



#### City Commission



Brigitte Brecheisen-Huss, Commissioner



Jody Cole, Commissioner



Greg Gwin, Mayor

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# Garnett, Kansas

## From The Commission...

In collaboration with Anderson County and the City of Garnett, KwiKom Communications is now bringing gigabit fiber to Garnett! While you may know KwiKom as the leading fixed wireless provider already in the area, now you will be able to get previously unattainable speeds with the addition of fiber-to-the-home and business within the city limits of Garnett, followed by the City of Greeley.

An agreement was reached with Anderson County and the City of Garnett for KwiKom to interconnect certain county facilities, as well as city buildings, to allow connectivity for better communications, reliability, security, software options and speed of communications between select governmental buildings in Anderson County.

As a part of this agreement, KwiKom will be running gigabit fiber by every home and business in the current city limits of Garnett, as well as Greeley. This allows every business and resident within those boundaries to utilize KwiKom's service to achieve gigabit internet services. The unprecedented reliability of fiber is unmatched and previously thought of as unattainable for Garnett businesses and residents who require more speed. Garnett residents and businesses will also have access to phone service through KwiKom that will give the ability to keep existing phone numbers and television service coming within the next year.

In addition, enterprise services, such as dedicated internet, transport, and PBX phones will be available for current and future businesses, industries, and the schools in Garnett.

KwiKom is approximately 30 days from completing a similar project in Osawatomie and once

completed, will begin construction in Garnett. The estimated timeline for Garnett; weather permitting, is 6 to 8 months to completion. As of this writing, a contract is being drafted and the agreement between the County, City and KwiKom will be finalized with terms of the agreement which include:

- 1. Inter connectivity between listed county and city buildings. This means KwiKom will provide service transport over the fiber optic network that the city and county can utilize with their IT department as they choose. This list will include many facilities, but notably, courthouse, law enforcement offices, landfill, county barn, annex, city hall, city departments, power plant, water and wastewater facilities, among others.
- 2. KwiKom will agree to run lines on city poles and underground, as determined by agreement with county and city, to pass every resident and business within the city limits of Garnett. Soon after, Greeley will receive the same fiber past all businesses, schools and residents.

KwiKom Communications is a locally owned and operated company. Their investment in our community is a welcomed expansion of the ser-

vices already available in Anderson County and will assist in attracting new businesses and people to our community and local area. If you have questions or comments for KwiKom



## From the City Commission continued from page 1...

on how to obtain highspeed internet, feel free to contact them by visiting their website, <a href="www.kwikom.com">www.kwikom.com</a>, or call 800-379-7292.

Respectfully,

Greg A. Gwin, City Commissioner

## From the City Manager...



It is that time of year when the leaves change and the weather cools. I am personally looking forward to a little relief from this steamy summer! As we switch gears in a couple of months from the threat of severe thunderstorms to the threat of ice and snow, I think it is important to remind everyone who they should contact during a power outage. If an outage occurs during normal business hours (Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) please

contact City Hall at 785-448-5496, option 1. If an outage occurs outside of normal business hours, please try the City Hall number first and if your call is not answered, please contact the Anderson County Communications Center at 785-448-6823. City staff will be arriving to answer phone calls as soon as they have been made aware by dispatch of an outage. Our electric department responds as quickly as possible for these calls and we appreciate your patience during these times.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused many of our beloved Fall events to be cancelled but we will continue to persevere and finds ways to still join together as a community! I have enjoyed seeing the different groups on social media, dedicated to bettering our community in these unchartered times. The children of this community have returned to school and I would like to commend our area school boards and staff for their handling of safety precautions. If you see an educator, please thank them!

We are moving forward on several projects. The airport has received three grants for improvements that are beginning this year. We have been awarded a KDOT Connecting Links Grant for stormwater improvements to Maple Street that I anticipate beginning in late 2021 or mid-2022. We are getting closer and closer to breaking ground on the new water treatment plant. I anticipate that project commencing by the end of 2022. We will be seeing Kwikom Communications all over town here shortly as they will be bringing fiber internet to each home and business in the community. Commissioner Gwin has more on this exciting news in his article. We will also be starting some stormwater improvement projects at both Lake Garnett and Cedar Valley Reservoir over the next couple of years. You can find project updates in my bi-monthly City Manager Report posted under the "Meet Your Commission" tab on our website.

As you may have heard, we will unfortunately be unable to conduct a Free City-Wide Clean-Up Week. The County's landfill also will not have Free Dump Week at the county landfill this year as has been traditionally. The Anderson County Commission, which has always partnered with the City to make this wonderful program possible twice a year, has decided to discontinue offering this service. The County Commissioners have

decided instead to provide to each Anderson County property owner a \$5 coupon to be used toward a landfill disposal charge beginning in 2021. While we are disappointed that we will no longer be able to offer our traditional service, I encourage you to please take advantage of the coupon when receiving it. The County will include the coupon in the property tax statements to be mailed out this fall.

While we were unable to work out a better solution on the clean-up week program, I would like to thank the Anderson County Commission for partnering with the City to bring fiber internet to our community. This project would not have been possible otherwise.

We have several new faces joining us here at the City. I encourage everyone to turn the page to "meet" our new staff!

I would like to remind all of our residents that they can contact City Hall if they ever have concerns, complaints, or compliments for City Staff. We are here to serve this community and we enjoy hearing from our residents. Please stop in or give us a call at 785-448-5496 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. You can also call my office directly at 785-504-4302.

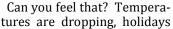
Thank you for all making this community such a wonderful place to live and call home!

Sincerely,

Christopher T. Weiner, City Manager

## From the City Clerk...

What a year it has been! If you asked anyone how this year would have gone, I doubt anyone would have guessed we would be dealing with a pandemic. I would like to thank each one of you in the community for your patience as we all have battled through these challenging months.





are approaching, and the start to everything pumpkin spice. Fall is HERE! If you have not noticed our camping has been a hotspot this year. Week after week, spots are filling up which is awesome! With the increase in camping we have been looking at alternative methods for scheduling those spots and we are thrilled to announce that we will be going to online camping reservations through our Rec Desk program! We are still working through some minor tweaks in the setup. However, our current plan is to do a soft roll out between October and November with a full release January 2021. We are one of a few places that still take reservations over the phone, as several surrounding communities all have online portals for the camping reservations. As we finalize the process, more information will be released on how to utilize Rec Desk, as well as how to reserve those camping spots.

As we move through the rest of 2020, please call us with any questions, comments, or concerns. We still have all options for paying utility bills. Our drive-up window is staffed. Payments can be taken there or dropped in our drop box. The front office staff can take payments both in the lobby and over the phone. We encourage everyone to utilize our online bill pay option, or the automatic draft option through your bank if your bank is local.

Page 2 TOWN TALK

#### From the City Clerk, continued from page 2...

Thanks again for bearing with us. I hope you all have a great rest of the year and a Happy Holiday Season.

Sincerely,

Travis Wilson, City Clerk

## Meet New Airport Manager -Pat Schettler



Hello! My name is Pat Schettler. I have taken over full time from Gary Ecclefield as the airport manager after his untimely passing in December. I worked with Gary for many years as a pilot and as the Airport Advisory Board Chairman.

Gary is sorely missed in the community and at the airport.

My family and I have been in Anderson County since 2003. I work as an Enroute Air Traffic Controller with the Federal Aviation Administration in Olathe at ZKC. It is the big odd looking building with all the antennas on top at the corner of I-35 and 135th. I retired in March from the FAA, but un-retired soon after when Covid reared it's head. I hope to retire soon from the FAA when things return to some resemblance of normal. My wife works at the Farm Service Agency in Garnett as a Program Technician with the CRP, NAP, and Livestock Programs.

I am a pilot of fixed wing aircraft and also fly powered paragliders. You might have seen me flying around the area in my free time underneath the wing of my flying lawn chair. The airport board and I have coordinated the yearly Air Fair, which I hope to bring back next year. We also were able to get the Kansas Air Tour to stop in at our airport last year and we hosted over 50 aircraft. It was a great turnout from the community and

a lot of local school kids got to see many planes and helicopters on a beautiful day. The kids were also able to see a gyro-copter from Wichita, which is pretty rare in this area.

It has been a busy year at the

airport and I hope to continue to build on what we have accomplished this year. If you ever had the urge to learn to fly, there is

no time like the present! It is more affordable than you think, and I would love to talk to you about it. Also, if there are planes taking off and landing, don't hesitate to pull into the airport parking lot and watch the action.

If anyone has any concerns, please contact me at the airport by email, airport@garnettle.net or phone at 7

port@garnettks.net, or phone at 785-448-6931.

Thank you,

Pat Schettler Airport Manager



# Economic Development Preparing Your Work Ready Community

ACDA Director Julie Turnipseed has been working hard to establish the WorkKeys testing for individuals in Anderson County. High school seniors can participate in WorkKeys testing this fall. In 2019, fifty-two students USD 365 students and nine USD 475 students signed up to test. Work-



Keys testing is not only for high school age students, but for anyone looking to further their career. Please visit the "Workforce Development" tab under Economic Development on our website, www.simplygarnett.com, or contact Julie by email, julie@garnettks.net, and by phone, 785-448-5496, Option 5.

## Meet New Zoning Official Garrett Gross

I am Garrett Gross, the new Building Official and Zoning Administrator. I have been working with the City of Garnett since July 27th. I am a recent graduate from Pittsburg State University and am originally from Ottawa. I



have spent most of my time here familiarizing myself with the Garnett zoning and subdivision regulations, as well as the 2018 Building Codes, so that I am better able to understand and implement them.

I am available at City Hall to answer any questions that may arise pertaining to permits, ordinances or zoning regulations and requirements. Information and permit applications are also available online at www.simplygarnett.com. I look forward to becoming a knowledgeable asset to both the city and community as I continue my time here.

Sincerely,

Garrett Gross, Building Official/Zoning Administrator

## Airport Receives Funding for Needed Projects

The airport is getting some much needed repairs paid for by the FAA and the CARES Act. The airport's Engineering Consultant, Caleb Coltrane, City Manager Chris Weiner and the Garnett Airport Advisory Board were able to take advantage of the FAA's one-hundred percent payment grant on the over \$400,000 project. It is replacing a section of pavement considered as the fueling apron, that is over forty (40) years old and that has deteriorated to gravel in many places. Also, part of the project is a Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) funded crack fill on the current runway that has been postponed for over a year. These projects are to commence this fall.

Airport Manager Pat Schettler invites Garnett citizens to feel free to come out to the airport and watch the progress of the project. Also, if you are on Facebook, look for and "Like" the Cornett Industrial Airport F.

"Like" the Garnett Industrial Airport Facebook page. The Airport Manager posts the daily forecast and also the previous day's weather and rain totals.

KEEPING YOU INFORMED Page 3

## A Message from the Garnett Housing Authority

The Garnett Housing Authority wants to remind everyone coming to visit tenants at Parkside Place I and Parkside Place II that we do require masks to be worn in the buildings by all visitors. This is a precaution to try to help protect our tenants. Visitors in any of the common areas need to have a mask on that covers their nose and mouth. Once in an apartment the mask can be taken off. Please remember to put it back on when leaving the apartment. We will continue to do



what is safest for our tenants and staff by wearing masks when in the buildings ourselves.

Applications for residency are still being accepted for both Parkside and Park Plaza North. For those that are not sure of the difference between the housing facilities, they are:

- Park Plaza North is non-subsidized rent for persons 55 years and older. These are one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments with garages. All utilities and extended basic cable is included in monthly rent.
- ♦ Parkside Place Apartments are subsidized apartments for persons ages 60 years and older. These apartments are HUD subsided and all income and assets are looked at to determine monthly rent payment. There are HUD guidelines for these apartments, as well that are followed when determining if an individual qualifies. If you are interested please give us a call at the Garnett Housing Authority Office, 785-448-6990, or come by to visit Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The office is located at 116 Park Plaza North.

We have hired two new maintenance workers, Michael Costa and Jason Sumner. They are still learning the ropes, training with the intent to take over at the end of the year when our current Maintenance man Randy Weimer retires. Randy will be missed and we wish him the best in retirement.

Angela Cowan and myself attended the Kansas Housing annual conference virtually this year, as it was canceled in person due to Covid-19. Hopefully next year things will go back to some kind of new normal for everyone.

Until things change please be safe and stay healthy.

Sincerely,

Karlyn Hulett, Executive Director, Garnett Housing Authority

#### Did you know?

Photography is a hobby for our GHA Executive Director, Karlyn Hulett. The sunset photo on page 1 was taken from this original photo, right. The red glow of the Garnett, Kansas sunset was said to be created by the smoke from wildfires in states west of us.



Do you have a picture of a "Simply... Unforgettable" Garnett area sunset? Share it with us on Facebook @garnettks! #garnettsunsets

## **Garnett Senior Center News**

We are sharing the following information from the Garnett Senior Center:

#### **Holiday Gatherings Cancelled**

Due to Covid-19, the annual Thanksgiving and Christmas community dinners will not be hosted at the Garnett Senior Center this year.

#### Meals on Wheels

The delivery of meals to homebound citizens is a priority for the Garnett Senior Center. Local volunteers take approximately 35 to 40 meals each day to residents, Monday through Friday. "Grab 'n go" is an option where people can come to the back door of the Garnett Senior Center and take their meal with them. Persons interested in this pickup option must contact Marci at the Senior Center to request this service and to determine if they qualify for the meal program. This meal service program is provided through East Central Kansas Area Agency on Aging. The ECKAAA office is located in Ottawa.

#### **Building Improvements**

Facility updates and improvements to the Garnett Senior Center have been made possible through the generosity of donations and contributions by individuals, memorials and foundations, including the Goppert Foundation, Throckmorton Foundation, Wal-Mart, Patriot's Bank, Jim Cooper and Farmer's State Bank. The Garnett Senior Center receives no city or county funding or tax dollars. Due to Covid-19, the cancelling of walkin community meals has reduced the Garnett Senior Center's funding capabilities.

#### Volunteer

The Garnett Senior Center is always looking for volunteers to help with meal delivery. "We are always looking for volunteers to help with the meal delivery. Taking meals to individuals gives us a chance to make sure they are okay, go to the post office for them, take their city bills to city hall and do other miscellaneous things for them. We hope they are as glad to see us as we are to see them." – Joyce Martin, Senior Center Board Member and volunteer. There are eighteen (18) members on the Board, all of whom work very hard to support this local effort.

Volunteer Donna Roberts was instrumental in establishing the Meals on Wheels delivery to Greeley. The meals are transported from the Garnett Senior Center by volunteers that pick them up and distribute in Greeley.

The City of Garnett provides volunteers for meal delivery within the city limits on Thursdays, but more help is needed. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Garnett Senior Center.

For additional information about the Garnett Senior Center, meal services and other programs, please call 785-448-6996. The Garnett Senior Center is located at 128 W.  $5^{\rm th}$  Avenue, across the street from Garnett City Hall.

## **Meet ACHS Student Body Representative**

Nathan Gwin, son of City Commissioner Greg Gwin and wife Stacy, has been selected by the Anderson County High School as the 2020-2021 Student Body Representative to the Garnett City Commission. Nathan is a Senior at ACHS. He will attend meetings and bring ideas and suggestions from students to the City Commission while he learns about municipal government.

Please join us in welcoming Nathan's participation.



Page 4 TOWN TALK



#### Sept. 8-Oct. 15 Beginners Yoga P.M.

5:30 p.m., Tues. & Thurs., Rec Center

#### Sept. 9-Oct. 14 Advanced Yoga

5:30 p.m., Wed., Rec Center

## Sept. 28-Nov. 19 Basketball Signups

Online: www.garnettrec.com

The above classes, as well as other recreation program dates are ongoing. Please check the RecDesk portal for information, www.garnettrec.com.

#### **OCTOBER**

#### 1 **TOPS Meeting**

9 a.m., Every Thursday, First United Methodist Church

## **Garnett Farmers' Market**

4:30-7:00 p.m., Main Street

#### **Concert on the Lawn with Matt Foltz and Trevor Holman**

6 p.m., Courthouse Lawn, hosted by Morning Mingle

#### **Anderson County Historical Society** Meeting

6:30 p.m., Museum

#### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

7 p.m., Every Tuesday and Thursday 501 S. Oak Street

#### **USD 365 Board of Education**

Meeting, 7 p.m., Board Office

#### 2-3 **Shop Hop**

Shop participating area businesses, sponsored by Love What's Local Garnett. Ten percent (10%) of Proceeds to be donated to W.I.N.G.S.

#### 3-4 **Garnett Enduro Club Kart Races**

Road Course, Lake Garnett. North Lake Road closed to public during races

#### 3 **Steering Committee Meeting** 8 a.m., Dutch Country Cafe

4-10 National Fire Prevention Week

#### 4-10 National 4-H Week

#### 5 **Anderson County Commission**

Meeting 9 a.m., Every Monday, Annex

#### Building **Garnett Lions Club Meeting**

#### 6 p.m., VFW Post 6397 **Celebrate Recovery Meeting**

6-8:30 p.m., Every Monday, Garnett Church of the Nazarene

#### 6 Storytime for Preschoolers-Online

10 a.m. Every Tuesday, Garnett Public Library

#### 6 **Emergency Community Blood Drive 12**

11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Methodist Church basement

#### **Rotary International Meeting**

12 p.m., Every Tuesday, Dutch Country Café

## **Tourism Advisory Board Meeting**

4:30 p.m., City Hall

#### **Community Foundation Meeting**

5:30 p.m., Recreation Center

#### **American Legion Bingo**

6 p.m., Every Tuesday, VFW Post 6397

#### **Garnett Day**

7

8

9-11

9

11

12

Fun Fact: The City of Garnett incorporated on this day in 1861. Next year we celebrate 160 years!

#### New Story Walk, "The Berenstain Bears and the Big Road Race"

Prairie Spirit Rail Trail, First Avenue to Park Road, courtesy of the Garnett Public Library

#### Friends of the Prairie Spirit Rail **Trail Meeting**

6 p.m., patio meeting, John and Joyce Malone residence.

#### **Garnett Farmers' Market**

6 p.m. Final market of the season, Main Street

#### **Delphian Masonic Lodge Meeting** 7:30 p.m., Masonic Lodge

**Lake Garnett Grand Prix Revival** 

## Friday:

**Drivers Welcome Tailgate Dinner** 6 p.m., Fairgrounds, Lake Garnett Saturday:

8:30 a.m., Lake Garnett, track activities

9 a.m., Autocross at Airport

12 p.m., Car Show and Charity Rides, Town Square

Sunday:

9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Lake Garnett, track activities

## **Morning Mingle Business Meeting**

8 a.m., location TBA

#### **Airport Advisory Board meeting** 4 p.m., Garnett Municipal Airport

Chicken & Noodles To Go (& more)

Fundraiser for Hope And Love of the 22 Laity Fund (H.A.L.L.), at The Barn, 32292 NE Norton Road

**Columbus Day - City Departments** are Open!

American Legion Post 48 Meeting, **American Legion Auxiliary Meeting** 6 p.m., VFW Post 6397

#### **Library Board Meeting**

6 p.m., Garnett Public Library

**Garnett Area Chamber of** 

**Commerce Board Meeting** 

7 p.m., City Hall

#### **Garnett Housing Authority Board** Meeting

7 p.m., GHA Office

13 LAST DAY to register to vote for General Election, Anderson County Clerk's Office, courthouse

**Recycle Trailer @ Country Mart** Parking Lot, 7 a.m.-7 p.m., courtesy

of Anderson County Solid Waste

**City Commission Meeting** 6 p.m., City Hall

## **Golden Prairie Beekeepers Meeting**

6:30 p.m., Extension Office

14 FIRST DAY of early voting, Anderson County Clerk's Office,

courthouse VFW Post 6397 Meeting,

**VFW Auxiliary Meeting** 

6 p.m., VFW Post 6397

## **Garnett Optimist Club**

7 p.m., Garnett Hotel & RV Park

#### **Walker Art Committee Meeting** 15

4 p.m., Garnett Public Library

#### 18 **VFW Breakfast**

9 a.m.-1 p.m., VFW Post 6397

#### 19 **Garnett Lions Club Meeting**

6 p.m., VFW Post 6397

**DEADLINE:** Anderson County SPARK Grant for small businesses

and non-profits, Anderson County Clerk's Office

20 **ACDA - Economic Development Meeting** 

5 p.m., City Hall

**Garnett BPW Meeting** 

6 p.m., Town Hall Center

**Garnett Planning Commission** 

Meeting, 6 p.m., City Hall

#### Oct. 22-Nov. 28 Beginners Yoga 5:30 p.m., Tues. & Thurs.,

**Recreation Center** 

## **Emergency Food Distribution**

2 p.m., Fairgrounds, North Lake Park.

<sup>\*</sup>Dates and times subject to change without notice.



Octobe 24	r continued  Kansas Rails-to-Trails Extravaganza 100m/100k, 50m/50K Marathon race from Ottawa to Iola or Garnett and back on Prairie Spirit Rail Trail State Park	11	Veterans Day Holiday Observed City Hall closed. *Wednesday trash route will receive service on Thursday; Thursday and Friday routes will receive service on Friday. VFW Post 6397 Meeting,	28	50th Annual Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade 6:30 p.m., Town Square Parade theme: "Golden Christmas Memories: 50 Years of Joy"
	9th Annual Toy Run		VFW Auxiliary Meeting	DECE	MBER
25	12 p.m., The Roadhouse motorcycle charity ride. All vehicles welcome.  Murder Mystery Dinner Party 12:30-2:30 p.m., The Chamber Players Community Theatre	11 12	6 p.m., VFW Post 6397  Garnett Optimist Club  7 p.m., Garnett Hotel & RV Park  Delphian Masonic Lodge No. 44  Meeting	1	Tourism Advisory Board Meeting 4:30 p.m., City Hall Community Foundation Meeting 5:30 p.m., Recreation Center
27	City Commission Meeting		7:30 p.m., Masonic Lodge, Garnett	3	USD 365 Board of Education
	6 p.m., City Hall	13-15	Holiday Open House Weekend		Meeting 7 p.m., Board Office
31	Halloween		Sample, taste and shop Garnett	5	Steering Committee Meeting
	Light the Night Trunk or Treat		Businesses		8 a.m., Dutch Country Cafe
	6-8 p.m., First Christian Church	13	Morning Mingle Business Meeting 8 a.m., location TBA	7	Garnett Lions Club Meeting 6 p.m., VFW Post 6397
NOVE	MBER		Airport Advisory Board Meeting	8	Recycle Trailer @ Country Mart
1	Daylight Savings Time Ends	15	4 p.m., Garnett Airport  VFW Breakfast		Parking Lot, 7 a.m7 p.m., courtesy
	"Fall Back" your clocks 1 hour!	13	9 a.m1 p.m., VFW Post 6397		of Anderson County Solid Waste
	Murder Mystery Dinner Party 12:30-2:30 p.m., The Chamber	16	Garnett Lions Club Meeting		City Commission Meeting 6 p.m., City Hall
	Players Community Theatre		6 p.m., VFW Post 6397		Golden Prairie Beekeepers
2	Garnett Lions Club Meeting	17	ACDA - Economic		Meeting
	6 p.m., VFW Post 6397		Development Meeting		6:30 p.m., Extension Office
3	Election Day (General Election)		5 p.m., City Hall  Garnett BPW Meeting	9	Parks & Rec Advisory Board
	Tourism Advisory Board Meeting		6 p.m., Town Hall Center		Meeting
	4:30 p.m., City Hall		Garnett Planning Commission		5:30 p.m., Garnett Rec Center
	Community Foundation Meeting 5:30 p.m., Recreation Center		Meeting, 6 p.m., City Hall		VFW Post 6397 Meeting, VFW Auxiliary Meeting
5	USD 365 Board of Education		Parks & Rec Advisory Board		6 p.m., VFW Post 6397
	Meeting, 7 p.m., Board Office		Meeting		Garnett Optimist Club
7	Steering Committee Meeting	19	5:30 p.m., Rec Center Emergency Food Distribution		7 p.m., Garnett Hotel & RV Park
•	8 a.m., Dutch Country Cafe	13	2 p.m., Fairgrounds, North Lake	10	Delphian Masonic Lodge No. 44
9	American Legion Post 48 Meeting, American Legion Auxiliary Meeting		Park (Tentative date)		Meeting 7:30 p.m., Masonic Lodge
	6 p.m., VFW Post 6397		Walker Art Committee Meeting	11	Morning Mingle Business Meeting
	Library Board Meeting		4 p.m., Archer Room, Garnett Public		8 a.m., location TBA
	6 p.m., Garnett Public Library	24	Library		Airport Advisory Board Meeting
	Garnett Housing Authority	24	City Commission Meeting 6 p.m., Garnett City Hall		4 p.m., City Hall
	Meeting	25	Garnett Optimist Club Meeting	14	American Legion Post 48 Meeting,
10	7 p.m., GHA Office  Recycle Trailer @ Country Mart		7 p.m., Garnett Hotel & RV Park		American Legion Auxiliary Meeting 6 p.m., VFW Post 6397
10	Parking Lot, 7 a.m7 p.m., courtesy	26 & 27	Thanksgiving Holiday Observed		Library Board Meeting
	of Anderson County Solid Waste		City Hall closed.		6 p.m., Garnett Public Library
	City Commission Meeting		*PLEASE note special holiday trash		Garnett Area Chamber of
	6 p.m., City Hall	28	schedules - see page 7. Small Business Saturday		Commerce Board Meeting
	Golden Prairie Beekeepers	20	Support local, shop Garnett!		7 p.m., City Hall
	Meeting 6:20 n m Evtonsion Office				

Continued on page 7...

6:30 p.m., Extension Office

#### It's Happening Calendar continued...

#### **DECEMBER**

#### 14 **Garnett Housing Authority Board** Meeting

7 p.m., GHA Office

15 **ACDA - Economic Development Meeting** 5 p.m., City Hall **Garnett BPW Meeting** 6 p.m., Town Hall Center **Garnett Planning Commission** Meeting, 6 p.m., City Hall

**17 Emergency Food Distribution** 2 p.m., Fairgrounds, North Lake Park (Tentative date) **Walker Art Committee Meeting** 4 p.m., Walker Art Gallery

20 **VFW Breakfast Buffet** 9 a.m.-1 p.m., VFW Post 6397

21 **Garnett Lions Club Meeting** 6 p.m., VFW Post 6397

22 **City Commission Meeting** 6 p.m., Garnett City Hall

23 **Garnett Optimist Club Meeting** 7 p.m., Garnett Hotel & RV Park

25 **Christmas Day Holiday Observed** City Hall closed. Merry Christmas! \*Thursday and Friday trash routes will receive service on Thursday.

31 **New Year's Eve** \*Thursday and Friday trash routes will receive service today. FINAL CALL - Garnett Remembers Patriotic Banner Program sponsor

**JANUARY 2021** 

New Year's Day holiday observed, **Happy New Year!** 

ships are due by today at City Hall.

\*See Special Trash Service Schedule found on this page.  $\rightarrow$ 





Garnett City residents will have the opportunity to cast their vote on Tuesday, November 3rd for the candidate of their choice to become the newest city commissioner. Those candidates are Cody Gettler and Eugene Grimes. The winner of this election will take the position currently held by Brigitte Brecheisen-Huss.

Polls open for the General Election at 7 a.m. and close at 7 p.m.

You matter to our community. Please, don't forget to vote!

## City Provides Brush Only Clean-Up Week



The City of Garnett will hold a free brush only pick-up service to all City of Garnett refuse customers the week of October 12 to 16. Brush to be accepted includes tree limbs yard and garden debris only. No refuse, trash or household items will be allowed to be mixed in with brush. If such items are bagged or piled together with brush, then all contents provided for pick-up will not be removed. The City will dispose of the brush at the city-owned burn site specifically for tree limbs, yard and garden debris.

Brush is to be piled near the alley or curbside near where weekly trash is picked up. City crews will begin on Monday, October 12 on the north side of the city, working their way south until the entire town has been covered. They will not return to an area once they have been by, so please be ready.

The City of Garnett does provide for special pick up service for disposal of household items. Such service is available for city residents for a fee. Please visit www.simplygarnett.com or contact City Hall for details.

## **Special Trash Service Schedule**

FOR THE FOLLOWING HOLIDAY WEEKS:

Please have bins out early in the morning as times will vary.

#### VETERAN'S DAY

Normal Service Monday 9th Normal Service Tuesday 10th No Service Wednesday 11th Thursday 12th Wednesday Route Thursday & Friday Routes Friday 13th



#### THANKSGIVING

all City offices are closed on 11/26/2020 & 11/27/2020

Monday 23rd Monday/Tuesday Morning Routes **Tuesday 24th** Tuesday Afternoon/Wednesday Morning Routes Wednesday 25th Wednesday Afternoon/Thursday/Friday Routes **Thursday 26th** No Service

Friday 27th No Service



#### all City offices are closed on 12/25/2020 CHRISTMAS

Monday 21st Normal Service Tuesday 22nd Normal Service Wednesday 23rd Normal Service Thursday 24th

Thursday & Friday Routes

Friday 25th No Service



#### **NEW YEAR'S** all City offices are closed on 1/1/2021

Monday 28th Normal Service **Tuesday 29th** Normal Service Wednesday 30th Normal Service Thursday 31st Thursday & Friday Routes

Friday 1st No Service





## **Garnett City Hall** 131 West Fifth Avenue

P.O. Box H Garnett, Kansas 66032 Telephone: (785) 448-5496 Email: info@garnettks.net

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Drive-Up Window: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**KEEPING YOU INFORMED** Page 7

# The Real Final Call! Patriotic Banner Project

arnett Honors

PRESLEE R.

**FRITZ** 

As of May, 2020, the Garnett Remembers Patriotic Banner Project had grown to over 262 honorees. Due to the size and scope of this project for the City's small electric department crew to install, it has been decided that additional banner applications will only be accepted now through December 31, 2020. We made this same announcement in 2019, but as of the end of this year, no additional banners will be ordered until such time the current banners deteriorate and the need arises to purchase more.

Garnett Remembers is a patriotic pole banner project that began in 2016 to recognize and honor those who have, or are currently serving in the US Military.



Persons having questions about the project can contact Susan Wettstein at Garnett City Hall, 785.448.5496, Ext. 7, email: susan@garnettks.net.



# Anderson County's Buy A Brick Campaign to Support Veterans Memorial

Donations are being accepted for the Anderson County Veterans Memorial. For individuals, families, businesses and organizations wanting to donate a minimum of \$100 can do so and an engraved brick can be placed on the grounds of the memorial showing your support for this project. Please find the donation forms available:

Online- www.andersoncountyks.org or www.simplygarnett.com Printed forms can be found at:

- Office of Anderson County Clerk, 100 E. 4th Avenue
- Garnett City Hall, 131 W. 5th Avenue
- Garnett Public Library, 125 W. 4th Avenue

The Buy A Brick Campaign will be ending very soon. For more information about the Veterans Memorial and this fundraising effort, please contact the Anderson County Clerk by email, jwettstein@andersoncountyks.org, or by phone, 785-448-6841.

## **Did You Know?**

Please welcome the following new city employees:

Ryan Alley, Recreation; Michael Baumgardner, Police Officer; Michael Costa and Jason Sumner, Housing Authority Maintenance Workers; Jeff Finn, Jeff Mucklow and Patric Vandenburg, Power Plant Operators; Garrett Gross, Building Official and Zoning Administrator, and Mandi Johnson, Library Clerk. Transfers: Zachary Smothers, Power Plant Operator, is now working as a Gas and Water Maintenance Worker.

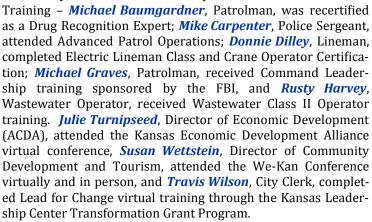
John Helms, Refuse Department – 40 years; Karen Mueller, Recreation Center Yoga Instructor – 5 years; Zachary Smothers, Gas and Water Maintenance Worker – 5 Years;

We congratulate *Jim Wilson* on his retirement. Jim began his career as a Garnett Municipal Power Plant Operator in May of 1997. He retired as the Power Plant Assistant Supervisor on July 31 after more than 23 years of service.

Milestone Anniversaries:

We also wish *Randy Weimer* well as he retires. Randy started as Assistant Maintenance Supervisor for the Garnett Housing Authority in January of 2011 and filled the position of Supervisor in April 2012. Randy will officially retire December 31, 2020.

We thank both of these gentlemen for their dedication and hard work for the citizens of our community and wish them well for years to come.



The Garnett Police Department was able to purchase a Datapilot 10 cell phone kiosk, to download cellphones to assist with criminal investigations. The Police Department was also awarded a USDA grant to purchase two vehicles fully equipped and incar laptops for all the patrol cars. The grant covers about 55 percent of the total costs.

Please be sure to see the announcement of holiday trash schedules on page 7.

We are excited to report that outdoor recreation is alive and well in Garnett, Kansas, with a 52% increase in 2020 camping revenue over revenues received in 2019.

The Garnett Public Library announces that a new StoryWalk story will be on display starting in October. "The Berenstain Bears and the Big Road Race" can be viewed on the Prairie Spirit Rail Trail, between First Avenue and Park Road, just prior to the Lake Garnett Grand Prix Revival (October 9-11).

Did you know the most convenient way to pay your City of Garnett utility bill is by bank auto draft? This option is easy to set up



Page 8 TOWN TALK





## **Natural Gas Public Awareness Message**

A customer's awareness and understanding of our city's natural gas system is key to helping maintain the most safe and effective way we transport energy. In our nation's time of heightened security, it is more important than ever to help guard against damage or attack. Therefore, it is your responsibility to serve as an extension of our safety efforts.

**Report Trouble.** Report to the City of Garnett any suspicious activities, exposed pipe or damaged facilities (meters, regulator settings and buildings).

**Call Kansas One-Call.** Remind excavators to use the Kansas One-Call System. IT IS THE LAW. Call before you dig. It is a toll-free call, 1-800-DIG-SAFE (1-800-344-7233), or simply Dial 811. Wait for the site to be marked by utility, cable and telephone company personnel. Respect the marks. Dig with caution.

#### Leak Recognition -

Despite our efforts to monitor and protect our facility from damage, leaks happen. The best way to detect a pipeline leak is to use your sense of sight, sound and smell.

#### Look for ...

- $\Rightarrow$ Dead vegetation.
- ⇒Bubbling in standing pools of water.

#### Listen for ...

⇒Unusual noises like hissing, whistling or roaring sounds.

#### Smell for ...

- ⇒The specific odorant put in natural gas.
- ⇒Strange and unusual gaseous or chemical odors (such as skunk, rotten eggs or petroleum type of smells).

#### Suspect a Leak? - STAY SAFE!

**Follow these instructions:** If you think you smell natural gas, report it to the Gas Department as soon as possible by calling Garnett City Hall, 448-5496. After business hours, call the Anderson County Law Enforcement Dispatch Center at 448-6823.

**GAS EMERGENCY:** If you have a gas emergency and the gas odor is very strong and it seems to be everywhere, DO NOT USE your telephone. Evacuate Immediately. DO NOT OPERATE any light switches or attempt to air out the house. Leave the area. Go to a neighbor's house. Upon reaching a safe distance dial 911 and wait for emergency personnel to arrive.

#### About Bare Steel Gas Lines -

The City has an ordinance pertaining to the existence of bare steel gas service lines, yard lines and gas lines that enter homes underground. Bare steel gas lines are a real safety concern because they are old and have been corroding since they were installed years ago. The longer these lines are in use, the higher the potential is for a gas leak to occur. The Gas Department surveys the entire natural gas system every year, checking for leaks. There is always odorant in the gas to help determine if there is a gas leak. This is a good reactive approach to natural gas safety, which means if there is a leak, we recognize it, report it, and have it repaired.

The ordinance requiring the replacement of these types of gas lines is now being enforced. When a property is sold either by a realtor, auction, or independently by the owner, if bare steel gas lines exist they must be replaced. Both the seller and buyer need to be aware and understand the regulations regarding this ordinance. The ordinance affects as many as 800 homeowners

in Garnett. In the case of bare steel gas lines, we must take a proactive approach as well. This means we eliminate the source of the leak before it occurs. The number one concern for the Gas and Water Department is for the safety of our customers.

Additional information on gas safety, leak recognition and response is always available and on display at city hall. If you have any questions regarding natural gas, please call city hall and I will be happy to return your call and visit with you.

Thank you,

Raymond Arnett Director of Gas and Water Distribution

## Water Department Announces Water Utility Maintenance Procedure

The City of Garnett Water Department is currently conducting a free chlorine burn for disinfection of the water distribution system as of October 1, 2020. This process will last about two to three weeks. Flushing and chlorine burns are routine distribution system maintenance conducted by utilities with chloramine disinfection. Chlorine burns also reduce the potential future occurrence of coliform or other types of bacteria in the system.

During this free chlorine burn, the water disinfection process will be changed from chloramines to free chlorine which is a stronger and faster-acting disinfectant. The fire hydrants will be opened to allow flushing of the system to help remove sediment from the pipes and distribute the change in disinfectant. Customers may notice open fire hydrants throughout the city during this period. At the end of the free burn, the standard chemicals used for disinfections will be reintroduced to the system and be returned to normal operating conditions.

Possible Noticeable Effects: It is important to understand that during this temporary change there may be some discoloration or cloudiness in the water and possibly a chlorine odor or taste. If this is experienced, please run the water through the tap until it clears. Minor pressure fluctuations and small air pockets may also occur. Fire hydrant flushing should remove most of the color and odor, but some may reach customer lines during the process. Discoloration in laundry is also possible during this time. It is recommended that customers check for discolored water before adding clothes to their washing machine. If discolored water appears, customers can set their washing machine to spin cycle to purge the water, and then refill the machine with clear water. In addition, customers may wish to purchase and use a cleaning additive to help prevent or remove any discoloration that may occur.

Is the Water Safe to Drink? Yes, the water is safe to drink throughout this process and boiling water is not necessary. Customers may notice a change to the taste and smell from the water and may want to let their water tap run for several

minutes or until the water runs clear. Any odor and color issues will subside as the flushing is completed. Customers who use tap water for kidney dialysis at home should properly monitor their process for complete neutralization of disinfectant residual and



should contact their doctor for more information. Customers



Garnett, KS 66032

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER

PRSRT STD **ECRWSS** U.S. POSTAGE PAID **EDDM Retail** 

## **Garnett Recreation Center, Goppert Wellness Center Member Information**

Welcome to the Garnett Recreation Center-Goppert Wellness Center, where members can enjoy 24-hour access. Online membership and registration for a number of programs is just a click away at www.garnettrec.com. If you are not a current member, fall is a great time to sign up. Work out at your leisure and when your schedule permits. Stop by the Rec Center to learn about new membership advantages.

Businesses - Are you interested in offering membership to the Rec Center as an employee benefit? Contact Phil Bures, Director of Parks and Recreation, and find out how.

The membership fee structure for the Garnett Recreation Center is as follows:

Membership Classification	Monthly Fee	<b>Annual Fee</b>	Pre-pay & Save!
Single, ages 11-18	\$20.00	\$200.00	\$40.00
Single, ages 19-54	\$30.00	\$300.00	\$60.00
Family (of 4)	\$40.00	\$400.00	\$80.00
Senior Citizen, ages 55+ Daily Fee, all ages	\$20.00 \$ 3.00	\$200.00	\$40.00

Pre-paid annual 2 months free!

That's right! Prepay for 10 membership includes months and receive a full vear membership!



**Rec Center Office Hours** 

Monday-Friday: 2:00-7:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Saturday:

## DID YOU KNOW? Continued from page 8

if your bank is located within the Garnett community. By directly paying from your checking account, the worry and hassle of remembering to pay your monthly utility bill on time is eliminated. Get started today by calling City Hall, 785-448-5496, Option 1. Our office staff will be happy to help you.

Anderson County is offering a grant program, allocating approximately \$500,000 in SPARK funds to small business and non-profit organizations that were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The grant application forms are available at the Anderson County Clerk's Office (courthouse), Garnett City Hall, on the county website, www.andersoncountyks.org, and city website, www.simplygarnett.com. The deadline for submission of applications is October 19, 2020. Grant awards will be announced on November 2nd. All local small businesses and non-profits are encouraged to apply. The direct link for more information on this grant and others available to local business entities is:

#### https://www.simplygarnett.com/grants-and-loans.html

The Community Give Back Program is nearing the end of its funding. The program is a joint venture between Anderson County Development Agency and the Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce to help non-essential businesses during the Covid-19 crisis. The Chamber Office facilitates this program and reports, to date, over 33 businesses benefitting from the program with over \$24,000 in local purchase receipts turned in

and \$1,710 in Chamber Bucks distributed. Both ACDA and GACC contributed \$2,000 each towards the Community Give Back Program. Please contact Kris Hix, Chamber Director, for more information, 785-448-6767.

## Water Department Announces... Continued from page 9

utilizing the water for aquariums should monitor the chlorine residuals.

Why is this burn out necessary? The City routinely collects samples and monitors the water quality. The Garnett Water Department is tasked with ensuring that water in all points of the system is acceptable to our customers. Over time minerals and metals, which are naturally present in water sources, can increase and attach to pipes and release when there are changes in pressure, resulting in discoloration, odor or affected taste. Other processes such as nitrification and the growth of biofilm can also occur in water distribution pipes. The biofilm growth can cause a reduction in the effectiveness of residual disinfectants over time. This free chlorine "burn-out" will help cleanse the lines, reduce the occurrence of nitrification and biofilm, and ensure that we provide quality water for the citizens.

If you have questions please contact Garnett City Hall, 785-448 -5496, and the Garnett Water Department will return your call.

**TOWN TALK** Page 10