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## Afternoon Catch-Up: Did KS prison let man get COVID?

1 message

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## Afternoon Catch-Up Newsletter


Good afternoon, Kansas City.

Today is Tuesday, July 26th.

### The Big Picture

 A man in a Kansas prison asked to be transferred after two of his cellmates tested positive for COVID-19. The prison declined, and [now he's sick](#).

 Find out which hospital was named [the best in the Kansas City area](#) for the 13th year in a row.

 Missouri will suspend sales tax on back-to-school items Aug. 5 through Aug. 7. [Here's what to know](#) to prepare for the tax-free weekend.

### Here's what you should know

Michelle Orton, an educator in Wichita, said her son, a prisoner at the Lansing Correctional Facility in eastern Kansas, asked to be moved after two of his cellmates tested positive for COVID-19 on July 11.

His request was not granted, she said, and 11 days later he tested positive for the virus.

More than two years into the pandemic, the state hasn't done enough to protect her son from COVID-19, Orton said Monday.

"They're not doing anything for me, Mom," he told her.

He doesn't have any underlying conditions that would physically make COVID more dangerous for him, his mother said, adding that her son has other mental health struggles that are worsened by having to stay in his cell for longer stretches of time due to his COVID infection.

[Read more about the spread of COVID-19 in prisons](#) from The Star's Anna Sporre.

## Kansas City area hospital takes the top spot for 13th year

The University of Kansas Hospital is the No. 1 hospital in the Kansas City metro for the 13th year in a row, according to the annual U.S. News & World Report Best Hospitals ranking released Tuesday.

KU was also named the best hospital in Kansas for the 11th consecutive year. No other hospital has ever received these honors. The hospital is also nationally ranked among the country's top 50 hospitals in eight specialties.

Saint Luke's was named the second-best hospital in Missouri behind Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. North Kansas City Hospital and Saint Luke's East tied for No. 8 in Missouri.

[Find out why Kansas City's hospitals were recognized](#) from my colleague Lisa Gutierrez.

## The Star's picks

🏗️ Getting Arrowhead Stadium ready for the 2026 World Cup will involve removing seats, adding seats and then removing them again. [It'll take two years to get the stadium plans in compliance with FIFA rules.](#)

🌟 Four of the seven members of Wyandotte County's Kansas House delegation are not running for re-election or face the possibility of losing re-election. Here's how that [could reshape KCK's representation in Topeka.](#)

✉️ Opinion: When Kansas City Mayor Quinton Lucas was elected, he promised to keep homicides under 100 per year. But this year, 91 people have already been killed as of Monday. We must demand solutions, [The Star's Editorial Board says.](#)

⚾️ The Major League Baseball trade deadline is a week away, and reporters say the Royals [could be moving as many as four players.](#)



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That's all for now! Thank you for reading and see you tomorrow.



KANSAS

## **Man was kept in Kansas prison cell with men who had COVID. Now he has it, mom says**

In the first months of the pandemic, Lansing Correctional Facility was identified as the largest source of COVID-19 cases in Kansas.



HEALTH CARE

## This is the top Kansas City area hospital for 13th year in a row, says national list

KC's No. 1 and No. 2 hospitals have held those ranks for nearly a decade.

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LOCAL

## Missouri's tax-free weekend is coming up. Here's what to know for back-to-school shopping

There will be no state sales taxes on school supplies, clothes or computers during tax-free weekend in Missouri.



CHIEFS

# Adapting Arrowhead Stadium for 2026 World Cup in Kansas City will be two-year process

The field will have to be modified for soccer, but the Chiefs won't lose seating capacity for games

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GOVERNMENT & POLITICS



## With multiple open seats, Wyandotte County poised for change in Kansas Legislature

Three of the Legislature's most senior members are retiring from the Wyandotte County delegation.



EDITORIALS

## After deadly weekend, Mayor Lucas and Kansas City should be furious over murder rate

Can a new anti-crime initiative from Interim Police Chief Joe Mabin stop the carnage? | Editorial

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FOR PETE'S SAKE

## **‘Royals could be very busy’ before trade deadline, may move four players, per reports**

Multiple MLB writers believe the Kansas City Royals are open to dealing multiple players before the trade deadline.





GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

## Schmitt surges, Greitens falls in polls with week to go in Missouri Republican Senate race

Three polls show former Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens in third place and Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt in the lead.



CRIME

## Former KCK police officer sentenced for sex crimes against child under the age of 14

Nicholas J. Schafer, 28, was sentenced in Wyandotte County District Court after pleading guilty to two counts of aggravated sexual battery.



ROYALS

### Return of Salvador Perez means Royals will have to make some lineup decisions: Podcast

How will MJ Melendez be impacted by return of Salvador Perez?



GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

## Independence mayor says OT investigation report was ‘illegally’ leaked to the media

“This will not stand,” the mayor said about the report becoming public. “This is not the city I know. Nor is it the city I want us to be.”

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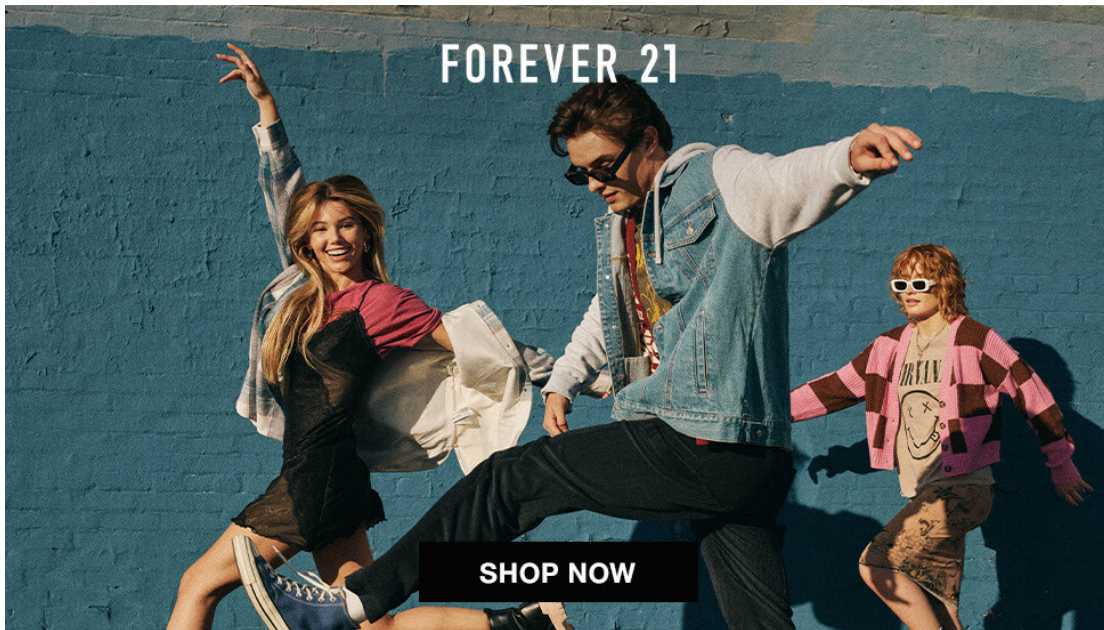
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