

Town Talk



City Commission



Greg Gwin,
Mayor



Brigitte
Brecheisen-
Huss,
Commissioner



Jody Cole,
Commissioner

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Garnett, Kansas

From The Commission...

Part of what makes a town a community, and more importantly a home, is one that creates opportunities for cherished memories to be made. I am reminded of this as in just one day my children rode their bicycles to eat lunch at the Ray Meyer Gymnasium, as part of ECKAN's summer lunch program, signed up for swimming lessons at the Garnett Public Pool, and then cooled off at the Garnett Public Library with ice cream sundaes during the kickoff of the Universe of Stories summer reading program.

Garnett is never lacking in the activities and events it has to offer during this season. Aside from the abundance of recreation opportunities, there are many events we are able to look forward to as well, such as local churches hosting vacation bible schools, celebrating Libertyfest on July 6, and attending the Anderson County Fair during the week of July 29 through August 3.

Moreover, there are many nonprofits diligently working to improve our community. In particular, I would like to highlight a new organization to Garnett called Founders Keep. Founders Keep is a group that meets to discuss and learn about the founding documents of our country (e.g. the Constitution) with the intent to become informed, so as to not only learn about the goals and vision of the founders of our country, but to also pass that knowledge on to our local students through educational programs.

Our local Anderson County Kansans For Life group is also busy in its efforts to help protect and defend the right to life of all humans from the moment of conception to natural death. Working closely in support of the LifeCare Center for

Women in Ottawa, the group will host an executive from LifeCare Center on Tuesday, September 17 at 7 p.m. at Garnett Town Hall to share about the services they provide for mothers and families. They will also share how LifeCare will benefit Anderson County in the near future through a new mobile ultrasound van. This mobile ultrasound van will be offering free pregnancy tests and free ultrasounds to women who are pregnant, with the hope of showing them the precious life they are carrying, while providing helpful resources to the expectant mother and family. LifeCare Center will establish a schedule for this van to make trips to the area to help encourage pregnant women to choose life in Anderson County. The magnitude of LifeCare Center Services will be covered from 7 to 8 p.m., with questions and refreshments after.

Another organization providing invaluable resources to our town is the Anderson County ECKAN Community Center. ECKAN is providing free lunches for the youth in our community from May 28 until August 9 at the Ray Meyer Gymnasium from 12:00-12:30 p.m. There have been a record number of children attending this year, some days bringing in close to 100 kids! It is certainly a blessing for our local youth to be fed nutritious meals at no cost, and is made all the more enticing by the occasional prizes the children can win for attending.

This summer we hope to also settle the question of whether we should have a 5-member commission. As you may know, given the petition that was signed against the charter ordinance we created to institute a larger governing body, as was

From the City Commission continued...

preferred by the majority of voters in our last election, we are forced to take the question back to the voters for a final say in the matter. I am optimistic in saying this summer, because I am hoping we will be able to send mail ballots to all registered voters to weigh in on the issue, as this is the only way we can foreseeably have greater participation than what would be expected if we waited until the fall during an off-year election. I think it would be a shame for the outcome of this vote to be decided by lower attendance at the voting polls than what we experienced last year when the question passed.

In the midst of the discord relating to this issue, I will take the position I have continued to take from the start, and that is I will support the majority decision of the community. As I have been serving on the commission, I wanted people to be provided with the option to increase the commission size to realize advantages, I believe, would greatly improve the governing body both procedurally and in terms of policymaking. If you are interested in learning more about what those benefits are, I encourage you to go to www.facebook.com/Brecheisen.Huss and watch the posted video titled, "5-Member Commission Speech-Garnett, KS."

We are given only a handful of summers with our children and grandchildren. With the precious few years we have to enjoy their childhood, every day is an opportunity to choose to be present and pour love, joy and hope in to the future generation of Garnett. There are boundless opportunities to bring families together in Garnett, and I hope every day you and your family choose to take advantage of those that will create lasting memories.

Sincerely,

Brigitte Brecheisen-Huss, Commissioner

From the City Manager...

Rain, rain go away!

Due to the tremendous amount of rainfall that we experienced this spring, we are applying for funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to help repair damage done to our streets and Cedar Valley Reservoir. As you may have noticed, the bridge just north of the 4-H building on North Lake Road has been closed due to damage from the most recent rainfall events. Please avoid this area as the bridge is slowly collapsing and could fall at any time. We are working to have this bridge repaired or replaced as quickly as possible. While we hope to have it repaired and reopened in time for school and the Lake Garnett Grand Prix Revival, we cannot guarantee it at this time.

All of our departments did an outstanding job maintaining our services and keeping us moving forward during these stressful months. We are in the process of updating our Emergency Operations Plan and finding more storm shelter options. We have also applied for a grant from the Kansas Department of Transportation to improve the storm drainage on Maple Street (US Highway 59). This is a costly but needed improvement as has



been obvious considering the flooding that occurred this Spring. We are plunging into the summer and straight into our busiest season of the year. We are gearing up for our largest annual events with our Libertyfest fireworks celebration, Anderson County Fair, Cornstock, and (hopefully!) the Lake Garnett Grand Prix Revival. Make sure you make it out to enjoy these and all community events as well.

I would like to thank all of our service men and women, and applaud our Director of Community Development, Susan Wettstein, for another wonderful Celebration of Service event. We now have over 216 banners recognizing our local heroes!

Baseballs, pool floats and golf clubs are a common sight at the North Lake Park this time of year. I always enjoy driving around the lake and seeing everyone out utilizing all of our wonderful amenities here in Garnett. I encourage everyone who has not yet attempted disc golf to give it a try. It is harder than it looks, but so much fun!

As I have mentioned in previous articles, we are always working toward cleaning up the community and improving property values. Along a similar line, I would like to encourage our residents and businesses to make further strides toward showing pride in your property and community by refraining from blowing grass into the street and by cleaning out the ditches on your property. Did you know, that according to our city code, ditch maintenance and maintaining the proper flow of water through that ditch is the property owner's responsibility? Keeping ditches dug out and free from debris helps stormwater to flow properly therefore eliminating flooding near the roadways. Mowing grass clippings into the street not only gets into our stormwater drainage system and clogs up the drains, but it is also dangerous for motorcycles to drive upon and makes our streets worse by facilitating the growth of grass in any existing cracks. Please be mindful that it truly takes a community effort to be the best that we can be.

Finally, I would like to welcome our newest employees who have joined us. Tyler Wolken has accepted the position of Recreation Coordinator, while Jacob Garcia has also joined the Parks Department. Our Public Works Department welcomes two new employees, Bryan Grissell and John Rogers. Joining our Electrical Department is Donnie Dilley. The Library welcomes Candace Bond as the new Adult Services Coordinator and the Police Department has hired Mike Graves and Tom Johnson. I am confident that all of these new hires will do great things for the City!

Thanks to all of you for being a part of and making Garnett the most wonderful place to call home. Thank you again for the opportunity to serve Garnett as your City Manager.

Respectfully,

Christopher T. Weiner, City Manager



www.simplygarnett.com

BAM! - 2019 Business Appreciation Awards Winners Announced

The Kansas Department of Commerce announced Regional Business of Excellence Award winners and Merit Award winners as a part of the 2019 Business Appreciation Month (BAM) that took place in June. The intent of the program is to recognize Kansas Businesses for their contributions to the local and state economy. Kansas businesses continue to be the foundation of our economy, community and overall quality of life. BAM is the state's way of recognizing Kansas businesses for all they do to keep Kansas strong.

The awards program invites individuals and organizations to nominate Kansas businesses that contribute jobs and support their local communities. This year, the City of Garnett nominated area businesses and would like to congratulate the following winners: Regional award winner Genco Manufacturing, Merit award winners 6th Avenue Boutique & Bronze, Monroe 816 and Ryan Disbrow State Farm Insurance Agency. These businesses received recognition during a special presentation by Craig VanWey, representing the Kansas Department of Commerce during the June 25, 2019 City Commission meeting.



Genco Manufacturing, Inc., 1203 E. 2nd Avenue

Genco Manufacturing, Inc is a leading metal fabricator for OEMs. They also have their own production line of GENCO Truck beds, the Royal and Sporting, with more models coming. Genco has a distributor network across the United States that sell their truck beds. Established in 2012, Genco employs 19 people. Their newest facility at 1203 E. 2nd Avenue includes office spaces and equipment totaling \$1.5 million in investment allowing Genco to take on more jobs and increase output. They added a fiber laser to cut steel and a robotic welder. Genco also has a facility located outside of Garnett on North Highway 59. Genco is always looking to grow and find more qualified people, working with Kansas Works on hiring unemployed and provide job training to get them up to speed.

Michael Gencarelli is the owner of the company and serves on the advisory board for Neosho County Community College welding program. Michael is a graduate of the Growing Rural Business Entrepreneurial Certificate Program hosted by Anderson County Economic Development in 2015.



In the nomination, City Manager Weiner stated, "We appreciate Genco's support of Garnett, their commitment to their loyal employees and the employment opportunities they provide. Since inception, Genco has poured over \$3 million of continued investment in facilities and innovation. In a short time, Genco has put Garnett on the map as the home of this industry leader." Congratulations to Genco Manufacturing for

being one of only nineteen Kansas Regional Award winners from across the state.

6th Avenue Boutique & Bronze, 427 W. 6th Avenue

This retail store provides clothing, shoes, accessories and gift items for men, women and children.

The property started out in a small house. It didn't take long for owner Sandra Zook to realize a larger building was in order. 6th Avenue Boutique & Bronze moved into its new digs in December of 2017.

"I treat my employees like family and work with them on work schedules that meet their personal needs for time off", says Sandra. "We strive to supply quality clothing and goods for our community so they will shop local."

Sandra and the Zook family are not strangers to business. Sandra's Quick Stop and Simple Simons Pizza were previous businesses they owned. 6th Avenue Boutique & Bronze, the new Maple Street Liquor and convenience store, and Zook's Excavation keep the family busy.

Sandra Zook is also a graduate of the Growing Rural Business Program and serves on the Board of Directors for Anderson County Economic Development, the Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce, and supports many charitable causes in the community.

"6th Avenue Boutique & Bronze gives locals and visitors several lines of clothing and accessory options; that if the business were not here you would have to travel to the metro area to find. The selection and convenience is an asset to a city our size and we appreciate what they bring to the community", said City Manager Chris Weiner.

Monroe 816, 105 E. 4th Avenue

This business specializes in restyled furniture, home décor and DIY workshops started out as a



BAM Awards, continued from page 3

“Pop-Up” business in 2016 and became a brick and mortar store in 2018. Business owner Val Katzer Foltz has put a lot of energy toward developing inventory, in hosting events, engaging with customers and their needs, as well as marketing her boutique on social media. “Val has created an atmosphere that is welcoming, caring and friendly. These traditional values speak well of Garnett to all who visit her store.”, states City Manager Chris Weiner.

Ryan Disbrow State Farm Agency, 504 W. Redbud

This agency provides insurance products, such as auto, home, life and health to protect families from the unexpected. Financial service products offered are mutual funds, annuities, and full compliment of banking options, including auto and home loans. Ryan Disbrow began his Garnett business in 2008 and opened a second office in Chanute in July of 2016. Ryan Disbrow State Farm Agency is very active and generous in the community, giving an annual scholarship to a high school senior, and donations both in-kind and monetary to schools, Garnett Community Foundation, baseball and softball teams, to name a few. They also support fairs and festivals, and give away pumpkins at Halloween for the less fortunate families. In the nomination, City Manager Chris Weiner states, “Ryan Disbrow and his

agency is a mainstay business who has been faithful and loyal here to the Garnett community”.

Many of Garnett’s business owners do things for the community, not for notoriety, but because they want to help the community and touch lives. Such is that of State Farm Agency owner, Ryan Disbrow, who donated funds to sponsor a patriotic banner to be used for an anonymous veteran who deserved to be honored.

Congratulations to these businesses in recognition of their contributions and impact on the City of Garnett.



FALL CLEAN-UP WEEK ANNOUNCED

The Garnett City Commission has designated **September 16 through September 20, 2019 as Fall Clean-up Week** for residential areas. The City of Garnett provides the pickup of unwanted items as a free service to all city residential refuse customers, with consideration of the following guidelines:

RESIDENTIAL PICK-UP

- A. Crews will start at the north end of town and proceed south until the entire town is covered. City Crews will not return to an area they have already been to.
- B. The following items must be placed in separate piles:

1. Brush	2. Leaves and lawn clippings	3. Paper	4. Metal (no car or vehicle parts)	5. Appliances (no Freon)
6. Furniture	7. Lumber	8. Rock/Concrete	9. Shingles	10. Sheetrock

Please Note: Items not placed in separate piles as stated in (B.) above will not be picked up. The City also requests that you keep fall clean-up items separate from weekly solid waste trash that is picked up by the refuse department.

Any appliances containing Freon, such as refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, etc., will not be taken. Also, materials to be disposed of from torn down dilapidated buildings, or that of construction projects will not be picked up; nor such items as tires, batteries, paint, e-waste (computers, etc.), or any other hazardous waste items.

BURNING REQUIREMENTS

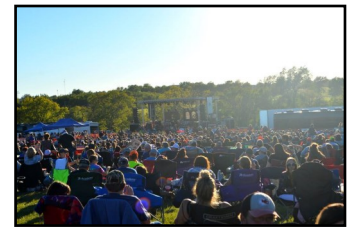
It is a requirement to notify the Law Enforcement Center Dispatch Office by calling 448-6823 before you start burning.

The Garnett Fire Department and Anderson County Emergency Management ask that you please adhere to the following instructions for your safety and that of your neighbors:

- Burning of grass, leaves and tree limbs must be in manageable piles that are attended at all times (no wood, lumber, furniture or mattresses).
- Burning must not occur in right-of-way or in streets. Location of fire must be clear of overhead lines and clear from any exposure threat to any structure.
- A source of water shall be available or a means of extinguishing piles at all times.
- Burning to be conducted during daylight hours only.
- No burning during adverse weather conditions, such as winds over 15 mph, fog exists or visibility is hampered. Citations can be issued.
- Controlled burn is to be completely extinguished before leaving burn site unattended.

IF YOU MISS CLEAN-UP WEEK...

- ▶ Special pick-up of unwanted items is available to city refuse customers for the charge of \$50 for a full dump truck load, plus the landfill dump fee.
- ▶ Yard waste pick-up is available the last Friday of the month. There is a service fee charged of \$5 for a limit of 10 bags or limbs bundled no larger than 6 feet by 3 feet. Point of pick up for any clean-up is next to where the normal refuse pick up point is (alley or curbside). Prior request for these services is required by calling Garnett City Hall at 785.448.5496.



Enjoy these Local Activities and Events!

For more, check out the "Bulletin Board" at www.simplygarnett.com

JULY

July 1-August 5: AM Yoga

Every Monday-Wednesday-Friday
Rec Center, 8:45-9:45 a.m.

Anderson Co. Commission Meeting

Every Monday, Annex Building, 9 a.m.

Library Board Meeting

Garnett Public Library, 5:30 p.m.

Celebrate Recovery

Every Monday, Church of the Nazarene, 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Garnett Lions Club Meeting

First and Third Monday

VFW Post 6397, 6 p.m.

2 AM Spin Class

Every Tuesday and Thursday

Rec Center, 5:30-6:00 a.m.

Brian Wendling-Magician

Garnett Public Library Summer Event,

Garnett Fire Station, 10 a.m.

Rotary International Meeting-

Every Tuesday, Garnett Inn, 12 p.m.

PM Spin Class

Every Tuesday and Thursday

Rec Center 5-6 p.m.

PM Yoga

Tuesday and Thursday (Ends July 11)

Rec Center, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Garnett Community Foundation

Board of Directors Meeting,

Recreation Center, 5:30 p.m.

No July American Legion Bingo

Alcoholics Anonymous

Every Tuesday and Thursday

510 S Oak St, 7 p.m.

3 Duplicate Bridge

Every Wednesday Garnett Inn, 1 p.m.

4 City Hall closed, Independence Day

holiday observed. (Note: Trash service will run one (1) day late Wednesday and Thursday of this week.)

Garnett Farmers Market

Every Thursday, (ends Oct. 10)

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

6 Libertyfest Community Fireworks

Display presented by City of Garnett employees/volunteers.

Rain Date: July 7

July 7– August 9: Sign up for Tackle Football

Garnett Recreation Center or online.

8 Housing Authority Board of Directors Meeting,

GHA Office, 7 p.m.

American Legion Meeting

VFW Post 6397, 7 p.m.

9 Anderson County Recycling Trailer

Country Mart parking lot.

9

Storytime for Preschoolers

Parkview Heights, 10 a.m.

Alzheimer’s Support Group

Parkview Heights, 6 p.m.

City Commission Meeting

Garnett City Hall, 6 p.m.

Golden Prairie Beekeepers

Extension Office, 6:30 p.m.

10-12

K-2 Summer Reading Program Camp

Garnett Public Library, 10 a.m.

10

Tourism Advisory Board

City Hall, 4:30 p.m.

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Meeting, City Hall, 5:30 p.m.

VFW Post 6397 Meeting

VFW Post 6397 6 p.m.

Garnett Optimist Club Meeting

Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday

Garnett Inn, 7 p.m.

Friends of the Prairie Spirit Rail Trail

Meeting, Santa Fe Depot, 7 p.m.

TOPS Meeting

Every Thursday

First United Methodist Church, 9 a.m.

Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce

Board of Directors Meeting

Garnett City Hall, 5:30 p.m.

13-Point Pitch and Snacks

Every Thursday

Garnett Senior Center, 6 p.m.

Anderson County Historical Society

Meeting

Anderson County Museum, 6:30 p.m.

USD 365 Board of Education Meeting

District Office, 7 p.m.

12

Airport Advisory Board Meeting

City Hall, 4:00 p.m.

13

VFW Breakfast

VFW Post 6397, 7-9 a.m.

16

Storytime For Preschoolers

Garnett Public Library, 10 a.m.

ACDA - Economic Development

Meeting,

City Hall, 5 p.m.

Business and Professional Women

Meeting,

Archer Room, 5:30 p.m.

July 16-August 10: Zumba Exercise Class

Garnett Recreation Center, 6:30 p.m.

17

Learn to Draw with Kyle Teirnan

Garnett Public Library, 10 a.m.

Caffeine & Colors,

Adult coloring and social, Garnett

Public Library, 1 p.m.

18

Walker Art Committee Meeting

Garnett Public Library. 4 p.m.

19

Teen Scene Late Night

Garnett Public Library, 6-10 p.m.

20

Hot Rod Truck and Tractor Pull

Hosted by the Anderson County Fair Association, North Lake Park, 7 p.m.

22

Caregivers Support Group

Park Plaza North, 1 p.m.

Lieutenant Governor Lynn Rogers -

Kansas Office of Rural Prosperity

Listening Tour, Anderson County Jr.-Sr. High School Auditorium, 6 p.m.

23

Storytime for Preschoolers

Garnett Public Library, 10 a.m.

City Commission Meeting

Garnett City Hall, 6 p.m.

24

American Legion Auxiliary Meeting

Pizza Hut, 6 p.m.

Book Discussion, “Dog on It”

Garnett Public Library, 7 p.m.

25

Emergency Food Distribution -

Harvesters

Quonset Hut, 4 p.m.

26

End of Summer Reading Program

Garnett Public Library.

July 29-Aug 3: Anderson County Fair

Fairgrounds, North Lake Park.

30

Summer Reading Program Ending Party

Garnett Public Library, 6 p.m.

Anderson County Fair Parade

Theme: “All Roads Lead to the County Fair”, Stadium, North Lake Park, 7 p.m.

Two Girls and a Zoo

Fairgrounds, 8 p.m.

Ranch Rodeo,

Fairgrounds, 8 p.m.

July 30-August 3: Carnival at Anderson County

Fair, Nightly, 6:00-10:30 p.m.

31

Anderson County Fair Tent Night,

Fairgrounds, 6-8 p.m.

Pie Baking Contest & Auction

Anderson County Fair, 7 p.m.

AUGUST

1

Shodeo

Rodeo Arena, 6:30 p.m.

USD 365 Board of Education Meeting

District Office, 7 p.m.

Delphian Masonic Lodge Meeting

Masonic Lodge, 7:30 p.m.

2

Livestock Premium Sale

Livestock Show Arena, 7 p.m.

3

Miniature Draft Horse Pull

Rodeo Arena, 7:30 p.m.

5

Library Board Meeting

Garnett Public Library, 5:30 p.m.

August 5-30: Sign up for Flag Football

Garnett Recreation Center

August 5-23: Sign up for Cheerleading

Garnett Recreation Center



Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Stay connected!

AUGUST continued...

- August 5-26: Sign up for Youth/Coed Volleyball
6 Anderson County and City of Garnett Floodplain Open House
7 Tourism Advisory Board
8 Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting
9 Airport Advisory Board Meeting
11 Garnett Municipal Swimming Pool closes for summer
12 Housing Authority Board of Directors Meeting
13 Anderson County Recycling Trailer
14 First Day of School
15 Walker Art Committee Meeting
19 Garnett Lions Club Meeting
20 ACDA - Economic Development Meeting
21 Caffeine and Colors

- Emergency Food Distribution - Harvesters
24 Fun in the Sun Car Show
26 Caregivers Support Group
27 City Commission Meeting
28 American Legion Auxiliary
30 Last day of Water Aerobics Class
31 Colony Day
SEPTEMBER
2 Labor Day Holiday
3 Storytime for Preschoolers
September 3-October 10: PM Yoga
3 American Legion Bingo
4 Tourism Advisory Board Meeting
Sept. 5-8 and Sept 13-15: Wild Women of Winedale
5 Anderson County Historical Society Meeting
6-7 Greeley Smokeoff
6-8 15th Annual Kansas State Trike In
9 American Legion Meeting
10 Golden Prairie Beekeepers
Housing Authority Board of Directors Meeting
Alzheimer's Support Group
City Commission Meeting

- 11 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
Garnett Optimist Meeting
Friends of the Prairie Spirit Rail Trail Meeting
VFW Post 6397 Meeting
12 Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting
13 Airport Advisory Board Meeting
14 City Wide Garage Sale Day
September 16-20: City Wide Cleanup Week
16 Garnett Lions Club Meeting
ACDA - Economic Development Meeting
17 Business and Professional Women Meeting
18 Caffeine & Colors
19 Walker Art Committee Meeting
23 Caregivers Support Group
24 City Commission Meeting
25 American Legion Auxiliary Meeting
Book Discussion (TBA)
Garnett Optimist Meeting
26 Kansas Air Tour
Emergency Food Distribution - Harvesters
26-28 114th Annual Kincaid Free Fair
28 15 Annual Cornstock Music Festival

*Dates and times subject to change.

Did You Know?

Please join us in welcoming the following new city employees: **Candace Bond**, Adult Services Librarian; **Michael Graves**, Patrol Officer; **Tyler Wolken**, Recreation Coordinator; **Bryan Grissell**, Public Works Maintenance; **John Rogers**, Public Works Maintenance; **Jacob Garcia**, Permanent Part Time Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Maintenance. The City of Garnett would like to recognize the following employees for reaching these respective milestone anniversaries:

10 Years: **Connie Fagg**, Inner Library Loan Librarian.

15 Years: **Constance Sams**, Municipal Court Judge

35 Years: **Andrea Sobba**, Librarian

We would like to take this time to thank Garnett Recreation Center employee, **Howard Purcell**, for 7.5 years of dedicated service. We wish him a healthy and happy retirement.

The following employees have shown excellence in the areas of strong work ethic, dependability, positive attitude, self-motivation and working as a team, earning nominations from their peers to be recognized as Employee of the Month during the past six months:

December-**Jason Wettstein**, Director of Street Department

January-**Julie Turnipseed**, Director of Economic Development

February-**Nick Menacho**, Gas and Water Maintenance Worker

March-**Rusty Harvey**, Wastewater Maintenance Worker

April- **Philip Bures**, Director of Parks and Recreation

May-**Gary Giczewski**, Building Official, Zoning Administrator

Conferences and Training: **Julie Turnipseed**, Director of Economic Development and **Susan Wettstein**, Director of Community Development attended the first phase of ACT Work Ready Communities Boot Camp; **Nancy Hermreck**, Assistant City Clerk, Director of Human Resources and **Susan Wettstein** attended the Administrative Assistance of Kansas Cities (AAKC) Conference receiving Active Shooter training and certification in Stop the Bleed; **Julie Turnipseed**, received training at the Heartland Economic Development Course; **Ken Amaya**, Director of Public Works and **Ray Arnett**, Public Works Foreman, attended an Emergency Response Workshop by the Kansas Pipeline Safety Division. **Joe Owens** has reached Water Treatment Plant Operations-Volume I certification, while **Matthew Jones** has reached Water Treatment Plant Operations-Volume II certification. **Eric Trammell**, Director of Wastewater Operations, obtained his Wastewater Treatment Facility Class II Operator certification, and **Rusty Harvey**, Wastewater Maintenance Worker, reached his Wastewater Treatment Facility Volume I certification. **Eric Trammell** and **Rusty Harvey** also recently attended Smith and Loveless Pump Station School. **Chris Weiner**, City Manager and **Bob Mills**, Director of Electric Production, attended the Kansas Municipal Utilities Conference.

The city is very proud to include the youth of our community in filling many of the positions within our parks and recreation and library, along with adult seasonal staff who spend their summer helping the city provide programs and amenities to

Garnett citizens and visitors alike. We would like to recognize these individuals for their contributions to the quality of life in our community:

Municipal Pool Manager: **Deb McMahon**.

Assistant Pool Managers: **Rebecca Brown and Donna Dieker**.

Municipal Pool Lifeguards: **Gabe Brown, Corbin Danner, Jaxcen Farren, Lily Feuerborn, Jayden Jarett, Lakin Katzer, Remi Kennard, Holli Miller, Isabell Norris, Alison Owens, Abigael Reid, A.J. Rues, and Maclaine Sears**.

Pool Concessions/Front Desk: **Carsyn Crane, Hallie Fritz, Ty Hedrick, Blake Hess, Madolyn Honn, Kami Modlin, Tarin Rues, Braxton Spencer, Morgan Sumner, Amelia Wiesner**.

Water Aerobics Instructor: **Anne Marie Strobel**.

Umpires: **Lane Bahnsen, Haley Blanton, Gabriel Carver, Kaylyn Disbrow, Korbin Edgecomb, Lonnie Edgecomb, Darren Eichman, Autumn Ewert, Mike Kaufman, Raven Maley, Colton Palmer, Casey Rhoades, Porter Richards, Tucker Tush, Grace Wilson, James Yoder, Ben Yoder, and Wes Fritz**.

Ball Coordinator: **Brandon Palmer**.

Ball Complex Concessions: **Heather Palmer and Korey Rohde**.

Ball Field Maintenance: **Colton Palmer**.

Summer Park Maintenance: **Garrett Bures, Josh Martin, and Colton Palmer**.

Part-time/Temporary Gardener for city facilities: **Chris Klehammer and Butch Rocker**.

Library-Summer Aid: **Bethany Powls**.

There were 225 area youth that participated in the 2019 Garnett Recreation Baseball/Softball Program.

City Wide Garage Sale Day is Saturday, September 14. Sell those extra items you have during this community event. If they don't sell, discard during City Wide Clean-Up Week!

The City would like to take this opportunity to thank the **Anderson County Commission and landfill staff** for allowing the City to once again provide Fall (September 16-20) City Wide Clean-Up Week. The free bi-annual service that we provide to our refuse customers, curbside or alley way, would not be possible without their support. The landfill waives fees for those taking disposables to the landfill the week of City Wide Clean-Up, some restrictions apply. Please read the article about City Wide Clean-Up found in this newsletter.

Federal regulation 49 CFR 192.383(e) requires every natural gas utility, including the City of Garnett Gas Department, to notify their customers about the potential benefits of an **Excess Flow Valve (EFV)**, who is responsible for the initial installation costs of an EFV, and who is responsible for any replacement or maintenance costs associated with an EFV.

If you are a customer of the City of Garnett Gas Department, and connected to a high-pressure service area, you may request that an EFV be installed on the gas service line to your property if it currently does not have one, and the service line meets cer-

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Did You Know... Continued from page 7

tain criteria. To learn more, visit: www.simplygarnett.com/efv.

The **Garnett Public Library** would like to report that 119 area youth participated in the 2019 Summer Reading Program.

Zumba begins at the Garnett Recreation Center/Goppert Wellness Center beginning July 16th. Classes are only \$5 per class or \$30 per 4-week session. The instructor is **Jessica Johnston**. To sign up online for Zumba, other programs, or to become a member, visit garnettrecreation.recdesk.com or www.simplygarnett.com.

You can pay your utility bill or court payment online simply by visiting www.simplygarnett.com and clicking on "Utilities" and select "Online Bill Pay", or "Court" and select "Online Court Payment".

Join the Steering Committee

Anyone interest in participating in the visioning and strategic plan process for Garnett is invited! You do not have to be a city resident.

ENVISION
Garnett, Kansas
WANTED- Passionate Citizens!

DIRECTING THE FUTURE OF GARNETT

Sign up NOW to help create a strategic plan for Garnett.

Express Your Interest Today:

For information or to complete interest form, visit

www.simplygarnett.com

Email: info@garnettks.net Call: 785-448-5496

INFO: www.simplygarnett.com

United States Census 2020

WANTED: CENSUS WORKERS

Participation in the census is very important. Each person counted equals over \$2,000 in available funding from the Federal Government and other resources for the state of Kansas, making such funds available to communities. Please be sure to be included in the 2020 Census. It just makes good sense.

Interested in being a Census Taker? Census jobs provide weekly pay, flexible hours and includes paid training. For more information visit our website, www.simplygarnett.com/city-employment-opportunities.html, or call 614-271-6861.

Your Vote Counts - August 14

The City of Garnett is conducting a mail-in ballot election on the question of whether to adopt a five-member City Commission in place of our current three-member City Commission via the County Clerk's/Election Officer's Office. The ballots will be mailed out July 25, 2019 to all eligible voters within the City of Garnett. The deadline for the ballots to be returned to the County Clerk's office is no later than Wednesday, August 14, 2019 at 12 p.m. (noon). To be eligible to receive a ballot residents must be registered by July 24, 2019 with the Anderson County Clerk's Office to vote.



From the Fire Chief...

Along with the warmer weather comes strong storms and high water. Garnett does have one storm shelter. It is located in the basement of the First United Methodist Church, 205 S. Oak Street. The entry is on the east side of the building (Oak Street). The shelter is opened when a severe thunderstorm warning or a tornado warning is issued for Garnett. The CodeRed emergency notification system is also available for your cell phone or landline telephone. Signup forms are available at Garnett City Hall or the Anderson County Sheriff's Office. You can also sign up on our website, www.simplygarnett.com/emergencyinformation.html.



If the warning siren is activated, please take cover. Do not get in your vehicle and drive around and possibly become a victim of the storm.

On another note, please pay attention to the location of the nearest fire hydrant to your property. Can it be seen and can it be utilized in the event it is needed? Is it visible from 500 feet away? Some people plant bushes and shrubs around fire hydrants. This makes it difficult for firefighters to find and tap into. Please help your local volunteer firefighters by making sure the fire hydrant nearest you is visible and free from anything that would prevent it to be used if an emergency arises. If the hydrant is not on your property and it is not accessible for any reason, please let me know.

Two new candidates have joined the Garnett Volunteer Fire Department. Welcome Rose' Holloway and Alex Dennison.

Respectfully,

Pat Tate, Fire Chief



From Economic Development...

The **Anderson County Development Agency (ACDA) Advisory Board** is a progressive board with many talented members serving Garnett and Anderson County. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them and commend their leadership. They are guiding economic development in a progressive manner that looks at creating a sense of place or quality of life to help foster an atmosphere that retains and recruits new businesses. In the past nine months they have worked diligently to create an environment for destination businesses, workforce development and tackle housing issues.

ACDA, through funds from NetWork Kansas E-Community program, sent six business owners to the **Jon Schallert Community Destination BootCamp** in April. All six of these businesses have returned from the week-long BootCamp with the knowledge and tools to make their business a destination in Garnett, in Anderson County, and the region. As they put into practice what they have learned to become a destination business they will also help in the process to make our county and community a destination for travelers and visitors. If you are a business owner and interested in attending the BootCamp, we are taking applications for a 2020 session now. Please feel free to stop in any of these businesses and talk to them about the Community Destination BootCamp program and what it has done for their business:



L-R: Jon Schallert of Destination BootCamp; Bob Strange, Burnt Offerings BBQ; Val Katzer Foltz, Monroe 816; John Bauman, Bauman's Cedar Valley Farms; Mary Kunard, Country Fabrics; Julie Turnipseed, Director of Economic Development; Erin Miller, Garnett Flowers & Gifts, and Jody Troyer, Troyer's Prairie Gold Event Center.

Monroe 816

Troyer's Prairie Gold

Burnt Offerings BBQ

Garnett Flowers & Gifts

Country Fabrics

Bauman's Cedar Valley Farms

ACDA is launching a new workforce development initiative through the **ACT Work Ready Communities** program. Susan Wettstein and Julie Turnipseed attended a boot camp for the Work Ready Community Certification program in April in Omaha, Nebraska. The bootcamp was a two-day training to outline the details of this economic development solution to workforce readiness and to become a Certified Work Ready Community. We are in the process of forming an Anderson County Work Ready Community Advisory Committee. Work Ready Communities from ACT is a framework for community-based workforce development to drive economic growth. Regions improve their workforce and compete on quality for location consultants, investors, and other decision-makers using data powered by the **WorkKeys® National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC)**. More than 21,000 employers support NCRC nationwide.

Work Ready Communities get certified by meeting workforce and employer support goals established by ACT's equitable criteria. Each goal category can be tracked extensively to provide additional competitive intel. There are four categories in the program:

1. **Emerging Workforce:** High school junior, senior, or recent grad; college student or recent grad.
2. **Current Workforce:** Currently employed by public, private, or non-profit organization; currently employed in government.
3. **Transitioning Workforce:** Currently unemployed; GED or Adult Ed participant; current or recent active-duty military.
4. **Supporting Employers:** Endorsements of employers that recognize or recommend NCRC for hiring or promotion.

By participating in the **ACT Work Ready Communities (WRC)** initiative, counties can identify skill gaps and quantify the skill level of their workforce. This helps educators build career pathways aligned to the needs of business and industry. It also helps a community stand out and be recognized for its workforce development efforts. A strong workforce is a tremendous economic development advantage.

On May 3, 2019 ACDA invited community banks and local contractors to attend a roundtable discussion on the future of housing in Anderson County and Garnett. Much like so many communities a shortage of affordable housing is a pressing issue as well as the abundance of abandoned and dilapidated houses. The group discussed the problems as well as potential solutions. This is one of hopefully more discussions that we will have as we address the housing issues in our community. If you would like to be a part of this discussion, please contact me at julie@garnettks.net or 785.448.5496, Option 5, and you will be added to the list of participants for the future.

Sincerely,

Julie Turnipseed, Director of Economic Development





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P.O. Box H
Garnett, KS 66032

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HAPPENING IN GARNETT:

Listening Tour Brings Lieutenant Governor to Garnett - July 22



Lynn Rogers, Kansas Lieutenant Governor

The Kansas Office of Rural Prosperity has announced that Lieutenant Governor Lynn Rogers will be in Garnett on Monday, July 22 for what is being called a “Summer Listening Tour”. Garnett is among only 12 cities across Kansas that were selected for this tour. All citizens of Garnett, Anderson County, and surrounding areas are invited to attend this event to be held at the Anderson County Junior-Senior High School Commons Area beginning at 6 p.m. Citizens will have the opportunity to interact with state representatives to provide feedback on:

- ◆ What does prosperity look like to you?
- ◆ What has our community done well?
- ◆ What road blocks are in the way of prosperity for our citizens?

Topics for discussion will be used to create a strategic plan for rural economic development and include, but are not limited to the following:

- Developing rural housing

- Revitalizing Main Street corridors
- Investing in rural infrastructure
- Supporting rural hospitals and medical professional recruitment
- Making State Government work for rural Kansas
- Incentivizing Active Tourism
- Supporting Agribusiness

The average number of attendees at these events across the state is 100 people. You can help make the Lieutenant Governor’s visit to the Garnett area on July 22 a success by attending. The City of Garnett hopes to see you there!



Kansas Air Tour Lands in Garnett September 26

The Garnett Industrial Airport has been chosen as a stop on the first day of the 2019 Kansas Air Tour. There will be approximately 40 to 50 aircraft landing in Garnett for an hour and a half stay on Thursday, September 26. Members of the Garnett Airport Advisory Board, Airport Manager Gary Ecclefield and city staff will be seeking involvement from area schools, local volunteers and businesses to showcase the community to these visitors, as well as share the aviation experience of the Kansas Air Tour with citizens and students.



Please watch for details of this upcoming event in local newspapers and the City’s website and social media platforms.