

Town Talk

WINTER 2023



City Commission



Greg Gwin,
Mayor



Jody Cole
Commissioner



Jason Sheahan,
Commissioner

IN THIS ISSUE:

Page 2... From the City Manager
Page 2... From the City Clerk
Page 3... Airport News
Page 3... Zoning and Planning
Page 4... A Message from Public Works
Pages 5-6... Calendar
Page 7... A Message from Code Enforcement/Animal Control
Page 7... Did you know?
Page 8... Downtown Revitalization f from ACDA
Page 8... From the Fire Chief
Page 9... GACC Annual Banquet
Page 9...
Page 10... Emergency Information, Resident Resources

Garnett, Kansas

New Commissioner Elected-Welcome, Mark Locke!



The City of Garnett and Mayor and Commissioners welcome Mark Locke, newly elected City Commissioner, to the City team.

"I'm honored to have been elected to represent the good people of Garnett. I am originally from Pittsburg, KS, though I have not lived there in over 40 years. My wife Ann and I have been married for 41 yrs. She is an RN at Anderson County hospital. We have 2 daughters and 1 son. Both of the girls are married to good guys. We have one step grandson who is 14 and one grandson that is 10. Our third grandchild will arrive in April. Our son is a member of the Kansas National Guard and is currently deployed to the Middle East. I began my Law Enforcement career in 1978, serving until 2002. During my 24 years, I held several different positions from Patrol officer to Chief of Police. From 1985 until 2006 I also owned a property management company and a commercial cleaning and restoration company while we lived in Emporia KS. In 2004, I started my career with the Knights of Columbus as a benefits advisor. A position I still hold today. It is this position that brought us to Garnett almost 4 years ago. What is a benefit advisor for the Knights of Columbus? Basically I'm a Life insurance agent and retirement planner for the members of our society.

In October of this year, I took over the position of Director of Emergency Management for Anderson County. A big portion of my responsibilities as Emergency Manager is planning, preparing and training for when the what if happens. Majority of my day is spent reviewing and updating policies and procedures. Coordinating with Law Enforcement, EMS, Fire and Local and state governments to be ready for when something happens. It could be anything from Severe weather to a wild or structure fire, to a chemical leak, anything that affects the safety of our community. It is the one position that it is a great day for the community if my office is quiet.

- Mark Locke

From The City Manager...



And here comes 2023! I truly hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas, and I wish you all a safe and Happy New Year! We saw a few bright spots in 2022 that I would like to highlight.

After a long three year wait, the City and County partnered together and completed a Fall City-Wide Cleanup Week. Three years has made the process rusty, however, overall the week went very well, and helped the community get some much needed clean up accomplished. We plan on doing this again in the Fall of 2023. To go along with that, we did a large street mill and overlay project on Elm Street and West 3rd Avenue as well as asphalt patching, new curbing, alley aprons, and sidewalk replacement. The road work on Elm Street started at 1st Avenue and went down to 8th Avenue, with new curbing, alley aprons, and sidewalk put in the block between 1st and 2nd Avenue, alley apron work between 3rd and 4th avenue, and we milled and overlaid West 3rd Avenue between Hayes and Cleveland Streets. The asphalt patching was done in several spots around town, including 6th Avenue, Maple Street, and Parkside Place.

Another highlight for the year was the City paying off the Lease Purchase Note on the 2017 Freightliner Trash Truck, which allowed payment funds to become available to order the New 2023 Freightliner Trash Truck. The City Refuse Department has been in need of this new truck for some time, as the 1998 Ford and the 2006 International Trash Trucks both had numerous mechanical issues due to age and wear and tear. This was a much needed upgrade to an old, outdated fleet.

We gained a new restaurant this year, on the corner of 4th Avenue and Oak Street-Troyer's 1883 is open for business! If you haven't been in to try the cuisine, I highly recommend you stopping by and giving them a try. From coffee, breakfast sandwiches and muffins in the morning to deli sandwiches, burgers, and Italian fine dining, ALL of their items are delicious! Congratulations to Jessica Troyer and her staff for getting the business up and running, and providing another restaurant for our community.

The last highlight I would like to mention is the new development on the corner of Maple Street and Park Road. Although it was tough to see both the old Cheese Plant and the Sale Barn being torn down, the new Short Stop gas station and the Family Dollar/Dollar Tree Store will be a welcome sight as visitors

come into town. Not only that, but this will give the community another place to shop. Construction is set to be completed with both locations to open for business in early spring.

As 2023 begins, the goal is to put most of these long-standing projects behind us and start focusing on other areas that need improvement. I cannot say thank you enough for the patience the entire community has shown thus far. We only have so much money each year in the budget, and it only goes so far.

I would like to commend all three gentlemen; Troy Armstrong, Mark Locke, and Justin Thompson, who all ran for the City Commissioner seat in the recent election, which has been held by Greg Gwin for the past 15 years. It was a close race, with Mark Locke winning by a narrow margin. Congratulations to Mark, and welcome to the City Commission. I look forward to getting to know you, and working with you for our great City. Again, thank you all for your support. I am looking forward to what 2023 has to offer.

Sincerely,

Travis Wilson,
City Manager



Did You Know?

Please join us in welcoming the following new city employees: *John Carmack*, Utility Meter Reader; *Daniel Frazier*, Police Officer; *Trevor Sumners*, Volunteer Firefighter, and *Nicholas Shavelly*, Volunteer Firefighter.

Congratulations to those with work Anniversaries!
Betty Jasper-Custodian, 25 years,
Eric Trammell-Wastewater Dept. Director, 25 years

Congratulations to Brian Maloan on your retirement! Brian worked for the City of Garnett for 27 years as the Parks Department Superintendent.

Promotions and transfers: *Earl Peine*, Street Department, *Tyler Reynolds*, Refuse Dept. Foreman, *Deb Swanson*, Police Sergeant/Detective, and *Quenton Trammell*, Parks Maintenance Supervisor. Congratulations to September's Employee of the Month, *Connie Fagg*!

Municipal Government | Recreation
Community & Tourism | Economic Development
www.simplygarnett.com

From the Airport Manager...



Finally, some rain! Hopefully we can build up the ponds and get some much needed precipitation this winter, and that it doesn't all come in snow and ice.

I have been applying for as many grant applications as possible, and trying to take as many opportunities to attend conferences and trainings so

keep in front of the FAA, so that they don't forget about Garnett, and the needs of our airport. It is always harder to receive monies dispersed when you are a small airport. They don't receive near the attention of projects at larger airports such as Topeka or Lawrence, but they are just as important! I have applied for several grants through the Kansas Department of Aviation and KDOT that deal with refurbishing some of the facilities located at the airport. The windows of the airport office were installed in the 1950's and could use some updating. When the manifold cracked on the old shop heater in the office we were able to use one hundred percent FAA grant to update to a newer mini split A/C and heater. That has been wonderful to have!


As I write this article, I have received good news-the Garnett Industrial Airport was chosen to receive an additional \$145,000 from the BIL Bill to be used for updating the airport. This is in addition to the \$110,000 that we received last year from the BIL Bill and the \$300,000 that is available for use with the runway project. The Airport Advisory Board voted to approve buying an advisory AWOS (Automated Weather Observation System) for the airport. The late Gary Ecclefield was able to keep the prior system working for many years after it was outdated. Unfortunately, mice, and weather took a toll on the machine. Also, the old Vista operating system and I486 computer finally failed, and we are looking at several lower cost systems to replace it.

The City, the Garnett Airport Advisory Board, and I have finished and submitted the Environmental Assessment Study required by the FAA to the FAA. These are always required before any large project with the federal government can ever get started. There were no findings that adversely affected the runway project. We have gotten our consulting engineer selected, and are moving on to the next phase of the runway project. As far as events and projects for the upcoming year, we plan on continuing to host the Egg Drop/Hunt event, and are on track to do the An-

nual Air Fair Event in conjunction with the BPW Square Fair. The Fall Fly-in event was also such a success that we plan on trying to host that event several times this coming year. As we enter into the challenges and rewards of a new year, I hope we can continue to grow and improve the Garnett Industrial Airport to help the area attract new businesses and residents. Also, if you would like more information about flying, or other aviation opportunities, please come out and talk with me.

Pat Schettler, Garnett Industrial Airport Manager
(K68)

FBO 1(785)448-9831 1(785)448-8067

**Dates to remember**

Monday 1/23	Spring Soccer Sign ups BEGIN
Friday 2/26	Spring Soccer Sign ups EARLY BIRD DEADLINE
Friday 3/5	Spring Soccer Sign ups LATE FEE DEADLINE
Monday 2/27	Summer Sports Sign up BEGIN
Saturday 4/2	Summer Sports Sign ups EARLY BIRD DEADLINE
Saturday 4/9	Summer Sports Sign ups LATE FEE DEADLINE

Sports programs are a great way to teach your kids teamwork, keep them active and healthy, and a chance to make new friends! Contact the Rec Center today for more information on upcoming sports programs and exercise classes!

(785) 448-3023



NEW YEAR'S WEEK-JANUARY 2-6

MONDAY JAN. 2 - NO SERVICE(OFFICES CLOSED: FOR THE HOLIDAY)
TUESDAY JAN. 3- MONDAY'S ROUTE
WEDNESDAY JAN. 4- TUESDAY'S ROUTE
THURSDAY JAN. 5 -WEDNESDAY'S ROUTE
FRIDAY JAN. 6 - THURSDAY AND FRIDAY'S ROUTES



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.

From Public Works...



There has been a lot progress in Garnett's Public Works' departments this summer and more to continue this fall. Many tasks and accomplishments being taken on by public works staff have not been completed in some time and they are proving Garnett has the capability to take care of itself.

At the Garnett Water Treatment Plant Jeff Mucklow obtained his Class IV Water Treatment License, and Zach Smothers his Class II Water treatment License. Jeff is now the 3rd operator on staff with a Class IV license, which I'm told is a first for the City of Garnett. This is testament to the culture being created there.

The water plant also completed their lead and copper sampling and testing for 2022. These results will be included in the 2022 Consumer Confidence Report. Superintendent James Howard would like to thank all the citizens that participated and assisted with this sampling. They also completed their annual burnout throughout the month of October.

The city's contracted engineering firm, P.E.C. is hammering out the final verbiage with K.D.H.E. on the new water plant. As soon as that's complete, P.E.C. will start putting the project out to bid.

The Garnett Wastewater plant has continued replacement of major components reaching their 20-year life span. They also replaced sewer main along the 100 and 200 block of North Olive.

The Garnett Gas Department upgraded and replaced an old unprotected steel gas main to a P.E. gas main from the 600 to 900 block of West 4th. They have another major line replacement planned for North Oak Street early this Fall. The department also replaced an old cast water main on the 400 block of North Cedar. 300 feet of waterline and a high rise was installed at the south shop to improve salt brine mixing for the coming winter.

The Garnett Gas Department is continuing to improve its training. Along with quarterly breakout sessions, the entire department attended hands on O.Q. training at the KMU facility in McPherson on August 31st and September 1st.

The refuse department has been completing the new trash route for a few months now. There have been several "hick-ups" mainly due to repeated mechanical failures. I apologize for these inconveniences as they can be very frustrating. But help is on the way! Manager Wilson and the City Commission have approved the purchase of a new Freightliner trash truck with a Cobra compactor.

There is a lot going on in the Garnett Street Department as well. They have reworked the ground south of Crystal Lake in preparation of park construction. A small section of East Monroe had a complete rebuild in front of Parkside Place. 50 ft of curb was replaced on Maple and 1000 ft of curb on North Elm will be replaced by the time of this printing. Lazy guttering has been replaced on North Cedar. The majority of Elm Street and West 3rd Street was resurfaced with blacktop. Base and substructure was re-built in many of these areas.

As the number of staff, equipment, and dollars are limited, outside of the norm projects can be difficult to complete. But these public works departments and staff members do a fantastic job of working together and are completing infrastructure projects that many towns of similar size can't. That I am proud of.

Lastly, infrastructure projects often put a wrinkle in the daily routine of citizens. Whether a road is closed on your way to work, the water is off when you need to start a load of laundry, or the gas is off when it's time to cook lunch, it can be very frustrating. We will always attempt to give as much notice as possible. Thank-you Garnett citizens for your patience.

James DePriest
Director of Public Works



Town Talk - Winter Calendar

Check out our "Community Calendar" - www.simplygarnett.com

JANUARY

- 1 Happy New Year!
- 2 AM Yoga
Garnett Recreation Center, 8:45-10:00 a.m., Every Mon.-Wed.-Fri.
Anderson County Commission Meeting
Annex Building, 9 a.m., Every Monday
Celebrate Recovery
Church of the Nazarene, 5-8 p.m., Every Monday
Garnett Lions Club Meeting
VFW Post 6397, 6 p.m., First & Third Monday
- Jan. 3-Feb. 28 License your pets at City Hall
- 3 Rotary International Meeting
Dutch Country Cafe, 12 p.m., Every Tuesday
Garnett Community Foundation Meeting
Recreation Center, 5:30 p.m.
P.M. Yoga
Recreation Center, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Every Tuesday & Thursday
American Legion BINGO
VFW Post 6397, 6-8 p.m., Every Tuesday
Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting
510 S. Oak Street, 7 p.m., Every Tuesday and Thursday
Garnett Senior Center Board Meeting
Garnett Senior Center, 7 p.m.
- 4 Duplicate Bridge
Garnett Hotel & RV Park, 1 p.m., Every Wednesday
- 6 TOPS Meeting
First United Methodist Church, 3 p.m., Every Thursday
13-Point Pitch & Snacks
Garnett Senior Center, 6 p.m., Every Thursday
Historical Society Meeting
Anderson County Historical Museum, 6:30 p.m.
USD 365 Board of Education Meeting
Board Office, 7 p.m.
- 7-8 Regional Fire School
Hosted by Kansas State Firefighters Association
- 9 Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting
Chamber Office, 12 p.m.
American Legion Auxiliary Meeting
VFW Post 6397, 5:30 p.m.
Library Board Meeting
Garnett Public Library, 6 p.m.
American Legion Meeting
VFW Post 6397, 7 p.m.
- 10 Recycle Trailer
Country Mart parking lot, all day
City Commission Meeting
City Hall, 6 p.m.
- 11 Remember When Wednesday
Garnett Public Library, 10 a.m.
Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting
City Hall, 4:30 p.m.
Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
Rec Center, 6 p.m.
VFW Ladies Auxiliary Meeting
VFW Post 6397, 6 p.m.
VFW Post 6397 Meeting
VFW Post 6397, 6-8 p.m.
Friends of the PSRT Meeting
Town Hall Center, 7 p.m.
- 12 Morning Mingle
Garnett Public Library, 8 a.m.
Delphian Masonic Lodge No. 44 Meeting
Masonic Lodge, Garnett, 7 p.m.
- 13 Airport Advisory Board Meeting
Garnett Industrial Airport, 4 p.m.
- 15 VFW Breakfast
VFW Post 6397, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- 17 ACDA Economic Development Meeting, City Hall, 5 p.m.
BPW Meeting
Town Hall Center, 5:30 p.m.
Planning Commission Meeting
City Hall, 6 p.m.
- 18 Garnett Public Library Adult Reading Program Kickoff
Garnett Public Library, 1 p.m. & 7 p.m.
- 19 Walker Art Committee Meeting
Archer Room, Garnett Public Library, 4 p.m.
- 23 Spring Soccer Sign-ups Begin
Register online

- 24 City Commission Meeting
City Hall, 6 p.m.
- 25 Garnett Public Library Book Discussion TBA
Garnett Public Library, 7 p.m.
- 26 Harvesters Emergency Food Distribution
For Anderson County residents, Quonset Hut, Fairgrounds, 2 p.m.
Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Banquet
Knights of Columbus Hall, 5:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY

- 2 Historical Society Meeting
Anderson County Historical Museum, 6:30 p.m.
USD 365 Board of Education Meeting
Board Office, 7 p.m.
- 7 Garnett Community Foundation Meeting, Rec Center, 5:30 p.m.
Garnett Senior Center Board Meeting
Garnett Senior Center, 7 p.m.
- 8 Remember When Wednesday
Garnett Public Library, 10 a.m.
Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
Rec Center, 6 p.m.
VFW Post 6397 Meeting
VFW Post 6397, 6 p.m.
VFW Auxiliary Meeting
VFW Post 6397, 6 p.m.
Friends of the PSRT Meeting
Santa Fe Depot, 7 p.m.
- 9 Morning Mingle Meeting
Garnett Public Library, 8 a.m.
Delphian Masonic Lodge No. 44 Meeting
Masonic Lodge, Garnett, 7:30 p.m.
- 10 Airport Advisory Board Meeting
Garnett Industrial Airport, 4 p.m.
- 13 Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting
Chamber Office, 12 p.m.
American Legion Auxiliary Meeting
VFW Post 6397, 5:30 p.m.
Library Board Meeting
Garnett Public Library, 6 p.m.
American Legion Meeting
VFW Post 6397, 7 p.m.

Town Talk - Winter Calendar

Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to stay connected!

FEBRUARY (continued)

- 13 Garnett Housing Authority Board of Directors Meeting
GHA Office, Park Plaza North, 7 p.m.
- 14 **Happy Valentine's Day!**
Recycle Trailer
Country Mart parking lot, all day
City Commission Meeting
City Hall, 6 p.m.
- 15 Book Discussion "Daisy Jones and the Six" hosted by the Garnett Public Library
Garnett Public Library, 7 p.m.
- 16 Walker Art Committee Meeting
Archer Room, Garnett Public Library, 4 p.m.
- 19 VFW Breakfast
VFW Post 6397, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Bridal Show & Vendor's Showcase
Hosted by Troyer's Prairie Gold, Inc., 1-4 p.m.
- 20 **Presidents' Day**
City offices will be closed and trash services will run one day late.
- 21 ACDA - Economic Development Meeting
City Hall, 5 p.m.
Garnett BPW Meeting
Town Hall Center 5:30 p.m.
Planning Commission Meeting
City Hall, 6 p.m.
- 23 Harvesters Emergency Food Distribution
For Anderson County residents, Quonset Hut, Anderson County Fairgrounds, 2 p.m.
- 24-26 "The Pie Ladies" hosted by The Chamber Players Community Theatre
Thelma Moore Playhouse
- 26 Deadline for Soccer Signups
Register online
- 28 LAST DAY - Pet licensing deadline for reduced rate.
Purchase at City Hall by Tuesday, February 28 or by mail or drop box.

MARCH

- 1 Adult Reading Program Ends
Garnett Public Library
- 2 Historical Society Meeting
Anderson County Historical Museum, 6:30 p.m.

- 2 USD 365 Board of Education Meeting
Board Office, 7 p.m.
- 2-5 "The Pie Ladies" hosted by The Chamber Players Community Theatre
Thelma Moore Playhouse
- 4 International Woman's Day
Chocolate Tour hosted by Morning Mingle
- 7 Garnett Community Foundation Meeting
Recreation Center, 5:30 p.m.
Garnett Senior Center Board Meeting
Garnett Senior Center, 7 p.m.
- 8 Remember When Wednesday
Garnett Public Library, 10 a.m.
Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting
City Hall, 4:30 p.m.
VFW Post 6397 Meeting
VFW Post 6397, 6 p.m.
VFW Ladies Auxiliary Meeting
VFW Post 6397, 6 p.m.
Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
Rec Center, 6 p.m.
Friends of the PSRT Meeting
Santa Fe Depot, 7 p.m.
- 9 Morning Mingle
Garnett Public Library, 8 a.m.
Delphian Masonic Lodge #44 Meeting
Masonic Lodge, 7:30 p.m.
- 10 Airport Advisory Board Meeting
Garnett Industrial Airport, 4 p.m.
- 12 **Daylight Savings Time Begins**
- 13 Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting
Chamber Office, 12 p.m.
American Legion Ladies Auxiliary Meeting,
VFW Post 6397, 5:30 p.m.
Library Advisory Board Meeting
Garnett Public Library, 6 p.m.
American Legion Meeting
VFW Post 6397, 7 p.m.
Garnett Housing Authority Board of Directors Meeting
GHA Office, Park Plaza North, 7 p.m.
- 14 Pie Day hosted by the Garnett Public Library
Garnett Public Library, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

- 14 City Commission Meeting
City Hall, 6 p.m.
- 16 Walker Art Committee
Archer Room, Garnett Public Library, 4 p.m.
- 17 **Happy St. Patrick's Day!**
- 20 VFW Breakfast
VFW Post 6397, 9 a.m.- 1 p.m.
- 21 ACDA - Economic Development Meeting
City Hall, 5 p.m.
- 21 Garnett BPW Meeting
Town Hall Center, 5:30 p.m.
Planning Commission Meeting
City Hall, 6 p.m.
- 22 Book Discussion TBA
Garnett Public Library, 7 p.m.
- 23 Harvesters Emergency Food Distribution
For Anderson County Residents
Quonset Hut, 2 p.m.
- 25 Prairie Spirit 100 Ultra Race
100m/100k, 50m/50k, Prairie Spirit Rail Trail
- 30 Farmers Market Vendors Meeting
Town Hall Center, 6 p.m.

Websites and Social Channels

Official City Website -
www.simplygarnett.com

Social Media:

Facebook: @garnettks

Twitter: @getgarnett

Instagram: @garnettkansas

YouTube: /garnettkansas

We are still looking for events to add to our community calendar and special events calendar for 2023.
Contact kris@garnettks.net with information.



A Message from Code Enforcement and Animal Control

Pet Registration Due - 2023 Registrations will be due soon!

This is just a reminder that your pet's vaccination expires. Owners of dogs and cats within the City of Garnett are required to purchase pet licenses annually at City Hall.

Between January 1 and before March 1, the city will collect a registration fee of \$7.50 for spayed or neutered dogs and cats, and \$20 for any dog or cat that is not spayed or neutered.

As of March 1, 2021, the fees will double to \$15 and \$40 respectively. Replacement tag fee for lost tags are \$5.

Please note: Certificate of current rabies vaccination provided to you by your veterinarian, along with verification of spaying or neutering, is required at time of City pet license purchase.

Thereafter, by ordinance a notification will be sent to a pet owner 30 days in advance of the expiration of their pet's rabies vaccination. Owners will be required to provide the new rabies vaccination information to the city within 30 days of notification. Failure to comply will result in the pet license being revoked and a fine issued.

Cold Weather Care for Animals - Make sure your animals, if outside, have shelter from the cold and access to food and water when temperatures drop below 40 degrees.

Animal Pick-Up Fees - If your animal is picked up and taken to Countryside Veterinary Clinic, you as the owner, are responsible for all fees incurred before the animal will be released. Please keep your pets inside or kenneled.

If you have questions regarding animal control, you may contact Darin Schmoe, Code Enforcement/Animal Control at City Hall, 785.448.5496, Option 1.



From the Zoning Administrator...



Good things are coming to Garnett! The City of Garnett received a C-CLIP grant this year to make stormwater and roadway improvements on Maple Street/US-59. Work will begin between early March and mid-May, and will last about 90 days. During the project, the stormwater system will receive improvements including additional inlets, and larger pipe underground. Once the work on the stormwater system has been completed, Maple Street will be resurfaced between 4th Avenue and Redbud Ln. While construction is taking place, traffic will still be moving in both directions, but not all three lanes will be available. During this project, please pay attention to the construction signage, and follow the traffic management plan. Also be mindful of those working on the project, as they work to make things safer for us.

We also have some other construction happening in town, as I am sure by now you are aware. Leizsler Oil is building a new Short Stop convenience store on the southeast corner of Park Road and Maple Street, the former site of Ron Ratliff's Anderson County Sales. And to settle the rumors, Papa John's will be located inside.

On the north side of Park Road, where the old cheese plant used to be, we will see another new business, a Dollar Tree/Family Dollar store. This project has been in the works for some time, and I am glad that it is happening. The Family Dollar corporation will take possession of the building from its owner on January 2, 2023. Both Businesses expect to open around March 1, 2023.

Additionally, Countryside Veterinary Clinic is expanding! Construction started mid-December on a new clinic building, just to the north of the larger animal clinic. Ed Moor Construction of Gardner is the general contractor, and the Allisons are excited for their new facility, so they can elevate the excellent level of service they currently provide for our community. There is no word yet as to when construction will be complete.

As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me at City Hall, or you can reach me by email at emills@garnettkks.net.

Thanks!

Eric Mills,
Planning and Zoning Official

From ACDA...

Many may know that I came to Garnett with a history of Downtown Revitalization. I worked in two communities and consulted in numerous communities over a 30+ year span. The Main Street program is one that produces many results and consistently is very successful. ACDA decided two years ago that Downtown Revitalization is very important to economic growth and development for Anderson County. We launched three public meetings in 2021 and began working to form a Main Street/Downtown Revitalization program. We held a Main Street 101 orientation and then we formed an Advisory Board and they began working. They worked together to name the program the Garnett Downtown Square Revitalization. The logo is pictured below. They created boundaries for the program which are 3rd Avenue to 6th Avenue and Walnut to Main Street. The groundwork has been laid for a successful program. Committees were formed and the Design Committee has worked hard to find the resources to create uniform plantings in the new planters in Garnett. They proposed a Façade Grant for the downtown businesses as well. The program has been put on pause due to a lack of volunteers. Downtown Revitalization Programs / Main Street Program are a volunteer-based program. Along with ACDA, we have a few very dedicated volunteers that would like to see the program succeed. They see the need for our community to revitalize our downtown and believe there are others that share their passion. We need you to help with the mission to strengthen the economic base of Garnett. The program will only be successful if we have everyone working together; we need you. My request is that if you have any interest in seeing our downtown thrive that you will volunteer for this program. Please contact Julie Turnipseed at 785-504-4265 or julie@garnettks.net. We hope to get the program going strong in 2023!

Julie Turnipseed, Director
Anderson County Development Agency
(ACDA)



From the Fire Chief...



As we enter 2023, here are some of our annual reminders:

- * Are your home address numbers visible from the street and easy to see at night? Can emergency vehicles find your home easily? Now is a great time to look, and if necessary, take the steps to improve visibility.
- * Are your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors working? Heating the home is the second leading cause of house fires. As the temperature goes down the risk goes up.
- * Carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel can be sources of carbon monoxide.

Please heed these tips:

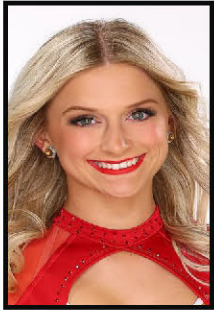
- * Never warm up a vehicle in the garage even with the door open. Have fuel-burning heating equipment and chimneys inspected by a professional every year before cold weather sets in.
- * When using a fireplace, open the flue for adequate ventilation. Never use your oven to heat your home.
- * Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- * Keep anything that can burn at least three-feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
- * Did you know that closing your doors in your home is also important for your safety? Closed doors can reduce fire growth, limit damage to your home, keep temperatures down, and can even save your life if you become trapped. A fire needs oxygen to burn. A closed door keeps more oxygen in the room and away from the fire. When you exit a fire, make sure to close your door behind you to slow down its growth. Learn more at closeyourdoor.org.

We are excited to kick off the year with the Kansas State Firefighters Association as they are hosting a regional fire school in Garnett on January 7-8, 2023. This will bring firefighters and instructors from all over the state to Garnett.

Sincerely,

Wes Skillman,
Fire Chief
wskillman@garnettks.net

Chamber of Commerce Invites You to Attend the Annual Banquet



The Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce will hold their Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet on Thursday, January 26, 2022 at the Garnett Knights of Columbus Hall beginning at 5:30 p.m.

This year's Keynote Speaker will be Lexee Feuerborn. Lexee Feuerborn

grew up in Garnett, KS. She began dancing at the age of two and a half. She has trained in all aspects of dance over the years, including tap, ballet, jazz, hip hop, lyrical, modern, contemporary, and has studied dance history and choreography. Lexee has always had a strong passion for dance and loves being able to share her knowledge and experience. She attended the University of Kansas, where she graduated with a B.F.A. in Dance along with a Certificate in Entrepreneurship. While at KU, she was part of the University Dance Company and a member of the Rock Chalk Dance Team. She performed for athletic competitions including football, basketball, volleyball, soccer, and baseball. Other performances include performing with New Kids on the Block at the T-Mobile Center and performing at the 2022 NCAA Men's Basketball tournament games in Fort Worth, Texas and New Orleans, Louisiana for the Final Four and National Championship Games. After graduating from KU, she continued her dance career with the Kansas City Chiefs as a Chiefs Cheerleader. Lexee has choreographed for high school dance teams, many studio competition teams, and has received multiple choreography awards for her work. She currently teaches at Donna's School of Dance, Inspire Dance Academy, and is the Assistant Dance Coach at Gardner-Edgerton High School.

The Chamber of Commerce will also be presenting the following awards:

- **Business of the Year** - Presented to a Chamber member business who has demonstrated outstanding ethics, community support, leadership, friendly service, and has been an overall benefit to the community.

- **Organization of the Year** - Presented to a non-profit organization who is active and beneficial to the Garnett Community.
- **Volunteer of the Year** - The George Clasen Memorial Service Award is presented to an individual, or individuals, from the Garnett area who have shown exemplary service to the community through GACC and/or other local organizations.

Tickets for the banquet may be purchased at the Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce Office. Price is \$25 for Chamber members, and \$30 for non-members. Contact Executive Director, Kris Hix at 785-448-6767 for more information or visit www.garnettchamber.org.

From the City Clerk...



Winter is here, and the holidays are in the air! This is the time for friends, family, marshmallows, and hot cocoa!

As the temperature begins to drop over the next few months, adjust your home thermostats accordingly. As we move into these winter months, make a checklist and prepare for possible outages. The smallest changes can impact your utility usage and bills. Here are a few reminders previously shared:

- Check your pets' outdoor homes, keep their paws dry and free from frost.
- Keep their food and water bowls full.
- Schedule maintenance on your home's heating/air conditioning system.
- Paint, caulk, and seal exterior wood.
- Check your drainage, gutters, screens, windows, and doors for drafts.
- Clean your chimney and fireplace and stock up on wood.
- Test your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Trim tree branches as needed to relieve the weight of ice.
- Get batteries for flashlights and radios for power outages.
- Check wiring for Christmas lights inside/outside of your home.
- Help your neighbors and the elderly prepare as well.

Thank you , Garnett, for a wonderful place to live and work., and Happy Holidays to each and every home!

Trish Brewer, City Clerk

Diane, Amanda, Colleen, & Jordan——Your Utility Staff



131 West Fifth Avenue
P.O. Box H
Garnett, KS 66032

LOCAL
POSTAL CUSTOMER

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

*Who do you call if your utilities are off?
How can you get advanced severe weather warnings?
Where can you go to seek shelter from a storm?
How can you find resources if you are new to the area?*

These questions and many more can arise when you least expect it or assume the answers are easy to find, and then you can't seem to find them. The City of Garnett provides emergency information at your finger tips by simply going to the "Emergency Information" tab on our website, simplygarnett.com.

If you are experiencing an interruption in utility service provided by the City of Garnett at the following phone numbers during these hours:

785.448.5496 - City Hall, Weekdays, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
785.448.5428 - Dispatch Center, Weekdays, 5 p.m. to 8 a.m.
785.448.5428 - Dispatch Center, Weekends and Holidays

CodeRed Emergency Notification

CodeRed delivers warnings/alerts to you by telephone. Sign-up online through the link on our website.

This system identifies persons who have signed up for this service who are in the path of a tornado, severe thunderstorm or flooding. Additionally, evacuation notices, missing persons and other emergency information can create an alert to your phone.

Storm Shelter Information

The Emergency Information link on our website provides a complete list of storm shelters throughout Anderson County. There are two (2) current active shelters in Garnett:

First United Methodist Church
205 S. Oak St.

Garnett Storm Shelter
9th Ave. & Oak St.

In the event of a weather warning these shelters will be open and available to the public.

Text-to-911

Texting 911 can be done by typing "911" in the field for a phone number on your wireless phone.

Situations when Text-to-911 is appropriate:

- * Deaf, hard of hearing callers, or individuals with a speech disability;
- * A caller who is unable to speak due to a medical or other condition
- * Emergency situations that would put the caller in danger if making a voice call
- * Examples include abduction, domestic violence, or active

shooter situation.

In the event you cannot safely make a voice call to 911 in an emergency, you can text to 911. This is a project between Anderson County Emergency Communications and Kansas 911 Coordinating Council.

Remember, the best way to contact 911 is by making a voice call. **Please only use this service in an emergency when a voice call is not possible or safe.** Please note that Text-to-911 may not be available outside of Anderson County.

Emergency Resources for Those in Need

East Central Kansas Economic Opportunity Corporation, better known as ECKAN, has an office in Garnett located at 132 E. 5th Avenue, 785.448.3670. Their services range from food, clothing and financial resources to Head Start Pre-School services, home weatherization and more. A link to their online information is available on our website.

Harvesters Emergency Food Distribution

Distribution of food is held monthly on the fourth Thursday of each month at the fairgrounds located in Garnett's North Lake Park at 2 p.m. This offering of food is for Anderson County residents only who meet required low income guidelines.

NEW RESIDENT INFORMATION

We try to make it simple, when possible, for new residents coming to our community to find useful information. First, we invite you to stop by Garnett City Hall, 131 W. 5th Avenue to pick up your complimentary "welcome packet".

Second, visit our website, simplygarnett.com. There are three important pages to view on the website with links to resources and information to help make your new experience as a citizen of our city enjoyable. Please be sure to visit these links at www.simplygarnett.com:

- Community Resources
- Emergency Resources
- Utilities

But don't stop there! Please look at all aspects of our website and if you don't find what you are looking for, please contact the office of Community Development and Tourism at 785.448.5496, Option 7.

www.simplygarnett.com