

The Bel Aire Breeze

Vol. 9, No. 7

August 2014

Complimentary copy

Bel Aire budget holds the line on taxes

By Randy Fisher

For the second year in a row, the proposed 2015 Bel Aire city budget contains no mill increase, Mayor David Austin said July 15. He also said the council turned down any raises for themselves in 2015, and

the proposed budget will restore two full-time police officer positions.

Finance director Michelle Meyer presented detailed information about the budget. She told council members the presentation would be available on the city's website under

the Budget tab.

The council approved the publication of the budget and set a public hearing for 7 p.m. Aug. 5.

Council member Guy MacDonald relayed some comments he had received about the budget, including a \$2,500 payment to the Bel Aire

Senior Club. Several people had told MacDonald they were against that action because the Senior Club was not affiliated with the city, as is the Bel Aire Senior Center.

The ensuing discussion regarding this allocation was calm but lengthy and somewhat emotional.

"This has always been and always will be an emotional issue," Austin told the council.

The council still would have the ability to reduce or eliminate that payment at the hearing. It hopes to adopt the budget at its Aug. 19 meeting.



Photos by Matt Heilman

Construction in Bel Aire's Sunflower Commerce Park has picked up in the last month, including exterior work on the Next Level Hoops Academy. The youth sports facility for basketball and volleyball is slated to open by the end of October.

Key projects coming together in Bel Aire

By Matt Heilman

The dog days of summer aren't slowing down the workload in the City of Bel Aire. Construction crews and equipment are keeping busy each day as long-anticipated projects inch closer to completion. In the past few weeks, there's been noticeable progress made on three key developments in Bel Aire's Sunflower Commerce Park and on residential properties throughout the community, including a new apartment complex planned for completion later this year.

On four acres northwest of Northeast Magnet High School and just east of 53rd North and Rock Road, the 48-unit Broad-

stone Villas apartment complex is taking shape.

Once completed, each unit in the complex will take up about 1,000 to 1,100 square-feet, consisting of two to three bedrooms and two bathrooms.

A specific target date for the completion of the \$5.2 million project hasn't been announced, but Broadstone Villas is listed as "coming soon" on the website for the complex's property management company, Wilhoit Properties. Springfield, Mo.-based Zimmerman Properties, LLC is the developer of Broadstone Villas and is constructing the complex through a federal program called the

See PROJECTS, Page 2



The increase of multi-family home construction in Bel Aire includes the Broadstone Villas Apartment Complex just north of Northeast Magnet High School near 53rd North and Rock Road. The 48-unit complex is planned to open by the end of this year.

Primary election voting underway

By Matt Heilman

The 2014 election season is heating up by the day and area voters were able to start weighing in starting in late July. Advanced voting for the Aug. 5 primary election began July 23 at the election office in downtown Wichita.

Advanced voting at the election office will continue through Aug. 4. Satellite voting centers, including ones at Bel Aire City Hall and First United Methodist Church in Valley Center, will be open from noon to 7 p.m. July 31 and Aug. 1 and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 2. On election day, Aug. 5, the polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

After candidates are weeded out in the primary and the representatives from each party emerge in local, state and national races, three months of intense campaigning will come to a head at the Nov. 4 general election.

Starting locally, the race for District 4 of the Sedgwick County Commission has two Republican candidates who will square off in the primary to face a Democratic challenger in November.

In the primary, incumbent Richard Ranzau will face challenger Carolyn McGinn, who has served the area in Topeka as a state senator since 2004. McGinn previously served as a county commissioner from 1998 to 2004.

Ranzau was elected to the commission in 2010. Either Ranzau or McGinn will face Democrat Melody McCray-Miller in November. McCray-Miller also served District 4 on the county commission from 1995 to 1998. McCray-Miller does not have a challenger in the Aug. 5 primary.

At the state level, there isn't likely going to be much of a change in local representation, at least not through the Aug. 5 primary. Valley Center Republican Steve Huebert is running unopposed to represent the 90th District in the Kansas House.

Barring voters' preference for a write-in candidate or an unaffiliated candidate, Huebert will win his eighth two-year term to represent his district that includes most of Valley Center, all of Andale, Bentley and Colwich and parts of Park City, Wichita and Sedgwick.

Huebert has represented District 90 since 2001.

In the race for Kansas House District 85, Republican incumbent Steve Brunk doesn't have a challenger in the Aug. 5 primary, but will face Democrat Patrick Thorne in the November general election. Brunk has served the district that includes all of Benton and parts of Bel Aire, Kechi and Wichita since 2003.

In House District 91, which includes parts of Kechi, Maize, Park City, Valley Center and

See ELECTION, Page 2

City approves funding for a mobile app

By Matt Heilman

In its ongoing effort to keep its residents in touch with what's going on in their community, The City of Bel Aire is taking a step to add another line of communication. At its July 1 meeting, the Bel Aire City Council approved allocating \$150 per month to contract for the development of a mobile app for the city. Park City took the same

measure at its May 13 city council meeting.

Decision makers in both cities approved an agreement for mobile phone app development and support services with MYCOMMUNITY MOBILE, LLC.

For Bel Aire, one of the objectives of the app is to match up with the city's slogan on its seal displayed in the council chambers at City Hall. The

city seal declares Bel Aire as a, "City of the future with respect for its past."

The free app, which will be available on smart phones and tablets, will allow residents to receive alerts from the city and provide feedback to the city, including sharing information on needed road repairs or animals at-large.

On July 1, Bel Aire City Manager Ty Lasher said the app could also be

utilized to allow residents to pay their utility bills with their smart phones. Another feature of the app could be a list of businesses, parks, municipal buildings and other locations in a community with direct links that bring up GPS navigation to the locations.

Lasher said MYCOMMUNITY MOBILE, LLC would waive a \$25,000 startup fee for the city as part of its 12-month contract. In support of

the app, Bel Aire council member Ken Lee said he likes the survey feature that is available and the ability the technology affords the city to immediately connect with residents.

"I think it's really exciting," he said.

Lasher said the city wouldn't be assessed the \$150 monthly fee until the app is up and running. He said he expects the app to be ready to launch in September or October.



Mayor's corner

By David Austin

December is just four months away. That means it's budget time for municipalities and cities across our state. I am so pleased with the work our city staff has done in preparing this year's budget. Last year, we had a slight decrease in the mill levy and actually lowered taxes in Bel Aire. This year, I am pleased to announce there will be no tax increase.

My first year serving on city council five years ago, the city had a tax increase and had to do it again a couple years later to cover land debt payments. Thanks to conservative projections and City Hall tightening its belt, it doesn't look like we will face any type of a tax hike for quite a while. It's my hope we have major land sales in the next couple years and might even be able to look at lowering the mill in the not-to-distant future.

This is just another reason why so many new residents are calling Bel Aire home and relocating to our great city.

In addition to no tax increase, we will very soon have a full police department continuing to make us one of the safest communities in the region to call home. Speaking of safety, thanks to the recommendation a few months ago of a mature bright 7-year-old and the championing of council member Betty Martine, the city will add a crosswalk across Woodlawn so families can safely cross the busy street and ditch to enjoy the very popular Bel Aire Park.

There will be a tax question on the general election ballot in November. Most of your five council members decided to let the voters decide if we want a 1 percent sales tax in Bel Aire. It is up to the public to decide and I like that.

Our streets need improvements, no doubt about it. We receive more complaints about our road conditions than anything else. At least that is my unscientific poll thinking. Increased traffic with more and more growth coming our way means more cars on our roads, too. Streets are a role of the government, which is why the Bel Aire sales tax, if it were to be approved by you the voter and if council decides it is the best option to implement, will go 100 percent to street improvements. Also it will sunset after 10 years.

We like the idea of having options. We want to have good infrastructure in place and we want to keep our mill levy as low as possible.

Speaking of infrastructure, thanks to all of you who voted and shared your opinion on entry-signs. We hope to erect one this fiscal year and another next fiscal year. After those two are in place, we can look for private donations to place them in other entry ways to our city. Again, I am pleased the public gets to help decide and choose.

Mark your calendar, the next city event takes place Aug. 11 at the city pool. Before closing the city pool for the year, your furry four-legged well-behaved friends are invited. That's right, dogs and their humans can enjoy a dip in the pool. It will be fun for the whole family. We do ask that every dog be current on vaccinations, be licensed and be ready to have fun. Last year, Lucky, our seven-pound cute as can be mix rescue doggy wasn't so sure about the pool. We will see how he does this year.

Summer is also a good time to have your four-legged friend spayed or neutered if you haven't already done so. It is also a good time to visit the Humane Society or contact an animal rescue group to find your new best friend. Just my little soapbox before signing off.

And another thing, don't forget to vote Aug. 5. One of the greatest rights we have as Americans is the right to choose who will represent us. I continue to be saddened by the amount of apathy when it comes to voting. We have a primary Aug. 5 and some pretty big races that affect our community are in play. Get out and vote and choose who you want representing your party of choice in the general election.



Election dog and pony show

'Tis the season for cheesy photo-ops, attack ads and debating. We won't be getting a new president this year, but 2014 is a year for midterm elections that may or may not change the balance of power in state and national leadership.

Ahead of the Aug. 5 primary elections, candidates are making themselves seen and heard as they vie for the hearts of voters.

Aside from the governor's race, the showdown that has drawn the most buzz in our area seems to be the bid to represent the Republican Party in the 4th Congressional District in our nation's capital.

Incumbent Mike Pompeo has held the position since January 2011. His challenger is Todd Tiaht, a man who occupied Pompeo's seat for 16 years before his failed run for U.S. Senate in 2010.

Whichever of these two men wins the August primary is all but guaranteed to represent us in Washington for at least the next four years. When Tiaht announced his intention to run against Pompeo, it was a head scratcher.

With two candidates that seem to have more similarities than differences, myself, and I'm sure plenty of others wondered what Tiaht was really trying to accomplish.

The former congressman and businessman offered to meet with me to discuss his candidacy. On June 30, Tiaht met me for lunch at Tequila's on Valley

Heil on life

By Matt Heilman



Center's Main Street. As we enjoyed our chips and salsa and burritos, I asked him a few questions.

Really, I only had one question that I wanted to know. "What brings you back?" I asked.

From there, Tiaht went through several talking points. He voiced dissatisfaction with the states of the local and national economies and the perceived invasion of privacy from the National Security Agency.

Tiaht said Pompeo didn't do enough to prevent Wichita from losing about half of its aviation business and jobs to Brazil. He called out his challenger for not doing enough to ease federal regulations in a national economy that he said is shrinking. He criticized Pompeo for a lack of opposition to the NSA spying on American citizens.

Tiaht said he genuinely cares for the people in his district while accusing Pompeo of caring more about Washington politics. I didn't challenge Tiaht on any of his points. Not because I agreed with him. It's just that I only had about

45 minutes before I had to get back to work.

Pompeo, I'm sure, would have been ready with a counterpoint to about every sentence Tiaht spoke had both men been at the lunch. They traded barbs at a July 7 forum in Wichita, as they seem to be locked in a battle over who's more conservative and who has a greater disdain for Barack Obama.

With a deeper pocket, including backing from the Koch brothers, Pompeo seems to have the edge. But personally, I don't think one candidate is better or worse than the other.

Both men say they believe in God and the U.S. Constitution. They say they are champions for the people and they want your vote.

It's the same story in just about every race.

So, candidates at every level will continue walking in parades, shaking hands and sharing their messages with the media.

It's a dog and pony show that comes around every other year. Vote wisely, but don't let the state and national elections get you bent out of shape. After next year's intermission, the lights will come back on and the curtain will lift again in 2016.

Matt Heilman is a reporter for The Bel Aire Breeze. Reach him at matt@arkvalleynews.com or 755-0821.

Letter to the editor

Speech, guns are constitutional rights

In the editorial "Weapons laws take one-size approach" from the July 2014 edition of The Bel Aire Breeze, the staff revealed they're opposed to the partial restoration of a constitutional civil right that results from the new Kansas gun law, HB 2578. The article insisted that it's acceptable to maintain local laws that infringe on the right of the people to keep and bear arms. However, doing so disregards the U.S. and Kansas Constitutions that intended to preserve that personal freedom in the

first place.

The sentiment of the article was summarized by its conclusion that laments, "And maybe we're naive, but we believe that if you don't feel safe traveling through our small towns without a loaded handgun or a machete in your passenger seat, that's unfortunate."

The Bel Aire Breeze staff's opinion in opposition to the 2nd Amendment is perfectly fine to have, but when it's codified into local unconstitutional laws, freedom is stripped from citizens.

The ability to publicly declare a personal statement of faith about safety and handguns is protected by the 1st Amendment. Likewise, the ability

to keep and bear arms is protected by the 2nd Amendment. Freedom is diminished when either amendment is constricted by local laws.

I don't advocate that everyone carry loaded handguns. If one chooses not to, that's a personal choice and I respect that. Each individual citizen ought to have the freedom to make that personal choice.

A constitution-founded view favors the full restoration of our civil rights by recognizing that the practice of the 2nd Amendment is just as essential to liberty as the practice of the 1st Amendment.

— Jeff Elshoff, Bel Aire

Projects

Continued from Page 1

Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program. Also neighboring Northeast Magnet High School, a mix of multi-family construction with duplexes and single-family home construction is continuing in the Rock Spring addition south of the school.

In Bel Aire's Sunflower Commerce Park, structures are starting to take shape with new headquarters for a youth athletic facility, a worldwide distribution facility and a large cement manufacturing business.

On six acres near 53rd North and Webb Road, construction is moving along quickly with exterior work ongoing for the Next Level Hoops Academy.

Once complete this fall, the basketball and volleyball training facility will include courts for practices, league competition and tournaments, as well as a strength and conditioning facility. The Next Level Hoops Academy, which fields competitive youth basketball and volleyball teams at the AAU level, is set to open by Oct. 20 for the start of volleyball practices.

South of the Next Level Hoops Academy, construction has started for a new facility for FedEx ground on 21 acres. The planned 180,000 square foot distribution center is expected to open in July of 2015. Work has picked up on the exterior of the facility where FedEx broke ground early this year.

About a mile south at 53rd North and Greenwich, construction has picked up on a facility that will serve as the headquarters for Buzzi Unicem, one of the

nation's largest cement manufacturing companies. Buzzi Unicem's commitment to build on its 12-acre site in Bel Aire was contingent on the presence of railroad siding to meet its shipping needs.

On July 21, Bel Aire Community Development director Rick Rekoske said construction of the rail siding off the main Union Pacific line that runs through the commerce park is expected to start "any day now."

The presence of rail siding is expected to attract more companies to the commerce park, with the increased shipping capabilities, Rekoske said. The large-scale, approximate \$1.2 million rail siding project is possible with grant money The City of Bel Aire obtained from the Kansas Department of Transportation and a low-interest loan.

Election

Continued from Page 1

Wichita, incumbent Gene Suellentrop is being challenged by fellow Republican Eric Henderson in the Aug. 5 primary.

No Democrat has filed to challenge for the seat in November. Suellentrop

has represented House District 91 since 2009.

On the national stage, the Aug. 5 primary is headlined by the 4th Congressional District race between Republicans Mike Pompeo and challenger Todd Tiaht. Pompeo, the incumbent, has served the Wichita area in Washington D.C. since 2010. Tiaht filled Pompeo's seat

from 1995 to 2011.

The seat was vacated when Tiaht ran for U.S. Senate in 2010. He did not win the Senate seat and has spent the last few years working as a businessman in the private sector.

Either Pompeo or Tiaht will face Democrat Perry Schuckman in November.

Basic need shouldn't require a special tax

We don't see street maintenance as a luxury. It's a basic necessity and as such, it bothers us that the property tax and fuel tax dollars we already pay don't seem to be enough to upkeep the streets in our communities.

Last month, the cities of Valley Center and Bel Aire discussed the option to implement a 1-cent sales tax over a 10-year period to fund street repairs.

We appreciate when cities do what they can to avoid property tax increases, but we oppose the idea of enacting a sales tax to pay for street improvements.

Both cities would like to place the question on the November election ballot. Citizens of each community would get the final say on whether a sales tax is actually enacted, but it's a shame that the voice of the people wasn't loud enough to keep streets maintained all along.

We're not pointing fingers at the current administrations. Unfortunately, for too long, street maintenance has taken a backseat to other community projects that were placed as higher priorities. The blame can be spread around.

We've allowed city government to put us in this position. For decades, we've allowed cities to spend money on things deemed more important than road improvements. Now, we're in a pickle because cities didn't prioritize streets.

When it comes to city budgets, street funding should come off the top and not the bottom.

To the credit of both communities, Bel Aire and Valley Center have been frugal with their recent budgets and have started to address some of the biggest problem areas with their streets. Bel Aire especially deserves credit for taking measures to get its budget to a point where the city can afford to make some much-needed improvements.

As far as infrastructure goes, streets, water and sewer are fundamental services each city should provide its residents.

Streets are more important than sidewalks and parks (although they all serve valuable purposes in our communities).

Cities' special street and highway funds should be subsidized by the property tax-supported general fund. But for too long, cities have trimmed additional funding for streets in an effort to keep up with the rising costs in other areas.

To be fair, Valley Center and Bel Aire aren't the only culprits.

We'd be more inclined to support a sales tax for streets if there was a measure of property tax relief. Unfortunately, we're not going to see that.

And while we're thankful the public will have the final say on whether a sales tax is enacted, we believe we already pay enough to take care of our roads. Street maintenance isn't a luxury.

— The Ark Valley News

The Bel Aire Breeze

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City of Bel Aire



Bel Aire Recreation

COED OUTDOOR SOCCER

Soccer is for boys and girls ages 4-11. Games will be played on Saturdays from September 6th through October 18th. Practices will be set up by the coaches on weeknights starting Monday, August 25th. The registration deadline is August 16th.

COED FLAG FOOTBALL

Bel Aire will be teaming up with the Valley Center Recreation Commission for flag football. Practices will be held at the respective home location with games being played at both sites. Flag Football is for boys and girls in 3rd through 6th grade. Games will be played on Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday evenings or Saturday mornings. Practices will be set up by the coaches on weeknights starting Monday, August 25th. The registration deadline is August 16th. Program format and dates are subject to change.

VOLLEYBALL

Volleyball is for boys and girls, ages 8-11. Practices will be set up by the coaches on weeknights starting Monday, August 25th. The registration deadline is September 6th. Program format and dates are subject to change.

CHEERLEADING

For boys and girls ages 4 & up. These recreational cheer classes will focus on motions, jumps, and routines involved in cheerleading. Classes will be held on Monday evenings beginning September 8th. Space is limited, therefore pre-registration is required.

TAEKWONDO (ages 5 & up)
Classes meet on Monday & Friday from 5:00-6:00 pm or Tuesday & Thursday from 7:00-8:00 pm. These are great classes for beginners to black belts.

YOGA

Classes are held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:10-7:10 pm. Participants need to provide their own yoga mat. Teens and adults can join at any time!

FITNESS CENTER

(ages 16 & up)
The Fitness Center consists of elliptical cross trainers, treadmills, recumbent bike, multi-station weight machine, and free-weights. There is no charge for pass holders, or it is available with the purchase of a daily pass.

A \$5 late fee will be charged to all sign-ups after the deadline.
For more information on these or any Bel Aire Recreation Programs call 744-2700

Central Park Swimming Pool

7350 E. Central Park Ave. 744-7331

Pool closes for the season on August 10th

POOL HOURS

WEEKDAYS
Swimming Lessons 11:00 am—1:00 pm
Open Swim 1:00 pm—7:00 pm
WEEKENDS
Saturday & Sunday
Pool Hours 1:00 pm—6:00 pm
POOL HOURS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

POOL RENTALS

Have your next party at the pool!
Rental packages are available after normal business hours.
Rentals are subject to availability.
Up to 25 patrons—\$40/hour
Over 25* patrons—\$60/hour
* Limit of 50 patrons

PRIVATE SWIMMING LESSONS

Private swimming lessons are available by appointment and are subject to availability.

Fee Information

Summer Passes	
Individual (ages 12 & older)	\$100 /year
Family: 2 adults and dependent children residing in the home	\$150 / year
Daily Fees	
Under age 12 (must be accompanied by an adult)	\$2 per day
Over age 12	\$3 per day



City of Bel Aire Water Conservation Program

The City of Bel Aire Water Conservation Plan has been extended into 2014! The City of Bel Aire is now offering a **\$75.00** for new water efficient clothes washers and dishwashers, **\$75.00** for each low flow toilet, **\$75.00** for Smart Irrigation Controllers, **\$50** for Rain Barrels, **\$75.00** for Rain Sensors, and **\$30.00** for dual-flush conversions.

- Rebates are effective January 1, 2014 through December 31st, 2014
- Receipts must be submitted by December 31st, 2014.
- Rebate subject to \$2,700 in available funds and discontinuation at any time
- Rebate will be in the form of a credit on your next utility bill
- Limit 2 rebates per customer

*Please visit our homepage on our website and download a copy at www.belaireks.gov or pick up a copy at City Hall for the Water Rebate Program & Water Conservation Rebate Application

Are you an interested citizen who wants to become more active with our growing community? [Check out our Adopt-A-Park Program](#)

ADOPT-A-PARK PROGRAM & APPLICATION

The Adopt-A-Park Program assists the City of Bel Aire with making Bel Aire a cleaner, enjoyable and more attractive place for all.

Program Responsibilities & Guidelines (Participant, Organization or Group):

- Participant(s) are asked to pick up the specified area at once per week
- Participants (s) are asked to rake sand and mulch areas.
- Participants (s) are asked to notify parks staff of any damage or repairs that are needed.
- Participant (s) are asked to paint and stain equipment annually or as needed.



The City of Bel Aire supplies the trash bags for the clean-up. Bags can be picked up at the Parks Department office between 8:00 am-3:00 pm., Monday-Friday.

The Participant(s) must notify the Parks Department of what day they plan to do the pick-up. In instances of excessive trash, the participant, organization or group is asked to stack the full bags in an area out of the way, but visible from the street.

The next business day after the clean-up, the Parks Department will go to the clean-up location and dispose of the bags.

I understand my role in the Adopt-A-Park Program and abide by all City rules.

Any group, business, or organization interested in participating in this program should contact the Parks Department Dave Leiker, parks@belaire.kscoxmail.com or (316) 744-8609 for location availability or submit this form to the City of Bel Aire Parks Department, 7651 East Central Park Avenue, Bel Aire, KS 67226.

City Hall

Ty Lasher, City Manager 744-2451, ext. 217
 Recreation Department 744-2700
 Central Park Pool 744-7331
 Parks Department 744-8609
 Police • Emergency 911
 Non-emergency 744-6000
 Animal Control (Sedgwick County) 660-7070
 Public Works 744-2888
 Water/Sewer Emergency (after 5 p.m.) 761-6972 or 761-6973
 Utility Billing 744-2451, ext. 132
 (Waste Connections) 838-4920
 Hazardous Waste (Sedgwick County) 660-7464

Bel Aire Seniors

All SENIORS 55+ are cordially invited to all events listed below. The Senior Center and Library area are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday excluding holidays. The library has a wide selection of library books to check out at no cost nor time restraints, along with computers available for study or research. Remember any senior can belong or attend to more than one senior center/club in Sedgwick County.

Locations:

Senior Center/Community Room – 7651 E. Central Park Ave., 744-2451
 Recreation Center – 5251 E. 48th St. N., 744-2700

Weekly Events:

- Bel Aire Walkers** – M-F, 8-9 a.m. at the Rec Center (indoors & climate controlled)
Free for BA Senior members, alternate times available
- Men's Coffee & Fellowship** – Mondays, 10 a.m. at the Senior Center
- Yoga** – Mondays & Wednesdays, 6 p.m. at the Rec Center (monthly fee)
- Bridge Games** – Tuesdays, 1 p.m. at the Senior Center
- Low Impact Aerobics** – Wednesdays, 9 a.m. at the Rec Center
- Braums Breakfast** – Fridays, 9:00 a.m. on North Rock Road

Monthly & Special Events:

- Aug. 1, 6-9 p.m. - Pitch night with snacks at the Senior Center
- Aug. 4, 6:30 p.m. - Potluck, please bring a dish. Community Room featuring Kelley Jobe ~ Heart Transplant recipient
- Aug. 6, 10 a.m. - Volunteer library work at the Senior Center
- Aug. 6, 6-8 p.m. - A Matter of Balance* (8 week session) Senior Center
- Aug. 8, 7:30 p.m. - Kechi Playhouse departs Senior Center, \$12 at the door
- Aug. 9, 7 p.m. - Cowtown Baseball game departs Senior Center
- Aug. 13, 10 a.m. - Open Sewing at the Senior Center
- Aug. 15, 6-9 p.m. - Pitch night with snacks at the Senior Center
- Aug. 19, - Ladies Dine Out - for info call Anita at 744-2840
- Aug. 20, 10:15 a.m. - Senior Aerobics Brunch (different locations)
- Aug. 20, 7 p.m. - Bunko games at the Senior Center
- Aug. 21, 10 a.m. - Peach farm visit, Departs Senior Center
- Aug. 21, 1 p.m. - Distributing Non-Titled Property by Teresa Hatfield
- Aug. 23, 12 p.m. - Grace Hill Winery carpool. Depart Senior Center
- Aug. 25, 6 p.m. - Covered Dish Dinner at Rec Center
- Aug. 27, 10 a.m. - Open Sewing at the Senior Center
- Aug. 29, 6-9 p.m. - Pitch night with snacks at the Senior Center
- Aug. 30, 5:30 p.m. - Mosley Street Melodrama, Departs Senior Center

*A Matter of Balance is an Evidence Based course focusing on balance and controlled falling. 8 week sessions. Please call 744-2451 x 121 for more info.

Community Events

- TOPS** – Tuesdays, 9 a.m. at the Senior Center
- City Council Meetings** – 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of every month
- Aug. 11, 7 p.m. - Central Park HOA meeting
- Aug. 12, 7 p.m. - Bel Aire Heights HOA meeting
- Aug. 16, 11 a.m. - Red Hats event, Call Anita for more info 744-2840.
- Aug. 18, 7 p.m. - Tree Board Meeting
- Aug. 19, 4 p.m. - UAC meeting

Looking for a job with the city of Bel Aire?

Follow the link below to view and apply for jobs with the city of Bel Aire:

www.hrepartners.com/HRePartners/AllOpenJobs.aspx

2ND ANNUAL

HOT DAWGS POOL PARTY

AUGUST 11
6-8PM

BEL AIRE COMMUNITY POOL
7350 EAST CENTRAL PARK AVE.

ADMISSION ONLY \$5 PER DOG
(ONLY 2 DOGS PER ADULT PLEASE)

Once again, the end of summer is fast approaching and Bel Aire would like to invite all of the Dogs to our 2nd Annual Hot Dawg's Pool Party! The last day for the Community Pool is August 10th. Bel Aire would like to invite all the canine friends, big and small to come out at 6:00 to our Community Pool and have a blast! We will have **FREE TREATS** to the first 40 dogs, provided by The Dog Treatery, The Hairy Sofa, Heartland Play and Stay, The Dog Treatery, and Century Manufacturing will provide the prizes for the competitions! **Food Vendors** will be available this year, so come hungry! Please be sure to clean up after your dogs. A Doggie Pottie Station will be available.

For the safety of other dogs, no aggressive breeds or females in heat will be allowed. All dogs must have current vaccinations, including rabbies and be licensed. Must be on leash upon entering the event. For more information, please contact Rick at 744-2451 ext 218.

Competitions and Times:

- Smallest Dog @ 6:30
- Best Dressed Dog @ 7:00
- Best Trickster Dog @ 7:15
- Hairiest Dog @ 7:30
- Largest Dog @ 7:45

Heartland ANIMAL HOSPITAL

The Hairy Sofa THE GROOMING SOLUTION

Sponsored by

City of Bel Aire

Century Manufacturing, Inc.

THE DOG TREATERY

Water Conservation Rebate program continues

By Matt Heilman

The inception of the program last summer was deemed successful enough to do it again. With money remaining, the Water Conservation Rebate Program has entered its second year. Area drought conditions have been alleviated, but conservation is still the name of the game for Sedgwick County residents.

In June, the Wichita City Council agreed to authorize \$450,000 for another year in the Water Conservation Rebate Program that officials said has resulted in saving 250,000 gallons of water per day.

Last year, the City of Wichita started the program with \$1 million allotted for rebates on clothes washers, dishwashers, low-flow toilets, irrigation controllers and rain barrels. For 2014,

the program, which went into effect on July 1, is retroactive for water-saving appliances purchased Jan. 1. Additional water-saving items allotted for rebates this year include rain sensors that keep irrigation systems from operating when it's raining, dual flush converters on toilets, and urinals.

Part of the \$450,000 for the program this year is being distributed to smaller cities that are Wichita water customers, so they too can participate in the program for a second year.

In north Sedgwick County, Valley Center has been awarded with \$4,500 to participate in the program for the second year. Valley Center gets all of its water from Wichita, as does the City of Kechi, which has received \$1,350 to participate in the program. Park City, which gets most of its water from the Chisholm

Creek Utility Authority and uses Wichita as a backup water source, has been allocated \$1,800 to participate in the program.

Valley Center, Kechi and Park City offer the same water conservation incentives offered in the City of Wichita, while the City of Bel Aire is utilizing its own incentive for the \$2,700 it's been allocated to participate in the program this year. Bel Aire started its own incentive last year with \$6,000 that was allocated in the first year of the program.

Like last year, the incentive implemented by Wichita and offered in Valley Center, Park City and Kechi includes up to a \$100 rebate for low-flow toilets that use 1.28 gallons of water or less per flush, high efficiency dishwashers that use less than 4.25 gallons of water per cycle, high-efficiency clothes washers that

use 4.5 gallons or less per cycle per cubic foot a specific washer uses, smart irrigation controllers labeled Water-Sense and up to a \$75 rebate for rain barrels that are 50 gallons or larger.

Bel Aire is offering its residents \$75 for new water efficient clothes washers, \$75 for each low-flow toilet, \$75 for Smart Irrigation Controllers, \$50 for rain barrels, \$75 for rain sensors and \$30 for dual-flush conversions. The rebates apply to all toilets that use 1.28 gallons per flush or less, dishwashers with an EPA rating of less than 5.8 gallons per load, and clothes washers with an EPA rating of 15 gallons or less per load.

Also like last year, Bel Aire is encouraging drought resistant landscaping to cut down on the need to water lawns and is offering free hats to residents that utilize

drought-resistant landscaping. For more information on drought-resistant landscaping, including a list of plants that require less water, the city advises residents to contact the Sedgwick County Extension Education Center at 660-0100.

In order to maintain its water supply, Bel Aire also encourages its residents to only water their lawns once or twice per week. Bel Aire is partnered with the City of Park City as a customer of the Chisholm Creek Utility Authority, but the city gets about 70 percent of its water from the City of Wichita.

In each community participating in the program, Water Conservation Rebate applications are available at City Hall where residents pay their water bills. Applications in Valley Center, Park City, Bel Aire and Kechi will also

be available on the cities' websites.

In every city, there is a limit of five rebated items per household. Rebates are applied as credits on water bills. To cash in on a rebate after purchasing an appliance that qualifies for the program, turn the receipt from the purchase in with the application.

The rebates in the program are available only to single-family, owner occupied homes. Newly constructed homes already equipped with more efficient appliances do not apply. The full list of appliances that are eligible for the Water Conservation Rebate Program is available on the City of Wichita's website, www.wichita.gov. The program will continue until the end of 2014 or until the \$450,000 allocated for the program this year runs out.

POLICE REPORTS

July 20 — Officer Elpers responded to an alarm in the 4800 block of Harding. It was a false alarm.

July 20 — Officer Camplin responded to a possible suicidal person in the 5800 block of East Flagstaff. A woman was taken to the hospital for an assessment.

July 19 — Officer Elpers was stopped by a woman who wanted to report a suspicious character in the 4500 block of North Rushwood. A vehicle was parked in front of the woman's residence for 30 minutes. A man got out of the vehicle and told the woman, "Can't a guy just be at a park without being stared at?" The vehicle had since returned several times. The woman was advised to call 911 the next time the vehicle showed up.

July 19 — Officer Camplin responded to a report of disorderly conduct in the 5900 block of East 45th North. A woman complained of loud music and yelling coming from a neighbor in the 4600 block of North Farmstead. Officer Steele spoke to the residents.

July 19 — Officer Camplin responded to a suspicious character in the 4400 block of North Eagle Lake. A woman was slowly driving a vehicle along the edge of the road. The driver left the vehicle and walked toward the officer's patrol vehicle. McKenzie R. Allen was arrested on a charge of DUI.

July 18 — Officer Thompson took a report of a woman in Wichita who surrendered her two children to an organization called Faith Builder Program. The woman, who was homeless, said she found a shelter in El Dorado that would take her and her children, and she wanted Faith Builder to bring her two children to Dillons at 37th North and Woodlawn. The Faith Builder representative had not contacted the woman. Officer contacted the representative who said she would set up a meeting and return the woman's two children.

July 16 — Officer Thompson responded to a burglary at a residence in the 4400 block of North Edgemoor. Someone pushed out a doggie door insert and entered a residence, taking a pistol, pills and an air purifier.

July 15 — Officer Thompson responded to an empty residence in the 4300 block of North Janesville. It appeared someone forced open the rear garage door.

July 15 — Officers took a report at the station from a woman who complained about one of her neighbors driving fast on their street in the 5900 block of East 45th North. An officer contacted the driver.

July 14 — Officer Elpers re-

sponded to check the welfare of a resident in the 4400 block of Westlake Court. A woman left the hospital and returned home.

July 14 — Officer Elpers responded to a suspicious character in the 4300 block of North Eagle Lake Court. A suspicious vehicle was parked in front of a house that was recently burglarized. A man got out of the vehicle and knocked on the door, waited a while and then left.

July 14 — Chief Atteberry responded to a residential alarm in the 4600 block of North Farmstead. The alarm was false.

July 14 — Officer Camplin responded to a request from Wichita police to assist on an alarm in the 8000 block of East Mulberry in Wichita. There were no signs of forced entry or suggestion of suspicious activity.

July 14 — Officer Camplin responded to an alarm in the 6900 block of East Odessa Court. There were no signs of suspicious activity at the residence.

July 13 — Officer Elpers stopped a vehicle for speeding in the 4200 block of North Oliver. The driver was cited for having no license in his possession and speeding.

July 12 — Officer Camplin responded to a possible suicide attempt in the 11200 block of East 61st North. The subject had not been trying to hurt himself.

July 12 — Officer Camplin responded to a report of a wrong-way driver in the 15000 block of East 61st North. The Kansas Highway Patrol handled the investigation of the fatal wreck.

July 11 — Chief Atteberry took a report of larceny from a vehicle in the 4100 block of North Auburn. Taken from an unlocked vehicle was a laptop computer.

July 11 — Chief Atteberry responded to a residential burglary in the 4000 block of North Oliver. Two safes were taken from the residence.

July 11 — Officer Steele responded to a report of street racing on Webb Road north of 61st North. The vehicles departed the area.

July 10 — Chief Atteberry responded to check the welfare of a resident in the 4600 block of North Krueger. A woman had fallen. She was taken to the hospital.

July 10 — Officer Wallender responded to a road rage incident in the 7400 block of East 45th North. A driver said an older man followed the driver to north side of the Catholic Care Center and approached the driver. The older man tried to swing at the driver, but missed and fell. The driver and his son helped the older man up and back to his car. The older man left in his Cadillac.

July 10 — Officer Wallender responded to an alarm on a residence in the 6200 block of East Quail Ridge Court. The alarm was false.

July 10 — Officer Steele responded to a suspicious character report in the 6100 block of East Quail Ridge Court. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

July 8 — Chief Atteberry took a report of a simple assault in the 4300 block of North Country Lane. A woman said her ex-boyfriend contacted her through text messages, hinting that he was going to harm himself. The man lived in Rose Hill.

July 8 — Chief Atteberry took a report of larceny from a vehicle. A Jaguar hood ornament was taken from a woman's vehicle while it was parked at the Catholic Care Center in the 6700 block of East 45th North.

July 8 — Chief Atteberry took a report of lost property in the 6100 block of East 41st Circle North. A woman reported losing her wedding ring while doing yard work after a storm. The woman searched with a metal detector but couldn't find the ring.

July 8 — Officer Wallender responded to a possible fraud in the 5800 block of East 49th North. A man with Reliable Storm Solutions had a contract to replace the roof of the residence, taking a down payment of \$5,133.77 for materials. The man agreed to replace the roof on May 29 and again on June 21, but did not show up and told the resident that he will not refund the down payment.

July 8 — Officers took a report in the 4200 block of Rushwood of a half missing vehicle tag. Half of the tag had fallen off.

July 7 — Chief Atteberry took a report of an unknown person knocking on a door and running away in the 5700 block of East Memphis.

July 7 — Chief Atteberry took a report of an abandoned vehicle in the 5300 block of East Ashton. A tow sticker was placed on the vehicle's antenna.

July 7 — Officer Toomey responded to a possible disturbance in the 3800 block of North Oliver. A man was knocking the door of the residence saying someone in the home owned him \$200. It was a verbal disturbance only.

July 7 — Officer Toomey took a report from a resident in the 4200 block of North Rushwood. The resident said she received a call from a payday loan service talking about credit card rates, and it sounded suspicious to the resident.

July 6 — Officer Wallender stopped a vehicle for speeding in the 5000 block of North Woodlawn. The driver was cited for driving with

a suspended license and speeding.

July 6 — Officer Steele responded to a report of a suspicious character in the 4400 block of North Auburn. The calling party heard knocking noise. There were no signs of suspicious activity. A resident nearby also reported a knocking noise.

July 6 — Officer Steele responded to a disconnected cell phone call to dispatchers that came from a resident in the 4200 block of North St. James Court. No one was at the residence.

July 5 — Chief Atteberry took a report of a lost license plate in the 4900 block of East Willow Point Court. The plate on a scooter fell off.

July 5 — Officer Steele stopped a vehicle for a defective taillight in the 4900 block of North Woodlawn. In the vehicle was a ladder hoist that belonged to a man who lived in the 6400 block of East Danbury. Carlos Marroquin-Rodas was arrested on charges of DUI and theft.

July 4 — Officer Roney responded to illegal fireworks in the 4400 block of North Edgemoor Court. Remnants of a sparkler bomb were found. A nearby homeowner denied involvement. Though blast markings found on his driveway were consistent with those made from sparkler bombs. No charges were filed at the time of the report.

July 4 — Officer Roney responded to a disturbance regarding fireworks being shot into the garage of the property in the 6500 block of East Perryton. A firework from a neighbor misfired and shot into the garage, damaging a vehicle. No charges were filed.

July 4 — Officer Steele responded to a disturbance in the 4400 block of North Mission.

July 3 — Chief Atteberry assisted Wichita police in the 4500 block of North Eagle Lake Drive. A man and a woman were expected to go to the residence and take the man's children from his ex-wife. No one was at the residence.

July 3 — Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 6100 block of East Quail Ridge Court. A resident said a man on a bicycle had been looking in her neighbor's garage. The man went inside a garage and reached for the doorknob of the door leading into the kitchen. When the resident saw the man, he left the garage and went to the front door and pretended to knock on it. He then left and gave the resident the finger.

July 3 — Officer Roney found a black nylon violin case in the road in the 5100 block of North Rock Road. It was empty.

July 3 — Officer Steele respond-

ed to a burglary alarm at Marco's Pizza in the 4500 block of North Woodlawn. It was a false alarm.

July 2 — Officer Thompson to a dispute over a set of steps in the 5000 block of Willow Point. It was a civil matter.

July 1 — Chief Atteberry took a report of theft in the 6200 block of East Quail Ridge. A bicycle was missing from a resident's garage.

July 1 — Chief Atteberry received a bicycle that was found at Eagle Lake.

June 30 — Chief Atteberry responded to a residential alarm in the 5000 block of North Lake Breeze Court. There were no signs of criminal activity.

June 30 — Officer Camplin received a set of keys found in the street at Auburn and Memphis.

June 30 — Officer Steele responded to a suspicious character in the 6500 block of East Perryton. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

June 30 — Officer Steele responded to a burglary alarm at Marco's Pizza in the 4500 block of North Woodlawn. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

June 29 — Officer Wallender responded to an alarm in the 4200 block of Rushwood Court. The alarm was false.

June 29 — Officer Wallender responded to an alarm at Wickham Glass in the 4700 block of North Webb. The alarm was false.

June 28 — Chief Atteberry took a report of larceny from a vehicle in the 4800 block of East Ashton. Taken was a backpack with cloths and notebooks.

June 28 — Chief Atteberry took a vandalism report in the 6200 block of East Perryton. A person struck a mailbox four times with a baseball bat.

June 28 — Officer Thompson responded to a vandalism report in the 4200 block of North Janesville. A window of a vehicle had been broken. Nothing was missing from the vehicle.

June 28 — Officer Steele responded to check the welfare of people at 95th East and 61st North. A caller said 15 vehicles were parked on the side of the road with women and children standing nearby. Officer found no apparent suggestion of suspicious activity.

June 27 — Officer Thompson responded to a report of a suspicious character in the 4400 block of Westlake Court. A white van was parked near the residence. It belonged to a person visiting his sister nearby.

June 27 — Officer Thompson took a report of an abandoned bicycle near the playground at Eagle

Lake. It was placed in the department garage as found property.

June 27 — Officer Thompson responded to a report of a traffic wreck in the 3900 block of North Oliver. A witness said a woman driving north on Oliver was talking on her cell phone as the vehicle drifted to the right and struck mailboxes.

June 27 — Officer Steele responded to a burglary alarm in the 4100 block of North Edinburg Circle. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

June 26 — Officer Foxx took a report of vandalism to a vehicle in the 4300 block of North Janesville. A rear window was broken.

June 26 — Officer Thompson responded to a report of a suspicious character in the 5900 block of East Hanover. The suspect was looking in the windows of the residence, and told a neighbor that she wanted to buy the house.

June 26 — Officer Thompson responded to a report of domestic violence in the 3900 block of North Oliver. It was a dispute over child custody.

June 25 — Chief Atteberry responded to a larceny from a vehicle in the 5700 block of East Denise. Two headlamps and changed were removed from the vehicle. Nearby, two other vehicles were entered. A gym bag was taken from one and electronics were taken from another.

June 25 — Chief Atteberry responded to a report of disorderly conduct in the 4700 block of North Hillcrest. A resident saw a subject run from a residence and get into a truck. The resident took a picture of the truck as it was leaving. The resident checked a house to see if it was burglarized. It hadn't been burglarized. When the resident was leaving, the man in the truck returned and began calling the business phone number that was on the side of the resident's vehicle. The caller lived at the residence but didn't know the other man was looking out for his property.

June 23 — Officer Foxx took a complaint of juveniles building a makeshift skate park at the dead end of 49th North and Farmstead. The juveniles placed a sign at the corner indicating a skate park and had several ramps made of heavy, spray-painted plywood. Residents complained that juveniles were leaving trash and driving recklessly through the area. City works crews assisted in removing the ramps and plywood.

June 23 — Officer Foxx assisted Park City police on a suicidal subject in the 6300 block of North Ulysses. The subject was transported to the VA hospital.

CHURCH HIGHLIGHTS

Christ Lutheran Church

Christ Lutheran is located at 53rd Street North and Hillside, across from Wichita Heights High School. Summer services from Memorial to Labor Day weekends are at 9:00 (Contemporary) and 10:30 (Traditional). Communion is offered at all services. For more information about the church and its activities find the church online at www.christ-lutheran.org, or call 744-1242. Pastor Chad Langdon is the minister of Christ Lutheran Church.

Church of the Resurrection

Church of the Resurrection (Roman Catholic) is located at 4910 N. Woodlawn in Bel Aire.

Masses for the Lord's Day are 5:30 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday. Weekday Masses are 8 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; also at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Resurrection Catholic School has students from preschool through eighth grade.

The parish/school website is www.resurrectionwichita.com. Phone number is 744-2776. Rev. James F. Weldon is the pastor.

Community Bible Chapel

Community Bible Chapel invites the community to join us for Arrow Island VBS-Choosing God's Way! VBS will take place in the evenings during the week of June 16 - June 20, from

6:15-8:45 p.m. We would love to have kids age 4 through the sixth grade join us for music, games, snacks, crafts, and time exploring God's deep love for us. We are located at the corner of 45th St. N and Arlene. Please contact Amy Smith at 316-323-2819 with any questions. Hope to see you there!

Fairmount United Church of Christ

The church welcomes a new minister, Rev. Larry Young.

Visit the newly renovated building at 1605 Fairmount in Wichita (one block south and one block east of Hillside and 17th North).

Sunday worship is at 10:30 a.m. which includes children's church. Sunday school begins at 9:30.

For more information, call 682-1597 or visit at www.fairmountucc.org.

Gospel Assembly Church

Located at 4230 N. Oliver in Bel Aire, service times are 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday. Prayer service is 7 p.m. Tuesday. Praise and worship is 7:30 p.m. Wednesday. The first Saturday evening of each month are youth activities.

Phone number is 744-1502. Rev. Gary D. Green is the pastor.

Greenwich United Methodist Church

Sunday worship service at 9 a.m. Fellowship and coffee follow the

service.

Pastor Jeff Miller can be reached at 744-0203.

Senior Day first Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m.

United Methodist Women meet the first Thursday of each month at 1 p.m.

Movie night is the second Saturday of each month at 6:30 p.m. A snack is served.

The church is located about a mile south of K-254 on Greenwich Road. The phone number is 744-0203.

Kechi United Methodist Church

You are welcome at Kechi United Methodist Church, 4533 E. 61st North in Kechi. The Contemporary Service is at 9:03 a.m., the Traditional Service is at 11:00 a.m. on Sundays.

Pastor Mitch Reece will begin a new preaching series on Aug. 3 titled "World Religions." More and more Christians are encountering people of different faiths. We will be comparing world religions with the teachings of Christianity so that we can be better prepared to discuss the Good News of Jesus!

The Kechi UMC Rummage Sale will be held Aug. 7-9, from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. in the KUMC Fellow-

ship Hall. Proceeds go to support various mission projects.

CareGivers Support Group for adult caregivers meets every first Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the basement parlor. Bingo is every first Wednesday of the month at 3:00 p.m. Every 3rd Tuesday a Hot Meal is prepared at KUMC and served to the United Methodist Open Door Ministries Drop-In Center at 10:00 a.m. Volunteers welcome!

Find us at www.KechiUMC.org. Follow us on Facebook. Pastor Mitch can be contacted at Mitch@kechiuic.org. Phone number is 744-1221.

Risen Savior Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

Contemporary Sunday worship services at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Communion on the first and third Sunday. Adult Sunday school and Bible class meet at 9:15 a.m. Children's church at 10:30. A nursery is provided during Bible class and second service.

Two weekly sessions of Lifetree Café in Valley Center: Thursday at 1:00 p.m. (Lunch at Noon) at the Community Building (316 E. Clay) and Sunday at 5:00 p.m. at the home of Pastor Terry & Barb Wiechman (1241 S. Park Avenue). Lifetree Café is a "conversation café"; a place and time for people to gather weekly to

experience stories and talk about thought-provoking topics relating to life and faith.

The church is located at 6770 E. 34th North in Wichita. The phone number is 683-5538. www.risensaviorwichita.net.

Senior pastor is Tom Harmon.

St. Michael's Orthodox Christian Church

Saint Michael's Orthodox Christian Church is located at 2710 E 61st Street Park City, KS 67219. It is a congregation of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America. "...the disciples were first called Christians at Antioch." Acts 11:26.

On Sunday at 9 a.m. is our adult class, "Jesus: The Man, the Message and the Meaning" Service of Matins is at 9:45 a.m. followed by the Divine Liturgy (Mass) at 10 a.m. Nursery service is provided.

On Wednesday our service is at 6 p.m. On Saturday Vespers is at 4:30 p.m. and Confession at 5 p.m.

Men's Study Group first and third Monday at 7 p.m. We are studying the Gospel of Luke.

Women's Study Group second and fourth Friday at 10 a.m. We are studying the book, GOD'S PATH TO SANITY: Lessons from Ancient Holy Counselors on How to have a Sound Mind. Join us for spiritual nurture,

fellowship, and refreshments.

Wednesday Potluck Supper and Program are on the first and third Wednesdays with Liturgy 6 p.m., Potluck Supper 6:45 p.m., Program 7:30 p.m.

Aug. 6 the topic is The Transfiguration in Orthodox Theology and Worship. On Aug. 20 our topic is Mary: Mother of God and Our Mother

Fasting during August: From Aug. 1 - 14 we will observe the Dormition Fast by fasting and abstaining from meat and meat products on all days in preparation for the Feast of the Dormition Aug. 15. On Aug. 22 and 29 we keep the discipline of fasting and abstinence.

Call the church for more information 734-6248 or visit our website: www.stmichaelsoc.org. Email inquiries: jflora@cox.net.

Wichita Three Angels Seventh-Day Adventist Church

The church is located at 4558 N. Hydraulic Wichita, KS 67219.

The pastor is Nathan Stearman. The Sabbath school is at 9:30 a.m. Worship service is at 11 a.m.

For more information find us at www.godscloset.com or on Facebook, email eric@godscloset.com, or call 530-1040.

Send your church's upcoming events and service times to legals@arkvalleynews.com or call 755-0821.

Fourth revelry goes smoothly in north Sedgwick County

By Matt Heilman

Not everyone obeyed the curfews and cleanup rules but overall, a few bad apples didn't seem to spoil the whole bunch for the July 4 weekend in north Sedgwick County.

The non-emergency line for fireworks complaints was kept busy, but fireworks weren't determined to have caused any noticeable property damage or injuries that required emergency response in the communities of Valley Center, Park City, Kechi and Bel Aire.

"It was pretty quiet," Valley Center Fire Chief Lonnie Tormey said.

In Valley Center, a fire

destroyed an aging detached garage at 142 N. Park in the early morning hours of July 5, but Tormey said there was no evidence the blaze was caused by fireworks.

He said the cause will go down as "undetermined."

Valley Center fire crews were also dispatched to two grass fires over the weekend, but Tormey said neither one required much assistance. He said there was no evidence of a fire on the first call and a small blaze was already extinguished when crews arrived on the second call on West Main.

In Park City, Police Chief Phil Bostian said his officers were busy with non-fire-

works-related calls. There were a few complaints relating to fireworks, but no property damage or personal injuries reported.

From a fireworks standpoint, Bostian said the weekend "was relatively easy." The Park City Police Department's response to non-fireworks-related calls included a case of battery to a law enforcement officer and a vandalism report involving a man threatening to kill himself with a sword.

The reported battery to a law enforcement officer occurred shortly before 4 p.m. July 5 in the 6200 block of North East Parkview. On the call, officers responded to

conduct a welfare check at a residence after an emergency call was made that someone was dead. When officers arrived to the residence from where the call was made, the man who made the call refused to let officers inside the house and pushed the door shut on an officer. After officers managed to force their way into the residence, a struggle ensued before the man was taken into custody and arrested on the battery charge, Bostian said.

Bostian said alcohol played a part in the unusual call, as the suspect was intoxicated.

On another call reported at about 2:15 a.m. July 7 in

the 6500 block of North West Parkview, a case of vandalism turned into a brief standoff involving a man who threatened to kill himself with a sword. Bostian said the man held the sword to his throat for about 20 minutes before an officer was able to talk him down.

The suspect was taken to a Wichita hospital for a mental evaluation before he was booked into the Sedgwick County Jail.

In Kechi, there was one fireworks complaint made to the police department instead of the non-emergency line, but there were no reports of property damage on the call.

In Bel Aire, persons and

property were spared in a pair of potentially dangerous incidents. On one call, Bel Aire Police Chief Darrell Atteberry said his officers received a report of juveniles in a cul-de-sac trying to make sparkler bombs. On another report, he said a citizen accidentally knocked over a tube, which caused a mortar shell to fire into a neighbor's garage. The incident did not cause a fire, Atteberry said.

The chief said the non-emergency line set up to handle fireworks complaints in Sedgwick County was helpful for his and other area departments in keeping officers available to immediately respond to emergencies.

HIGHLIGHTS

Community events planned

Before summer winds down and kids go back to school, two community events are planned in the City of Bel Aire in the first half of August. From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 3, Revolution Church is sponsoring a free community barbecue from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Bel Aire Park, 4103 N. Woodlawn, next to Sedgwick County Fire Station No. 37.

From 6 to 8 p.m. Aug. 11, the city is hosting its second annual Hot Dawgs Pool Party at the community pool in Central Park. The event welcomes residents' dogs to swim in the pool and includes contests, prizes and awards from local sponsors. Last year, about 125 dogs and 300 people attended the event.

— Matt Heilman

Student named to honor roll

Oklahoma City University announced that Payton McAtee has been named to the spring 2014 Dean's Honor

Roll.

Dean's Honor Roll status is awarded to students who successfully complete a minimum of 12 credit hours and maintain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

Founded in 1904, Oklahoma City University is a non-profit, comprehensive, private United Methodist university.

— The Breeze staff

Summer vacation coming to an end

Seemingly almost as soon as it began, the end of summer vacation is near. This month, students across the area will return to the routine of waking up early and spending time with their teachers.

In the Wichita school district, sixth-grade students and high school freshman will attend an Aug. 11 orientation day with Aug. 12 marking the first day of school for every other student in the district.

At Bel Aire's Sunrise Christian Academy, junior and high school students go back to school on Aug. 14, followed by elementary school students on Aug. 15.

Students at Bel Aire's Resurrection Catholic School return to the classroom on Aug. 13.

— Matt Heilman

DEATH

MONTE WILSON

Monte Pierre Wilson, 86, died June 26, 2014.

He was born in Medicine Lodge on June 28, 1927, to Fred and Laura Jo (Haskins) Wilson. He joined the Navy in 1945 and upon returning from the Navy he married Iva Jean Tharp. Monte worked for the U.S. Postal Service in Medicine Lodge. He and Jean moved to Valley Center where they raised their family. His career included employment at Standard Oil (Amoco), Gates LearJet and Boeing. He was a member of the International Order of

Freemasonry. Later in life he enjoyed reminiscing about life on the ranch, tinkering on his computers, spending time playing with his great grandchildren and sitting in the gazebo with Andy, his beloved dog.

He is survived by his wife, Iva "Jean" (Tharp) of Bel Aire; son Jerry Wilson (Susan) of Wichita; daughter Jan Wilson Sheldon (Mark) of McPherson; four grandchildren, Halie Fasig (Cody),

Kris Sheldon (Brandi), Heather von Merveldt (Erick) and Jennifer Henak (Jeremy) and six great grandchildren.

Memorials can be made to Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice, 313 S. Market, Wichita, KS 67202 and/or Kansas Humane Society, 3313 N. Hillside, Wichita, KS 67220 in honor of Andy. Private family memorial will be held at a later date. Downing & Lahey Mortuary West has charge.

Call 755-0821 to place a classified ad

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Feds block tribe's plans for Park City casino

By Matt Heilman

The federal government put up a roadblock, rejecting the proposed tribal casino in Park City. With a ruling on July 7, the U.S. Department of the Interior denied an application by the Wyandotte Nation of Oklahoma to take 10.5 acres of Park City land into trust to build a casino. The tribe bought the land near 77th North and I-135 in 1992.

The tribe claimed it bought the land, located on the south of 77th North between Sedgwick County Fire Station 32 and the former Wild West World property, with land claim settlement money. A law passed by Congress in 1984 gave the Wyandotte Nation \$100,000 to purchase land to hold in trust. With land held in trust, the tribe could build a casino.

However, the Wyandotte's case hasn't been cut and dry. Complicating the matter is the presence of the tribe's casino in Kansas City, Kan.

In leading the charge to block the casino in Park

City, the State of Kansas has argued that the tribe didn't exclusively use settlement money to buy the land and that the 1984 settlement in favor of the tribe had already been fulfilled when the Wyandotte built a gaming hall in Kansas City.

In April, Wyandotte Chief Billy Friend said there is no language in the 1984 law that says the tribe can't hold more than one piece of land in trust. Even so, the state has argued that the tribe commingled settlement funds with other tribal money and made up numbers to show that the 10.5 acres in Park City was purchased with settlement money.

Park City Administrator Jack Whitson said the state's contention that the tribe commingled funds is a weak argument that the Wyandotte have refuted.

"They knew in a ledger where that money was," he said.

Whitson said the Wyandotte purchased the Park City property for \$25,000

before spending the remaining \$75,000 in the settlement, plus interest on its Kansas City land.

He said he found it ironic that the Department of the Interior defended the tribe in its efforts to build its gaming hall in Kansas City and has now turned around to block the plans in Park City.

"There's something political involved in this," Whitson said. "The Kansas City casino was purchased with the same money we got. Ours was purchased first."

He said the Department of the Interior's ruling still has to go before a judge.

"It's not a done deal," Whitson said.

In 2013, a U.S. District Court judge ordered the Department of the Interior to provide status reports on its processing of the Wyandotte's trust application for the Park City land every 90 days, or quarterly.

April 14 marked the one-year deadline on that ruling. The ruling was made after the Wyandotte Nation sued

the Department of the Interior in July 2011, arguing the department had intentionally delayed processing the application that had been pending in the department since January 2009.

Whitson said the state's opposition to the tribal casino was to block it from competing with the state-owned Kansas Star Casino near Mulvane. If the trust application were approved, the tribal casino in Park City would cost between \$20 million and \$30 million and would include 1,000 to 1,200 slot machines and a small restaurant.

Although a tribal casino would be tax exempt, Whitson said the facility would create at least 1,500 jobs and pump millions of dollars into the local economy.

"This is not just a Park City deal," he said. "Yea, it's in Park City, but its ramifications are countywide. Not everyone who would work there would come from Park City."

In April, Friend said the Wyandotte Nation would

respond if the trust application were denied. He did not specify what that response would be. On July 8, Wyandotte Second Chief Norman Hildebrand said the tribe is likely to legally appeal the

decision and send it back to federal courts. For now, that's about all they can do, he said.

"We just kind of have to weigh in our options," Hildebrand said. "It's far from over yet."

Wichita Wild team for sale

By Matt Heilman

Fresh off its second consecutive league championship, the Wichita Wild is for sale. On July 2, Jeremy Mock, general manager for the team that played its home games at Park City's Hartman Arena, prepared a news release announcing that the team has "initiated the process of seeking a new ownership group for the professional indoor football organization."

The news release said that Wild owner Wink Hartman "has made the decision to focus his operations on other business interests."

Hartman owned the team for eight seasons. The Wild played the first six of those years in the Indoor Professional Football League before transitioning to the Central Plains Indoor Football League and winning two consecutive titles in 2013 and 2014. This season, Paco

Martinez, a 2000 graduate of Valley Center High School, coached the Wild.

Hartman also owned the new version of the Wichita Wings indoor soccer franchise that played for two seasons at Hartman Arena. The team folded last year when no buyers were found.

The Wild closed its front office operations on July 11 until new ownership is secured.

The ownership has expressed confidence that a new owner will emerge and the Wild will continue to play at Hartman Arena.

"The organization is confident and hopeful that the Wild

will be sought out by a new ownership group and continue its success in the future," Mock said in the July 2 news release.

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