which inspectors, engineers or roofers your agent works with — these relationships matter. Also ask whether they can recommend additional lenders. Having more than one lending option is always helpful.

Illustration by Bryan Stalder

Owning real estate is not easy, but it remains one of the most common ways people build long-term wealth — and it means no longer dealing with a landlord. Preparation, patience and professional guidance can make all the difference.

Striking Hope

a poem by Fai Beal

The leaves, they all fall,
From trees towering tall.
Traveling down, a place so far way.
No longer on branches to sway.
Still. On earth, a dirt inlay.

The sere void of vibrant verde.
Creeping rust, decay, day after day,
Becoming dust, a facile crumble.
Brittle. Crunch. Rustle. Swish. Tumble.
Once fascinating, stately, now so humble.
Fading slowly, paint applied as scumble.

Faith, whispering hope, begins to rumble.
Again, buzzing bees bumble.
Fallen brethren, so far below.
Ancestors splayed under melting snow.
Fresh twigs, sprigs, pop and grow,
Vert peeking, winking, still shy to show.
Sprouts cocooned, against frigid blow.

Wind, rain, worms, steal the old stow.
Stooped stems lift, reach to Spring glow.
Blossoms overhead and feet, under,
Defeat winters screeching plunder.
The Quickening, Gaea's nascent wonder.
Hope and joy, striking sharp on thunder.

Venezuela

Continued from page 3

"There was no certainty in those early hours, and that lack of clarity made everything very complicated."

As more details emerged, relief gave way to uncertainty. She emphasized that Maduro's removal does not automatically translate into democratic change.

"This is not yet a regime change," she said. "It is a change involving key figures. There is hope that this could open the door to a more democratic path, but there are no guarantees."

Her concerns extend to both sides of the diaspora. Inside Venezuela, she said, people remain focused on basic survival — access to electricity, water and personal safety — with no clear sense of what daily life will look like in the coming days. Outside the country, particularly in the United States, millions of Venezuelans face renewed anxiety over legal status and long-delayed asylum cases.

"Between 8 and 9 million Venezuelans are living abroad," she said. "Many have waited 10 or more years for answers. Their cases are tied to what has happened in Venezuela, and now they fear those protections could be questioned. This is a profound human drama."

Ramírez Braiz cautioned against simplistic narratives, especially those circulating on social media. She stressed that Venezuela's crisis is not a conventional war and that U.S. involvement has spanned multiple administrations, underscoring the issue's complexity.

"I encourage people to reach out to the Venezuelan community," she said. "We are ready to share our experiences and explain this long-standing conflict with context and humanity."

In Northeast Kansas City, where many residents are themselves shaped by migration and displacement, those conversations are already happening — at kitchen tables, community events and local businesses. As Venezuela stands at another uncertain crossroads, its story continues to ripple far beyond its borders, carried by voices like Ramírez Braiz's into neighborhoods that now feel like home.

If you are a Venezuelan-American living in Northeast, or the greater Kansas City area, and you want to share your thoughts about the developing situation in Venezuela, please email us at northeastbuzz@gmail.com.

Si eres venezolano-estadounidense y vives en el noreste de Estados Unidos o en el área metropolitana de Kansas City, y deseas compartir tu opinión sobre la situación actual en Venezuela, por favor, escríbenos a northeastbuzz@gmail.com.

REUNION PARA HISPANOHABLANTES. SE ESTA ESCUCHANDO TO VOZ? QUE TE GUSTARIA VER EN TU VECINDARIO? NEUSTRA REUNION DE ENERO SE LLEVARA A CABO EN ESPANOL. HABLAREMOS SOBRE LOS LOGROS DE IMNA EN 2025, COMO PUEDEN PARTICIPAR EN 2026 E INCLUIREMOS UNA PRESENTACION DE AIRR-KCC
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KPM CPAS & ADVISORS

Independent Auditors' Report - Excerpt

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Crossroads Charter Schools (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2025, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Crossroads Charter Schools as of June 30, 2025, and the changes in net assets, cash flows, and statement of functional expenses for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

A copy of the audit report is available in the District's central office for inspection or examination.

Crossroads Charter Schools

Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances – Modified Cash Basis – Governmental Funds Presentation

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Total
Receipts				
Local	$ 2,358,412	$ 775,743	$ -	$ 3,134,155
State	12,309,230	8,429,926	-	20,739,156
Federal	1,472,441	-	-	1,472,441
Total Receipts	16,140,083	9,205,669	-	25,345,752
Disbursements				
Instruction	6,736,489	6,094,883	-	12,831,372
Student services	678,939	757,062	-	1,436,001
Instructional staff support	194,423	490,657	-	685,080
Building level administration	27,743	1,094,654	-	1,122,397
General administration and central services	2,252,607	768,413	-	3,021,020
Operation of plant	1,893,208	-	44,399	1,937,607
Transportation	1,775,660	-	-	1,775,660
Food service	460,830	-	-	460,830
Community services	210,007	-	-	210,007
Facility acquisition and construction	-	-	43,625	43,625
Debt service	-	-	473,026	473,026
Total Disbursements	14,229,906	9,205,669	561,050	23,996,625
Excess (Deficit) of Receipts over Disbursements	1,910,177	-	(561,050)	1,349,127
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Operating transfers in (out)	(546,692)	-	546,692	-
Net Change in Fund Balances	1,363,485	-	(14,358)	1,349,127
Fund Balance, Beginning	1,544,836	-	14,358	1,559,194
Fund Balance, Ending	$ 2,908,321	$ -	$ -	$ 2,908,321
Net Change in Fund Balances per ASBR				$ 1,349,127
Changes in				
Grants receivable				81,632
Capital assets				47,150
Accumulated depreciation and amortization				(450,807)
Accounts payable				206,501
Accrued expenses				(68,710)
Compensated absences				(33,115)
Loans principal				211,764
Change in Net Assets per Statement of Activities				$ 1,343,542

The supplementary financial statement above has been provided for purposes of reporting to the State of Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. This statement conforms to the presentation of the Annual Secretary of the Board Report.

Beneath the Angelus Bells

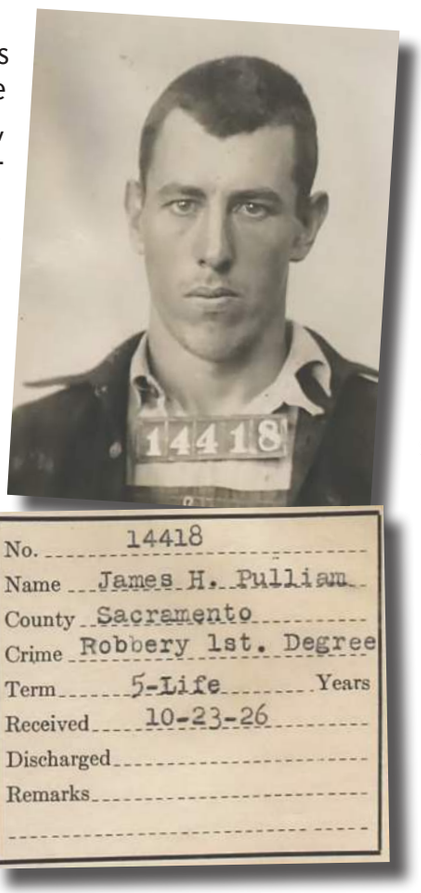
Historical fiction written by Betsy Cochran

June 9, 1921
Kansas City, MO

Eddie slipped out of the shadowy alley where he'd been hiding ever since he'd left the apartment on Park Avenue. His mother had just given birth to another baby. Just swell. At this point, St. Aloysius was liable to run out of holy water just baptizing her babies.

Odds were, new baby was a girl. They were always girls. He was already sleeping most nights under the 12th Street Viaduct anyway. It wasn't comfortable, but at least nobody was crying, whining, or lecturing.

Back in Covington, KY, things hadn't been rosy, but they were familiar. Their house had been tiny, dirty, and smelled like soot, but at least Eddie had a room with the cedar chest he and his Pa, Frank, built together. That was back when Frank's hands were steadier.



Most of Frank's handcrafted furniture got left behind when they moved to Kansas City, but that cedar chest made the train ride, packed full of everything they owned. Eddie remembered stepping into Union Station for the first time, the ceiling arching up like it could swallow a whole town. Outside was the Kansas City noise: streetcars clanging, horses snorting, the faint stink of the stockyards. And ringing above it all, the Angelus bells, same as back home.

Now, though, Kansas City wasn't a wonder, it was the place he wandered. He knew the alleys behind 12th Street and Grand, the grocery crates behind McClure's, the best viaduct pillars to sleep behind when it rained. And he knew where the cops patrolled, especially today.

He kicked a rock. Frank had talked him into the heist — "just a little score," he'd said. Zulfet Hardware was easy; Eddie knew the layout. When the back door popped open at 4 a.m. with barely a jiggle, he should've known it was too easy. He went straight for the cash register, stuffing bills into his bag, stinky pantyhose mask itching like crazy.

He was reaching for one of the pistols in the display case when a voice behind him whispered, "Eddie?"

Bobby. His only friend. Of all people.

"Jesus, you scared me," Eddie hissed.

"I'm doing inventory," Bobby said, staring at the floor.

"Look, Frank's in real trouble at the Hey Hay Club," Eddie muttered. "I'm trying to help Ma and the girls. I'll cut you in, swear."

Bobby shook his head. "My mom'd kill me."

Eddie's legs were already carrying him out the back door. As he bolted into the muggy June night, Bobby called after him, "Five minutes! I'll give you five minutes!"

Eddie had sprinted straight home, but Frank wasn't there. It was just Ma, pale and exhausted, the new baby wrapped up on her chest. The sight knocked something loose in him. He got out fast, knowing the cops may be on their way.

Now he drifted through the sharp heat of early afternoon, past the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception with its golden dome shining like a warning sign. He squinted. Not far away, just past Central, was Hotel Troy. This was one of Frank's favorite joints when the Hey Hay Club tossed him out.

Inside, the air was stale and cool, the lobby half-asleep. Eddie didn't bother with the clerk. He went straight to the back room. Frank sat at the bar, sleeves rolled up, tie loose, nursing a drink like it was keeping him alive.

"Thought I'd find you here," Eddie said.

Frank blinked up at him. "Kid. What time is it?"

Eddie slid onto the stool next to him. "I got the money. But Bobby saw me."

Frank cursed under his breath. "You wear the pantyhose mask?"

"Yeah."

Frank sighed, rubbing his temples. "Alright, hand it over. We'll sort this out – fair and square."

Sure. Fair like Ma sitting at home with a newborn while Frank drank his paycheck. Eddie dropped the bag onto the bar. He didn't wait for Frank to open it. He pushed through the door, blinking hard at the sharp sunlight.

Continued on next page

Beneath the Angelus Bells

Continued from previous page

He kept walking until he reached the rail yards, the metal tracks shimmering in the heat. Under the shade of a loading dock, he sat down. His breathing steadied. A shadow fell across the gravel.

"Well, look who washed up," said Red, one of the hobos he'd met under the viaduct weeks ago.

Eddie huffed a tired laugh. "Guess I'm back."

Red settled beside him with a grunt. "Westbound rolls at four," he said, nodding toward the tracks.

"Yeah," he murmured. "West sounds about right."

Eddie leaned back, and closed his eyes, letting the heat settle on his skin.

Kansas City had knocked him down plenty, but the spirit of the town had settled deep in him, the kind you don't shake loose — even when you know you're never coming back.

Nadine's Northeast follows the life of Nadine Burnett (née Pulliam), who was born in 1921 and spent most of her life in Northeast Kansas City, where she raised ten children amid the city's rapid changes in the 20th century. Written by her granddaughter, Betsy Cochran, these historical fiction stories draw from Nadine's lived experiences, local history, and a little family lore. Each installment stands alone while weaving into a larger portrait of Nadine's past. For a deeper dive, visit betsycochran.substack.com, where you can subscribe for free or choose a paid plan for extended content.

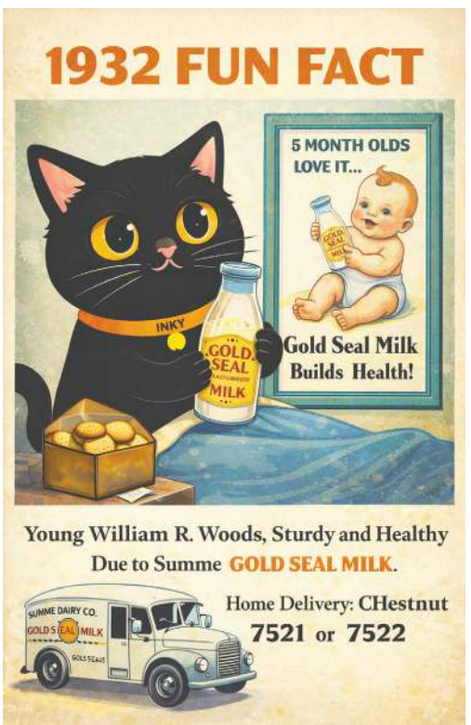


IMAGE CREATED WITH ADOBE FIREFLY

Young Northeaster William R. Woods was featured in a January 7, 1932 advertisement for Summe Gold Seal Milk. The five-month old son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Woods of 5226 Scarritt Avenue weighed 18 pounds and his health was attributed to the qualities of Gold Seal Milk, recommended by area pediatricians.

A product of the Summe Dairy Co. at 15th St. and Benton Boulevard, Gold Seal Milk was available by home delivery by calling CHestnut 7521 or CHestnut 7522.

Mueller Oberkfell & Jones, LLC
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

MEMBERS OF
MISSOURI SOCIETY OF CPA'S
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CPA'S

To the Members of the Board of Directors
Académie Lafayette.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated modified cash basis consolidated financial statements of Académie Lafayette. (a non-profit corporation) (School), which comprise of the Consolidated Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets – Modified Cash Basis as of June 30, 2025, and the related Consolidated Statement of Support, Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets and Functional Expenses – Modified Cash Basis for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the School's administration. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the consolidated financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Modified Cash Basis - Governmental Funds is supplementary information and is presented for purposes of complying with the requirements of Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and is not a required part of the financial statements. This information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied to the audit of the financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

This report and the accompanying financial statement are in summary form. Our complete report and the School's financial statements are available for public viewing at the office of the School's Director of Finance.

Very truly yours,

Mueller Oberkfell & Jones, LLC

Mueller Oberkfell & Jones, LLC
Certified Public Accountants

December 29, 2025

ACADÉMIE LAFAYETTE
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - MODIFIED CASH BASIS - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	GENERAL FUND	SPECIAL REVENUE FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	TOTALS
REVENUES:				
Local	$ 2,575,560	$ 782,518	$ 17,537	$ 3,375,615
State	10,575,341	9,334,018	-	19,909,359
Federal	708,277	-	-	708,277
Total Revenues	13,859,178	10,116,536	17,537	23,993,251
EXPENDITURES:				
Instruction	2,845,674	8,467,411	-	11,313,085
Student services	383,308	252,832	-	636,140
Instructional staff support	202,149	139,398	-	341,547
General administration & central services	2,817,284	396,052	24,000	3,237,336
Building level administration	30,021	860,843	-	890,864
Operation of plant	1,531,754	-	12,100	1,543,854
Transportation	948,663	-	375,898	1,324,561
Food service	723,227	-	-	723,227
Community service	153,804	-	-	153,804
Facility construction and acquisition	-	-	373,058	373,058
Principal payments	-	-	304,712	304,712
Interest and fees	-	-	483,501	483,501
Total Expenditures	9,635,884	10,116,536	1,573,269	21,325,689
Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	4,223,294	-	(1,555,732)	2,667,562
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Transfers	(1,555,732)	-	1,555,732	-
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(1,555,732)	-	1,555,732	-
Net change in fund balances	2,667,562	-	-	2,667,562
Fund balance, beginning	6,154,252	-	-	6,154,252
Fund balance, ending	$ 8,821,814	$ -	$ -	$ 8,821,814

An audit of Academie Lafayette for the year ended June 30, 2025, was performed by Mueller Oberkfell & Jones, LLC in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the applicable Government Auditing Standards. The School received an unmodified opinion on the financial statements.

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602 Notices

OUR NEXT issue will be published January 21, 2026. Ad deadlines are noon Friday the week before the next publish date.

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As we move into the new year, we want to express our deepest gratitude to everyone who donated to The Northeast News in 2025. Whether you gave once or contribute monthly, your support sustains the journalism our neighborhood relies on. We depend on your generosity to report on local schools, government, and the voices that make our community unique. Thank you for investing in independent local news and for being a vital part of our mission.

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MARR AND COMPANY, P.C.

Certified Public Accountants

AICPA
Employee Benefit Plan Audit Quality Center Member
Government Audit Quality Center Member

To the Board of Directors of
DeLaSalle Education Center
Kansas City, Missouri

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of DeLaSalle Education Center (a nonprofit organization) (the "Center"), which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2025, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of DeLaSalle Education Center as of June 30, 2025, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Center and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Center's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issue

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Center's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The accompanying supplementary information as listed in the table of contents from pages 18-21, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the supplementary schedules are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 17, 2025 on our consideration of the Center's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Center's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Marr and Company

Marr and Company, P.C.
Certified Public Accountants

Kansas City, Missouri
December 17, 2025

DE LA SALLE EDUCATION CENTER

BALANCE SHEET – BY FUND
June 30, 2025

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Totals
ASSETS				
Cash	$ 1,345,602	$ 0	$ 0	$ 1,345,602
Federal and local grant receivable	199,851	0	0	199,851
Contribution receivable	200,001	0	0	200,001
Insurance receivable	7,016	0	0	7,016
Prepaid expenses	15,194	0	0	15,194
Total Assets	$ 1,767,664	$ 0	$ 0	$ 1,767,664
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES				
Liabilities:				
Accounts payable	$ 58,460	$ 0	$ 0	$ 58,460
Payroll withholdings	648	0	0	648
Federal and local grant refundable advance	213,345	0	0	213,345
State formula advance liability	258,791	0	0	258,791
Total Liabilities	531,244	0	0	531,244
Fund Balance:				
Unassigned	1,236,420	0	0	1,236,420
Total fund balance	1,236,420	0	0	1,236,420
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	$ 1,767,664	$ 0	$ 0	$ 1,767,664

Total fund balance	$ 1,236,420
Contributed facility usage on the Statement of Financial Position	2,955,068
Total property and equipment, net on the Statement of Financial Position	225,729
Total net assets on the Statement of Financial Position	$ 4,417,217

Note: The supplementary financial statement above has been provided for purposes of reporting to the State of Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. This statement conforms to the presentation of the Annual Secretary of the Board Report (ASBR).

See Independent Auditor's Report

County District Number: 048-918

KIPP KANSAS CITY

SCHEDULE OF SELECTED STATISTICS
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

3. SEPTEMBER MEMBERSHIP

Report the FTE count of resident students in grades PK-12 taken the last Wednesday in September who are enrolled on the count day **and** in attendance at least 1 of the 10 previous school days, by grade at each attendance center. This count should include all PK students. If possible, note the number of PK students marked as being eligible to be claimed for state aid in the October MOSIS Student Core File.

School Code	Grade Level	Full-Time	Part-Time	Other	Total
3920	PK	70.00	0.00	0.00	70.00
3920	K	57.00	0.00	0.00	57.00
3920	1	63.00	0.00	0.00	63.00
3920	2	67.00	0.00	0.00	67.00
3920	3	61.00	0.00	0.00	61.00
3920	4	76.00	0.00	0.00	76.00
3920	5	58.00	0.00	0.00	58.00
3920	6	65.00	0.00	0.00	65.00
3920	7	85.00	0.00	0.00	85.00
3920	8	63.00	0.00	0.00	63.00
1050	9	108.00	0.00	0.00	108.00
1050	10	107.00	0.00	0.00	107.00
1050	11	75.00	0.00	0.00	75.00
1050	12	92.00	0.00	0.00	92.00
Grand Total		**1,047.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**1,047.00**

KIPP KANSAS CITY

SCHEDULE OF DISBURSEMENTS PAID BY OBJECT – BY FUND
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Totals
Salaries and wages	$ 3,529,524	$ 4,026,182	$ 0	$ 7,555,706
Payroll taxes	263,705	292,654	0	556,359
Employee benefits	229,044	237,267	0	466,311
Retirement	401,245	465,342	0	866,587
Professional and technical services	2,885,898	0	0	2,885,898
Property services	850,384	0	0	850,384
Transportation services, contracted	1,438,367	0	0	1,438,367
Insurance	102,897	0	0	102,897
Communication and memberships	89,212	0	0	89,212
Other purchased services	31,367	0	0	31,367
General supplies	1,105,208	0	0	1,105,208
Books and periodicals	150,681	0	0	150,681
Food service and supplies	993,034	0	0	993,034
Utilities, energy service	203,907	0	0	203,907
Capital outlay	0	0	336,474	336,474
Debt principal, interest, and fees	0	0	1,270,990	1,270,990
Total Disbursements	$ 12,274,473	$ 5,021,445	$ 1,607,464	$ 18,903,382