AMERICA: A leader can be both flawed and monumental

FROM PAGE 2

ing Jell-O at the wall, hoping that some of those Great Society programs would stick."

Now to Vietnam.

Although a crony of President Eisenhower as Democratic Senate leader, guiding the American colossus did not come naturally to Johnson. He lacked the kind of oratorical skills that had helped FDR persuade skeptical, isolationist Americans in 1940 that our country had to rearm against Hitler.

Thus, he took the nation into a quicksand war without ever fully explaining to Americans — or even, fully, to himself — "why we are in Vietnam" (to use his own oft-repeated phrase) or how it would end in victory.

With his self-doubt about foreign policy, his instinctive first allegiance to domestic affairs, and his fears about seeming to abandon President Kennedy's supposed Cold War fervor, LBJ allowed himself to be overinfluenced by JFK holdovers to plunge into Vietnam and use "gradual escalation," just as their martyred boss had done, on their advice, in the Cuban missile crisis.

They swore up and down to Johnson that Kennedy would have escalated combat in Southeast Asia had he lived — and threatened LBJ with public scorn if he betrayed President Kennedy's wish.

Let us name the worst offenders — Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, national security advisor McGeorge Bundy, and Secretary of State Dean Rusk.

The last of these three had the least reason to be babbling to Johnson on what Kennedy might have done in Vietnam. JFK was uncomfortable with Rusk and did not confide to him his private intentions.

The result of such errors on Vietnam was that President Johnson, once the idealistic NYA director, was vilified on campuses as the executioner of American youth — exactly the opposite of what he had hoped for when he had suddenly become president.

For at least a generation after Johnson's death in 1973, with every American family rent in some way by his Vietnam escalation, he was known overwhelmingly for a war that he could never publicly bring himself to admit was largely a result of his mistakes.

At least one Vietnam vet reputedly approached the family cemetery on the LBJ Ranch and loudly damned the late president to eternal hell for destroying his life.

Johnson used to say that sometimes leaders show you what is at the depth of their soul by what they don't say or do. Absolutely correct.

So look at how seldom Johnson spoke of the Vietnam tragedy during his four years as ex-president. Surprisingly, for this sensitive man, there is precious little record of him reaching out in public to stricken Vietnam veterans and their families.

You might interpret this disheartening omission as proof of LBJ's unrepentant coldness about what he had done in Vietnam.

I prefer to see it instead as a metric of the private acknowledgment of his own complicity in the deaths of American young people.

Depressed by those deaths, he was trying to forget them. If this is true, at least he privately knew the importance of what he had done wrong.

Johnson was, above all, a realist.

An ex-president genuinely proud of his role in Vietnam might have made more of an effort to align himself than Johnson did with that ghastly war of which he had been the architect.

His beloved aide Jack Valenti told me in 1998 that in Johnson's retirement — by drinking, smoking, and eating and (away from Lady Bird's surveillance) throwing some of his heart pills into the LBJ Ranch bushes — his ailing old boss was knowingly trying to commit "slow-motion suicide."

By the early 1990s, the best of Lyndon Johnson's Great Society had been largely eclipsed from our public memory by Vietnam.

When I began to transcribe and write on LBJ's almost eight hundred hours of secret presidential tapes, slowly unveiled in that decade, a black former NFL player I met was horrified that I would even take the time to study a president who had slaughtered so many black people in Vietnam.

(The football star was correct to complain that black Vietnam casualties under Johnson were disproportionate.)

But American historiography can work in wondrous ways.

Thanks to the magnitude of Johnson's accomplishments and, in part, to the tapes he made and preserved of his private conversations — which show us the authenticity of his dreams and the effectiveness of his horse trading — we can understand, without forgetting the blight of Vietnam or claiming that each of his domestic programs was perfect, that Lyndon Johnson was a flawed but monumental president.

Remembering him in the White House at his best, LBJ deserves the respect and admiration of all Americans.

POLICE: Estimated cost of moving to savings and loan building rises

FROM PAGE 1

$310,397 for a garage addition, $362,537 for interior remodeling, and $45,225 for furniture, fixtures, and equipment.

Financing expenses would bring borrowing to about $1.29 million, financial adviser Greg Vahrenberg of Raymond James Financial said.

His preliminary analysis assumes repayment over 20 years at an estimated 5.47% interest. Actual rates would be set during a December bond sale through Rural Water Financing Agency.

Commissioners approved a financing application that lists $1,082,700 in costs but does not commit the city to borrowing.

NF Construction also is managing construction of the city's new fire station, reduced mobilization costs, Bartel said.

Its proposed management fee of $61,176 for the police station is included in the budget.

Water violation

A Sept. 15 water sample exceeded the limit for total trihalomethanes, according to Bartel.

A plugged carbon feed line prevented proper chemicals from reaching the treatment plant's primary clarifier. The line has been replaced, and subsequent samples have not exceeded the limit, a report provided by Bartel stated.

Kansas Department of Health and Environment notified staff Oct. 6 The city is awaiting working with the agency on the public notice, Bartel said.

Housing setback

Two buildings at Orchard Park were built closer to property lines than city code allows because a setback requirement was overlooked, Bartel told city council members.

Combining several lots into one 700-foot-wide lot triggered a 70-foot setback. The buildings were constructed using a 25-foot setback, she said.

The Board of Zoning Appeals will consider reducing the requirement to 25 feet at 5:30 p.m. Thursday. The request covers existing buildings only.

Fire station

The building commission approved $29,299.51 for a transformer and water-service supplies for the new fire station. Groundbreaking followed by a hot dog lunch will be 10:30 a.m. Oct. 31 at Ash and 3rd Sts.

Classifieds CONTINUED

FROM PAGE 8

66858 ..... 458.51
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 145.37
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 145.37
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 155.33
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 145.37
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 155.33
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 153.68
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 362.69
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 841.07
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 319.55
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 539.25
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 220.08
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 405.85
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 305.49
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 601.29
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 .....74.05
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 362.69
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 200.05
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 200.05
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 219.58
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 394.29
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower Rd, Lincolnville KS 66858.....74.05
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 776.70
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 .....74.35
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 367.29
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 504.58
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 493.77
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 215.07
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 144.56
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 231.25
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Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 349.35
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 359.30
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 152.50
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 200.59
Hett Oil & Gas LLC — 2994 Sunflower, Lincolnville KS 66858 ..... 448.19
Shauna Janzen — 1500 E Main, Apt 17 Marion KS 66861 .....60.84
David L Johnson — PO Box 264, Goessel KS 67053 .....81.16
Carol H. Kinkel Testamentary — 18706 Goodvale Road, Santa Clarita CA 91351-1239.....84.01
Carol H. Kinkel Testamentary — 18706 Goodvale Road, Santa Clarita CA 91351-1239.....84.01
Seth M Larson — 2363 Hwy 150, Marion KS 66861 ..... 300.56
Ryan McDermott — 1927 360th, Ramona KS 67475..... 96.26
Dixie E. McMaster Estate — 14382 White Star Ln., Valley Center CA 92082 ..... 117.19
Lloyd D & Linda Meier — 1515 Victory Ln, Marion KS 66861-9406 .....79.70
Brent Gregory Miles — 9 Lakeshore Dr, Marion KS 66861 ..... 334.98
Kathleen Neuberger Estate — 117 Summerwood Dr., Watertown SD 57201 ..... 152.12
Oklahoma Medical Res — P.O. Box 659, Wichita Falls TX 76307 .. 69.19
Charles Park — 341. S 4th, Marion KS 66861 .....80.86
Fred Puttroff Sr Rev Trust — 200 Springlake Ct, Newton KS 67114..... 256.08
Fred Puttroff Sr Rev Trust — 200 Springlake Ct, Newton KS 67114.....75.93
Ranchland Tree Service LLC — 1667 190th, Marion KS 66861 ..... 1,964.06
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 357.48
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 426.03
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 427.48
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 426.03
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 254.24
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 237.70
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 237.70
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 443.17
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 232.07
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 258.79
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 566.71
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 356.47
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 232.07
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 775.21
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 345.97
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 255.32
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 336.06
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 345.97
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 345.97
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 345.97
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 346.29
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 229.04
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 312.29
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 208.82
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 248.11
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 544.54
Randon Production Co Inc. — 2863 Sunflower Rd., Marion KS 66861 ..... 443.17
Randon Production Company, Inc — 2761 Remington, Marion KS 66861 ..... 1,090.29
Renegade Resources Corp — 5335 Cedarwood Dr., Reno NV 89511 ..... 434.87
Rhodes Red Angus LLC — 3932 N Sage Ct, Maize KS 67101-4108 ..... 155.55
Rhodes Red Angus LLC — 3932 N. Sage Ct., Maize KS 67101 .. 544.80
Rhodes Red Angus LLC — 3932 N Sage Ct, Maize KS 67101-4108 ..... 128.79
Rosemary B. Roberts — 15267 Murray Ave., Chino Hills CA 91709-2706 ..... 70.66
William Ryan — 706 N Elm, Peabody KS 66866 ..... 642.00
SH Oil Operations LLC — PO Box 771188, Wichita KS 67277 286.32
SH Oil Operations LLC — PO Box 771188, Wichita KS 67277 168.30
SH Oil Operations LLC — PO Box 771188, Wichita KS 67277 600.25
Mary Sizemore — 1071 Darlow Dr Rm 111, McPherson KS 67460 .....92.51
Mary Sizemore — 1071 Darlow Dr Rm 111, McPherson KS 67460 ..... 110.05
Jason T Stika — PO Box 94, Lincolnville KS 66858.....79.70
Brian Keith Stucky — 1353 30th, Peabody KS 66866 .....85.77
Todd & Robin Taylor — 2419 Hwy 150, Marion KS 66861 ..... 112.58
Owen Andrew Thiel — 202 S 3rd St, Lindsborg KS 67456.....66.93
Town & Country Cafe — 235 Grandview, Florence KS 66851-9762 ..... 112.20
George G. Vaught Jr Estate — P.O. Box 13557, Denver CO 80201-3557.....82.79
George G. Vaught Jr Estate — PO Box 13557, Denver CO 80201-3557.....95.96
George G. Vaught Jr Estate — PO Box 13557, Denver CO 80201-3557..... 98.81
George G. Vaught Jr Estate — PO Box 13557, Denver CO 80201-3557.....69.19
Melvin & Noreen Weems — 958 Remington, Peabody KS 66866.....62.78
Melvin Weems — 958 Remington, Peabody KS 66866-9729 ... 101.43
Melvin & Noreen Weems — 958 Remington, Peabody KS 66866.....66.42

M-3-4-5-2232

First published Oct. 21, 2026, in the Marion County Record

CITY OF FLORENCE
REQUEST
FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

The City of Florence is seeking qualified consulting firms for preconstruction engineering and project management in the category equivalent to the Kansas Department of Transportation's (KDOT) Work Category: 411 – Pedestrian and Bicycle Facility Design and Work Category: 241 – Construction Inspection and Testing for the project listed below.

Interested consulting firms must be pre-qualified by KDOT in category 411-Pedestrian and Bicycle Facility Design, and familiar with the project area.

Description

Transportation Alternatives Program - Florence Downtown Streetscape Project #TE-0599-01. A streetscape project on 3 blocks of Main Street in Florence, which shall include curb, sidewalk, ADA improvements, pedestrian protection zones, and lighting. This shall include all surveying and design to produce documents acceptable to KDOT for inclusion into the KDOT bidding system.

Schedule and Deadlines

Technical proposals are due on or before 2 pm on Tuesday, November 10, 2026. Technical proposals will be accepted via e-mail (to cityclerk@florenceks.com) or by 2 paper copies delivered to City Hall, City of Florence, prior to this date/time. Interested consulting firms must be pre-qualified by KDOT in the work categories noted above.

Anticipated Schedule for Subsequent Events:

Evaluation and ranking of technical proposals shall take place on or about Thursday, November 12, 2026. City Council will approve a selected firm on Monday, November 16, 2026, after which all firms that submitted letters of interest will be notified of the ranking. Negotiations with the highest-ranked firm will begin on or about November 30, 2026. Notice to Proceed will be issued following approval by and in conjunction with the KDOT Three-Party agreement. This agreement should be in place and in effect by the end of January 2027.

Evaluation Factors

Technical proposals will be evaluated based on the factors listed below to rank the most qualified firm in order of preference as first, second, third, etc. If determined necessary by the City of Florence, a Preliminary Review Committee will be formed to reduce the number of firms evaluated to no fewer than three (3) and no more than five (5). Reasons for exclusion from evaluation will be: size and/or qualifications; experience of personnel available for the project; current uncompleted work or distribution of work; performance; no response from the firm; or other reason. Firms excluded from the short list will be notified of the reason for exclusion.

The highest ranked firm will be asked to enter into negotiations with the City of Florence for an agreement. In the event the City of Florence cannot reach agreement with the ranked firm, it will terminate negotiations with the said firm and commence negotiations with the next highest ranked firm, and so on, until an agreement is reached for a satisfactory scope of services for a fair and reasonable number of hours, or the City of Florence decides to pursue other alternatives.

Contract Terms and Conditions

This is a KDOT project using KDOT funding. A standard three (3) phase, three (3) party agreement will be utilized with special attachments for the Kansas "Tax Clearance Certificate", the "Certification of Final Indirect Costs", and the "Policy Regarding Sexual Harassment".

Instructions for Technical Proposal

Note: No costs shall be contained in the technical proposal.

The main text of the consultant's technical proposal must not exceed 20 double-sided pages (including cover sheets, indexes, etc.) to address the topics listed. Describe processes and procedures proposed by the consultant to meet the project completion deadline listed above. Describe processes and procedures, including best practices, that will be used to perform the tasks and produce the deliverables described above under "Request for Proposal (Technical)". Include in the technical proposal items such as:

- Project manager/engineer in charge
- Ability to perform the desired services within the time prescribed
- Past performance of firm
- Staff Training
- Previous experience with similar work and knowledge of project procedures
- Commitment of resources that could limit performance
- Firm's familiarity with project area
- Accessibility of firm's office
- Cost-effective or cost-reduction practices, processes or procedures used by consultant, if any;

Any sub-consultant and their role (if any) will be performing services on the project. All sub-consultants must complete Special Attachment No. 9 ("Certificate of Final Indirect Costs") and Special Attachment No. 10 ("Tax Clearance Certificate").

Questions about this request for qualifications shall be sent to the City of Florence, Dana Gayle, City Clerk, at cityclerk@florenceks.com

M-5-2237

First published Oct. 21, 2026, in the Hillsboro Star-Journal (1t)

BOARD VACANCY NOTICE
MEMBER DISTRICT 2

TO FILL VACANCY
FOR THE REMAINDER OF
THE UNEXPIRED TERM

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 25-2022 of a vacancy in the membership of the Board of Education of Unified School District No. 411, Marion County, Kansas, and that such vacancy will be filled by appointment of the Board of Education not sooner than fifteen (15) days following publication of this notice. The appointed member will serve the remainder of the unexpired term in this position.

Such vacancy exists by reasons of the resignation of Paige Conquest, who represented board member district 2. Applicants must reside in this member district.

By order of the Board of Education, Unified School District No. 411, Marion County, Kansas, this 12th day of October, 2026.

/s/ Joni Smith

Clerk, Board of Education

H-5-2238

First published Oct. 21, 2026, in the Marion County Record (1t)

FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD

NOTICE OF CHANGE
IN BANK CONTROL

The Barbara M. King Revocable Trust Dated August 25, 1997, Barbara M. King as trustee, Prairie Village, Kansas; the Meredith L. McLiney 1997 Revocable Trust, Meredith L. McLiney as trustee, Prairie Village, Kansas; the Robin S. McLiney 1997 Revocable Trust, Jane S. McLiney and Joseph A. McLiney, Jr. as co-trustees, Prairie Village, Kansas; the Casey P. McLiney 2000 Revocable Trust, Jane S. McLiney as trustee, Prairie Village, Kansas; the Joseph A. McLiney, Jr. Trust Dated January 21, 1991, the Joseph A. McLiney, III Revocable Trust, the Larkin L. McLiney Revocable Trust, and the Gavin S. McLiney Revocable Trust, Joseph A. McLiney, Jr. as trustee, Prairie Village, Kansas; Evelyn J. O'Reilly, Mission Hills, Kansas; Patrick E. O'Reilly, Mission Hills, Kansas; and Robin S. O'Reilly, as custodian for a minor child, Mission Hills, Kansas, intend to apply to the Federal Reserve Board for permission to retain shares of Marion Bancshares, Inc., Marion, Kansas, and join the McLiney Family Group, a group acting in concert. Marion Bancshares, Inc. controls Marion National Bank, Marion, Kansas. The Federal Reserve considers a number of factors in deciding whether to approve the notice.

You are invited to submit comments in writing on a notice filed with the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City electronically to KCApplicationComments@kc.frb.org or in hard copy to: Jeff Imgarten, Assistant Vice President, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, One Memorial Drive, Kansas City, Missouri 64198. The comment period will not end before November 10, 2026, and may be somewhat longer. The Board's procedures for processing applications may be found at 12 C.F.R. Part 262.25. The Federal Reserve will consider your comments if they are received in writing by the Reserve Bank on or before the last day of the comment period.

M-5-2239