



Small, Serene, Simply Garnett.

CLERK'S CORNER

March Monthly Report

For the month of March, we had 13 new Utility Customers in Garnett. We had 259 Delinquent Notices mailed out for not paying by the 15th of the month. Out of 259 delinquent notices, we had 47 utility customers who did not pay by the 25th of the month however 0 were shut off due to COVID-19 and Governor Kelly's Executive Order 20-05. We had two customers call in and ask if they would be shut off and after explaining the situation to them and the Executive Order, they both said well if you are not going to shut me off I'm not going to pay. In light of this, we created a letter and printed it out on bright neon green card stock and I had our Meter Reader Shane Henkle go around to the 47 customers who hadn't paid and have him tape the letter to their doors. I've included a copy of the letter to my report.

March has been challenging with COVID-19. Throughout the month we have fielded phone calls asking a variety of questions about Parks, Camping, City Facilities, and even one wanting file for Unemployment. To help my staff field some of these calls, I put together a phone number and website reference sheet to help better field some of these calls and lesson the time to find phone numbers in case someone has a question or concern that we don't know the answer to. A copy of the reference sheet for you in the event you all are hit with questions.

During the 03/24/20 City Commission meeting, we discussed camping and having some spots designated as extended stay camping for 30 days instead of the normal 7 days allowed. Jenny Schooler was able to research and provide statistics for each spot we have at both the North and South Lake spots. A few spots seem to be used more often than others however most are about the same overall. That breakdown is also included.

As we continue through this pandemic, we are looking at different ways to keep everyone working. Recently I took the lead on trying to get remote access to our server so if a stay at home order was put into place, we had a way to do most of our everyday tasks from home. We had Advantage Computers come down and reset our firewall and make some things more secure as well as adjust our settings to allow the remote connections and after several hours of trying to login from home, losing my Wi-Fi connection, and some frustration (just a little), I went a different direction on a whim and got what needed to work by using Google Remote Desktop. I tested it out Thursday March 26th both at work and at home and as I write this from the comfort of my recliner, I'm glad to report IT WORKS!!!! Throughout the next week, I will be getting with all City Hall Staff and setting them up to utilize this when the stay home order begins. To go along with that, City Manager Weiner and myself have developed a rotation for those deemed as essential personnel during this time and it will coincide with the remote work. Basically, we will have three people working in office, and three people at home working from home. The next week we will switch. It will take some getting used to, some duties may need shifted to others, but we are resilient and will make it work.

Finally, we are making progress with FEMA and last year flooding that resulted in damages to both the Cedar Valley Reservoir and the North Lake Bridge. Recently, two site inspection teams along with some FEMA Mitigation staff were scheduled to come down and inspect both locations as well as the North Lake Spillway however COVID-19 changed those plans. I continue to send them copies of invoices, copies of timecards, Force Account Labor, and Force Account Equipment Summaries for all expense we have incurred from the flooding in order to get a project cost for FEMA reimbursement. We are given 60 days to compile and submit everything and so far, I feel we have done a far better job during this disaster than was done during the last one. Just like anything the more times you do it, the easier it is as you understand how the process works. Since the COVID-19 pandemic was declared a National Disaster, we will be doing this process for it as well, so I've already got a jump on it by logging hours devoted to the pandemic as well as other expenses incurred. More to come as one finishes up and the other continues.

Thanks
Travis Wilson
City Clerk/Municipal Court Clerk

NUMBERS/SITES FOR QUICK REFERENCE

Unemployment Questions

Kansas Department of Labor

- (785) 575-1460 – Topeka Office
- (913) 596-3500 – Kansas City Office
- (316) 383-9947 – Wichita Office
- (800) 292-6333 – Toll Free Number

COVID-19 Information/Prevention

- www.cdc.gov
- (785) 448-6559 – South East Kansas Health Department
- (785) 448-2674 – Family Care Center
- (785) 448-3131 – Anderson County Hospital

Local Updates

- Garnett Kansas Facebook Page
- Anderson County Strong Facebook Page
- Anderson County Facebook Page
- Anderson County Emergency Management Facebook Page
- (785) 448-6797 – Anderson County Emergency Management
- (785) 448-6823 – Law Enforcement Center Dispatch

CAMPING 2019
NUMBER OF NIGHTS RESERVED THRU CITY HALL

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q
1	SITE	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	**SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC		TOTAL		
2	NL #2																
3	9	0	0	0	1	12	11	10	6	7	6	0	0		53		
4	10	0	0	0	2	7	7	14	5	14	5	0	0		54		
5	11	0	0	0	6	9	9	26	7	13	9	0	0		79		
6	12	0	0	0	2	5	11	13	12	10	3	0	0		56		
7	13	0	0	0	2	9	6	13	7	3	3	0	0		43		
8	14	0	0	0	4	7	4	7	5	7	5	0	0		39		
9	15	0	0	0	0	6	10	15	8	13	5	0	0		57		
10	16	THIS IS FOR OUR CAMP HOST TO STAY FROM APRIL TO SEPT											0				
11	17	0	0	0	2	2	7	10	4	5	3	0	0		33		
12	18	0	0	0	0	4	2	9	5	9	3	0	0		32		
13	19	0	0	0	0	2	2	7	2	8	3	0	0		24		
14	20	0	0	0	0	4	14	11	2	8	3	0	0		42		
15	21	0	0	0	0	15	5	10	4	4	7	0	0		45		
16	22	0	0	0	0	9	6	13	6	4	3	0	0		41		
17	RED JACKET																
18	1A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0		
19	1B	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		1		
20	2A	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0		4		
21	2B	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0		2		
22	3A	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0		2		
23	3B	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0		3		
24	4A	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	0	0	0		3		
25	4B	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0		3		
26	5	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		6		
27	6	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		6		
28	7	0	0	0	0	6	0	2	0	0	0	0	0		8		
29	8	0	0	0	0	3	0	5	2	0	0	0	0		10		
30	SL																
31	A	0	0	0	0	31	0	0	0	10	0	0	0		41		
32	B	0	0	0	0	8	1	3	0	8	0	0	0		20		
33	C	0	0	0	0	10	2	3	0	8	0	0	0		23		
34	D	0	0	0	0	6	2	3	2	3	0	0	0		16		
35	E	0	0	0	0	11	2	10	2	5	0	0	0		30		

**SEPTEMBER
THIS NUMBERS
DO NOT REFLECT
THE CAMPERS
FOR
CORNSTOCK.
ALL SPACES
WERE TAKEN IN
ALL 3
CAMPSITES FOR
THE 2 DAYS



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UTILITY DISCONNECT INFORMATION

March 25, 2020

Attention Resident:

The City of Garnett will not disconnect utility service for non-payment as customers and communities are facing potential hardship from coronavirus. This temporary moratorium includes residential and business customers.

Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommend limiting person-to-person contact amid coronavirus in our communities. The City of Garnett's primary objective in this situation is to protect and keep customers and the community safe. As a result, we have closed access to the public and we wanted to highlight various bill payment options available to customers and note steps taken in customer-facing business operations to mitigate the threat of COVID-19.

If you typically pay in person, there are several quick, easy, and convenient ways for customers to pay their monthly utility bill remotely. These include:

- **On-line at www.simplygarnett.com** – available 24 hours a day, seven days a week using a credit card. Payments are posted the next day.
- **By Phone** – dial 785-448-5496 option 1, using a credit card.
- **Auto-withdrawal** – automatic check withdrawal allows your payment to be made from your savings or checking account on a monthly basis, available if you bank locally at GSSB or Patriots. Call 785-448-5496 option 1 to enroll. If you do not bank locally, contact your bank to see if they offer this service.
- **U.S. Mail** – mail your payment to City of Garnett Utilities, P.O. Box H, Garnett, KS 66032.
- **Payment Drop Boxes** – available 24/7, located west of the main lobby entrance and in the drive through alley
- **Drive Through Window** – located in the alley between 4th and 5th Avenues. Open 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday – Friday.

Customers are encouraged to stay current with their bills to avoid getting too far behind and if anyone has any billing or customer service questions, they can call 785-448-5496 and a utility representative is available to assist. Residential customers who are financially impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak may qualify to set up payment arrangements by calling 785-448-5496, option 1.

Thank you,

Travis Wilson
City Clerk
City of Garnett, Kansas

131 West 5th Avenue P.O. Box H, Garnett, Kansas 66032
(785) 448-5496 Fax (785) 448-5555



Garnett Police Department

131 West 5th Avenue

Garnett, Kansas 66032-0230

Telephone
(785) 448-6823

Fax
(785) 448-0088

GPD Monthly Report for March 2020

On March 03, Officers recovered an abandoned vehicle at North Lake. Through interviews, this vehicle was said to be stolen, however no owner has reported it to date.

On March 03, Officers stopped a driver for numerous traffic violations. Through the investigation of the stop, the 39-year-old male was arrested for DUI Drugs. This case was forwarded to the County Attorney.

On March 07, Officers were called to a residence in Garnett for a welfare check. Upon their investigation, a 19-year-old male was arrested for Possession of Methamphetamine and other charges. This case was forwarded to the County Attorney.

On March 11, Officers stopped a vehicle for driving without headlights at 0156 hrs. Upon the investigation, the 53-year-old driver was arrested for DUI Alcohol. This case was forwarded to the City Attorney.

On March 11, Officers took a report from Orscheln that someone came in and stole a pair of work boots, wearing them out of the store. Suspect identifiers were given; however, no suspect was located. This case is open.

On March 13, Officers were called to a Hit and Run at an address in Garnett. Upon arrival, witnesses assisted in locating the driver of the vehicle who fled on foot and was hiding in a nearby backyard. The driver, an 18-year-old male, was arrested for numerous charges to include DUI Alcohol and Leaving the Scene of a Non-Injury Accident.

On March 20, Officers were dispatched to a Domestic Fight. Through the investigation, the 40-year-old male was arrested for Domestic related charges. This case was forwarded to the City Attorney for prosecution.

On March 25, Officers were called to a loud party. Upon arrival, Officers located a minor that was drinking and an adult whom admitted to purchasing the alcohol for the minor. The 20-year-old and 25-year-old males were charged accordingly. This case was forwarded to the City Attorney.

On March 26, Officers were requested by the Anderson County Sheriff Office to assist with a burglary in progress. Upon their arrival, the suspects fled the scene in a vehicle. The vehicle was located a short time later and through the course of the interviews, one suspect was arrested. This case was handled by the Anderson County Sheriff Officer and forwarded to the County Attorney for prosecution.

On March 31, Officers were called to a residence in Garnett for an animal complaint. Upon arrival, Officers located 4 animals with no food and water and one dead goat. Over 8 hrs later, Officers again went to the residence and observed the animals had still not received adequate care. The 40-year-old male who resides at the property was cited for 3 counts of Animal Cruelty. This case was forwarded to the City Attorney for Prosecution.

Throughout the month of March, there have been 4 reported vehicle burglaries, with more not reported. It is believed juveniles are responsible for the crimes based on what has been taken and that they started when school was dismissed for the year. GPD is actively working these cases.

For the month of March, GPD took a total of 228 calls for service, conducted 65 traffic stops, and had 14 calls of service for animal control.

Kurt King

Chief of Police

Garnett Police Department

131 W 5th, Garnett, KS 66032

Activity Totals

03/01/2020 - 03/31/2020

	All Arrests	Felony Arrests	Misd Arrests	Other Arrests	Summons	Traffic	Criminal	Supplement Report	Field Interview	Reports	Total Activity
Totals	14	1	7	6	50	36	10	76	28	26	254

Garnett Police Department

131 W 5th, Garnett, KS 66032

Agency Statistics

March 2020

Reports Today: 1	MTD Reports This Year: 25
YTD Reports This Year: 86	YTD Reports Unapproved This Year: 5
MTD Reports Last Year: 39	YTD Reports Last Year: 105
MTD Arrests This Year: 13	YTD Arrests This Year: 41
MTD Arrests Last Year: 26	YTD Arrests Last Year: 63
MTD Citations This Year: 50	YTD Citations This Year: 120
MTD Citations Last Year: 60	YTD Citations Last Year: 153



March 2020 Directors Report

- Kansas Works Mobile Career Center was canceled in March due to COVID-19
- Destination Creation Class was scheduled to start on Thursday, March 19 at the Garnett Library Archer Room we have six participants however due to COVID-19 the training will not resume until we are safe to meet in person.
- Working with businesses to help direct them to the correct source to answer their questions concerning the COVID-19.
- Working with two potential new businesses for Garnett.
- Continue efforts to save the historic building at 140 East 5th Avenue. The tax sale date will be announced after it is again safe to meet in person.
- Organized the Morning Mingle business group Zoom meetings. This group has elected to meet weekly to encourage and support each other.
- Set up a Zoom Land Bank information meeting with ACDA and City and County Commissioners for April 2.
- Continue to answer RFI's from Kansas Department of Commerce.
- Met with media outlets to continue to promote the Love What's Local Garnett Campaign.
- 2nd Annual Chocolate Walk in honor of International Women's Day was held March 7 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Approximately 70 tickets were sold. A check for \$750 was presented to WINGS by Morning Mingle.
- Attended SEK, Inc. Manufacturing Day in Humbolt, KS at B&W Trailer Hitch.
- Continue meeting with representatives from NetWork Kansas & Department of Commerce
- Worked diligently to send out information to Anderson County businesses on the CARES Act as well as SBA and other grant and loan programs.
- Attended webinars and conference calls on COVID-19 to help our businesses through this difficult economic crisis.

Garnett Power Plant Monthly Report

Finished up clearing brush on East end of Lake and on Rail Trail. Thanks for the help Street and Electric crews

Built meatal lids for meter boxes for Gas & Water

Repaired wind damage on #5 engine exhaust stack, had to put new Tin back on.

Thanks Electric Line crew for the help

Airport Report
Garnett Industrial Airport
March 2020
Pat Schettler – Manager

1. Completed March Report.
2. Did March Fuel Transactions and Invoices. Still learning the FuelMaster system.
3. Sent March Weather Data to the National Weather Service. The observer class could be delayed a long time. They have been happy with my observations.
4. Reviewed and updated Based Aircraft on FAA website. N2490R (a Cessna 182) is a new aircraft that is going to be based here.
5. Called Vyve and updated the router and password. I updated the FBO WIFI system. Pilots should be able to pull up in front of the FBO and update their EFIS. It is working well.
6. Built a new bulletin board for the FBO.
7. Readied the Gravely ZTR, the Ford 8N, the Heckendorn mower/sprayer, the Craftsmen rider, and the Craftsmen push mower. The weedeater won't start, so when I have time I am going to go through it. Using an extra from home for the time being.
8. Pulled distributor off Ford tractor. Replaced points and condenser and adjusted carburetor. It is running well.
9. Mowing has started for the 2020 season! I mowed for the first time on March 17th. I started spraying the weeds coming up through the tarmac.
10. Deep cleaned the FBO. Disinfected as much as I could.
11. Filled the 150 gallon upright fuel tank.
12. Due to the city shutting down all facilities to the public, I locked the FBO, only allowing access by appointment. Transient pilots can gain access by calling me and I can unlock. Hopefully this is a very short term situation.
13. Kept organizing the records. It is going to be an ongoing project.
14. Learning the airport budget.
15. Received and replaced the aircraft fueling hose. It ended up only costing half what Gary and I expected it to cost. \$257. We still need to replace the short hose from the pump to the reel.
16. Started taking part in Zoom department head meetings on Monday.
17. Still part time.
18. Adjusted fuel price to \$4.05 for transient pilots. \$3.75 for locals.
19. I started updating the Facebook airport page with daily Hi/Lo temps and rain totals.
20. Total moisture for March was 4.11 inches. Total March snowfall was 0.01 inch.
21. March Average Hi/Lo Temp – 59.1/44.3.

Flight Activity

Flight activity is down dramatically because of the stay at home order. A couple weekend flights for touch and gos. Some flights by local pilots; mostly currency flights.
Mechanic shop finished their work on the 182 engine swap.

Recommendations

1. City Hangar and Airport Shop roofs. (pursuing grant from KDOT)
2. Fueling ramp pavement.
3. Fuel hose was ordered and received. I replaced it on March
4. Cracks in primary runway. (won a grant from KDOT) Repairs pending.
5. Heights and Hazard documentation for the FAA.

Fire Department

Nuisance Activity

Much of March was a confusing and concerning month with the Virus and the closing of facilities such as the landfill.

Junk notices - 5

Disabled or untagged cars - 2

Brush - 1

Hopefully citizens will take care of their own trash and items already out for city wide cleanup

Fire Activity

Unfortunately, we have not been able to have any training or business meetings as set forth in the social distance guidelines.

The fire department responded to 2 false alarms involving the same intoxicated person.

The department responded to one car wreck

Responded to 6 EMS calls, two of which were critical calls.

Due to the Covid Virus and EMS guidelines our responses have been altered.

Garnett Housing Authority Report April 2020

Essentially it is business as normal here. With the exception of the following additional duties:

1. Delivering the mail 6 days a week
2. Delivering the meals on wheels 5 days a week
3. Delivering all the UPS and FedEx packages which is almost daily
4. And ensuring no one is entering the buildings who is not staff to try to keep our seniors safe and healthy.

We are in the process of finishing the re-evaluations for Parkside Place I which need to be completed by the end of this month.

Lawn mowing has started, which means almost 2 full days of mowing with no interruptions or work orders. We did receive our new mower which is nicer because it is a little smaller and fits into some areas nicer than the older one did.

We do continue to take applications for all 3 areas, however all applicants are informed that we are not moving anyone in at this time to try to prevent the spread of Covid-19 especially if they are from out of county. Everyone understands so far. The soonest we have a new move-in as of today is set for May 1, 2020.

March Wastewater Report

We hauled 47.8 tons of processed sludge to the Anderson County Transfer Station this month. We've been busy rodding more mains, mainly roots in the lines with the early warm-up. We also rodded a couple of culverts for the Parks Dept.

Belt press is running fine, took the mixing chamber apart and cleaned so that the polymer and sludge mixes right. We finally found the manhole by Aburns offices, ordered a riser ring for it so we don't have that problem again. We still have Southern Star and D & S Sanitation dumping here at the plant.

Eric Trammell

Wastewater Supervisor

Parks/Recreation/Cemetery
Monthly Report April 8, 2020

With the recent restrictions and orders put in place it has been a few very tough weeks for the Parks and Recreation Department. It started with the cancelling of the spring soccer season. We had around 200 kids registered this year and due to the cancellation had to issue around \$8000 in refunds to those people. The next step we had to take was to close the recreation center. Since its closing we have been in the process of going through the membership list on a daily basis to see who has expired so we know how much time to credit them back when we do open. We have also cleaned and sanitized the facility from top to bottom so when we do reopen there is no risk to our members and visitors. I am guessing that the recreation center will be a very popular spot once we have the opportunity to reopen. The next step was to close the playgrounds to the public. This has taken awhile for some to get used to but I think that most have learned and are now following the rules that we have put in place. Again I hope that this is a short lived situation so we can get them back open soon. Along with the playgrounds we have yet to open any of the public restrooms for the same reason the playground is closed there is no way that we can guarantee that all the surfaces are cleaned, sanitized and safe from spreading COVID-19. However all of them are ready to open when the time comes.

We have been able to get some good out of things however since the restrictions have been put in place. We have been able to bring on some summer help a little earlier than usual. We have brought back one of our returning seasonal workers from last summer and he has been helping keeping up with the mowing and getting some other jobs done we would normally not have the time to do this time of year. With the high school baseball/softball season being cancelled we are now able to work on the ballfields a little more extensively without having to work around practices and games. We are also able to let the grass in some areas that are overused during ball seasons a chance to recover and grow back in.

The weather has finally taken a turn for the better the past couple of weeks which means mowing season is upon us. The guys have been out mowing on a regular basis. If the weather holds like it is supposed to we will be right back into our normal mowing pattern very soon. At this point we have mowed everything at least once with several areas being mowed a few times thus far.

With the current stay at home order we have had to make a few adjustments as far as parks and recreation go. At this point and time we plan on having the summer baseball/softball season and to open the pool as well. I have been talking to the towns that we play baseball/softball with and we have come up with several different scenarios for the ball season depending on what restrictions or orders as far as social gathering go are still in place. Currently the plan is start practices the middle of May and games will be June and July with a shortened schedule.

As far as the pool goes I plan opening the pool as scheduled if we can get staff on board and all of our guards that need certified through their certification classes by opening day. We are in the same boat of many of the pools around us are. We were unable to get guards certified due to the shutdown of public facilities. Once these reopen we will try to get them in classes and on the stand as soon as we can. This may lead to opening a little later than we normally do on Memorial Day weekend but hopefully we will still have a fun pool season. If we are forced to change the opening date we will then take a look at our programming and adjust things accordingly.

Even with the recreation center closed we have been able to come up with some things to offer people. Sami has done some personal training via videos and live chats. There has also been some discussion of setting up a YouTube channel to place workout tips and videos on so people can still access them. This is one of the great things that having Sami as a staff member brings us. She will be doing all of this in the few hours that she can work each week.

Like I mentioned in last month's report we have submitted a Healthy Pathways Grant for upwards of \$500,000 total possible dollars. We have not heard anything back as of yet. The review process is currently taking place and we should know more later this month. We spent a lot of time and energy on this front and we were very proud of what we submitted and have very high hopes.

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Thanks
Phil Bures
Parks and Recreation Director

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

april 8, 2020

GARNETT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Membership is stable at 85 members, and waiting on some final renewals. We look forward to continuing to serve our local business community in 2020. We have had several inquiries about membership, and look forward to retaining current members and adding members in 2020.

The Morning Mingle Chocolate Walk was a success! The result was 70 tickets sold and \$750 donated to W.I.N.G.S. Community turnout was wonderful, and to see downtown busy with shoppers was a beautiful sight.

WeKAN! Conference with Susan on March 18th was cancelled, as well as the SBDC/Pitt State/GACC free workshop.

We are offering an opportunity for businesses to decorate the window and advertise their business, as another benefit of membership. We also encourage Members to utilize the Business Spotlight on our Website. Our first business to decorate the window was Faith & Photography, who has since been able to open in her own building space.

Thank you, Commissioner Gwin for the idea of a Community Give Back Program. GACC and ACDA are working to finalize the details, and will be introducing this to the community soon. This will benefit to local businesses and local economy to keep everyone going as the pandemic continues.

Weekly eblasts continue. Monthly duties continue, including keeping bank accounts current, social media active, visiting businesses to meet their needs. We continue to reach out to members, assist with training, websites, and finding the right resources. I work with Susan on newsletters, Town Talk, Press Releases, getting information to public in a timely manner, and improving providing detailed information, as well as post-event follow up, keeping websites and calendars current and taking meeting minutes. We are also working on updating the Neighborhood Revitalization Brochure and Travel KS event listings.

Chamber Board, Tourism Board, and Airport Board meetings continue, as well as Morning Mingle and Love What's Local. We encourage ALL businesses to participate in the Morning Mingle and Love What's Local, as there are opportunities for networking, education, and promotions of local business.

We continue to put out as much information as possible daily on COVID-19 and disaster resources available to businesses, as well as meeting changes and event cancellations. We are also keeping in close contact (via email, phone and remote meetings) with business owners to keep websites and social media updated as businesses have changes in operations. We encourage you all to stay safe and healthy, and don't hesitate to call if you have questions or need additional information on what resources are available.

I am proud to serve my community through the City of Garnett and the Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kris Hix, Executive Director

Community Development/Tourism Report for Commission
By Susan Wettstein
April 8, 2020

On March 13th, we began the process of backing up on the plans and promotion we have been working on for the Spring and tourism season. COVID-19 is and has been on the forefront of our daily work. From releasing post after post of postponed activities, to the cancellation of special events. Creating a Coronavirus webpage and constantly updating citizens and visitors on the Governor's Order and subsequent County Order and City Statement. We would much rather brag about all the great activities happening, but our time is spent advising people to wash their hands, avoid the City's playground equipment, and to help citizens understand what is deemed "essential activities" by the Kansas Governor. We are also working diligently to help Economic Development and the Chamber encourage local businesses to apply for the SBA funding that is available to help pay wages, utilities, mortgage interest in the form of a loan (loan forgiveness) program, and small business loans for product, inventory and other needs. Our goal is to share valuable information to our community and beyond, but most of all assure the community our better days and in front of us.

The Spring issue of *Town Talk* is out by mail and on our website. We included the cancelled and postponed events, as well as those events still scheduled to settle the questions had we simply removed them. *Town Talk* was ready to roll to almost 2,400 households within our zip code. Then, information developing on COVID-19 resulted in having to make substantial changes and rewrites before it was printed.

Fifty (50) additional pole bracket kits were ordered for the 46 banners sponsored in the last phase of the Garnett Remembers patriotic banner program. The final total number of banners for this program is 254. The banner brackets and banners were received just yesterday (April 7). We will be working on the tentatively scheduled May 21 Celebration of Service event.

Bids were sent to firework display companies and were returned that no shooters at this time are available on the date of July 4th. I have received information on two additional companies and will research our options with them, but we may have to move Libertyfest to the weekend of July 11th.

We are currently working with farmers' market organizers on helping with the 2020 Garnett Farmers' Market, to help increase participation by vendors and consumers.

Between the weather and COVID-19, no physical work to report on the speaker system for the past 30 days, but it is still on the work schedule. However, Troy and I have been working on parts of the project until Bo can make it to Garnett to work on the system equipment.

We are working to encourage citizens to complete the 2020 Census. We hope to launch the promotion of the business support program as suggested by Commission Gwin.

We are participating in a number of video meetings with Kansas Tourism and other state agencies, Destination Development and local organizations. There is more of a workload during this time, in these circumstances, than normal, but keeping the communication with these entities keeps us focused. We have a lot of work on tap to help kickstart tourism and the economy once given the green light.

We have received compliments on the music playing on the town square, and for the crack repairs on the Prairie Spirit Trail. City employees have been helping with the Harvesters food distribution. Thank you to city crews for the work they do.

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