

town talk



City Commission



Jody Cole,
Mayor



Brigitte
Brecheisen-
Huss,
Commissioner



Greg Gwin,
Commissioner

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Garnett, Kansas

From The Commission...

Over the last three years, I've learned a great deal as a city commissioner of Garnett. I'd like to begin by saying it is a privilege and a pleasure to serve as your Mayor. I am honored to have this opportunity to serve our community and our city employees as well and I do so with the best interest of our citizens at heart.

A few months ago, I attended a meeting for elected city commissioners in which the opening activity had each person stand and tell what they were most proud of in their community. Most referred to a large project or a new acquisition, however, for me, what sets our town apart from other towns is *simple*. It's the people. Our Garnett city employees are friendly, humble, hardworking, dedicated and talented people who proudly serve our community.

When I became a commissioner, every city department head took time out of their day to give me a tour of their facility and introduced me to their co-workers. I left each department with a new appreciation for all our city employees. Although, I have lived in Garnett for most of my life, I had never taken the time to visit these facilities, nor had I understood or appreciated what most of us take for granted. Our city employees are extremely important to all of us and what they do on a daily basis rarely gets recognized or noticed. Please allow me to showcase our city departments and share a few "behind the scenes" projects going on in our great city.

Recently, the city and chamber hired Mr. Brent Lipscomb who is replacing Desiree Donovan as Chamber Director / City Administrative Assistant. Brent obtained his Bachelor of Science in

Criminal Justice and Business Administration from the University of Alabama. In May, he will receive his Master of Science degree in Public Administration. In addition to Brent's Master of Science degree, he also earned certification in financial management and city/county management at Wichita State University. Please take time to stop by City Hall to introduce yourself to Brent and give him a warm Garnett welcome!

The Tourism Committee has worked long hours in an effort to bring special events to our community. Over the past year, these events have brought an estimated 19,876 visitors to the Garnett and Anderson County. This year, Garnett will add new special events for our patrons and visitors to enjoy. They include: Kansas City Karting Association Sprint Race, the Garnett Lion's Club Kansas Dual Sport Safari Weekend for motorcycles, and the Fun in the Sun Car Show at Colony. Also, the Airport Board is working on an actual air show too.

For the first time in ten years there is a waiting list to move into Parkside Place I, Parkside Place II and Park Plaza North. The Housing Authority staff is busy painting stairwells and handrails. They are refurbishing the Park Plaza North signs and making sure all outdoor mowing equipment is in good working order for the summer.

Our own Garnett Library, AKA "Best Small Library in Kansas," (award given in 2012) continues to provide incredible programs for our youth and our adults. The dedicated staff prides itself on being a dynamic community asset and an indispensable part of our community.

What do the Electric Generation, Refuse Depart-

From the City Commission continued...

ment, Parks and Recreation Department, Sewer and Sanitation Department and Street and Transportation Department all have in common? They all depend on working vehicles and equipment to do their jobs. These departments take pride in serving their customers and in running and maintaining their own equipment.

In their monthly reports, there are multiple accounts of just how vital our city workers are to us: "We are putting an engine in the 2006 International trash truck," and "Our personnel have been overhauling the 1955 DLA Fairbanks Morse Engine," (the company does not even exist anymore), and "We are currently building our own polymer blending unit," these are just a few of the many examples. Are you starting to understand the work ethic and unbelievable talents that each of these employees bring to their job? Not to mention the tremendous savings when equipment doesn't get sent off for service.

In keeping our community safe, several departments come to mind, not the least of which is our Police Department. Over the past year, the Garnett Police Department took a total of 359 reportable cases (that fit the mandated reporting to the FBI and KBI). Out of the 359 cases, 272 have been solved. The GPD also has a large presence in local schools as they work to educate our youth. In February and March of this year, the GPD worked with students to bring attention to wearing seatbelts. During routine stops they reported that most of the teen drivers in Garnett are wearing their seatbelts regularly. The Garnett Police Department also prides itself in providing professional training for their officers. This month, one of our Garnett officers will attend a 40-hour professional development training on Crisis Intervention.

Other city departments that work to safeguard Garnett residents are the Electric Distribution, Fire Department, Gas and Water Department and Zoning and Codes Department. The Electric Distribution Department's main priority is to ensure safety of customers and their personal property as well as safety of the department crew. Severe weather conditions may make it necessary for the employees to work around the clock in the rain, lightning, sleet or snow but they do so in an effort to restore power for residents (taking care of the customer) and their commitment to keeping our residents safe.

Our Garnett Fire Department is also committed to keeping our residents safe. Please respect their decision when they place a burn ban on our community. Not only are they trying to keep us safe but by following their directive, our firemen stay safe as well.

The Gas and Water Department and Zoning and Codes Department both work to stay in compliance with State requirements. This is a very time consuming and exhausting task as codes change often. Employees for the Gas and Water Department are taking classes after their work day to further their knowledge in the area of water certification.

Our Zoning and Codes Department is committed to making Garnett a better place for all of us. A recent survey conducted by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) contributed to the low score of 10 (on a scale of 1-10, 1 being the best) given to our city for out of date code books which in turn leads to higher insurance rates. In order to remedy this issue, commissioners are discussing the purchase of 2018 code books that will most likely improve the ISO score, ideally lower insurance rates and give those who enforce building and zoning codes the most current information keeping us safe and keeping us in compliance.

Whether you are moving to Garnett, have a question regarding

a utility bill, need to purchase a dog tag, or have a concern or complaint, your first conversation will be with the employees at City Hall. City staff have high expectations for themselves and their colleagues. They continue to learn each other's jobs so they can step in when needed to complete projects. If you are a flying visitor, your initial view will be landing at the airport. Like City Hall, the Airport Manager has a tremendous job making sure everyone leaves with a great first impression and our employees make this happen.

Currently, the commissioners and staff are working on several large projects: A new water treatment plant, updating the city code books, updating the personnel handbook, updating each city department's five-year strategic plan, updating the city's 5-10 year strategic plan, renewing the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan, looking for grants that may help us restore the North Lake Park and North Lake Road, continue working to improve our infrastructure as well as finding the best way to repair and maintain our streets over the next ten years.

Now, I have a greater appreciation and understanding about what it takes to keep our town running smoothly and the phenomenal and dedicated employees behind the scenes who make this happen. I look forward to solving city challenges by being proactive and searching for innovative and best practices.

As citizens we all take many things for granted. It's hard to ever truly appreciate someone's talents, until you walk in their shoes, understand their values and expectations, and know the process of their work. You will be very hard pressed to ever find a more dedicated, proud, humble and hard-working group of individuals like our Garnett city employees! After all, we are *Simply* Garnett.

Respectfully,

Jody Cole, Mayor



From the City Manager...

At last, Spring is here! I'm excited for the next few months as we have a lot on our agenda. We also recognize and celebrate the careers of a couple of long time City employees. Wastewater Operator Les Garber just retired this March with almost forty (40) years of service working for the City. Les has worked in multiple departments during his tenure and has been instrumental in keeping our operations flowing. Deputy City Clerk and Court Clerk Colette McDonnell just celebrated



her fortieth (40th) year service anniversary. Like Les, Colette has been a tremendous asset to the City, and always has a smile and strives to brighten everyone's day. If you see Les or Colette, please make sure you congratulate them for their tremendous accomplishment – working every day for the past forty years to make Garnett a better place. Thank you Les and Colette, your contributions to our community have and will continue to make a lasting impact for years to come.

Unfortunately, we also lost a tremendous employee in Chamber Director and Deputy Director of Community Development, Desiree Donovan. Desiree has decided to fulfill another key

SPRING CLEAN-UP WEEK ANNOUNCED

The Garnett City Commission has designated **April 16 through April 20, 2018 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.

BURNING REQUIREMENTS

The Garnett City Commission rescinded the need for residents to obtain written authorization to burn within the city limits. **However, it is still 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 \$25 for a half dump truck load or \$50 for a full truckload.
- 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.

position in the Garnett community by providing a much needed service as a daycare provider. While we are sad to lose Desiree, we are incredibly excited to bring on board our new Chamber Director and Administrative Assistant for the City, Brent Lipscomb. Brent is coming to join us fresh off obtaining his Master's Degree in Public Administration this Spring. We are excited for the skill set that Brent will bring to his position and look forward to seeing him help our area Chamber businesses flourish.

As you know, we have had many conversations about the need and plans for a new water treatment plant. We held two community meetings at the end of February to answer your questions regarding our plans. I appreciate everyone who attended, as we had an excellent turnout with terrific questions and discussion. As you may have already seen or heard, the City is planning to raise water rates in the very near future. Our plan is to stair step the rate increase over the next couple of years so as to avoid a much larger rate increase all at once.

As referenced in the Winter issue of *Town Talk*, we are moving toward having the Recreation Center open around the clock for members. Getting this 24/7 access in place has taken longer than we had hoped, but it looks like we will have it ready and open for the summer months. It is an excellent recreational facility and I encourage you to visit if you haven't yet.

The Spring city wide garage sale day and city wide clean up week are fast approaching. Please make sure what you are

disposing of during clean up week is an acceptable form of waste. See the clean up week information on this page if you are unsure what cannot be taken. I would like to thank everyone for your patience in refraining from burning brush and limbs during the recent dry spell and corresponding burn bans. Your cooperation has resulted in no major fires, significant property damage, or lost lives – and for that we are extremely grateful.

Additionally, with Spring comes the increased risk of violent storms. We have stopped the sounding of the storm sirens for car accidents, fires, and at noon (except for weekly tests on Mondays) in an effort to reduce wear on the sirens to increase their lifespan as well as to ensure that there is no confusion regarding an activated siren's purpose.

We still have an opening on the Committee for the Walker Art Gallery located at the Library. We also have a position available on the Board for the Anderson County Development Agency for an interested individual who lives inside Garnett city limits. If you are interested in serving on either of these committees, please submit a letter of interest to City Hall or email it to us!

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

Sincerely,

Christopher T. Weiner, City Manager

Did You Know?

Welcome new employee, **Brenton Lipscomb**, as the new Director for the Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce and Administrative Assistant for Garnett Tourism, and **Curtis Hughes, Dylan Yinger** and **Jeff Clark**, new volunteer firefighters.

Willie Mead recently transferred from the Sanitation Department to the Water Treatment Plant.

The City of Garnett would like to recognize **Gary McAuley**, Sanitation Collector, for reaching his 5 year service anniversary.

Best wishes to **Les Garber**, Assistant Director of Wastewater, as he enjoys his retirement after giving almost 40 years of dedicated service to the City. Congratulations to **Gary Giczewski**, Director of Planning and Zoning and his new bride Heather, on their recent marriage.

Training: **Philip Bures**, Director of Parks and Recreation, attended the state Parks and Recreation Conference. Police Sergeant **Mike Carpenter** attended 40 hours of training on Crisis Intervention. This course covered a wide variety of topics, but focused on the wide range of mental illnesses that law enforcement personnel deal with on a daily basis, and the best practices on how to deal with the issue at hand. **Gary Giczewski** has attended Floodplain mapping training and a dam safety conference.

The City of Garnett hosted the Southeast Kansas Region Economic Developers Meeting in March.

Thinking of building or remodeling? Before new construction begins or major renovation in Garnett, we encourage you to contact the Director of Planning and Zoning, Gary Giczewski, located at City Hall, to see if your project qualifies for a property tax rebate under the **Neighborhood Revitalization Program**.

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 Spring (April 16-20) and Fall (September 10-14) City Wide Clean-Up Weeks. The free bi-annual service that we provide to our refuse customers would not be possible without their support.

Persons interested in filing for Garnett City Commissioner must file with the Anderson County Clerk's Office located inside the courthouse. The position up for election is currently held by Mayor **Jody Cole**. The filing deadline is June 1, with elections to be held November 7, 2017. The fee to file is \$20.

From the Fire Chief...

Most of the Garnett firefighters, as well as some county firefighters, are currently taking weekly classes to become better trained in all aspects of firefighting. Almost all of the training is in house, utilizing the skills and knowledge of their peers and officers. Three people have joined the department; Curtis Hughes, Dylan Yinger and Jeff Clark.

The department will help with the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. As you are well aware, our part of the country is well behind on moisture. Burn bans are occasionally put in place to protect you,

your neighbors and the community, as well as our firefighters. Failure to abide by the bans could result in a hefty fine and damages owed to someone else. Due to the dryness, the grass fire season is already upon us, putting yards and structures at risk. When no burn ban is in effect please note that you must follow certain rules when burning:

1. Notify dispatch before burning.
2. Always have a water source.
3. Don't burn after dark.
4. Be considerate of your neighbors. Almost every neighborhood has someone who has breathing conditions that smoke of any kind antagonizes.

Thank you,

Pat Tate, Fire Chief

News from the Garnett Recreation Center

If you haven't been to the Recreation Center lately, you are missing out. In the past several months we have had quite a few generous donations to improve the facility and to upgrade some of our equipment. These donations were from the Garnett Community Foundation, Ron Sobba, and Frank and Joyce Martin. From the money they provided we were able to address the needs of all different users of our facilities. For the weight lifters we acquired some much needed rubber Olympic plates. For those that come out for a cardio workout we have added three treadmills, an elliptical, and a recumbent bike. For the kids and groups that come to just have some fun we have been able to add several games that can be played in the gym, like dodge ball and pillo hockey. In addition to the donations, the Parks and Recreation Department also purchased a commercial grade recumbent elliptical for everyone to use.

We also have some great news to announce as well. The Rec Center will soon be a 24-hour facility. That is right. We are currently working on upgrading our facility to accommodate those who want to work out any hour of the day. The process has started with hanging security cameras and coming soon will be a software system to allow code access to the recreation center anytime of the day. We do not have a start date yet, as we are still working on getting everything in place to make the transition as smooth as possible. If you are interested in how things are going we invite you to stop by the Garnett Recreation Center and we will update you on our progress. Of course with this type of change there may be some changes in our policies and fees, but we will keep you up to date on any changes as we make them.

The Garnett Recreation Center greatly appreciates all the people that come through our doors; whether it is to come watch a basketball game, workout, enjoy a birthday party, or just to kill some time throughout the day. It is you that make it possible for us to do the things that we are doing for the community.

Sincerely,

Howard Purcell, Manager - Garnett

Enjoy these local activities and events!

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

APRIL

(March 28)-April 30

- Yoga, A.M. Exercise Class
M-W-F, Rec Center, 8 a.m.
- 2 **Anderson Co. Commission Meeting-
Every Monday**, Annex Building, 9 a.m.
Library Board Meeting
Garnett Public Library, 5 p.m.
Celebrate Recovery-Every Monday
Church of the Nazarene, 6 p.m.
**Lions Club Meeting-
Every 1st & 3rd Monday**, 6 p.m.
Garnett VFW Post Home.
- 3 **TOPS Meeting-Every Tuesday**
United Methodist Church, 9 a.m.
**Storytime for Preschoolers-
Every Tuesday** through May 15,
Garnett Public Library, 10 a.m.
Rotary Club Meeting-Every Tuesday
Garnett Inn, 12 p.m.
Community Foundation Meeting
Rec Center, 5:30 p.m.
**American Legion Bingo-
Every Tuesday**, VFW Post 6397,
6 p.m.
- 4 **Duplicate Bridge-Every Wednesday**
Garnett Inn, 1 p.m.
- 5 **13-Point Pitch and Snacks-
Every Thursday**, Garnett Senior
Center, 6 p.m.
**USD 365 Board of Education
Meeting**, BOE Office, 7 p.m.
Masonic Lodge No. 44 Meeting
Masonic Lodge, 7:30 p.m.
- 7 **Women's Fair 5K Run, Bike, Walk**
Register at GES, 8 a.m.
Women's Fair & Quarter-Mania
Garnett Elementary School,
9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- 8 **Baseball/Softball sign-up deadline.**
Register at Rec Center.
Boy Scout Troop 126 Meeting
Garnett Optimist Bldg, 1 p.m.
- 9 **Housing Authority Advisory Board of
Directors Meeting**, GHA Office,
7 p.m.
- April 9-May 16
Chat & Cardio, P.M. Exercise Class
M-W, Rec Center, 6:30 p.m.
- 10 **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.
Garnett Optimist Club Meeting
Mr. D's Restaurant, 6:30 p.m.

- 10 **Golden Prairie Beekeepers Meeting**
Garnett Extension Office, 6:30 p.m.
- April 10-May 17
Indoor Cycling, A.M. Exercise Class
T-T, Rec Center, 5:30 a.m.
Indoor Cycling, P.M. Exercise Class
T-T, Rec Center, 5 p.m.
Yoga, P.M. Exercise Class
T-T, Rec Center, 5:30 p.m.
- 11 **Remember When Wednesday**
Garnett Public Library, 10 a.m.
Tourism Advisory Board Meeting
City Hall, 5:30 p.m.
**Friends of the Prairie Spirit Trail
Meeting**, Santa Fe Depot, 7 p.m.
- 12 **Garnett Area Chamber of
Commerce Board Meeting**
Commission Room, City Hall
5:30 p.m.
- 13 **Airport Advisory Board Meeting**
City Hall, 4:30 p.m.
- 14 **VFW Breakfast**
VFW Post 6397, 7-9:30 a.m.
Spring City Wide Garage Sale Day
Friends of the Library Book Sale
Garnett Public Library.
Second Saturdays, Industrial Bottoms
901 S. Oak Street
- 14-15 **Lake Garnett Enduro Club Road
Races**, Lake Garnett road course.
Lake road closed during races.
- 17 **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, 7 p.m.
- 18 **Caffeine & Colors**
Garnett Public Library, 1 p.m.
Teen Tech for 5th-8th Grade
Pre-registration required at Garnett
Public Library, 4 p.m.
- 19 **Walker Art Committee Meeting**
City Hall, 4 p.m.
**50th Annual Anderson County
Historical Society Banquet**, ACHS
Commons Area, 6:30 p.m..
- 21 **5K Color Splat!**
Run, walk or bicycle ride to benefit
Garnett Community Foundation,
North Lake park, 10 a.m.
- 23 **Caregivers Support Group**
Park Plaza North, 1 p.m.
- April 23-May 13
**Team registration for Summer Coed
Softball League** at Rec Center.

- 24 **City Commission Meeting**
City Hall, 6 p.m.
- 25 **Garnett Optimist Meeting**
Mr. D's Restaurant, 6:30 p.m.
**Book Discussion, "Before We Were
Yours"**
Garnett Public Library, 7 p.m.
- 26 **Emergency Food Distribution -
Harvesters**, Quonset Hut, 4 p.m.
- ## MAY
- 1 **Anderson County Historical Museum**
opens for summer, Tues-Fri, 1-4 p.m.
Community Foundation Meeting
Rec Center, 5:30 p.m.
- 2 **Tourism Advisory Board Meeting**
City Hall, 5:30 p.m.
- 3 **USD 365 Board of Education
Meeting**, Westphalia, 7 p.m.
Masonic Lodge No. 44 Meeting
Masonic Lodge, 7:30 p.m.
- May 3-October 13: **Farmer's Market-
Every Thursday**, Main Street,
4:30-7 p.m.
- 6 **Boy Scout Troop 126 Meeting**
Garnett Optimist Bldg, 1 p.m.
**Garnett Area Community Band Spring
Concert**
ACHS Auditorium, 3 p.m.
- 7 **Library Board Meeting**
Garnett Public Library, 5 p.m.
- 8 **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.
Garnett Optimist Club Meeting
Mr. D's Restaurant, 6:30 p.m.
Golden Prairie Beekeepers Meeting
Garnett Extension Office, 6:30 p.m.
- 9 **Remember When Wednesday**
Garnett Public Library, 10 a.m.
**Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Meeting**, City Hall, 5:30 p.m.
**Friends of the Prairie Spirit Trail
Meeting**, Santa Fe Depot, 7 p.m.
- 10 **Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce
Board Meeting**
Commission Room, City Hall, 5:30
p.m.
- 11 **Airport Advisory Board Meeting**
City Hall, 4:30 p.m.
- 12 **VFW Breakfast**
VFW Post 6397, 7-9:30 a.m.
46th Annual Square Fair, presented
by Garnett Business & Professional
Women, courthouse lawn.



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

MAY...

- 12 Air Fair 2018**
5K Run, airplane, helicopter rides, car show, and ***new** aerobatic air show at Garnett Industrial Airport
Second Saturdays, Industrial Bottoms
901 S. Oak Street
- 13 ACHS Class of 2018 Graduation**
Anderson County High School, 3 p.m.
- 14 Housing Authority Advisory Board of Directors Meeting**, GHA Office, 7 p.m.
Anderson County Recycle Trailer
Country Mart parking lot.
- 15 ACDA - Economic Development Meeting**, AuBurn Pharmacy Corporate Office, 5 p.m.
BPW Meeting, Archer Room, Garnett Public Library, 5:30 p.m.
Planning Commission Meeting
City Hall, 7 p.m.
- 16 USD 365 Play Day**
Stadium, North Lake Park
Caffeine & Colors
Garnett Public Library, 1 p.m.
- 17 USD 365, Last day of school.**
Walker Art Committee Meeting
City Hall, 4 p.m.
- 21 Caregivers Support Group**
Park Plaza North, 1 p.m.
- 22 City Commission Meeting**
City Hall, 6 p.m.
- 23 Garnett Optimist Club Meeting**
Mr. D's Restaurant, 6:30 p.m.
Book Discussion (TBA)
Garnett Public Library, 7 p.m.
- 24 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, courthouse lawn, 7 p.m.
- 25-28 Avenue of Flags**, Garnett Municipal Cemetery
- 26 Municipal swimming pool opens** for summer Garnett Municipal Pool.
Sign up for swimming lessons and water aerobics, Garnett Municipal Pool.
- 28 City Hall closed, Memorial Day** holiday observed. (Note: Trash service will run one (1) day late this week.)
Memorial Day Service at Garnett Cemetery, conducted by American Legion Post 48 & VFW 6397, 10 a.m.

JUNE

- 1 Filing deadline for Garnett City Commission**, County Clerk's Office.
- 1-3 Kansas Dual Sport Safari Weekend**
motorcycle event hosted by Garnett Lions Club
- 2 2nd Annual Car, Bike & Truck Show**, hosted by Southland Cruisers, Town Square.
- 4 Summer Reading Program Kickoff Party, "Libraries Rock"**
Garnett Public Library, 1-5 p.m.
Library Board Meeting
Garnett Public Library, 5 p.m.
Water Aerobics Class, held M-W-F, Garnett Municipal Pool, 5:30 p.m.
- 4-14 Sign-up for Session I Swimming Lessons** at Municipal Swimming Pool
- 5 Community Foundation Meeting**
Rec Center, 5:30 p.m.
- 6 Teen Scene Kickoff Party**
Garnett Public Library, 1-3 p.m.
Tourism Advisory Board Meeting
City Hall, 5:30 p.m.
- 7 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.
- June 7-10 & 14-17: "Lost in IKEA"**, presented by The Chamber Players Community Theatre, Thelma Moore Playhouse.
- 8 Airport Advisory Board Meeting**
City Hall, 4:30 p.m.
- 9 VFW Breakfast**
VFW Post 6397, 7-9:30 a.m.
Second Saturdays, Industrial Bottoms
901 S. Oak Street
- 9-10 Lake Garnett Enduro Club Road Races**, Lake Garnett road course.
Lake road closed during races.
- 11 Housing Authority Advisory Board of Directors Meeting**, GHA Office, 7 p.m.
- 11-21 Session I Swimming Lessons**, Garnett Municipal Pool
- 12 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.

- 13 Friends of the Prairie Spirit Trail Meeting**, Santa Fe Depot, 7 p.m.
- 19 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, 7 p.m.
- 20 Caffeine & Colors**
Garnett Public Library, 1 p.m.
- 21 Walker Art Committee Meeting**
City Hall, 4 p.m.
Emergency Food Distribution - Harvesters, Quonset Hut, 4 p.m.
Caregivers Support Group
Park Plaza North, 1 p.m.
- 26 City Commission Meeting**
City Hall, 6 p.m.
- 27 Book Discussion (TBA)**
Garnett Public Library, 7 p.m.
Garnett Optimist Club Meeting
Mr. D's Restaurant, 6:30 p.m.
- 30 Libertyfest Community Fireworks Display**, presented by City of Garnett, volunteers and local organizations (Rain Date: July 1).

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

It's New, It's Exciting, It's...

AIR FAIR 2018



Garnett Industrial Airport

Saturday, May 12

Events include:

- Runway 5K Run/Walk
- Airplane and Helicopter Rides
- Commemorative Air Force Static Displays
- Car/Motorcycle Show and Shine
- Food Vendors, and ...
- **AIR SHOW** - Aerobatics Show by Professional pilots!



Schedule coming soon. For details on this event and other special events, please visit:

www.simplygarnett.com

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.

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

Thank you,

Ken Amaya, Director of Gas and Water

Let's Talk Electricity -

With so much of our everyday living dependent upon electricity, the energy source is often taken for granted. It is assumed that electricity is abundant and always there. The City of Garnett would like to share some information with you, our customers, so that you have a better understanding of how your city brings power to homes or businesses.

The Garnett Municipal Power Plant

The City of Garnett began producing electricity in 1914. The first commercial electrical generating unit was a small steam unit. The steam plant was destroyed by fire on May 22, 1924. The plant was then rebuilt. Internal combustion diesel engines were purchased to replace the steam generators. The last steam generator to be replaced by a diesel engine was in 1930. The new engine was a 600 hp, 4-cylinder, 400 kw Fairbanks Morse Diesel engine. This unit is still in use today. It has given over 107,000 hours of reliable service to Garnett.

Other early period diesel engines that were used in this plant were a 1926, 300 kw Fairbanks Morse engine and a 1937, 1,000 kw Nordburg engine. Neither engine is in service today and both have been replaced. The newest engine is a Fairbanks Morse O-P engine installed in 1981. The O-P engine is a 12-cylinder, dual fuel, 3,360 hp engine capable of producing 2,412 kw at 720 rpm. Diesel engines in operation at the plant are a 1961 Fairbanks Morse, 2,100 hp, 6-cylinder, 1,500 kw unit; a 1955 Fairbanks Morse, 2,100 hp, 6-cylinder, 1,500 kw unit, and a 1947 Fairbanks Morse, 1,400 hp 7-cylinder, 980 kw engine. Our largest engines in the plant are a 1978 General Motors EMD, 3,600 hp, 20-cylinder, 2,500 to 2,750 kw diesel unit, and the 1975 General Motors EMD, 3,600 hp, 20-cylinder, 2,500 to 2,750 kw diesel unit that was reconditioned in 1999 for electrical production.

26% Renewables*

Load			Expires
66%	GRDA	3MW	April 30, 2026
*9%	WAPA	Hydro	Sept. 30, 2054
*4%	SPA	Hydro	December 31, 2018
*13%	Marshall Wind	1MW	February 2, 2036
2%	Market Energy	SPP	
<u>6%</u>	KCP&L Load Following		
100%			

Bringing Electricity to You

The total generating capacity of the Garnett Municipal Power Plant is 11,792 kw. The plant is also interconnected with the Kansas City Power and Light system (KCP&L). This gives the city the option of purchasing electricity from other power producing companies, and most often the power that runs through the city to your home or business comes via KCP&L transmission lines to Garnett from other sources. The City of Garnett has the ability to purchase needed power from the Grand River Dam Authority through the Kansas Municipal Electric Agency (KMEA). Also, hydropower is being purchased monthly from the Southwest Power Administration, Tulsa, Oklahoma, Western Area Power Administration, Lakewood, Colorado and we have 1MW of wind power from Marshall Wind Farm.

In 2005, the cities of Baldwin City, Gardner, Garnett, Osawatomie and Ottawa joined together in an Electric Management Project, or EMP No. 1. In 2017, the cities of Pomona and Prescott also joined the EMP No. 1 facilitated by KMEA. These partnering cities have the potential for achieving substantial benefits for their municipal electric customers by coordinating their interconnected electric systems under a central dispatching center, by sharing capacity and exchanging electricity, and by jointly planning new electric power supplies. The agreement between all entities involved allows the City of Garnett to establish common reliability and metering standards, set rules for sharing and exchanging power resources, and provide rates for firm, non-firm and emergency sales of electric capacity and energy to better serve our customers. Insuring that Garnett electric customers have an abundant economical energy source for now and the future is our number one priority.

When Outages Occur

By purchasing power that is being delivered by KCP&L transmission lines to our city from other sources, most interruptions in service are caused by events outside our community. If the reason for the outage is known and power is determined to be down for an extended period of time, workers at the power plant will start engines to generate electricity. This also requires linemen to respond to re-energize designated portions of the city, one at a time, so that the engines can handle the load of each circuit. Once transmission lines are open and ready there is a procedure to reinstate transmission and transfer the load from generation back to transmission.

In the event of severe weather, it is not uncommon to have an interruption in transmission power as well as outages within the city. A simple tree branch can cause havoc for several miles.

Continued on page 10...

2018 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).



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

LOCAL
POSTAL CUSTOMER

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail

Let's Talk Electricity - continued from page 8...

Please be assured that city staff and employees do everything possible to keep outages to a minimum.

We hope this explanation provides a glimpse on how the City of Garnett provides electricity to its customers.

Sincerely,
Bob Mills, Director of Electric Generation

PROJECT: Garnett Remembers

Celebration of Service - May 24

Please join the community for a special celebration of service to be held on Thursday, May 24th at 7 p.m. on the Anderson County Courthouse lawn. 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 180 banners which will fly with pride from

Memorial Day Weekend through the Independence Day holiday (4th of July) and until the end of the month.

The Celebration of Service will include a performance



by the Garnett Area Community Band. 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.



What SHOULD NOT be disposed of in the Sewer

I wish to make a list of articles that are not only unwanted but cause problems by clogging sewer lines, burning up sewer system pumps and destroying mixers. Six or seven years ago, an object (that should not have been put in the sewer system) caused \$84,000 damage to the rubble removal system (the bar screen) alone. By the time everything was repaired the total was around \$88,000. These things can be prevented if everyone would use a little common sense and courtesy. The objects I will list are day to day items that we find every day, either in the bar screen hopper, in the cleanout flume or while cleaning a sewer. These items should not be disposed of in the sewer: bolts, nuts, wire, nails, screws, pins, screwdrivers, wrenches, broken glass, knives, spoons, forks, sunglasses, lighters, watches, cell phones, marbles, aquarium gravel, candy wrappers, plastic bags, wash cloths, towels, articles of clothing, shoes, sandals, toys, golf balls, balls of all sizes, curtain rods, needles, razor blades, panty hose, pens, pencils, pop cans, cleaning brushes, mop heads, medicine containers, popsicle sticks and last, but not least, Q-tips. Hundreds and hundreds of Q-tips. All of these items need to put in the trash, not in the sewer. Now the liquid products that should not be disposed of in the sewer: paint, gasoline, paint cleaning solvents, buckets or barrels of old leftover cleaning supplies, oil based anything and last but not least motor oil.

Please dispose of these items properly, in the trash-not down the drain or toilet. If you have any questions about proper disposal, start with calling the local landfill for help and or call the waste water treatment plant.

So anytime you look at your sewer bill and wonder why it costs so much, think back to what I have written above and remember, if we don't take the time to dispose of these problems properly then we will pay the price.

Respectfully,

John L. Olson, Director of Sanitation and Transportation