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Kent Hampton's Capitol Report August 28, 2013

AUGUST 28TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

Kent Hampton's Capitol Report August 28, 2013

*Submitted by
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Writer*

How Did the Boundary of Missouri Come to Include the "Bootheel"?

The inclusion of the "bootheel" in the boundaries of Missouri has been credited to John Hardeman Walker, a landowner and influential citizen of southeast Missouri. Walker was born in Tennessee in 1794 and came to the New Madrid area of the Territory of Missouri at the age of 16. When the New Madrid earthquakes began a year later, in December 1811, many of the area's citizens moved away. Walker, however did not leave the area and his cattle-raising enterprise; instead he acquired more property and soon became known as the "Czar of the Valley." His extensive landholdings were located in Little Prairie, near present-day Caruthersville. This area fell under the jurisdiction of the Missouri Territory as administered from the town of New Madrid.

In 1818, the Missouri territorial legislature presented a memorial to the United States Congress requesting permission to organize a state government. At that time, the southern boundary for Missouri was fixed at 36°30'. Walker and the people of Little Prairie realized this line would place their lands some 25 miles south of the Missouri border. Little Prairie would be under the jurisdiction of the Arkansas territorial government, not the state government of Missouri. Walker, who preferred the area, and his holdings, to be under the protection of Missouri

state laws, lobbied in Missouri and Washington, D.C. for inclusion of the "bootheel" within the boundaries of the state of Missouri.

November 22, 1818, the territorial legislature adopted a memorial to Congress for the admission of Missouri to the Union, proposing boundaries for the state that included the Little Prairie area. The memorial fixed the boundaries as follows:

"Beginning at a point in the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi River at the 36 th degree of north latitude and running in a direct line to the mouth of the Black river, a branch of the White river; thence in the middle of the main channel of the White river to where the parallel of 36 degrees and 30 minutes north latitude crosses the same; thence with that parallel of latitude due west."

On March 6, 1820, when the Territory of Missouri requested admission to the Union with the modified boundary in the southeast corner, the request was granted. This acquisition increased the total area of Missouri by some 980 square miles (627,000 acres).

This small amount of history just proves what many have thought and said, Missouri wanted the bootheel, and what a valuable asset it is. Schools have started back and schedules and routines have restarted after temporarily being on pause. Activities are in full force from baseball to football. Be a supporter of your community and activities. Every child wants to know someone is there just to watch them. See ya in church Sunday!!

As always, it is an honor to serve you in the Missouri House. If you would like to discuss any issue, please call 573-751-3629. You can also email me at kent.hampton@house.mo.gov . I look forward to hearing from you.

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Farm Tour With Jason Smith

AUGUST 22ND 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

Farm Tour With Jason Smith

*Submitted by
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Writer*

8th Congressional District - Congressman Jason Smith announced the schedule for his Farm Tour. The Farm Tour started on Monday, August 19 and will run through Friday, August 23.

“Agriculture is the number one industry in our Eighth Congressional District and it is essential to the health of our rural economy. Our district is also one of the most diverse agriculture districts in the country growing everything except sugar and citrus fruits. During the weeklong tour I will be in 11 counties and hold 20 tours and discussions,” said Smith. “I am looking forward to being on my Farm Tour and meeting the families who farm the land and raise livestock in our region. We will be listening to cattle farmers; row croppers and we will even visit a Christmas tree farm and a peach orchard. The information I learn on the Farm Tour will be critical as policy is being created in Washington.”

Location on the Farm Tour Schedule Close to Stoddard County

WHAT: Farm Tour stop at Farm Bureau Annual Appreciation Dinner

WHERE: 2114 North Westwood Blvd, Poplar Bluff, MO

WHEN: Wednesday, August 21, 2013 from 6:30PM-8:00PM

WHAT: Farm Tour stop at Blakemore Cotton & Gin

WHERE: 402 North Main Street, Campbell, MO

WHEN: Thursday, August 22, 2013 from 1:30PM-2:30PM

WHAT: Farm Tour stop at Hamra Hydroponics Farm

WHERE: 160 County Road 831, Sikeston, MO

WHEN: Thursday, August 22, 2013 from 3:30PM-4:30PM

WHAT: Farm Tour stop at Farm Bureau Dinner

WHERE: Rebecca Sharp's 1325 Mill Street, New Madrid, MO

WHEN: Thursday, August 22, 2013 from 6:00PM-8:30PM

WHAT: Farm Tour stop at Riceland Foods

WHERE: 918 New Madrid County Port, Marston, MO

WHEN: Friday, August 23, 2013 from 9:00AM-10:00AM

WHAT: Farm Tour stop at Hulshof Soybean and Corn Farm

WHERE: Sowinski Potato Shed, 3780 W. County Road 220, Bertrand,

WHEN: Friday, August 23, 2013 from 11:00AM-12:00PM

WHAT: Farm Tour stop at MRM Ag

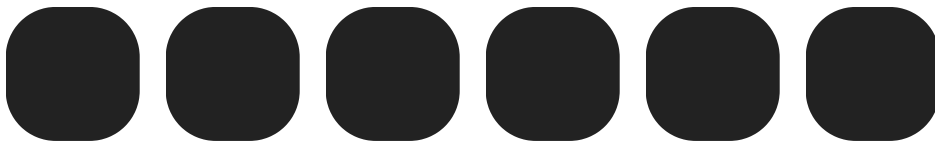
WHERE: 3468 West Highway 80, East Prairie, MO

WHEN: Friday, August 23, 2013 from 1:00PM-2:00PM

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Work-A-Day Tour With Jason Smith

AUGUST 21ST 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

Work-A-Day Tour With Jason Smith

*Submitted by
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Writer*

8th Congressional District - Last week I spent time working various jobs throughout our Eighth Congressional District on a Work-A-Day Tour. My goal in touring the district and working local jobs was to meet new people and to learn about the challenges families in our region are facing.

In Festus I mixed paint at a hardware store, I helped put siding on a house in Ironton, worked the front desk at a resort in Steelville and even got the chance to read the news on a morning radio show in Cape Girardeau.

I cannot tell you how refreshing it was to spend time with people who are not afraid of hard work and who are committed to making their communities a good place to live, work and raise a family. While our district is large and diverse, every person I met last week shared a common pride in our nation and a love for our corner of rural Missouri.

In Farmington I spent time bagging groceries at Country Mart. In conversations I shared with employees and customers they talked about the ever increasing cost of food and how it is impacting their families.

While Washington should not directly control the cost of goods and services, Congress can create an environment of certainty to help stabilize prices. Additionally, a national energy policy that would keep energy costs under control, and input costs in check, which would in turn keep grocery bills lower for Missouri families.

Our rural district is home to many unique small businesses that are truly the backbone of our economy. In Mansfield I spent time working at Engrave-A-Crete during my tour. Although the company is famous for their decorative concrete projects, they have also tapped into a niche market of manufacturing urban chicken houses that are sold nationwide. I worked with the crew at Engrave-A-Crete to completely assemble one of the chicken houses.

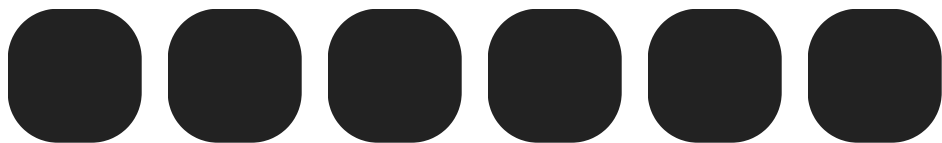
Nestled into the hills of the Ozarks is the tiny village of Rockbridge and the Rainbow Trout and Game Ranch. People come from far and wide to fish, hunt and ride horses at the ranch. During my time working at Rockbridge I helped serve dinner during the evening rush. I met folks not only from the Show-Me State but also from surrounding states who were enjoying the outdoors at Rockbridge. The Rainbow Trout and Game Ranch is a perfect example of a family owned business that provides jobs in our rural district and also attracts business to our region.

Too often politicians in Washington lose sight of the people they represent. When you elected me to be your voice in Congress a few months ago, I promised myself that I would never forget the challenges families are facing back home in Missouri. My Work-A-Day Tour was a reminder that Washington is not the answer to the problems facing our nation. The solution to our biggest challenges will always be the spirit and commitment to freedom that resides in each American.

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*Submitted by
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On this day in 1939, the first televised Major League baseball game is broadcast on station W2XBS, the station that was to become WNBC-TV. Announcer Red Barber called the game between the Cincinnati Reds and the Brooklyn Dodgers at Ebbets Field in Brooklyn, [New York](#).

At the time, television was still in its infancy. Regular programming did not yet exist, and very few people owned television sets--there were only about 400 in the New York area. Not until 1946 did regular network broadcasting catch on in the [United States](#), and only in the mid-[1950s](#) did television sets become more common in the American household.

In 1939, the World's Fair--which was being held in New York--became the catalyst for the historic broadcast. The television was one of fair's prize exhibits, and organizers believed that the Dodgers-Reds doubleheader on August 26 was the perfect event to showcase America's grasp on the new technology.

By today's standards, the video coverage was somewhat crude. There were only two stationary camera angles: The first was placed down the third base line to pick up infield throws to first, and the second was placed high above home plate to get an extensive view of the field. It was also difficult to capture fast-moving plays: Swinging bats looked like paper fans, and the ball was all but invisible during pitches and hits.

Nevertheless, the experiment was a success, driving interest in the development of television technology, particularly for sporting events. Though baseball owners were initially concerned that televising baseball would sap actual attendance, they soon warmed to the idea, and the possibilities for revenue generation that came with increased exposure of the game, including the sale of rights to air certain teams or games and television advertising.

Today, televised sports is a multi-billion dollar industry, with technology that gives viewers an astounding amount of visual and audio detail. Cameras are now so precise that they can capture the way a ball changes shape when struck by a bat, and athletes are wired to pick up field-level and sideline conversation.

A brief legislative update: Veto session begins September 11th in which the legislative body, if it so chooses and has the required votes to override the Governor's veto of legislation passed this past session.

See ya in Church Sunday!

As always, it is an honor to serve you in the Missouri House. If you would like to discuss any issue, please call 573-751-3629. You can also email me at kent.hampton@house.mo.gov . I look forward to hearing from you.

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Jason Smith's Weekly Column

AUGUST 11TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

Jason Smith's Weekly Column

*Submitted by
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Writer*

Missouri's 8th District - After days of heavy rains, many in our Eighth Congressional District are now dealing with flooding and the headaches that will come after the water recedes. I certainly wish the rain could have been spread out over the last several months instead of the last several days.

In the coming weeks Missouri families will be working to clean up their homes, businesses, farms and communities. As we move forward my staff and I will be working to ensure you have the resources you need. Here are a few tips from the U.S. Army to keep in mind should the need arise as we begin the process of getting life back to normal:

- Listen to news reports to make sure water supplies are not contaminated.
- Stay clear of flood waters, standing and moving, as they may be contaminated or deeper than expected.
- Beware of downed power lines.
- Avoid any roads where flood waters have receded as they may have weakened and could collapse under the weight of a car.
- Be extremely cautious when entering buildings and homes, as there may be unseen damage.
- Clean and disinfect everything that was touched by flood water, as it can contain sewage and other contaminants.

The rain and waters will soon be gone. My staff and I are working to make sure attention for a region does not recede with the flood waters.

I will be working to ensure operations between local, state and federal officials continue until life returns to normal for those impacted by flooding. Often times rural America is forgotten.

I will be holding federal emergency management officials' feet to the fire so that rural Missouri gets the help we need. Finally, I ask that you keep our fellow Missourians in your thoughts and prayers. So many have lost so much. In the coming days our families, neighbors and friends will be working to get life back to normal.

If you or your family needs help cleaning up after the flood please contact my offices in Rolla at 573-364-2455, West Plains at 417-255-1515, Farmington at 573-756-9755 or Cape Girardeau at 573-335-0101.

My staff and I are here to help in times of natural disaster.

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