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OF KANSAS

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STATERS UNION

A WEEK THAT
Changed
MY LIFE

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“THILL FOR VICTORY”

NATIONALISTS TAKE MAJORITY

BY DEREK BRYANT
Staters Union

As Alex Thill made his way on stage at the Nationalist Party Caucus, his attitude was powerful and his vocalization of his plans sealed his spot as the Nationalist candidate for governor. During operations Tuesday afternoon, and on stage Tuesday evening, Thill made it clear that he truly was a man with a plan sealing his spot as governor.

Governor Thill plans to work with both Nationalists and Federalists and made his position on this issue clear.

“I want work for the whole state of Kansas,” Thill said, “which means I absolutely have to and will work for Federalists by supporting their bills, by supporting their government officials and supporting their congressmen especially in passing bills in the Senate and the House.”

Governor Thill plans to move towards a greener Kansas, saying “Make Kansas green again.” This in fact has some of the oil and gas counties worried, however Governor Thill has stated on record that he plans to cut the severance tax placed on these counties in half.

Governor Thill fully supports small business as well.

“I will as governor absolutely not veto any bill that supports small business,” Thill said.

Two Federalists earned positions as executive officers: Connor Casey as attorney general and Matthew Owens as treasurer. The rest of the officers elected were of the Nationalist party and include: Nolen Wright as commissioner of insurance, Dennis “Denny” Rice as secretary of state and



ALEX Thill, your Kansas Boys State Governor Photo Credit Media Staff

Micah Self as lieutenant governor. This leaves our state with Federalists holding the majority in both the house and the senate and Nationalists holding the majority in the executive office.

*This session, many
events will be live
streamed, including
the talent show.*

*Follow us on Face-
book to tune in!*

UNANSWERED QUESTIONS KILL SENATE BILL

BY GUTHRIE TURNER

Staters Union

There was extensive debate over an immigration law on Tuesday in the Senate that eventually ended in the bill's eradication.

The bill's details were in correlation to Kansas' sanctuary cities who fail to comply with federal law. The law enforcement of these cities would have to impose these laws or else they will lose a percentage of their state subsidies.

The questions behind these, how-

ever, lie in the core of the simulation. Are there subsidies for the law enforcement to begin with? Are there even illegal immigrants? Whether there are or aren't illegal immigrants, would the bill be good insurance?

Some Staters thought that the bills should be tabled in order to take time in asking IT about these aspects of the simulation. Others believed that it would be a win-win and should be passed at the current time. Still others wanted the bill to be struck down, thinking it was, for the most part, pointless.

The last of the three perspectives won, and the bill died.

The Staters Union is a designated forum of free speech. The print edition is published every day of Boys State by the Staters Union Staff. It is distributed for no charge throughout Kansas Boys State. All stories pertaining to Boys State within these pages refer to a simulated society, and editorial license may have been used to report the “facts” of such stories. Letters to the editor are encouraged and accepted. Letters must be signed and the writer's county indicated to be considered for publication. All letters are subject to editing for length, legal, grammatical and factual reasons. Letters should be taken to the Staters Union office in the basement of Marlatt Hall (Room 20). To contact the Staters Union, please email us at media@ksbstatesim.org.

Letters to the Editor: “A Double Standard No More”

Why you should support the House’s efforts to lower the drinking age to 18.

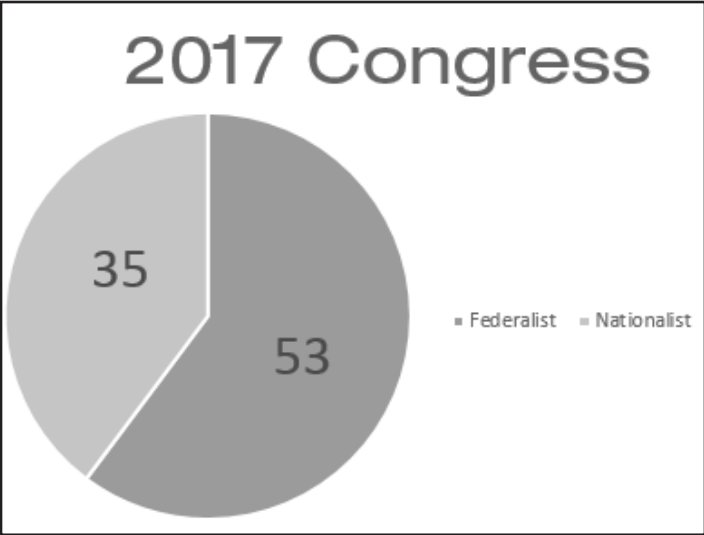
BY COLTON WELLNITZ
Concerned Citizen

On Monday morning, a bill was presented to the House regarding the drinking age, but was tabled due to lack of time. It passed during the afternoon session.

This bill is a huge step in the right direction because for years there has been a double standard regarding adulthood. You can vote at 18, males must register for the Selective Service, you can choose to join the military, and you have rights of your own, separate from those of your parents.

Why can’t you drink until age 21? It’s obviously not a health issue, as you can buy cigarettes at 18 and smoking is more dangerous than drinking. It’s not a safety issue, as teen drivers make up one of the smallest proportions of those convicted of DUI. There is no reason and nothing should be done without a reason.

Thank you for your support.
Colin Wellnitz
City of Bramlage
County of Eisenhower



Lots of Land May No Longer be Wasted

BY LUKE STEINLE
Staters Union

A bipartisan bill that would allow the state to seize unowned lots and give them to their respective cities has passed in the House of Representatives.

The bill, written by Rep. Payton Harmon (F), Sen. Reid Bissen (N) and Mayor Blake Adelman (F), was created because it can cost up to \$3000 per county to obtain all of their own empty lots. It seems only economically detrimental to the cities to continue making the cities pay to

buy land that isn’t even owned by anyone.

Currently, cities cannot afford to buy every lot. Since the land mentioned in this bill is unowned, the state can use eminent domain to seize the land at no cost. The land is currently wasted, and by reducing waste, the KSBS government can use the land and move forward with other projects. These areas could be used for government housing, schools, hospitals, etc. If this bill passes in the Senate, the land which was previously unowned will no longer be going to waste.

WWII Veteran Speaks to Staters on D-Day

BY MEDIA STATERS
Staters Union



VETERAN John Lindholm. Photo Credit Julian Kincaid

Tuesday afternoon had a treat in store for several Staters as they had the opportunity to meet World War II veteran John Lindholm. Lindholm discussed his early life and the many aspects of Boys State. He also had many pieces of memorabilia set up from his years in service for Staters to view.

Lindholm says his earliest memories are working on his family farm near Cheney, Kansas. After graduating Cheney High School in 1941, he attended Kansas State University for one semester before heading to Wichita to repair B-29 “Superfortress” Planes. He planned to enlist in the military following the Pearl Harbor Bombing in 1941, but the age limit was still 21.

When the government lowered the age limit to 18 in 1942, Lindholm enlisted and was sworn into service on December 12, 1942. He decided to join

the U.S. Army Air Corps, the division of the army that would become the U.S. Air Force in 1947. His decision was influenced by some fond memories from Cheney such as when he took his first ride in an airplane at age 10, and his Boy Scout troop leader allowed Lindholm to fly his personal plane on occasion. Lindholm would later Pilot the “Flying Fortress” B-17 Bomber during World War II.

Lindholm became involved with Boys State of Kansas 18 years ago when his grandson was a Stater. He loves to see Staters come out of their shells and change throughout the week.

“The change in the week is intense,” Lindholm said.

The veteran also had some advice for Staters.

“The main thing is involved,” Lindholm said. “Don’t sit back and let others do the work.”

CAN’T GET ENOUGH?

The paper is also published online daily at

<https://issuu.com/ksboysstate>

