



TRAVIS HEYING The Wichita Eagle

Signs were posted in the windows of longtime Wichita restaurant The Anchor on Wednesday morning indicating that it has been seized by the state of Kansas for nonpayment of taxes.

# The Anchor in Wichita has been seized by state officials for nonpayment of taxes

BY DENISE NEIL AND CARRIE RENGERS  
dneil@wichitaeagle.com  
crengers@wichitaeagle.com

The Anchor, the bar and restaurant at 1109 E. Douglas that owner Schane Gross first opened in 2004, has been seized by state tax officials.

On Wednesday morning, Sedgwick County Sheriff’s deputies were seen at the building, and just before noon red signs with the word “seized” were posted in the front windows of The Anchor and its sister business, the Anchor Meat Market.

The signs read: “Warning: This property has been seized for nonpayment of taxes and is now

in the possession of the State of Kansas. Any person who attempts to tamper with this property will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.”

Both businesses have been closed for several weeks. A white sign has been hanging on the door of the Anchor since early April that said the business was closed and would reopen soon with new management. Gross has declined to speak on the record about the restaurant’s status for several weeks.

Zach Denney, who is director of communications with the Kansas Department of Revenue, confirmed via email that the seizure happened on

Wednesday but said that the department couldn’t share any more details. Closing a business is a last resort, so taxpayers are given 48 hours to work on resolving the issues before specific information is shared with the public, he said.

Sedgwick County District Court records show the state has filed seven tax warrants against the Anchor since June 10 for unpaid sales, withholding and liquor excise taxes in 2024 and early 2025. Six of the warrants were filed this year. Court records show outstanding taxes paid in only two of the cases.

In the spring of 2023, Gross expanded her busi-

ness portfolio in Wichita by opening Rail Hoppers in a new building at 3622 Oliver, in the District 96 development. But she closed it a year ago, saying she wanted to focus more on the Anchor. Natasha Gandhi-Rue took over the space for her restaurant The Kitchen.

In February of 2023, she closed the Anchor so that she could perform a long-promised remodel. It reopened early last year.

*Contributing: Travis Heying and Amy Renee Leiker of The Wichita Eagle*

Denise Neil: 316-268-6327, @deniseneil

## This QuikTrip is closing next month, but when will its replacement open?

BY CARRIE RENGERS  
crengers@wichitaeagle.com

The longtime QuikTrip at Kellogg and 143rd East finally has a closing date: May 29.

The store was supposed to close months ago because of construction coming to East Kellogg, but it kept getting extensions to remain open.

QuikTrip has been working with the Department of Transportation in the hopes of keeping the store open right up until construction starts.

The Tulsa chain plans to replace the store, but it’s not sharing details yet.

“At this time, we’re actively exploring various options for relocation but aren’t ready to confirm specifics,” wrote spokeswoman Aisha Jefferson in an e-mail.

“We’re considering multiple areas, including

but not limited to Kellogg. As for the timeline, we’re working diligently to ensure a smooth transition and will share updates as soon as we have more concrete information.”

It’s not likely to be a quick transition to new space.

For instance, in discussing a new store the company plans on the west side, at the southeast corner of Kellogg and 135th West, the chain previously said construction would take approximately eight months once it started.

The process to acquire land and get appropriate permitting takes time, too.

While all that happens with a potential new east-side store, Jefferson wrote that QuikTrip “will miss our customers and the community here.”

Carrie Rengers: 316-268-6340, @CarrieRengers



Courtesy photo

The longtime QuikTrip at Kellogg and 143rd East finally has a closing date: May 29.

## Senate rejects bipartisan measure to undo Trump’s tariffs

BY ROBERT JIMISON  
NYT News Service

WASHINGTON

The Senate on Wednesday rejected an effort to undo President Donald Trump’s sweeping tariffs on most U.S. trading partners, even as a small group of Republicans joined Democrats in delivering a rebuke to a trade policy that many lawmakers fear is causing economic harm.

The vote deadlocked at 49-49, meaning it failed despite three Republicans joining Democrats in favor of a measure that sought to terminate the national emergency declaration Trump used this month to impose 10% reciprocal tariffs.

Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky. and a co-sponsor of the resolution, crossed party lines to support it, as well as Sens. Susan Collins of Maine and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska. But the defections were not enough to make up for the absences of two supporters: Sens. Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I., and Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., who backed a similar measure

this month.

“It’s still a debate worth having,” Paul said of the failed resolution. He noted that many of his Republican colleagues are privately expressing consternation over Trump’s trade war but have carefully calibrated their public responses to defer to the president.

A subsequent procedural vote on the measure prompted Vice President JD Vance to go to Capitol Hill on Wednesday evening to cast the deciding vote to table it, formally ending the effort to challenge Trump’s use of the emergency power for wide-ranging tariffs.

Even if the resolution had passed the Senate, it had no path to enactment. The White House has threatened a veto, and House Republican leaders moved preemptively to prevent any such measure from being forced to the floor until the fall at the earliest. The maneuver was aimed at shielding their members from politically tricky votes on the matter.

The attempted intervention by a bipartisan coalition of senators followed

weeks of rising frustration on Capitol Hill, where lawmakers have continued to fret about the tariffs even after Trump announced a 90-day pause on some of them. The president’s whipsawing moves on trade have prompted even some Republicans to begin pressing for Congress to claw back its constitutional power over the issue.

“The United States Senate cannot be an idle spectator in the tariff madness,” Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore. and one of the resolution’s co-sponsors, said before the vote.

He pleaded with Republicans to vote for terminating the tariffs by repeatedly pointing to an economic report from the Commerce Department released Wednesday that showed that the U.S. economy slowed in the first three months of the year.

“A major culprit is unquestionably Donald Trump and his senseless global tariffs,” Wyden declared.

Weeks earlier, the Senate approved a similar resolution to block 25% tariffs imposed on Canadian imports under the same emergency powers. That measure has stalled in the House as a result of the maneuvering by Republican leaders to block the consideration of such resolutions.

## Trump ousting Michael Waltz, his national security adviser

BY MAGGIE HABERMAN, DAVID E. SANGER AND JONATHAN SWAN  
NYT News Service

WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump is ousting his national security adviser, Michael Waltz, and another senior member of the White House’s foreign policy team, the first significant personnel overhaul of top aides in his second term, according to people familiar with the situation.

Waltz had been on thin ice since he organized a group chat on the commercial messaging app Signal to discuss a sensitive military operation in Yemen and accidentally included a journalist in the conversation.

But most of Trump’s advisers had already viewed him as too hawkish to work for a president who campaigned as a skeptic of U.S. intervention and is eager to reach a nuclear deal with Iran and normalize relations with Russia.

Waltz’s deputy, Alex Wong, who worked on

North Korea issues in Trump’s first term and is considered a moderate Republican with substantial national security experience, is also expected to leave, according to a senior administration official with knowledge of the situation. The official and others spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe the internal discussions.

Waltz, a traditional Republican hawk who never made the public evolution toward Trump’s foreign policy views that Secretary of State Marco Rubio did, has been arguing internally for sharp sanctions against Russia if it fails to agree to a ceasefire with Ukraine. Waltz made that suggestion as recently as Monday at a meeting with the president and senior members of his national security team.

Trump has been reluctant to take anything but symbolic action against Russia, though at times he has threatened on social media to impose sanctions and tariffs.

And Waltz has been

under siege by external allies of Trump for weeks, including far-right activist Laura Loomer, who prompted the president to have Waltz fire several National Security Council staff members for what she perceived as disloyalty to Trump.

Trump has been loathe to fire anyone from Cabinet-level positions since he took office a second time, seeking to avoid the headlines about the chaos that engulfed his first term.

Trump fired his first national security adviser, Michael Flynn, within four weeks of his inauguration in 2017, saying he did so because Flynn, a retired lieutenant general, had lied to Vice President Mike Pence about talks Flynn held with the Russian ambassador. Trump ran through four national security advisers in his first term.

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**EAGLE EXECUTIVES**

**Michael Roehman, Executive Editor**  
316-269-6753, [mroehman@wichitaeagle.com](mailto:mroehman@wichitaeagle.com)

**Marcia Werts, Managing Editor**  
316-268-6216, [mwerts@wichitaeagle.com](mailto:mwerts@wichitaeagle.com)

**Dion Lefler, Opinion Editor**  
316-268-6527, [dlefler@wichitaeagle.com](mailto:dlefler@wichitaeagle.com)

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