

Julie Tibbits identified as victim of fatal crash

Tim Hrenchir

Topeka Capital-Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Julie A. Tibbits, 45, of Topeka, died in a two-vehicle crash Sunday in north-east Shawnee County, a county sheriff's office spokeswoman said late Monday afternoon.

Names, ages and genders weren't being made public for four other people who suffered injuries in the crash.

Deputies were called shortly after 2 p.m. Sunday to the scene at N.E. 62nd and Kincaid Road, where Tibbits was pronounced deceased, said Deputy Abigail Christian, of the Shawnee County

Sheriff's Office.

The four injured people were taken by American Medical Response ambulance to a Topeka hospital, she said.

The crash involved a Dodge sedan with two occupants, which was southbound on N.E. Kincaid Road, and a Buick SUV with four occupants, which was southbound on N.E. 62nd Street, Christian said.

Circumstances of the crash remained under investigation, she said.

No further details were being made public.

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Ryan Seacrest hosts first ‘Wheel of Fortune’ episode

All eyes were on Ryan Seacrest as he hosted his first “Wheel of Fortune” episode on Monday night.

It marked the first time in more than 40 years that the show is hosted by someone other than Pat Sajak, who announced his retirement in June 2023. “Wheel” fans were instead met with Seacrest, who was tapped to usher in a new “Wheel of Fortune” era.

The 49-year-old entertainment veteran “couldn’t wait to continue” to the tradition of spinning the wheel and working alongside the great Vanna White,” USA TODAY reported. But he also acknowledged then and more recently that he has “big shoes” to fill following Sajak’s departure.

He hit the stage arm-in-arm with co-host Vanna White, taking his new spot behind the wheel after brief pleasantries, according to USA TODAY.

“I still cannot believe my luck of being here with you tonight, to continue this legacy of this incredible show,” Seacrest shared with the audience. “I know how special it is that ‘Wheel’ has been in your living rooms for the past 40 years, and I’m

just so grateful to be invited in. I also know I’ve got some very big shoes to fill.”

Reports: Harvey Weinstein rushed to hospital for heart surgery

Disgraced movie mogul Harvey Weinstein, currently awaiting a retrial on sexual assault charges, has been hospitalized for emergency cardiac treatment.

Weinstein, 72, was transported to Bellevue Hospital on Monday for emergency heart surgery after experiencing chest pains, his representatives confirmed to ABC News in a statement. The surgery comes after he was hospitalized for a “myriad of health conditions” in July, including testing positive for COVID-19 and contracting double pneumonia.

“As we have extensively stated before, Mr. Weinstein suffers a plethora of significant health issues that need ongoing treatment,” his representatives Craig Rothfeld and Juda Engelmayer said Monday. “We are grateful to the executive team at the New York City Department of Correction and Rikers Island for acting swiftly in taking him to Bellevue Hospital.”

TODAY’S BIRTHDAYS

Comedian **Tom Dreesen**, turns 85. Movie director **Brian De Palma**, 84. Actor **Lola Falana**, 82. Drummer **Mickey Hart** (Grateful Dead), 81. Actor **Amy Madigan**, 74. Sports reporter **Lesley Visser**, 71. Author **James McBride**, 67. Drummer **Jon Moss** (Culture Club), 67. Actor **Virginia Madsen**, 63. Actor **Kristy McNichol**, 62. Musician **Moby**, 59. Singer **Harry Connick Jr.**, 57. Actor **Taraji P. Henson**, 54.

– USA TODAY Network

Saving

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DST encompasses roughly eight months of the year, with the rest being called “standard time.”

The U.S. Department of Transportation is in charge of DST in the U.S.

DST exists for purposes that include conserving energy and fuel and making better use of sunlight.

Proponents say it also reduces crime.

What’s the history of Daylight Saving Time?

DST was first used in 1908 in Thunder Bay, Canada, according to timeanddate.com, which says Germany and Austria then became the first countries to use it in 1916.

The U.S. temporarily put DST in place during World War I and World War II.

DST became a national standard in 1966 when President Lyndon Johnson signed the Uniform Time Act.

That act allows states to exempt themselves from observing DST but requires those that do observe it to begin and end it on the federally mandated dates.

The federal government in 2005 approved the Energy Policy Act of 2005, which establishes the dates DST begins

and ends.

What states don’t observe Daylight Saving Time?

DST isn’t observed by Hawaii and Arizona, with the exception of the Navajo Nation.

The five territories the U.S. maintains also don’t observe DST.

Those are Guam, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Mariana Islands.

Why did Daylight Saving Time almost get quashed?

U.S. lawmakers took a step toward putting a permanent end to DST in March 2022 when the U.S. Senate unanimously approved the Sunshine Protection Act, a bill that would have done that.

But the U.S. House of Representatives never put that bill to a vote, meaning it wasn’t forwarded to President Joe Biden.

A 2023 version of the Sunshine Protection Act remained idle in Congress as well.

A key point of contention involved whether to switch to permanent DST or transition instead to year-round standard time.

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Seaman BOE raises property taxes by 7.5% for 2024

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Property owners in the Seaman School District can expect an uptick in their taxes for this year.

The Seaman USD 345 Board of Education approved a 7.5% property tax increase Monday.

During the meeting, the board had a public hearing to discuss the tax rate as is required by state law.

After a brief discussion, the board approved raising the tax rate from 51.248 mills to 51.466 mills. The district budget outlined where the different parts of this tax rate will go:

- 20 mills will go to the general fund.
- 15.91 mills will go to the supplemental general fund.
- 8 mills will go to capital outlay.
- The remaining 7.556 mills will go toward paying off bond interests.

Breaking down the budget

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, Sept. 11, the 255th day of 2024. There are 111 days left in the year. On this day in:

1789: Alexander Hamilton took the oath of office as the nation’s first secretary of the treasury. President George Washington nominated his former Revolutionary War aide-de-camp, and Congress approved his appointment the same day.

1851: The Christiana Riot, also known as the Christiana Resistance, occurred in Christiana, Pennsylvania, where free Black people and escaped slaves successfully resisted a federal marshal’s raid to capture four fugitive slaves. This event, which resulted in the death of slave owner Edward Gorsuch, heightened tensions between the North and South and was one of the many precursors to the American Civil War.

1903: The Milwaukee Mile in West Allis, Wisconsin, renowned as the world’s oldest major speedway, hosted its inaugural automobile race. William Jones, of Chicago, won the five-lap event, establishing the initial track record with a 72-second lap at a speed of 50 mph.

1941: Construction began on the Pentagon in Arlington County, Virginia, one of the largest office buildings in the world. This date became doubly historically significant 60 years later, when the building was attacked on Sept. 11, 2001. The massive five-sided concrete steel structure – designed by architect George Bergstrom and built by contractor John McShain – houses the Department of Defense.

1941: During a speech in Des Moines, Iowa, aviator and military officer Charles Lindbergh identified the British, the Jewish community and the Roosevelt Administration as the primary advocates for America’s entry into war with Germany. His remarks caused a stir for seemingly attributing the nation’s push toward war specifically to these groups.

Between the higher tax rate and the 5.5% property valuation rise across Shawnee County, property owners will most likely see a 7.5% increase in this portion of their property taxes. This doesn’t include the other taxing agencies and their changes.

For someone who owns a \$100,000 single family dwelling, they paid \$497.35 in taxes for 2023. This year, that same property will be valued at \$105,000 and the owner will have a tax bill of \$532.41.

Just like most governmental budgets, the largest portion goes to the general fund, which accounts for \$32,658,024 of the total operating budget.

The next largest section of the budget is for special education, which accounts for \$12,298,312 of the operating budget.

The district will collect \$8.1 million more than this year in property taxes.

Advocate

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complaints that allege the Department of Children and Families gave inadequate protection or care to children, failed to protect a child’s safety or welfare, or if the agency fails to follow laws, policies or regulations.

Senators who moved to confirm Lonard asked if she’ll be able to solve problems in a nonpartisan way despite being a political appointee, if her office will be helpful in improving the foster care system and how she views family separation during allegations of child abuse.

Senators also inquired how much will change from the office as it becomes a permanent fixture in state government.

“No. 1 is looking at the scope of the office. It does expand it to include those youth that are receiving or have received services from KDOC in the last five years,” Lonard said. “No. 2, some things that have changed will be the nature of our recommendations. There’s specific language in the legislation with regards to the type of recommendations I can make.”

The bipartisan committee moved Lonard to be recommended favorably to the Senate in the upcoming legislative session, but a full vote from that chamber will be needed to officially confirm her in the role.