We’re in the middle of tax season, you’ve probably received your necessary paperwork and are ready to file for a refund. Should you file Homestead or Safe Senior (also known as the Kansas Property Tax Relief claim)?

Below you will find the comparison and qualifications for both. Most tax preparation systems will prompt the preparer as to which refund is best and will automatically update the form. Happy filing!

**HOMESTEAD**

The Homestead Refund Program is for homeowners who were residents of Kansas **ALL** of 2014. As a Kansas resident the entire year, you are eligible if your total household income is $33,400 or less and you:

- Were born before January 1, 1959, or
- Were blind or totally and permanently disabled all of 2014, or
- Have a dependent child who lived with you the entire year who was born before January 1, 2014 and was under the age of 18 all of 2014.

The refund is a percentage of your general property tax excluding specials. Tax on property valued at more than $350,000 does not qualify. The maximum refund is $700.

**SAFE SENIOR (Property Tax Relief)**

The Safe Senior (or Kansas Property Tax Relief for Low Income Seniors) is a property tax refund program. **Safe Senior** is also referred to as “Kansas Property Tax Relief for Low Income Seniors”.

Filers for Safe Senior must meet **ALL** of the following:

- A Kansas resident all of 2014
- Owned a home in Kansas during 2014
- Age 65 or older all of 2014
- Household income of less than $18,600

The refund is 75% of the 2013 general property tax paid or to be paid - as shown on the 2014 real estate statement for the residence in which the claimant lived in 2014.

Anyone needing assistance paying their property taxes should consider applying this refund to the following years taxes. Assistance with volunteer tax preparers can be found on page 5 of this publication.
Appreciation is extended to the following who have contributed toward the cost of this newsletter. Names are listed in alphabetical order.

Evelena Blackwell (Contributor)  
Freda Cole (Contributor)  
Juanita Ellis (Contributor)  
Ruth Kendall (Benefactor)  
Johnella Newton (Benefactor)  
Janeria Phillips (Contributor)  
Ida Pryor (Contributor)  
Seiko Roberts (Contributor)  
Clara Sullivan (Contributor)

If you would like to contribute to the cost of the newsletter, please make checks payable to:

Wyandotte/Leavenworth AAA  
Attn: The Communicator  
849 North 47th, Suite C  
Kansas City, Kansas 66102

KCKFD AMBULANCE MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM
The Kansas City Kansas Fire Department (KCKFD) Ambulance Membership program helps cover the cost of paramedic ambulance service.

How much does it cost?
Annual membership provides paramedic ambulance service for only $35 for an individual or $49 for families. Two-year rates are $65 for an individual or $95 for families.

Who is covered under the program?
A single membership covers you; a family membership covers you, your spouse or domestic partner and dependents.

Who is eligible to be a member?
Membership is available to all residents within Kansas City Kansas and Edwardsville, Kansas.

What If I already have insurance?
Even if you have insurance, complete coverage of ambulance transportation may not be provided. Full paramedic ambulance costs are seldom paid in full. Medicare, for example, covers approximately 80% of the bill. You would still owe the balance.

Is this program right for me?
Please check with your insurance provider to see if ambulance membership would be beneficial to you and your family. Participation in welfare health programs, most commonly known as Medicaid will not benefit from this program and should not join.

Will I receive a bill?
You may receive correspondence from the billing agent if we need authorization to bill your insurance or we need your insurance information.

Here’s how it works!
If you require ambulance service as a member, the Unified Government will bill your insurance (if you have insurance). The insurance payment (if any) will be accepted as payment in full. Any uninsured portion of the ambulance bill that would normally be required to pay will not be collected by the city. Your annual fee entitles you and listed family members to ambulance service as often as needed during the year. Please read the agreement for a full explanation and terms of coverage.

To join:
Contact Fire Headquarters at 913-573-5550.
WHAT IS MARCH FOR MEALS?

The month of March mobilizes hundreds of local Meals on Wheels programs across the country to reach out to their communities and build the support that will sustain them all year long.

Meals on Wheels programs collectively serve a nutritious meal, a warm smile and the safety check that keep over 2.5 million seniors a year healthy and living in their own homes.

The 13th Annual March for Meals campaign is led by the Meals on Wheels Association of America and gives us all an opportunity to support our nation’s seniors in a variety of ways to make our communities stronger and healthier. So choose what’s right for you. And, in doing so, know that your contribution will make a difference to, and touch the hearts of, your courageous aging neighbors.

Donations to the Meals on Wheels Program are accepted at the Area Agency on Aging at 849 N 47th Street.

MEALS ON WHEELS CHECK-OFF

Your Way Of Helping An Elderly Friend or Family Member

Kansans filing their state income tax returns have an opportunity to help ensure their elderly neighbors continue to receive warm, nutritious meals through the Meals on Wheels program.

The Senior Citizen Meals on Wheels Contribution Program was created in 2002 by the Kansas Legislature to allow tax payers to make voluntary donations in support of home delivered meals. Individuals receiving a state income tax refund can indicate in the designated space on the tax form an amount of their refund they would like to contribute. Contributions can range from $1 to all of their refund.

Question regarding the tax check off may be directed to the Wyandotte County Meals on Wheels Program at 913-573-8546.

March for Meals

A way to support the Meals on Wheels Program in Wyandotte County!

Support the Meals On Wheels Program by making a purchase at one of the following Spirit Night locations.

Mayors for Meals Delivery
March 13, 2015
Mayor Mark Holland will be delivering meals to some of the Wyandotte County homebound customers. This is done to increase visibility of the Meals on Wheels Program.

At Chick-fil-A
March 18, 2015
5 - 8pm
A percentage of sales will go directly to the Meals on Wheels Program in Wyandotte County.

Mr. GoodCents Subs & Pasta
March 19, 2015
2pm - 9pm
A percentage of sales will go directly to the Meals on Wheels Program in Wyandotte County.

WHAT IS MARCH FOR MEALS?

The month of March mobilizes hundreds of local Meals on Wheels programs across the country to reach out to their communities and build the support that will sustain them all year long.

Meals on Wheels programs collectively serve a nutritious meal, a warm smile and the safety check that keep over 2.5 million seniors a year healthy and living in their own homes.

The 13th Annual March for Meals campaign is led by the Meals on Wheels Association of America and gives us all an opportunity to support our nation’s seniors in a variety of ways to make our communities stronger and healthier. So choose what’s right for you. And, in doing so, know that your contribution will make a difference to, and touch the hearts of, your courageous aging neighbors.

Donations to the Meals on Wheels Program are accepted at the Area Agency on Aging at 849 N 47th Street.
My name is Adam Weigel, and I am the Latino Outreach Coordinator for the Alzheimer’s Association. I have been working for the Association for 1 year and have learned a great deal about the challenges that Spanish speakers face in our community when seeking help for a family member with Alzheimer’s disease or a related dementia.

My work is focused on addressing those challenges and making it easier for families to understand the disease and use the resources available to them. One part of my job is to work with families directly, learn their story and their challenges, and find them resources that can help. Additionally, I offer educational talks about the disease in the community. Each family situation is unique, so a free consultation with me in Spanish or English is a great place to start learning what resources may help.

If you or someone you know could benefit from a free consultation at our office or in the home, please don’t hesitate to call. Listed below are the days and times that I offer monthly consults and information in the community:

- **Riverview Health Services**
  722 Reynolds
  Kansas City, Kansas 66101
  1st & 3rd Monday

- **Guadalupe Center**
  1015 Avenida Cesar E. Chavez
  Kansas City, MO 64108
  2nd Tuesday

- **Don Bosco Senior Center**
  580 Campbell St.
  Kansas City, MO 64106
  4th Friday

---

People all over the world celebrate St. Patrick’s Day, especially places with large Irish-American communities. Feasting on the day features traditional Irish food, including corned beef, corned cabbage, coffee, soda bread, potatoes, and shepherd’s pie. Many celebrations also hold an Irish breakfast of sausage, black and white pudding, fried eggs, and fried tomatoes. A common tradition is the St. Patrick’s Day parade.

In addition to Easter’s religious significance, it also has a commercial side, as evidenced by the mounds of jelly beans and marshmallow chicks that appear in stores each spring. As with Christmas, over the centuries various folk customs and pagan traditions, including Easter eggs, bunnies, baskets and candy, have become a standard part of this holy holiday. Many children look forward to hunting for colored eggs filled with an array of items, from change to candy.

---

**YOUR VOTE COUNTS!**

*Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas Spring Elections Coming Soon!*

- **March 3, 2015** ……… CITY/SCHOOL PRIMARY ELECTION
- **April 7, 2015** ……… CITY/SCHOOL ELECTION

Should you have questions regarding the upcoming election, you may contact the Election Office at 913-573-8500 or visit the office at 850 State Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas 66101.
TAX DEADLINES

The deadline to file for your Senior Citizen Utility Tax Rebate will end March 31, 2015 at the Clerks Office located on the 3rd floor inside City Hall located at 701 North 7th Street, KCK 66101. The Aging & Disability Resource Center located at 849 North 47th Street, Suite C, Kansas City, Kansas will also be assisting by appointment only until March 31st. You must have been 65 years of age the entire year of 2014, be a resident of Kansas City Kansas (Bonner Springs and Edwardsville residents are not eligible) and have a total household income of less than $25,000.

If you would like to schedule an appointment with the Aging & Disability Resource Center location, you may dial 913-573-8531. All questions should be directed to the Unified Government's Clerks office at 913-573-5260.

April 15, 2015 is the tax deadline for filing HOMESTEAD. The Aging & Disability Resource Center does not have staff to assist you with filing these forms, but you may find assistance at the following locations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kansas City Kansas Community College</td>
<td>7250 State Avenue</td>
<td>Thursday, 10am - 2pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kansas City, Kansas 66112</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providence-Ball YMCA</td>
<td>8601 Parallel</td>
<td>Fridays, 1 - 5pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kansas City, Kansas 66112</td>
<td>Must pre-register at: <a href="http://www.kstaxaide.com">www.kstaxaide.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas City, Kansas City Hall</td>
<td>701 North 7th Street</td>
<td>Mondays, 9am - 2:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kansas City, Kansas 66101</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turner Recreational Center</td>
<td>831 North 55th Street</td>
<td>Thursdays, 10am - 2pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kansas City, Kansas 66106</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Questions regarding assistance filing your Homestead should be directed to the AARP Hotline at 1-888-227-7669 or visit their website at: www.aarp.org.

DAMM LIGHT SAVING TIME

Daylight Savings will be Sunday, March 8, 2015.

Daylight Savings in the United States starts on the second Sunday in March of each year and ends the first Sunday in November.

It goes into effect each spring when clocks are moved forward by one hour at 2:00am standard time, and the time becomes 3:00am daylight savings time (DST). When DST ends in the fall, the clock is moved back at 2am and the time becomes 1:00am standard time.

Hence the saying, "Spring Forward, Fall Back!"

LAUGHTER IS GOOD MEDICINE

Remembering a great icon of the entertainment community...

The Pillsbury Doughboy died yesterday of a yeast infection and complications from repeated pokes in the belly. He was 71. Doughboy was buried in a lightly grease coffin.

Dozens of celebrities turned out to pay their respects, including Mrs. Butterworth, Hungry Jack, the California Raisins, Betty Crocker, the Hostess Twinkies and Captain Crunch. The grave site was piled high with flours. Aunt Jemima delivered the eulogy and lovingly described Doughboy as a man who never knew how much he was kneaded.

Doughboy rose quickly in show business, but his later life was filled with turnovers. He was not considered a very smart cookie, wasting much of his dough on half-baked schemes. Despite being a little flaky at times, he still as a crusty old man, was considered a role model for millions.

Doughboy is survived by his wife, Play Dough; two children John Dough and Jane Dough; plus they had one in the oven. He is also survived by his elderly father Pop Tart.

The funeral was held at 3:50 for about 20 minutes.

~ Submitted by one of our readers.
LEARN ABOUT LIEAP - Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP)

The Low Income Assistance Program (LIEAP) is a federally funded program that helps eligible households pay a portion of their home energy costs by providing a one-time per year benefit.

The 2015 application period is from Tuesday, January 20, 2015 through Tuesday, March 31st, 2015. Applications must be received prior to 5:00pm on March 31, 2015.

In order to qualify, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- An adult living at the address must be personally responsible for paying the heating costs incurred at the current residence, payable either to the landlord or the fuel vendor.
- Applicants must demonstrate a recent history of payments toward purchase of the primary heating energy.

Benefit levels vary according to the following factors:

- Household income
- Number of persons living at the address
- Type of dwelling
- Type of heating fuel

You may apply online at: www.dcf.ks.gov or by calling 1-800-432-0043.

**NEW LOCATION**

Pierson Community Center
1800 S. 55th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66106

**PARK AND RIDE TRANSPORTATION** – Free hourly shuttle bus from the Wyandotte/Leavenworth Aging & Disability Resource Center located at 849 N 47th St, South Parking Area to event site.

**GAMES W/PRIZES**

**FOOD & BEVERAGES**

**HEALTH SCREENINGS**

**COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

**DRAWINGS**

**ENTERTAINMENT**

**ACCESSIBLE SPACE, INC.**

**Accessible, Affordable Housing**

**Quality, Rent Subsidized Housing for Adults with Qualifying Physical Disabilities in KS**

Melissa Anne Hanger - Topeka
Mid America Commons - Kansas City
Blackbird Apartments - Kansas City

Now accepting applications for residency

**Features and Amenities**

- One and two bedroom apartments
- Rent based on 30% of gross adjusted monthly income
- Grab bars in bath and shower
- Roll-under counter tops, in kitchen and bath
- Mini blinds and carpeting
- Elevator service & on-site laundry facilities
- Lowered light switches and counters
- Multi-purpose community room

Seniors can apply, too! If you have difficulty moving around, use a walker or cane, you may qualify!

Call 800-466-7722
TTY/TDD 800-627-8529
www.accessiblespace.org
**Mexican Cucumber Salad**

**Ingredients:**
- 1 medium cucumber, chopped
- 1 can whole kernel corn
- 2 cups cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped
- Fresh cilantro
- 1/4 salt
- 1/8 black pepper
- Dash of vinegar

**Directions:**
In a large bowl, toss together cucumber, corn, tomatoes, green and red bell peppers, cilantro. Add salt, pepper and the dash of vinegar.
Cover and chill at least 30 minutes before serving.

**Yields 6 servings**

---

**grid.**

**Cover and chill at least 30 minutes before serving.**

**Ingredients**

- 1 medium cucumber, chopped
- 1 can whole kernel corn
- 2 cups cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped
- Fresh cilantro
- 1/4 salt
- 1/8 black pepper
- Dash of vinegar

**Directions:**
In a large bowl, toss together cucumber, corn, tomatoes, green and red bell peppers, cilantro. Add salt, pepper and the dash of vinegar.
Cover and chill at least 30 minutes before serving.

**Yields 6 servings**

---

**grid.**

**Cover and chill at least 30 minutes before serving.**

**Ingredients**

- 1 medium cucumber, chopped
- 1 can whole kernel corn
- 2 cups cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped
- Fresh cilantro
- 1/4 salt
- 1/8 black pepper
- Dash of vinegar

**Directions:**
In a large bowl, toss together cucumber, corn, tomatoes, green and red bell peppers, cilantro. Add salt, pepper and the dash of vinegar.
Cover and chill at least 30 minutes before serving.

**Yields 6 servings**
Wyandotte/Leavenworth
Area Agency on Aging
849 North 47th Street - Suite C
Kansas City, Kansas 66102
Phone: 913-573-8531
Fax: 913-573-8577
Email: 60Plus@wycokck.org
DisABLED or 60PLUS?...Call on Us!

Linda Ramirez, Editor
Emma Fonseca, Contributing Editor

The Communicator is published bi-monthly by the Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging. It is funded by the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services through the Older Americans’ Act. We assume no responsibility for the care and return of unsolicited material. Donations are suggested.
The Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age national origin, sex, or handicap.
If you feel you have been discriminated against, you may file a complaint with the Kansas Department for Aging & Disability Services at 1-800-432-3535.

Daylight Savings Time Begins
Sunday, March 8, 2015

St. Patrick’s Day
Tuesday, March 17, 2015

Spring Begins
Friday, March 20, 2015

Coming soon >>>

Spring Holiday
Friday, April 3, 2015
Unified Government Office Closed

Easter
Sunday, April 5, 2015

Tax Day - Returns Due
Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Earth Day
Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Arbor Day
Friday, April 24, 2015