



# INSIDE GARDNER

Your Community

March - April 2013

## City to Hold Council Election on April 2, 2013

The City of Gardner will hold elections for Mayor and two of the five seats on the City Council on Tuesday, April 2, 2013. All positions are four-year terms and will begin on April 15, 2013 through April 17, 2017.

To find out more information regarding who has filed for the open positions, please visit the Johnson County Election Office website at [www.jocoelection.org](http://www.jocoelection.org).



## City Welcomes New Community Development Director

Michael Hall began his first day of work as Community Development Director on February 11th.



Mr. Hall comes to Gardner from Boise, Idaho where he served as Planning and Development Director for Capital City Development Corporation (CCDC), Boise's redevelopment agency. Prior to his 10 years with CCDC, he served in a variety of planning roles for the City of Boise.

Mr. Hall has several years of sales and customer service experience in the private sector, and over 18 years of experience in local government including work in zoning administration, long-range neighborhood and district planning, transportation planning, downtown revitalization, and economic development.

At the February 18th City Council Meeting, Mike stated "There is a lot of work to be done and a lot of opportunity. Gardner looks like a great place to call home for a family and I am really thrilled to be here."

"Mike brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the City of Gardner. He will be an asset in helping develop our vision to move the city forward" adds Cheryl Harrison-Lee, City Administrator.

## Gardner Police Department Participates in 2013 Special Olympics Polar Plunge



The Gardner Police Department teamed up with Kansas Special Olympics in their fundraising efforts for 2013 by participating in the Polar Plunge. Officers Danny Hackler, Ilena Spalding and Erica Drinkard, along with many other officers from various police departments, braved the frigid water temperatures to help raise money for Special Olympics.

"Team Gardner" set a first time goal of raising \$1,000, and that goal was reached thanks to the support of local residents and business

owners. Gardner Police Department has supported Special Olympics over the past several years and has also participated in the 2+ Badge fundraiser.

A portion of the proceeds collected will also go toward helping Gardner's own "Gardner Gold" Special Olympics athletic team. Additional fundraisers will be coming soon, so please check the City website for upcoming events.



Officer Spalding said "I will forever have the memory of getting a high five from a very special Olympian as I left the lake. He had a smile that traveled miles in my heart as he gave his high five and his support." Officer Hackler reflected as well and said "For the 27 seconds I was in that 32 degree cold water, I made a difference for thousands of lives."

Many thanks to the fine officers of the Gardner Police Department for their service both on and off the job.

## Retirement Reception

The City will be hosting a public retirement reception to honor the service of Public Works Director David Greene. The reception will be held April 12th from 3:00 to 5:00 in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 120 E. Main St.

Please join us in congratulating Mr. Greene for his 11 years of service to Gardner.

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A newsletter published for the residents of the City of Gardner  
City Hall • 120 E. Main St.  
Gardner, KS 66030 • 856-0939

# Mayor's Message to Gardner Residents



To my fellow residents,

Spring is right around the corner and so are local elections. We have both city and school board elections on April 2, and I encourage all of you to exercise your right to vote. We, more than most cities, understand the profound impact local elections can have on a community. Your vote is much more impactful at the local level, and the choices made in local elections have a much more profound impact on our daily lives than any other elections. We had just over 13% turnout for the last election; please take a few moments out your day on April 2 and vote in our community.

This time of year also brings the chance of severe weather. Please make preparations for your household and develop a plan. Put together an emergency kit if you don't have one, and if you do, get fresh batteries for the flashlights.

I am excited that we will begin the visioning process for Gardner. In the last newsletter we talked about the progress made working with local business owners, and now we move into the phase of gathering input from residents. From those two constituencies, we will build a vision and then form a comprehensive strategic plan around that vision. The BNSF Intermodal Facility will open this fall, and we will be poised to benefit from that opening.

I hope you all have a wonderful spring season and remember to vote April 2.

Sincerely,

## Calendar of Meetings

Mar	4	City Council Meeting – 7:00 PM
Mar	11	City Council Work Session – 6:30 PM
Mar	18	City Council Meeting – 7:00 PM
Mar	26	Planning Commission Meeting – 7:00 PM
Apr	1	City Council Meeting – 7:00 PM
Apr	15	City Council Meeting – 7:00 PM
Apr	22	City Council Work Session – 6:30 PM
April	23	Planning Commission Meeting – 7:00 PM

## Gardner City Council

**David C. Drovetta, Mayor**  
913-856-6463 (Home)  
ddrovetta@gardnerkansas.gov

**Larry Fotovich, Council Member**  
913-856-4458 (Home)  
lfotovich@gardnerkansas.gov

**Heath Freeman, Council Member**  
913-908-2627 (Cell)  
hfreeman@gardnerkansas.gov

**Randy Gregorczyk, Council Member**  
316-644-0292 (Cell)  
rgregorczyk@gardnerkansas.gov

**Kristy Harrison Council Member**  
913-884-2115 (Home)  
kharrison@gardnerkansas.gov

**Chris Morrow, Council Member**  
913-269-8495 (Cell)  
cmorrow@gardnerkansas.gov

Messages may also be left for any  
Council Member or the Mayor at  
913-856-0939

## City Management

**City Administrator**  
**Cheryl Harrison-Lee**  
charrison-lee@gardnerkansas.gov  
913-856-0941

**Finance Director**  
**Laura Gourley**  
lgourley@gardnerkansas.gov  
913-856-0929

**Parks & Recreation Director**  
**Jeff Stewart**  
jstewart@gardnerkansas.gov  
913-856-0936

**Interim Police Chief**  
**James Moore**  
jmoore@gardnerkansas.gov  
913-856-7312

**Public Works Director**  
**David Greene**  
dgreene@gardnerkansas.gov  
913-856-0914

**Community Development Director**  
**Michael Hall**  
mhall@gardnerkansas.gov  
913-856-0919

**Electric Utility Director**  
**William Krawczyk**  
bkrawczyk@gardnerkansas.gov  
913-856-7256

**Kansas Severe Weather Awareness Week**



Kansas Severe Weather Awareness Week is March 3-9, 2013 and will include a Tornado Safety Drill on Tuesday, March 5th at 1:30 PM CST. The National Weather Service wants to remind you that the outdoor sirens are just that, an *outdoor warning system*.

To be prepared, know your local media stations and have an All Hazards National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio to receive information concerning severe weather watches and warnings. Do not wait for the sirens to be your warning system! Sirens may not be working if the power is out and oftentimes cannot be heard indoors. Also, in the heat of the spring and summer, it is impossible to hear outdoor sirens over running air conditioners; a NOAA Weather Radio with a back-up battery can make the difference for you and your family.

Sirens may not be activated for other severe threats, such as damaging straight-line winds in excess of 60 mph, large hail or flooding. Monitor a NOAA Weather Radio and the local media, then take the appropriate action for the severe weather threat. If it appears that a severe thunderstorm is approaching your location, do not wait for the outdoor sirens; take immediate action to protect your life and the lives of others around you.

To better prepare for the hazards that could affect you and your household:

- **Have a plan** for what to do before, during and after different types of emergencies.
- **Be prepared** by posting emergency telephone numbers, installing safety features, learning basic safety measures and conducting drills regularly.
- **Build a emergency supply kit** for disasters. Some items to include are flashlights, blankets, first aid supplies and other items you consider important. Keep the kit centrally located and make sure all family members know where it is.

For more information on weather preparedness, please visit [www.nws.noaa.gov](http://www.nws.noaa.gov) or [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).



**Gardner Aquatic Center Pool**

**Passes on Sale Now**

Season Passes and Punch Cards for the Gardner Aquatic Center are currently on sale for the 2013 Summer Season. Purchase your pass by **May 3rd** and receive \$20 off any family pass or \$10 off any individual pass.

Passes and Punch Cards can only be purchased at the Gardner Parks and Recreation Customer Service Counter in City Hall, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Season Passes	Family	Individual
Resident	\$140.00	\$80.00
Non-Resident	\$180.00	\$115.00

**Swimming Lessons - Opening Day- April 6 at 8:00 a.m.**

**Two Ways to Register:**

1. **Online** at [www.gardnerkansas.gov](http://www.gardnerkansas.gov). **AVOID LONG LINES AT CITY HALL!** Online registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 6. Register one or more child in the convenience of your own home! A small handling fee will be applied.
2. **Walk In** at City Hall, 120 E. Main St. Doors will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 6. After April 6, registration will be taken at City Hall, Mon-Fri from 8-5.

**Baseball and Softball Registration**

Registration deadline for youth baseball, softball and t-ball is **March 1<sup>st</sup>**. Drafts will be held in late March with practices starting in early April. Games will begin early to mid-May and generally (weather permitting) will wrap-up by late June to early July. We offer t-ball for the 5 and 6 year olds, and baseball and softball for the 7 and 8 year olds through 14 year olds. Uniforms will be provided. For more details or questions about the leagues, please call Parks and Recreation at 913-856-0936.



**Upcoming Gardner Parks and Recreation Activities and Events**

Programs	Date	Registration Deadline	Age/Grade	Cost
<b>Youth Programs</b>				
Rec Baseball/Softball/T-Ball	Apr-Jun	Mar 1	6 to 14 years	\$50 to \$80
Spring Break Theatre Camp	Mar 18-22	Mar 11	7 to 13 years	\$80
Kid's Garage Sale	Mar 23	Mar 18	6 to 16 years	\$7
Easter Eggstravaganza	Mar 24	Mar 20	4 to 12 years	\$15
Park Champion	Apr 1	N/A	12 and Under	Free
Jazz I and II	Apr 1	Mar 27	3 to 11 years	\$50
Swimming Lessons	Jun 3- Aug 1	Apr 6 (opening day for enrollment)	18 mos. & older	\$50
<b>Adult/Family Programs</b>				
Tai-Chi	Apr 3	Mar 29	16 and Older	\$50
Women's Volleyball	Apr 16	Apr 5	18 and Older	\$150
Scrapbooking	Mar 9, Apr 27	Thurs. before crop	12 and Older	\$5
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe	Mar 22-23	N/A	Any	\$9/ticket
Just Once Piano	Mar 23	Mar 20	13 and Older	\$54
Adult Softball	Early April	Mar 15	18 and Older	\$450
Puppy and Dog Training	April 6	April 1	12 and Older	\$60
Women's Tennis	Apr 7	Apr 3	18 and Older	\$35
Earth Day	Apr 20	Apr 15	Any	Free





City of Gardner  
120 E. Main Street  
Gardner, Kansas

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## POSTAL PATRON GARDNER, KS 66030

### Gardner Historical Museum—Upcoming Events



**Hours:**

*Gardner Historical Museum - 204 W. Main St.*

Saturday through Tuesday: 1:00 to 4:00 PM

Friday: 4:00 to 7:00 PM

*The Bray House - 207 W. Shawnee St.*

Saturday, Tuesday, Wednesday: 1:00 to 4:00 PM

Admission is FREE (donations appreciated)

**March:**

Reece Family Exhibit: This exhibit coincides with a return visit from Katharine Reece Curry. During our opening hours, she will be conducting more interviews with home-town folks about firsthand experiences or stories that they have heard regarding Reece Hospital, Dr. A.S. Reece, Gardner Community Medical Center and/or the Reece family in general.

For more information, call 913-856-4447 and be sure to visit the NEW website at [www.gardnerhistoricalmuseum.com](http://www.gardnerhistoricalmuseum.com).

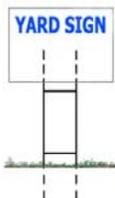
### New at the Gardner Library this Spring



Help us celebrate 75 years of distinguished picture books! The first Caldecott Medal for the most distinguished American picture book for children was awarded in 1938 to *Animals of the Bible*, illustrated by Dorothy P. Lathrop. Bring the kids and stop by the Gardner library any time for a different Caldecott-related hands-on activity each month. Be sure to check out a Caldecott Medal winner while you are here!

### Garage Sales

The City of Gardner allows garage sales in residential subdivisions. Please note that when advertising for garage sales, all signage must be kept on private property – with the owner’s consent – and not in the right-of-way, which is the area typically between the sidewalk and the street. Signs may not be attached to any public utility signs or poles, nor be placed in any location that interferes with clear traffic vision. Please help us by adhering to these rules which will ensure a safe, fun, and successful event for everyone.



For more information, contact Community Development at 913-856-0913.

### Johnson County Housing Services Has Funds Available to Assist Gardner Residents

Johnson County Housing Services advises that they have funds available in the HOME Program to assist eligible Gardner homeowners with rehabilitation of their homes.



The HOME Program is designed to help eligible Johnson County homeowners bring their home into compliance with local housing codes and housing quality standards, as well as addressing health and safety issues, improving accessibility for persons with disabilities and addressing lead-based paint. The HOME program is not a remodeling program and does not provide for general upgrading or luxury items.

Assistance is provided as a deferred loan for 10 years at 0 percent interest. If you live in your home for 10 years after the rehabilitation, the loan is completely forgiven and you incur no expense.

For more information about the HOME Program, contact Richelle Popevis at Housing Services at (913) 715-6612, or email her at [Richelle.Popevis@jocogov.org](mailto:Richelle.Popevis@jocogov.org)

### Annual Community-Wide Garage Sale



The annual community-wide garage sale will be held on Saturday, May 4th. There are several convenient places to register around town, including Gardner Pharmacy, The UPS Store, and Blazer’s Restaurant.

The cost to register and have your sale included on the hand-out map is \$5.00. Garage sale location maps can be purchased for just \$1.00 at all of the above listed businesses. All proceeds will go towards a local Gardner food drive to help those in need of assistance.

For questions regarding this year’s community-wide garage sale, please contact Dawn Mercier, owner of The UPS Store at 913-856-4501.