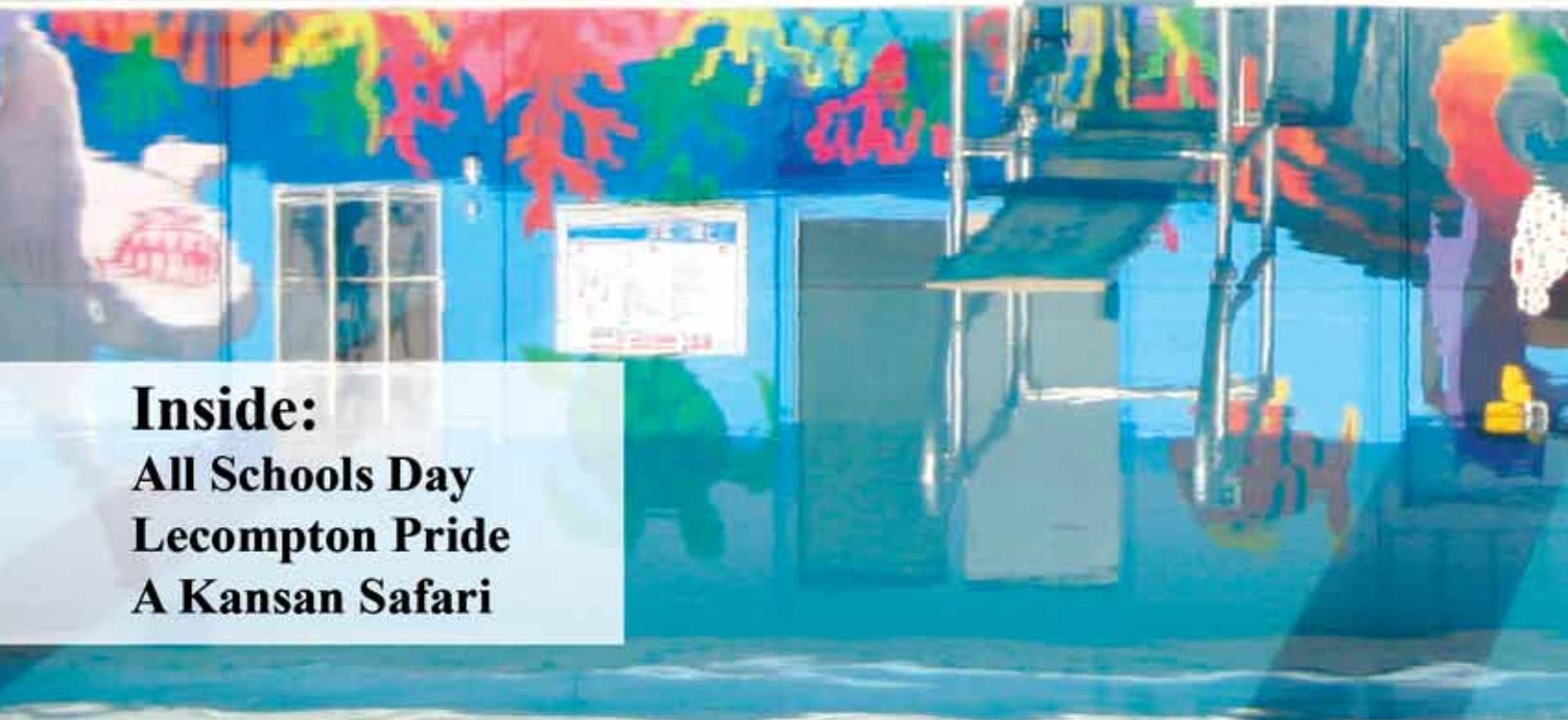
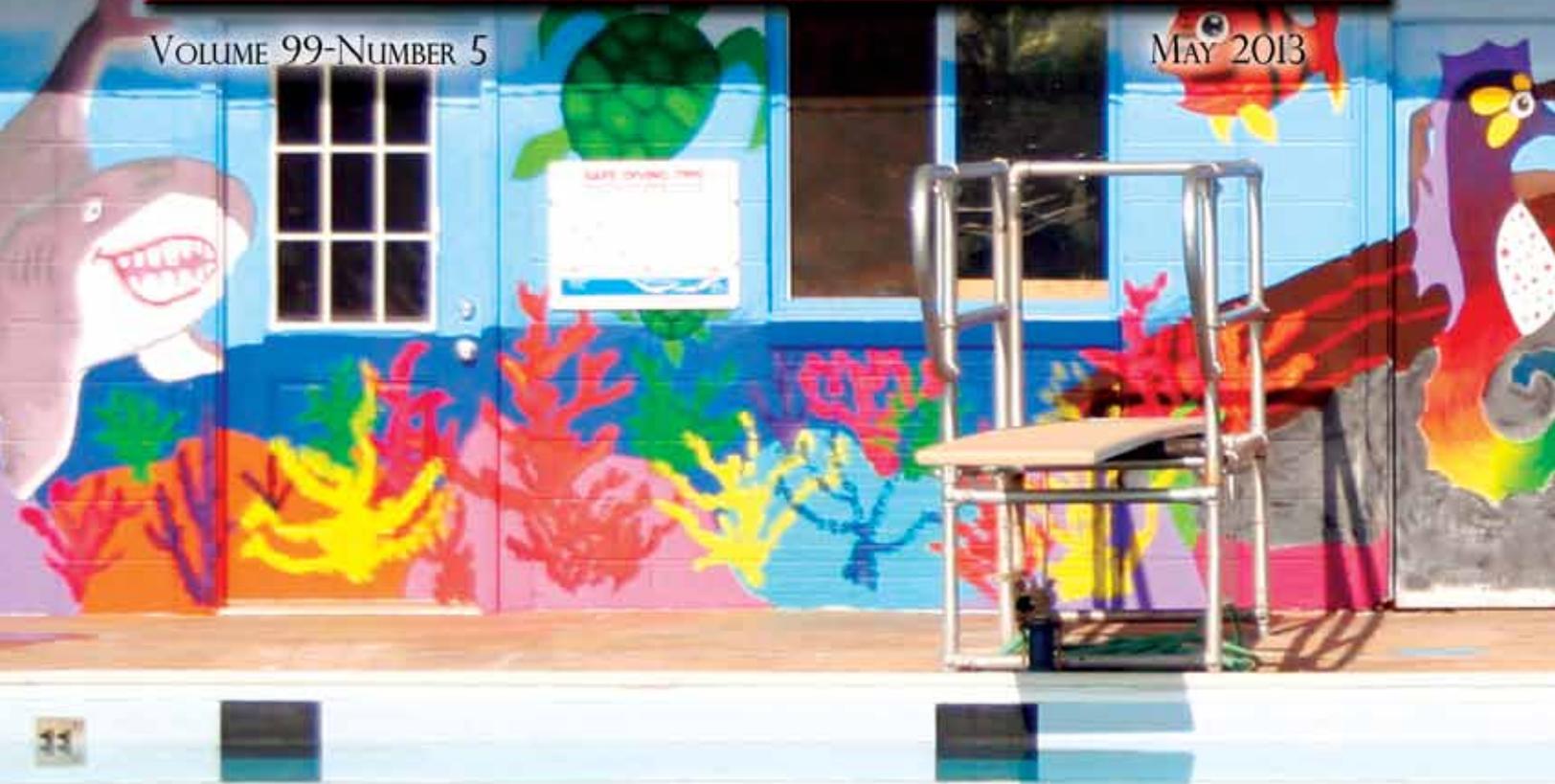


# Kansas

GOVERNMENT JOURNAL

VOLUME 99-NUMBER 5

MAY 2013



**Inside:**  
**All Schools Day**  
**Lecompton Pride**  
**A Kansan Safari**



## Dion Avello

Mayor - City of Derby



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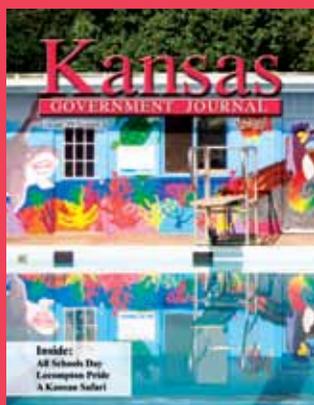
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About the Cover:  
Cheney High School art students painted a mural of an underwater scene on the pool house. See related article, *Volunteers Galore*, beginning on page 139. Photo provided by the City of Cheney.

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## July

4 - Independence Day

## August

17 - MLA: KOMA/KORA, Hutchinson

23 - MLA: KOMA/KORA, Emporia

24 - MLA: KOMA/KORA, Merriam

## Obituaries

John Cochran, 80, died May 2, 2013. John graduated from Washburn University School of Law in 1959 and opened his own law firm. He was a devoted judge for 25 years in Gardner and Baldwin City. John enjoyed a long, successful law career practicing throughout Johnson from 1959-2003. He was one of the founders of Santa Fe Trail State Bank in Merriam and developed two real estate sub divisions in Shawnee Mission and Gardner.

William E. Ernst died March 16, 2013, in Wahoo, Nebraska. Bill was the Mayor of Lenora for 6 years during the 1990's during which he spearheaded major improvements in the water and wastewater systems and a housing grant for the City. He was the Plant Manager at Rural Telephone and later worked for Wilde Construction in Minnesota, retiring in 2001. Ernst was a member of the VFW, American Legion, and the Knights of Columbus. He very much enjoyed growing things, projects, roses, and children.

John Eyer, 60, died May 7 at Salina Regional Health Center. Eyer served as Washington County Attorney for 12 years. He also served as a district magistrate judge for Republic County since 1999. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge No. 129 AF & AM in Belleville, the Kansas Bar Association, and the Kansas District Magistrate Judges Association.

Jess E. Stewart, 87, a lifetime resident of Wamego, Kansas passed away Saturday, March 30, 2013. He was born April 25, 1925, graduated from Wamego High School, and served in the US Navy during WWII. Following the war, Stewart attended the University of Kansas and graduated in 1948. He continued his education graduating with honors from Worsham College of Mortuary Arts. He returned to Wamego to operate the J.E. Stewart & Sons Hardware and Furniture and Stewart Funeral Home. He served in several positions in the Wamego community and for the State of Kansas. He was elected the youngest mayor of Wamego and was elected President of the Wamego Unified School District No. 320 Board of Education. After retirement he returned to his home town, Wamego and was appointed by Governor Robert Docking to the State of Kansas Board of Regents and served on the board for eight years, two of which he served as chairman.

Jay D. Swanson, 80, died Monday, April 29, 2013. After graduating from University of Oklahoma, Swanson was called into service by the US Air Force. He began his life long career in the oil and gas business, first with Phillips Petroleum and later with David Mud and Chemical. Jay enjoyed many additional business interests and had a true entrepreneur spirit. He was a public servant serving as Mayor of Eastborough and was deeply involved with the Republican Party.



# DID YOU KNOW?

by Kimberly Winn



Did you know that Chetopa is the Pecan Capital of Kansas? Founded along the Neosho river in 1857 (incorporation date March 30, 1968), Chetopa has long been recognized for its fishing. Indeed, the community has been called the Catfish Capital of Kansas.



But, on April 9, 2002, the Kansas Legislature adopted a resolution declaring Chetopa to be the Pecan Capital of Kansas. Pecans from Chetopa are known nationwide for their unique flavor.

K-State operates a pecan experimental field in the area.

And, the City hosts an annual Pecan Fest, held on the third Saturday each November.

A stone memorial in city park explains the founding of the City of Chetopa: "Dedicated to the courageous pioneers who endured extreme hardships developing this townsite which was founded in 1857 by Dr. George Lisle. The town was named in honor of his friend, "Chetopa," an Osage war chief. In 1863, during the Civil War, Chetopa was burned to the ground with active rebuilding in 1866."

For more information about the City of Chetopa, visit <http://www.chetopacity.com/> or <http://www.chetopachamber.org/>



If you have a story that you think should be shared in this column, email LKM Deputy Director Kimberly Winn at [kwinn@lkm.org](mailto:kwinn@lkm.org).



## Three Cities Receive CDBG funds

The Kansas Department of Commerce announced that Beloit, Concordia, and Junction City will share a total of \$662,193 in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for downtown commercial rehabilitation projects. The grant funds will be matched with \$341,703 of private investment.

The purpose of the CDBG program is to develop viable communities by providing adequate and affordable housing, suitable living environments, and expanding economic opportunities, particularly for persons of low and moderate income. The Business and Community Development Division of the Department administers the CDBG Program in the non-metropolitan areas of the state.

Downtown Commercial Rehabilitation is a new initiative of the CDBG program that helps communities to improve the quality of their downtown districts by assisting private property owners with the rehabilitation of blighted buildings and with the expansion of economic activity in the revitalized commercial structure. The intended outcome of the investment of grant funds in key buildings with historic or architectural significance is to reverse the cycle of blight and encourage adjacent property owners to improve their buildings.

For more information, contact Terry Marlin in the Business and Community Development Division of the Kansas Department of Commerce at (785) 296-4703, or e-mail [tmarlin@kansascommerce.com](mailto:tmarlin@kansascommerce.com).

## Governor's Weight Loss Challenge Winners

Kansas Governor Sam Brownback announced that the first- and second-place winning teams in the Governor's Weight Loss Challenge are "Wolf Pack" of the Kansas Department of Corrections and "Ft. Scott Finishers" of the Kansas Department of Transportation.

Wolf Pack won \$5,000 (\$1,000 for each member) for coming in first with a total weight loss of 19.02%. Ft. Scott Finishers won \$2,500 (\$500 a person) at a close second with 18.98% total weight loss. Additionally, David Bruton, a member of the team "Forestry, Fish and Game" from Kansas Forest Service, won \$1,000 for losing the highest percentage of individual weight.

Wolf Pack members include Dave Vennell, Tommy Blankenship, Ashley Wilson, Karen Chmidling, and Dara Heineken. Ft. Scott Finishers are Norval Schnichels, Roy

Widmar, John Clark, Charles Clay, and Don Coffman.

Governor Brownback also held a drawing to award the remainder of the \$44,500 prize money to 37 of the 162 state employee teams that lost a higher percentage of weight than the Governor's team. Teams did not need to be present at the event to win. The following sponsors made the monetary prizes possible: Coventry Health Care, UnitedHealth Group, and Kansas Beverage Association.

The Governor's Weight Loss Challenge ran from January 15 to May 15, with 1,026 teams of five competing against the Governor's team, which included Transportation Secretary Mike King, Labor Secretary Lana Gordon, Commerce Secretary Pat George and Kansas Adjutant General Lee Tafanelli. A total of 44,409 pounds were lost in the competition.

## Wichita Base Selected for New Tanker

The U.S. Air Force selected McConnell Air Force Base in Wichita as the first active-duty operating facility for a new generation of air refueling tankers, the Kansas congressional delegation reported.

McConnell is scheduled to begin receiving the first of three dozen KC-46As in 2016 to replace the Eisenhower-era KC-135R tanker aircraft. Nearly \$200 million will be invested in upgrading facilities at the base.

McConnell and Forbes Field in Topeka were finalists among U.S. facilities to receive the advanced aircraft, but the Kansas bases were competing in separate categories. While McConnell won the active-duty operational mission, Forbes lost to Pease Air Force Base in New Hampshire to be the first Air National Guard facility to get upgraded tankers.

## Olathe Awarded APWA Reaccreditation

The City of Olathe's Public Works Department was recently awarded a second prestigious American Public Works Association (APWA) Reaccreditation. The APWA Reaccreditation program recognizes public works agencies that go beyond the management practices requirements established nationally in the public works industry.

The Olathe Public Works Department previously received original Accreditation in July 2004, and Reaccreditation in January 2009. The Department's second APWA Reaccreditation was awarded this April 2013.

"The second APWA Reaccreditation shows that the Public Works Department and staff have rededicated ourselves to concepts of continuous improvement and in-

depth self-assessment of department policies, procedures and practices," said Public Works Director Ron Norris. "I'm proud of our staff who provide a high level of dedication and service to our mission."

The Olathe Public Works Department consists of seven areas of primary responsibility, including Administration, Planning Services, Infrastructure Management, Field Operations, Environmental Services, Solid Waste, and Strategic Services. "The Public Works Department is committed to enhance the quality of life for the residents of Olathe by being one of the national leaders of quality public works services," Norris said.

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# McPherson County All Schools Day



*100 years of  
celebrating our students*



## Partnership, Cooperation Keep All Schools Day Going for 100 years

*By Anne Hassler*

Over the course of the 100-year history of McPherson County All Schools Day (ASD), delegations from different cities and counties would come to the celebration to determine “how McPherson does it.” They hoped to start something similar in their own communities, but ASD to this day remains a uniquely McPherson County event.

How McPherson “does it” is with the cooperation and dedication of hundreds of volunteers over the years, a city and school district that are supportive with both time and resources, and businesses that give generously to help offset the expenses. Long-time carnival and concessions chair Mike Rausch describes it as a community effort.

“Things just happen that we (the All Schools Day committee) aren’t even aware of, but someone steps forward and fills that role every year,” Rausch said.

He recalls approaching a local funeral home for a donation one year only to be told that they open up their facility so that visiting bands could change after the parade before heading to the carnival every year.

“I said thank you very much and didn’t ask for a donation again. Everyone steps up and does their part,” he said.

All Schools Day began in 1914 after County School Superintendent I.C. Myer approached local businessmen to sponsor a graduation ceremony for all of the graduating eighth grade students in McPherson County. At the time, there were 123 different country schools outside of the city of McPherson and delivering diplomas to all of the graduates was an arduous task. Myer hoped one central ceremony would help give recognition to the students as well.

McPherson business leaders stepped up in grand fashion and what started with a simple ceremony and banquet quickly grew to

include a May Queen, May Fete with May Pole winding, a parade and student track and field competition.

By 1969 consolidation had decreased the number of school districts in McPherson County to just five districts. The celebration continued though with students and education still at the heart of the festivities. The reason for the celebration probably best explains its success and longevity. McPherson is recognized as an academic leader. USD 418 was the first school district in the United States to receive a waiver from No Child Left Behind. When the C3 initiative was approved, emphasis was put on Citizenship, College, and Career readiness with the ACT test used as a standard of measurement. The community still celebrates students’ accomplishments whether it be academic, athletic, or the arts.



USD 418 Superintendent Dr. Randy Watson has found the community willing to step forward and help whether it be academic, athletic, or simply needing coats or supplies for students in need.

“It’s not just support financially. Many districts have a tense relationship with their city, but not here. There’s a sense of cooperation, let’s get this thing done,” Watson said.

To break down what resources are needed to put on such a large scale festival is difficult to pinpoint. The McPherson Parks Department maintains 14 different parks that all need to be mowed and ready to go for the celebration. Paul Katzer, Parks Superintendent said it’s not unusual for his employees to get in 20 hours of overtime in the weeks leading up to All Schools Day. In addition to mowing, the Parks Department moves benches and bleachers into place and places trash cans where needed.

Retired Assistant Police Chief Ken Gent served on the ASD Committee for eight years and he best describes the week as “controlled chaos.”

For the parade, Main Street is shut down for 12 blocks for 7 hours on a Friday. Traffic on Highway 56 is diverted during the parade as well. The Police Department has every available officer on duty for the day. The Police Department also provides security at May Fete and the Madathon.

Police Chief Robert McClarty said they do see an increase in thefts during All Schools Day week, but the opportunity to showcase the community to so many visitors is worth the additional work.

The Fire Department has units posted on each side of Main Street should a call arise during the parade. Fire Captain Wade Hall operates the Department’s motorized Patches and Pumper to entertain children along the parade route.

The City’s Street Department is up early to block off streets and helps put out chairs for the local senior center. The Street Department also repaints crosswalks on Main Street the week before the parade.

“I’m not aware of any request that the All Schools Day Committee has made that the City hasn’t granted,” Katzer said. He has worked for the Park Department since 1979.

The festival also receives assistance in promoting and organizing float entries from the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB). In 2013 the CVB sponsored and put together a 100-page book that was sold through their office and raised close to \$25,000 for the All Schools Day Committee. The CVB also sponsored a 30’x16’ mural in honor of the 100th anniversary.



Top far left: The 2013 All School Days commemorative mural in the 100 block of S. Main St.

Right: McPherson Police provide security along the parade route.

Bottom: Various floats from previous All Schools Day parades. Photos provided by the City of McPherson.

All of the work is worth it, though, as more than 40,000 people line Main Street for the parade. The county’s total population is approximately 17,000 so there are many out-of-town visitors that come to town for the festivities. While here, they shop, eat at local restaurants, stay in hotels, or fill up their cars. It’s a tremendous boost to the local economy.

McPherson Mayor Tom Brown sees All Schools Day as more than just an economic opportunity, but an example of why McPherson as a community is so successful.

“You can’t have an All Schools Day parade without public/private partnerships, volunteerism, and many people coming forward to help. That aspect of working together and accomplishing the end result is really important in a community and All Schools Day is probably the best example we have in the community of that happening,” Brown said.

 Ann Hassler is the Director of the McPherson CVB. She can be reached at [cvb@mcphersonks.org](mailto:cvb@mcphersonks.org).





## The Miracle League of Olathe

The Miracle League of Olathe formed in 2004, with a vision of offering children of all abilities the chance to play baseball. In 2013, the League will have an official home field thanks to a unique community partnership that brings together community organizations, private business, and professional sports.

Olathe Medical Center will donate \$125,000 to the project. Olathe Public Schools is donating the land, and Olathe Parks and Recreation will operate the League. Strickland Construction will assist in the construction of the field. These original partners are joined by other community organizations such as Hollis and Miller, Payne and Brockway, MidAmerica Nazarene University, Olathe Chamber of Commerce, Kansas City Royals Charities, Variety of Kansas City, and the Cal

Ripken, Sr. Foundation who have all come forward with financial and fundraising support.

“To bring the community together for such a unique project is what Olathe is about,” said Eric Hughes, Miracle League Board President. “This is the right project at the right time and we are thrilled to partner with our local community, the Royals Charities, Variety of KC and the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation.”

The field is scheduled to begin construction this summer with a fall 2013 completion. The goal is to throw the first pitch during the spring 2014 season. Funds are still needed to complete the project. Contact Olathe Public Schools Assistant Superintendent Erin Dugan at (913) 780-8037 for more information.

## Every Drop Makes an Impact

City of Wichita officials announced the start of a revamped water conservation program, Every Drop Makes An Impact. The purpose of the program is to increase awareness of water supply challenges and provide residents with the tools they need to make a difference. Residents are encouraged to visit [www.SaveWichitaWater.com](http://www.SaveWichitaWater.com) to find updates in several categories outlined below.

**Rebate Program** Residents can download an application to receive rebates on appliances and rain barrels that meet certain guidelines outlined on the website. The \$1 million dollar program will be administered on a first-come, first-served basis until the fund dries up or until December 31.

**Wichita Water Watch.** This weekly video segment on Cox Cable Channel 7 will provide an update on how much water the community is using, changes in Cheney Reservoir water

levels, the drought status, rebate program updates, and a water conservation tip of the week. The Wichita Water Watch will also be made available on [www.SaveWichitaWater.com](http://www.SaveWichitaWater.com), YouTube and the City’s Facebook and Twitter sites.

**Water conservation tips.** The tips make it simple for residents to learn how to conserve water while saving money.

**City of Wichita Internal Conservation Plan.** Residents can learn about the steps the City is taking to save water.

Despite spring rains, Cheney Reservoir levels are significantly lower than normal and Wichita remains in a drought. Water conservation is a powerful tool for not only helping Cheney recover from the drought, but for delaying the need for expensive new sources of supply in the future. Residents are encouraged to continue conserving water both during the drought and afterwards.

## Lawrence Gets Grant to Renovate Train Depot

NetWork Kansas has awarded Johnson County, the City of Parsons, and the City of Wichita with community-level economic gardening engagements through the statewide Kansas Economic Gardening Network. These community applications will support at least 16 economic gardening engagements worth more than \$56,000 with second-stage businesses.

NetWork Kansas launched a second round of economic gardening engagements in October 2012 with the Economic Gardening Community Application. Kansas communities can apply for one of nine openings in the program that will be awarded matching funds to sponsor the cost of economic gardening services for high-growth businesses in their area.

NetWork Kansas closed its pilot economic gardening program in 2012. The program was funded in part by USDA Rural Development and included 28 second-stage businesses in rural Kansas. In one year, participating companies increased annual revenues by a total of more than \$22 million, a 25.9% increase. These companies

also increased net employment by 165 full-time positions (a 29% increase) and 24 part-time positions (a 32% increase).

According to Carolyn Kennett, Economic Development Director for the City of Parsons, economic gardening is a valuable tool to help communities compete in a challenging economic environment.

“The services provided by the economic gardening program can identify market trends, potential partners, and data-based industry resources that can give our businesses an advantage for success,” said Kennett.

A partnership between the Wichita Technology Corporation and the City of Wichita facilitated the Wichita application.

“We are very excited about the opportunity to bring the resources of two nationally recognized programs to Wichita,” said Patricia Brasted, president, Wichita Technology Corporation. “Economic gardening and Innovation Engineering will be made available through our pilot program to several entrepreneurial growth companies in Wichita to enhance their growth and success.”

# Volunteers Galore

By Danielle Young



Slide at the pool in Cheney. *Photo provided by Times Sentinel Newspaper in Cheney.*

Cheney, Kansas population 2,094 sits in the far western section of Sedgwick County. It is positioned two miles south of Highway 54 and to most, it is viewed as a small thriving community. Few people have probably ever taken the 383rd Street Exit into Cheney unless searching for a popular destination, like a high school sporting

event, Lubbers Chevrolet or Ford, or visiting the Sedgwick County Fair. But, if you were to take that narrow county blacktop two miles south, you would find a quiet community full of pride and volunteers. And, these volunteers are making things happen in this wonderful community.

## Community Service Day

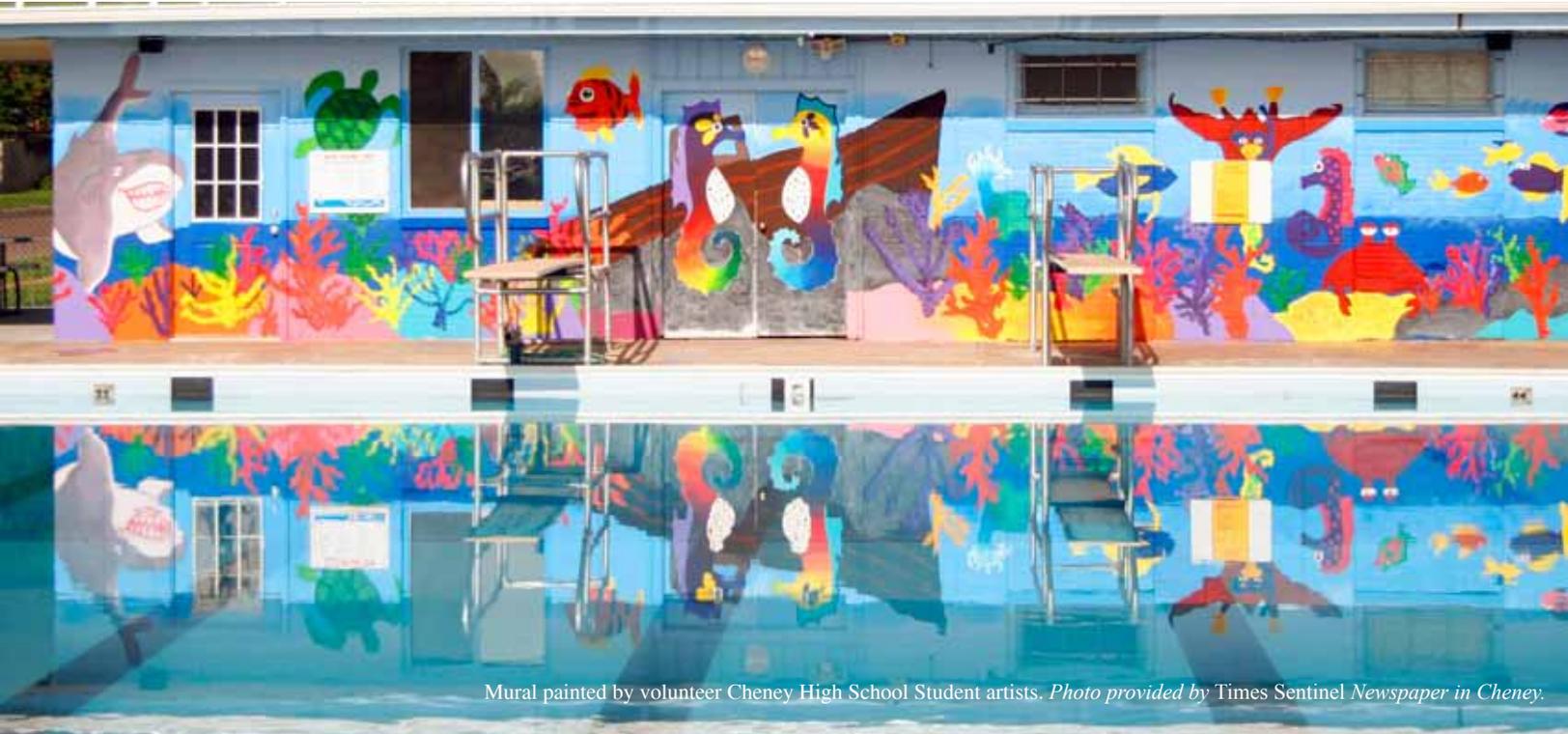
About 10 years ago, the City of Cheney and Cheney schools partnered together to help make Cheney a better community. Each spring junior high and high school students participate in Community Service Day. This day has been beneficial in helping the City complete large projects that would otherwise not be

possible without the help of several volunteers. The day also gives the students a sense of community pride as they can be proud of accomplishing these tasks.

Students have helped complete several projects over the years, such as painting house numbers on curbs, painting fire hydrants, scraping and painting historical buildings at Souders Museum, completing projects at the Sedgwick County Fairgrounds and Cheney State Park, painting at the Senior Center, and doing yard work at churches and private homes. Each year the students pick trash up along the roadways leading into town and they also paint a 3,200 ft. long pipe fence around the City's 18-hole golf course.

In 2012, students helped City staff landscape a large area around a new concrete "Cheney" sign located on Highway 54. The project included planting trees, shrubs, laying a large area of weed barrier, and spreading five dump truck loads of cedar mulch.

This past year, Cheney High School art students created an underwater scene and painted the mural on the 1950's concrete block pool house. City staff contacted art teacher Shawny Montgomery early in the school year to see about completing the mural. High school art students put together a sketch of an underwater scene which included a sunken boat, seahorses, shark, and a snorkeling Cheney Cardinal. Artists graced the concession stand area on the south side of the bathhouse with the presence of a giant purple octopus holding snacks. Although the project took longer to complete than just the normal four hours on Community Service Day, students were glad to volunteer extra time to make sure the mural was completed. The mural has not only brought character to the pool, but has given the students something to be proud of and community members something to enjoy.



Mural painted by volunteer Cheney High School Student artists. *Photo provided by Times Sentinel Newspaper in Cheney.*

### Street Signs

Cheney High School students were also instrumental in helping create new street signs for the west side of town. The original signs were 40-year old painted metal signs that were becoming hard to read. In March 2012, the City asked high school teacher Todd Hague if high school students would be interested in helping create 67 replacement street signs. Hague stated, "It's a cool thing, I think, for us to do something we can take some ownership in. We were also able to save the City some money by making them ourselves." After researching the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* specifications, details for the signs were finalized, and aluminum sign blanks were ordered. Cheney High School students then used a laser engraver to cut out the letters for each street name. They then placed the cut vinyl letters on the blank aluminum signs. (The laser engraver is also used by students to create license plates, which are sold by the Cardinal Booster Club.) The street sign project was then finished by Nic Molyneux, who erected each new sign on a bracket for his Eagle Scout project.

### Make A Difference Day

Since beginning in 1993, Make A Difference Day has held a basket auction and served hamburgers and hotdogs, Art's and Mary's chips, and cookies as a way to make a difference in the community. A free will donation for the supper is given to the Cheney Emergency Fund, which helps Cheney families and individuals in need. Baskets are donated by local businesses and individuals and then auctioned off to the highest bidder. Over the past 20 years, the event has raised money to build a kitchen and bathroom, install an air conditioner, purchase new tables and chairs, and install a sound system at the Farm Bureau Building on the Sedgwick County Fairgrounds.

Money has stayed local by purchasing a new digital sign on Main Street, helping the Cheney High School Student Council purchase presents for those in need, and helping the library with their construction project. But, funds have also reached out beyond Cheney and gone towards Hurricane Disaster Relief, the Wichita Salvation Army, and the Red Cross.



City park in Cheney. *Photo provided by Times Sentinel Newspaper in Cheney.*

In 2007, the Committee took it upon themselves to revamp Budd Park, located a half block off of Main Street. Over four years, the event raised \$19,218.88 from their event alone. They solicited over \$10,000 in donations from local businesses and individuals. They also raised money by selling 88 engraved bricks and creating a "Kids in the Kitchen" cookbook of favorite recipes submitted by kids and grandparents in the community. Throughout their efforts and donations, Make A Difference was able to raise \$34,766.45, which was enough money to purchase new playground equipment, including a new teeter totter, handicap swing, pour a concrete sidewalk around the perimeter, and lay the engraved bricks. The City of Cheney was able to help complete the project by applying for and being awarded KDHE Waste Tire Mulch Grant, which paid for 50% of the \$25,477 worth of rubber mulch. In total, the City was able to receive over \$60,000 in park improvements for less than \$13,000. The project was successful because of the donations and generosity of citizens and businesses and would not have otherwise been completed.

Pavilion in Cheney. *Photo provided by Times Sentinel Newspaper in Cheney.*



### Golf Course Improvements

The City of Cheney takes pride in their municipal 18-hole golf course, Cherry Oaks, and it is evident that their citizens share the same pride. In 2005, the City took over the management of the course and construction on the back nine of Cherry Oaks began. Since then, volunteers have donated time and money to complete vital projects on the course.

In 2013, concrete was poured and 12 new driving range mats found a new home at Cherry Oaks. The entire project was funded through local sponsorships. The project was completed just in time for Kansas high school golfers to use during the 3A Regional Golf and 4A State Golf Championship Tournament.

A local committee, Friends of Cherry Oaks, holds an annual golf tournament which helps fund golf course improvements. Since 2005, over \$150,000 has been raised through the golf tournament and has provided funds to plant over 200 trees, build a pavilion, make clubhouse improvements, continue landscaping around tee boxes, and concrete cart paths on the back nine. Not only have donations funded the concrete cart paths, but volunteers have helped lay the many feet of concrete. Committee member John Mies noted “There’s no way we could do these kinds of improvements without private input into the course. What makes this happen is the generosity of the community.” Other private donations total over \$30,000 in improvements and have been used for bridges, a scoreboard, concrete wall, and landscaping. All improvements have been completed with not only donated funds, but also donated time and labor from volunteers dedicated to making Cherry Oaks a destination golf course.

### Veteran’s Memorial

Six brick walls create a semi-circle behind the Howitzer Cannon in Veteran’s Park along Main Street in Cheney. On those walls, more than 400 names of Cheney area veterans are engraved in granite. Flagpoles with the various branches of the U.S. military fly in the background. American Legion Post 295 proposed constructing a memorial in June 2011 and estimated that it would take approximately 3 years to raise the \$30,000. In just 18 months from the birth of the idea, through hard work and determination, the memorial was completed and dedicated on Veteran’s Day November 10, 2012. Legion members received over \$18,000 in personal donations and raised additional money through poker runs and a soup supper. Post 295 Commander Jim Meyer stated, “I get to see a community that has been recognizing their veterans more and more every year. But, this elevates it to the point where we show our appreciation to our past veterans that have been through the great wars. It also gives hope to our future veterans and community of what our country is all about, and that’s freedom to choose whatever we want to do as Americans. I just can’t say enough about the Cheney community.”



Veteran volunteers in Cheney. Photo provided by Times Sentinel Newspaper in Cheney.

### Aluminum Can Fun

After a new swimming pool was voted down by locals, Cheney High School student Trevor Frank had an idea in 2002. If everyone joined together to recycle their aluminum cans, the money could go towards funding a new swimming pool. Since that idea, almost \$18,000 has been raised through recycled aluminum. In 2011, the City of Cheney decided a new pool would not be feasible and asked Frank if the money could be used in another way to improve the pool, so a spiral water slide was purchased. Although recycling amounts have decreased due to curbside recycling, aluminum continues to be cashed in and stashed away for new ideas at the municipal swimming pool. The new pool slide is a constant reminder of how something so small, such as a pop can, can lead to greater improvements.

### Among the Others

There are many additional groups and individuals around Cheney that have their own niche in helping give back. Cheney’s local ESA Chapter- Eta Theta runs the ballgame concession stand to raise funds which are then distributed to local, state, and national charities. Each year Eta Theta gives to St. Jude’s and Heartspring, but in Cheney they help purchase toys for those on the Angel tree and provide funds to the Emergency Fund to purchase food for their Easter meal distribution. Eta Theta also sponsors a Red Cross Blood Drive. The numerous church members and youth groups cannot be overlooked for their volunteer efforts either, as they have completed hours of work at Souders Historical Museum, projects at the Senior Center, and countless other acts of kindness.

Cheney is proud to say it has not only seen a steady growth in population over the past few years, but it has seen an increase in projects being completed through the help of volunteers. Volunteers often come in all shapes and sizes, but in Cheney they come in large quantities.

 Danielle Young is the City Clerk for the City of Cheney. She can be reached at (316) 542-3622.

In May, the League of Kansas Municipalities' (LKM) family was deeply saddened by the loss of two governing body members. Donald "Keith" DeHaven and Jim Sherer each served their communities with distinction.



## Donald "Keith" DeHaven

Donald "Keith" DeHaven, 81, died Friday, May 17, 2013, at Diversicare of Sedgwick. He was born June 6, 1931, at Newton, KS to Lawrence W.

(Dick) and Margaret Elizabeth (Nebergal) DeHaven. He was a lifelong resident of Sedgwick and served as Mayor for 44 years and as a councilman for 6 years. In 2007, he was elected to serve on the Governing Body of the League of Kansas Municipalities and served in that capacity until April of 2013.

DeHaven retired from Boeing after 39 years working his way up to a production manager. He was a member of Plymouth Congregational Church and attended Sedgwick Christian Church. On May 29, 1954, he married Clara May Hall at Newton, KS. She survives at home in Sedgwick. Other survivors include son: Jeff (Brenda) DeHaven, Sedgwick, KS; daughter: Kimberly (Doug) Hague, Benton, KS; brother: Richard DeHaven, Bird City, KS; sister: Barbara Cassil, Newton, KS; grandsons: Zachery (Kortney) DeHaven, Sedgwick, KS; Matthew Hague, Benton, KS; granddaughters: Tiffany DeHaven, Fall River, KS; Morgan (Dan) Sawchuk, and Molly Hague, all of San Francisco, CA.

At his funeral service on May 23, 2013, his grandson concluded the eulogy with the following: "Grandpa, you will be truly missed every day. But it will be alright. You spent a lifetime giving us all we need and more to be alright. And, we know you will always be in our hearts and watching over us. We are very proud of you and we love you. Take care of your new city. You are now Mayor of the City of Angels."



Mayor DeHaven (2007).  
Photo provided by the  
City of Sedgwick.



Above: The DeHaven Family. Photo provided by Jeff DeHaven.



Left: Mayor DeHaven reading the Arbor Day Proclamation to local kids.  
Photo provided by the City of Sedgwick.



Both also served the cities of Kansas on the LKM Governing Body and their leadership will be sorely missed by LKM friends statewide.

## V. James “Jim” Sherer

V. James “Jim” Sherer, died May 21, 2013, at his home in Dodge City. He was born on April 15, 1942, at Canton, Ohio, the son of John H. and Frances G. (Hendrichs) Sherer. Jim was serving as the Immediate Vice President of LKM at the time of his death. He was first elected to the Governing Body in 2008 and served as LKM President in 2012.

Jim married Nancy White on June 9, 1963, in Dodge City. Jim spent 13 years at Dodge City Community College in Administration until 1979. He then served as Executive Director of the Boot Hill Museum from 1979 to 1991, returning to the Community College in 1992 where he spent another 8 years in Administration. In 2000, he became the Director of the Kansas Heritage Center until he retired in 2007.



Nancy and Jim Sherer.

With a servant’s heart, he was elected to the Dodge City Commission in 2004, and served as Mayor from 2006 to 2007. Jim continued to serve as Commissioner until his passing. At his funeral service on May 24, 2013, Jim was remembered for his love and support of Dodge City. He was a true champion for his community. In addition, he was remembered for his other passion, singing. The choir at the funeral service left an empty chair draped with

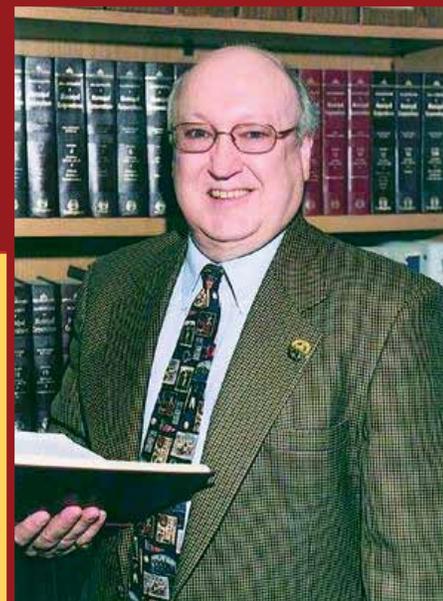


The Sherer family. Photo provided by Nancy Sherer.

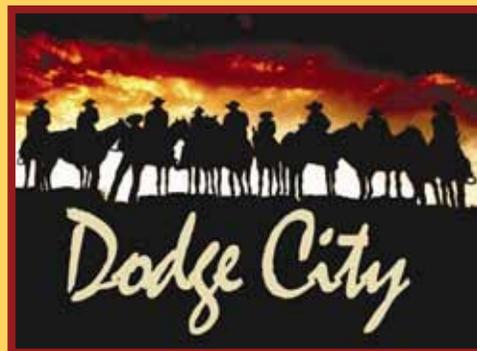
Jim’s choir robe in his memory.

Jim is survived by his wife, Nancy(White) Sherer of the home; daughter, Kristin(Sherer) Miller and husband

Christopher of Manhattan; son, Dr. Ryan Sherer and wife Dr. Rachele (Woods) Sherer of Huntingburg, IN; son, Tyler Sherer of San Diego, CA; and daughter, Kerri Kannady and husband Chad of Fort Jackson, SC; grandchildren, Cale Miller, Alexandra Miller, and Emma Miller; Evalyn Sherer, Wyatt Sherer, Dorothy Sherer, and Ruth Sherer; Cooper Sherer and Charlotte Sherer; Caden Kannady, Patrick Kannady, and Abigail Kannady; siblings, Jack Sherer and wife Mei-Yi, Kathy Sherer Worley, Dave and Mucrita Sherer. He was preceded in death by his father, John H. Sherer and his mother, Frances G. (Hendrichs) Sherer.



Bill Cosby poses after being sworn in as an honorary Marshal of Dodge City. L-R Miss Kitty(Alicia Thompson), Senator Pat Roberts, Bill Cosby, Jim Sherer, and Marshal Brent Harris.



# Taking Pride In Lecompton

*By Sandy Jacquot*

Lecompton's story is one of how the Kansas Pride program can have a positive effect on a small community. A little over one year ago, a small group of citizens went to the Lecompton governing body with a proposal for the use of the vacant former Historic Lecompton High School, built in 1927, as a potential community building. A bit of historical perspective is in order to understand how the citizens got to that point.

The three-story brick high school closed in 1970, with Lecompton students being sent to the Perry-Lecompton High School in Perry, Kansas. Many reading this article can empathize with the angst caused by the closing of the school. The details are unimportant to this article, but the City ultimately came to own the building, and leased it to an interlocal educational organization for a few years. When that organization was done with the building it came back to the City of Lecompton in 2011.

Like many cities that own old high schools, the question became how to utilize the building or how to get it sold. Maintenance on such old schools is quite costly. After only one offer to lease or purchase the school, which became quite controversial, the citizen group came forward and the City Council gave its approval for the group to go forward.

After discussions about how to organize, the group decided to form a Community Pride Committee, a program associated with Kansas State Research and Extension and the Kansas Department of Commerce. Trudy Rice, from Kansas Pride, came to Lecompton in June of 2012 to facilitate a community strategic planning meeting attended by about 55 citizens in the third floor auditorium of the school, where the air conditioning was less than robust. But, people from the entire community, both inside and outside the city limits, stayed to talk about their vision for Lecompton and what they would like to see happen, not just in the high school, but in the overall community.

It was a bold step and no one knew what to expect. But a dedicated group, growing to about 30 people, each having his or her own vision, has accomplished what no one could have foreseen a year ago. The most amazing thing is the number of volunteers that continue to donate time, money, and other support to the effort. It is truly a community undertaking and has provided a community focus that had not been seen in some years.

Many preliminary meetings occurred over several months. Bylaws were adopted, officers selected, and a plan for fundraising was developed. The goals of the fundraising are to pay for the ongoing maintenance and utilities on the high school building, so the public at large does not have to support the building, and to try to raise enough money to make building improvements.

The fund-raising became a two-pronged strategy. First, activities were planned for which the public could attend for a donation. Of course the goal of each activity is to raise money, but also to provide something fun for the community.

The second prong was to set up a fund with the Douglas County Community Foundation where individuals could send donations that are tax deductible. There are approximately 10 to 12 individuals who make regular donations to the fund. When money is needed from that fund, the request is made and a check comes from the Foundation to the City of Lecompton for whatever prompted the withdrawal. If a Pride Committee does not become a Section 501c(3) tax-exempt entity, associating with a Community Foundation is an excellent way to provide a tax-exempt method for individuals to donate money. Lecompton Pride received a grant from the Foundation, which is being used for improvements to the high school and to purchase necessary items, such as folding tables for the various events.

Each member of Pride had ideas for fundraisers and soon the first bingo and chili feed was held in September of 2012. Approximately 140 people were served and about 100 stayed to play bingo. That first fundraiser was a rousing success, and the community wholeheartedly embraced the gathering. Building on that success and the vast space in the high school, led to the Haunted High, a haunted house taking up the entire second floor of the school, that pulled in about 40 volunteers, many of them high school students. (A word of caution about haunted houses – be prepared to purchase an additional special event insurance rider to cover the risk. “Haunted house” is a red flag to insurance companies.) In retrospect, the haunted house was way too much work to only open it for one weekend, so it has been expanded this year to cover two weekends. With the planning well underway for 2013, the Haunted High may become the event not to miss in Northeast Kansas.

The next big fundraiser was a Christmas play, reception, and lighting of the holiday decorations, with a special visit from



Santa. The play was sold out and a second performance was added. That definitely is on the schedule again this year, and quite likely a couple of performances will be scheduled. By far the biggest money raising event, but also the most work, was the rummage sale held in March of this year. The key to the success of these events is that the Pride member who is passionate about a particular event takes on the task of organizing and marshaling volunteers. In Lecompton's case, the events often have different groups of people who make them successful.

In conjunction with the big fundraisers, an idea was hatched to offer various types of classes. The most successful have been the children's dance classes on Wednesday night for kindergarten through 8th grade, and the adult Zumba classes twice per week. Parents have been very supportive and pleased to have a quality dance program locally, saving them a drive to Lawrence or Topeka. The dance recital was just held, attended by many proud parents, grandparents, and others. The Zumba classes are quite popular and have a consistent attendance. These classes have provided a steady stream of revenue and have allowed the Pride Committee to make improvements to the building. In addition, a tee-shirt quilt class was held one weekend and now a group of folks who like to sew, gets together once per month in the building for socialization and sewing. Several senior service offerings have also been held, such as Medicare enrollment.

In the last year, two rooms on the first floor have been renovated with new paint and carpeting to provide space for a lounge and a library. Each of these spaces is staffed by volunteers about 25 hours per week. The furnishings have totally come from donations, as have the books in the library. An anonymous donor paid for the replacement of one large air conditioner that cools the community room on the ground floor. This room is beginning to be regularly rented out for graduation parties, showers, and other activities. Just completed was the installation of two new five-ton air conditioners that cool the auditorium. Much painting has been done, not to mention all of the cleaning, and an individual has been hired to clean restrooms twice per month.

Two additional exciting opportunities have arisen for the historic school. First, a film company is using the building for several months this summer to make a film on bullying. That will result in some additional improvements to the building and will generate some income in the summer. The second big undertaking is a

fund-raising campaign, "Dream, Believe, Achieve," to renovate the auditorium and bring it back to its previous glory. That will entail the purchase of a new curtain for the stage, refinishing wood floors, the replacement of three large windows, and wall repair and painting. If money is no object the auditorium committee would like to fix the footlights as well. The Pride Committee has lofty expectations for the future use of the auditorium, including a premier showing of the film being made in the building.

While the focus of Lecompton Pride has been on preserving the high school, there have been discussions of other kinds of community improvements. Some would like to improve our park and purchase new playground equipment, while some would like to start a community garden. Hopefully, those types of projects can move forward in the future. The challenge going forward will be to nurture the enthusiasm and maintain volunteers over time. Currently, Lecompton Pride meets the second and fourth Monday of each month, although that may decrease during the summer. It seems there are always decisions to be made, projects to schedule, and fun to be had.

Lecompton has a very rich historical heritage, drawing thousands of people each year to the community to tour Constitution Hall and the Lecompton Territorial Capital Museum. The maintenance and renovation of the Historic High School by the Lecompton Pride Committee fits well with Lecompton's national historical significance. It has provided a place for the community to gather and, more importantly, is preserving yet another piece of Lecompton history.

So, to any group of citizens or city officials wanting to improve their communities, the Kansas Pride program is a great way to provide structure, assistance, and focus for the effort. It takes interested citizens, a supportive city governing body, and quite a bit of determination. But, the results can be rewarding and make a lasting difference in the community. No community is too small to undertake projects that can have a positive impact and no community should assume it cannot be successful. What Lecompton has accomplished in one short year could never have been foreseen. For more information, like us on Facebook, Lecompton Community Pride, or visit our website at [www.lecomptoncommunitypride.org](http://www.lecomptoncommunitypride.org).

 *Sandy Jacjuot is the Mayor of the City of Lecompton. She can be reached at [lecomptoncommunitypride@gmail.com](mailto:lecomptoncommunitypride@gmail.com).*



## Upgrading Your City's Bond Rating

James Carville once said, "I used to think if there was reincarnation, I wanted to come back as the president or the pope or a .400 baseball hitter. But now I want to come back as the bond market. You can intimidate everybody."<sup>1</sup> Carville made this statement in reference to the market for government debt, and he was not exaggerating its importance. Bonds are the primary source of long-term debt for most governments, including municipalities which use them to finance buildings, roads, bridges, utility improvements, and other projects. Those projects depend on the willingness of traders to buy the bonds, and their willingness generally depends on the bonds' credit rating.

If a city receives a high bond rating from a major agency like Fitch or Moody's, it can borrow more easily and local taxpayers pay lower interest while servicing the debt. Unfortunately, recent events have made these investments less appealing. The recession strained municipal budgets, damaging their credit. Detroit is flirting with bankruptcy, prompting investors to sell their bonds and to question whether other distressed cities may also default. The U.S. Congress is considering ending the tax exemption for interest earned on municipal bonds, which would make them even less profitable to traders. In this environment, it's critical that officials do everything in their power to make their bonds attractive to investors and ensure their cities can finance necessary projects.<sup>2</sup>

A municipality's first priority should be cooperating with the rating agency. City officials should provide the agency with timely information, communicate openly year round and respond quickly to inquiries. For presentations, the governing body should demonstrate its support for the issuance by familiarizing themselves with the data. When summarizing financial and demographic information, the city should highlight its strengths and explain the strategies being used to resolve its shortcomings.<sup>3</sup>

The rate at which a municipality repays its debt is also important. A more rapid rate of retirement can indicate more willingness to pay, resulting in a credit upgrade (and vice versa). Also, the daily spending controls in place during the payoff period, as well as the city's policies on spending growth, use of surpluses, and shortfall contingency plans all affect the bond rating.<sup>4</sup>

Agencies are putting more emphasis on cash funded debt service reserve funds rather than insurance deals. While they used to only require an affordable insurance policy to secure a city's annual debt payment, many now want cities to set aside money in a service fund until the obligation is completely retired. Officials should also maintain a healthy ratio of tax revenues to expenditures, low general obligation debt per capita, and keep the general fund balance at about 5 to 10% of revenues.<sup>5</sup>

Credit can be improved by eliminating financial vulnerabilities. This may mean ending services that have proven expensive or difficult to budget, such as a nursing home or hospital. Litigation is another potential vulnerability. Local governments can mitigate the risk of lawsuits by adopting smart personnel policies, providing up-to-date trainings to their employees, and hiring competent legal staff.<sup>6</sup>

Management is another important factor. Several studies indicate that hiring a professional manager can improve a city's bond rating.<sup>7</sup> If a local government doesn't employ a manager, it should make sure it has smart budgeting, investment, and economic development policies that balance the demands for services with the needs of taxpayers.



Utilities can impact ratings as well. Agencies reward municipalities that are willing to transfer funds from utilities to make up for budget shortfalls. If a local government uses utility cash to help its general fund, they prefer these transfers be based on a formula so that the flows are viewed as ongoing. Another utility issue is deregulation, which can hurt a city's credit by significantly reducing taxable resources and user-generated revenues.<sup>8</sup>

Municipal governments have only limited control over many other factors impacting a city's bond rating, including the community's earnings per worker, the diversity of the regions' businesses, unemployment, assessed value per capita, and the strength of the area's largest employer.<sup>9</sup> However, knowing your community is deficient in these areas should signal that your local government needs to put extra effort into improving the factors within its control. Once your city embraces upgrading its credit rating, you'll have less reason to be intimidated by the bond market.

<sup>1</sup>Wall Street Journal Staff. (1993, February 25). Wall Street Journal, p. A1.

<sup>2</sup>Chappatta, B. and Braun, M. (2013, June 17). Detroit Recovery Plan Threatens Underpinnings of Muni Market. Businessweek.com. Retrieved May 30, 2013 from <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2013-06-17/detroit-recovery-plan-threatens-underpinnings-of-muni-market>.

<sup>3</sup>SCML Staff. (September 2012). Struggling economy leads to some changes with credit rating agencies. Uptown, p. 12.

<sup>4</sup>Lipnick, L.H., Rattner, Y., and Ebrahim, L. (1999, December). The Determinants of Municipal Credit Quality. Government Finance Review, p. 35-39.

<sup>5</sup>Lipnick (1999).

<sup>6</sup>Lipnick (1999).

<sup>7</sup>See DeNardis, L. and Rodriguez, A.E. (2011). Financial Performance in Connecticut's Municipalities: A Comparison of Manager, Mayor-Council and Selectman Forms of Government. The New England Journal of Political Science, 2(2); Also see Waterfield, T. (2010). Managerial Effect: Comparing Forms of Local Government. Retrieved from <http://www.mpa.unc.edu/sites/www.mpa.unc.edu/files/TerryWaterfield.pdf>.

<sup>8</sup>SCML Staff (2012).

<sup>9</sup>Lipnick (1999).

 Michael Koss is the Membership Services Manager for the League of Kansas Municipalities. He can be reached at [mkoss@lkm.org](mailto:mkoss@lkm.org) or (785) 354-9565.



# A Kansan Safari

**A**dvances in technology have given us knowledge of places once remote and mysterious. But imagine being a child in the late 1920s—sitting on the edge of your theater seat as the big screen flickers and, on the screen, a Kansas woman dances with native children or shoots a charging rhinoceros. Taking in the wonder of it all, your eyes are wide as saucers. Just then Osa Johnson points to a lion ravaging the belly of a zebra while her husband, Martin, captures the scene with his hand-cranked Universal motion picture camera.

Martin was born in 1884 and raised in Lincoln Center, but later moved to Independence. He loved animals and had the keen eye of a photographer for capturing the uniqueness of each creature. He used this talent to finance his adventures, selling photos for a penny apiece. His father, John Johnson, had hoped Martin would join him

in his jewelry business, but a magazine ad by Jack London seeking an assistant for a trip on the high seas squelched that.

After his adventure, Martin returned to Kansas in 1909. He hosted a lecture in Chanute where he showed colored lantern slides of the Solomon Islands; in attendance was Osa Leighty. She recalled not being all that impressed (as noted in her autobiography, *I Married Adventure*), yet after a few weeks they eloped and Osa became an unwitting partner in a truly great love story.

Osa was a force to be reckoned with. According to the History of American Journalism website, in the 1920s “Osa Johnson’s popularity matched that of Eleanor Roosevelt or Ann Lindbergh.” Her natural beauty enhanced her stardom, but it was her courageous, daring nature that won the hearts of viewers. Not to take anything from Martin’s genius as an explorer and photographer, but how many women would live in a jungle among cannibals, headhunters, and wild animals?



Martin adored Osa and delighted in others being enamored with her as well. “Osa enjoyed the spotlight, but she also had an unshakable faith in Martin’s abilities,” says Jacque Borgeson, curator of the Martin and Osa Johnson Safari Museum in Chanute. Osa was willing to do whatever it took for Martin to be successful, Borgeson says, from learning to shoot a gun in the event of a charging animal to scurrying animals into action for the camera. Because finances were an ongoing issue, Osa and Martin became skilled at raising money from private investors and public corporations like Coca-Cola, Maxwell House, and Coleman, products they endorsed.

Increasing the exhilaration of their own adventures, Osa and Martin took two Sikorsky amphibian planes on an air safari of Africa in 1933. They became the first explorers to film Mount Kenya and the glittering peaks of Mount Kilimanjaro from the air. Despite being plagued with fog, inaccurate maps, blinding thunderstorms and emergency landings within seconds of running out of gas, the fearless duo soared again another day, flying 60,000 miles over Africa and another 30,000 miles over Borneo.

In 1937, Martin was killed in an airplane crash on a flight to California. The same flight left Osa badly injured, with a concussion and a fractured knee. Regardless of the pain and grief, she fulfilled the couple’s contract for a lecture series while still in a wheelchair.

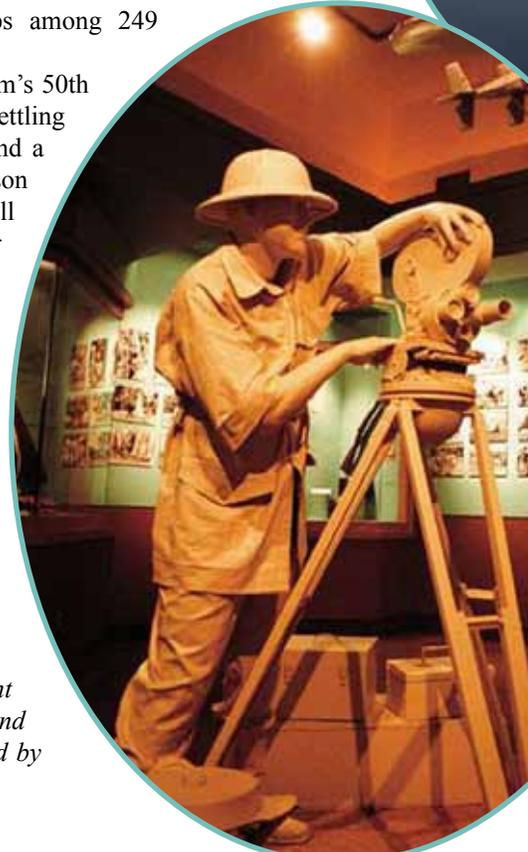
The Johnsons were prolific in documenting their travels, writing 12 books and 6 children’s books and making 26 films. “The task of preserving their legacy fell upon Osa’s mother, Belle Leighty, who inherited a treasure trove when Osa died in 1953. The Library of Congress also received 1,000 cans of Johnson film, many of which have never been used in their pictures,” says Conrad Froehlich, Safari Museum director. Their lives inspired

Danger Trails comic strip and the television series Big Game Hunt. Even today, their work is celebrated inside the Animal Kingdom Lodge at Disney World.

In 1961, the Safari Museum opened in a Santa Fe freight building and later relocated after restoration of the train depot in Chanute. Manhattan author Jay Workman’s *Complete Guide to Kansas Museums* ranks the Safari Museum tops among 249 museums in the state.

In honor of the museum’s 50th anniversary, consider settling in with some popcorn and a Martin and Osa Johnson film, classics that will never lose their wonder and awe.

*Topeka Writer Debra Guiou Stuffiebean was raised near Chanute and has a collection of books by Osa Johnson, whom she considered a role model while growing up. Reprinted with permission from, KANSAS! magazine for the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism. Photos provided by the Safari Museum.*





## At The Movies

Martin and Osa Johnson began making films together in 1918, creating what would become a legacy to stand the test of time.

### ***Simba* (1928)\***

Natives pull the Johnson's Ford by rope across crocodile- and hippopotami-infested river en route to their discovery of a herd of elephants near Lake Paradise at the core of an extinct volcano. The film features the Lumbwa tribe lion hunting.

### ***Across the World* (1930)**

This film includes narration of formerly released silent films. It is edited as if Martin and Osa are entertaining friends at a party and pull out their home movies.

### ***Congorilla* (1932)\***

For the first time, America sees Pygmies stick dancing and drumming, hears sounds in the wild of a lion's roar and a gorilla beating its chest. The film initiated a fascination with the big apes, and King Kong was produced the following year.

### ***Baboona* (1935)\***

This film features the first flying safari over Africa presenting the diverse terrain of the Serengeti plains and the peaks of Mount Kilimanjaro. Osa runs off a lion lunging at her plane by dousing him in a sack of flour. The picture is also known for the colony of baboons it presents.

### ***Borneo* (1937)**

Critics consider Borneo to be Martin's finest film, although he died before being able to edit it himself. It includes scenes of landing their plane on the Kinabatangan River as the natives look on in disbelief.

### ***I Married Adventure* (1941)\***

This film is a compilation of the best scenes from all their travels. Hollywood casts Osa as herself and Jim Bannan as Martin in studio shots that knit the footage together.

\*These four movies are also part of a boxed set with two other movies, *Snows of Kilimanjaro* and *King Solomon's Mines*.

# In the event of an emergency, is your municipality prepared to communicate quickly with your residents?

## Notify JoCo

By Erin Vader and Mandy Cawby



That's precisely the question that led to an unprecedented partnership in Johnson County, Kansas. On July 1, 2011, in the face of potential crisis, WaterOne — an independent public water provider — experienced a large main break that had the potential to affect water service for most of

its customers, covering 272 sq. miles, 16 city jurisdictions, and unincorporated areas in Johnson County.

While a break of this size is rare, WaterOne found itself needing to communicate quickly with its 400,000 customers, media, and local officials. When WaterOne reached out to Johnson County Government and several local cities for help, there was a collective realization that no one had access to an adequate emergency alert system.

Fortunately, WaterOne's main break resolved successfully without jeopardizing water service, yet the true gift of that crisis was the beginning of a conversation between local agencies — Johnson County, WaterOne, and the cities of Overland Park, Olathe, Lenexa, and Prairie Village. These organizations immediately began exploring the possibility of a cooperative partnership for a mass notification system.

In such a suburban landscape, the reality is that residents cross city boundaries many times a day — to work, to home, to school, to daycare. So, when WaterOne and its city and county partners had the chance to provide residents with a universal

alert system, they came together for the common good. The partnership's vision was for residents to have immediate information during emergencies.

The result is Notify JoCo — a lightning-fast alert system provided free of charge for anyone who lives, works, or plays in Johnson County. Residents, commuters, and visitors create a personal account online at [www.NotifyJoCo.org](http://www.NotifyJoCo.org) where they can tag up to five locations in Johnson County as well as opt-in for non-emergency alerts. When an event happens in the vicinity of users' tagged locations, Notify JoCo sends a phone call, text, or email.

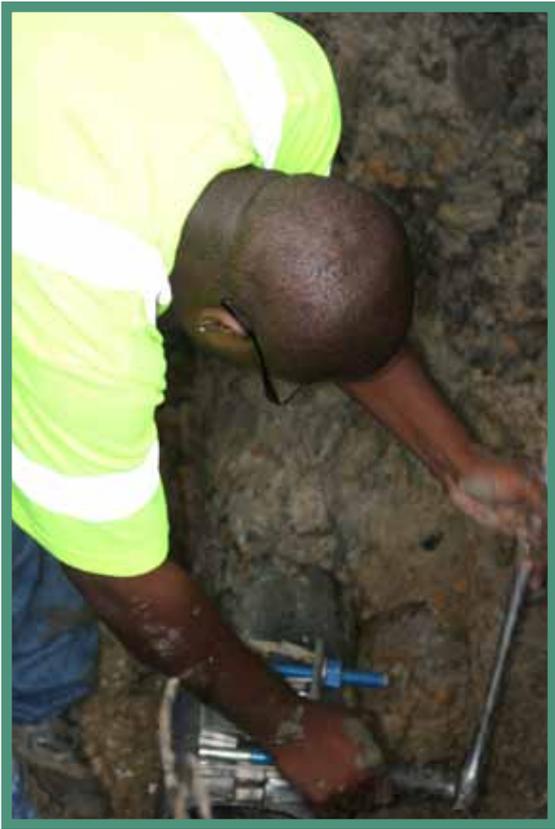
Notify JoCo is an Everbridge, Inc. product. Everbridge is a leading firm in emergency and incident alert systems. Each partner agency has individual control of their jurisdiction's alerts while sharing the cost and administration as a collective. Johnson County is shouldering responsibilities for customer care and oversight of the Everbridge contract.

The creation of Notify JoCo was a rare opportunity for public servants to work across borders with cohorts from other jurisdictions. The partnership is led by a steering committee comprised of information technology and public safety professionals from each agency. In addition, each agency contributed a communications professional from their organization to serve on a marketing committee.

While the steering committee was hammering out the details of cooperative agreements, vendor contracts, and the functionality of the system, the marketing committee was



Photos provided by the City of Olathe.



creating the Notify JoCo brand, marketing materials, communications plan, and .org website. The steering committee gave Notify JoCo life; the marketing team gave it an identity.

Notify JoCo launched in February 2013, with the City of Olathe activating test messages to alert residents with information about winter weather and road conditions. A massive snowstorm dumped accumulation during peak traffic times. Cars stalled out in major intersections and along roadways, delaying response times for emergency responders.

The Notify JoCo system began processing notifications to 26,000+ residents in under 6 minutes and completed placing all notifications within an hour, encouraging residents to move parked cars from designated snow routes and shelter-in-place to reduce congestion.

Since inception, the partnership has expanded to include the Johnson County communities of Shawnee, Roeland Park, and Mission Hills, with additional local cities considering it or in the process of joining. Over 10,000 local residents have signed-up for Notify JoCo, averaging about 50 additional sign-ups each day.

WaterOne is using Notify JoCo for main breaks and repair information. City and county partners are using Notify JoCo for public safety warnings, health alerts, local event information, and more. An optional weather alert is expected to be added this summer.

For more information, visit [www.NotifyJoCo.org](http://www.NotifyJoCo.org).

 *Erin Vader is the KS Communications & Public Engagement Manager for the City of Olathe, and Mandy Cawby is the Manager for WaterOne Communications. Photos provided by the City of Olathe.*

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## Concealed Carry: Senate Substitute for HB 2052

The Legislature passed and Governor Brownback signed Senate Substitute for HB 2052 which authorizes the carrying of concealed handguns in state and municipal buildings by those licensed pursuant to the Personal and Family Protection Act, K.S.A. 75-7c01 *et seq.*

The bill went into effect July 1, 2013. However, the bill has certain exemptions that municipalities can consider. If your city would like time to assess your buildings and make specific determinations, you can simply send a letter to the Attorney General and local law enforcement notifying them of the exemption. In that case, you will have until January 1, 2014, to make decisions concerning the security of each city-owned building. While there is no deadline specified regarding the submission of this letter, it must have been done by July 1, 2013, in order to prevent the law from going into effect in your city. A sample letter can be found at <http://www.lkm.org/legislative/briefings/concealedcarry/exemption2052letter.doc>. LKM believes that since there is no deadline the exemption letter can be sent after July 1, 2013, and the exemption to January 1, 2014, would still be available.

The bill applies to the State (with certain exceptions) and municipalities. It does not include school districts or the secure area of a corrections facility, jail facility, or law enforcement facility.

Under the provisions of this bill, cities will have to make some choices concerning how to regulate conceal carry license holders. The first option is to simply remove the no-carry signs and allow concealed carry in all municipal buildings. The next option would be to provide metal detectors or wands and personnel at each public entrance. By providing this level of security, cities can then post the building prohibiting conceal carry. The third option would be to assess your buildings and establish a security plan for the buildings. In this case, the buildings will be eligible for a 4-year exemption from the law. During the 4-year exemption period cities will have time to budget for additional security if they so desire. If there is no change in the law at the end of the 4-year period, then the buildings would need to be opened to concealed carry license holders or security measures would need to be installed.

To qualify for the 4-year exemption, the public entity must establish a security plan and adopt a resolution to exempt certain buildings, listed by legal description, from the requirements of the Act. Such resolution shall include the following statement: "A security plan has been developed for the building being exempted which supplies adequate security to the occupants of the building and merits the prohibition of the carrying of a concealed handgun as authorized by the personal and family protection act." A copy of the security plan must be maintained on file and a copy made available, upon request, to the Attorney General. Notice of the exemption, together with the resolution, must be sent to the Kansas Attorney General and to the law enforcement agency of local jurisdiction. The security plans are not subject to KORA.

There is no guidance in the bill as to how a security plan is created and there are no requirements of what must be in the plan other than the statement required in the resolution. LKM recommends that local law enforcement be tasked with making the assessment and creating the plan with the input of other staff from each of the entities municipal buildings. The City of Wichita and Sedgwick County recently completed such an

assessment. The model for the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County can be found at <http://www.lkm.org/legislative/briefings/concealedcarry/WichitaSGCountyModel.pdf>

The bill provides that public entities will be exempted from liability for the actions or omissions of concealed carry permit holders if the entity provides adequate security as defined in the bill and posts the building with the appropriate sign prohibiting conceal carry or, the entity allows concealed carry in their buildings.

It is the interpretation of LKM that cities may restrict or prohibit the carrying of concealed handguns by their employees while on their premises or while engaged in their official duties if the city does so through their personnel policies. Failure to adopt such restrictions in personnel policies will allow public employees, who are licensed to carry a concealed handgun, to carry concealed handguns in public buildings and while engaged in their official duties.

This portion of the bill is perhaps the most confusing because the bill itself seems to have an internal conflict:

Section 2(c) reads: "No state agency or municipality shall prohibit an employee who is licensed to carry a concealed handgun under the provisions of the personal and family protection act from carrying such concealed handgun at the employee's work place unless the building has adequate security measures and the building is conspicuously posted in accordance with K.S.A. 2012 Supp. 75-7c10, and amendments thereto."

However, Section 9 (b)(1) reads: "(b) Nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent: (1) Any public or private employer from restricting or prohibiting by personnel policies persons licensed under this act from carrying a concealed handgun while on the premises of the employer's business or while engaged in the duties of the person's employment by the employer, except that no employer may prohibit possession of a handgun in a private means of conveyance, even if parked on the employer's premises;"

However, the beginning of Section 9 reads: "Subject to the provisions of section 2, and amendments thereto..."

If we read Section 9 to be completely subject to Section 2, then from a legal standpoint, Section 9 really has no meaning. Further, Section 2 only deals with employees and their ability to carry a concealed handgun in a building. It says nothing about what happens when an employee is engaged in the duties outside of a building. Section 9 on the other hand, does talk about restricting employees "while engaged in the duties of the person's employment by the employer."

In order to give some meaning to both portions of the Act and deal with employees both while they are in municipal buildings and while they are engaged in the duties of their employment outside of municipal buildings, LKM is interpreting this language to mean that cities can restrict employees by placing restrictions or prohibitions against concealed carry in their personnel policies.

Cities should discuss this with their city attorney to determine the most appropriate way to handle this issue.

# 2013 Graduates of the Municipal Leadership Academy

On May 10-11, city officials from across the state met in Topeka for the 2013 Governing Body Institute and Mayors Conference. At the dinner Friday evening, the League of Kansas Municipalities (LKM) recognized the 2013 graduates of the Municipal Leadership Academy (MLA).

Founded in 1999, the MLA is a continuing education program designed to develop the knowledge and enhance the leadership abilities of both elected and appointed city officials. There are three levels of achievement, with Level 1 focusing on education, Level 2 on achievement, and Level 3 on leadership.

Five city officials graduated Level 1 by completing 40 credits of training, which included trainings on issues like KOMA/KORA and ethics. Nine officials completed Level 2, which required attendance at several LKM events, including the Leadership Summit and the Governing Body Institute. There was also one graduate of Level 3, the most advanced portion of the program, which requires acts of leadership at the state and local level.



2013 MLA Graduates were awarded certificates at the Governing Body Institute. Left to right: Herb Bath, Carl Slauch, Dale Shaffer, Charles Hefton, Joyce Casady, Vada Aikens, Michael Webb, Bobby Busch and Don Schultz.

The MLA offers participants up-to-date training on a variety of local government issues. While our trainers provide quality education to facilitate better municipal governance, just as important is the opportunity for city officials to interact and collaborate on solutions to community issues. By sharing their experiences, attendees learn best practices from individuals facing similar problems.

This year's graduates have shown a commitment to becoming better public servants, and are assets to all of their respective cities. Congratulations to the 2013 graduates for your commitment to community leadership.

## Level 1 Graduates

Vada Aikens, Councilmember, Humboldt  
 Peggy Jay, Mayor, Goessel  
 Mary Olson, Mayor, Marion  
 Michael Webb, City Administrator, Edwardsville  
 Donna Wixon, City Clerk, Baxter Springs

## Level II Graduates

Bobby Busch, City Clerk, Neodesha  
 Joyce Casady, City Clerk, Benton  
 Charles Hefton, Police Chief, Benton  
 Larry Paine, City Administrator, Hillsboro  
 Joyce Reimer, City Administrator, Sedgwick  
 Don Schultz, Mayor, Overbrook  
 Dale Shaffer, City Manager, Benton  
 Carl Slauch, City Administrator, Iola  
 Michael Smith, City Administrator, Lansing

## Level III Graduates

Herb Bath, Mayor, Altamont

For more information regarding the MLA or additional LKM raining please visit <http://www.lkm.org/traning/> or contact Michael Koss at [mkoss@lkm.org](mailto:mkoss@lkm.org).

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## Assistant City Manager

The City of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, is seeking two Assistant City Managers. Cape Girardeau is a growing community with a current population of nearly 38,000. Ideally located on the Mississippi River and Interstate 55, the City is a regional education, retail, and healthcare hub with a daytime population exceeding 100,000.

The City has a \$51.7 million operating budget with 390 full-time employees, \$78.5 million capital projects budget, and Standard & Poor's National Municipal Bond rating of "A+."

The Assistant City Manager for Administrative Services oversees the Human Resources, Information Technology, Finance, and Customer Service Divisions, more than 20 full-time personal and a \$1.5 million departmental operating budget.

The Assistant City Manager for Development Services oversees the Engineering, Geographic Information Systems, Inspections, and Planning Divisions, along with operations of the Cape Girardeau Regional Airport, more than 40 full-time personnel, a \$78.5 million Capital Improvement Projects budget, and a \$3.3 million departmental operating budget.

Bachelor's degree and 5 years of progressively responsible management experience in a municipal environment required. Master's degree preferred. Residence within City limits within six months of hire date required.

View complete position profiles and apply online: [www.GovernmentResource.com/pages/CurrentSearches](http://www.GovernmentResource.com/pages/CurrentSearches)

For more information contact: Gary Holland, SGR Senior VP [GaryHolland@GovernmentResource.com](mailto:GaryHolland@GovernmentResource.com)

## City Clerk

The City of Attica, Kansas is seeking a professional individual for the position of City Clerk. This is an administrative position with oversight responsibilities for the daily operation of the city. Applications will be received until such time the position is filled.

Education: Prefer Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Business Administration or

Management, Public Administration, or related field.

Experience: Successful applicant will have worked in an office environment, have good understanding of computers and technology, have supervisory/management experience with excellent technical skills in accounting, budgeting, budget analysis, financial reporting, and financial management. Applicant must possess excellent communication skills and strong interpersonal skills; have budget, finance, and management experience, basic understanding of city government, adapt well to change, have positive attitude, be proactive, self-directed, and enjoy serving the citizens of Attica.

Duties: Includes preparing the city's annual budget, maintaining adherence to state budget laws, supervising city personnel, preparing payroll, assisting citizens, maintaining fiscal, legal, and other public records, monitoring financial condition, preparing reports, and other duties.

Benefits: Public service EOE work environment, Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (KPERs), health/prescription/dental / and eye insurance, vacation and sick leave. Salary dependent upon qualifications.

For consideration, please mail or e-mail your resume ([atticaclerk@sutv.com](mailto:atticaclerk@sutv.com)), including salary history, to: City of Attica, Attn: City Clerk, PO Box 421, Attica, KS 67009

## Chief of Police

The City of Dodge City, Kansas, population approximately 28,000, the largest city in Southwest Kansas, is accepting applications for the position of Chief of Police. This position reports to the City Manager and heads the City's Police Department composed of 49 sworn positions and 21 non-sworn positions. The FY 2013 operating budget is \$4.8 million. As a member of the City's Manager's management team, the Chief is responsible for directing, planning and managing all functions and operations of the Police Department.

A Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice or a closely related field from an accredited

college or university is required, plus at least 10 years progressively responsible experience. Master's Degree preferred but not required. Beginning salary range is \$82,200 to \$92,000, DOQ, plus complete City benefit package. Requires Kansas State Law Enforcement Certification within 12 months of employment.

Please review complete ad online at [www.dodgecity.org/jobs.asp](http://www.dodgecity.org/jobs.asp) and apply using [www.hrepartners.com](http://www.hrepartners.com). Attach a resume, cover letter, and a list of no fewer than 10 personal references. Please submit a copy of college transcripts by email to [hr@dodgecity.org](mailto:hr@dodgecity.org). Should accommodations be needed to receive or complete the online application, please contact Human Resources, City of Dodge City, PO Box 880, Dodge City, Kansas 67801, or call (620) 225-8100 or email [hr@dodgecity.org](mailto:hr@dodgecity.org). Review of applications will begin immediately and shall end by September 1, 2013. We anticipate final selection by January 1, 2014.

Substance Abuse screening and post offer physical required. Must confirm USCIS (I-9) employment eligibility upon hire. The City of Dodge City is a drug free work place. EOE

## Chief of Police

The City of Osborne, Kansas is seeking a community oriented professional to serve as Chief of Police. This full-time position prioritizes, assigns, disciplines and evaluates the work of other police department employees and directs departmental programs and activities. Enforces the city code, animal control and serves as the City's Health officer. Ability to plan, organize, prioritize, coordinate, assign and evaluate work of police officers. Ability to prepare detailed and accurate reports, communicate effectively, both orally and in writing. Ability to deal courteously and authoritatively with the public. Minimum Requirements: At least 5 years work experience as a commissioned Kansas law enforcement officer and at least 2 years of supervisory experience. Possess an excellent work history and attendance record. Possession of a valid Kansas driver's license, excellent driving record is required and submit to an extensive background check.

Must provide current Kansas law enforcement certification from the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center or equivalent. City residency preferred. Benefits include vacation and sick leave, holidays, health insurance and Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (KPERs). Applicants should send employment application, resume and three professional references to City of Osborne, City Clerk, 128 N. First Street, Osborne, KS 67473. Employment applications can be obtained by contacting the City Clerk at or call (785)346-5611. EOE.

#### **City Clerk/Municipal Court Clerk and/or City Treasurer**

The City of St. George is accepting applications for the positions of City Clerk/Municipal Court Clerk and/or City Treasurer. Wages are based on experience. Applications will be accepted until filled. Applications are available at City Hall, 220 E First St., St. George, KS 66535, by email [stgeorge@scicable.com](mailto:stgeorge@scicable.com), or at [www.stgeorgekansas.net](http://www.stgeorgekansas.net).

#### **City Manager**

Augusta seeks City Manager to contribute to economic growth and quality of life while preserving its historic character. Residents are noteworthy for willingness to make public investments for the community's future. Candidates will find exceptional public schools and municipal services, and quality health care, retail services and cultural arts both within the community and in nearby Wichita metropolitan area. Council/Manager government since 1951; six managers in past 62 years. Position has responsibilities for hiring/termination of 110 employees, \$23 million budget, management of all services including four utilities, purchasing, policy research and recommendations. Low range of salary is \$82,000. Letter with resume, salary history in one e-file, in confidence to recruitment advisor: [mflentje@austinpeters.com](mailto:mflentje@austinpeters.com). Preference to resumes received before July 19. Finalists subject to disclosure. Qualifications in recruitment profile: [www.augustagov.org](http://www.augustagov.org)

#### **City Superintendent**

City of Attica, Kansas is accepting applications for the position of City Superintendent. Ideal candidate would have experience in all public works including water, waste water, streets, and natural gas and high voltage electrical distribution. Possession of Kansas Supply System Class I water and wastewater a plus. Persons must possess a valid Kansas driver's license and high school diploma. Salary based on experience. Benefits include health

insurance, paid vacation and holidays, and KPERs retirement. Submit applications or resumes to City of Attica PO Box 421 Attica, KS 67009. Position is open until filled, however interviews will begin July 15, 2013. Any questions may be directed to City Hall at 620.254.7216 or email [atticaclerk@atstv.com](mailto:atticaclerk@atstv.com).

#### **Economic Development Director**

Economic Development Director for the City of Haysville. Responsibilities include the planning, implementation and management of a coordinated program and policies to attract new business, industry, residential development, and enhance the business climate of the City. Salary DOQ. Visit <http://goo.gl/wfeOG> for details.

#### **Electric Maintenance Worker I (Electric Department Lineman)**

The City of Anthony, Kansas (pop. 2,300), is seeking an Electric Maintenance Worker I (Electric Department Lineman) to serve the growing electrical distribution needs of the community.

A high school diploma or GED is required. A vocational degree in electricity or additional training is preferred. Must possess a valid Kansas Class C driver's license

The ideal candidate must be able to maintain power lines, electrical equipment and transformers. Abilities to maintain jobsite safety and set poles are required. Applications and complete job description are available at: [www.anthonykansas.org](http://www.anthonykansas.org). Please call 620-842-5434 for more information.

#### **Finance Director**

The City of Lakeway, Texas, is seeking a new Finance Director. Lakeway has a population of over 11,000 and is ideally situated 25 miles west of downtown Austin on the south shore of Lake Travis in the Texas Hill Country.

Lakeway has 96 full-time employees and an annual operating budget of over \$9 million. The City's primary sources of revenue are property tax, sales tax, and franchise fees. The Finance Director reports to the City Manager and supervises four employees. The Finance Department has an annual operating budget of \$1.35 million.

Bachelor's degree in accounting, finance or a related field, and a minimum of five years of progressively responsible government experience required. Supervisory experience required. Master's degree and CPA and/or GFOA credentials preferred.

To view a complete position profile and apply online, visit: [www.governmentresource.com/pages/CurrentSearches](http://www.governmentresource.com/pages/CurrentSearches)

For more information on this position

contact: Chester Nolen, Senior Vice President, Strategic Government Resources, [Chester@GovernmentResource.com](mailto:Chester@GovernmentResource.com)

#### **Police Officer**

The City of Edwardsville, Kansas is accepting applications from qualified persons to fill future Police Officer position(s). Salary is \$39,613.08/yr to \$47,773.09/yr DOQ.

Minimum Qualifications: Twenty one years old when hired; high school diploma or GED; current peace officer certification or ability to obtain certification within one year; good physical condition; no domestic violence or felony convictions.

Interested persons should submit a cover letter, resumé, and employment application to Edwardsville Police Department, 650 South 4th Street, Edwardsville, KS 66111. Applications and full details about the position and benefits are available on the City's website at [www.edwardsvilleks.org](http://www.edwardsvilleks.org), or by emailing [asims@edwardsvilleks.org](mailto:asims@edwardsvilleks.org).

#### **Public Works Director**

The City of McPherson, KS (population 13,155) is seeking a Public Works Director. This executive level position reports directly to the Commissioner of Streets and Utilities and is responsible for the overall direction, management and budgeting of numerous public works divisions within the City including wastewater, street, and engineering departments. This position also oversees the construction, design and inspection of city projects and development. Some of the projects this position is responsible for include: subdivision development, street reconstruction/rehabilitation, storm water projects, sidewalk projects, and other related projects.

Qualified candidates should have a PE License from the State of Kansas or have the ability to obtain a Kansas PE within 6 months of hire; 7+ years full-time public works project management or civil engineering experience involving city or county public works including 5 years of management experience; a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering.

Annualized Pay range: \$63,273 - \$84,364. The City of McPherson offers an excellent compensation package.

Applications can be submitted at [www.hrepartners.com](http://www.hrepartners.com). Resume, letter of interest, and references are required and should be emailed to Nick Gregory at [nickg@mcpcity.com](mailto:nickg@mcpcity.com). Applications will be reviewed late July 10, 2013. The position will remain open until filled.



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## The Park Bench



This year I decided I needed to renovate, restore, or at least make look better, the miniature park bench that sits in our backyard and which is used by our grandchildren and their friends. The bench, like most park benches made of wood and iron, had succumbed to old age and the elements. While the wrought iron was intact and rust free, the wooden part of the bench had seen better days. The lacquer or whatever it was, had worn off and the wood had turned that kind of ugly grey color that comes when wood has been exposed to the elements a little too long.

Now this is the point of demarcation where you have to decide how far you are going to go in renovating an object. While I was contemplating this project, I could hear my father's voice in the back of my mind. My father, as those of you who have read this column over the past 16½ years will know, was a perfectionist. He believed that any job worth doing was worth doing well. He would take literally hours to deal with one small part of a Jaguar automobile that he was restoring and not think anything of it. So, I could hear him telling me that I shouldn't just do a quick fluff and buff, as we used to call it in the old car biz, but that I should do it right for my grandchildren. That meant I needed to disassemble the bench, and restore the pieces one at a time. Realizing my father was correct, it occurred to me that the project had just gone from one taking mere minutes, to one taking multiple hours over a period of several days.

The first thing we had to do was decide the color scheme that was going to be used on the bench. I had already discounted simply putting a new coat of lacquer on the old boards as that didn't work very well the first time. Judy and I also concluded that it needed to look more like a child's bench given its diminutive size. We considered reds and greens, we considered painting the wood turquoise and a variety of other colors that were bright and seemed to reflect usage by children. Since we live in the Sunflower State, we ended up deciding on a black and yellow color scheme which would be bright and cheerful.

So, as with all projects, I undertook to disassemble the component parts and analyze what I had to do to make the bench look like a new one. Redoing the wrought iron took no time at all in the general scheme of things. The iron was totally unruined and when I got done painting it in the flat black that we had chosen, it looked great. In fact, it looked so good that it could have come right out of a speciality metal shop. Which brings me to the wood. The wood was a disaster. It was worn, weathered, and about half of the bolts and screws that had been used to assemble the bench had rusted in half, leaving half of the metal in the wood, with the remaining metal laying on the ground. Also, after sanding the wood, and bringing it back to a more acceptable finish, I realized when I began painting that it had been out in the sun so long that it literally soaked up the paint as it was applied. I would hate to guess how many coats of light yellow paint were applied to achieve the final finish. I will say that I had to make two trips to

the paint store as we ran out of light yellow paint long before the wood was appropriately covered.

Finally, the project was completed and I thought the final product was pretty good if I do say so myself. That said, not everyone was happy with the "new" bench. When our granddaughter first saw the newly restored bench which grandpa was inordinately proud of given the time invested in the project, she was disappointed that it looked different than the old bench. For days after the unveiling, she insisted that the old bench must be around somewhere, and that we just bought a new bench to replace it. Funny how things work out like that.

I think there are a couple of things we can learn from the little bench story. First of all, you can't please all the people, all the time. Despite the fact that I was going for a home run in the grandchildren department, it was clear that in this instance I had swung and missed. Apparently, the old bench, and its deteriorated look, was better than the "new" bench in the eyes of at least one grandchild. You know how this works in a governmental sense as I know many of you have seen it first hand. Whenever you update or change anything, many will embrace the change and believe it looks towards the future, but, there is always a group of people who will never embrace the change that you have undertaken in your community.

The second lesson which is taught by this little vignette is that if you are going to do a project, you should always plan on doing it right. Doing a fluff and buff never ends up well. Doing a quick and dirty project merely hides a problem in the short-term, and ultimately leaves you with a larger problem down the road. We see this from time to time, and, of course, we all understand that there are both time and resource issues that play into these determinations. But, when a project is done in a less than professional manner, it doesn't do anything except temporarily salve the problem, and it ultimately leads to larger and more difficult problems down the road.

We must always be cognitive that doing things in a quick and dirty manner doesn't ultimately lead to long-term success. It is important organizationally to have a feeling that every project should be done the right way. You must instill this in your organizational culture. Otherwise, the push to do things in a quick and dirty manner (read fast and cheap) will sometimes overtake a quality project, and leave you and your citizens less than satisfied with the ultimate result.



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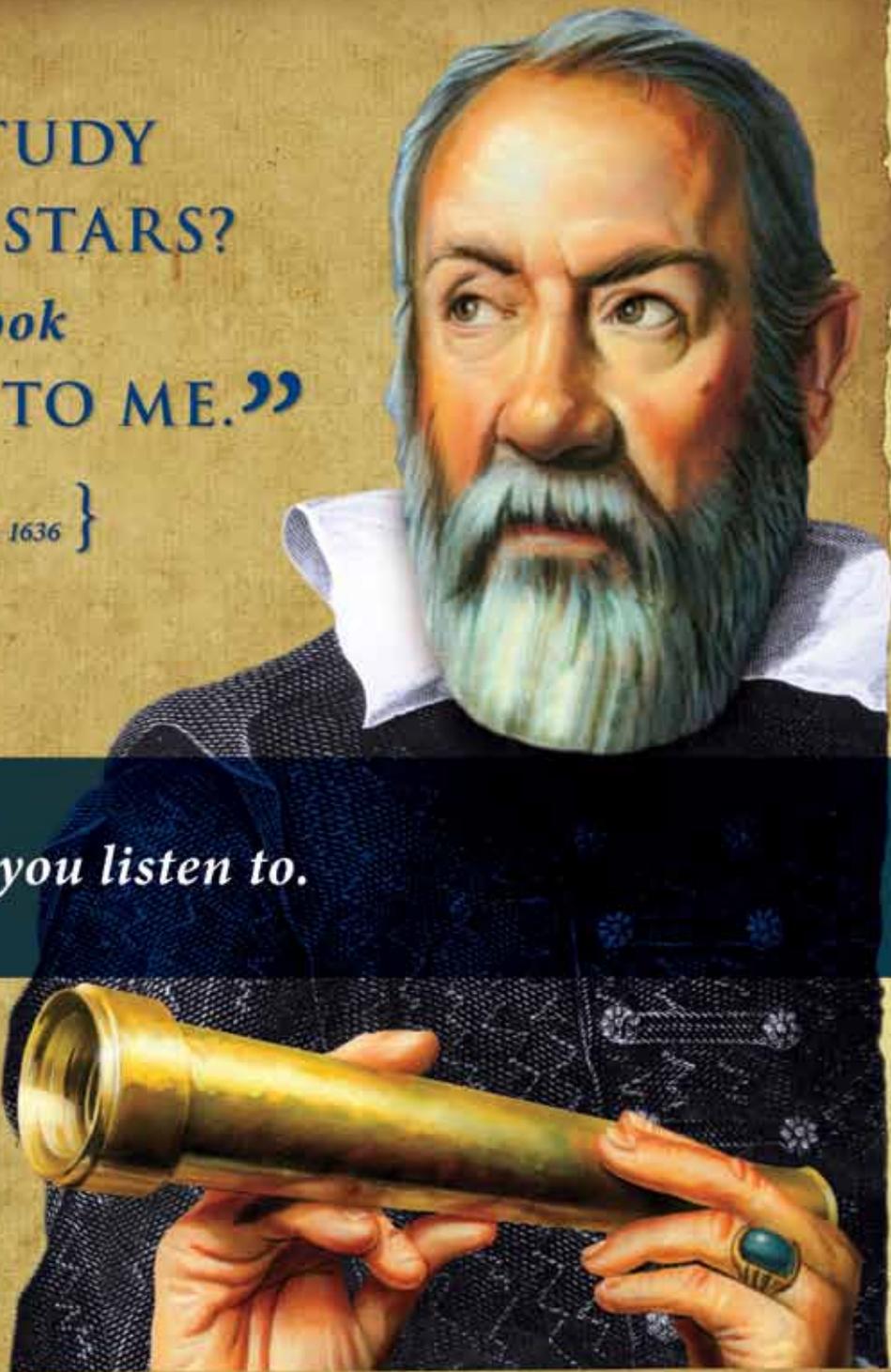
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