

Follow the Staters Union  
on Twitter:  
**@KSBSMedia**

# STATERS UNION

A WEEK THAT  
**Changed**  
MY LIFE

**SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 2014 • MANHATTAN, KANSAS • VOL. 77, ISSUE 7**

## A Week that Changed My Life

**By Riley Aversman  
Staters Union**

As I am typing this article, all of the other delegates around me are rushing around to get their last minute plans finished, but I decided to take a moment to reflect on the week that all of we Staters have spent together and put my own thoughts and those of other delegates into words for this editorial.

I sincerely hope that this article will be something that you, as readers, can look back on and remember the bond that we've created with those in not only our cities and counties, but also every single other delegate here at State.

No matter what we all do in our futures, all of us will forever be bonded by this week that has changed our lives, and joined us together forever as the Boys State of 2014.

I guess I should begin with the beginning of the week. I think I speak for many of us when I say that I was extremely uncomfortable with the sudden immersion into what was basically a completely new life, with new responsibilities and expectations.

As I overheard a Stater in my county put it, Sunday was like "being dropped into a tub full of ice water." I think we were all, as Jordan Mackey from King County put it "sort of nervous."

To be completely honest with all of you, when I finally got to my bed on Sunday, I wanted more than anything to be back home with my mom, dad, friends, and girlfriend; and I could barely focus on what we were talking about during County gatherings because of this feeling of homesickness.

However, things started to change for me and, I hope, everyone else on Monday as we all got into our jobs, campaigns, and other positions.

I felt like I was doing an important job. I was help-

ing inform the public of the injustices (we all know there were plenty) that were being dealt to them by the government that they didn't know about. I hope you all felt as proud of your positions as I have.

That is one thing that I love about this program. The fact that this program has shown me how good serving the public can feel, and has made me realize that I want to pursue a career in politics or journalism.

I think Jordan Mackey agreed with me on this when he said "It has been awesome to learn how the government works firsthand." Tanner Sneed of Bradley County also commented that he has "developed a love-hate relationship with politics."

This experience has been amazing, and I hope that each and every one of the other Staters feels the same way as me. We've been through something special together and saw how much we can get accomplished and how much we can mess up, and we need to remember that.

I really mean that. We need to remember that we're awesome. Every Stater I interviewed for this article seemed to agree on one thing.

"We are awesome." Arturo Amaro elaborated that this week has "really became something special." I agree with him.

We're something special. We will all change the world in our own way, and I can't wait to see how we do it, even if it carries a goofy name like "Sticky Icky Act."

I have loved my time with each and every one of our readers, and I hope to see your names someday in the 'real' news as being the individuals behind groundbreaking and world-changing events. Thank you, Hiatt City, King County, and Boys State of Kansas for making this week so very special.

# Raising the Heat

*Staters investigate traditionally taboo government structure*

**By Brian Kaufman**  
**Staters Union**

The idea that Democracy is good and Socialism is bad has been drilled into the minds of America's youth for years. However, for the purposes of the simulation, it may not be so.

At least, that's what Bradley County Chairman Kevin Rose thinks. Although he does not believe in socialism personally for the real world, Rose states, "It was always an idea that I had for the county."

The idea of socialism had been joked about amongst the Bradley County residents, but it was never really taken seriously by the entirety of the county until Thursday night when the tragedy that was the tornado struck counties in the northern half of Kansas.

Bradley County is one of the three counties that was really affected by this disaster. Rose was able to convince the residents of Bradley to donate what little they had after the disaster in order to create this socialist environment.

When asked why he felt that socialism was the best

answer Rose said, "In this state of emergency, what we really need is for the state to cater to the people, to get them jobs and to pay for the things that only the state can really pay for.

I think that reactionary socialism is really the only answer in this case." Kevin has really gotten the citizens to rally behind him in his plan for the county.

Stater Logan Renz of Bradley told the Union, "It's really trial and error. We're trying to eminently domain some residential lots and were getting donations from most of our citizens here. We're just trying out how to fix this problem."

When asked his opinion on converting the county to socialism, Renz stated, "It's worked before in the past, and given the disasters that have happened here at Bradley County, we really have to try to look for the next step and the proper solution."

The County is continuing to work on creating jobs and receiving money from the citizens as well as taking down corporations in order to keep the county on its feet as the state comes to the end of the fiscal year.

## ***Staters Union Staff***

**Editor-In-Chief:** *Tanner Myers*

**Managing Editors:** *Riley Aversman, Connick Roe*

**Staff Writers:** *Andrew Benne, Russel Brown, Hawk Goad, Clay Grabes, Alex Karrasch, Brian Kaufman, Austin Prinkki*

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 [ksbsmedia@gmail.com](mailto:ksbsmedia@gmail.com).

## Looking to the Stars

**By Andrew Benne**  
**Staters Union**

On Friday June 6th the Kansas delegates for Boys Nation were selected. However, the Department of Commerce is already looking past the Nation, they are looking to the stars.

After a challenge by their counselor to take on the hardest and most ridiculous project they could, the department started looking into the possibility of a space center.

The cost of this space center, titled "Boys Galaxy," is estimated to cost around 8 million dollars and NASA had to be put into the simulation just for this case. The department has received funding from different PACs

and Departments.

They have raised .1 million dollars and the federal government has granted them the other 7.9 million. this is the first time that the federal government has ever granted money during Boys State

The benefits of the space center are numerous. It will bring a much needed boost in jobs after the devastating tornado that came through the state last night. The space center will also lead to the research and development of new technology and make profit off of the sale of this technology.

Tourism will also receive a boost as the center will be manufactured in state. The space center will be built in Pershing County.

## Reviewing the National Debt

**By Russel Brown**  
**Staters Union**

On Wednesday night, Staters were privileged to hear Stephanie Kelton, economist, give her opinion on the national debt. It was one unheard of before tonight for most of the Delegates.

Kelton is the Chair of the Department of Economics at The University of Missouri Kansas City. She is a world renown public speaker, featured on national radio and news programs.

Dr. Kelton captured the attention of five hundred young minds when she made the argument that being in debt is, in fact, good.

Her description of surplus made Staters consider where the money that the government loses goes.

Drake Stobie of Eisenhower County said, "her speech changed my paradigm over how I perceive deficit spending. I will consider what she said not only this week, but for the rest of my life."

On the other hand, some Staters wanted to hear more in regards to her explanation on the worth of the US dollar, inflation rates, and world trade. Nonetheless, Dr. Kelton's speech was undoubtedly thought provoking amongst all Staters.

Kelton's speech was well received; she elicited an extensive standing ovation. Additionally, her tweets are well written and thought provoking. Kelton's twitter handle is @StephanieKelton.

Staters will continue to ponder what she said for the weeks and months to come.

**For more Boys State News, don't forget to tune in to the**  
**>> Boys State News broadcast <<**  
**every day online and during assemblies at McCain Auditorium!**

THE AMERICAN  
LEGION **BOYS STATE**  
OF KANSAS



## Exploring the College Fair

**By Connick Roe**  
**Staters Union**

Sixteen colleges from everywhere in Kansas came to Boys State Thursday, June 5, to discuss with all Staters the idea of college.

From private colleges like Bethel to public schools such as Wichita State and the University of Kansas. Staters spent, at least, thirty minutes touring the two rooms that contained all the colleges and their advocates.

The colleges included our host Kansas State University, Emporia State University, the University of Kansas, Friends University, Northwest Missouri State University, Johnson County Community College, Bethel University, Washburn University, Wichita State University, Wabash College, McPherson College, Pittsburg State University, the United States Naval Academy, the United States Military Academy at West Point, Butler

Community College, the Navy, the Air Force and the Army.

The college representatives were very helpful and would be able to answer any questions that the Staters had.

"I thought it was good, and I feel that it really opened up some peoples' eyes," Secretary of State Ashwanth Samuel of Eisenhower County said.

One way to make college more interesting, even exciting, to the Staters was the use of increased interactive and compelling displays.

For example, the KSU table had a remote control airplane simulation in which one could fly an airplane off a runway and then crash it into the ground as much as they wanted.

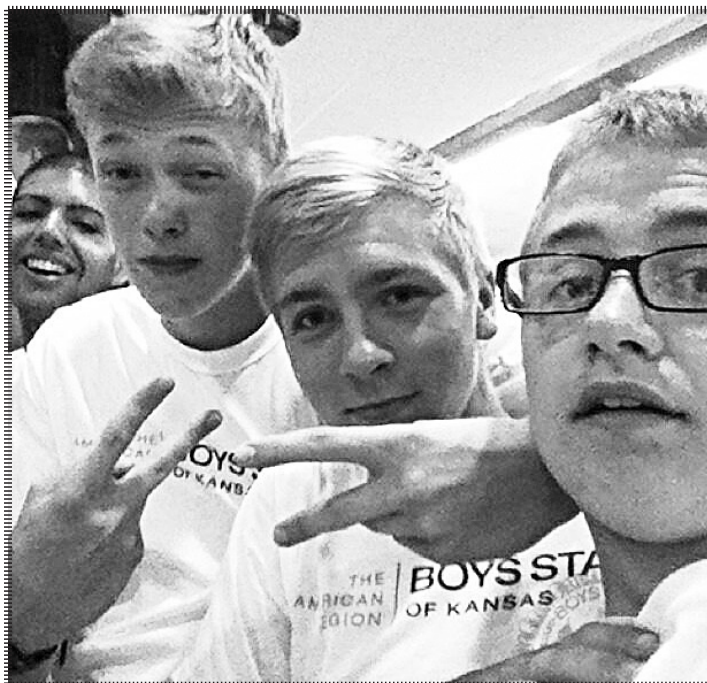
If Staters had not been giving any thought to their plans after high school, hopefully this college fair gave them some good information and a better idea of what they are looking for in a college.

Join the group on Facebook for  
"The American Legion  
Boys State of Kansas"!

Share with others  
your amazing stories  
about Boys State and  
keep in touch with your fellow staters.

Search for  
"The American Legion  
Boys State of Kansas" on Facebook and  
join today!

## Selfie of the Day



**Kennedy County**