



# INSIDE GARDNER

Your Community

May - June 2013

## Residents Elect New Mayor and Councilmembers

On Tuesday, April 2, 2013, Gardner residents voted for the positions of Mayor and two City Council seats. Residents elected Chris Morrow as Mayor over incumbent David Drovetta. Mayor Morrow is a seven-year resident of Gardner, and has served as a City Council member since 2011, most recently holding the position of City Council Vice President.

For the two open Council seats, Councilwoman Kristina Harrison will retain her seat while Steve Shute was elected for the second seat over incumbent Randy Gregorcyk.

All positions are four-year terms that will remain active through April 17, 2017. Mayor Morrow's vacated City Council position will be filled by appointment in the near future.



Front: Mayor Chris Morrow, Heath Freeman  
Back: Larry Fotovich, Kristy Harrison, Steve Shute

## City Honors Mayor Dave Drovetta for 18 Years of Service



A public reception was held on Monday, April 15th welcoming the newly sworn in Mayor and Councilmembers and honoring the service of Councilman Randy Gregorcyk and Mayor Dave Drovetta. Mayor Drovetta served the City of Gardner for 18 years, starting as a City Councilmember in 1995. Throughout his service, he was a leader on projects that promoted the growth of the community such as the development of the Gardner Parks System, new City Hall and the Aquatic Center, while also facilitating road and street improvements, economic development projects, and providing leadership on the Intermodal Review Committee and the Council of Mayors.

During his time as Mayor, he spent countless hours volunteering his time attending and assisting with events such as Christmas in the Park, Boo Bash, Earth/Arbor Day and the Special Olympics, as well as organizing the annual Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund. Mayor Drovetta's dedication and passion to Gardner and its residents has, and always will be, appreciated.

## Be Prepared for Tornado Season



Peak tornado activity generally occurs in the months of April, May and June, and Kansas lies within the area of the nation known as Tornado Alley, which experiences more tornadoes each year than any other part of the United States. These dangerous storms kill about 80 Americans each year and injure another 1,500. As we approach this severe storm weather season, it is important for families to review tornado safety techniques.

Tornadoes are violently rotating columns of wind that extend to the surface of the earth. They come in many shapes and sizes and do not always appear in the classic "funnel" form. Occurring most often during thunderstorms, these wind columns must be in contact with a cloud and the ground to be classified as a tornado, and they can last anywhere from a few seconds to more than an hour.

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## Do You "Like" the City of Gardner?



The City of Gardner has launched a new and improved Facebook page! With just a click of the "Like" button, you can be added as a fan of **City of Gardner, KS Government**. The page is overseen by the Administrative Services Department and will serve as a tool to keep residents up-to-date on City events, projects, meetings and more!

[www.facebook.com/CityofGardnerKSGovernment/](http://www.facebook.com/CityofGardnerKSGovernment/)

## NEW! Governing Body Rules of Procedure

At their March 18, 2013 meeting, the City Council approved the *Governing Body Rules of Procedure* document, which provides guidelines for the conduct of orderly meetings of the City Council. Included is the new process for individuals wishing to address the Governing Body at City Council meetings and an updated appointment process for City Boards and Commissions. To view the document in its entirety, please visit [www.gardnerkansas.gov/mayor\\_council/](http://www.gardnerkansas.gov/mayor_council/).

## City to Accept CFL Lightbulbs for Recycling

In 2011, Gardner participated in the Take Charge Challenge and distributed CFL lightbulbs to residents. These bulbs are now ending their life cycles and need to be disposed of carefully.



The City is collecting these burnt out CFLs for recycling at the Utility Billing Counter inside City Hall. Please note that due to the risk of mercury exposure, broken bulbs will not be accepted.

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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



Last month, Mayor Drovetta reminded you to be sure and vote on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. The election has passed and we have seated one new councilmember, Steve Shute, and re-elected councilmember Kristina Harrison. You have also elected me to succeed Dave Drovetta in the Mayor's office. I look forward to working with all of our councilmembers, including the soon to be appointed replacement on the Council, for the benefit of all of Gardner's citizens and businesses. Randy Gregorcyk leaves the Council with my thanks, having served on the council since June of last year.

I want to thank Mayor Drovetta for his two decades of service to our community. Through the years, he provided leadership and guidance during a time when Gardner experienced explosive growth. There were good times and challenges over such a long tenure, and Mayor Drovetta weathered them all. My hat is off to my predecessor.

As with any reorganized group, the new Council is anxious to get to work in earnest. By the time you read this, we will have begun discussing our 2014 budget; leading it off with a budget visioning process, something new to our City Council, but something that our City Administrator, Cheryl Harrison-Lee, has discussed doing since joining us last summer. In the end, you will all be able to enjoy the services you've come to enjoy while maintaining the costs to our residents.

In the past month, we have said goodbye to a Mayor, and a councilmember, but we also bid adieu to long time Public Works Director, David Greene, who is leaving Gardner for retirement and relaxation. Mr. Greene also served through times of great growth and served the citizens and councilmembers alike professionally, and courteously, and always with an amiable attitude. He will certainly be missed. We have begun a search to identify his replacement and will soon conclude our search for a new Police Chief as well.

As spring turns to summer, families can look to the opening of our Aquatic Center. Parks and Recreation Supervisor, Adraina Holopirek, was honored this past winter with the Kansas Distinguished Aquatic Professional of the Year Award. With Adraina, and the help of Jeff Stewart and all of our Parks and Recreation staff, we're certain to have another cool summer at the pool.

There are many other exciting events coming soon to Gardner; the Citywide Garage Sale, two community theatre productions, baseball, softball, sports events, tournaments and more. Also returning on June 8<sup>th</sup> is "Festival on the Trails." This year's festival will include arts and crafts, fun activities for the kids, a Chili Cook-Off, Salsa and Wings contest and a car show. This year's entertainment will be headlined by country star Tracy Lawrence. As the seasons change here in Gardner, good times await, so please, be safe, keep cool and have some fun!

Calendar of Meetings		
May	2	Electric Utility Board Meeting—7:00 PM
May	6	City Council Meeting—7:00 PM
May	20	City Council Meeting—7:00 PM
May	20	Electric Utility Board Work Session—7:00 PM
<b>May</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>City Hall Closed in Observance of Memorial Day</b>
May	28	Planning Commission Meeting—7:00 PM
Jun	3	City Council Meeting—7:00 PM
Jun	6	Electric Utility Board Meeting—7:00 PM
Jun	17	City Council Meeting—7:00 PM
Jun	17	Electric Utility Board Work Session—7:00 PM
Jun	25	Planning Commission Meeting—7:00 PM

## Gardner City Council

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

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

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

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

**Steve Shute, Councilmember**  
913-938-6887 (Cell)  
sshute@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  
913-856-7535

**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

### 183rd Street Water Tower Painting

The 183rd Street Water Tower is located about halfway between Center and Moonlight on the north side of 183rd Street. Exterior updates to the tower were completed in the fall of 2012, and interior painting of the tower is scheduled to begin on September 1st of this year. It has been over 16 years since the interior of the tower was last painted.



### White Drive Project

Construction is underway for this project, which will provide sewer service for the new elementary and middle schools being built on Grand Street. This project also includes resurfacing White Drive from the Gardner Greenway to the east end of Washington Street. The projected completion date is June 1st, 2013.

### City Releases 2013 Consumer Confidence Report

The Consumer Confidence Report is a snapshot of the quality of the water that the City of Gardner provided in 2012. Included are the details about where your water comes from, what it contains and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards.



To learn more about your drinking water, and to view the full report, please visit [www.gardnerkansas.gov/pw\\_water](http://www.gardnerkansas.gov/pw_water).

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To keep yourself and family prepared before a storm:

- Develop a plan of action
- Assemble a Disaster Supplies Kit
- Have frequent drills
- Have a NOAA Weather Radio with an alarm tone
- Listen to radio and television for information
- If planning a trip outdoors, listen to forecasts

If a warning is issued, or threatening weather approaches:

- Always remember to **DUCK**  
 Down to the lowest level  
 Under something sturdy  
 Cover your head  
 Keep in the shelter until the storm has passed
- Stay away from the windows
- Get out of automobiles and get into a sturdy structure or ditch OR buckle your seatbelt and get below window level of your vehicle
- Pay attention for blowing debris or a sound similar to an approaching freight train, which can mean a tornado is nearby.

Detailed instructions on how to prepare your family and home for a tornado are available at the Red Cross website at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) on their page titled "Disaster Safety."

In the event of an electrical outage during a storm, call 913-856-6802, and always remember to stay away from downed power lines.

## Upcoming Gardner Parks and Recreation Activities and Events

Youth Programs	Date	Registration Deadline	Age/Grade	Cost
Park Champion	Apr 1–Aug 31	N/A	12 and Under	Free
Total Baseball Camp	June 3–5	May 24	5–14 Years	\$65
Art in the Park: Cornerstone	June 6	June 3	3–10 Years	\$5
Junior Golf Clinic	June 10–13	June 3	8–15 Years	\$60
Pirate Camp	June 10–14	June 5	7–10 Years	\$80
American Girl Camp	June 17–21	June 12	7–10 Years	\$80
Art in the Park: Veteran's	June 20	June 17	3–10 Years	\$5
Princess Tea Party	June 27	June 24	3–6 Years	\$15
Mother Daughter Glampout	June 28–29	June 24	5–12 Years	\$20/pair
Girls Basketball Camp	July 8–10	July 2	Grades 1–4	\$35
Oliver Twist Theatre Camp	July 8–26	July 1	7–15 Years	\$145
Art in the Park: Celebration	July 11	July 6	3–10 Years	\$5
Father Son Campout	July 12–13	July 7	5–12 Years	\$20/pair
Art in the Park: Winwood	July 25	July 20	3–10 Years	\$5
Youth Soccer	Aug 24	July 19	4 Years–8 Grade	\$65
Micro Soccer	Sept 7	Aug 2	2–4 Years	\$55
<b>Adult/Family Programs</b>				
Bike Rodeo	June 8	June 3	12 and Under	\$5
Women's Cardio Tennis	May 5–June 2	May 1	18 and Up	\$35
Women's Cardio Tennis	June 9–30	June 5	18 and Up	\$35
Women's Volleyball	June 9	May 31	18 and Up	\$150
Charlotte's Web	June 14–15	N/A	Any	\$9/ticket
Men's Softball (Mondays)	Mid July	June 28	18 and Up	\$450
Men's Softball (Thursdays)	Mid July	June 28	18 and Up	\$450
Co-Rec Softball (Sundays)	Mid July	June 28	18 and Up	\$450

Additional program information can be found at [www.gardnerkansas.gov/parks/](http://www.gardnerkansas.gov/parks/)



City of Gardner  
120 E. Main Street  
Gardner, Kansas

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Permit No. 5

**POSTAL PATRON  
GARDNER, KS 66030**

**Commemorative Air Force '40s Hangar Dance**

Shall we dance? Join the Commemorative Air Force, Heart of America Wing, for a 1940s Hangar Dance on Saturday, May 11th! Dance to the big band sounds of the Moonlight Serenade Orchestra, and enjoy a complimentary sundae or soda from the soda fountain. Light refreshments and beverages will be available for purchase. Ice will be provided and guests are welcome to bring their own refreshments and beverages. For more information, or to make reservations, call 913-907-7902.

**WHEN**

Saturday, May 11th  
7:30 to 11:00 PM  
Tickets are \$25/person

**WHERE**

CAF Hangar—New Century AirCenter  
6 Aero Plaza  
New Century, KS 66031



**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)

**Sunday, May 18th:**

*79th Annual GEHS All School Reunion*  
All alumni of GHS/ERHS/GEHS and their spouses or guests are welcome. A mini-exhibit will be featured with souvenirs available for purchase!

**Saturday, June 8th:**

*Festival on the Trails and Civil War Expo—10 AM to 5 PM*  
Enjoy a wagon ride from the festival to the museum and enjoy the period demonstrations and reenactments, campground, artifacts, craftsmen and live period music. The full Civil War Exhibit runs May 17 through June 16.

*Chat Fest—2 to 4 PM*

Sponsored by the museum and held at the Baptist Church.

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

**Caldecott Medal Winners at Gardner Library this Summer**



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 to the Gardner Library for a different

Caldecott related hands-on activity each month. And be sure to check out a Caldecott Medal winner while you are here!

Call the library at 913-826-4600 for a complete program listing or find us online at [www.jocolibrary.org](http://www.jocolibrary.org).

**Gardner Aquatic Center—Pool Passes on Sale**



Season Passes and Punch Cards for the Gardner Aquatic Center are currently on sale for the 2013 Summer Season. Purchase your pass by May 2nd 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 Center, located in City Hall, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Season Passes**

	<i>Family</i>	<i>Individual</i>
Resident	\$140.00	\$80.00
Non-Resident	\$180.00	\$115.00

**NEW! City of Gardner Accepts Cartons for Recycling**

The last drop of milk, juice or soup does not mark the end of a carton's useful life. Cartons are easy to recycle and in high demand. Simply place empty cartons in your recycling bin and they will be processed at the Deffenbaugh Recycling Center. Once processed, the bales of recycled cartons are shipped to paper mills, where cartons are mixed with water in a gigantic blender to extract all the paper fiber. These recycled carton paper fibers are a valuable resource for making products such as recycled paper products and even building materials.



Examples of recyclable cartons are:

- Juice
- Milk
- Soy Milk
- Soup
- Broth
- Wine
- Cream
- Egg Substitutes

For more information, please visit [www.recyclecartons.com](http://www.recyclecartons.com).