

TOWN TALK

SPRING 2019

GARNETT, KANSAS | WWW.SIMPLYGARNETT.COM



City Commission



Greg A. Gwin,
Mayor



Brigitte
Brecheisen-
Huss,
Commissioner



Jody M. Cole,
Commissioner

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www.simplygarnett.com

From The City Commission...

I would like to recognize these new businesses that have opened within Garnett:

- ◆ Trust Point Insurance, 114 W. 4th Avenue
- ◆ Agency West, 204 N. Maple Street
- ◆ All Star Gymnastics, 511 S. Oak Street
- ◆ Good Shepherd Hospice, 427 S. Oak Street
- ◆ Burlington Tax Center, 419 S. Oak Street
- ◆ Dutch Country Café, 304 N. Maple Street

Also, please welcome the new church, Living Waters Bible Temple at 305 E. 2nd Avenue, and opening soon, Judgement Day Precision Arms at 240 E. 5th Avenue. If time allows, stop by and check out all they have to offer and welcome them to the community.

I would like to take a moment to remind you of these statistics. Residential properties are taxed at 11.5%. Business properties are taxed at 25%. As consumers, we can make a huge difference by supporting local businesses as often as possible. The extra sales tax and property tax will make a big impact. It also helps in job retention and further expansion. Our local businesses often give back to the community by supporting fundraisers and special events as well. I realize not every dollar can be spent locally. However, we can continue to make a big difference when we join together and support local businesses, if we are mindful that spending locally will not only reduce our tax burden, but will also benefit the community immensely.

I hope this article finds you in good health and that everyone prospers. Spring is finally in full swing!

Respectfully,
Greg A. Gwin, Mayor

From The City Manager...

After what seems like a never-ending snowy winter, spring has finally sprung!

I would first like to recognize and thank John Olson for his forty-five (45) years of dedicated service to the City of Garnett. John has worked in many departments over his tenure and has been instrumental in the daily operations at the

Wastewater Plant. John is a wealth of information and we are going to miss his insight and experience as he sets out on a new adventure...retirement!

Our own Travis Wilson has recently been appointed as our new City Clerk. Travis has been serving as the Interim City Clerk for a few months now and has done an outstanding job. I am confident in his abilities and am excited for what the future holds for our front office with him at the helm.

We are also excited about our temporary roommates here at City Hall. The Anderson County District Court is utilizing some of our office space for a few months while the courthouse gets a facelift. We are enjoying working closely with Anderson County staff and we are REALLY enjoying the snacks they share with us!

We are currently advertising openings for several of our advisory boards. For a complete list of those openings please visit our website. Anyone interested in volunteering for these open positions is asked to submit a letter of interest to City Hall.

I would like to recognize Susan Wettstein for her outstanding work coordinating the Community Champions event. Even with the postponed date due to the weather, there was a great turnout and our volunteers seemed to appreciate the recognition. We are so very grateful for all of the volunteers in our community that make Garnett the wonderful city that it is!

City Hall staff is currently working on several exciting projects that we hope to accomplish within the next year. We are researching grant opportunities for a possible new playground, bike share program and a dog park. We are also continuing to work on the development plans for our new water treatment facility among other infrastructure projects. On the infrastructure topic - thank you for bearing with us through this pothole infested winter. As all of you I'm sure have experienced, as the moisture that seemed to continually sit in the cracks in our streets froze and thawed, it caused the neighboring asphalt surface to pop out and create potholes. Our Public Works Department have been out continually working on these craters to fix our streets. The challenge is, a single pothole (fixed properly) typically takes around half an hour

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From the City Manager...

Continued from page 1

to fix with \$50 in material. One pothole we fixed on Park Road took an hour and a half and used \$250 in material!

As warmer weather is finally showing up, we are making a very concerted effort to ensure code compliance throughout the community. This will continue to be a priority. As I've mentioned in the past, well-maintained properties show potential business owners and residents that our community takes pride in itself.

The City Commission recently adopted the 2018 building codes and as such, you may now qualify for a reduction in your home insurance premium if your insurance company uses the ISO ratings in their premium calculation. This also means, however, that in the event you are looking at building new or making a significant renovation to your property, you need to be aware of what our new building code regulations are. Staying code compliant not only keeps our community looking wonderful, it keeps all of our insurance rates down!

Make sure you mark your calendars for the upcoming spring city-wide garage sales on April 13! As usual, for anything you don't want and don't sell, we'll have city-wide clean-up the very next week, April 15-19. Our clean-up crew always starts at the north end of town and works through to the south. So make sure you get your clean-up materials out by Monday, April 15 to ensure they'll get picked up!

As always, we are gearing up for spring events and warm weather fun. I encourage everyone to check out the Long Cedar Disc Golf Course and the Garnett Country Club Golf Course for some outdoor activities and exercise. Additionally, don't forget to get a membership at our now twenty-four (24) hour recreation center!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you as City Manager for our beautiful town!

Sincerely,
Christopher T. Weiner, City Manager

From the Office of Economic Development...

I am truly enjoying meeting the many Anderson County residents and visitors. The past six months have been a whirlwind of new programs and new prospects. Most recently, I have been conducting **Business Retention and Expansion Survey** visits along with Craig VanWey from the Kansas Department of Commerce. I appreciate our businesses taking time to participate in the surveys. The information will be compiled, and results will be available online on the City of Garnett's website, www.simplygarnett.com. We have completed 18 visits to date and will continue making visits.

We are gathering information, such as how many employees are working in Anderson County/Garnett, how many of those employees live inside the county, how our employers recruit employees, as well as other information that will help in our business recruitment and retention efforts.



The **Economic Climate Report** is now online (simplygarnett.com) if anyone is interested in looking at the document. This report is going to be very helpful in setting a threshold on where we are now as far as population, tax rate, high school graduation rate, crime index, as well as other areas. We hope to see improvement in all the areas as we work together to make Garnett the best place to live, work and play that it can possibly be.

First Impressions is a great way to continue the journey we are on. The K-State Research and Extension's First Impressions Program can improve our community's image and quality of life. First Impressions allows us to see our community through the eyes of a first-time visitor. A volunteer visitation team from a similar community toured Garnett in March. The visitation team explored our community's residential, retail, and industrial areas, local government entities, schools, and other points of interest. The team was trained and followed clear guidelines as they evaluated our physical and online appearance, access to services, friendliness, and other community attributes.

First Impressions increases awareness of a community's strengths and highlights areas of concern. The program will help our community by:

- ⇒ Evaluating the success of our current development initiatives.
- ⇒ Set goals and priorities for new development.
- ⇒ Identify ways to strengthen our community services.
- ⇒ Identify initiatives for community support agencies, civic groups, city/county leaders, and for community and economic development.

The results from the visitation team will be presented to the Garnett community by Nancy Daniels, Director of the First Impressions Program on April 15, 7 p.m. at Town Hall Center, 125 West 5th Avenue. Everyone in the Garnett/Anderson County area is invited and urged to attend the presentation. We would like our citizens input at this meeting, as it will help our community begin the process of creating a vision and strategic plan.

Anderson County is a **NetWork Kansas E-Community**. Economic Development for Garnett and Anderson County has made a commitment to cultivate an entrepreneurial environment by identifying and developing resources to help local entrepreneurs start and grow businesses. We have partnered with NetWork Kansas as an E-Community to establish a locally-administered **loan fund** to assist entrepreneurs with capital, to increase connectivity to resources available to assist entrepreneurs with small businesses development. Network Kansas has determined the following are



From the Office of Economic Development...

Continued from page 2

eligible uses for E-Community loan funds, as long as they are tied directly to the business/project in the loan application:

- Purchase of Land • Real Estate • Inventory and Equipment
- Working Capital

The above list are just guidelines. Our local E-Community has autonomy to determine that any of the above are not eligible. If you are interested in starting a business or growing your existing business, please contact me. My office is located inside the Garnett City Hall building, 131 W. 5th Avenue. You can email me at julie@garnettks.net, or call 785-448-5496, extension 5 for more information.

Thank you,

Julie Turnipseed, Director of Garnett/Anderson County Economic Development (ACDA)

City Honors John Olson for 45 Years of Service



L-R: Greg Gwin, Mayor; John Olson, Director of Wastewater; Chris Weiner, City Manager

The City of Garnett hosted a retirement reception for John L. Olson on Friday, March 15, 2019. John leaves the City after almost 45 years of dedicated service.

Mr. Olson began his career with the City of Garnett as a Street Maintenance Worker on July 1, 1974. He received a promotion to be the Superintendent of the Refuse Department on July 24, 1978. He transitioned to the position of Superintendent of the Sewer Department on July 1, 1980. On January 1, 2018, he took the position of overseeing the operations of the Wastewater, Refuse (Sanitation) and Street Departments. Upon retirement, Mr. Olson held the position of Director of Wastewater.

John has served under the direction of City Managers R. G. Doran, Joyce Martin and Christopher Weiner. John has worked on many projects with many city employees over the past 45 years. When he is not doing things for others he plans to enjoy his time fishing, hunting and spending time outdoors. He has been a very active leader in the Boy Scouts and Garnett Gun Club.

We wish John a long, happy and healthy retirement.

From the Office of Planning and Zoning...

Floodplain Management

FEMA and the Kansas Department of Agriculture has reached a point in the Upper Marais Des Cygnes project where they intend to schedule a Flood Risk Review meeting in April (meeting date/time TBA) for the floodplain mapping updates in Anderson County and start a community review period for mapping.

This group will provide local feedback and review draft floodplain data for accuracy and sensibility. Check the City of Garnett's website (www.simplygarnett.com) for updates.



Local Tax Incentive Encourages Improvements

If you're thinking about new construction, an addition, or a major rehabilitation, be sure to check out the City's "Neighborhood Revitalization Plan (NRP)", which is designed to promote improvements to eligible properties within the City of Garnett. Property owners who make a minimum increase of \$5,000 in appraised value of structural improvements to their residential or commercial properties are eligible to receive a property tax rebate from the City of Garnett, Anderson County and USD 365, depending on the NRP location. This means up to an annual 95% refund of new taxes paid resulting from the improvements for a rebate period of 5 years, or as much as 8 years for property within the designated "downtown" area. **Please note:** The application for this program must be submitted prior to the start of the project. Let this program work for you while you work on improving your home or business. Visit the City's website to download the application, or stop by and visit me at City Hall. I am happy to assist if you have questions on the Neighborhood Revitalization Program, building permits or zoning regulations.

City Offers Cost Sharing for Sidewalks

Another improvement opportunity the City offers is our "Sidewalk Replacement" program which covers residential and commercial properties alike. The sidewalk improvement is on a cost sharing basis with the City paying \$2.00 per square foot toward the cost of the replacement. The application for this program must be approved prior to any construction and funds are available on a first come, first serve basis. Plan ahead and take advantage of the special programs the City has to offer.

Remember: The only limits in our life are the ones that we impose on ourselves.

Respectfully,
Gary Giczewski



SPRING CLEAN-UP WEEK ANNOUNCED

The Garnett City Commission has designated **April 15 through April 19, 2019 as Spring Clean-up Week** for commercial and 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 spring 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. Clean-Up Week pickup is limited to residential areas only.

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 fires 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). City crews will not enter private property. Prior request for these services is required by calling Garnett City Hall at 785.448.5496.

Guidelines for a Simply...Great City Wide Clean-Up Week in Garnett

The Public Works Department asks that you follow a few simple tips during City Wide Clean-Up Week when it comes to limbs, brush and yard waste:

1 - The Stacking of Limbs and Brush

When stacking limbs and brush, it is best to stack them parallel with the street (or alley) and as close to the curb as possible. This makes it easier for our equipment to remove the piles of debris and lessen the likelihood of disturbing the grass in your yard. Keeping branch lengths under eight feet in any given stack also helps ensure less time spent pushing and dragging piles across the surface of the yard, possibly damaging grass growth. While yard damage is not completely unavoidable, due to moisture and other factors, we can minimize it if the piles are easily accessible and manageable.

2- Placement of Limb and Brush Piles

Stacking limbs and brush on or around water and gas valve lids, water meter pits, gas meters, telephone poles or guy wires, for obvious safety reasons, is highly discouraged. Heavy equipment is used in most cases to remove the debris. Stacking near any of these utilities can cause serious damage and injuries, both to equipment and personnel. It can even cause loss of utility services, not only for yourself, but your surrounding neighbors. When in doubt please help the City by placing brush and limbs curbside or at the alley in a safe place and within reach of our equipment.

3- Household Trash vs. Yard Waste

The City hauls limbs and brush to the City's burn site, an all-natural dumpsite, as a cost savings to our customers. Only limbs, brush and "yard waste" is allowed. Anything man-made is not permitted at this dumpsite. Under no circumstances are we allowed to dump household trash there. That being said, if you bag up leaves and other small shrubs and yard waste in plastic bags, we tear those bags open, dump it into the loader bucket, and the bags are left on your property to dispose of in weekly trash. Please refrain from including any type of household waste inside bags of leaves or yard debris. When we find this has happened the bag of leaves and household trash will not be picked up. Please note all bags and piles are inspected for household waste. Please help us by not mixing in household garbage. That is what our regular weekly refuse pick-ups are for.

4. - Paper Bags are Good to Go

Paper disposable bags, found at various retailers, are allowed to be taken to the City's dumpsite, saving you the hassle of having to pick-up a pile of plastic bags we have left behind. Just like the plastic, however, the paper bags are cut open inside the loader bucket to check for household waste.

Thank you for working with us to make City Wide Clean-Up more efficient and safe.

Enjoy these Garnett area activities and events!

Check out our Bulletin Board and Community Calendar - www.simplygarnett.com



APRIL

April 1-April 26 -Yoga, A.M. Exercise Class

M-W-F, Rec Center, 8:45 a.m.

**1 Anderson Co. Commission Meeting-
Every Monday**, Annex Building,
9 a.m.

Community Foundation Meeting
Rec Center, 5:30 p.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.

**Lions Club Meeting-
Every 1st Monday**, 6 p.m.
Garnett VFW Post 6397

**2 Storytime for Preschoolers-
Every Tuesday** through May 15,
Garnett Public Library, 10 a.m.
**Rotary International Club Meeting
Every Tuesday**, Garnett Inn, 12 p.m.
**American Legion Bingo-
Every Tuesday**, VFW Post 6397,
6 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous
Every Tuesday and Thursday
510 S Oak, 7-8 p.m.

**3 Duplicate Bridge
Every Wednesday**
Garnett Inn, 1 p.m.
Tourism Advisory Board
City Hall, 4:30 p.m.

**4 TOPS Meeting
Every Thursday**,
Garnett United Methodist Church,
9 a.m.
13-Point Pitch and Snacks
Every Thursday, Garnett Senior
Center, 6 p.m.

**Anderson County Historical Society
Annual Banquet**, ACHS Commons,
6:30 p.m.

**USD 365 Board of Education
Meeting**, BOE Office, 7 p.m.

Masonic Lodge No. 44 Meeting
Masonic Lodge, 7:30 p.m.

**8 Deadline for Baseball, Softball,
Coach Pitch and T-Ball Registration**
Register online or at the Rec
Center.

**Housing Authority Advisory Board of
Directors Meeting**, GHA Office,
7 p.m.

American Legion Auxiliary
VFW Post 6397, 7- 8 p.m.

9 Anderson County Recycle Trailer
Country Mart parking lot.
City Commission Meeting
City Hall, 6 p.m.
Alzheimer's Support Group
Parkview Heights, 6 p.m.
Golden Prairie Beekeepers Meeting
Garnett Extension Office, 6:30 p.m.

10 Remember When Wednesday
Garnett Public Library, 10 a.m.
Garnett Optimist Club Meeting
Garnett Inn, 6:30 p.m.
**Friends of the Prairie Spirit Trail
Meeting**, Santa Fe Depot, 7 p.m.

**11 Garnett Area Chamber of
Commerce Board Meeting**
City Hall, 5:30 p.m.

12 Airport Advisory Board Meeting
City Hall, 4 p.m.

**13 Spring City Wide Garage Sale Day
VFW Breakfast**
VFW Post 6397, 7:00-9:30 a.m.
Friends of the Library Book Sale
Garnett Public Library.

15-19 Spring Clean-Up Week
Be ready! Free service courtesy of
City of Garnett and Anderson
County.

TAX DAY
Garnett Lions Club Meeting
VFW Post 6397, 6 p.m.
**First Impressions Community
Meeting**, Town Hall Center,
125 W. 5th Avenue, 7 p.m.

**April 16-May 23 -Yoga, P.M. Exercise Class
Tuesday & Thursday** (Beginners),
Wednesday (Advanced), Rec
Center, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

**April 16-May 23-Indoor Cycling
Tuesday & Thursday** A.M., Rec
Center, 5:30-6:00 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday P.M., Rec
Center, 5-6 p.m.

**16 ACDA - Economic Development
Meeting**, City Hall, 5 p.m.
BPW Meeting, Archer Room,
Garnett Public Library, 5:30 p.m.
Planning Commission Meeting
City Hall, 6 p.m.

17 Caffeine & Colors
Garnett Public Library, 1 p.m.

18 Walker Art Committee Meeting
City Hall, 4 p.m.

20 Easter Eggstravaganza!
Easter Festival, egg hunt and more,
Hosted by C.A.R.T.S. Ministry,
Stadium, North Lake Park, 10 a.m.

21 Easter Sunday
**April 22-May 12 - Coed Softball Team
Registration**
Register online or at the Rec
Center.

22 Caregivers Support Group
Park Plaza North, 1 p.m.

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

24 Garnett Optimist Club Meeting
Garnett Inn, 6:30 p.m.
**Book Discussion, "The Hamilton
Affair" by Elizabeth Cobbs**
Garnett Public Library, 7 p.m.

**25 Emergency Food Distribution -
Harvesters**, Quonset Hut, 4 p.m.

27 Color Splat 5K Run/Walk
Benefits the Garnett Community
Foundation, North Lake Park,
10 a.m.

MAY

**1 Anderson County Historical
Museum - Opens for summer**,
Tues-Fri, 1-4 p.m.
Tourism Advisory Board Meeting
City Hall, 4:30 p.m.

**May 2-October 17: Farmers Market-
Every Thursday**, Main Street,
4:30-7:00 p.m.

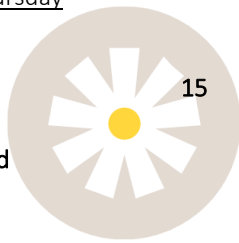
2 P.M. Spin Class
T-TH, Rec Center, 5-6 p.m.
P.M. Yoga Exercise Class
T-TH, Rec Center,
5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.
**USD 365 Board of Education
Meeting**, Westphalia Elementary
School, 7 p.m.

Masonic Lodge No. 44 Meeting
Masonic Lodge, 7:30 p.m.

3 A.M. Yoga
M-W-F, Rec Center, 8:45 a.m.

6 Library Board Meeting
Garnett Public Library, 5:30 p.m.
Community Foundation Meeting
Rec Center, 5:30 p.m.

8 Remember When Wednesdays
Garnett Public Library, 10 a.m.
Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Rec Center, 5:30 p.m.
Alzheimer's Support Group
Parkview Heights, 6 p.m.





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



MAY (continued)...

- 8 **Garnett Optimist Club Meeting**
Garnett Inn , 6:30 p.m.
Friends of the Prairie Spirit Trail Meeting, Santa Fe Depot, 7 p.m.
- 9 **Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting**
City Hall, 5:30 p.m.
- 10 **Airport Advisory Board Meeting**
City Hall, 4 p.m.
- 11 **47th Annual Square Fair**, presented by Garnett BPW, Town Square
Garnett Fire Department Breakfast
Fire Station, 7 a.m.
VFW Breakfast
VFW Post 6397, 7:00-9:30 a.m.
Air Fair 2019
Garnett Industrial Airport, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.
Quilt Show, Garnett Senior Center, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- 12 **ACHS Class of 2019 Graduation**
Anderson County High School, 3 p.m.
Coed Softball Team Registration Deadline
Register online or at the Rec Center
- 13 **Housing Authority Advisory Board of Directors Meeting**
GHA Office, 7 p.m.
American Legion Auxiliary Meeting
VFW Post 6397, 7 p.m.
- 14 **Anderson County Recycle Trailer**
Country Mart parking lot.
Golden Prairie Beekeepers Meeting
Garnett Extension Office, 6:30 p.m.
City Commission Meeting
Garnett City Hall, 6 p.m.
Alzheimer's Support Group
Parkview Heights Living Center, 6 p.m.
- 15 **Mobile Resource Bus**
Anderson County ECKAN Services Center, 9:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.
Phone: 785-448-3670
Caffeine and Colors
Garnett Public Library, 1 p.m.
- 16 **Walker Art Committee Meeting**
City Hall, 4 p.m.
- 20 **Garnett Lions Club Meeting**
VFW Post 6397, 6 p.m.
- 21 **ACDA - Economic Development Meeting**, Garnett City Hall 5 p.m.
BPW Meeting
Garnett Public Library, 5:30 p.m.
Garnett Planning Commission
Garnett City Hall, 6 p.m.

- 22 **Garnett Optimist Club Meeting**
Garnett Inn , 6:30 p.m.
Book Discussion (TBA)
Garnett Public Library, 7 p.m.
- 23 **Emergency Food Distribution - Harvesters**, Quonset Hut, 4 p.m.
Garnett Remembers "Celebration of Service", recognition of patriotic banner honorees, music by Garnett Area Community Band and more, Town Square, 7 p.m.
- 24-27 **Avenue of Flags**,
Garnett Municipal Cemetery
- 25 **Garnett Municipal Pool Opens for Summer!** North Lake Park
- 27 **City Hall closed, Memorial Day**
Holiday observed. Note: Trash service will run one (1) day late this week.
Memorial Day Service
Garnett Cemetery, conducted by American Legion Post 48 & VFW 6397, 10 a.m.
- 28 **City Commission Meeting**
Garnett City Hall, 6 p.m.
- May 31- **June 2-Kansas Dual Sport Safari Weekend**
Motorcycle event hosted by Garnett Lions Club, fairgrounds.

JUNE

- 1 **3rd Annual Car, Bike & Truck Show**
Hosted by Southland Cruisers, Town Square, 8:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
- 3 **Filing Deadline for City Commission Election**
File with the Anderson County Clerk, courthouse by 12 p.m. (noon).
Summer Reading Program Kickoff Party, "A Universe of Stories"
Garnett Public Library, 1-5 p.m.
Library Board Meeting
Garnett Public Library, 5:30 p.m.
Garnett Community Foundation Board Meeting
Garnett Rec Center, 5:30 p.m.
Water Aerobics
Begins at Garnett Municipal Pool M-W-F, 5:30-6:15 p.m.
Tourism Advisory Board Meeting
City Hall, 4:30 p.m.
- 5 **June 6-9, 13-16: "It Runs in the Family" - The Chamber Players Live Dinner Theatre**, performances at Thelma Moore Playhouse.

- 6 **Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting**,
City Hall, 5:30 p.m.
USD 365 Board of Education Meeting, BOE Office, 7 p.m.
Masonic Lodge No. 44 Meeting
Masonic Lodge, 7:30 p.m.
- 8 **VFW Breakfast**
VFW Post 6397, 7:00-9:30 a.m.
- 8-9 **Sprint Track Races**
Hosted by Kansas City Karting Association, Lake Garnett Sprint Track
- 10-21 **Session I Swimming Lessons**, enrollment and lessons at Garnett Municipal Pool.
- 11 **Anderson County Recycle Trailer**
Country Mart parking lot.
Housing Authority Advisory Board of Directors Meeting, GHA Office, 7 p.m.
City Commission Meeting
City Hall, 6 p.m.
Alzheimer's Support Group
Parkview Heights, 6 p.m.
Golden Prairie Beekeepers Meeting
Garnett Extension Office, 6:30 p.m.
- 13 **Friends of the Prairie Spirit Trail Meeting**, Santa Fe Depot, 7 p.m.
- 14 **Airport Advisory Board Meeting**
City Hall, 4 p.m.
- 18 **ACDA - Economic Development Meeting**, City Hall, 5 p.m.
BPW Meeting, Archer Room, Garnett Public Library, 5:30 p.m.
Planning Commission Meeting
City Hall, 6 p.m.
- 19 **Caffeine & Colors**
Garnett Public Library, 1 p.m.
- 20 **Walker Art Committee Meeting**
City Hall, 4 p.m.
Caregivers Support Group
Park Plaza North, 1 p.m.
- 23-28 **Garnett Area Paint Project (GAPP) Week**
- 25 **City Commission Meeting**
City Hall, 6 p.m.
- 27 **Emergency Food Distribution - Harvesters**, Quonset Hut, 4 p.m.
Garnett Optimist Club Meeting
Garnett Inn, 6:30 p.m.
- 29-30 **Lake Garnett Enduro Kart Club Road Races**, Lake Garnett road course.
Lake road closed during races.

***Please Note:** All activities, events and dates are subject to change.

Did You Know...

The City welcomes new employees: **Monica Hill**, Office Clerk; **Tom Johnson**, Police Department Administrative Sergeant, and **Charlie Reece**, Part-time Park and Cemetery Worker.

Milestone Accomplishments: The following employees are celebrating years of service anniversaries:

5 years: **Jennifer Schooler**, Account Clerk.

10 years: **Wesley Skillman**, Volunteer Firefighter.

20 years: **J.D. Mersman**, Volunteer Firefighter.

Promotions and Transfers: **Travis Wilson** is City Clerk, transitioning from his prior position as Interim City Clerk and Municipal Court Clerk. **Nancy Hermreck** adds Municipal Court Clerk and Deputy City Clerk to her duties. **Eric Trammel** steps up as Interim Director of Wastewater Processing.

Training and Certifications:

Robert Mills, Director of Electric Production, attended the Municipal Training Institute—Series 2019. Firefighters **Stephen Callow** and **Curtis Hughes** attended training on structure fires. Stephen has also attended the American Heart Association Basic Life Support Training, and is currently enrolled in EMT classes. **J.D. Mersman**, Volunteer Firefighter, received 4 hours of continuing education. **Raymond Arnett** and **Nick Menacho**, Gas and Water Maintenance Workers, received training on Water Distribution System Rules. **Ken Amaya**, Director of Public Works, recently attended the Kansas Rural Water Association Conference.

Mark your calendar for Monday, April 15, 2019, as representatives from K-State Research and Extension reveal the results from a recent **First Impressions Program** visit. How does a first-time visitor view our community? Join us at Town Hall Center, 125 W. 5th Avenue, at 7 p.m. on April 15th to find out.

There are some “eggstra-special” events being held in Garnett. The **Easter Eggstravaganza** is Saturday, April 20, the day before Easter Sunday. This festival with egg hunt has free food, games, inflatables and giveaways. It will be held at the stadium in the North Lake Park. The fun begins at 10 a.m. The Easter egg hunt starting at 12:30 p.m., courtesy of the C.A.R.T.S. Ministry volunteers.

We encourage everyone to go to our online “Rec Desk” and create your account. Once you have, you can sign-up to participate in recreation programs and become a member of our 24-hour recreation center if you wish. Soon, you will be able to purchase pool passes, register for swimming lessons and water aerobics, and in the near future reserve campsites, shelter houses and much more. Visit www.simplygarnett.com and click on the **“ONLINE REGISTRATION”** button located on the home page to get started.

There is currently a vacancy on the **Garnett Community Foundation** and the **Garnett Airport Advisory Board**. Whether or not there is a vacancy, if you have the desire to serve on these or any city advisory board or committee, please stop by City Hall and complete a Statement of Interest form or download the form online at www.simplygarnett.com.

During 2018, several properties within Garnett were inspected by **Code Enforcement** for possible Nuisance Ordinance violations, including accumulation of brush, limbs, junk, trash, abandoned furniture, appliances, inoperable and/or untagged vehicles, boats, lawn-mowers and parts, constructions debris and more. Also included were a number of properties overgrown by tall grass, weeds, and vegetation.

During the assessment, 128 property owners received notices. Of

those, 66 properties were brought up to code, while 10 citations were written resulting in almost 20 court appearances and 1 appeal to District Court. Also, 68 weed notices were delivered. Of those, approximately 20 properties had to be mowed by city crews, some multiple times, with expenses billed to the owners or assessed to the taxes. There were 6 properties that the City is working with from 2018 to bring into compliance. The remaining properties worked diligently to clean and beautify their property. We very much appreciate their positive engagement.

The City continues the process of canvassing the community and encouraging beautification efforts. Utilizing the free service of Spring Clean-Up Week (April 15-19) is a great option to consider. Simply bring unwanted items to the curb or alley of your property, separate from weekly trash (see page 4 for details) to save the extra time and money in having to haul these items to the landfill. Together, let's work to create a more beautiful and safe city.

Free home repair is offered to elderly, low-income and disabled families through the **Garnett Area Paint Project (GAPP)**. This partnership with Group Workcamps brings young people with adult leaders from other states to the local community through a Christian based program focused on making a significant impact through service. GAPP week is June 24-28. For information contact Scott Rogers, 785.448.6500 or Chris Goetz, 503.474.7965.

The **Garnett Fire Department** has free smoke detectors. Property owners in Garnett can receive two (2) detectors by contacting **Pat Tate**, Fire Chief, at 785.448.3042. If your detectors are over 10 years old, they probably need to be replaced. Don't forget to test your smoke detectors and change the batteries twice a year.



Sewer Department: Working to Eliminate Ground Water

Some of you have seen contractors or City workers, working around manholes in the area of 1st Avenue to 4th Avenue, Main Street and Maple Street last summer. If you didn't know, we are using cameras to find bad spots in the lines for point repairs and to determine if the said line can be slip lined, or if it has to be dug up and replaced.

Over the next few years, we will be replacing old flush tank manholes and replacing or slip lining the old clay tile lines. Slip lining or cure in place lining, is when a hose type material covered in a type of epoxy, is placed in a line and then expanded and cured with steam. When cured, it will become smooth and very hard. This process has been used for the last twenty to thirty years and has proven to be very successful. A robot type tool is then inserted in the line to inspect the curing process and to open a port for each predetermined tap (there are many unused taps). This procedure has no joints to leak and reinforces the clay piping, thus preventing collapses. It also prevents roots from intruding through the cracks and joints, and eliminates ground water which is the biggest problem we have.

Hopefully, the City can continue with this program until we have successfully eliminated the biggest part of the ground water and reinforced or replaced most of the clay tile we now have.

Sincerely,

John L. Olson, Director of Wastewater

An Important Message From the Gas Department...

For safety's sake, read this!

Things you should know:

- How, when and where to report a possible gas leak, gas odor, or carbon monoxide problem;
- Call Kansas One Call before you dig;
- Carbon Monoxide (CO) is known as "The Silent Killer";
- Gas appliance connectors;
- Be aware of bare steel gas service lines.

It is that time to inform our customers on the hazards of natural gas, and what precautions to take to keep us all safe. Natural gas is very flammable, potentially hazardous, and can be explosive under certain conditions. You can recognize a gas leak by using your senses. Seeing bubbles appear in a wet or flooded area, dead or discolored vegetation in an otherwise healthy environment, or a sometimes quiet to rather loud hissing sound can be signs of a gas leak. However, in most cases a leak can be recognized by a weak to strong smell of odorant. Our gas system is always odorized so that people can easily detect a leak by its smell.

How to report a possible gas leak

If you smell gas inside or outside a home, business or other structure, please report it to the gas department by calling Garnett City Hall at 785.448.5496. Call the Law Enforcement Dispatch Center at 785.448.6823 after normal business hours. If you have a gas emergency and the odor of natural gas is very strong and seems to be everywhere, DO NOT operate any light switches or try to air out the building, or even use your phone. EXIT IMMEDIATELY to a safe area away from the potential gas leak, such as going to a neighbor's house, and then call 9-1-1. Wait at your safe place for emergency personnel to arrive.

Our natural gas system transports gas to businesses and homes within the City of Garnett. Overall, this system is very reliable and in good condition. We have procedures, such as gas leak surveys, to determine where problem areas may exist and adapt as necessary. Accidents on gas systems are extremely rare but they can occur.

The gas department regularly trains with local emergency personnel, including fire, police and dispatchers. When a gas leak or related incident is reported, the proper department can be dispatched to provide public safety assistance and to respond to the gas emergency.

Dig Safe - Call BEFORE you dig!

Always call Kansas One Call before you dig to have utilities marked. Do this not only for your safety, but because it is the law. Kansas One Call will notify utility companies to mark the area with paint and flags, if their utilities exist. If there are no utilities in the project area usually "OK" is painted on the ground along with a flag, or the utility company will contact you by phone. Contact Kansas One Call by dialing 8-1-1 (not 9-1-1) or by calling 1-800-DIG-SAFE. If you see what appears to be unauthorized excavation or destructive activities around our gas system, please give us a call at city hall at 784.448.5496 so we can investigate.

The Silent Killer!

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a very toxic and sometimes deadly gas that is colorless and odorless. This gas is a product of incomplete combustion. Whenever you use your furnace, wood stove, hot water

tank, stove, automobile or even your charcoal grill, CO is the gas that is produced and vented out of your home through a chimney, flue or vent pipe. All gas burning equipment needs to be inspected and maintained regularly to keep it in good running condition. Chimneys and vent pipes need to be vented and kept in good working order as well. Carbon monoxide poisoning gives you flu like symptoms. So if you are seemingly not feeling very well, especially when at home, it could be a carbon monoxide problem. Call us. We can help by checking if carbon monoxide is a problem in your gas burning appliances. Every home should have a carbon monoxide detector and a smoke detector to help ensure your safety.

Gas connectors are corrugated metal tubes used to connect gas appliances in your home to gas supply pipes. Some of these old brass colored connectors can have a flaw in how the tubing was made and over time can separate causing a potentially serious gas leak. These uncoated brass connectors have not been made for almost 30 years now, but many are still in use. Although not all brass connectors have a flaw, it is very difficult to tell which ones do. Therefore, any uncoated brass colored connector should be replaced with either a plastic coated brass or stainless steel connector. Connectors can wear out from too much moving and bending and should always be inspected closely whenever an appliance is replaced or moved from its location.

Any additional gas safety related information is always free and available at Garnett City Hall.

Bare Steel Gas Lines

Do I need to have my bare steel gas line replaced?

The Answer: Yes.

All bare steel gas lines are slowly corroding and will eventually leak and have to be replaced. We don't know when these lines may begin to leak which is why they need to be replaced before any leakage occurs. The Garnett Gas Department already has an ongoing program to replace all of the city's bare steel mains and service lines.

Back on August 28, 2007, the city commission passed an ordinance requiring the replacement of any existing customer owned gas service line at the time of the sale of the property or when any change in ownership occurs. It usually takes less than a day for one of our local, qualified plumbers to replace most bare steel service lines. Most of these plumbers will give you an estimate of how much it will cost.

Excess Flow Valve (EFV)

Beginning in April of 2017, new federal regulations require every natural gas utility, including the City of Garnett, to notify customers about the potential benefits of an Excess Flow Valve (EFV), who is responsible for the initial installation costs and who is responsible for replacement and maintenance with an EFV. EFVs are mechanical shut-off devices that can be installed on the gas service line and is designed to shut off the flow of natural gas automatically if the service line breaks, say for instance, if a vehicle hits a meter or an excavation accident. We have detailed information online at www.simplygarnett.com/efv.html. I will include an article about this in the next newsletter. Watch for it.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about your natural gas service.

Thank you,

Ken Amaya, Director of Public Works



2019 Guide to Garnett Outdoor Recreation



Watersports

As a participant in the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Communities Fisheries Assistance Program, the City of Garnett does not require city boating and fishing permits. However, state boater's registration and state fishing licenses are required. All existing ordinances regulating city parks are in effect. Copies of city park regulations are available at Garnett City Hall, 131 West 5th Avenue.

Boating

Valid Kansas boater's registration is required to boat on Garnett city lakes.

Lake Garnett (a/k/a North Lake Park), 700 N. Lake Road

Speed boating and water-skiing is permitted on Lake Garnett May 1 to November 15, on the following specified days: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays, the first and third Saturdays of each month, Memorial Day, July 4 and Labor Day, from 8:30 a.m. to sunset.

Crystal Lake (a/k/a South Lake), Veterans Memorial Park,

424 W. Veteran's Circle Drive (on US 59)

Canoes and fishing boats with electric powered motors are allowed on Crystal Lake. However, gas powered motors are prohibited.

Cedar Valley Reservoir, 20499 NW 1500 Road (located approximately 7 miles west of Garnett at Kentucky and 1500 Road)

Boating can be enjoyed year round on Cedar Valley Reservoir, weather permitting. This lake has 3 boat ramps and 3 floating docks.

Fishing

Game fish stocked in Garnett's fishing areas include Walleye, Wiper, Channel Catfish, Flathead Catfish, Bluegill, Bullhead, White Bass, Green Sunfish, White Crappie, Black Crappie, Black Buffalo, Red-ear Sunfish, Large Mouth Bass and Rainbow Trout. Kansas fishing permits required.

Lake Garnett and Crystal Lake Length Limits

Catfish, except Bullhead, must be	15 inches
Walleye or Wiper must be	18 inches
Crappie must be	10 inches
Black Bass must be less than	13 inches
or more than	18 inches

Lake Garnett and Crystal Lake Creel Limits

Bluegill (Crystal Lake only)	10
Black Bass	5
Catfish, except Bullhead	2
Crappie	10
Walleye	2
Wiper	2

Cedar Valley Reservoir Length Limits

Black Bass, Walleye or Wiper	18 inches
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Cedar Valley Reservoir Creel Limits

Black Bass	5
Walleye	2
Wiper	2
Crappie	50
Catfish, except Bullhead	5

Rainbow Trout Season

Rainbow Trout Season is held annually at Crystal Lake from approximately November 1 thru April 15. The Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism requires that Kansas anglers 16 through 74 years of age and non-Kansas residents 16 and older must possess a valid fishing license. All anglers over 16 must possess a state trout permit. Anglers 15 years and younger no longer must possess a trout permit to fish in designated trout waters.

However, there is a daily creel limit of two (2) trout unless they purchase a trout permit which allows a full daily trout creel limit. The daily creel limit is 5 trout.

Camping

Camping facilities are available in designated areas at all three city owned lakes. Camping permits are required.

A camping unit can stay at a city park campsite for up to seven consecutive nights. Upon the eighth day, the camping unit must leave the park for at least five nights or relocate to a campsite located in another Garnett city park.

Lake Garnett

Fourteen camping spots are located on the east side of Lake Garnett (adjacent golf course) with electric and water hookups. Twelve camping spots with electric only hookups are located on the north side of the lake (near dam). A designated wilderness campsite (tent camping or no hookup) is also located within the north side camping area.

Crystal Lake

Five camping spots with electric and water can be found on the south side of Crystal Lake. Wilderness camping is permitted in a designated area near Prairie Spirit Trail.

Cedar Valley Reservoir

Wilderness camping is very popular at this scenic lake. There are 12 camping spots close to the park entrance providing electrical hookups for camping. Nearby restroom facilities are also available from April 3 to October 1.

Reservations and Fees:

Campsites located at Lake Garnett and Crystal Lake may be reserved by contacting Garnett City Hall. Otherwise, camping spots are available on a first come, first serve basis. Remit payment by using the permit envelopes provided at the "Iron Maiden" at the campsite of your choice. Large camping groups are encouraged to make prior reservations with Garnett City Hall, 785.448.5496. During community events camping availability may be limited.

Check-out time is 3:00 p.m. on the day of departure.

Camping Permits:

Wilderness overnight camping per unit, per night –

Garnett resident	\$5
Anderson County resident	\$7
All others	\$9

Electric hookup, overnight camping per unit, per night –

Garnett resident	\$10
Anderson County resident	\$12
All others	\$14

Electric and water hookup, overnight camping per unit, per night –

Garnett resident	\$12
Anderson County resident	\$14
All others	\$16

ATV Regulations

City permits are required for anyone operating a motorized, non-highway vehicle at Cedar Valley Reservoir. Anyone possessing an age restricted permit (under 16 years of age) can operate an ATV only when accompanied by an adult (18 years of age or older) who possesses a valid city ATV permit and who is riding in the general proximity of the age restricted permittee. ATV permits can be purchased at Garnett City Hall or Cedar Creek Outfitters.

Quiet Time: Please note that "quiet time" is to be observed within any city park, from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. (CST).



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PROJECT: Garnett Remembers

Celebration of Service - May 23

Please join the community for a special celebration of service to be held on Thursday, May 23rd at 7 p.m. Due to construction on the Anderson County Courthouse, the event will be held on the west side of the courthouse lawn on Oak Street.

This event honors all military service men and women, with special recognition of each name of those whose face graces the patriotic banners on display throughout the city of Garnett. The "PROJECT: Garnett Remembers" includes over 200 banners which will fly with pride from Memorial Day Weekend through the Independence Day holiday (4th of July) and until the end of July.



The Celebration of Service* will include a performance by the Garnett Area Community Band and Heartland Fly Girls. All branches of service will be recognized. The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion Riders, auxiliary members and dignitaries are invited to attend and participate.

The event is a "lawn chair event". Please invite your family and friends. This is a great way to begin Memorial Day Weekend.

The Garnett Electric Distribution Department plays a major role in making this project possible.

**Events scheduled are tentative and subject to change. In the event of rain, the celebration may be subject to cancellation.*



The Official Garnett City Flag



City resident Eddie Gruver attended a City Commission meeting in which he requested that Garnett adopt an official city flag. Mr. Gruver suggested a contest be held to encourage creativity and unique ideas. A committee was formed, guidelines established, and the City Flag Design Challenge took place with the deadline of October 19, 2018. A total of 45 entries were received from the local area, as well as other communities in Kansas, 3 states and 2 foreign countries.

The City Flag Design Challenge Committee met and determined the top 3 finalists. Third Place was submitted by William Xu of New York. The Second Place finalist was received from Kyle Benton of Minnesota. The flag design chosen as the winning First Place entry was from Emma Self of Garnett. Emma's description and symbolism was expressed in her application as follows:

"My design is about how here in Garnett, we farm a lot and how when the sun rises and sets in the field how much beauty it has. We will remember how beautiful our town is."

The City of Garnett will be formally adopting this design as the official city flag by resolution. A flag autographed by Miss Self will be donated to the Anderson County Historical Museum, and Emma will be recognized at a City Commission meeting. The city flag will fly at city facilities and the welcome signs. Anyone wanting to purchase a flag can do so at City Hall for \$75.

Special thanks to the volunteers that served on the City Flag Design Challenge Committee: Eddie Gruver, Chairman, Kelly Heine, Cindy Moyer, Will Mechnig and Susan Wettstein.



JOIN US... LIVE! FACEBOOK LIVE!

Garnett City Commission meetings are broadcast "LIVE" on Facebook @GarnettKS (www.facebook.com/garnettks). Watch the Garnett City Commission in action on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 6:00 p.m. Remember to set up your device to the optimum volume settings, or use headphones for optimum audio pleasure. Miss it "Live"? View past meetings on www.simplygarnett.com.