



INSIDE GARDNER

Your Community

March – April 2010

Reminder—No City Wide Clean Up

Due to continued City's budget concerns, the annual citywide clean up will not be scheduled for 2010. The cost savings for the City from cancelling the program is between \$6,500 to \$10,000 a year.



Large item pick up is available by contacting refuse haulers; typically, there is a minor fee for removal. Otherwise, visit www.freecycle.net to dispose of large items that may still have use. There are further regional resources at www.recyclespot.org to help you decide how to dispose of items from batteries to monitors to paint.

United States Census 2010

The 2010 Census is important to Gardner, so make sure you are counted! The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years, where all residents regardless of race, ethnic group, and nationality are counted.

With only 10 questions, the 2010 Census questionnaire is one of the shortest questionnaires in history and takes just 10 minutes to complete. You can make a difference by completing your questionnaire, in the following ways:

- Every year, the federal government allocates more than \$400 billion to states and communities based, in part, on census data.
- Census data guide local decision-makers on where to build new roads, hospitals, child-care and senior citizen center, school, and more.
- Businesses use census data to locate supermarkets, new housing and other facilities.
- Census data determine how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives.

2010 Census Questionnaire is quick, easy and confidential. With only 10 questions, the 2010 Census questionnaire is one of the shortest questionnaires in history and takes just 10 minutes to complete. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share individuals' census questionnaire responses with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Who should fill out the census questionnaire?

A. The individual in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented should complete the questionnaire on behalf of every person living in the residence, including relatives and non-relatives.

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Recall Election to be held in Gardner on March 2nd, 2010

The Johnson County Election Office has approved a petition to hold a recall election of two Gardner City Council members. The election office has scheduled this election for March 2nd. For more information about the recall election, visit www.jocoelection.org.

March 1

Advance voting in person closes (12 noon)

March 2 Election

Recall Election Day



Center Street Restriping North of Main Street

This Spring, Center Street, between Main Street and Colleen Drive, will be restriped from a narrow four lane roadway to a three lane roadway with a continuous left turn. The project will include restriping the Center Street and Madison Street Intersection. This project was identified during the Transportation Master Plan to improve safety.

Based on a review of the accident history at the Center and Madison Street Intersection, the primary cause for accidents was the limited line-of-sight for left-turning drivers on Center when there are opposing left-turn vehicles from both directions. The left-turning drivers sometimes pull forward either under the assumption that there are no conflicts or to



Transportation Planning Public Meeting

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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,

I write this letter in anticipation of Spring. However, it is somewhat challenging to do so as I watch the snow fly outside my window. This is though a great opportunity to recognize the hard work and dedication of our road crews in keeping the traffic flowing through this winter's snow events.

We will soon hear the sounds of Spring in the form of baseball and softball practices and games. I am pleased to say that we will add the sounds of soccer to our Parks and Recreation offerings beginning this spring. With the warm weather, we also need to be more vigilant in our travels. Motorcycles, bicycles, runners, pedestrians and children will be out and about enjoying the changing seasons.

Work on the Moonlight Road project will begin again. I am happy to say that we have partnered with Jacob's properties to provide another entrance to the west side of Moonlight Plaza from Lincoln Lane to aid in traffic movement in and out of the shopping center. A word of caution though, we will be monitoring to ensure this is being used for shopping center traffic, not as thoroughfare.

A discussion was started about the value and content of this newsletter. Many of you did not live in Gardner when we did not have a newsletter. In the late 90's, we conducted our first citizen satisfaction survey and communication was clearly identified as an area for improvement. We added the newsletter, improved our website and implemented a utility news letter in response. Since that time, our survey results as to the quality of those communications tools has continued to see increased satisfaction from residents, and our newsletter is identified by 71% of our citizens as their source for information about the City and considered it to be their preferred way to receive information by double of all other sources.

We provide this newsletter at around thirty cents per copy, including postage. I am pleased that we are able to provide objective, factual information about your City in a cost effective manner.

As a reminder to all clubs and service organizations, I would be honored to visit your meeting or special event this spring. Please contact City Hall with your requests.

Sincerely,

Calendar of Meetings*

Mar	1	City Council Meeting—7:00 PM
Mar	2	Special Recall Election
Mar	4	Electric Utility Board Meeting— <i>Cancelled</i>
Mar	8	Joint City Council & Electric Utility Board Work Session—6:30 PM Planning Commission Meeting—7:00 PM
Mar	15	City Council Meeting—7:00 PM
Mar	16	Electric Utility Work Session—7:00 PM
Mar	22	Planning Commission Meeting—7:00 PM
Apr	1	Electric Utility Board Meeting—7:00 PM
Apr	5	City Council Meeting—7:00 PM
Apr	12	City Council Work Session—6:30 PM
Apr	19	City Council Meeting—7:00 PM Electric Utility Work Session—7:00 PM
Apr	26	Planning Commission Meeting—7:00 PM

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

Steve Hale, Council Member
 913-856-7028 (Home)
shale@gardnerkansas.gov

Mary Peters, Council Member
 913-856-6188 (Home)
mpeters@gardnerkansas.gov

John Shepherd, President
 913-856-7171 (Home)
jshepherd@gardnerkansas.gov

Dan Thompson, Council Member
 913-856-8521 (Home)
dthompson@gardnerkansas.gov

Todd Winters, Vice President
 913-271-3587 (Home)
twinters@gardnerkansas.gov

City Management
City Administrator
Stewart Fairburn
sfairburn@gardnerkansas.gov
 913-856-0939

Assistant City Administrator
Melissa Mundt
mmundt@gardnerkansas.gov
 913-856-0939

Community Development Director
Fred Sherman
fsherman@gardnerkansas.gov
 913-856-0913

Finance Director
Laura Gourley
lgourley@gardnerkansas.gov
 913-856-7535

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

Public Safety Director
Ken Francis
kfrancis@gardnerkansas.gov
 913-856-7312

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

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

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

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get a better view of oncoming traffic. Most of these accidents have occurred during the morning and afternoon hours before and after school. This project will correct this situation by providing dedicated and realigned left turn lanes on Center Street at the intersection.

Gardner's Energy Board Enters Second Year

Gardner Energy's Electric Utility Board is entering its second year of service to the community. The Board has jurisdiction over policy making for the utility. The members are required to be local residents and customers of the utility. These unpaid volunteers hold public meetings twice a month with Gardner Energy staff to ensure the safe, reliable and affordable delivery of electric service to the citizens of Gardner. At the February 4, 2010 meeting, the Board members unanimously re-elected Randy Tedford as Chairman and Lance Boyd as Vice-Chairman.

Moonlight Road Update

Improvements along Moonlight Road are anticipated to start up again in March with warming weather. Work on the project will continue from Warren Street to north of 166th Street. The improvements will include sidewalk, a 10' asphalt walking trail on the west side of Moonlight Road, median, street lights, landscaping, storm sewer installation, utility relocation, and site improvements.

56 Highway Improvements at Old 56 Highway

In March of 2009, the City was awarded American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) funding to construct improvements at the Old Highway 56 and U.S. 56 intersection, and to install a traffic signal. Construction on the project should also get underway as soon as the cold weather breaks, sometime between the first of March and the beginning of April.

Madison Street Project Receives Johnson County Funds

Gardner will received up to \$349,000 from the Johnson County CARS program for full reconstruction of Madison Street between Center and Cherry Streets, and a mill and overlay between Cherry Street and the White Drive intersection. The project also includes relocating the mid-block school crossing to the school campus to the Spruce Street intersection. The total estimated cost, which includes design, construction, and inspection is estimated to be \$721,500 with the City's share of \$372,500.

Backflow Prevention Inspections Required Annually

Per City Code, backflow prevention devices are required for all properties with irrigation systems, fire sprinkler systems, boilers, carbonated beverage dispensers, commercial dishwashers and or laundry facilities and for other similar types of equipment that are required to have backflow preventers. The City requires that these devices be certified annually and a report provided to the City by a person certified by the State of Kansas. Typically a plumber or irrigation company can provide this service. The City has the right to terminate water service for non-compliance with this important health code. If you have any questions, please contact Public Works, attn. Amy Hawkins at 913-856-0914 or ahawkins@gardnerkansas.gov.

Severe Weather Season Is Upon Us

Prepare your family for the upcoming severe weather season by making sure you have discussed your designated place for shelter. To learn more about severe weather visit www.gardnerkansas.gov/neighborhood_safety/



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Q: I am a college student. How will I be counted in the Census?

A. That depends on where you are living on April 1st, 2010. If you are living on campus in a dorm, you will be counted in your dorm. If you are living off campus in an apartment - you and your housemates will receive a regular census questionnaire in the mail. If you are living at home while going to college, you will be counted as a member of your family's household.

Q. How are census data used?

A. Census data determine the number of seats each state will have in the U. S. House of Representatives. Census data also can help determine the allocation of federal funds for communities.

Q. What kind of assistance is available to help people complete the questionnaire?

A. 2010 Census questionnaire language assistance guides are available in a variety of languages. Questionnaire Assistance Centers (QAC) will also assist those unable to read or understand the questionnaire. Large-print questionnaires are available to the visually impaired upon request, and a Teletext Device for the Deaf (TDD) program will help the hearing impaired. The City of Gardner will have a QAC located in City Hall lobby from March 19th - April 9th to assist residents. Contact your Regional Census Center for more details about the types of assistance available.

Q. How does the Census Bureau count people without a permanent residence?

A. Census Bureau workers undertake extensive operations to take in-person counts of people living in group quarters, such as college dormitories, military barracks, nursing homes and shelters, as well as those who have been displaced by natural disasters.

Q. How will U. S. Military personnel be counted?

A. If a soldier is stationed at a United States military barracks, they will be counted at that barracks. If a soldier is on base or off base in the United States, but not in an assigned barracks, they will be counted at the residence where they live and sleep most of the time. If living overseas, you will be counted using the military's records for home base.

For more information about the 2010 Census, go to www.2010census.gov

**POSTAL PATRON
GARDNER, KS 66030**

Swim Lesson Registration in April

Swim Lesson Registration Opening Day is Saturday, April 10 at 8:00 a.m. There are two ways to register:

1. Online at www.gardnerkansas.gov. Avoid long lines and register online beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 10. A small handling fee will be applied to all online registrations.
2. Walk-in at City Hall. Doors will be opened from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 10. Lines can be long...



After April 10, registration will be taken at City Hall, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., or online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Please remember:

- *Registration is done on a first come, first served basis.
- *Parents are allowed to register their children only. Waivers must be signed by the legal guardian.
- *One class per child. You may register for additional classes after June 7.
- *Some classes may need to be combined due to the number of students.
- *Parents are not allowed to participate in class unless they are in the Guppies/Minnows class.

Visit www.gardnerkansas.gov/swim_lessons/ for a full listing of classes and class descriptions.



Pool Passes on Sale

Gardner Aquatic Center Season Passes are currently on sale. Purchase your pass by May 3, 2010 and receive \$20.00 off any Family Pass or \$10.00 off any Individual Pass. Restrictions apply.

Visit www.gardnerkansas.gov/season_pass/ for more information, or call 913-856-0936. Passes can only be purchased or renewed at the Gardner Parks and Recreation Customer Service Center located at City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Passes cannot be purchased or renewed online or over the phone.



Photo: Alyann Photography

Recreational Baseball, Softball, and T-Ball

The deadline for the Gardner Parks and Recreation Recreational Baseball, Softball, and T-Ball leagues is Friday, March 5. Registration received after March 5 will only be accepted to fill teams and will be charged a \$15.00 late fee.

This program is for boys and girls ages 5-15 and includes t-ball, coach pitch, and kid pitch leagues. For more information and online registration, please visit www.gardnerkansas.gov/rec_bst/.

Gardner Historical Museum Upcoming Special Exhibits



March

- Ghost Towns featuring Prairie Center & Four Corners (Mount Pleasant).
- Plus One Room Schools of Rural Johnson County.

April

- "Grange Month " & "Gardner Athena Club" Exhibits.
204 West Main, Gardner Ks 66030
Sat., Sun., Mon. & Tues ~ 1:00-4:00pm; Fri.~ 4:00-7:00 pm

For Special tours, call: 913-856-4447
Admission is FREE (donations are appreciated)
www.gardnerhistorymuseum.org