

## ARRESTS

Continued from Page 1.

criminal use of weapons, possession of meth, possession of stolen property, use/possession with intent to use drug paraphernalia into human body.

Destany Freeman: Use/possession with intent to use drug paraphernalia into human body.

Sheriff Ron Wade expressed his appreciation for the work of the deputies involved in this case and extended his gratitude to the KBI and the Cherryvale Police Department for their assistance and cooperation throughout the operation.

“This case highlights the importance of strong partnerships between agencies,” said Wade in a prepared statement. “I’m proud of the continued commitment our deputies show in protecting the citizens of Montgomery County and getting this extremely deadly drug off the streets and out of the community.” This case will be sent to the Montgomery County Attorney’s Office for charging.

This investigation is ongoing.

## FLOCK

Continued from Page 1.

of this system and anticipates it will play a critical role in ongoing and future investigations. Beyond stolen vehicles, the Flock system is designed to assist with missing persons alerts, including AMBER Alerts for children and Silver Alerts for seniors and to provide investigative leads for violent crimes.

“We are committed to using every tool at our disposal to make Parsons safer and more secure,” Spinks added. “The Flock Safety system has proven to be a force multiplier for our agency and a reassurance to our citizens that we’re investing in solutions that work.”

The department will continue to evaluate and expand its use of technology to enhance public safety, ensure accountability and support law enforcement partners across Kansas and beyond.

For more information about the Flock Safety system or how it supports public safety in Parsons, please contact the Parsons Police Department at (620) 421-7060.

This continues to be an ongoing investigation, and citizens are encouraged to “see it, hear it, report it.” All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. If anyone has any further information on this incident or any other criminal activity, please contact the Parsons Police Department at 421-7060, call the Tip Line at 421-7057 or email tips@parsonspdks.gov.

## FREEZE

Continued from Page 1.

time and allow us to have that extra time that they had already previously approved,” Gordon said.

The state’s letter went through more than 15 drafts, according to Gordon.

“The funds are essential for completing projects that directly address academic development for students,” KSDE’s letter said. “These include statewide literacy and math professional development, assessment systems to students and critical investments in educator and leadership capacity.”

In the meantime, the state told every program using the funds from the extension to stop any activity that would incur further costs.

Jake Steel, the director of strategy and operational alignment in the Kansas education commissioner’s office, said Kansas classrooms haven’t yet been affected, but the longer the feds take to respond, the likelihood that classrooms feel pain increases.

“It will be a big deal if Kansas loses \$22.6 million,” Steel said. “That is a

huge, huge deal.”

Until that point, he said, it’s a matter of wait and see.

“We’re not trying to make enemies. We’re not trying to use kids as political pawns,” Steel said. “We’re just trying to do what is best for students, and we will respond as requested, and we will fulfill all the laws.”

Support from Kansas’ state and federal lawmakers has followed in kind.

U.S. Rep. Derek Schmidt, a Republican, asked the federal department to reinstate the funds in an April 5 social media post. KSDE “was successfully using COVID-19 funding to help our kids catch up from pandemic lockdowns and school closings,” unlike other states, he said in the post.

Gov. Laura Kelly, a Democrat, sent a letter to McMahon on April 9, asking the department to reinstate Kansas’ funds because of how important they have been in restoring learning loss, training educators and lowering child care start-up costs.

“This funding is critical for our schools to continue setting Kansas children up for a strong start to life,” Kelly said.

Kansas is taking a different, more moderate approach than other states in trying to reclaim the funds. Some are refusing to comply with the federal department’s demands. More than a dozen states and the District of Columbia sued the department and McMahon, calling her decision to rescind the funds “arbitrary and capricious.”

In Arizona, a Navajo Nation school district ended reading and math tutoring services and halted repairs to aging infrastructure funded through the stabilization funds, the lawsuit said. In Nevada, 14 employees were laid off. In Michigan, a school district’s HVAC project will have to be abandoned if funds aren’t released. In Maryland, Baltimore City Public Schools canceled tutoring and after-school programs.

In Kansas, almost \$7.6 million of the frozen funds have been going toward statewide literacy and math training for educators. About \$6.6 million was being used to help schools improve monitoring of student performance. Around \$3.6 million was designated for schools to effectively use high-quality instructional materials in classrooms.

About \$480,000 was being used to expose students to the full range of career and education options after high school. Spurred by a decline in measures of success after graduation, one project helps students and families explore opportunities outside of a four-year college path.

“A consequence of the learning loss created by the pandemic has been a decrease in the number of students, particularly males, pursuing postsecondary education,” KSDE’s letter said. “It is imperative to address this decline in postsecondary pursuits to ensure students have a path forward to earning a livable wage and Kansas can fulfill its workforce demand.”

The state’s letter to McMahon similarly justified each project’s funding.

Roughly \$230,000 of the frozen funds were for principal and superintendent leadership development across the state. Nearly \$2.3 million has been used to support child care and early childhood education. And almost \$670,000 was being used for administrative and oversight costs within the state department.

## VIETTI

Continued from Page 1.

Under her leadership, Butler solidified its status as the second largest public community college in the state.

After retiring from Butler, Vietti continued to serve higher education. She accepted positions as interim president at Emporia State University and acting president at Kansas City Kansas Community College, providing strong, steady leadership during transitional periods.

In 2015, Vietti co-developed and launched the Kansas

Community College Leadership Institute, a nine-month program designed to cultivate future leaders within the Kansas community college system. As the program’s facilitator and primary author, she worked in collaboration with a presidential advisory council and the executive director of the Kansas Community College Association to develop a curriculum focused on leadership, networking and system-wide knowledge. Nearly 200 participants have completed the program, with many alumni advancing into roles such as president, vice president and dean.

Throughout her career, Vi-

etti has remained closely connected to LCC and its mission. “After nearly 46 years in higher education, there is nowhere I would rather have invested my time and energy,” said Vietti. “I will be forever grateful to Labette for allowing me to find my niche in life.”

Vietti has received numerous accolades for her leadership and service, including Chief Executive Officer of the Year award for the Western Region of the Association of Community College Trustees, and the 2020 Council for Advancement and Support Education (CASE) District VI Chief Executive Leadership Award. She was awarded Em-

poria State University’s Distinguished Alumni Award in 2024.

Reflecting on her contributions, Vietti emphasized her commitment to student success and continuous improvement.

“It is my belief that no matter how good things are, everyone affiliated with any college or university is called to make things better for students and one another. It also is my unwavering conviction that each individual in an organization has something of value to contribute to the work at hand.”

Even more enduring is the love, admiration and support she attributes to her immedi-

ate family, including her better half Ray (deceased), her five children and their equally amazing spouses, Dana and Pete, Angela and Steve, Mike and Emily, Chris and Lilly, James (deceased) and, in her words, her brilliant grandchildren, Phia, Arthur, Audrey, Penelope, Hugo and Charlie.

Whether serving as a president, advocate, or mentor, Vietti’s impact on Kansas higher education is significant and enduring.

She will be honored at the 53rd annual Cardinal Citation Reception on Wednesday, May 14, at 6 p.m. at the Cardinal Event Center. The public is invited.

CONGRATULATIONS  
on your retirement!

*Karen McRay*

THANK YOU  
for 27 years of service!

Join us for a come & go  
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**Tues/22: Honey Pot Roast, Steamed Cabbage, Fruit Salad, W.W. Dinner Roll, Milk**

**Wed/23: Homemade Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes w/Brown Gravy, Corn, Mandarin Oranges, Milk**

**Thurs/24: Turkey & Swiss on W.W. Bread, Carrot & Raisin Salad, Cottage Cheese, Pineapple, Milk**

*Publication of this menu made possible by:*

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### LEGAL

(First published in The Chanute Tribune Friday, April 18, 2025)

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NEOSHO COUNTY, KANSAS**  
**Probate Division**

In the Matter of the Estate of  
Mariruth Jordan,  
also known as Mary R. Jordan, deceased.  
Case No. NOE-2025-PR-000026

**Notice of Hearing and Notice to Creditors**

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in this court by Brenda M. Jordan, as heir-at-law and legatee and devisee of Mary R. Jordan, deceased, and as the personal representative named in the Last Will and Testament of Mary R. Jordan, praying that the instrument attached to the Petition dated March 5, 2024, be admitted to probate, and for the appointment of Brenda M. Jordan as personal representative of the estate without bond.

You are further advised that the petitioner in this matter has requested administration pursuant to the Kansas Simplified Estates Act, and if such request is granted the court may not supervise administration of the estate and no further notice of any action of the personal representative or other proceedings in the administration will be given except for notice of final settlement of decedent's estate. Should written objections to simplified administration be filed with the court, the court may order supervised administration to ensue.

You are hereby required to file your written defenses to the Petition on or before May 15, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in this court in the city of Chanute, Neosho County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the estate within four months from the date of the first publication of this Notice as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited they shall be forever barred.

Brenda M. Jordan  
Petitioner

Prepared by:  
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April 18, 25; May 2

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