



Here are alphabetical listings of senators and representatives with their birthdays and e-mail addresses. Throughout the year in e-mailed Hawver's Capitol Report Newsletters, we'll have reminders close to the birthday of each legislator.

# Happy Birthday, Senators!

Name/Party/Hometown	Birthday	E-mail address
Alley, Larry, R-Winfield	Sept. 23, 1948	Larry.Alley@senate.ks.gov
Baumgardner, Molly, R-Louisburg	March 4, 1959	molly.baumgardner@senate.ks.gov
Billinger, Richard, R-Goodland	Dec. 16, 1951	Rick.Billinger@senate.ks.gov
Blasi, Chase, R-Wichita	Jan. 25, 1994	Chase.Blasi@senate.ks.gov
Bowers, Elaine, R-Concordia	Feb. 12, 1963	elaine.bowers@senate.ks.gov
Claeys, J.R., R-Salina	Feb. 13, 1978	JRClaeys@senate.ks.gov
Corson, Ethan, D-Fairway	May 28, 1982	Ethan.Corson@senate.ks.gov
Dietrich, Brenda, R-Topeka	May 16, 1953	Brenda.Dietrich@senate.ks.gov
Doll, John, R-Garden City	July 3, 1957	John.Doll@senate.ks.gov
Erickson, Renee, R-Wichita	May 23, 1964	Renee.Erickson@senate.ks.gov
Fagg, Michael, R-El Dorado	Nov. 12, 1954	Michael.Fagg@senate.ks.gov
Faust-Goudeau, Oletha, D-Wichita	Aug. 5, 1959	oletha.faust-goudeau@senate.ks.gov
Francisco, Marci, D-Lawrence	April 22, 1950	marci.francisco@senate.ks.gov
Gossage, Beverly, R-Eudora	May 22, 1950	Beverly.Gossage@senate.ks.gov
Haley, David, D-Kansas City	Oct. 29, 1958	david.haley@senate.ks.gov
Holland, Tom, D-Baldwin City	July 23, 1961	tom.holland@senate.ks.gov
Holscher, Cindy, D-Overland Park	April 26, 1969	Cindy.Holscher@senate.ks.gov
Kerschen, Dan, R-Garden Plain	Aug. 2, 1952	dan.kerschen@senate.ks.gov
Kloos, Rick, R-Berryton	July 26, 1966	Rick.Kloos@senate.ks.gov
Longbine, Jeff, R-Emporia	April 24, 1962	jeff.longbine@senate.ks.gov
Masterson, Ty, R-Andover	Sept. 23, 1969	ty.masterson@senate.ks.gov
McGinn, Carolyn, R-Sedgwick	Jan. 27, 1959	carolyn.mcginn@senate.ks.gov
Olson, Rob, R-Olathe	Dec. 1, 1969	rob.olson@senate.ks.gov
O'Shea, Kristen, R-Topeka	July 10, 1992	Kristen.O'Shea@senate.ks.gov
Peck, Virgil, R-Havana	Aug. 21, 1959	Virgil.Peck@senate.ks.gov
Petersen, Mike, R-Wichita	Oct. 5, 1960	mike.petersen@senate.ks.gov
Petty, Pat, D-Kansas City	Nov. 28, 1946	pat.petty@senate.ks.gov
Pittman, Jeff, D-Leavenworth	March 3, 1971	Jeff.Pittman@senate.ks.gov
Pyle, Dennis, I-Hiawatha	Feb. 4, 1961	dennis.pyle@senate.ks.gov
Reddi, Usha, D-Manhattan	Aug. 20, 1965	Usha.Reddi@senate.ks.gov
Ryckman, Ron Sr., R-Meade	Dec. 16, 1947	ron.ryckman@senate.ks.gov
Steffen, Mark, R-Hutchinson	Aug. 30, 1962	Mark.Steffen@senate.ks.gov
Straub, Alicia, R-Ellinwood	May 17, 1978	Alicia.Straub@senate.ks.gov
Sykes, Dinah, D-Lenexa	April 10, 1977	Dinah.Sykes@senate.ks.gov
Thompson, Mike, R-Shawnee	Aug. 12, 1957	mike.thompson@senate.ks.gov
Tyson, Caryn, R-Parker	Feb. 15, 1963	caryn.tyson@senate.ks.gov
Ware, Mary, D-Wichita	Nov. 3, 1957	mary.ware@senate.ks.gov
Warren, Kellie, R-Leawood	Feb. 18, 1969	Kellie.Warren@senate.ks.gov
Wilborn, Rick, R-McPherson	Feb. 10, 1945	richard.wilborn@senate.ks.gov



# Happy Birthday, Representatives!

Name/Party/Hometown	Birthday	E-mail address
Alcala, John, D-Topeka	May 23, 1959	john.alcala@house.ks.gov
Amyx, Mike, D-Lawrence	June 11, 1953	Mike.Amyx@house.ks.gov
Anderson, Avery, R-Newton	Jan. 2, 1997	avery.anderson@house.ks.gov
Awerkamp, Francis, R-St. Marys	Sept. 20, 1980	francis.awerkamp@house.ks.gov
Ballard, Barbara, D-Lawrence	Nov. 14, 1944	barbara.ballard@house.ks.gov
Barth, Carrie, R-Baldwin City	Dec. 6, 1973	Carrie.Barth@house.ks.gov
Bergkamp, Brian, R-Haysville	Jan. 2, 1986	Brian.Bergkamp@house.ks.gov
Bergquist, Emil, R-Park City	Dec. 16, 1955	emil.bergquist@house.ks.gov
Blew, Tory Marie, R-Great Bend	May 3, 1993	ToryMarie.Blew@house.ks.gov
Blex, Doug, R-Independence	Dec.19, 1946	Doug.Blex@house.ks.gov
Bloom, Lewis "Bill," R-Clay Center	April 27, 1950	Lewis.Bloom@house.ks.gov
Borjon, Jesse, R-Topeka	Feb. 18, 1975	jesse.borjon@house.ks.gov
Boyd, Brad, D-Olathe	March 6, 1984	Brad.Boyd@house.ks.gov
Bryce, Ron, R-Coffeyville	Feb. 20, 1960	Ron.Bryce@house.ks.gov
Buehler, David, R-Lansing	May 16, 1962	David.Buehler@house.ks.gov
Butler, Nate, R-Junction City	Jan. 17, 1961	Nate.Butler@house.ks.gov
Carlin, Sydney, D-Manhattan	Nov. 20, 1944	sydney.carlin@house.ks.gov
Carmichael, John, D-Wichita	July 2, 1957	john.carmichael@house.ks.gov
Carpenter, Blake, R-Derby	Jan. 14, 1991	Blake.Carpenter@house.ks.gov
Carpenter, Will, R-El Dorado	July 4, 1956	will.carpenter@house.ks.gov
Carr, Ford, D-Wichita	Oct. 19, 1966	Ford.Carr@house.ks.gov
Clayton, Stephanie, D-Overland Park	July 9, 1977	stephanie.clayton@house.ks.gov
Clifford, William, R-GardenCity	July 18, 1954	william.clifford@house.ks.gov
Collins, Kenneth, R-Mulberry	Jan. 27, 1963	kenneth.collins@house.ks.gov
Concannon, Susan, R-Beloit	July 23, 1958	susan.concannon@house.ks.gov
Corbet, Ken, R-Topeka	Aug. 19, 1948	ken.corbet@house.ks.gov
Croft, Chris R-Overland Park	Dec. 29, 1964	chris.croft@house.ks.gov
Curtis, Pam, D-Kansas City	May 4, 1955	pam.curtis@house.ks.gov
Delperdang, Leo, R-Wichita	Feb. 18, 1962	Leo.Delperdang@house.ks.gov
Dodson, Mike, R-Manhattan	Nov. 16, 1945	mike.dodson@house.ks.gov
Donohoe, Owen, R-Shawnee	Feb. 13, 1945	owen.donohoe@house.ks.gov
Droge, Duane, R-Eureka	Sept. 27, 1951	Duane.Droge@house.ks.gov
Ellis, Ron, R-Meriden	July 24, 1952	Ronald.Ellis@house.ks.gov
Eplee, John, R-Atchison	March 24, 1953	John.Eplee@house.ks.gov
Essex, Robyn, R-Olathe	Sept. 13, 1968	Robyn.Essex@house.ks.gov
Estes, Susan Oliver, R-Wichita	April 24, 1966	susan.estes@house.ks.gov
Fairchild, Brett, R-St. John	Aug. 17, 1985	brett.fairchild@house.ks.gov
Featherston, Linda, D-Overland Park	Dec. 6, 1970	linda.featherston@house.ks.gov
Francis, Shannon, R-Liberal	April 19, 1959	shannon.francis@house.ks.gov
Garber, Randy, R-Sabetha	Feb. 27, 1951	randy.garber@house.ks.gov
Gardner, Fred, R-Garnett	July 21, 1953	Fred.Gardner@house.ks.gov
Goddard, Dan, R-Parsons	Nov. 3, 1947	Dan.Goddard@house.ks.gov
Goetz, Jason, R-Dodge City	Nov. 24, 1979	Jason.Goetz@house.ks.gov
Haskins, Kirk, D-Topeka	May 25, 1971	Kirk.Haskins@house.ks.gov
Haswood, Christina, D-Lawrence	April 17, 1994	christina.haswood@house.ks.gov
Hawkins, Dan, R-Wichita	Nov. 1, 1960	dan.hawkins@house.ks.gov
Helgerson, Henry, D-Wichita	Jan. 12, 1952	henry.helgerson@house.ks.gov
Highberger, Boog, D-Lawrence	Sept. 26, 1959	dennis.boog.highberger@house.ks.gov
Hill, Scott, R-Abilene	July 22, 1961	Scott.Hill@house.ks.gov
Hoffman, Kyle, R-Coldwater	June 11, 1971	kyle.hoffman@house.ks.gov
Hoheisel, Nick, R-Wichita	Jan. 16, 1986	nick.hoheisel@house.ks.gov
Hougland, Allison, D-Olathe	Nov. 12, 1963	Allison.Hougland@house.ks.gov
Houser, Michael, R-Columbus	Sept. 3, 1959	michael.houser@house.ks.gov
Howe, Steve, R-Salina	Dec. 16, 1976	steven.howe@house.ks.gov
Howell, Leah, R-Derby	March 31, 1971	leah.howell@house.ks.gov
Howerton, Cyndi, R-Wichita	Sept. 3, 1971	cyndi.howerton@house.ks.gov
Hoye, JoElla, D-Lenexa	June 12, 1984	JoElla.Hoye@house.ks.gov
Humphries, Susan, R-Wichita	Oct. 31, 1957	Susan.Humphries@house.ks.gov
Jacobs, Trevor, R-Fort Scott	July 25, 1976	Trevor.Jacobs@house.ks.gov
Johnson, Timothy, R-Bonner Springs	Feb. 12, 1952	timothy.johnson@house.ks.gov
Kessler, Tom, R-Wichita	Jan. 11, 1968	tom.kessler@house.ks.gov
Landwehr, Brenda, R-Wichita	March 8, 1955	brenda.landwehr@house.ks.gov
Lewis, Bob, R-Garden City	Sept. 8, 1958	Bob.Lewis@house.ks.gov
Martinez, Angela, D-Wichita	Nov. 26, 1963	Angela.Martinez@house.ks.gov
Mason, Les, R-McPherson	Oct. 11, 1954	les.mason@house.ks.gov



# Happy Birthday, Representatives!

Name/Party/Hometown	Birthday	E-mail address
Maughan, Carl, R-Colwich	Oct. 28, 1971	Carl.Maughan@house.ks.gov
Melton, Lynn, D-Kansas City	May 14, 1957	Lynn.Melton@house.ks.gov
Meyer, Heather, D-Overland Park	Aug. 14, 1980	heather.meyer@house.ks.gov
Miller, Dennis, D-Olathe	Aug. 21, 1946	Dennis.Miller@house.ks.gov
Miller, Silas, D-Wichita	Feb. 16, 1982	Silas.Miller@house.ks.gov
Miller, Vic, D-Topeka	Oct. 19, 1951	Vic.Miller@house.ks.gov
Minnix, Jim, R-Scott City	July 22, 1954	jim.minnix@house.ks.gov
Moser, Lisa, R-Wheaton	March 17, 1960	lisa.moser@house.ks.gov
Murphy, Michael, R-Sylvia	April 23, 1953	michael.murphy@house.ks.gov
Neelly, Lance, R-Tonganoxie	Feb. 11, 1967	lance.neelly@house.ks.gov
Neighbor, Cindy, D-Shawnee	March 31, 1949	Cindy.Neighbor@house.ks.gov
Ohaebosim, KC, D-Wichita	Dec. 27, 1978	KC.Ohaebosim@house.ks.gov
Oropeza, Melissa, D-Kansas City	Dec. 16, 1976	Melissa.Oropeza@house.ks.gov
Osman, Daniel, D-Overland Park	Jan. 4, 1977	dan.osman@house.ks.gov
Ousley, Jarrod, D-Merriam	Oct. 29, 1977	jarrod.ousley@house.ks.gov
Owens, Stephen, R-Hesston	Dec. 29, 1977	stephen.owens@house.ks.gov
Patton, Fred, R-Topeka	March 3, 1974	fred.patton@house.ks.gov
Penn, Patrick, R-Wichita	Oct. 6, 1978	patrick.penn@house.ks.gov
Pickert, Sandy, R-Wichita	Jan. 12, 1952	Sandy.Pickert@house.ks.gov
Poetter Parshall, Samantha, R-Paola	Oct. 21, 1986	samantha.poetter@house.ks.gov
Poskin, Mari-Lynn, D-Leawood	March 21, 1965	Mari-Lynn.Poskin@house.ks.gov
Probst, Jason, D-Hutchinson	Jan. 11, 1974	jason.probst@house.ks.gov
Proctor, Pat, R-Leavenworth	June 14, 1971	pat.proctor@house.ks.gov
Rahjes, Ken, R-Agra	May 16, 1966	ken.rahjes@house.ks.gov
Resman, John, R-Olathe	April 4, 1955	john.resman@house.ks.gov
Rhiley, Bill, R-Wellington	Oct. 12, 1950	bill.rhiley@house.ks.gov
Robinson, Marvin, D-Kansas City	April 15, 1957	Marvin.Robinson@house.ks.gov
Roth, Webster, R-Winfield	Sept. 5, 1959	Webster.Roth@house.ks.gov
Ruiz, Louis, D-Kansas City	Aug. 7, 1953	louis.ruiz@house.ks.gov
Ruiz, Susan, D-Shawnee	Jan. 17, 1956	susan.ruiz@house.ks.gov
Sanders, Clarke, R-Salina	April 26, 1955	clarke.sanders@house.ks.gov
Sawyer, Tom, D-Wichita	April 15, 1958	tom.sawyer@house.ks.gov
Schlingensiepen, Tobias, D-Topeka	Nov. 24, 1963	Tobias.Schlingensiepen@house.ks.gov
Schmoe, Rebecca, R-Ottawa	Sept. 19, 1979	Rebecca.Schmoe@house.ks.gov
Schreiber, Mark, R-Emporia	Oct. 10, 1956	Mark.Schreiber@house.ks.gov
Seiwert, Joe, R-Pretty Prairie	Aug. 21, 1951	joe.seiwert@house.ks.gov
Smith, Adam, R-Weskan	Sept. 5, 1975	Adam.Smith@house.ks.gov
Smith, Charles, R-Pittsburg	Dec. 20, 1951	chuck.smith@house.ks.gov
Smith, Eric, R-Burlington	Dec. 2, 1966	Eric.Smith@house.ks.gov
Stogsdill, Jerry, D-Prairie Village	June 15, 1947	Jerry.Stogsdill@house.ks.gov
Sutton, Bill, R-Gardner	Aug. 31, 1967	bill.sutton@house.ks.gov
Tarwater, Sean, R-Stilwell	Feb. 25, 1969	Sean.Tarwater@house.ks.gov
Thomas, Adam, R-Olathe	Oct. 9, 1982	adam.thomas@house.ks.gov
Thompson, Mike, R-Bonner Springs	June 19, 1951	Mike.Thompson@house.ks.gov
Titus, Kenny, R-Wamego	July 11, 1983	Kenny.Titus@house.ks.gov
Turk, Adam, R-Shawnee	July 29, 1983	Adam.Turk@house.ks.gov
Turner, Carl, R-Leawood	Aug. 19, 1959	carl.turner@house.ks.gov
Underhill, Jeff, R-Junction City	Sept. 14, 1982	Jeff.Underhill@house.ks.gov
Vaughn, Lindsay, D-Overland Park	Sept. 11, 1994	lindsay.vaughn@house.ks.gov
Waggoner, Paul, R-Hutchinson	Aug. 23, 1956	paul.waggoner@house.ks.gov
Wasinger, Barbara, R-Hays	July 28, 1958	barb.wasinger@house.ks.gov
Waymaster, Troy, R-Bunker Hill	Sept. 1, 1977	troy.waymaster@house.ks.gov
Weigel, Virgil, D-Topeka	Feb. 25, 1953	virgil.weigel@house.ks.gov
White, Gary, R-Ashland	Nov. 28, 1962	Gary.White@house.ks.gov
Williams, Kristey, R-Augusta	Oct. 16, 1970	kristey.williams@house.ks.gov
Williams, Laura, R-Lenexa	Dec. 8, 1991	Laura.Williams@house.ks.gov
Winn, Valdenia, D-Kansas City	Dec. 7, 1950	valdenia.winn@house.ks.gov
Woodard, Brandon, D-Lenexa	Sept. 1, 1990	brandon.woodard@house.ks.gov
Xu, Rui, D-Westwood	April 13, 1989	rui.xu@house.ks.gov
Younger, David, R-Ulysses	March 29, 1960	David.Younger@house.ks.gov

# Statewide Elected Officials

## Gov. Laura Kelly

Statehouse Room 241-S, 785-296-3232

- Will Lawrence, Chief of Staff
- Ryan Wright, Deputy Chief of Staff
- Brianna Johnson, Communications Director
- Zach Fletcher, Deputy Communications Director
- Ethan Belshe, Senior Advisor for Fed/State Affairs
- Josh McGinn, Policy Director
- Melissa King, Appointments Director
- Dawn Knudtson, Constituent Services Director
- Justin Whitten, Chief Counsel

## Lt. Governor David Toland

Statehouse, Room 252-S, 785-368-8657

- Leisa Shepherd, Executive Assistant
- Abby Works, Chief of Staff
- Ryan Wills, Special Assistant

## Attorney General Kris Kobach

120 S.W. 10<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 785-296-2215

- Charles Dalton, Chief of Staff
- Danedri Herbert, Director of Communications

## Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt

1300 SW Arrowhead Road, 785-296-3071

- Mandy Roe, Chief of Staff
- Eric Turek, Director of Governmental/Public Affairs
- Kyle Strathman, Public Affairs Manager

## Secretary of State Scott Schwab

120 S.W. 10<sup>th</sup> Ave., 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 785-296-4575

- Jennifer Cook, Assistant Secretary of State
- Whitney Tempel, Director of Communications/Policy
- Clay Barker, General Counsel
- Bryan Caskey, Deputy, Elections/Legislative matters

## Treasurer Steven Johnson

900 S.W. Jackson, Suite 201, 785-296-3171

- Jeff Chanay, Assistant State Treasurer/General Counsel
- Tom Treacy, Deputy Assistant State Treasurer
- Clint Blaes, Director of Communications/Marketing
- Payton Lacey, Manager of Executive Affairs



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# Cabinet Agencies

## **Adjutant General**

### **MG David Weishaar**

Office of the Adjutant General  
5920 SE Coyote Drive, Suite A218  
Topeka KS 66619  
Main: (785) 646-1001  
<http://www.kansastag.gov/>  
Kathy Zabel, Executive Assistant

## **Administration**

### **Adam Proffitt, Acting Secretary**

Curtis State Office Building  
1000 SW Jackson St., Suite 500  
Topeka KS 66612  
Main: (785) 296-3011  
<http://admin.ks.gov>  
Shelly Bartron, Special Assistant

## **Aging and Disability Services**

### **Laura Howard, Secretary**

New England Building  
503 S. Kansas Ave.  
Topeka KS 66603  
Main:(785) 296-4986  
<http://www.kdads.ks.gov>  
Jill Hiegert, Special Assistant

## **Agriculture**

### **Mike Beam, Secretary**

Manhattan Office  
1320 Research Park Drive  
Manhattan KS 66502  
Main: (785) 564-6700  
<http://www.agriculture.ks.gov>  
Auburn Wassberg, Executive Assistant

## **Budget**

### **Adam Proffitt, Director**

Landon State Office Building  
900 SW Jackson St., Rm. 504  
Topeka KS 66612  
Main: (785) 296-2436  
Shelly Davis, Executive Assistant

## **Children and Families**

### **Laura Howard, Secretary**

DCF Administration Building  
555 S. Kansas Avenue, 6th Floor  
Topeka KS 66603  
<http://www.dcf.ks.gov>  
Rhonda Christie, Executive Assistant

## **Commerce**

### **David Toland, Secretary**

Curtis State Office Building  
1000 SW Jackson, Suite 100  
Topeka KS 66612  
Main: (785) 296-3481  
<http://www.kansascommerce.gov>  
Leisa Shepherd, Executive Assistant

## **Corrections**

### **Jefferey Zmuda, Secretary**

714 SW Jackson St., Suite 300  
Topeka KS 66603  
Main: (785) 296-3317  
<http://www.doc.ks.gov>  
Nancy Burghart, Executive Assistant

## **Education**

### **Randy Watson, Commissioner**

Landon State Office Building  
Commissioner's Office  
900 SW Jackson, Suite 600  
Topeka KS 66612  
Main: (785) 296-3201  
<http://www.ksde.org>  
Makayla Auldridge, Secretary to Commissioner

## **Ex Branch Office of Information**

## **Technology Services**

### **Jeff Maxon, Interim CITO**

Executive Branch Information Technology  
OITS Physical Location:  
2800 SW Topeka Blvd, Building 100  
Topeka KS 66611  
Main: (785) 296-3463  
Hope Burns, Special Assistant

## **Health & Environment**

### **Janet Stanek, Secretary**

Curtis State Office Building  
1000 SW Jackson St., Suite 540  
Topeka KS 66612  
Main: (785) 296-0461  
<http://www.kdheks.gov>  
Crys Bohn, Executive Assistant

## **Highway Patrol**

### **Col Herman Jones, Superintendent**

122 SW 7th St.  
Topeka KS 66603  
Main: (785) 296-6800  
<http://www.kansashighwaypatrol.org>  
Erica Price, Executive Assistant

## **Labor**

### **Amber Shultz, Secretary**

401 SW Topeka Blvd.  
Topeka KS 66603  
Main: (785) 296-5000  
<http://www.dol.ks.gov>  
Katherine Hawk, Executive Assistant

## **Revenue**

### **Mark Burghart, Secretary**

109 SW 9th St., 4th Floor (Mills Bldg)  
Topeka KS 66612  
Main: (785) 296-3909  
<http://www.ksrevenue.org>  
Erin Humphrey, Executive Secretary

## **Transportation**

### **Calvin Reed, Interim Secretary**

700 SW Harrison St.  
Topeka KS 66603  
Main: (785) 296-3461  
<http://www.ksdot.org>  
Terri Rule, Executive Office Administrator

## **Wildlife, Parks & Tourism**

### **Brad Loveless, Secretary**

1020 S. Kansas Ave., Room 200  
Topeka KS 66612  
Main: (785) 296-2281  
<http://www.ksoutdoors.com>  
Heather Young, Assistant

# 2023 Legislature: Eats

## If you're wintering in Topeka, you gotta eat!

Sure, you'll spend a lot of time in legislative sessions and committee meetings during the 2023 legislative session—but you also gotta eat while you winter in Topeka. As we've said for decades, the Kansas Statehouse army marches on its stomach!

Many locally owned restaurants are within minutes of the Statehouse. **This year, we are focusing on proximity to the Statehouse.** Closest? Check out the detailed article on **downtown dining on pages 30-32.** For a glimpse at **restaurants across the city by geography, see the article that starts below and goes to pages 34-37.**

For more information on downtown restaurants and eateries by geography, please check out **VISIT Topeka's listings at <https://www.visittopeka.com>.** Under the Eat & Drink link, you'll find the comprehensive Restaurant Guide. Scroll through the alphabetical list or search by name. Most listings have links to the restaurants' web sites and/or their Facebook pages. Plus, browse through special diets, bakeries/coffee shops, delis, steak & seafood, fun dining, fine dining, local favorites, breweries, BBQ, bar & grill, and wineries. At least three Facebook pages offer lots of information on Topeka restaurants: **Topcityflavorista Local Eats & Events, Topeka Foodies, and Topeka Honest Opinion Reviews.**

We didn't list your favorite? Send us a **Lagniappe** with your recommendation! That's our "something extra, occasionally" feature, going beyond the usual reporting of Kansas politics & government. Just send to [politics@hawvernews.com](mailto:politics@hawvernews.com).

## Statehouse eats: Handy choices in the building

Closest place to eat, of course, is right in the Statehouse:

- Snack Bar, 380-W, Statehouse. Just outside the House Chamber, it's sandwiches, buy-and-go stuff mostly.
- Vending machines: Room 580-N, it's, well, vending machines for candy bars and such.
- More vending machines, and a dining room, 9-N. That's the Statehouse garden level (basement), or the entry level on north side entrance floor.
- Lettuce Feed You, an actual source of hot food and meals--just west of the dining room in the basement. Generally open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. but sometimes longer if the Legislature is in session...

## Restaurants throughout Topeka

So we've got you covered downtown: Here are more:

### *Central*

El Mezcal Mexican Restaurant, 511 SW Topeka Blvd

Millennium Café, 1515 SW 10th Ave.

Jong's Thai Kitchen, 800 SW 12th Ave.

Taco Al's, 1423 SW 6th Ave.

BoBo's, 2300 SW 10th

Pal Indian Cuisine, 2620 SW 6th Ave., Ste. B

Margarita's Jalisco, 1616 SW 17th

Chez Yasu, 2701 SW 17th

Henry T's, 1521 SW 21st

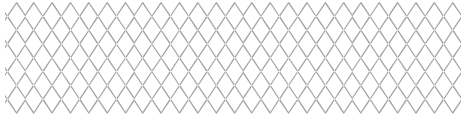
A-Hann Thai, 2222 SW Washburn

Speck's Bar & Grill, 2105 SW Mission Ave.

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*Continued on page 34*

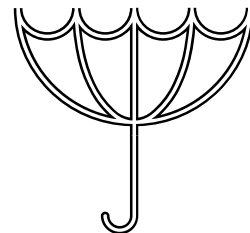
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Talk about  
the weather.

Upscale American faire  
awaits downtown.  
Meet with friends, family,  
or perfect strangers -  
all are welcome in...

# THE WEATHER ROOM



RELAUNCHED AND  
REOPENING JANUARY 17, 2023!



920 S Kansas Ave | Topeka, KS

# Downtown dining...

**By India Yarborough**  
Communications Manager  
Greater Topeka Partnership

As downtown Topeka has continued to grow, so too have the number of local restaurants along and around the city's Kansas Avenue corridor! With many a short walk from the Kansas State Capitol, spending the legislative session in Topeka just got tastier.

Below you'll find a rundown, by location, of current downtown dining options. Also, get ready for Ta Co., a new Mexican restaurant coming in 2023 to 735 S. Kansas Ave.! Brought to you by the same group behind Cyrus Hotel, Iron Rail and The Pennant, Ta Co. will feature a rooftop deck, taking the downtown food scene to new heights.

## ***Kansas Avenue***

**4 Guys Bistro, 732 S. Kansas Ave.** — offers Asian fusion and Vietnamese cuisine, including its famous pho.

**Brew Bank, 822 S. Kansas Ave.** — offers craft brews by the ounce or glass, with self-serve digital taps; features a curated selection of cheese boards, flatbreads, salads and wraps.



**Classic Bean, 722 S. Kansas Ave.** — coffee house featuring expansive breakfast and lunch menus, as well as a full-service bar.

**El Centenario, 1306 S. Kansas Ave.** — authentic Mexican restaurant serving lunch and dinner.

**Golden Dragon, 1101 S. Kansas Ave.** — Chinese restaurant serving lunch and dinner (including buffet-style), featuring such dishes as Egg Foo Young, Chow Mein, Moo Shi and more.

**Hanover Pancake House, 1034 S. Kansas Ave.** — old-fashioned diner serving classic breakfast fare and hearty lunches.

**Iron Rail Brewing, 705 S. Kansas Ave.** — local brewery and restaurant serving craft beers and dishing out a variety of salads, sandwiches, barbecue plates and down-home-style entrees.

**Juli's Coffee and Bistro, 911 S. Kansas Ave.** — local coffee shop serving traditional caffeinated drinks, alongside smoothies, teas, breakfast and lunch; Juli's moved from 8th Street to its current location in late 2020.

**Luis' Place, 435 S. Kansas Ave. (lower level)** — fine dining restaurant open to the public on Fridays for lunch; otherwise focuses on private events and reservation-only dinners, which are typically announced on the restaurant's Facebook page.

# ...just steps away

**Olive Café, 935 S. Kansas Ave.** — This authentic Mediterranean restaurant opened in summer 2022 and has quickly become a hit, regularly drawing visitors from Kansas City and the region. Enjoy classics like hummus and gyro, and don't skip the baklava!

**The Pennant, 915 S. Kansas Ave.** — family-friendly restaurant and bar featuring traditional American fare and unique twists on some classics; the restaurant boasts a bowling alley on the first floor and vintage arcade games on the second floor.



**The Tee Box, 906 S. Kansas Ave.** — features full-service food and drink menus, in a newly renovated space that offers indoor golf simulations powered by TrackMan Technologies.

**The Weather Room, 920 S. Kansas Ave.** — The Weather Room is back! Most recently Fedeli's Steak & Pasta, this restaurant and full-service bar inside the Cyrus Hotel is getting a refresh; new menu items are expected, accompanying The Weather Room's grand re-opening is Jan. 17.

## *10th Street*

**Arturo's Mexican Restaurant, 105 S.E. 10th Ave.** — locally owned Mexican restaurant open for lunch and dinner.

**Globe Indian Cuisine, 117 S.E. 10th Ave.** — family-owned eatery serving authentic Indian cuisine and featuring a lunch buffet, as well as beer and wine options.



**Photos:**  
**Los Mandiles Rojos, opposite page.**  
**Olive Cafe, top.**  
**Brew Bank, above.**  
*Courtesy of Downtown Topeka Inc.*

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*Continued next page...*

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# Downtown dining

...Continued from previous page

## 8th Street

**The Celtic Fox, 118 S.W. 8th Ave.** — having recently undergone a makeover, this downtown staple features traditional bar fare in an Irish-pub setting.

## 6th Street

**Terry's Bar & Grill, 522 S.W. 6th Ave.** — a Topeka favorite offering lunch and dinner; visit for the food, drinks or to play pool.

**Townsite Café, 120 S.W. 6th Ave., suite 3-130** — located inside the newly remodeled Townsite Tower, the café offers a variety of breakfast and lunch options, as well as weekly specials.


**The White Linen, 112 S.W. 6th Ave.** — dinner-only fine-dining venue offering a menu of chef-curated contemporary French-American cuisine; while there, visit the recently opened Knox Cocktail Lounge next door for the perfect happy-hour cocktail or nightcap!

## Quincy Street

**Los Mandiles Rojos, 1003 S.E. Quincy St.** — authentic family-owned restaurant offering memorable Mexican cuisine and a full-service bar.

**Nauling's Texas BBQ & Soul Food, 1001 S.E. Quincy St.** — recently opened in the former Daylight Donuts location, Nauling's offers wood-smoked barbeque and Soul Food Plate specials; limited indoor seating but patio available for seasonal dining.

Kansas Cannabis Industry Association



**The medical case for medical marijuana**  
<https://www.kansascannabisindustry.com/news-and-blog.html>

Kansans are ready to embrace laws that provide access. The KCIA conducted a statewide poll of Kansas voters that sends a clear message -- Kansans want the Legislature to pass Medical Cannabis Legislation. Conducted by research firm HLC Strategies the poll shows 70.3% of Kansans support medical cannabis legislation. Medical marijuana benefits patients obtaining recommendations from their doctors to treat their disease.

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# Restaurants throughout Topeka, *from page 28*

## *North*

Norseman Brewing Co & Restaurant, 830 N Kansas  
Bradley's Corner Café, 844 N Kansas  
Wheel Barrel, 925 N. Kansas  
Doughboyz Pizzeria, 1312 N Kansas Ave.  
The Pad, 1730 NW Topeka Blvd.  
Weller's Grill & Bar, 222 NW Independence Ave.  
Tequila's Mexican Restaurant, 520 NW Elm Row Ave.  
North Star Steakhouse, 1100 NW 25th  
Viking's Grille, 4731 NW Hunters Ridge Circle

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## *South*

Banjo's Café, 5824 SW Topeka Blvd.  
Blind Tiger Brewery & Restaurant, 417 SW 37th  
Burger Stand, 2833 SW 29th  
Tequila's Mexican Restaurant, 2911 SW 29th  
LaRocca's Pizza, 3100 SW Gage  
Taco Villa, 5300 SW 21st A  
Johnny's Tavern, 2821 SW Fairlawn  
Pizagel's, 2830 SW Fairlawn  
Jeremiah Bullfrogs Bar & Grill, 2827 SW Wanamaker  
Jefferson's, 2915 SW Wanamaker  
Blue Moose, 3030 SW Wanamaker  
Indian Bistro, 2919 SW Wanamaker, Ste. A  
Tuptim Thai, 220 SW 29th



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# Restaurants throughout Topeka, *from page 35*

## *East*

Tammy's Billiard Airport Restaurant, 3600 NE Sardou  
Prize Package, 1420 SE 6th  
Taco El Sol, 2124 SE 6th Ave.  
Tacos El Mexicano, 2002 SE California  
Lonnie Q's BBQ, 3150 SE 21st  
The Shack Bar & Grill, 2842 SE 19th

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DAVE HULCHER  
Executive Director  
dave@kaia.com



DAN MURRAY  
Contract Lobbyist  
dan@devineanddonley.com



BETH SMOLLER  
Chief Operating Officer/  
General Counsel  
beth@kaia.com



815 SW Topeka Blvd.  
Topeka, KS 66612  
785-232-0561  
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## *West*

Annie's Place, 4014 SW Gage Center Dr.  
Glory Days Pizza, 1033 SW Gage  
Paisanos Ristorante, 4043 SW 10th  
43 Ten Pizza Co., 4310 SW 21st  
Classic Bean, 2125 SW Fairlawn Plaza  
Hog Wild Pit Bar-BQ, 5330 SW 21st  
AJ's NY Pizzeria, 1930 SW Westport Dr.  
Lings Bistro, 1550 SW Wanamaker, Ste. 100A  
Monsoon Grill, 2040 SW Wanamaker, Ste. 104  
Saigon Restaurant, 3200 SW 29th

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# Statehouse Press Corps

We're in the "garden level" of the Statehouse, in the southeast wing, and a workable mailing address for Statehouse-based reporters is (Whomever), Kansas Statehouse Press, Room 37-E, 300 SW 10th, Topeka KS 66612. There are individual mail bins for each news agency that you can use for hand-delivered stuff...Here are year-round staffed press offices in the Capitol:

## Hawver's Capitol Report

**Martin Hawver**

Office 785-233-9888, Cell 785-845-5400

E-mail (it's best to send to both):

[martin@hawvernews.com](mailto:martin@hawvernews.com)

[politics@hawvernews.com](mailto:politics@hawvernews.com)

**Associated Press** 785-234-5654

**John Hanna**, [jdanna@ap.org](mailto:jdanna@ap.org)

**KSNT, KSNW, Fox 4, KSNF**

**Rebekah Chung** 786-250-7045 (yes, 786)

[rchung@nexstar.tv](mailto:rchung@nexstar.tv)

## Topeka Capital-Journal

**Andrew Bahl** 443-979-6100

[abahl@gannett.com](mailto:abahl@gannett.com)

**Jason Tidd** 785-477-0031

[jtidd@gannett.com](mailto:jtidd@gannett.com)

## Kansas City Star/Wichita Eagle

**Katie Bernard** 816-234-4167

[cbernard@kstar.com](mailto:cbernard@kstar.com)

**Jonathan Shorman**, [jshorman@kstar.com](mailto:jshorman@kstar.com)

## KS Public Radio (KANU)/KS News Service

**Stephen Koranda** 785-296-3817

[skoranda@ku.edu](mailto:skoranda@ku.edu)

Additionally, other newspapers, news services, online publications and broadcast media send staff regularly or occasionally to cover the legislative session.



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# Hawver's Capitol Report joins

# STATE AFFAIRS

Dear Subscribers,

We're thrilled to announce that *Hawver's Capitol Report* (HCR) — which celebrates its 30th anniversary this year—has become part of a growing national team of reporters and editors covering state governments around the country! We've joined *State Affairs*, a digital news company with a mission to be the trusted source of non-partisan news on state governments; news that inspires conversation and informs decision-making.

## What does this mean for you?

On a day-to-day, it's business as usual, only now we have new resources and capabilities to continue driving value for our subscribers, including an enhanced website that we're currently building and more opportunities for *Hawver's Capitol Report* to provide increased in-depth coverage of issues important to Kansans.

## What does this mean for us?

*Hawver's Capitol Report* — and that means Martin and Vickie — will continue providing stories, columns and daily updates on Kansas state government from right here in Topeka. Joining us in leading Kansas coverage under *State Affairs* is Alison Bethel, a veteran journalist and *State Affairs*' editor-in-chief.

Vickie will wind down her work on HCR over the course of this year and is looking forward to other writing projects. Martin will continue to work full-time this year and then part-time in the coming years for HCR. Currently covering his 47th Kansas legislative session, Martin will be able to work fewer hours in the future, yet continue at the job he loves — because everybody knows he couldn't retire worth a damn.

## Our story continues ...

We set out 30 years ago to change how state politics



Martin  
& Vickie  
Hawver

was covered in Kansas. After leaving daily journalism at a legacy publication, we took the opportunity to self-publish and carve out a niche. As our careers wind down, we wondered about our legacies — whether *Hawver's Capitol Report* would continue and who would run it.

We are convinced that *State Affairs* offers the best legacy platform for *Hawver's Capitol Report*. It is a 21st Century media model that will allow us to accomplish our late-career goals and add investigative reporting resources to our state. Joining forces with a company as passionate about quality journalism as we are will allow us to help designate a successor who will carry on our mission, which is to leave behind a more informed and inspired citizenry. *State Affairs* also will hire senior reporters to do enterprise and investigative stories of importance to Kansans.

We want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for putting your trust in us over the last 30 years and bringing us to where we are today. We come to work every day for you. We are committed to making quality journalism about the state government easily accessible for you. And so is our new family at *State Affairs*. This commitment is stronger than ever during this exciting time.

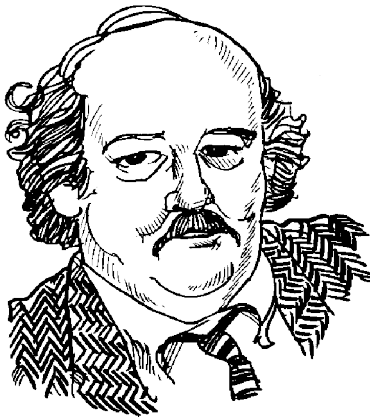
We are thrilled about the next chapter for HCR. Stay tuned to see where our growth and innovation take you from here.

Cheers!

*Vickie and Martin Hawver*

By MARTIN HAWVER

*Who's in charge here?* – That's the big question for the session, and surprisingly, it isn't the last-term



**The Railster**

Democrat Gov. Laura Kelly, or even the solid-override chamber chief Senate President Ty Masterson, R-Andover.

Nope, it's new House Speaker Dan Hawkins, R-Wichita, whose tiny veto override majority is going to decide just who is

really in control of the state. It's his 85 GOP members whom he has to keep in line in order to override Kelly bill vetoes (needs 84 votes).

Might be weeks ahead, but we're looking for that first override vote – maybe a GOP-crafted tax bill, or Medicaid expansion, abortion restrictions or maybe what is essentially school choice that will determine just who's running this show...

And, nope, House rules don't appear to give Hawkins the power to take the underground parking space from Republicans who vote to support a gubernatorial veto, or even just wear a distinctive wrist band...

**Orange House badges** – No, they're blue, the badges that House members wear to identify themselves in the Statehouse, but with the demolition/reconstruction of the Docking State Office Building just across the street, and turning a parking lot into a new state office building, those orange badges might be a good way for the public to identify lawmakers, and not just those folks who still have the name badge on from last night's lobbyist-sponsored drinking party...

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## *It's your guide...from page 1*

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GOP should have no problems overriding gubernatorial vetoes.

The big issue, of course, is taxes. Speed up the roughly \$500 million cost of eliminating sales taxes on groceries, diapers and feminine hygiene products, and school supplies as the governor wants, or concentrating on income taxes for Kansans and corporations? The split-up? Probably enough sales tax cuts to make nice headlines, but the income tax proposals now being talked about range from a flat tax on all Kansans to subtly paring taxes on upper-middle class wage-earners. And, of course, business/industry puts its tax cuts in terms of economic development and general statewide prosperity, which is generally

avored by folks who need jobs or need to keep their jobs, and the business owners.

The other issues are complicated for lawmakers this session. Fully funding K-12 education is always near the top, but efforts to spread that state funding to assist private schools are a GOP key, and paring – or at least double-checking – welfare, unemployment and Medicaid.

Oh, and don't forget legislative pay...the current \$88 a day is about the lowest in the nation and lawmakers are interested/anxious about it. It's probably time for a pay raise, but it has to be done this year – not in an election-year session – where it would be the headline on incumbent-challengers' palm cards. Stay tuned...