



Kiffin pursues peace at Ole Miss after a season that cut him deep

SPORTS, 1B



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Gov. Kelly: ‘Thanks, Texas’

Measles outbreak in Kansas trails only Lone Star State and New Mexico

Jason Alatidd
Topeka Capital-Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Kansas has the third-most measles cases of any state in the country amid an outbreak primarily affecting unvaccinated children.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment reported April 23 that

Kansas has had 37 measles cases statewide. There were also 37 cases as of April 16. There has been one hospitalization reported, but no deaths, from the Kansas measles outbreak.

Nationwide, there were 800 confirmed measles cases across 25 jurisdictions as of April 17, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Those cases have led to 85 hospitaliza-

tions and three deaths. Two of the deaths have been unvaccinated school-aged children in Texas, while the other was an unvaccinated adult in New Mexico.

Texas reported 624 cases as of April 22. New Mexico reported 65 cases as of April 22.

Ohio reported 30 cases as of April 17, according to the Associated Press, at which point Kansas had 37 cases. No other state had more than nine cases as of April 17, the CDC reported.

Genetic sequencing by KDHE has

found the Kansas outbreak has a possible link to the larger outbreak in the Texas panhandle area.

“This originated in the United States in Texas, if I’m not mistaken,” Gov. Laura Kelly said at an April 22 news conference in Garden City. “My guess is somehow somebody made contact with somebody in Texas and brought it to Kansas. So thanks, Texas.”

Sen. Bill Clifford, R-Garden City, who is also an eye doctor, suggested the

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‘In charge of our own stories’



Sherri Camp, project director with the Black American Blueprint Collective, on April 15 shows artifacts, including an old iron, at the “Our Stories” exhibit at the Great Overland Station. PHOTOS BY EVERT NELSON/THE CAPITAL-JOURNAL

How this group is uplifting Black history in Topeka

Keishera Lately
Topeka Capital-Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Black American Blueprint Collective’s mission is to create pride, self-esteem, dignity, honor and respect within the Black community of Topeka.

The organization is bringing members of the community together through such programs and events as peace and poetry nights, informational mixers, history presentations and more.

Sherri Camp, project director, said the organization formed in 2021, around the time of the Brown v. Board of Education’s 67th anniversary, after she and her constituents realized there was a need to tell the “rich history” of the Black community in Topeka.

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A front page from Nick Chiles’ newspaper is on display along with other artifacts showcasing Black history in Topeka at the “Our Stories” exhibit at the Great Overland Station.

Topeka denied new trial

Judge upholds verdict in discrimination suit but reduces compensation

Tim Hrenchir
Topeka Capital-Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

A federal judge April 22 denied Topeka’s city government’s request for a new trial in a gender discrimination lawsuit won by two female Topeka police administrators.

The judge, however, reduced the amount one of the women will receive by nearly \$78,000.

An order issued by U.S. District Court Judge Toby Crouse finalized damages in the case, including upholding a jury’s decision to award \$200,000 in compensatory damages to assistant chief Jana Kizzar and commander Colleen Stuart.

But Crouse ruled in a 14-page opinion that Stuart won’t receive \$77,781.25 in back pay and front pay the jury recommended awarding her. He also lowered the amount in back pay Kizzar will receive by \$30.20.

Those moves reduce the city’s total liability for damages to Stuart and Kizzar by \$77,811.45, from \$488,840.45 to \$411,029.

Crouse’s ruling didn’t address an ongoing dispute over how much the city will have to pay to attorneys who represented Stuart and Kizzar in the case. No decision on that has been made.

The city doesn’t have a comment on the ruling at this time, said Daniel

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Topeka police administrators Colleen Stuart, left, and Jana Kizzar are the plaintiffs who won a gender discrimination lawsuit in federal court in Topeka.

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