



# NEWS RELEASE

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**REAL PEOPLE. REAL STORIES.**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **INTERVIEW WITH FORMER GOVERNOR ANDERSON FEATURED IN UPCOMING ISSUE OF *KANSAS HISTORY***

TOPEKA – The Kansas Historical Society announced that the next issue of its publication *Kansas History: A Journal of the Central Plains* will feature an interview with former Kansas Governor John Anderson, Jr. Anderson served as Kansas governor from 1961-1965, during the centennial of Kansas statehood.

The article, edited by Washburn University political scientist Bob Beatty, is called “‘For the Benefit of the People’: A Conversation with Former Governor John Anderson, Jr.” and is first in a series of articles based on oral histories captured on video by Beatty. In the interview Anderson discusses many issues from education and highway construction to civil rights and Republican Party politics in the late 1950s and 1960s, but many readers will be especially interested in the former governor’s comments on capital punishment in Kansas. “The death penalty was not the main reason I won governor,” Anderson explains, “but it played a part. Governor George Docking just did not believe in the death penalty. . . . When I’d tell people about Docking and his stand on the death penalty they were all on my side. Every speech I’d make I’d mention it and get a good reaction.”

Also featured in the winter issue of *Kansas History* are an article called “‘United We Stand’: Law and Order on the Southeastern Kansas Frontier, 1866-1870” by John N. Mack, professor of history at Labette Community College; “Historians and the Lost World of Kansas Radicalism,” an essay by William C. Pratt, professor of history at the University of Nebraska at Omaha; and several book reviews. The publication will be distributed in early January and can be found online at [kshs.org/publicat/history/new](http://kshs.org/publicat/history/new) or at the Museum Store, 6425 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

*Kansas History: A Journal of the Central Plains* is a publication of the Kansas State Historical Society, Inc., the non-profit organization that supports the Kansas Historical Society, a state agency. This scholarly journal, a recipient of the American Association for State and Local History’s 2003 Award of Merit, publishes new research on Kansas and western history and offers interesting, well-illustrated articles that appeal to both the serious student and the general reader. *Kansas History* is a benefit of membership in KSHS, Inc. For more information on *Kansas History* or KSHS, Inc. membership, visit [kshs.org](http://kshs.org) or call 785-272-8681.

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