

INSIDE GARDNER

Your Community

Mayor Makes Appointments to Fill City Council Vacancies



On Monday, March 15th, Kristina Harrison and Dan Newburg were sworn into office for the City Council, to replace Mary Peters and John Shepherd who were recalled on March 2nd.

Harrison is a Network Manager for CenturyLink and has had increasing responsibilities with the company under its various ownerships for nearly 20 years. Kristy is a longtime Gardner resident. She and her husband have one child.

Dan Newburg has been the Pastor of Gardner Church of the Nazarene since 1995. He and his wife have lived in Gardner since 1995 and have four children.



Newburg sworn in March 15th



Broxterman sworn in April 19th

Prior to the meeting on March 15th, Councilmember Dan Thompson resigned as well. Mayor Drovetta, along with Councilmember Winters, conducted a process to fill the vacancy. On Monday, April 19th, Thompson's former seat was filled by Brian Broxterman. Broxterman is a Navy Veteran and works as the Facilities Manager for an area hospital. He moved to Gardner six years ago with his wife. They have two children. Broxterman also served on Electric Utility Board after appointment by Mayor Carol Lehman, where he has helped lead the transition of the Gardner Energy to a board run utility.

Gardner City Council to Begin Review of 2011 Budget

The 2011 Budget for the City of Gardner is facing serious shortfalls from the continuing slow economy. The City has seen many of its major revenues continue to decline over the last year, and it does not appear to have reached the bottom. The City Council will be facing tough decisions on how to fund services as it reviews the 2011 Proposed Budget and five year forecast for its major funds as well as its Capital Improvement Program.



As reported the last two years, the City has frozen wages, reduced benefits, continued to cut line item expenses and reduced or delayed capital improvement projects for streets and other City facilities to offset declines in property and sales tax revenues. The City has also reduced staffing through attrition and has renegotiated contracts and debt payments to reduce expenditures. To date, the City has not anticipated any noticeable changes to its levels of service to residents. Should the Council decide to hold rates for property tax as part of the 2011 budget process, residents can expect to see declines in some services.

The City Council will be considering its options starting in late June. Deliberation will center around further reduction in staffing, increasing the City property tax rate and a combination of reductions and rate increases to meet the funding gap over the next five years. Visit www.gardnerkansas.gov/budget for more information.

Gardner Energy Adopts Renewable Energy Rate Structure and Connection Process



The Electric Utility Board adopted a Resolution in April to establish a rate for Renewable Energy/ Parallel Generation Services. This will allow property owners to consider renewable generation such as photovoltaic (PV) solar panels or a wind turbine. Along with the new rate option, Gardner Energy also adopted standards for interconnection between private generation and the Gardner Energy system.

When a generator is connected to your electric panel, your home or business becomes "interconnected" with Gardner Energy's electric distribution system or grid. Gardner Energy staff has developed interconnection standards for parallel installation and operation of a customer-owned electric generating facility. These standards include technical requirements, an application for interconnection, an interconnection agreement and a certificate of completion. It is critical that your generation equipment not cause injury to Gardner Energy employees who will be maintaining the electrical system. To prevent unintended feedback, Gardner Energy and the City's building and electrical codes require that approved protective equipment be installed.

Gardner Energy has information on this new rate structure at its office located at 1150 E. Santa Fe.

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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,

Much has transpired since the last edition of Inside Gardner. We have three new Council members: Kristina Harrison, Dan Newburg and Brian Broxterman. I have great confidence that these new members of the Council will serve with dedication, objectivity and great passion for our town. Their contact information is on our website should you wish to ask them questions or provide feedback in general. I hope you take the time to contact them and get to know them.

I held three Town Hall style meetings between March and April; two to talk about the appointments to the Council and the most recent to discuss the budget and the challenges it creates for our community. Our revenues for 2011 will decrease significantly. It will be a challenge to manage our expenditures in a way that will not reduce the level of service you expect from our City government. I plan to schedule monthly Town Halls through the summer to keep you informed of the budget process and the decisions being made. These are great venues for general interaction and discussion. They are not formal meetings, so they provide a platform for you to engage in the discussion and offer thoughts during dialogue rather than a formal presentation.

Spring has finally settled in, and I can hear the sounds of baseball and softball practice at Westside Park. We have already been host to a baseball tournament and our new soccer program is underway. Look for the opening of our Aquatic Center in May. We are looking forward to another successful season.

Road projects are definitely part of warmer weather. Construction on Moonlight Road will begin in earnest. Please use the website or sign up for e-mail blasts to get regular updates about the changes that will be occurring as this project moves forward. We have begun a small project to improve traffic flow and increase safety of left hand turns at the 56/Old 56 intersection. This project should be complete by early June. One more road project will begin after school ends; we will be reconstructing Madison from Cherry Street west to Center.

Finally, I am excited about the return of Festival on the Trails on June 12. The Festival Board has been working very hard. They landed some great talent for the evening show, The Little River Band will be performing a free concert Saturday night. The interest for the Art Show has grown, they have more applications than space.

Sincerely,

David C. Drovetta, Mayor

Calendar of Meetings and City Hall Closures

May	3	City Council Meeting—7:00 PM
May	6	Electric Utility Board Meeting—7:00 PM
May	10	City Council Work Session—6:30 PM Planning Commission Meeting— 7:00 PM
May	17	City Council Meeting—7:00 PM Electric Utility Work Session—7:00 PM
May	24	Planning Commission Meeting—7:00 PM
May	31	Memorial Day—City Hall Offices Closed in observance of holiday
Jun	3	Electric Utility Board Meeting—7:00 PM
Jun	7	City Council Meeting—7:00 PM
Jun	14	City Council Work Session- 6:30 PM Planning Commission Meeting—7:00 PM
Jun	21	City Council Meeting—7:00 PM Electric Utility Work Session—7:00 PM
Jun	28	Planning Commission Meeting—7:00 PM City Council Work Session—6:30 PM

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

Street Maintenance Projects

There is currently \$300,000 in the City's 2010 and 2011 budgets for major street maintenance. These funds are planned to be used for maintaining Madison Street in 2010 and 183rd Street in 2011 when matching Gardner's funds with grant dollars from Johnson County. There are no funds for other major projects in subdivisions; only routine maintenance will be performed such as pothole patching and crack filling.

The Madison Street project includes full depth pavement replacement between Center and Cherry Street and pavement resurfacing between Cherry Street and the future intersection of Madison and White Drive. The curb and gutter will remain in place except for spot replacement. This project is scheduled for construction in June to July 2010 and will be completed before the Johnson County Fair.

The 183rd Street project will be partially funded with Johnson County CARS funding (50% of the construction cost) if approved. This street began to fail in late February 2010 after this year's harsh winter. City maintenance crews will perform temporary repairs and patching through this year, with major repairs projected for 2011. This project will include full depth pavement replacement for the western half mile of 183rd Street (between Gardner Road and Moonlight Road) and a pavement overlay for the eastern half if funds allow.

Moonlight Project



Construction along Moonlight Road is beginning again after minimal construction activity over the winter due to inclement weather. The water line relocation work was completed in December 2009, and

storm sewer installation is nearing completion. Temporary asphalt was installed on the west side of Moonlight Road during April from approximately 166th St. to Warren St. Traffic will be directed to the west side of Moonlight Road while construction begins on the eastern lanes. Drivers should anticipate some delays during construction to allow for the safety of workers in this tight roadway corridor.



The estimated cost for the reconstruction and widening of Moonlight Road is approximately \$9.5 million dollars and is partially funded by the Federal Highway Administration (\$1,500,000), the Kansas Department of Transportation (\$725,000), and Johnson County through the Count Assistance Road System Program (\$4,000,000). The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) is administering construction due to the Federal and State funding for the City.

US 56/Old 56 Intersection

Construction began April 5th on the US 56/Old 56 intersection east of Moonlight Road. This project consists of installation of a traffic signal and a modified tee intersection, concrete medians, an eastbound right turn lane, pavement markings, and signage.



The project is being administered by the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) and is being funded with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) funds.

The construction is estimated to take approximately 60 days to complete. One lane of traffic will be shut down in both directions for the duration of construction. Drivers are advised to drive cautiously through the construction zone and to expect delays.



Smoke Detectors Available to Gardner Residents Free of Charge

Gardner Public Safety Department received a grant from the Lockton Company and Fireman's Fund for the distribution of Kidde Dual Sensor Photo/Ion Smoke Detectors for the residents of

Gardner. The smoke detectors detect fast flaming and slow smoldering fires. The smoke detectors are battery operated only and cannot be hard wired into the electrical system of the residence. Gardner Public Safety will assist in the installation of these free smoke detectors as needed.

Please contact Fire Captain Rob Kirk or Public Information Officer Ilena Spalding at the Public Safety Department at (913) 856-7312 Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM for further assistance in obtaining your free smoke detector(s). Smoke Detectors Save Lives! Make Sure your Family is Protected!

Gardner Aquatic Center Opening Day

Gardner Parks and Recreation has been working hard gearing up for yet another successful season at the Gardner Aquatic Center. The Aquatic Center will open at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 29th. There will be prizes, free giveaways (while supplies last), free cake and live music! Don't miss out!



Pool season passes are on sale now but can only be purchased at Gardner City Hall at our Customer Service Center Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Purchase your pass on or before May 3, 2010 and receive \$20.00 off any Family Pass or \$10.00 off any Individual Pass!

Season Passes*

Family Passes –\$140.00
Individual Passes –\$80.00

*Must show proof of residency at time of purchase if Gardner resident.



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120 E. Main Street
Gardner, Kansas

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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 for the City is usually 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. Other regional resources for disposal are noted on www.recyclespot.org to help you decide how to dispose of items from batteries to monitors to paint.



WWI Fly-in

Everyone is invited on June 19th to the Gardner Municipal Airport located on 175th St. west of Waverly Rd. for a WWI Fly-in from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Airplanes from the earliest days of aviation will gather at Gardner Municipal Airport. Come see these unique airplanes! While you're here, visit with WWI enthusiasts and see their vintage artillery and vehicles.

Vintage Fly-in

Vintage Fly-in will be held on June 26th also at the Gardner Municipal Airport on 175th St. from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Airplanes of all types fly to Gardner for the Vintage Fly-In. See the variety of craft produced in the post WWII boom, and take part in the activities. Watch the spot landing and bean bag drop contests, or browse the instruments and aircraft parts available for sale in the Fly Mall. This is Gardner's largest fly-in, and well worth the trip. The Gardner Flight School is also offering discounted airplane rides during the fly-in.



Hot Air Balloon Festival in Gardner - Memorial Day Weekend

The Kansas City Hot Air Balloon Invitational will be held Memorial Day Weekend at Celebration Park. This is a free event. Balloon flights will take place each morning and evening beginning Friday, May 28 and night glows will take place on Saturday and Sunday evenings.

Saturday, May 29 will be Family Day with special activities for kids such as a Balloon Walk, Meet the Pilot sessions, face painting, balloon artists, entertainment, a kite flight and more. Sunday, May 30 is Community Awareness Day. Non-profits from around the metro will have information tables, and special entertainment will be provided throughout the day. Food, crafts and souvenirs will be available.

Gardner Community Theatre Summer Programs

Gardner will come alive this summer with the songs from *Annie*. This popular musical will be on stage at Gardner-Edgerton High School during July. To learn more visit www.gardnercommunitytheatre.org

Performances will be:

- July 9, 10 and 11th
- July 16, 17 and 18th



Gardner Community Theater is planning its School's Out, Spotlight's On theatre camps for this summer. For dates and locations please contact Becky DeNoon at secretary@gardnercommunitytheatre.org or check the website www.gardnercommunitytheatre.org for more details when they become available.

The Gardner Community Theater will host a face-painting table at the Kids on Elm at the Festival on the Trails on June 12th.

Gardner Historical Museum Upcoming Special Exhibits

May—Woman Trailblazers of Kansas and Gardner. Learn about many of the "first" women who "blazed the trail" to open jobs, careers, positions of authority—respect—for the *weaker* sex.

Sunday, May 23rd—GHS & GEHS All School Reunion. The Museum will have a booth & will provide video presentations featuring the class of 1960.



June:— The Bridal/Wedding Exhibit
This year promises to be every bit as exciting as last year, with a new array of gowns and photos!

Saturday, June 5th— Re-Enactment of a 1950's Era Grange Meeting. This is an outdoor event. Come dressed in 50's attire to really set the scene!

Saturday, June 12th— Festival on the Trails. The Museum will be conducting special tours, highlighting historic Gardner people, places & events. The Museum will also sponsor "The Chat-Fest on the Trails" for our distinguished citizens & guests.

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