

# Kansas

## GOVERNMENT JOURNAL

VOLUME 104 NUMBER 3

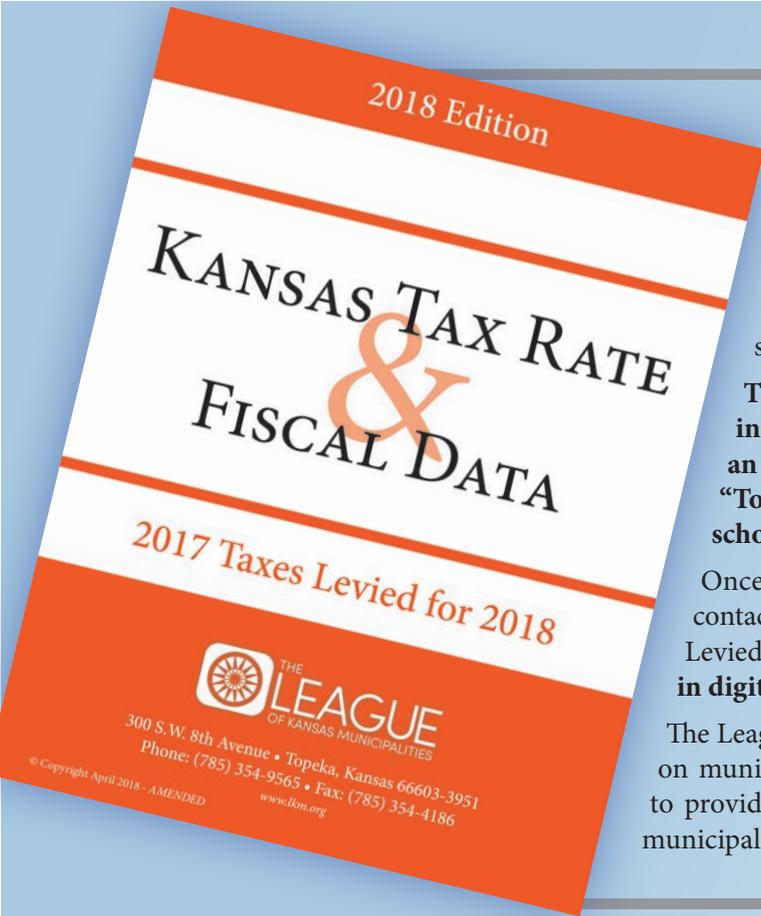
APRIL 2018

**Arts and Cultural Expression in Kansas Cities**

**Hesston Police Chief Honored for Bravery**

**Legal Considerations for Summer Programming**





Annually in March, the League of Kansas Municipalities publishes the *Kansas Tax Rate & Fiscal Data Book*. This book is structured to illustrate tax rates and fiscal data arising from each of the three classes of cities, counties, and unified school districts. The data is collected annually from several resources such as the Kansas Department of Revenue, the Secretary of State, the State Treasurer, and through solicitation of information in a survey sent to all cities in Kansas.

**The League does not verify the individual calculations of the information as it is reported to us. Unfortunately, this year there was an error in the data received from the State of Kansas to calculate the “Total Mills Levied in City by All Units” as it did not include the USD school general levy of 20 mills.**

Once we became aware of this issue, we immediately reached out to our contacts to obtain corrected information. We have recalculated the “Total Mills Levied in City by All Units” and have made the 2018 Tax Rate Book **available in digital form on our website at [www.lkm.org/taxratebook](http://www.lkm.org/taxratebook).**

The League produces a multitude of publications, provides numerous trainings on municipal issues, and answers thousands of legal calls each year for cities to provide up-to-date information and keep members aware of the changing municipal environment. As always, we strive for accuracy in all we do.

### **Municipal Training Institute: Emergency Management (Elective)**

May 10 (Ellsworth)

May 11 (Arkansas City)

This course will provide information necessary for a city to review their preparations for executing pre-disaster and response/recovery operations in a natural disaster. Topics include state and federal requirements and points of contact, local procedures for implementation, planning, and management tools to be able to assess a city to determine if they are prepared to execute recovery operations. Attendees will also receive source documents for the development of template recovery plans and operations, and have a chance to review the Kansas Response Plan.

#### **The Major Topics Covered in the Course:**

- Define Emergency Management
- Pre-Disaster Actions
- State and Federal Support Agencies
- Kansas Disaster Response Plan

Cost to attend this course is \$75 for members, \$100 for nonmembers. Lunch and materials provided. Class time is 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



### **Municipal Training Institute: Personnel Management (Core)**

June 22 (Dodge City)

June 29 (Emporia)

This course covers the basics of personnel management in today's changing municipal workplace. Topics include: hiring and firing, discrimination and harassment, and personnel policies and guidelines.

#### **Major Topics Covered in the Course:**

- Personnel management in today's workplace
- Hiring & firing procedures and legal considerations
- Discrimination and harassment in the workplace
- Review of standard personnel policies (with template provided)
- Fair Labor Standards Act
- Family Medical Leave Act
- At-Will employment
- ADA, Military leave/USERRA, drug testing, Domestic Violence Leave Law
- Personnel evaluations

Cost to attend this course is \$75 for members, \$100 for nonmembers. Lunch and materials provided. Class time is 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

MTI cancellations must be in writing and received three days prior to the training for your registration fee to be waived. The cancellations must be emailed to Megan Gilliland, Communications and Education Manager, at [mgilliland@lkm.org](mailto:mgilliland@lkm.org). Phone cancellations will not be accepted. Register for classes and view all League educational trainings and offerings at [www.lkm.org/events](http://www.lkm.org/events).

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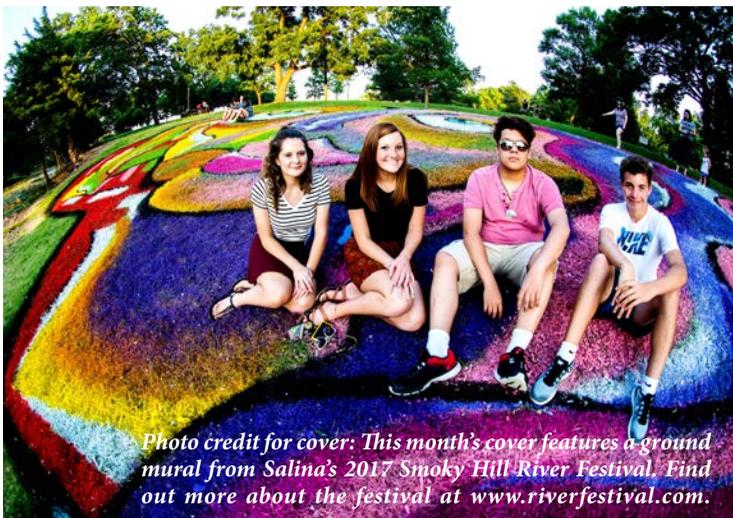
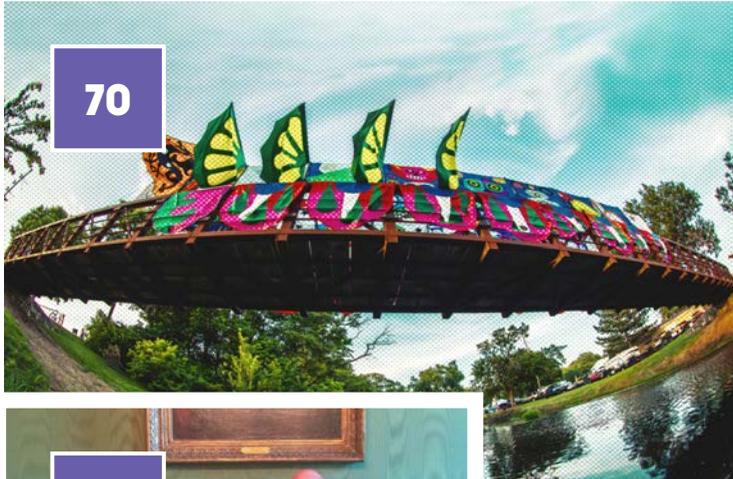


Photo credit for cover: This month's cover features a ground mural from Salina's 2017 Smoky Hill River Festival. Find out more about the festival at [www.riverfestival.com](http://www.riverfestival.com).

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# Kansas

## GOVERNMENT JOURNAL

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Nothing herein shall be construed to have the endorsement of the publisher unless expressly stated.

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*The mission of the League shall be to strengthen and advocate for the interests of Kansas municipalities to advance the general welfare and promote the quality of life of the people who live within our cities.*

## Connect with the League on Social Media



@LeagueKSMunis



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## 2018 League Events Calendar

### APRIL

April 18 ..... Social Media for Cities, Webinar

April 20 and 21 ..... Governing Body Institute, Topeka

### MAY

May 10 ..... MTI: Emergency Management, Ellsworth

May 11 ..... MTI: Emergency Management, Arkansas City

Visit [www.lkm.org/events](http://www.lkm.org/events) for MTI and Webinar registration.

## Obituaries

**Clair Donnelly**, 82, Maize, passed away on March 3. Clair was the Mayor of Maize at his passing. Clair lived a faith-filled life from the moment of his birth on May 11, 1935 in Wichita. He lived an active lifestyle and learned to water ski at an early age. Clair met the love of his life, Oba Hurt, at a high school football game. The high school sweethearts married November 21, 1953. After high school, he worked for Cessna in their tool and die shop and later built, owned, and operated a local gas station. Bringing in kids from the community, he not only employed them, but also mentored and shaped them as part of his own family. Later, he retired from Raytheon as foreman of the tool and die shop.

His influence on the City of Maize is visible throughout the town in many ways. Clair organized the city recreation commission and started the recreation ball program. Under Clair's 14 years of leadership as Mayor, the city water system was established; he led the creation of the industrial park bringing industry and revenue to the community; and he was instrumental in bringing the West Campus of Wichita State University to Maize, making it easier for community members to further their education. Clair's current passion was creating the Maize City Park, a place where neighborhood children and families could play and be active. He was planning an amphitheater addition to the park when he passed. He is survived by his wife, Oba Donnelly; two daughters, a son, four sisters, seven grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

**Carl H. Koster**, 66, passed away on March 22 in Cheney. He was a life-long resident of Cheney and current City Council member. He served as mayor from 1991 to 2003. Carl was born on July 13, 1951 in Wichita. Carl was a retired NFL photographer, farmer, and was active with the Sedgwick County Fair. He is survived by his companion, Barbara Myers; and two stepdaughters, Jessica Pierce and Leslie Schuler. He was active with his five step-grandchildren.

The City of Cheney wrote this about their councilman: "Carl was a wonderful mentor and friend to many and always kept the best interest of the community in mind. Community pride poured out of Carl as he was always excited to attend community events and supported all municipal departments. We are lucky to have had the ideas and ingenuity that Carl brought forth. His effort and guidance will continue to leave a lasting impression on the City of Cheney."

**W. Norman Walker**, 89, Tonganoxie, passed away January 17, 2018. Norman was born July 10, 1928 in Stanberry, MO. He was the owner of Walker Trucking Company and was a former Tonganoxie City Council member. He was preceded in death by his son, Norman Edward Walker in 1971; his wife, Mary Louise (DeHoff) Walker in 2013, and a great grandson, Jacob Davis. Survivors include two children, four grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandson.

# Director's Foreword

by Erik Sartorius



Can you believe 2018 is already a quarter over? This year has been a blur! We have been running nonstop, which is how things usually are here at the League during the legislative session. With the change in local elections to the fall, however, we have had more calls than usual as people settle into their new roles as elected officials.

We hear both from newly elected officials and appointed staff seeking assistance for governing body members.

The excitement of being elected is wearing off and the reality of governing is coming front and center. This can be an overwhelming time. Please use us as a resource — we are great at helping with peace of mind!

Our upcoming Governing Body Institute provides both new and veteran elected officials the foundational information necessary to succeed with their cities. Beyond that, our education and training opportunities have been off to a great start with record attendance at many events. Please look for upcoming Municipal Training Institute classes, as well as our Hot Topic webinars, on our website.

Also in April, we have a webinar on social media for cities, led by Megan Gilliland, our Communications & Education Manager. She will share social media best practices, some of the platforms used for social media, and how to best engage your audiences with informative and attractive content. We frequently receive inquiries about city use of social media, so we know this is on your minds. Megan's experience with social media for cities is sure to have you coming away with ideas you can use, regardless of the size of your city. We will archive this webinar on our website, as we do with all of our webinars. This allows our membership to access our webinars even after the live broadcast has occurred. Our webinars can be viewed at [www.lkm.org/WebinarArchives](http://www.lkm.org/WebinarArchives).

In March, about 40 Kansas city officials traveled to Washington, D.C., for the National League of Cities' Congressional City Conference. The NLC meetings were a great opportunity to learn about federal issues important to cities and to network with local officials from across the country. We also heard from several members of President Trump's cabinet. Keeping open lines of communication with each administration is critical to ensuring the perspective of cities is heard in the White House and considered.

This annual trip culminates with visits to our congressional delegation on Capitol Hill. I am amazed — and very grateful — that our folks almost always meet with us personally. Getting to visit with their staff is critical, too, but having the members

take time to see city officials really helps them understand the challenges faced back home.

Legislation is at the top of the federal municipal agenda this year. President Trump has outlined a \$250 billion federal program, with the goal of leveraging that investment into \$1.5 billion in total spending. That leaves a large gap in funding that will need to come from elsewhere. One of the assumptions is that state and local governments will have to pick up a larger portion of project costs. Another option is public-private partnerships. These tend to be most successful in more populous areas, and many do not believe more rural states such as Kansas will be able to attract much private investment.

This limitation has been recognized and \$50 billion of the program is to be set aside for rural states. "Infrastructure" is being broadly defined in these proposals, going well beyond transportation items. Water and electric infrastructure, broadband expansion, and even Veterans Administration facilities are included. Congress will be picking through the proposal this spring and summer, though prospects for a program getting passed this year are somewhat slim due to elections.

Oh, and we got to see Jennifer Garner in the hallway while waiting for an appointment with Senator Roberts. She was very nice in taking time for selfies with one of our council member's two children. She did not ask me what was in my wallet...and I tried to not take it personally.

As I write, the legislature just completed a confusing adjournment of their regular session. Many local government issues have been addressed, with just a few remaining for final action when the legislature returns. The legislature finally agreed on a K-12 education funding plan, though they have discovered a drafting error leaving it \$80-million short of what they thought they passed. Briefs in the current lawsuit on education are due on April 30, meaning the legislature will have to act quickly if they are going to fix that. Whatever eventually passes still will have to withstand the scrutiny of the Kansas Supreme Court.

Last month, we published our annual *Kansas Tax Rate & Fiscal Data Book* within the magazine. This booklet remains on my desk throughout the year as a useful reference. Due to some data we received being incomplete, the final column in our booklets is off by 20 mills for all cities (except Wichita). You may make a note in your copy of last month's magazine, or you may download a corrected publication using this link: [www.lkm.org/taxratebook](http://www.lkm.org/taxratebook). We apologize for any confusion this has caused. We know you rely on us as a trusted source of information, and have instituted changes to avert such issues in the future.

As always, please share any questions, concerns or comments with me at [esartorius@lkm.org](mailto:esartorius@lkm.org) or (785) 354-9565.

The excitement of being elected is wearing off and the reality of governing is coming front and center. This can be an overwhelming time. Please use us as a resource — we are great at helping with peace of mind!

# WORKS OF ART:

## How Cities are Using Art & Culture to Build Better Communities

By Megan Gilliland, Communications and Education Manager, League of Kansas Municipalities

**I**n Kansas communities, large and small, artistic expression is abundant, alive, and active. This issue of the *Kansas Government Journal* is dedicated to arts and cultural activities in Kansas cities. We chose this topic because, as we travel our state, we see communities clamoring to showcase local artisans and celebrate the vibrant culture that binds us together as Kansans.

The City of Salina has done an incredible amount of work to promote the arts and engage artists in a multitude of community efforts. Since 1966, the city-supported department, Salina Arts and Humanities, has worked to produce and promote arts and cultural efforts including the Smoky Hill River Festival, Smoky Hill Museum, Arts Infusion Program, Horizons Grants Program, Community Art & Design, and the Friday Night Live year-round concert series. The department also convenes a monthly Cultural Connection which brings together a consortium of museums, galleries, performance venues, educational institutions, and service organizations collaborating to grow professionally, schedule programs, exhibits, and activities of interest to Salina residents and visitors.

Salina Arts and Humanities plays a central role in ensuring the arts community is “at the table” for many community discussions.

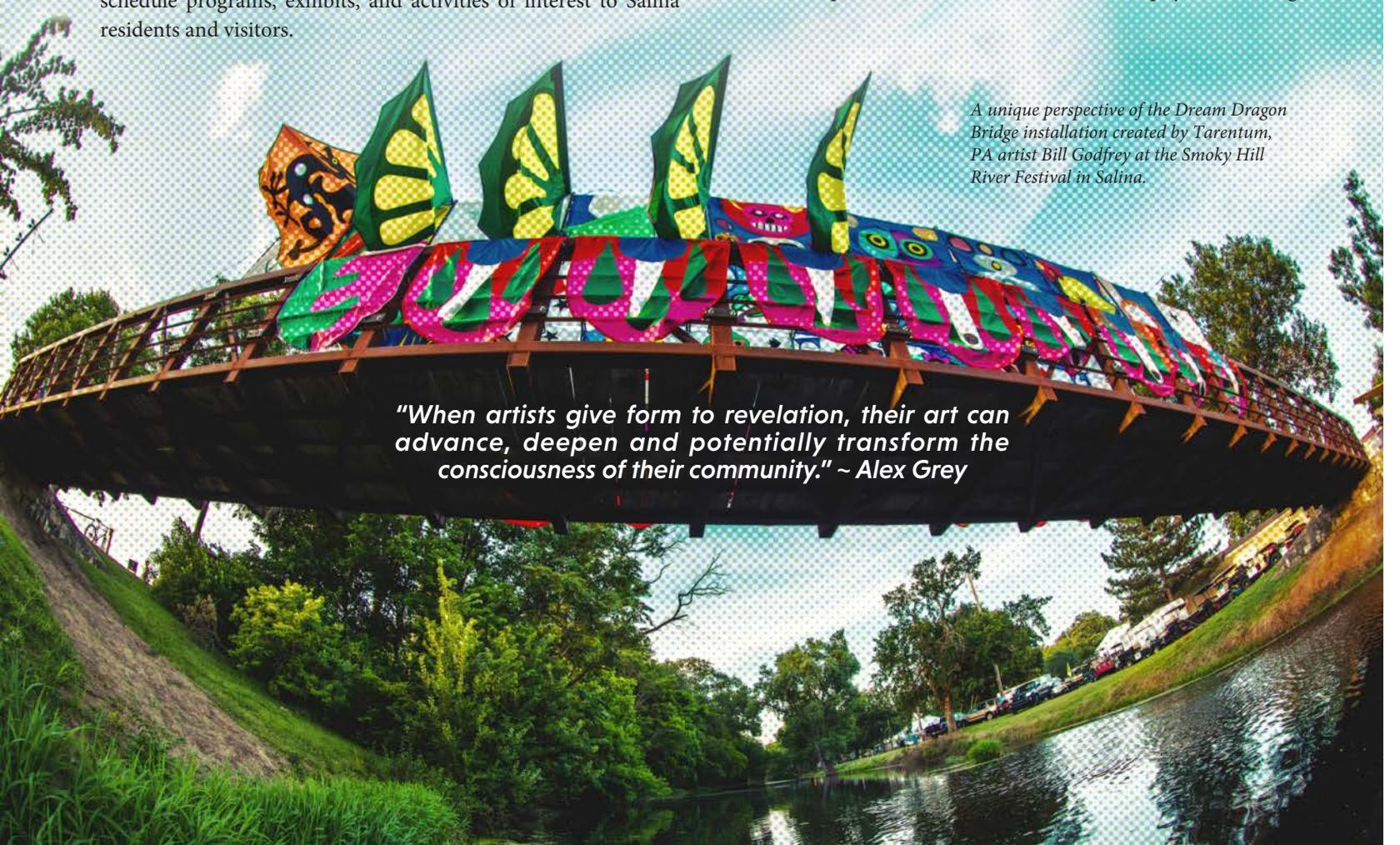
“We see artists as a vital part of the community and we want to engage with this often-underrepresented voice,” said Brad Anderson, Director of Salina Arts and Humanities. “We want to strengthen the role of artists in the community and we ask them, “What do you need?” to be successful.”

Most recently, Salina has undertaken a truly innovative program, the Artists Initiative for Creative Ingenuity, Healing and Neighborhood Development. This multi-year, grant-funded program was made possible through funding from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation, the Greater Salina Community Foundation, and the City of Salina.

The project has three components: the professional development of artists through workshops and classes; an initiative for arts and healing that brings health care providers and artists together to help improve patient outcomes by combining visual arts, writing, music, and performance with emotional and physical healing

*A unique perspective of the Dream Dragon Bridge installation created by Tarentum, PA artist Bill Godfrey at the Smoky Hill River Festival in Salina.*

***“When artists give form to revelation, their art can advance, deepen and potentially transform the consciousness of their community.” ~ Alex Grey***





*In Lawrence, live performances and impromptu art displays are a way of life.*

professions; and strategically integrating artists with the full scope of downtown redevelopment efforts. This March, the SPARK Artist Resource Exchange opened in a building in downtown Salina and provides space, connections, and resources that help artists thrive in the community.

“What we’re doing in Salina is strategically placing artists with businesses and organizations to participate in community efforts,” said Anderson. “We are working to equip local artists with the tools they need to be successful, working artists as well as help them connect to the community leaders who can utilize their skill set to accomplish a variety of projects across our community.”

Anderson credits the community’s Cultural Plan, *The Big Ideas*, as the catalyst and guiding force for many of the efforts and initiatives which have been completed in Salina. For more information on cultural planning, see page 76.

“In Lawrence, arts and culture is a big part of our community,” said Porter Arneill, Director of Communications and Creative Resources for the City of Lawrence. “Lawrence is fortunate to have strong arts programs, including

a robust Sister Cities program. We’ve taken steps to outline our community values through cultural planning. Additionally, we wanted to quantify the value of arts in our community through participation in the Arts and Economic Prosperity study. The results were phenomenal. The study showed that the nonprofit arts and culture sector in Lawrence and Douglas County is a \$30.8 million industry that supports 1,061 full-time equivalent jobs and generates \$2.8 million in local and state government revenue.”

In Lawrence, public officials and staff regularly discuss how to weave the arts into existing policies and programs. Arneill said these efforts help to maximize the arts conversation and engage the community in many ways.

“I encourage communities, when they are assessing ways to infuse arts in their programs, to take a step back and think through the process,” said Arneill. “Ask what is appropriate for your community, what funding do you have, what resources are available first. Don’t just satisfy a need or desire from the community. Be intentional about what your community wants to do and where to invest your energy.”

In many Kansas communities, active arts councils are spearheading



*More than 30 area artists participated in the first ASK Program (Artists Seeking Knowledge) held at Spark Artists Resource Exchange. Four eight-hour deep-dive workshops are planned for 2018 and numerous mini-session workshops will also be held.*

## Chapman, The Barn Quilt City of Kansas

In the central Kansas city of Chapman, population 1,361, visitors can take a tour of nearly 100 barn quilts on the exterior facades of businesses, city buildings, and homes. A barn quilt is a large piece of wood that has been painted to look like a single quilt block. The patterns of the quilt squares are usually very bright and simple, geometric patterns. The simplicity and vibrancy of the quilt square makes them easier to see from a distance. The designs on



the barn quilts are chosen for their particular meaning to the owner and can range from patriotic to multi-dimensional stars and floral designs.

In Chapman, the Americana art form of barn quilting has taken on a life of its own.

“We believe there are more barn quilts in Chapman than any other Kansas community, and possibly nationwide,” said City Administrator John Dudte. “It’s a quaint and fun part of living in Chapman.”

The community created a self-guided Walking and Driving Tour of Barn Quilts of Chapman and Dickinson County. The map can be found online at [www.chapmanks.com/chapman-barn-quilts](http://www.chapmanks.com/chapman-barn-quilts).



the inclusion of art and cultural programming in local government. Serena Schermoly is a Prairie Village Councilmember and Chair of the Prairie Village Arts Council, a volunteer committee of the City of Prairie Village, working with the Prairie Village Municipal Foundation to foster cultural awareness and development in the City of Prairie Village.

“We have several arts initiatives in Prairie Village,” said Schermoly. “From monthly exhibitions at the R.G. Endres Gallery at our municipal building on Mission Road, to the Jazz Festival each fall, we’re working to create an arts-supportive community.”



*The Endres Gallery is located in Prairie Village City Hall and showcases local art with temporary exhibitions.*

Since 1990, the City of Russell has operated the Deines Cultural Arts Center which features gallery space for local, regional, and national artists. Additionally, the center’s permanent collection includes impressive wood engravings by prairie printmaker E. Hubert Deines.

Another way cities are finding value is the creation of arts grants and funding for public art. In 2018, the City of Topeka has allocated \$30,000 for the TopArts Grants Program. The TopArts Grant Program supports arts education opportunities, cultural events, and the creation of public art.

In Lawrence, public art is one pillar of a successful municipal arts program. For three decades, the Outdoor Downtown Sculpture Exhibit has placed hundreds of pieces of public art in downtown Lawrence and offers regional and local artists the chance to gain hands-on experience developing and installing artwork in the public realm.

Many cities choose to add art into their public building projects, which can be done through percent-for-arts programs or through public-private fundraising efforts. In Derby, a new bronze statue of two firefighters has been commissioned for placement at the city’s newest fire station in central Derby. The statue was funded through a private fundraising campaign and public funds.

“It will not only honor the many firefighters and their families who have served the community for decades but will also solidify this core area of Derby as the heart of the city,” said City Manager Kathy Sexton.

The statue is designed by local artist John Parsons, a Derby native. In order for the statue to be as accurate as possible, Derby firefighters provided uniforms and gear for the artist to use for reference. The statue is original and incorporates the spirit of teamwork inherent in firefighting. The statue dedication and fire station opening are set for the early 2019.

The City of Roeland Park is also undertaking an effort to raise funding for a new sculpture for a local park. The Roeland Park Arts Committee is working to secure funding through private business, hopefully with minimal cost to the city.

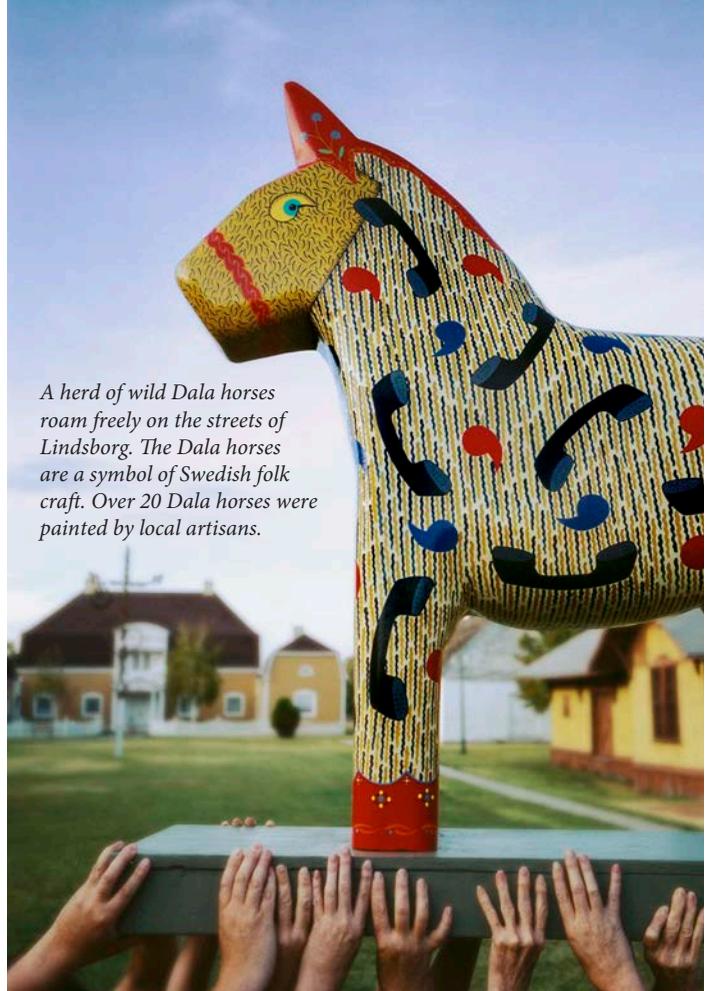
Arneill does caution cities to think about the longevity of public art programs and ensure maintenance plans are in place to take care of long-standing public art.

In many Kansas communities, murals are a fun way to infuse art into a community. In Concordia, a three-dimensional, 140-foot mural was crafted from 6,400 individually hand-carved bricks on the exterior of the Concordia Travel Information Center. The mural tells the story of the Cloud County.

In Lindsborg, the community's strong Swedish ancestry is preserved, promoted, and prevalent in the community of 3,300. Annually, the community offers concerts, festivals, and special events related to their Swedish heritage.

"This is the 137<sup>th</sup> year the people of Lindsborg and Bethany College have come together to perform Handel's *Messiah*," said Holly Lofton, Director of the Lindsborg Convention and Visitors Bureau. "This is the oldest, continuous annual performance of the *Messiah* in the United States."

Lofton believes the early inhabitants of the Kansas prairie longed for the beauty of music to be included in the hard-scrabble life of pioneers.



*A herd of wild Dala horses roam freely on the streets of Lindsborg. The Dala horses are a symbol of Swedish folk craft. Over 20 Dala horses were painted by local artisans.*



*An example of grassroots art on display in Lucas by artist John Woods.*



*Art is meant to be explored and enjoyed. Outside the Lawrence Arts Center, kids and adults experience a piece of public art suspended in the air.*

“Music brings the community together,” said Lofton. “Every year, people gather in Lindsborg to celebrate music, engage in theatre productions, and hear renowned vocal soloists perform.”

Also in Lindsborg, a wild herd of Dala horses, a Swedish handicraft, roam freely. Dozens of these fiberglass, pony-sized symbols can be found around the city as a form of public art and expression of the community’s heritage.

“Art adds vibrancy and richness to the texture of a community,” said Lindsborg City Councilwoman Kathy Richardson, “Art is a signal of creativity and openness and, for other reasons, a sign of economic viability. The open display of art and artistic expression sends a signal that this is a place where people are thinking, doing, and creating.”

Art can take many forms and can be simple or complex. In Lucas, the Grassroots Art Capital of Kansas, the creation of art is free-form and a little bit eccentric.

“Grassroots art is a term describing art made by people with no formal artistic training, usually of retirement age, using ordinary materials in an extraordinary way,” said Rosslyn Schultz, Executive Director of Grassroots Art Center in Lucas. “Grassroots art is frequently created as a whole artistic environment around themselves, effectively making themselves part of the artwork.”

There are several features in Lucas and within a 40-mile radius which are in the style of grassroots art. Schultz said that her organization has documented 109 examples of grassroots arts in Kansas alone.

Continued on Page 94

## Ottawa Movie Theater Named World's Oldest

The Plaza Cinema in Ottawa has been named the Oldest Purpose-Built Cinema in Operation by Guinness World Records. The deco-styled downtown movie theater opened at 211 S. Main Street on May 22, 1907 and still shows current-run movies.

The Plaza’s record beat the previous record holder, the Korsor Biograf in Denmark, which opened in August 1908, by more than a year.

Owner Rita “Peach” Madl has spent years collecting evidence to secure the record ever since local historical archivist Deborah Barker uncovered a trove of photographs that indicated the theater was already operating in Ottawa’s early horse-and-buggy days.

Convincing Guinness was a daunting task that required submitting documentation in the form of articles, movie ads, and photographs for every year in the cinema’s 111-year history.

Over the years, the theater changed names and owners and expanded but never moved. It opened as The Bijou, and for a time, was called The Yale and The Crystal before opening as The Plaza in 1935.

When the cinema opened, tickets cost five-cents and usually included two moving pictures and an “illustrated song” performed by a live singer.

Behind the current twin screening rooms at the Plaza, in the original stage area, Madl has created the Movie Memorabilia Museum. Exhibits include a numbered original Edison Kinetoscope, movie scripts, posters, and props.

For more information visit <http://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/world-records/oldest-purpose-built-cinema-in-operation>.





# Governing Body Member David Alvey

## **What Do You Think is the Primary Role of Municipal Government?**

The primary role of Municipal Government is to provide quality basic services to residents and business owners and at the least financial and regulatory burden as possible. In doing so, we encourage stakeholders to invest their lives and fortunes in our community.

## **What is Your Professional Position and What Are Your Typical Duties?**

My professional position is Mayor/CEO of the Unified Government. My basic responsibilities include representing the City and County at public events, approving the agenda for the County Commission, and supervising the County Administrator.

## **What is Your Favorite Thing About Kansas?**

My favorite thing about Kansas is that it is my home, and has been home to both sides of my family since the 1850's.

## **Please Share a Little Personal Information About Yourself.**

I spent 31 years of my professional life as a teacher, coach, program developer, and Assistant Principal.

## **What is Your Favorite Thing About Your Community?**

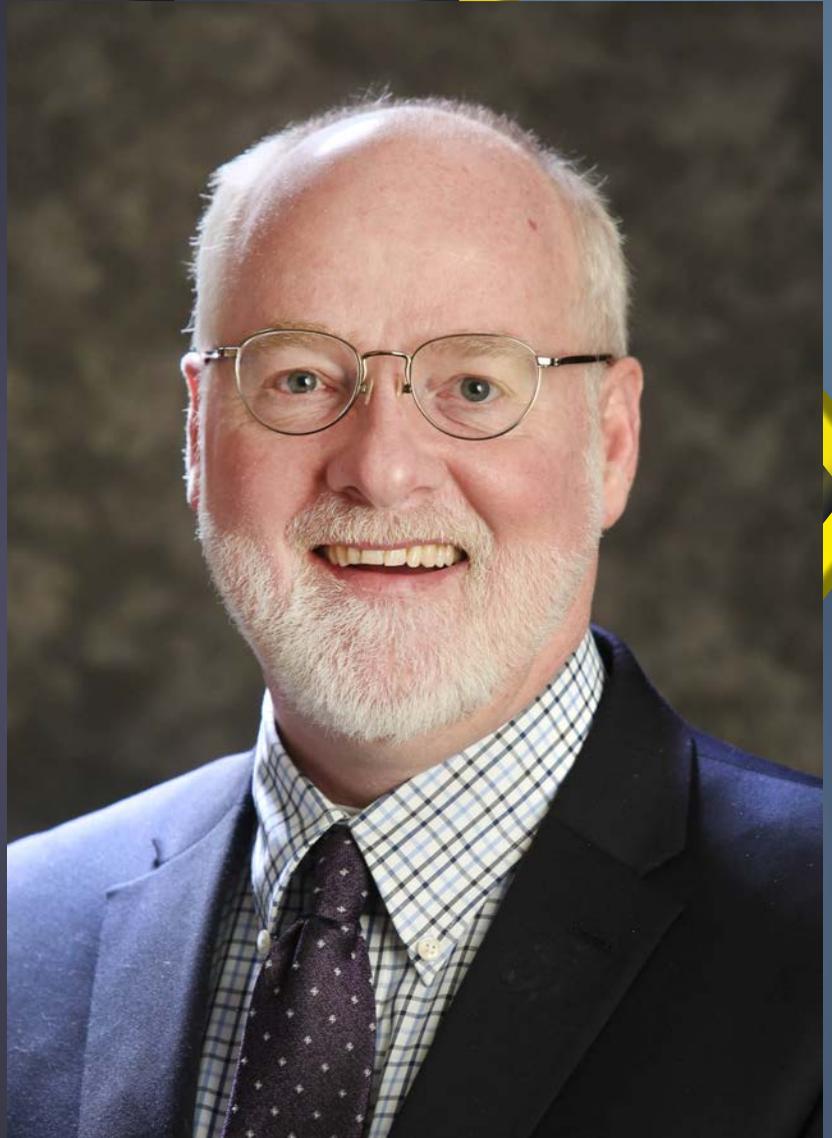
My favorite thing about my community is the resiliency of our residents!

## **What Made You Want to Join City Government?**

I wanted to join city government because I am confident I can facilitate the good that our stakeholders want to achieve in our Wyandotte County.

## **Is this your first time on a statewide board?**

I have not been on a statewide board, but I have served on the American Public Power Association Policy Makers Council, and am currently the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair.



# Best Practices

## Cultural Planning: An Important Tool in Community Development

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By Brad Anderson, Executive Director of the Salina Arts and Humanities Department

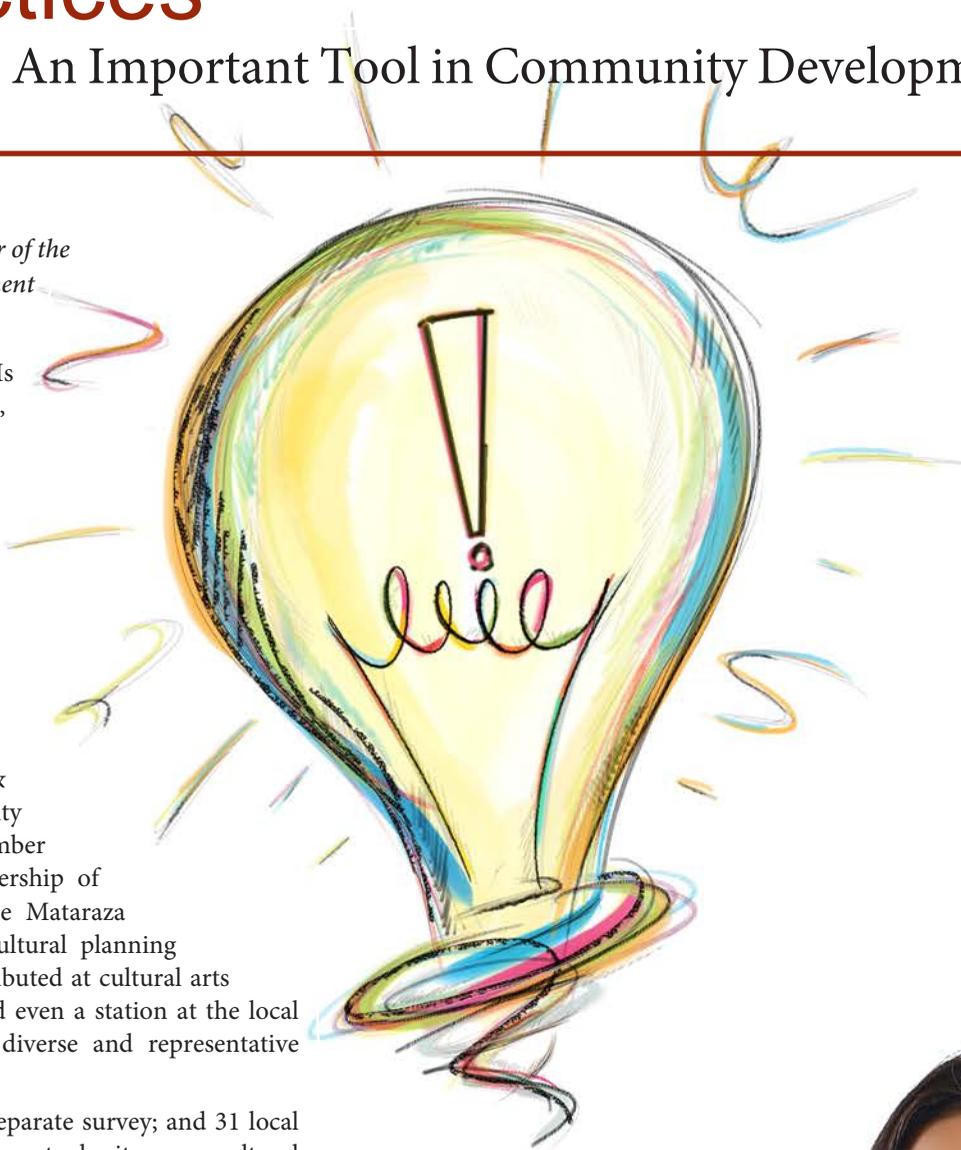
So what's the big idea? Is this a sincere question, a challenge, a ridicule? Well, in Salina, it is none of the above. *The Big Ideas* is a community cultural plan, adopted by the City Commission in 2009, which has helped shape community development and public attitudes since its approval.

The plan was developed over an 18-month period by Salina Arts & Humanities, a department of the City of Salina, and was shaped by a 71-member steering committee under the leadership of professional strategic planner Diane Mataraza of Saint Augustine, Florida. The cultural planning process included 1,177 surveys distributed at cultural arts events, by e-mail, postal service, and even a station at the local Wal-Mart store to help ensure a diverse and representative sampling of opinions were received.

Nearly 200 artists took part in a separate survey; and 31 local and regional organizations providing arts, heritage, or cultural offerings also responded to additional questions. Most of the cultural organizations provided their mailing lists so regional audience data could be gathered. More than 800 citizens took time to attend community listening sessions facilitated by Mataraza and hosted by Arts & Humanities Commissioners and Foundation Board members. All the data gathered became the backbone of *The Big Ideas* and was fully supported by City leadership and the governing body. Mataraza sites Salina as one of the most engaged communities she has ever worked.

The primary goals of *The Big Ideas* include making the arts more available and accessible; enhancing streets, neighborhoods, and developing community pride; using arts as an economic engine; and strengthening how arts organizations and artists work in the community. Each goal has numerous components designed to strengthen public engagement and perceptions of arts, culture, and heritage offerings across the community.

I served on the Steering Committee as a faculty member at Kansas Wesleyan University when the plan was developed. Little did I know that a few years later would be helping implement the four goals, 17 actions, and 58 strategies of *The*





Salina Arts & Humanities Visual Arts Coordinator Grace Peterson presents during an Artists Inc. workshop called *What Works*, funded in part by Kansas Creative Arts Industries Commission, at the Salina Art Center Warehouse. More than 65 artists from central Kansas attended the workshop.

*Big Ideas* as the Executive Director of Salina Arts & Humanities. The City’s staff had attempted to launch the entire plan just after adoption. It was overwhelming to everyone and it had stalled by the time I arrived in 2011. I assessed the situation, reprioritized the actions, and focused on five-to-eight strategies for each of the following six years.

Despite the strength of the cultural arts in Salina, 2008 survey results indicated the community was 40-points below the national average when asked, “Do you value the role the arts play in your community?” That statistic kept me up at night. We began taking immediate steps to address public value and negative perceptions. Since that time, we have been able to move the needle in positive ways since implementing the plan.

The improvements were evident when we asked many of the same questions from the original survey to a diverse cross-section of the community in the fall of 2016. The results were impressive. The 560 respondents were much more positive in a variety of areas. We were within a couple of points of the national averages on the value of arts question. This improvement far exceeded what I thought possible in a relatively abbreviated time.

The plan cost just over \$40,000 and involved hundreds of volunteer hours, but our city and others believe it was well worth the investment. The plan serves the City department and other cultural institutions as an important guide as they plan and coordinate events, build stronger networks, and act on identified community needs. All of the local cultural directors help provide data and information that keep the plan up-to-date.

Some of the strategies are on their third and fourth refinement since the plan was implemented. For example, we are on our fourth community calendar since 2009. We have learned a lot along the way and have to remain flexible as times, economies, and needs of a community change.

I believe cultural planning is an important exercise for any community to consider regardless of size. A well-done plan provides a clear direction, strategies for implementation, accountability of responsible parties, and measurable results. From our experience, I would also suggest having a few “champions” who lead and own the project. A cultural plan can’t sit on a shelf and happen without stakeholder ownership, guidance, and intentionality.

So what’s the next big idea? In Salina, we are going to be busy for the next few years as a result of implementing the strategies from the plan. The good news is we have a clear direction and can measure our progress.

The entire *Big Ideas Cultural Plan* can be found on the Salina Arts & Humanities website at [http://salinaarts.com/pdfs/big\\_Ideas.pdf](http://salinaarts.com/pdfs/big_Ideas.pdf)

 **Brad Anderson** is the Executive Director of the Salina Arts and Humanities Department. He can be reached at [brad.anderson@salina.org](mailto:brad.anderson@salina.org).

# Heroic Acts in Hesston



## *Kansas Police Chief Honored with Medal of Valor*

*By Megan Gilliland, Communications & Education Manager, League of Kansas Municipalities*

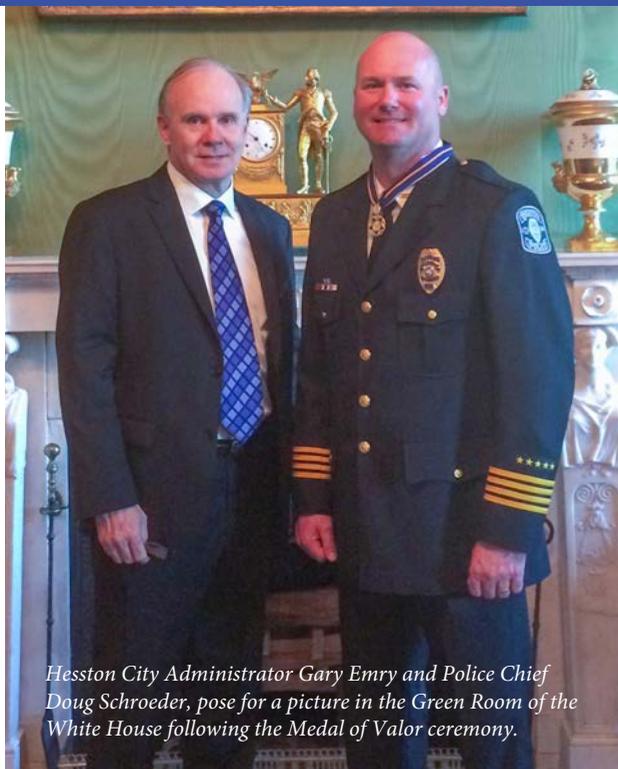
Shortly before 5:00 p.m. on February 26, 2016, the Harvey County Communications Center received reports of a driver firing shots on a roadway northwest of Newton. As officers arrived on scene, it was unclear if the shooter was still in the area. In Hesston, approximately six miles northwest of Newton, Police Chief Doug Schroeder was monitoring the fluid situation. Unbeknownst to him, the shooter had carjacked a vehicle and was heading for Hesston; Chief Schroeder would soon come face-to-face with a man on a rampage.

“I got a call that there was an active shooter at the Excel Industries Plant in Hesston,” said Schroeder. “I was two blocks away from the plant and knew that many of our local law enforcement officers were converging on the scene outside of Newton. I headed straight for the facility.”

When Schroeder arrived at Excel Industries, he saw people streaming out of the multi-building factory. Excel Industries employs approximately 1,100 people and makes residential and commercial lawnmowers and outdoor lawn equipment; he estimates between 200 and 300 employees were on-site at the time of the shooting.

“My training kicked in immediately as I entered the building and followed the sound of gun shots,” said Schroeder. “When dealing with an active shooter, I knew to immediately engage the shooter and not wait for back-up. I knew I needed to end the situation quickly without further loss of life.”

He met the armed gunman, Cedric Ford, in a hallway and engaged in a shoot-out with Ford. Ford was killed. From the time of the first 911 call to report a shooter on the highway to the gunfire exchange in the plant, only eight minutes had transpired.



*Hesston City Administrator Gary Emry and Police Chief Doug Schroeder, pose for a picture in the Green Room of the White House following the Medal of Valor ceremony.*

“Because of my previous training, I had prepared myself mentally to get through tough situations,” said Schroeder.

Due to Schroeder’s swift and courageous actions, countless lives were saved. Unfortunately, three lives were lost that day and 10 people were critically injured by the gunman. Due to the quick and efficient efforts of law enforcement, emergency medical personnel, and many others, all 10 of the injured survived.

In February 2018, Schroeder was honored by President Donald Trump at the White House. He was one of 12 law enforcement officers awarded a Medal of Valor. The Medal of Valor is the highest decoration for bravery exhibited by

public safety officers in the United States. It is comparable to the military’s Medal of Honor.

“He closed in on the shooter, dodging bullets and firing back until he stopped the killer cold. Chief Schroeder you saved a lot of lives. Thank God you were there. Thank you Chief,” said President Trump.

“I cannot stress enough that my actions were part of a larger effort that day,” said Schroeder. “Although a medal was placed on my neck, there were a lot of things that went right because of the team effort of many people that day.”

Among the lessons learned from the Excel Industries active shooter incident, Schroeder said that there are two key items local governments can take away from the experience. First, building relationships with other agencies is tantamount. Agencies must work with each other and know that no one group can handle a situation on their own. Over 250 people from multiple organizations were involved in the Excel shooting.



The gray truck at the center of the photo was carjacked by the active shooter and driven to Excel Industries, where he continued his shooting rampage inside the plant.

“No one agency can handle an incident like this on their own,” said Schroeder.

Second, he noted the investment his organization had made in training, specifically incident command training, was imperative.

“We established command quickly and had incident command set up through the life of the crime scene,” said Schroeder.

 **Megan Gilliland** is the Communications and Education Manager for the League of Kansas Municipalities. She can be reached at [mgilliland@lkm.org](mailto:mgilliland@lkm.org). **Chief Doug Schroeder** can be reached at (620) 327-2020.

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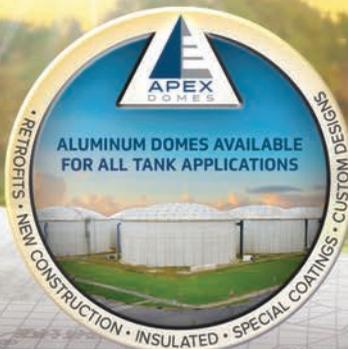
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# Legal Forum SUMMER FUN

## Common Considerations for Municipalities

*By Doug Taylor, former Legal Counsel, League of Kansas Municipalities*

**W**ith the summer months fast approaching, cities will inevitably encounter certain seasonal issues on a more consistent basis. Some of the most significant issues that the League is commonly asked for help by member cities involve the hiring of youth employees, the process involved in holding a special event where alcohol will be sold, and music licensing at city sponsored events. This column will provide a primer on these issues in the hope that your city can avoid any of the confusion that can sometimes be associated with them, and instead have a smooth and enjoyable summer.

### Hiring of Youth Employees

Generally speaking, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) is the sole agency that monitors and enforces child labor laws. The DOL's Wage and Hour Division is tasked with enforcement of any child labor provisions found in the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). Most Kansas law relating to youth employment is based off of FLSA provisions; however, it is important to realize that if any conflict exists between state and federal provisions, the more stringent law applies.

An employer may not hire an individual under the age of 18 for any job that "is in any way dangerous or injurious to the life, health, safety, morals, or welfare" of the individual. The DOL has specified some jobs that are to be considered "dangerous," including driving a motor vehicle, using power machinery such as saws or hoisting equipment, working with explosives or firearms,

and any job involving roofing, demolition, or excavation. This means that, generally speaking, a minor may do office work, light janitorial work, kitchen work not involving the use of ovens or grills, and errand or delivery work as long as it does not involve the use of a motor vehicle. Outside of these specified jobs, a city should always exercise judgment and caution as to whether a job is dangerous in any way, as the term can be defined fairly broadly.

There are additional specific requirements depending upon the age of the youth employee. Individuals who are 14 and 15 years of age can work no more than three hours per day on school days, and no more than eight hours per day on non-school days. They are allowed to work a maximum of 18 hours per week while school is in session, and may work a maximum of 40 hours per week once school is no longer in session. As for their working day, they may only work between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.; however, between June 1 and Labor Day, they are allowed to work until 9:00 p.m.

Individuals who are 16 or 17 years of age have no restrictions on their work hours. Normal FLSA overtime rules would apply.

One of the most common summer jobs for youth is that of lifeguard, and to that end, there are specific child labor laws relating to lifeguards. To serve as a lifeguard, an individual must be at least 15 years of age. Lifeguards who are 15 years of age may only work at traditional swimming pools and most types of water parks, and must have certification by the American Red Cross or other equivalent organization. A 15-year-old lifeguard may be stationed at the “splashdown” pools located at the bottom of an elevated water slide, but may not work at the top platform level of such a slide. Individuals who are 16 or 17 years of age must have the same American Red Cross or equivalent certification, and may also operate most water park rides. In addition, they may work as a lifeguard at natural environment facilities, such as lakes, ponds, rivers, and similar features.

As a general rule, cities should always use caution in the types of jobs for which youth employees are hired. The penalties for any violations of child labor laws, state or federal, can be quite steep. If there are any doubts or uncertainties related to a hiring issue, it is recommended to consult with your city attorney or contact the DOL hotline at (866) 487-9243.

## Special Events Featuring Alcohol

As spring and summer weather approaches, many cities often wish to feature special outdoor events such as festivals, concerts, or other gatherings, which are inevitably linked with the sale of alcohol. Assuming the proper steps are followed beforehand, these events can be tremendous tourism and economic development opportunities, so it is important to understand how such an event needs to be coordinated.

First and foremost, the sale of alcohol requires some form of state-issued license or permit. For an event occurring on city property, such as a street, alley, sidewalk, or highway, this is accomplished through the issuance of a special event temporary permit by Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC). Once the decision has been made to hold such an event, the governing body of the city must pass an ordinance authorizing the event and the consumption of



Lifeguards must be at least 15 years of age and have certification through the American Red Cross or other specified agency.

alcohol on the property desired. If the property in question is a roadway of any kind, this ordinance needs to specify that it will be closed to motor vehicle traffic for the duration of the event. Once the ordinance has been passed, it can be submitted to ABC with an application for a special event temporary permit (called an ABC-830 form, which can be found on the ABC website, [www.ksrevenue.org/abcindex.html](http://www.ksrevenue.org/abcindex.html)). ABC charges the permit holder \$25 per day and permits can be issued for a maximum of three days, in addition, the city can charge a reasonable permit fee. Only four permits can be issued to an individual within a calendar year.

Once the permit has been issued by ABC, alcohol can be sold and consumed at the event, pursuant to all guidelines and requirements found within the Kansas Club and Drinking Establishment Act, K.S.A. 41-2601 et seq. If there are current liquor license holders such as bars or restaurants that are located within or adjacent to the boundaries of a special event temporary permit, they may elect to “extend” their licensed premises into the event premises, which would allow their patrons to remove alcoholic drinks purchased inside their licensed premises out into the permitted event premises.

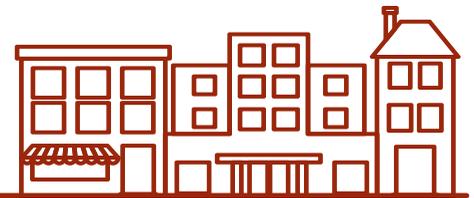
## Music Licensing

If a city uses recorded music as part of any program it provides to the public, it is important to remember the city must have a license authorizing the use of the music. The International Municipal Lawyers Association (IMLA) has negotiated a model license agreement with two of the agencies that license the public use of recorded music. The agencies are ASCAP and BMI. There is a third agency, SESAC who has not agreed to the model license contract. The IMLA license agreement makes it much easier for a city to be sure it is in compliance with copyright laws.

 **Doug Taylor** was Legal Counsel for the League of Kansas Municipalities.

# Community Profile

By Megan Gilliland, League of Kansas Municipalities



## Central Kansas City Enjoys Boost in Community Investment

## Abilene

The 34<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, Dwight D. Eisenhower, once wrote: “The proudest thing I can claim is that I am from Abilene!” It’s no wonder why one of America’s most admired presidents was proud to grow up in this central Kansas city. Abilene, population 6,400, has a storied past as cattle town and westernmost terminus of the first railroads in Kansas. Abilene sits in the Smoky Hill River Valley and offers an abundance of museums, cultural attractions, historic mansions, and was named one of the “20 Best Small Towns to Visit” by *Smithsonian Magazine*.

“Abilene has a long-standing history as a tourism community,” said Convention and Visitors Bureau Director Julie Roller. “As the terminus of the historic Chisholm Trail, when Joseph McCoy brought millions of heads of cattle and ambitious cowboys to Abilene, to today when each year Abilene welcomes hundreds of thousands of visitors to its attractions, community leaders continue to work together to celebrate Abilene’s rich history and exciting future.”

Due to its size and location on the plains, Abilene’s inhabitants enjoy small-town charm and livability while also staying connected to their agricultural roots.

*Abilene has a long-withstanding history as a tourism community, from the Chisholm Trail when Joseph McCoy brought millions of heads of cattle and ambitious cowboys to Abilene to the only operational steam locomotive in Kansas.*

“For me and my family, Abilene is a great fit,” said Austin Gilley, City Manager for Abilene. “I appreciate our proximity to the rural area combined with the community’s pride.”

Gilley is a new addition to the community but he sees many opportunities and positives in Abilene.

“If I had to pick a word to describe the climate in Abilene right now, I would say investment,” said Gilley. “There is re-investment going on in downtown by the city and local businesses, investment in our industries by private companies, and new investment in businesses along I-70 as a travel thoroughfare. There are many good signs for development occurring right now.”

Abilene’s placement along Dwight D. Eisenhower’s greatest infrastructure project, the Interstate Highway System, continues to be a source of growth and expansion for the City. Sections of I-70 in Kansas were the first portions of the interstate system to be paved and completed with funding from the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956.



According to Chuck Scott, Dickinson County Economic Development Corporation Executive Director, Abilene has two new 24-hour convenience stores opening on the interstate. One store will have RV parking spaces for travelers and another is a new Love's Truck Stop convenience store opening in 2018.

"There are several industry partners looking at expansion opportunities in Abilene," said Scott. "Recruitment and business retention efforts are very active right now. We can't publicly speak about efforts yet but we have firm commitments from companies that will be moving to Abilene to expand their operations, as well as expansion of local companies."

Industrial manufacturing has a strong presence in Abilene. The local Land Pride factory is a division of Great Plains Manufacturing and was purchased by Kubota. Land Pride manufactures farm implements and is a leader in the landscape and light construction industry. Abilene is also home to the Russell Stover's chocolate plant which opened in the mid-1990s.

"I have only been in Abilene about five weeks; however, I love the rural and urban mix of this community," said Scott. "I am very positive about the future of Abilene – the energy of investment and reinvestment is alive here."

Scott sees buy-in from the community through a recently completed \$1-million capital campaign for economic development in Dickinson County. A majority of the funding was raised through private entities and individuals but the cities and county contributed to the overall campaign, too. The funding will be used to further economic development in Dickinson County by promoting and assisting the growth and development of business and industry.

"Like many communities, we all felt the effects of the recession but we've come out strong," said Gilley. "There is certainly evidence of community viability and reinvestment throughout the downtown and private-sector businesses."

Gilley said the Abilene City Commission has made downtown development a priority and a streetscape plan is under review now.

For Kansans, it's hard to mention Abilene and not associate the city with President Eisenhower. His legacy and love of the community is as prevalent today as ever. The Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library, Museum, and Boyhood Home hosts presentations each month that examine Ike's role and historical significance. The library has a massive collection of historical records, papers, photographs, motion picture film, and artifacts. The museum is undergoing an ambitious renovation and will re-open on June 2019 – the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day. This historic day was selected in honor of Dwight D. Eisenhower's role in planning the Normandy landings — the largest military operation in history.

"Locally we are working to preserve Eisenhower's legacy but there is great interest in our hometown president outside of Abilene," said Gilley.

A statue was approved for placement at the state capitol in Topeka this year. Also, the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial is under construction in Washington, D.C. which will be directly



*A bronze statue of Dwight D. Eisenhower is one of the many features on display at the Eisenhower Presidential Library, Museum, and Boyhood Home in Abilene.*

across from the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum and adjacent to the Department of Education.

"Other communities would love to have a piece of what Abilene has to offer," said Roller. "Abilene has plenty to offer its residents and visitors alike."

In Abilene, the community is poised to grow. Gilley noted a new housing edition is ready for development with infrastructure in place. The community is active and embraces its history and looks to the future with pride. Just as Eisenhower claimed he was proud to be from Abilene, today's residents are proud they come from a community where character matters and generational roots run deep.

 **Megan Gilliland** is the Communications and Education Manager for the League of Kansas Municipalities. She can be reached at [mgilliland@lkm.org](mailto:mgilliland@lkm.org).



# Major Work Comp Cost Drivers

By Don Osenbaugh, Pool Administrator for KMIT

Work comp is important! Not only are Workers Compensation provisions mandated by law, it is what provides essential benefits for employees who get hurt at work. All Kansas cities must have in place workers compensation coverage for all of their employees.

Work comp insurance is not free, of course, and can get very expensive. Cities should do everything in their power to provide a safe and secure workplace environment, along with the best possible work comp benefits and services to their employees, while also doing their best to hold down the costs. *Both sides of that equation are essential* to having a good work comp program in place.



Here are some ways to provide the best personal services to valuable and loyal employees, while also holding costs down:

**Hire The Right People!** The very important, but significantly under-appreciated, first step in the process of providing a good work comp program for the city is to **hire only those prospects who can actually perform the physical requirements for the specific position** for which she/he is being hired. A plain, 'old-fashioned' physical is not a whole lot better than doing nothing, in terms of work comp. Generic 'range of motion,' etc. tests are better, but the best practice is to have a physical test for every single job the city has, and **test for the specific essential functions** of each and every job. Post-Offer Pre-Employment Testing (POET) is the cutting-edge mechanism for hiring the right people.

Cities have traditionally tended to 'hire by resume', and, while it is obviously important to hire 'pre-trained' and/or experienced people, that should not be considered the only requirement for employment with the city. It's a proven statistical truth that the more physically qualified the new employee is, the better the odds are for lower costs of future work comp claims.

**Safety. Safety. Safety.** Cities are dangerous places to work. Make safety the city's number one priority - every time, in every situation.

And, while workplace safety generally has improved dramatically over the last several decades, cities are still dangerous places to work. Lots of things can, and do, happen in cities, and the city must provide a very wide variety of public services to its citizens and visitors, seven-days-a-week, rain/snow/sleet/ice/tornadoes/etc.) or shine. Employees can easily get hurt, and hurt badly.

Employees deserve the safest work environment possible. And, having fewer workplace accidents helps keep the city's work comp costs down, plain and simple. How good is your city's 'Safety Culture?' How about the quality and effectiveness of your city's safety program?

**Report Claims PROMPTLY.** Accidents do happen. City workers do get hurt. Workplace injury events will never go away, even in the safest city.

The quicker the city can get the work injury event reported to the city's Claims Manager (or adjuster), the better. Prompt reporting leads to better care for the employee in many cases, and surely in the most severe cases.

The sooner the Claims Manager can be 'managing' the claim, the better the chance of reducing the costs, and sometimes dramatically reducing the costs. Any delay in reporting a workplace injury is certainly not fair to the injured worker, and a delay can, and often does, lead to increasing the final cost of a claim.

Excellent claims management is essential to a having a good work comp program in cities, and claim management can't start until the Claims Manager knows about the claim.

**Have a 'Return-To-Work' Policy and Enforce It.** Many studies over virtually the entire spectrum of the U.S. work force have proven beyond any doubt that the best post-accident' practice for any employer or city in work comp is a 'Return-To-Work Policy.' Make sure the city has in place an official policy to get injured workers back to work absolutely as quickly as the work comp doctor says they are physically able to do so. It doesn't have to be full-time or even in the same job, or department, but get them back to work, **even while they are still in the process of fully recovering to return full-time to their own job.**

Returning an employee to at least some level of work has been shown to greatly enhance both the physical and psychological/emotional healing and well-being of the injured worker. And, it also **saves the city money.**

But, the city's Return-To-Work Policy must be formal to be truly effective; codified in the city's Personnel Manual, or by resolution, etc. A 'policy' that is informal, and not written down, is not really a policy, is it?

A good work comp program is comprised of many moving parts, and contains many more subtle and not-so-subtle best practices. Not nearly all 'tips' are discussed here. Being committed to doing the best job possible in addressing this group of four major work comp cost drivers will go a long way towards improving your city's performance.

 **Don Osenbaugh** is the Pool Administrator for KMIT (Kansas Municipal Insurance Trust), which now numbers 161 City members (about 4,500 employees). Serving Kansas exclusively, KMIT was started in 1994, and was originally a 'subset' of the League. KMIT's members oversee the pool through a Board of Trustees comprised entirely of officials from its member organizations.



# Developing a Successful Arts Commission



Photo credit to City of Olathe

By Don Morrison, City Administrator, Bonney Lake, Washington

**I**s it realistically possible to develop a successful arts commission when the city has little funding to contribute? Yes, it is. Here are some tips on creating an arts commission from Bonney Lake, Washington where they created an arts commission consisting of nine members, including youth representatives, drawn from various artistic disciplines. The enabling resolution spelled out the purpose and goals of the commission — an important step for any new commission.

One of the first orders of business was to develop bylaws and a work plan. Knowing that the city had limited funds, the arts commission members began partnering with established programs to leverage their work. In two short years, the commission has initiated and undertaken several activities, with city arts commission financial support totaling less than \$5,000.

Here are some keys to establishing a successful arts commission on a shoestring budget:

**Provide guidance.** Include the mission, purpose, and goals of the commission in the enabling ordinance or resolution.

**Create a “working” commission.** Appoint commissioners willing to serve as volunteer staff and help with art-related projects and events. It is important to balance out the commission representation with various artistic backgrounds (e.g., visual arts, performing arts) so that the commission is not dominated by a single interest (e.g., painters).

**Provide early top-level staff support** to ensure that the commission gets off to a good start and establishes a culture that is compatible with the intent of the enabling resolution.

**Establish commission bylaws** addressing officers, agenda setting, meetings, conduct, etc.

**Develop an initial two-year work plan.** The work plan can consist of things the mayor and council would like to see as well as things the commissioners themselves want to undertake. The Bonney Lake Arts Commission work plan is a table with columns for project/activity, description, year, priority, partners, key dates, project leader, and notes.

**Reach out to artists** in your community through social media, networking, and other outreach. Word will spread.

**Encourage partnerships** with other organizations to leverage resources. This can include partnerships with local nonprofits, including the historical society, civic organizations, and city special events. Every community has a different set of priorities and capabilities. It doesn’t take a fortune to establish an effective arts commission – and the whole community stands to benefit.

 **Don Morrison**, is the City Administrator, Bonney Lake, Washington. Reprinted with permission from the Association of Washington Cities’ publication *CityVision Magazine*, May/June 2017 edition.

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## Merriam Dedicated to Public Art with Five-Year Initiative

By Jenna Gant, Communications Manager, City of Merriam

Looking for ways to enhance public spaces in the downtown area, the City of Merriam began a five-year initiative to bring creative and compelling art to the City. The City Council allocated \$500,000 for five public art projects. The idea was to honor the City's history and identity while enriching and inspiring the community for those who live in, work in, and visit Merriam.

The first art sculpture, *Still Time*, was unveiled in July 2016. The 16-foot limestone tower with a wind chime sits at the corner of Merriam and Johnson Drives. It was created by DRAW Architecture + Urban Design in collaboration with sound artist Paul Rudy.

Additionally, Merriam residents can now enjoy art in a fun, reflective way with *Planting the Seeds* (at right). The sculpture is the second piece dedicated as part of the public-art initiative. Inspired by nature, Colorado artist Christopher Weed made three, six-foot large spheres that have a brilliant mirror finish with organic variations suggesting large, sprouting seeds. The goal of the piece is to transform the viewer to another realm - muting outside distractions and providing an opportunity to reflect, if only for a moment. The stunning sculpture is made with polished stainless steel and was installed in December 2017.

The public art committee is in the process of selecting its third public art piece. The winning design will be placed near Waterfall Park.

Merriam offers several local destinations for art-lovers including the Tim Murphy Art Gallery inside the Irene B. French Community Center. Monthly exhibits are free and open to the public. For more information, visit [www.merriam.org/760/Art](http://www.merriam.org/760/Art).



# KANSAS GOVERNMENT

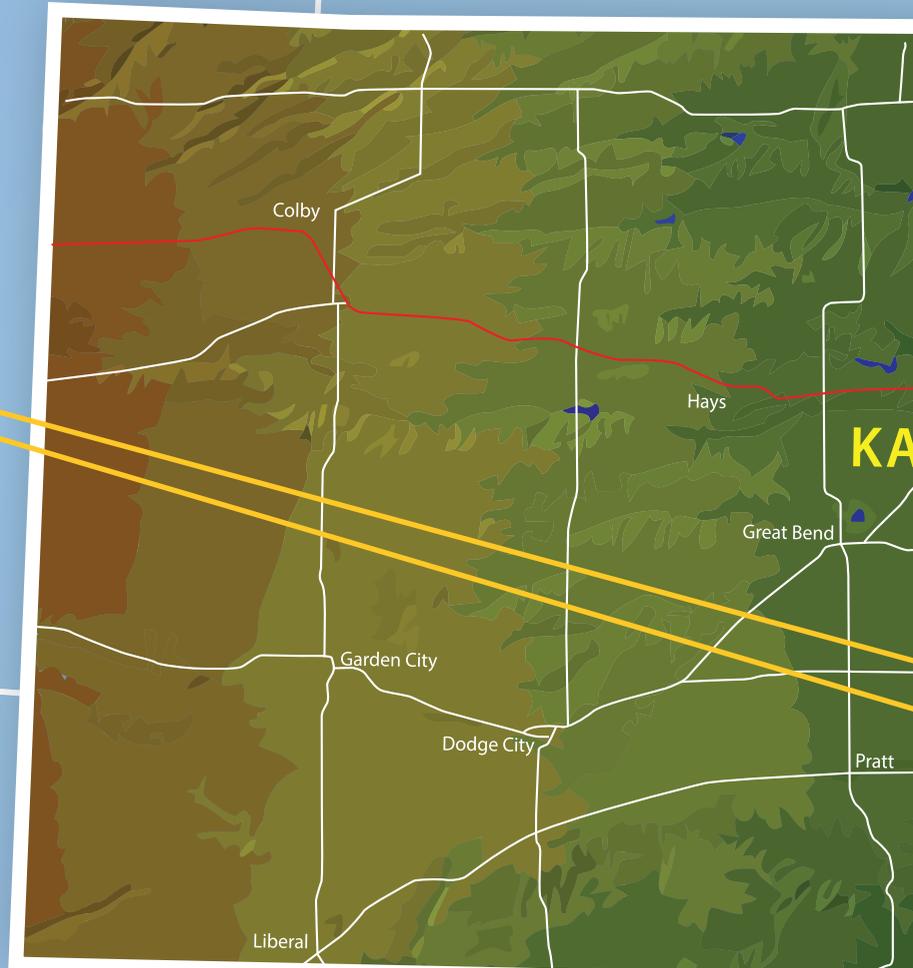
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## Valley Center & Haysville

### Two Sedgwick County Cities Constructing Dog Parks

The Haysville City Council approved construction of a dog park in the Randal L. Dorner Park Complex. The three-acre facility will include a patio area, shade structure, drinking foundation for dogs and their owners, eight benches, and four dog waste stations. There will be separate areas for large and small dogs. Also planned in the park complex is completion of eight soccer fields, construction of an access road, and additional parking. Funding for the park is appropriated from street sales tax revenue, park sales tax, and capital improvement funds.

The Valley Center City Council approved funding to build a dog park in Lions Park. The fenced park will be situated west of the Community Center & Library, which is under construction. The park will have two separate areas — one for small dogs and a second for large dogs. The Valley Center Animal League is donating some funding toward the project.



## Coffeyville

### City Adopts Rental Housing Standards

Coffeyville City Commissioners recently adopted minimum standards for rental housing which requires any person who rents property to obtain a residential landlord occupation license. Packets of information including the adopting ordinance, housing quality standards, and license application were mailed to landlords who are currently listed in the utility system. Landlords have until June 30 to become licensed. The annual fee is \$50 plus \$2 for each rental property. No inspections are required for properties licensed by June 30, 2018.

# VERNMENT NEWS



## Merriam

### City Partners with Neighborhoods on Beautification Efforts

The City is partnering with residents to spruce up Merriam neighborhoods with the Neighborhood Island Grant. This pilot program is a 100% reimbursement grant (up to \$350) to residents who offer to maintain one of the 20 neighborhood islands located throughout the City. The grant covers island improvements including the purchase of pre-approved plants or trees. To be eligible for reimbursement, all plants must be installed by June 15 and monitored through the end of summer.

Applicants don't have to live in the same neighborhood as the island, and can be approved for multiple locations. The City will give out one annual grant per island. For more information, visit [www.merriam.org/CivicAlerts.aspx](http://www.merriam.org/CivicAlerts.aspx).



Any rental property licensed or acquired after July 1, 2018 will require an inspection by a City of Coffeyville building official. For more information, visit [www.coffeyville.com/CivicAlerts.aspx](http://www.coffeyville.com/CivicAlerts.aspx).



We are always seeking content ideas for stories and briefs. Please send your ideas and thoughts for content or story ideas to Megan Gilliland at [mgilliland@lkm.org](mailto:mgilliland@lkm.org)

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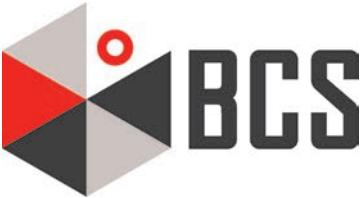
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# Classified Advertising

## City Clerk, Edgerton

The City of Edgerton, Kansas is accepting resumes from qualified candidates to serve as the City Clerk. The ideal candidate is organized, detail-oriented, and thrives in a fast-paced office setting. The City Clerk is a valued member of the management team, and someone the City depends on to ensure accurate and timely postings of official notices and public hearings; meeting agendas; packet preparation; and meeting minutes. He/she is a self-starter who exhibits a strong commitment to continuous self-improvement. The City Clerk is able to anticipate the needs of his/her fellow management team when it comes to meeting preparedness. As the official records custodian of the City, the ideal candidate has a working knowledge of Kansas Open Meetings Act and the Kansas Open Records Act, and will ensure the City's desire for transparency is reflected when he/she responds to requests for information.

A full position description may be found on the City's website at [www.edgertonks.org](http://www.edgertonks.org).

The City of Edgerton offers competitive pay and benefits. The salary range for the position is \$46,593 - \$55,912.

### How to Apply:

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and three-to-five professional references to Ms. Leslee Rivarola, RR Municipal Advisory Services, LLC by email to: [rrmunicipaladvisory@gmail.com](mailto:rrmunicipaladvisory@gmail.com). The position will remain open until filled.

## Director of Finance and Administrative Services, Atchison

The City of Atchison is seeking a creative, visionary professional to join its dynamic executive management team as the Director of Finance and Administrative Services. Atchison is a full-service city with 107 full-time employees and an approximately \$25 million annual budget, including capital projects. The Director of Finance and Administrative Services is an exempt position appointed by the City Manager that serves as the City's chief financial officer and provides leadership,

planning, scheduling, and supervision to both finance and community development staff. Key responsibilities of this position are the management of all finance department functions, including budgeting, financial reporting and forecasting, accounting, risk management, IT, and municipal court, as well as community development functions, such as planning and zoning, building inspection, and code enforcement.

Must have at least five years of proven experience supervising personnel and managing government finance and/or city administration, the ideal candidate for this position has an outgoing personality, exceptional interpersonal and communication skills, and a commitment to customer service excellence. The position requires a bachelor's degree in public administration, finance, business, accounting, or a similar discipline. A master's degree is preferred. Community driven, team-minded, and goal oriented candidates with expertise in municipal finance and budgeting, public administration, or community development are encouraged to apply.

### How to Apply:

More details can be found at [www.cityofatchison.com](http://www.cityofatchison.com). The salary range is \$62,171-\$88,109, dependent upon experience, with an excellent benefits package. Residency is required within three months of appointment. Apply by sending resume, cover letter, salary history, and five professional references to Lori Moore, Director of Human Resources, City Hall, 515 Kansas Ave., Atchison, KS 66002, (913) 367-5507. EOE/AA. Position is open until filled, with application review beginning April 16, 2018.

## City Administrator, Rose Hill

Rose Hill, Kansas (pop. 4,015; \$5.14M budget; 17 FTE's), is a close-knit bedroom community of 4,000 people located in southwest Butler County, a short 15-minute drive from Wichita. Rose Hill's industries center on manufacturing, healthcare, and education. The City of Rose Hill provides water, sewer, police, library, and parks & recreation services to its residents. The City Administrator reports to a six-

member council and supervises the day-to-day operations of all city departments. For more information about the community, visit [www.cityofrosehill.com](http://www.cityofrosehill.com).

Rose Hill is seeking an administrator with financial knowledge and skills within the framework of stewardship, local government law, ethics, project management, strategic planning, and ability to work well with the Governing Body.

The highest priority local and regional issues include water/sewer/city services, road conditions, the local economy and business climate. These priority issues will require candidates with additional skills and abilities in utilities, transportation, and/or economic development. Applicants should hold a Bachelor's degree in public administration or related field with a Master's degree in public administration preferred. Experience can be substituted for education. Competitive benefits; Salary \$79,909 - \$86,000 DOQ.

### How to Apply:

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and three work-related references to [LEAPS-RoseHill@lkm.org](mailto:LEAPS-RoseHill@lkm.org) or LEAPS-Rose Hill, 300 SW 8<sup>th</sup>, Topeka, KS 66603. If confidentiality is requested, please note in application materials. Position will remain open until filled.

## Police Officer, Sedan

The Sedan Police Department is currently accepting applications for a full time police officer. Sedan is a rural community with a population of just over 1,000 people located an hour-and-a-half southeast of Wichita in Chautauqua County, Kansas. The Sedan Police Department is comprised of two full-time officers and an animal control officer as well as court services personnel.

Rotating schedule, with every other weekend off, competitive salary range based on experience, holidays, vacation time, health insurance, sick time, take home patrol vehicle and many other benefits.

Must meet all requirements for the Kansas Commission on Peace Officers' Standards and Training for full time certification, a valid

# Classified Advertising

driver's license, U.S. citizen, at least 21 years of age, high school diploma or equivalent, a college degree and/or prior military is preferred but not required. Applicants must be free of any disability which could prevent from performing all the essential job functions of a police officer. Prior full-time experience is also preferred. Applicants must pass a thorough background investigation, drug and psychological testing.

#### How to Apply:

Applications are available from the Sedan City Clerk and should be submitted along with resume and cover letter to the same. Applications may be scanned and emailed as well. Sedan Police Department, 111 E. Cherokee, Sedan, KS 67361 or email to [sedanpolice@gmail.com](mailto:sedanpolice@gmail.com).

### County Appraiser, Franklin County

Franklin County is accepting applications for the full-time position of County Appraiser. Our community of approximately 26,000 is located on I-35 about 25 minutes southwest of Kansas City. Appointed by the Board of County Commissioners, accountable to the County Administrator, this position is exempt and is responsible for the independent operation of the appraisal functions and execution of official documents in accordance with the regulations of the State of Kansas.

The candidate must meet the following requirements: possess a High school diploma/GED; hold a CAE, RES, RMA, or general real property appraisal certificate from the Kansas Real Estate Appraisal board; be qualified by the state Director of Property Valuation and meet all state qualifications; have a thorough knowledge of laws, rules, and regulations that govern property appraisal in Kansas; have a comprehensive knowledge of the principles and practices of property appraisal and records management; possess a minimum of three years appraisal and supervisory experience; possess a valid Kansas driver's license; and have a proven ability to communicate and work effectively in English with people at all levels. Salary DOQ.

#### How to Apply:

Application materials available through the Office of Human Resources, 1428 S. Main, Suite 2, Ottawa, KS 66067 or apply on-line at [www.HRePartners.com](http://www.HRePartners.com). Call: (785) 229-3445 (Gayla) Application deadline: April 22, 2018. Employment is contingent upon acceptable pre-employment screening results. Franklin County is an EOE.

### Fiscal Services/Grant Manager, Leavenworth County

The Leavenworth County Fiscal Services/Grant Manager is charged with the duty of providing financial integrity and stability to Leavenworth County government. This is achieved, in part, by monitoring compliance with county-wide financial policies. Financial policies provide internal control in the accounting of funds, as well as consistency in cash handling among the various departments within the County. These policies are monitored by the Fiscal Manager

working in conjunction with the County Clerk and the County Administrator. Although everything that the Fiscal Manager does is not financial in nature, the core function of the position is financial management, planning, and budgeting. This position develops and implements grant policies and procedures as well as coordinates the development and preparation of grant applications for funding including budgets, supporting documents and special reports. Consults with departments to discuss grant budgets, operations, and activities. Monitors the grant accounting function including preparation of reports for grant compliance. This position is supervised by the County Clerk.

#### How to Apply:

The application can be found on the Leavenworth County website at [www.leavenworthcounty.org](http://www.leavenworthcounty.org) under Information> Employment Opportunities> Leavenworth County Application. Applications can be emailed to [hr@leavenworthcounty.org](mailto:hr@leavenworthcounty.org) or faxed to (913) 684-1028.



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**Works of Art: Continued**

Lawrence's Arneill encourages cities looking for ways to promote the arts and cultural amenities reach out to others who have forged a path in this area already.

"Don't be shy in asking for help," said Arneill. "We are more than happy to share our wisdom and experience. Don't be afraid to ask how should we do this and how should we not do this."

Art abounds in Kansas. There are examples in every corner of our state that showcase how Kansans are using their creative expression, in various forms, to beautify Kansas communities and cities. As more communities are embracing arts and cultural initiatives, local government officials will continue to discuss and discover ways to promote and celebrate these art forms.

Robert Lynch, President of Americans for the Arts, sums up the value of arts cultivation: "The arts empower. The arts give a voice to the voiceless. The arts help transform American communities and, as I often say, the result can be a better child, a better town, a better nation and certainly a better world. Let's champion our arts action heroes, emulate them and make our communities everything we want them to be."

 **Megan Gilliland** is the Communication and Education Manager for the League of Kansas Municipalities. You can reach her at [mgilliland@lkm.org](mailto:mgilliland@lkm.org) or (785) 354-9565.

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# ARTS & CULTURE

## KANSAS ATTRACTIONS

### COLUMBIAN THEATRE: WAMEGO

The historic Columbian Theatre building has served multiple businesses and the community since 1895. In 1950, the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor containing the theater closed and then spent 40 years in silence. This building acted as a community center during World War II, a vaudeville stage for traveling shows, was an early adopter of silent films, then “talkies,” even color films and much more. Concerned citizens of the Wamego community came together in 1984 and helped save The Columbian Theatre. It was remodeled into the building it is today with a grand re-opening in 1994. The theatre now holds six beautifully restored murals from the 1893 Chicago World’s Fair, which were brought back to Wamego, with other artifacts, by J.C. Rogers, and are valued at over \$1.8 million.



The community not only saved a historical building, but also a theatre in form and function. The Columbian continues to provide a creative and nurturing environment for the arts even beyond the walls of this historic building. Today the theatre consistently hosts many shows and events for the

local community and surrounding areas. Theatre staff are currently preparing for the Fab Flashbacks: Songs of the 60’s, 70’s, and 80’s on April 27-29 and May 2-6. The musical *Bye Bye Birdie* will run June 1-3, 8-10, and 15-17. The theatre strides to provide entertainment for the community and surrounding areas as well as keep the performing arts industry thriving.

After operating for 20 years independently, the Columbian Theatre partnered with the City of Wamego to help support the arts and the community, which has allowed the arts to thrive in Wamego. Direct questions about Wamego, the Columbian Theatre, to City Manager Merl Page at (785) 456-9119 and/or The Columbian Theatre Executive Director Clint Stueve at (785) 456-2029.

### BIRGER SANDZÉN MEMORIAL GALLERY: LINDSBORG

Currently celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Birger Sandzén Memorial Gallery in Lindsborg is dedicated to sharing the arts with the world through the life and vision of Swedish-American painter, printmaker, and educator Birger Sandzén (1871-1954). His influence on the arts in Kansas cannot be overstated and it was his belief that they were essential to enhancing life in the state, region, and beyond.

Birger Sandzén was born in Sweden in 1871. He studied art in Stockholm and Paris prior to emigrating to Lindsborg, in 1894 so he could teach at Bethany College. He remained there for the remainder of his career, retiring in 1946. Throughout



this period, and after he retired, he was a prolific painter and printmaker until his death in 1954. During his lifetime he completed over 2,600 oil paintings, 500 watercolors, 207 lithographs, 94 block prints, and 27 drypoints - which when the editions are totaled amount to over 33,000 prints. In addition he was a consummate draftsman, filling over 80 sketchbooks.



In trying to fulfill his vision, the Sandzén Gallery exhibits selections of his works, along with other noteworthy artists, from their permanent collection. Additionally, they showcase contemporary works by invited guest artists and actively loan artwork. The Gallery provides an intimate setting for arts engagement and hosts chamber music concerts, educational programs, guest lectures, receptions, and other special events. With advance notice, docent and staff-led tours are available. Additional details can be found at [www.sandzen.org](http://www.sandzen.org) or by calling (785) 227-2220.

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