

Kansas

COVER STORY

VOLUME 98-NUMBER 3

MARCH 2012

Inside:
Dodge City Celebrates Year of Events
The Playful City
Fracking in Kansas



Leadership Summit & Mayors Conference

May 11 & 12 | Wichita, KS

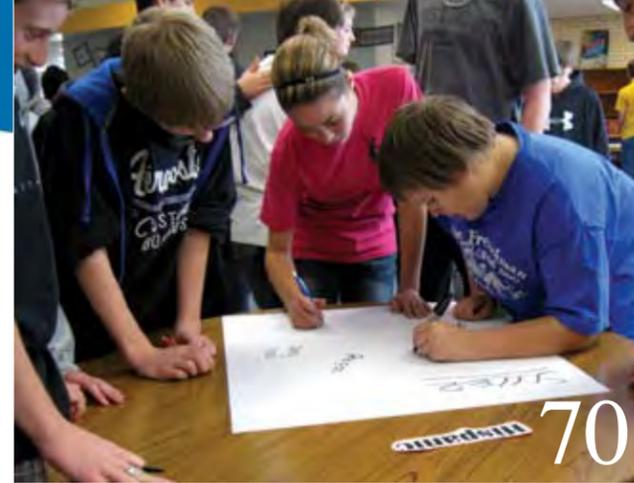
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Captain Mark Adamshick, USN Retired, Ph.D. is currently the Class of 1969 Chair for the Study of Officership, Simon Center for the Professional Military Ethic, West Point. Captain Adamshick has a Masters degree in public administration from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and earned his Ph.D. in policy studies, specializing in management, finance and leadership, from the University of Maryland, School of Public Policy.

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About the Cover:
El Capitan statue located in downtown Dodge City. See related article, beginning on page 74. Photo provided by the City of Dodge City.

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The mission of the League shall be to unify, 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.

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April

- 20 - MLA: Civility and Public Service, Webinar
- 27 - KMIT Board of Trustees Meeting, Marysville
- 28 - MLA: Civility and Public Service, Webinar

May

- 11-12 - Leadership Summit & Mayors Conference, Wichita
- 28 - Memorial Day

June

- 8 - LKM Governing Body Meeting, Dodge City
- 8 - MLA: Personnel Management, Scott City
- 9 - MLA: Personnel Management, Lindsborg
- 22 - MLA: Personnel Management, Mission
- 29 - KMIT Board of Trustees Meeting, Roeland Park

July

- 4 - Independence Day
- 20 - MLA: Neighborhood Building, Webinar
- 21 - MLA: Neighborhood Building, Webinar

Obituaries

Benjamin Richard Frevert, 78, died December 15, 2011, in Wilson. Frevert was a member of Immanuel Lutheran church, where he served on the church council; the American Legion Post #262, serving as its financial officer for 39 years; Lions Club; and Wilson Economic Development. Frevert was manager of the Smoky View Villa and served as a Councilman and Mayor for the City of Wilson. In addition, he was a member of the Ellsworth County Medical Building Board, Ellsworth County Economic Development, and Bethphage Board of Directors.

Franklin Gaines, 77, died December 25, 2011 at Greenwood County Hospital in Eureka. Gaines served in the Kansas Legislature as a Representative for 6 years and a State Senator for 20 years. His many long and varied careers included working as an attorney, independent oil operator and drilling contractor, rancher, and banker.

James L. "Jim" Martin, 80, died December 14, 2011. Martin served the public as a Saline County Deputy, Under-Sheriff and Sheriff from 1952-1970, and later served as a Saline County Commissioner from 1973-1980.

Dr. James L. Ruble, Jr., 85, died December 12, 2011 in his home in Overbrook. Dr. Ruble's service to the community includes: Serving two terms as mayor of Overbrook, a 57-year membership in the Overbrook Rotary Club; board member of the Kansas State Bank of Overbrook for over 50 years; investor and project advisor for the development of Brookside Manor nursing home; and the Overbrook Library Board foundation.

Joseph Michael "Mike" Schmidt, 71, died December 16, 2011 in San Rafael, California. Living most of his life in Edgerton, Schmidt was an active member of his community, ranging from City Councilman, Mayor, Civil Defense Director, Jaycees, and a member of the volunteer police department. He enjoyed his involvement in the annual Frontier Days Festival as well as community Halloween and Christmas parties.



Cities Receive Book Grants

Kansas First Lady Mary Brownback announced winners of the 2012 Kansas Book Festival Grants.

"These grants are designed to further the Kansas Book Festival's goals of promoting literacy and encouraging a life-long love of reading," First Lady Brownback said. "These grants will help preserve and improve local and school libraries across the state."

NASCAR Driver Dedicates New Building

NASCAR driver and Emporia native Clint Bowyer returned to Emporia for the ribbon cutting of the Bowyer Community Building, a project two years in the making.

"What an important day for me," said Bowyer. "This is my way of giving back. This community has been so important to me."

At the ceremony he thanked the community for making his concept become a reality and said the Lyon County Fairgrounds was the ideal place for it.

"When I was thinking about where to put this building...just to have it here at the Lyon County Fair was very important," Bowyer said.

Living in North Carolina, Bowyer was able to keep up with the construction process via the Internet and telephone.

Bowyer has been involved with several community efforts including the Annual Bowyer Golf Tournament and the Clint Bowyer Youth Hunt.

"This is another way to be able to raise money throughout the year," said Bowyer. "... I think this is going to bring in outside

Foodservice Company Expands in Shawnee

McLane Foodservice announced that it will buy and renovate its Shawnee facility, keeping 186 jobs in the community and adding 25 new positions in the future.

The company will invest more than \$17.5 million to purchase and renovate a 244,000 sq. ft. warehouse at 8200 Monticello Road. McLane is part of the McLane Company, a \$34 billion supply chain services company that provides grocery and foodservice supply chain solutions for thousands of convenience stores, mass merchants, drug stores, and military locations, as well as thousands of chain restaurants throughout the United States.

Wyandotte County Encourages Community Reinvestments

Some property owners in Kansas City and Edwardsville can expect more opportunities for tax rebates when they invest in improvements to their homes and businesses over the next 10 years.

The Unified Government of Wyandotte County approved an expansion of Edwardsville's neighborhood revitalization plan and some changes to the existing plan in Kansas City.

The tax rebate programs are intended to raise property values and encourage reinvestment in communities by offering property owners incentives to make improvements. Bonner Springs has a similar program in place with the Unified Government.

Mayor Joe Reardon said he is hopeful that with programs like these, Wyandotte County can take advantage of its strengths and recover from the economic downturn that has affected communities nationwide. He said the county's housing market in recent years

The 16 libraries receiving a portion of the \$13,000 in grants are located in Walton, Great Bend, Thayer, Bird City, Gypsum, Iola, Westmoreland, El Dorado, Baileyville, Towanda, St. Francis, Holton, Sedgwick, Atchison, Argonia, and Stafford.

money that we can put in our community. I think it's going to benefit local businesses and everything like that."

The building was hatched from a donation of \$1 million by Bowyer in July 2010 and will be available for many uses with its bar area, kitchen, ample space, and patio.

"It will evolve into something that is a focal point for our community," said Lyon County Fairgrounds Manager Sam Seeley. "It's a spark for the fairgrounds which I see becoming a great community center, bringing more activities to the fairgrounds."

Visitors to the building ribbon cutting were impressed.

"We're blessed to have this building and everything Clint Bowyer has offered to the community," Larry James Rangel of Emporia said. "I think it's really cool. The way they put it all together—it's unbelievable, and it looks like they built it in a way that they could add to it down the road."

A Grand Opening has not been announced. "We're working on that," said Bowyer. "I think I've got some pretty big ideas and everybody will be pretty excited about it."

"I am pleased that McLane Foodservice has decided to invest and expand in its current location," said Kansas Commerce Secretary Pat George. "I know the City worked hard to retain the company and keep them a valued member of the community."

"The city of Shawnee was pleased to partner with the State of Kansas to support McLane Foodservice as they further invest in our City and create new jobs in Kansas," said Shawnee Mayor Jeff Meyers.

has been the toughest most people there have ever seen, but local communities are in a better position to recover than some others.

The Edwardsville plan provides for a tax abatement of up to 95% on investments of \$5,000 or more on improvements to single-family homes. The plan also offers rebates on new residential properties and commercial properties.

The plan will allow rebates for residential improvements in combination with low-income housing tax credits and tax increment financing. Some rebates on commercial improvements will increase from 50% to 95% over a 10-year period. Rebates will be extended to commercial projects of up to \$3 million, raising the project size cap from \$2 million.

The Unified Government Board of Commissioners will discuss changes to the plan that would create a new special project zone for commercial projects exceeding \$3 million.

EMBRACING DIVERSITY

The City of Salina Promotes Equality at Its Schools



All photos: The Salina Human Relations Department performing diversity presentations to local schools. Photos provided by the Salina Human Relations Department.

"It helped me understand better how to judge a person correctly without making assumptions. And it helped me learn more about the Hispanic culture."

"I liked the presentation, and with this I think I'll change my thoughts."

"The presentation changed my way of looking at people."



By Darrin Stineman

The goal is to be unemployed.

That may sound like an odd statement, but it does serve to get the students' attention when a group from the Salina Human Relations Department does diversity presentations at local schools.

The students' mouths begin to return to the closed position when explained that the mission of the Department is to eliminate discrimination and to establish equality and justice through civil rights enforcement, advocacy, and education. And if there is no longer any discrimination, there is no longer a need for the Department—or therefore, jobs—to exist.

Since starting the presentations in October 2011, the Department has made presentations to more than 1,000 middle and high school students, challenging them to look at themselves and how they treat others—especially those who are different from them.

The group starts out with an ice-breaker called the Herman Grid. It consists of a sheet of paper with grids of black rectangles which are positioned in such a way that gray dots seem to appear between them. The dots, however, are just an illusion. They're not really there.

That illustration helps to explain that sometimes that's how we are with people. We see things that aren't really there. We form an opinion about them based on appearances or a first impression which may or may not reflect who the person truly is.

When the group began to develop the presentation, one of the things they were most excited about was having the students hear from Human Relations staff members

Sandy Beverly and Dina Girón, who have tremendous personal experiences to share with regard to civil rights and appreciating diversity.

Sandy begins by asking the students if they know what landmark civil rights event occurred in Kansas, referring to the U.S. Supreme Court's 1954, *Kansas v. Topeka Board of Education* decision which called for an end to school segregation. She then

talks about her own experience 11 years later living in Hogansville, Georgia, where schools—and, in fact the entire town—still were completely segregated.

She talks about various activities—going to the movie theater, shopping, going to the ice cream shop, etc.—which everyone in the room could not have done together at that time. Walking from table to table with small groups of students, Sandy points out that she and the “colored” kids—those who appear to be anything other than white—would not have been able to join the white kids in those activities. In the case of the theater, for example, the colored kids would've had to sit in the balcony.

We try to relate it to current times by pointing out that the federal government even just in recent months has had to issue orders to school districts in Southern states to integrate their schools. Even though black students may legally attend any school they want to, in practice, some towns still have all of the white students at one school and the black ones at another.

The training also points out that even here in Salina, our office can have as many as 10 active discrimination cases at a given time.

The students also easily relate to the story of Dina, who at the age of 17 was sent to the United States by her parents to escape the civil war that was taking place in her native El Salvador in 1980.

At that time, warring factions were forcibly recruiting even middle-school-age children to fight in the war. Many of them were taken from school and were never seen again by their parents.

Dina came to the United States not knowing the language, the culture, or any of the relatives she was sent to live with. She shares many of her experiences, including how she hated English at first because people would make fun of her when she tried to speak it, and how she and a group of friends were denied service at a restaurant because they were speaking Spanish with each other.

She also shares about the culture of El Salvador and other Latin American countries, and the importance of appreciating other cultures, and what they contribute to American society.

Dina and Sandy then do a presentation on labeling others, using a piece of poster board with a big red “X” on it to illustrate their point. Sandy asks the students to assume that she has just met Dina, and as they begin to chat, Sandy begins to make assumptions about her.

Dina speaks with an accent, so Sandy assumes that she had better talk to her in a loud voice so she will be understood. Sandy places a card that says “DEAF” on the poster board Dina is holding, and with each label that is added (“ILLEGAL,” “MEXICAN,” “CATHOLIC,” “LIKES JALAPEÑOS,” etc.) the poster board rises higher until Dina can no longer be seen.



Sandy makes the point that because of the labels, the true person can't be seen anymore. But she says that as she continued to get to know Dina, she found out that none of her assumptions about her were true. The poster board drops a bit each time as Sandy removes the labels, until the person finally can be seen again.

It was the first time the Department had ever done these kinds of presentations in schools, so they weren't sure what to expect. The results, however, have been encouraging. On evaluation forms from the most recent presentation to about 300 students on January 10, 2012, 70% indicated it was "very useful" and 28% "useful;" 78% said it was "excellent," and 20% "good."

Comments from students included the following:

"It helped me understand better how to judge a person correctly without making assumptions. And it helped me learn more about the Hispanic culture."

"I liked the presentation, and with this I think I'll change my thoughts."

"The presentation changed my way of looking at people."

One teacher said, "The presentation really was outstanding. The students learned a lot about discrimination and stereotypes. The presentation helped the students understand how the local government provides many services that can help them deal with a variety of issues. Also, the students learned about segregation that took place in American history."

More presentations are scheduled for this school year, and the Department intends to continue giving them in the years to come—until that day when we are happily unemployed.

 *Darrin Stineman is the Outreach Specialist for the City of Salina Human Relations Department. He can be reached at darrin.stineman@salina.org.*



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State Scene

Kansas Communities Receive Funds

Twenty-one Kansas communities will share a total of \$7,773,083 in federal grants through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

The CDBG program provides federal funds to local governments for the development of viable communities by addressing their housing, public facilities, and economic development needs. To be awarded funds, local government units must meet at least one of three program objectives; benefit to low and moderate-income persons, prevent or eliminate slums and blight, or resolve an urgent need where local resources are not available to do so.

CDBG funds are one of the Kansas Department of Commerce's primary tools in supporting the state's small, predominately rural

communities. The Department has distributed more than \$257 million in CDBG funding in the last decade.

"The Department remains committed to the state's small, rural communities," said Kansas Commerce Secretary Pat George. "We recognize the challenges these communities will face in the years ahead, and we are prepared to help our cities and towns meet those challenges."

The communities awarded grants are: Assaria, Barnard, Belleville, Bison, Bronson, Chanute, Chautauqua County, Chetopa, Colony, Culver, Delphos, Dickinson County, Ensign, Gove, Green, Hiawatha, Highland, Kinsley, Longton, Marion, and Robinson.

Governor Honors Top Schools

Forty-three Kansas elementary schools, 11 middle/junior high schools and 18 high schools were recently recognized as part of the 5th annual Governor's Achievement Awards, honoring top performing schools in the state.

To receive this prestigious award, schools must have achieved the Standard of Excellence in both reading and mathematics for 2011. Additionally, the school must have made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in both reading and mathematics and one additional measure in 2011. For elementary schools and middle/junior high schools, the additional AYP measure is attendance and for high schools the measure is graduation rate. Additionally, the school must have been among the top 5% of schools in both reading

and mathematics on the 2011 state assessments at its respective level, i.e., elementary schools, middle/junior high schools, or high schools.

"The Governor's Achievement Award is a significant recognition for Kansas schools," said Kansas Education Commissioner Dr. Diane DeBacker. "The accomplishment recognizes a school's high expectations and the ability of the school staff to assist students in achieving to those expectations."

A complete list of all schools honored can be found at <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=36&ctl=Details&mid=1030&ItemID=588>.

Wind Farm Has Statewide Impact

A wind farm project that is likely to be a huge economic boon for Grant and Haskell Counties may generate significant dividends in Finney County, too.

Known as the Buffalo Dunes Wind Project, the 405-megawatt wind farm is being developed by Lenexa-based TradeWind Energy and has the potential to be a \$600 million development and generate enough power to serve as many as 120,000 homes at full capacity.

Company officials have been working for at least 3 years to secure long-term leases for about 40,000 acres of land with private landowners in parts of northeast Grant County and northwest Haskell County, where 100 to 200 wind turbines are to be placed.

In the southwest portion of Finney County, overhead transmission lines must be built to hook into a substation located just south of Sunflower Electric Power Corporation's Holcomb station, according to Brice Barton, a development manager with TradeWind.

Barton said the transmission lines will come into southern Finney County from Haskell County.

Once the company finalizes a power purchase agreement, it is expected to begin construction in both Grant and Haskell Counties, building roads and digging holes, and on construction of transmission lines in Finney County.

Program Provides Funding for Businesses and Communities

The Kansas Department of Commerce announced that it will award almost \$86,000 in Incentives Without Walls (IWW) funding for business and community improvement projects in El Dorado, Holton, Hutchinson, McPherson, Peabody, Phillipsburg, and Winfield.

Projects include 3 new businesses/startups, 1 business expansion project, and 3 building renovation/repair projects that will create approximately 21 new jobs. The funds are distributed as 0% loans.

IWW funds provide direct financial support to downtown businesses in designated Kansas Main Street program cities to stimulate private investment. Kansas Main Street is a self-help technical assistance program that targets preservation and

revitalization of downtown districts. There are 25 designated Kansas Main Street cities.

"We are pleased to award these very deserving communities with the IWW funding they need to undertake much needed projects," said Mary M. Helmer, Kansas Main Street state coordinator for the Department. "The IWW funding, along with the private matching funds it leverages, allows us to assist the rural communities that are so important to the livelihood of our state."

Funding for the IWW program is provided by the Economic Development Initiatives Fund, which is derived from Kansas Lottery proceeds.



Dodge City Celebrates Year of Events

by Jane Longmeyer & Ila Siders



The United Wireless Arena and Magouirk Conference Center in Dodge City is celebrating a whirlwind year of bringing entertainment, trade shows, and conferences to southwest Kansas.

One year ago on February 12, 2011, the fourth and final project in a “Why Not Dodge” joint sales tax venture between the City of Dodge City and Ford County opened to the public. When the voters approved the “Why Not Dodge” projects in June of 1997, the other family-oriented projects included construction of the Dodge City Raceway Park, Legends Park and Soccer Complex; improvements to Cavalier Field, and upgrades to the existing Civic Center. The “Why Not Dodge” campaign was to diversify our primarily agriculture economic base to enhance tourism and become the entertainment center for southwest Kansas and the region.

United Wireless Arena and Magouirk Conference Center is located on the west side of Dodge City, adjacent to a State of Kansas authorized destination gaming facility, Boot Hill Casino and Resort, which opened in December 2009. A new Hampton Inn Hotel will open March 2012, which will enhance the conference and meetings scheduled for the Magouirk Conference Center.

The arena offers 3,800 ticketed seats for sporting events including ice hockey, basketball, indoor soccer, and up to 5,000 seats for stage events. In addition, there are 144 seats available in 12 suites and 146 loge seats on the suite level.

In the first year, United Wireless Arena has offered a variety of shows such as the Rock and Worship Road Show, Sesame Street Live, Miranda Lambert, Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Circus, Rodney Carrington, Lynyrd Skynyrd/ZZ Top concert, Charlie Daniels concert, and Harlem Globetrotters, as well as Championship Bull Riding, Monster Trucks, and Motorcycles on Ice.

Because ice skating is unique to southwest Kansas, public ice skating gained popularity quickly along with the newly formed youth hockey league. Dodge City hosted the Pee Wee Tournament in December with teams from Wichita, Oklahoma City, and Nebraska represented. Before December was over, the first North American Hockey League hockey game was played between the Wenatchee Wild and the Topeka Roadrunners. The crowd was wowed.

The Magouirk Conference Center has 6,700 sq. ft. of space that can be used as one large room for banquets, receptions, and parties,

or divided into as many as 6 individual spaces. The conference center offers state of the art audio/visual equipment and Wi-Fi. Eight foot screens appear in each section from the 10 ft. ceiling, along with projectors and IT personnel if needed.

The best is yet to come though when the food appears. Magouirk Conference Center has a full-service kitchen with a full-time chef who is also responsible for managing the concession stands.

Dodge City is ready to put on its western hospitality as it welcomes conferences to this part of the state. We are excited to host the 2012 WORKS! Conference hosted by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Bureau of Waste Management in March. People have been traveling around the state for many years to attend this conference and with the arena and conference center, Dodge City now has the space to put out the welcome mat for such events.

Running and managing an arena and conference center requires not only full-time staff, but a company of knowledgeable people, and with that in mind Dodge City hired VenuWorks of Ames, Iowa. VenuWorks is 1 of the 3 largest public assembly management firms in the US, guiding activities of over 40 venues across the country.

Jane Longmeyer is the Director of Public Information for the City of Dodge City. She can be reached at janelong@dodgecity.org. Ila Siders is the Director of Marketing for the United Wireless Arena.

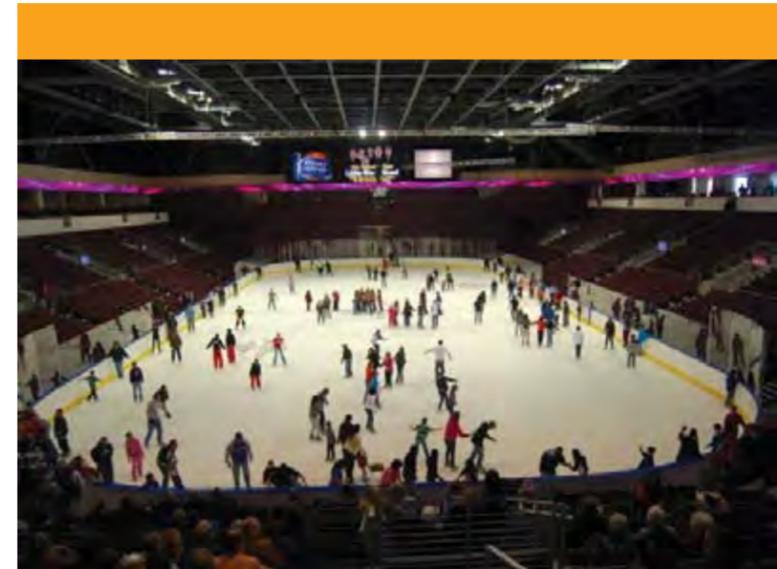


Photo Above: Ice skating became popular quickly at the rink in the United Wireless Arena. A youth hockey league was even formed.

Photos Left: View of the United Wireless Arena with the Boot Hill Casino in the background and an inside look at the seating area inside the arena. Photos provided by the City of Dodge City.



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On the Road by Don Osenbaugh

...Enjoying an “Early” Spring

Since we never really had winter this year, spring is a bit harder than normal to put one’s finger on. For sure, 80° in February is one indicator of seasonal change (though I am not at all convinced that there is any such thing any more), as is a disastrous and deadly tornado the day before Leap Year Day (Harveyville is already strong on the way towards recovery, by the way). Trees budding in “winter?”

Yet, it was fairly “normal” in terms of temperature on the late-March Tuesday morning when Maddi and I headed out on our annual Spring Break trip on literally, the first day of spring, and it had been raining off and on for over a day. It started raining again about the time we were leaving Herington just before noon and stayed somewhat cool, and rained for two more days across much of central Kansas—in Derby, we got about 3.5 in. total that week... a welcome relief after yet another exasperatingly-prolonged “dry spell.”

We had gone to Herington, mostly, to see a pickup. The red 1980 GMC belongs to Herington City Manager Ron Strickland, and Maddi thinks she would like it to be the first-ever vehicle she owns. We have an offer on the table for “sometime down the road,” and Ron has promised us “first dibs.” Of course, Maddi can’t even start learning until she turns 14 in June, but she is planning ahead, and has been saving for her first “car” for a number of years, so this might really happen. Needless to say, the pickup is “sweet,” and Ron is someone who takes exceptionally good care of vehicles, as well he must; he owns NINE. And, all nine are really, REALLY cool. A number of Ron’s cars are original down to the paint, and that includes some really old ones, such as a 1939 Ford coupe (which came complete with every license plate the car had ever worn for its Iowa owner tucked in under and behind the pull-out bench seat); a one-owner (before Ron) fuel-injected (rare) 1957 Chevy Nomad wagon (yellow and white); an early-50s (late-40s?) delivery truck from a Herington hardware store; a 1966 Corvette (red, original interior), and on and on. Ron and his wife actually live in a HUGE warehouse that used to be owned by a roofing company. He personally has renovated the upstairs above what formally was the office into a really cozy and very roomy home. Maddi and I got a tour of the whole place, and it is something to see; she thought it was about the coolest thing she has ever done with me.

After lunch at the DQ in Herington, Maddi and I drove through the rain (the theme for the rest of our trip), west on a county road, and then north to Chapman, where we had arranged ahead to meet with Chapman’s very first City Administrator Gerry Bieker. Gerry has an extensive background working for cities, most all of it prior to coming to Chapman in public works. He worked over a decade in his native Colby, serving as Public Works Director for City Manager Carolyn Armstrong (a current LKM Governing Body member, who, just a week or so later, announced her June 15 retirement, after serving in Colby for 19 ½ years). Later Gerry moved on to work for the City of Paola, and then came to Chapman two years ago, just over a year after the devastating EF-4 tornado that crossed over the Smoky Hill River and Old US-40, and tore right down the hill and through the

heart of the city on June 11, 2008. Maddi and I first visited Chapman together about a year after the tornado, and it is amazing to see how far the community has come in the nearly three years since we were here last. The high school, renovated and enlarged on the same site, looks completed, and the new elementary school, relocated out of the flood plain, to the northwest a mile or so from its old location, is absolutely gorgeous. The new subdivision next to the new school is filling up fast and most of the homes in the direct path of the tornado have been replaced. And, a number of homes have been added in other areas of the city, too. In short, Chapman is clearly moving forward at warped speed. Congratulations, Chapman. Out of tragedy rises opportunity.

Speaking of tornadoes... I passed through Greensburg on a quick trip to the “west coast” (of Kansas) a week or so before we visited Chapman, and had a nice chat with the new city administrator there—Ed Truelove served in the Marine Corps for 20 years, before retiring; then became a police officer in Wichita for 10 more years, and then, after obtaining his MPA from Wichita State University, took the Police Chief job in Sterling, before moving on to Greensburg. It doesn’t take long around Ed to know that he is a go-getter. I am sure the City is in very good hands.

My book recommendation this month is *Steve Jobs*, by Walter Isaacson. Published immediately following Jobs’ death last fall from pancreatic cancer, the book was more-or-less commissioned (he had to convince Isaacson to do it) by Jobs himself, several years before, and well after he knew he was going to die young (he was 56 when he passed away). And, the fact that Jobs knew he was dying when he asked Isaacson to write the book makes for a VERY interesting and complete profile of a brilliant and complicated man. Isaacson had written incredibly well-done biographies on Albert Einstein, Henry Kissinger, and Benjamin Franklin (this one I read nearly a decade ago). So Jobs, like he did everything else in life, wanted the best. And, the book is a no-holds-barred work. Isaacson conducted over 40 interviews with Jobs himself, and was also encouraged by Jobs to talk to anyone and everyone who ever worked or knew Jobs, so the warts do come out. And, Jobs did not demand any kind of editing control during the extended development of this rare kind of effort. The result is a book that really captures the heart, soul, and genius of a very special and incredibly creative and influential man—one that the reader comes to love and hate. Jobs was multi-layered, as are most highly intelligent and accomplished people. Isaacson gets at the layers as well as anybody ever has. The winner is the reader. There is a lot to learn in this book. (P.S.... also see the PBS video on Jobs at <http://video.pbs.org/video/2163706349>; I am not so sure about the upcoming movie to be made, which will feature Ashton Kutcher as Jobs.)

☀ Don Osenbaugh is the Director of Finance and Field Services for the League of Kansas Municipalities. He can be reached at dosenbaugh@lkm.org

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Best Practices

by Michael Koss

Surveying Apps for Cities

We all have vices. One I have had particular trouble with is an addiction to Wendy's Hot 'n Juicy 3/4 lb. triple cheeseburger. Although this 1,000 calorie masterpiece puts me in a state of euphoria, it doesn't have as appealing of an effect on my waistline or my wallet.

I bring up this vice because it's one casualty of a website I recently discovered, called Mint.com. This site allows members to set a monthly budget for each expense category, and offers a mobile phone application (app) that tracks and categorizes expenses so they can see if they're staying within their budgets. Having the budgets readily accessible on their phones is meant to induce users not to spend beyond their means, and in my case it's working. Now, if I'm aching for a trip to Wendy's, but my app indicates I'm approaching my monthly fast food budget, I swallow hard and make myself a ham sandwich. Although I've endured some temporary suffering, the app has helped me save money in every area of my life.

Mint.com is just one of millions of companies that offer people an app to better their lives. But these companies aren't just targeting individuals; they're also trying to attack problems within cities. New apps are being created daily that public officials and residents can utilize to improve their communities.

One of the most irritating problems citizens face is traffic issues. Seeking to profit from this nuisance, Waze.com has created an app that gives its users access to real-time traffic conditions. Waze's app tracks users while they drive, so that if drivers in a specific area slow down, it automatically detects and displays the traffic jam to other commuters. Drivers stuck in traffic can also actively warn fellow Waze users of jams, road construction, accidents, and other hazards. Waze's app has the potential to create more efficient travel within a city, provide city managers with a tool to create better road systems and schedule more convenient construction, give road maintenance employees a resource for finding hazards, and provide city officials and residents a means of communicating road conditions to the rest of the community.

For cities wanting an app that addresses more than just traffic issues, SeeClickFix.com gives residents a forum to report a variety of problems. Residents of cities collaborating with SeeClickFix.com can use the company's website, a mobile app, social networking sites, or the city's website to report issues. Once someone submits a report, both the reporter and the city receive an email notification. The local government can then route the report to the proper department, and update the issue page once it's been resolved. Thousands of communities are already using this app to eliminate issues like broken street lights, cracked sidewalks, and blighted buildings.

Cities can also use apps to harness information from residents without relying on their active input. StreetBump is an app being tested in Boston that uses residents' cell phone movements to detect where potholes are. After residents download the app, the phone's accelerometer detects when a bump is hit, and the GPS determines the location. The information is sent off into a city database, and after enough people hit a big bump in the same spot, the app recognizes it as a pothole. Boston is using the app to build a comprehensive map of all the potholes in the city.

Los Angeles, in conjunction with the company ParkSight, recently installed asphalt-embedded sensors and smart meters to track usage of parking spaces throughout Hollywood, one of its most congested

districts. The smart meters allow users to pay with their mobile phones in addition to communicating information to the City. The City uses this information to change parking prices based on anticipated demand and respond more effectively to expired meters. Drivers can use an app called Parker to access this information, showing them where open spots are so that they can save time driving around.

For cities wanting to help residents find parking without spending the money installing and maintaining sensors, Roadify offers a free alternative. With the Roadify app, users enter the address of an open parking spot that they are about to leave or that they happen to walk by. Other users can then search the area and find these open spots. For spotting open spots, the app rewards drivers with prizes. Cities that provide a link to this app on their websites and encourage its use can facilitate more efficient parking within the community and create a free source of information to help manage parking systems.

Although social entrepreneurs are the main creators of apps like Roadify, cities are also starting to create their own apps. Sparks, Nevada recently created an app that delivers information about local news and events and provides a medium to request city services and communicate with public officials. The app also offers an augmented reality feature, which places a layer of information about businesses and recreational sites over areas that users view through their smartphone cameras. For example, if a community wanted to advertise a local tourist site, they could create a layer that points it out to mobile users when they're using their phone's camera within the city.

City clerks are also getting into the business of creating their own apps. In Jefferson Parish, Louisiana the city clerk's office recently released several apps that make the office more efficient. The Elections Results app provides real-time election results, historic election data, polling place locations, and maps of election districts. Soon the office's Jury Management app will let citizens reschedule their jury service date or apply for exemptions.

Most of the apps I've discussed so far can be used to improve local government, but in the future cities may also use them to raise money. Already, three California cities have commoditized unused public spaces with the help of an app called LiquidSpace. If these cities have unused rooms or spaces, they post details and pictures of the space on the LiquidSpace website and offer people the chance to rent these areas for blocks of time. Residents then can use the app to sign up to rent spaces in libraries, community centers, and other public buildings. Although they offer some spaces for free, they charge money for the more popular locations, creating a new source of city revenue.

Apps are great tools, but I'll be honest, ham sandwiches pale in comparison to my favorite burger. Mint.com has helped me embrace small changes that have saved me a ton of money, but it's required some sacrifice. Like me, cities across the nation are also using apps to make small improvements. And although integrating apps into city management also requires embracing some changes, once city officials do, their cities too will realize the benefits.

Michael Koss is the Membership Services Manager for the League of Kansas Municipalities. He can be reached at mkoss@lkm.org or (785) 354-9565.

Wilson: Getting Kids Involved

by Susan Riley



Wilson's own Police Chief Bob Doepp, who started his employment with the City of Wilson on June 1, 2011, is getting students involved in law enforcement. Bob started a "Design the Patch" contest.

Wilson School Art Teacher Christine Slechta implemented the contest into her curriculum for 6th and 8th through 12th grades. Each student was asked to design a Police Patch featuring how they would like to see Wilson portrayed.

Designs received ranged from a train (to emphasize how people arrived to the town at the beginning), round jail (a historical site), Dragon (school mascot), water tower (recently painted and now

shows school colors purple and white), Wilson Lake (7 miles north of the town), limestone (one thing Wilson is known for)—to Czech language, egg, and dancers (Wilson is the Czech Capital of Kansas). The Mayor, City Attorney, and Police Chief selected from over 40 entries taken from the Wilson School Art Class. Two designs made the cut and the two students, Junior Ashley Templeton and Freshman Christina Helvey were asked to combine their efforts into one patch. That patch is what will be used on the Police Chief's uniform.

Susan Riley is the City Clerk for the City of Wilson. She can be reached at wilsoncy@wtciweb.com.

Pictured Back Row: Police Chief Robert Doepp and Mayor David Criswell. Pictured Front Row: Ashley Templeton, Wilson Art Teacher Mrs. Christine Slechta, and Christina Helvey. Photo taken by Wilson School Yearbook Instructor Jamie Camacho.

MLA 2012 SCHEDULE

APRIL

Civility and Public Service (Core)
Friday, April 20 - Webinar
Saturday, April 28 - Webinar

MAY

Leadership Summit (Core)
Friday, May 11 - Wichita
Saturday, May 12 - Wichita

JUNE

Personnel Management (Core)
Friday, Jun. 8 - Scott City
Saturday, Jun. 9 - Lindsborg
Friday, Jun. 22 - Mission

JULY

Neighborhood Building (Elective)
Friday, Jul. 20 - Webinar
Saturday, Jul. 21 - Webinar

AUGUST

KOMA/KORA (Core)
Friday, Aug. 10 - Garden City
Saturday, Aug. 11 - Abilene

SEPTEMBER

Preparing for Retirement (Elective)
Friday, Sept. 7 - Webinar
Saturday, Sept. 8 - Webinar

OCTOBER

LKM CONFERENCE (October 6)
KOMA/KORA (Core)
Municipal Finance (Core)
The Power of Leadership (Elective)

NOVEMBER

Sexual Harassment (Elective)
Friday, Nov. 9 - Webinar
Saturday, Nov. 10 - Webinar

Registration is available online at <http://www.lkm.org/training/mla/>.

The Playful City

by Wynndee Lee

Dreaming of getting national attention (not related to a natural disaster or serious crime!)? Then PLAY! That's what Ottawa did—not to get national attention of course—but to improve the health and well-being of our children and community members.

Ottawa was designated a Playful City USA by KaBOOM! in 2010, and again in 2011. This program became a vehicle for community engagement and excitement, culminating in a completely new playground built entirely by the community.

In 2010, Richard U. Nienstedt, City Manager, asked City staff to look into the Playful City designation and possible grant funding for playgrounds. Playground improvements were needed and had even been identified in the City's Capital Improvement Program. But, funding was hard to come by during the economic downturn.

City staff went on to conduct an inventory of the parks, prepare the first grant application, and maybe most importantly, identify the first Play Taskforce members. The Play Taskforce became the inspiration for the activities that followed: Play Day 2010 & 2011, kids voting on climbers, kids voting on playground equipment,

purchase and installation of playground equipment, community fundraising efforts, and the dream of an accessible playground in a central park which previously had no playground amenities.

When the City was designated as a Playful City again in 2011, work moved to submitting a grant for matching funding to build the City's first accessible playground. A number of foundations were identified, but our requests were unsuccessful until KaBOOM! selected Ottawa for a 2011 project and awarded the City a grant of \$20,000. The requirements for the project included raising a \$25,000 match. KaBOOM! funds only can be used for equipment and you must spend a minimum of \$30,000 on equipment; other significant capital was needed for an accessible play surface.

Once Ottawa began talking about the project, excitement built and the community responded. In the end, City funds were not used as the match—only memorials and local donations.

One of the work groups gather before assembling the playground. Photo provided by the City of Ottawa.



Photo left: Volunteers assembling equipment for the new playground.

Photo below: A panoramic view of the finished playground.

Photos provided by the City of Ottawa.



Though the Play Taskforce had fun ordering the equipment, picking the colors, etc., the thrilling part of the project was the actual community build day. The group had decided, even before the grant was awarded, to use National Make a Difference Day as a "community build" day. In Ottawa, East Central Kansas Economic Opportunity Corporation (ECKAN) sponsors a Volunteer Center, which facilitates coordination of volunteers for lots of projects in the community, whether for the City, schools, hospital, Habitat for Humanity—the list goes on. Community members are familiar with volunteering that weekend, making recruiting easier. In addition, a recent *Extreme Makeover Home Edition* project was completed in Franklin County. That experience continued to inspire volunteerism in many ways, including this playground project.

The Play Taskforce, City staff, and the Volunteer Center began planning the day. They discussed recycling, safety, tools, equipment, food, etc. They worked with a certified playground safety specialist to ensure the equipment was installed correctly and workflow was planned appropriately. KaBOOM! has a special website that also provides a thorough and detailed list for each component of a community build, guiding action steps from six weeks out to the days following the completion of the project. Ottawa developed a good plan for the day utilizing all these resources, and it was implemented well.

Early on Saturday, October 22, 2011, coffee and breakfast was provided by a local bank to fuel volunteers for their morning shifts.

Community businesses and residents provided additional food and desserts for shifts arriving later in the day. Volunteers arrived in three major shifts, signed safety and publicity releases, and got to work. There were 102 community members and approximately 20 City staff. City staff prepped the site and dug holes the day before. Equipment was placed and readied for construction. To give every level of volunteer talent a place to contribute, easier-to-assemble picnic tables and benches were ordered as part of the larger project. By the time the third group of volunteers arrived around lunch, they were already awaiting the delivery of concrete, previously scheduled for 4 p.m. Terrific volunteer support, energy and enthusiasm allowed the project not only to be completed, but completed early.

On the following Monday, "family" volunteer day was planned. For insurance purposes, no one under 14 was allowed to participate on build day, but the Play Taskforce wanted the children to feel ownership in the project as well. A giant pile of mulch was intentionally left for the youth to transport and spread under the equipment. Another 40 adults and about 35 children volunteered for this portion of the project—there was a bit of playing too! Every project has a snag, and this one was the delay in the delivery of the additional loads of mulch. Two additional loads were delivered after the family volunteer day. City staff finished the mulch, installed an accessible concrete ramp to the playground area, and to complete the project, the City Commission dedicated the space during a short ceremony with donors and the community present.

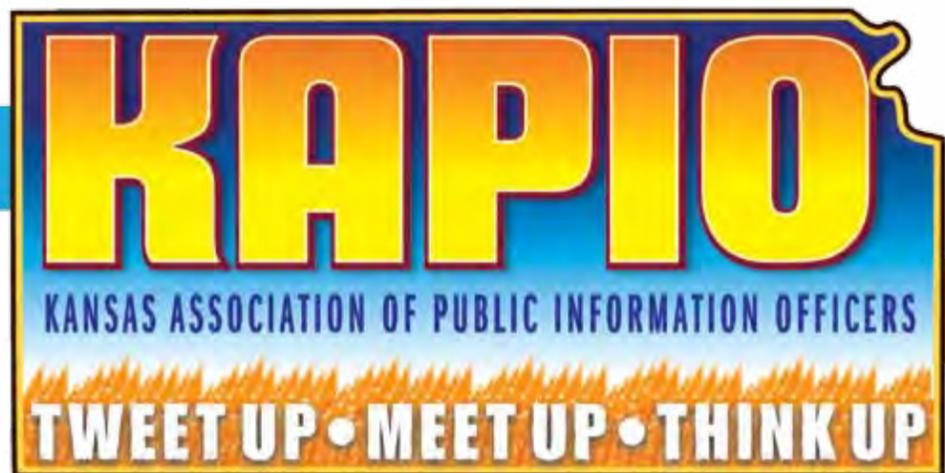
After the build, the City posted photos on Facebook, and others in the community posted comments and additional photos. Using a large display booth, we displayed about 35, 8" x 10" photos of the build, accompanied by a list of donors in the lobby of City Hall. The City also videotaped the whole build day, accelerated the timeline, and created a four-minute video covering the whole day. As a final record of the day, the City combined quotes, photos, video, and live feed with comments volunteers made during the build day and created a 20-minute video for our government access channel that also included the accelerated build day shots. Then, as a thank you, copies of the video were delivered to the donors and the Play Taskforce members.

So, how did Ottawa get national attention? When first selected as one of 118 cities designated as a Playful City, Ottawa was specifically mentioned in the national news release: "Hailing from 36 states and ranging in size from San Francisco and Atlanta, to Ottawa, Kansas, and Shirley, Massachusetts, these Playful City USA communities are making a commitment to play and physical activity by developing unique local action plans to increase the quantity and quality of play in their community." Ottawa was selected again in 2011, one of 151 cities. The big news this year was promoted because the build took place on Make a Difference Day. *USA Today Weekend*, the sponsor of this National Day of Service, stated in a news release "In Ottawa, Kansas, 150 people gathered to build a new playground accessible to kids with disabilities" and even included a quote from a mother of a child with spina bifida who came out to help. What a great way to create a public amenity for all!



The playground's Task Force Committee on site before the playground was built. Photo provided by the City of Ottawa.

☀️ Wynndee Lee is the Director of Planning and Codes Administration for the City of Ottawa. She can be reached at wlee@ottawaks.gov.



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Legal Forum
by Sandy Jacquot

Technology and the Fourth Amendment

The Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and also the Kansas Constitution is a heavily litigated area, because what constitutes a search or seizure is very fact specific. As technology continues to advance, the ability to track and monitor suspects becomes more creative. The U.S. Supreme Court handed down a decision this term that has implications regarding the use of technology in tracking criminal suspects. In *United States v. Jones*, 565 U.S. ___, 132 S.Ct. 945, 181 L.Ed.2d, 911 (2012), the U.S. Supreme Court decided a case where a global positioning system (GPS) tracking device was attached to a vehicle for the purpose of monitoring the movements of the vehicle on city streets. The issue in the case as set forth by the Court was, "whether the attachment of a Global-Positioning-System (GPS) tracking device to an individual's vehicle, and subsequent use of that device to monitor the vehicle's movements on public streets, constitutes a search or seizure within the meaning of the Fourth Amendment." 132 S.Ct. 945, 948.

The case began in 2004, when a nightclub owner, Antoine Jones, became a suspect for trafficking in narcotics. An investigation task force was formed between the local law enforcement agency and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Several different types of monitoring were used, including cameras focused on the front door of the nightclub, visual surveillance and a wiretap of the suspect's cell phone. Using information in 2005 from those sources, the task force applied to the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia for a search warrant to place a GPS device on a car registered to the suspect's wife. The defendant was the exclusive driver of the car, so the ownership was not an issue in this case. The warrant authorized the placement of the GPS within 10 days in the District of Columbia. The device was actually installed on the 11th day in Maryland while the car was in a public parking lot. In this case, the government concedes that the warrant was not followed, but argued that no warrant was needed, because placement of the GPS device was not a search.

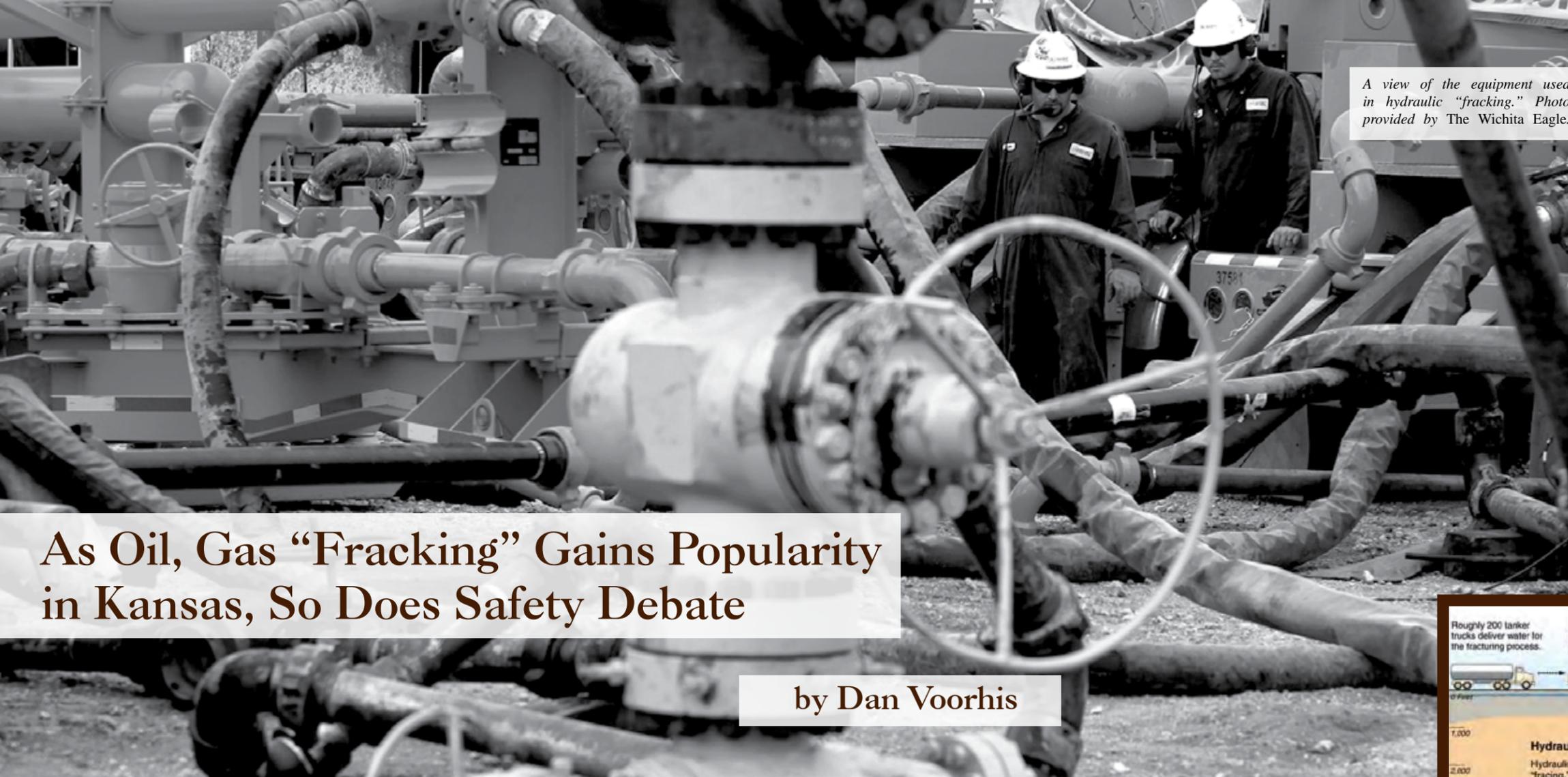
The GPS sent data over a one month period to the government, generating about 2,000 pages of data. What happened procedurally is a bit confusing, but essentially, the defendant moved to suppress the GPS evidence at trial. The U.S. District Court suppressed the evidence collected when the defendant's vehicle was parked at his residence, but allowed the remainder. The rationale of the District Court was that the defendant would have no expectation of privacy in his movements from one location to another while traveling on the public streets. The evidence was subsequently used in another indictment in 2007 and the defendant was convicted of multiple drug crimes. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit reversed the conviction because of the admission of the GPS evidence, which was obtained without a warrant, holding that the search violated the Fourth Amendment. The U.S. Supreme Court then granted *certiorari*.

The Court analyzed the history of the Fourth Amendment and noted that the standard for determining a violation has become whether or not an individual has an expectation of privacy in the area subject to the intrusion. The government argued that the undercarriage of a car and the location of the vehicle being driven on city streets were visible to anyone. The Court, however, while recognizing the "expectation of privacy" standard, did not throw out the historically significant protection of a person's property from invasion by the government (a standard used in many early Fourth Amendment cases), although that by itself does not constitute a search.

In this case, however, there was both a physical intrusion of the defendant's property and the intent to use the planted device to gather information. Thus, the planting and use of the GPS device was a search within the meaning of the Fourth Amendment. There is an interesting analysis of the opinion's concurrence by the majority relating to achieving the same result using large teams of agents, multiple vehicles and maybe aerial surveillance, which would likely be constitutionally permissible. The Court concedes that obtaining the same result utilizing electronic means without the physical trespass may violate the Fourth Amendment, but the current case did not require answering that question. Answering that issue would cause questions to arise such as how long a timeframe of monitoring might be okay, for what crimes, and many other scenarios that could not be envisioned. Clearly, more electronic monitoring cases are sure to follow. So, the takeaway for city attorneys and law enforcement officers would be to obtain a warrant for any GPS related search at this point in time.

One other interesting piece of technology being used by some cities across the United States is a gadget used as a cell phone tracking device. What this quarter of a million dollar device does is allow the user to set up what amounts to a dummy cell phone tower that directs all nearby cell phones to connect. It then allows the user to capture things like location and phone numbers called, and allows the tracking of cell phones. It does not capture the actual phone calls, so it is not like a wiretap. Many groups are concerned about the use of such surveillance device and believe it is only a matter of time before the U.S. Supreme Court addresses whether or not use of it would constitute a search within the meaning of the Fourth Amendment. Normally such information is obtained from a third party cell phone company, so there is a buffer between the information and law enforcement, and concerns may be more likely to be raised. Without question, this is an area of the law that will continue to evolve.

☀️ Sandy Jacquot is the Director of Law/General Counsel for the League of Kansas Municipalities. She can be reached at sjacquot@lkm.org or (785) 354-9565.



A view of the equipment used in hydraulic “fracking.” Photo provided by The Wichita Eagle.

As Oil, Gas “Fracking” Gains Popularity in Kansas, So Does Safety Debate

by Dan Voorhis

In the 2010 documentary *Gasland*, a Colorado homeowner sets his tap water on fire and residents complain of mysterious health problems.

They point the finger for the source of their troubles at the natural gas wells—drilled using hydraulic fracturing, or fracking—that litter the scenic valley east of Grand Teton National Park.

With environmentalists crowing that this is proof that fracking causes contamination and the industry denying any such thing, it’s turned into another politicized free-for-all.

The national debate over fracking has darkened a good-news story for the country: horizontal multistage hydrofracking has reversed the growth of imported oil and natural gas, created hundreds of thousands of American jobs, and in the case of natural gas, dramatically cut prices.

In the past few months, the fracking debate moved to Kansas as large companies using horizontal multistage hydrofracking started drilling in Sumner, Harper, Barber, and Comanche counties. They are drilling through a 320 million-year-old layer called the Mississippian limestone 4,500 to 5,000 ft. below the prairie.

Fracking isn’t new or unusual, Kansas oilmen are quick to note. It’s been done for more than 60 years and is used on virtually all of the more than 5,000 conventional wells drilled in Kansas every year.

That’s why many in the industry in Kansas are dismayed, even disgusted, by the fact that there is a controversy. To them, there’s a

debate only because gas drilling is growing rapidly in Pennsylvania and New York, where East Coast environmentalists are thick on the ground.

Kansas regulators say the record for fracking is clear: There has never been a case of groundwater contamination caused by fracking in the state’s history.

But environmentalists say the new wells raise the stakes. These wells run 4,000 ft. horizontally and require many thousands of gallons of hazardous chemicals per well.

No matter what the record is, say environmentalists, accidents are inevitable. In booming areas such as western Pennsylvania’s gas area, the Marcellus Shale, some of the producers have been sloppy, cutting corners.

Environmentalists aren’t quite as thick on the ground in Kansas, but there are some—and they are worried about Kansas.

Joe Spease, chairman of the Kansas Sierra Club’s hydraulic fracturing committee, said the record of drillers in Pennsylvania makes him worry about Kansas.

“We have to take a hard look at this,” he said. “If these chemicals get into the groundwater, it’s ruined forever. This is a major threat to the water supply.”

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is in the midst of a massive study on fracking and its impact on water. It expects to issue its first report before the end of 2012.

Driving the Debate
What drives the debate is the extraordinary success of horizontal multistage hydrofracking to get to the vast amounts of gas and oil tied up in deep rock formations.

Using techniques perfected in the last 10 to 15 years, and made hugely profitable by \$100-a-barrel oil, a horizontal well can take the place of 6 or 8 vertical wells.

It’s become a significant proportion of all natural gas production. One forecast calls for production of U.S. shale gas to move from 23% of gas production in 2010 to 49% of a larger volume by 2035, according to a federal estimate. However, some gas companies are slowing production because of low prices.

Nationally, the jobs numbers tossed around are huge. A 2010 study by IHS, an economic analysis firm, reports that shale gas production supported 600,000 jobs.

Oil production in deep formations around the country—and around the world—is just beginning to ramp up. The vast Bakken shale formation is poised to make North Dakota the second-largest oil state, just ahead of Alaska.

Kansas doesn’t have shale oil, but it does have the Mississippian limestone. Tom Ward, CEO of Oklahoma City’s SandRidge Energy, the biggest player in the new Kansas oil boom, compares the Mississippian limestone to the Bakken shale.

Ward bought 2 million acres across the 2 states and embarked on a rapid buildup in production. Other big companies from Oklahoma and Texas are following suit.

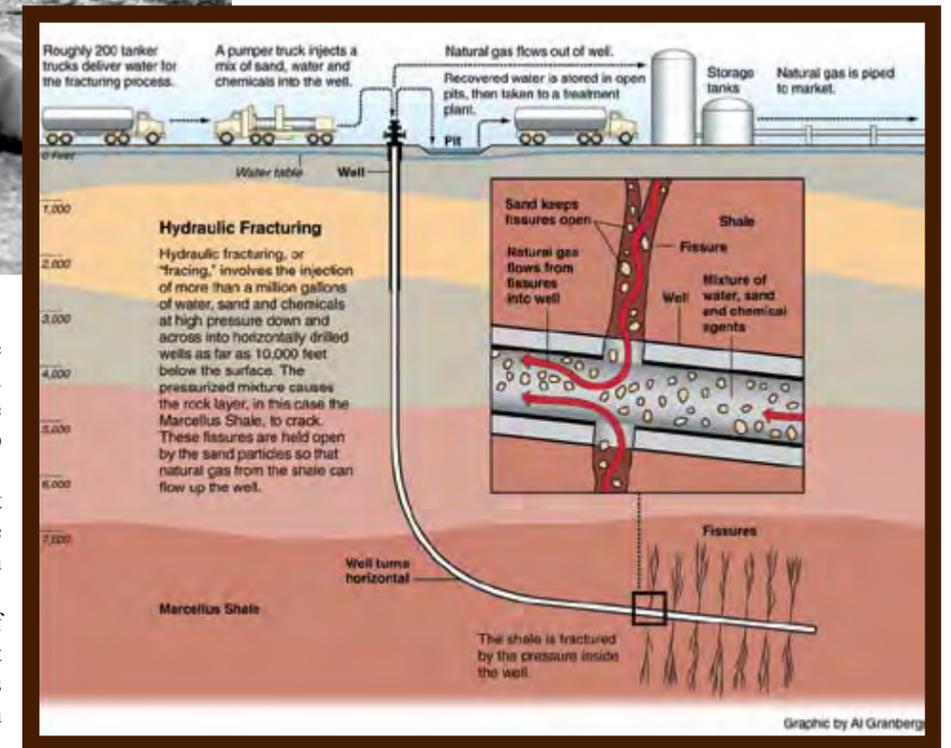
Ward said that each million dollars spent by oil companies results in 1.9 direct jobs and 4.9 total jobs.

“We believe there will be 100,000 jobs added to the Kansas economy over the next 4 years,” he said. “So it makes Boeing leaving look paltry.”

What is Fracking?

The industry has long known that oceans of oil and gas were trapped in the tiny pores of difficult rock formations, but it didn’t go after them because cheaper oil was available.

Starting a decade ago, shrinking supplies and rising natural gas prices convinced companies to drill into the deep shale formations such as the Barnett Shale under central Texas and the Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, and New York. Production from these formations has been so striking that gas prices have tumbled and companies such as Chesapeake Energy are rushing to switch to oil.



This is the same technique used in Kansas, although in a layer of Mississippian limestone, rather than a shale formation.

A horizontal multistage hydrofracked well starts with the drilling of a horizontal well. In Kansas such a well goes down about 4,000 ft., then through manipulation of the drill bit, the wellbore curves until it runs horizontally through the desired layer of rock. The bit will then cut about 4,000 ft. horizontally.

The well is lined with steel tubing, which is cemented in. A unit is lowered into the hole that blasts holes through the tubing at



Deckhands on an oil rig operated by SandRidge Energy in Harper County, Kansas. Photo by Bo Radar, The Wichita Eagle.

emergency, no crisis, but there is an opportunity for smarter enforcement and better and more transparent practices by industry.

“That has implications for regulation,” Orbach said. “If it is no more serious than regular drilling, they don’t need a whole set of rules. You can use the same rules.”

Construction is Key

Regulation of fracking is largely at the state level.

Doug Louis, who heads oil and gas oversight for the Kansas Corporation Commission, said he isn’t worried much about fracking, as long as the rules are followed.

Nothing that far down will migrate to the surface because of the impermeability of some of the layers above it, he said.

That means the well construction is crucial to keeping fluid used in fracking from seeping up through the borehole to groundwater.

Kansas drillers are required to have what amounts to two steel tubes, two layers of cement casing, and drilling mud lining the wellbore from the surface to below the level of groundwater. If the cementing process is done correctly, there is no chance for any chemicals left in fluid 5,000 ft. below the surface to reach up through the wellbore to the groundwater, Louis said.

“There hasn’t been any problems from when they started fracking,” he said. “That was in 1947 and the success speaks for itself.”

Kansas does not regulate hydraulic fracking specifically, nor does it require drillers to list the chemicals they use.

Many of the largest companies have agreed to voluntarily reveal the chemicals they use in fracking at www.fracfocus.org. To date, only a small handful of oil and gas wells in Kansas are listed.

If a well is contaminated, regulators would be able to determine whether the contamination comes from a fracked well or not.

Representative Carl Holmes, (R-Liberal), Chairman of the House Energy and Utilities Committee, said that will change this year.

He expects the Legislature to give the KCC explicit authority to regulate hydraulic fracking this session.

Texas and Colorado have recently required hydraulic fracking companies to divulge their chemicals.

Felix Revello lives in Pawnee County, and he’s worried about fracking.

He’s heard the claims made about contamination and environmental problems elsewhere.

But he also knows the benefits that this new oil and gas production will bring to the country.

“The point is, if we are going to do it, then we need to go the extra mile to do it right,” he said. “We need to do it in a way that passes on a healthy environment to future generations.”

Dan Voorhis is a reporter for The Wichita Eagle. He may be contacted at dvoorhis@wichitaeagle.com or (316) 268-6577. This article was reprinted with permission from The Wichita Eagle/Kansas.com.

regular intervals. A special crew using massive pumper trucks then forces 2 million to 3 million gallons of water under high pressure into the well. Using valves, the work is done in sections to fracture the surrounding rock beyond the holes.

This is where the controversy comes in. The crews use a mixture of roughly 90% water, 9% sand, and a 1% stew of hazardous chemicals to prevent corrosion, retard bacteria growth, bind clay, ease the flow of liquids, and more. While these chemicals are used in fractions of 1%, the volumes are so large that it can mean 20,000 or 30,000 gallons of these chemicals in each well. Each well site typically will have four horizontal wells going out in each direction.

Much of the fracking water and chemicals return to the surface once the liquids starts to flow. The Mississippian limestone is saturated with salt water, 10 times more than the oil. The horizontal drillers must have water injection wells near their oil wells so they can pump the water back into the ground. Injection wells typically are drilled down to the Arbuckle layer, which those in the industry describe as a 1,000-ft. thick sponge that can take all the water sent to it.

“The Arbuckle across a four-state area will take more water than the Mississippian could ever give it,” said SandRidge’s Ward.

Water Contamination

It’s the potential of the contaminated water, or the oil mixing at any point with the groundwater or surface water, that makes environmentalists jittery.

And ground zero for that jitter is northwest Pennsylvania, where widespread gas drilling in the Marcellus shale formation has caused an economic boom and a political backlash.

Over the last two years, Pennsylvania has levied several sizable fines against operators, saying their gas wells contaminated nearby water sources. Drillers are required to test the groundwater before they start. Unless operators can prove otherwise, they are presumed to have caused any pollution that shows up within 1,000 ft. of the water supply, if that pollution shows up within 6 months after well completion.

Several towns in the region have opted to ban hydraulic fracking and states are considering new rules.

The Sierra Club’s Spease said that Kansans should look at Pennsylvania as a warning for a likely future.

But those in the industry say that Pennsylvania isn’t Kansas. The geology is totally different—there won’t be any fines when an access road collapses into a mountain stream—and the population density is less.

Kansas vertical wells have been fracked for decades and the fracking fluid is much less toxic than it used to be, they say.

“There was never any question about fracking until they started drilling in Pennsylvania,” said Ward.

A comprehensive study, released last month by the Energy Institute at the University of Texas at Austin, analyzed contamination reports in three of the nation’s big shale gas plays, including the Marcellus in Pennsylvania.

Ray Orbach, director of the institute, said the study found no instances of groundwater contamination directly attributable to fracking. There were instances of pollution caused by wells that had been fracked, he said, but those problems stemmed from conventional issues such as poorly constructed cement well casings or spillage from retention ponds. He said the horizontal hydrofracked wells were no more likely to have violations than regular vertical wells. In other words, Orbach said, there’s no



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Mayors Help With Meals on Wheels

by Tim Hrenchir

Baked beef ziti was the featured menu item as Topeka Mayor Bill Bunten and Rossville Mayor Ken Wichman went on the road separately to deliver food for Meals on Wheels of Shawnee and Jefferson Counties.

Italian mixed vegetables, breadsticks and apricots were also on the menu as Bunten, Wichman, and Tom Noble—filling in for Silver Lake Mayor Mack Smith—took part in the organization's Mayors for Meals Day.

The day is part of the Meals on Wheels Association of America's March for Meals Campaign, which takes place in March and seeks to raise awareness of senior hunger while encouraging people to help by volunteering or donating money.

Heidi Pickerell, President and CEO of Meals on Wheels of Shawnee and Jefferson Counties, said the organization delivers noon meals each weekday to the homes of about 600 people living along 53 separate meal routes in Shawnee and Jefferson counties.

Meals on Wheels has operated locally for 40 years, Pickerell said. To be eligible for the program, clients must be "homebound" or unable to leave home without the help of another person.



Topeka Mayor Bill Bunten and CEO/President Heidi Pickerell joined the Meals on Wheels troops and delivered meals as part of the Mayors For Meals Initiative. Mayor Ken Wichman of Rossville and Tom Noble, representing Silver Lake also participated in the day. Top photo provided by Meals on Wheels. Left photo provided by the Topeka Capital-Journal.

Bunten said he wasn't able to visit with those at another home because the woman of the house said her husband was near death and hospice staff members were present.

"Growing old isn't easy, and the work that you do is outstanding," Bunten told Pickerell.

"We are excited about having Mayor Bunten, Mayor Wichman and Mr. Noble participate in our Mayors for Meals Day event," Pickerell said. "Mayor Bunten has participated for many years, and the national Mayors for Meals Day is an excellent way for us to continue our relationship with leaders in our area."

Pickerell said Meals on Wheels this year also is celebrating the 40th anniversary of the inclusion of senior nutrition programs in the Older Americans Act (OAA).

She said the OAA is the primary piece of legislation that authorizes and supports vital nutrition services, including Meals on Wheels, to Americans 60 and older.

For more information about Meals on Wheels of Shawnee and Jefferson Counties call (785) 670-2434 or go to their website at <http://meals-on-wheels-inc.org/>.

 *Tim Hrenchir is a reporter for the Topeka Capital-Journal. This article was reprinted with permission from cjonline.com online edition.*



Abilene, Texas

Director of Community Services

The City of Abilene (pop. 117,063) is located approximately 180 miles west of the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. The Director of Community Services is responsible for seven divisions, an annual operating budget of \$10.2 million, and 129 full time personnel.

To view a complete position profile, visit: <https://www.governmentresource.com/pages/CurrentSearches>.

For more information:

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City Administrator

City Administrator of Kechi, KS. Salary: negotiable, competitive with cities of similar size. Mayor and five-member council is elected at large. \$3.2 million budget; 9 full-time employees. A growing community of 1,936 located in south central Kansas in the Wichita metropolitan area, 4 miles northeast of Wichita. Administrator charged with the administration of city government including recommending the appointment and removal of department heads; preparing the annual budget; and making recommendations on all matters concerning the welfare of the city. Direct responsibilities include: police; streets; parks; administration; water; wastewater; and gas. Minimum qualifications: three years experience in municipal management or closely related work Bachelor's degree in municipal management or related field; master's degree preferred. Letter of application including salary history, resume, and three work-related references in confidence to the City Clerk, P.O. Box 88, Kechi, Kansas 67067. Search Committee will begin screening applications by April 26, 2012. Position open until filled. Resumes of three-to-six finalists will be subject to public disclosure. Pre-employment drug screening. Equal Opportunity Employer. See recruitment profile at: <http://www.kechiks.com/>

City of Derby Communications

The City of Derby, Kansas is seeking an excellent communicator with interest in community development and the built environment to work with business owners, city officials, and members of the public to plan Derby's growth. Salary range \$47,611-\$64,417 DOQ. View complete position description, requirements, and apply online at <http://www.derbyweb.com>.

City Manager

Located in northeast Kansas, the City of Topeka (pop. 127,450) is the capital of Kansas and the county seat of Shawnee County. The City adopted a Council/Manager form of government in 2005 and has a Mayor, elected at-large, and a nine-member City Council, elected by district, to serve four-year staggered terms, with no term limits. The City Manager is hired by and serves at the pleasure of the Council. The City is a full-service city with an annual budget of \$222M and 1,120 full-time employees. The City is seeking a manager who is an excellent leader to work effectively with the Mayor and Council in carrying out goals and objectives, including development and implementation of a long-term strategic vision. Priorities for the City include downtown redevelopment, economic development, neighborhood revitalization, and preserving quality of life. Candidates must have proven skills and experience in effective leadership, budgeting, and public relations; excellent interpersonal and communication skills are needed. Requirements include a Bachelor's degree in Public or Business Administration or a closely related field; Master's degree preferred. Candidates should have a minimum of 10 years progressively responsible senior management experience; or an equivalent combination of training and experience. Experience within local government, preferably in a unionized environment, and in economic/community development is a plus. Compensation is open, dependent upon qualifications, and includes an excellent benefits package. Filing deadline is May 7, 2012. To apply

Executive Director

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The Quest Center for Entrepreneurs is seeking an executive director. The position requires high levels of leadership, organizational, and managerial abilities. Min. requirements: Bachelor's degree in business or related field and a min. of three years business experience. Salary negotiable. Apply by April 30, 2012, to:
Search Committee
Quest Center for Entrepreneurs, Inc.
One East 9th
Hutchinson, KS 67501

Municipal Court Judge

The City of Overland Park has a full-time Municipal Court Judge position available in the Municipal Court.

Responsibilities: Serves as judge of courtroom proceedings. Ensures that all persons charged with the violation of municipal ordinances are treated fairly, equitably and in a manner consistent with constitutional principles. Arraigns persons, sets bonds, hears motions, appoints attorneys to counsel defendants, and advises defendants of charges against them. Hears and determines violation charges, commits persons to jail, assesses fines, determines probation/parole and termination of same. Reviews files of those who did not appear in court and determines disposition. Conducts special projects as time allows and as desired. Serves as presiding judge during his/her absence as assigned.

Requirements: All persons appointed as Municipal Court Judge must meet the following qualifications: be an attorney admitted to the practice of law in the state of Kansas; be a citizen of the United States and a resident of the City of Overland Park, Kansas, during their term of office; and possess a minimum of five (5) years' experience in the active practice of law as



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a lawyer, judge of a court of record or any court in the state or as a full-time teacher of law in any accredited law school or any combination thereof. In addition, as a full-time judge, the person selected must agree not to practice law during their term of office and possess high personal, moral and professional integrity befitting the position of Municipal Court Judge.

Salary: Dependent on Qualifications. Application Deadline: Friday, April 20, 2012 by 5:00 p.m. Interview Schedule: May 16 and/or May 21, 2012.

Application Process: Please fully complete the application that includes a writing sample and a copy of your continuing legal education reports for the past three years by the application deadline. Submit to:

Mike Garcia
Chief Human Resources Officer
City of Overland Park
8500 Santa Fe Dr
Overland Park, Kansas 66212
EO/M/F/D/V

Police Chief

The City of Coffeyville, Kansas (population 10, 295) is seeking a qualified, experienced individual to fill the position of Police Chief. The previous Police Chief retired after serving 27 years with the department.

The Police Chief is responsible for a department of 35 people including 28 sworn officers. Candidates must have comprehensive knowledge of modern law enforcement including drug investigation

and enforcement activities, community policing activities, multi-jurisdictional activities and a proven track record of effective leadership and supervision of police personnel. Work requires application of department management/administration principles; budget development and implementation; grant writing. This is a highly visible position requiring excellent communication skills, both oral and written.

Requirements include a Bachelor's Degree with major course work in criminal justice, public administration, business administration or a related field. Equivalent experience with demonstrated rank advancement, including at least seven years supervisory experience and at least four years in upper level management capacity will be considered. Candidates must meet or have the ability to meet the licensing standards established by the Kansas Law Enforcement Academy. Working knowledge of labor union relations and experience in a college community is highly desirable.

The City offers an excellent benefit package and a salary range of \$61,300 to \$69,914 dependent on qualifications. Interested applicants should submit resume demonstrating your qualifications, references and salary history to: Human Resources Department, P. O. Box 1629, Coffeyville, Kansas 67337. Phone (620)252-6121. Applications accepted until April 30, 2012.

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE WILL BE REQUIRED TO PASS PRE-EMPLOYMENT PHYSICAL INCLUDING

DRUG SCREEN, BACKGROUND CHECK, AND PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATION. Successful applicant must meet residency requirement within 6 months.

Maintenance Worker

The City of Conway Springs is accepting applications for a full-time maintenance worker. Position would work in public works, maintenance of facilities, water/wastewater systems, street maintenance, and assigned duties. Position requires valid driver's license, high school diploma or GED. Water/wastewater certifications and CDL preferred or applicant must be willing to obtain within a reasonable time set by council. Wages based on qualifications. Applications are available at City Hall, 208 W. Spring Ave., cscity@haviandtelco.com or (620)456-2345. Position will remain open until filled.

Zoning Inspection Officer I/II

Starting Salary: \$16.49 - \$17.46/hr (full-time)

Responsible for ensuring that private property and construction and development projects conform to zoning and subdivision regulations, conditions of approval, and other applicable regulations; for inspection, investigation, and resolution of zoning enforcement issues; and for other planning functions necessary to assist with the City's orderly growth and property maintenance. www.cityofmhk.com "Employment Opportunities"

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Moler's Musings by Don Moler

Preventive Maintenance



People are always interesting and complex, and today's story illuminates that in several different ways. It involves neighbors from a long time ago, in a neighborhood far, far away, who always perceived themselves to be "tree people." That was their demeanor and belief despite what I always believed to be great evidence to the contrary. Please let me explain.

These neighbors, who I will not mention by name or location, had always taken the position that they were the foremost tree authorities in the neighborhood, and perhaps the State of Kansas. They believed this to be gospel truth because they planted lots of trees in their yard, and had done so for many, many years. Now, at first blush, one might think that they would know a great deal about trees as a result of this ongoing planting extravaganza. You would be mistaken.

These neighbors never seemed to understand that a certain amount of responsibility goes along with the planting of these trees. They seemed to think that the only duty they had to the trees, or for that matter the neighborhood, was to plant the trees and watch them grow. While that is certainly a rewarding experience, and one I have personally enjoyed, they were missing a key element of truly being "tree people." This has to do with the need for ongoing maintenance of the trees.

Now what I have said has probably surprised a few of you, and it would have surprised me in my childhood home. I grew up in a small ranch style home and we had exactly two trees in our front yard and, if memory serves, one tree in our backyard. That was it. The trees in the front were very pretty, a large red maple and beautiful ginkgo tree which was my father's pride and joy in the yard. The tree in the backyard was an apple tree that I don't ever think produced any apples. In any case, we had three trees and that was it.

This is unlike the experience I have today where we live in an older established neighborhood, and many of the trees that are in existence there are huge and old. If you live in a neighborhood with old, mature trees, you must expend a certain amount of money to maintain them. Otherwise, what will inevitably happen, especially in Kansas, is that one day the wind will blow, or the ice storm will come, and the dead limbs which are present high up in the tree will break off and essentially destroy the tree as they fall to the ground.

This is largely the experience of these neighbors. For as long as we had been in the neighborhood, they had ongoing tree damage on their larger trees. They were always baffled by this phenomenon. They couldn't understand why their trees were largely destroyed by these various storms that came through Kansas periodically,

and the trees of most of the other residents of the neighborhood remained tall and proud. The answer, of course, was that those neighbors who had trees which remained upright during these heavy storms had taken care of them with a significant amount of time and effort. Professional tree services had been employed, and significant amounts of money had been expended in having them pruned appropriately to take out both the dead wood and the extra limbs which weigh down the tree and restrict proper air flow.

The fact of the matter is that trees, like most other things, need to be periodically maintained. While inevitably some storms are so strong that they will destroy trees and other things in their path, if trees are properly maintained, they will typically enjoy a very long and healthy life. This truth is lost on a number of people. Some simply don't understand the need for the maintenance. I find it interesting that the seven huge pin oak trees which span the front of our lot, and which were either planted by Alf Landon or at his direction back in the late 1930's, remain strong and proud to this day. This is because a series of owners have taken the time and expense to maintain them properly. I can tell you that it is not always pleasant writing the checks required for the tree services to come in and maintain these trees, but it is very rewarding that they remain strong and healthy trees which continue to be enjoyed by our generation and will hopefully continue to be enjoyed by future generations.

The trees discussed today serve as a cautionary tale to those of us in government. We must not overlook the preventive maintenance that is required to keep governmental systems and infrastructure functioning at an optimal level. The idea that simply spending less money is always the answer is shortsighted and oftentimes misses the point. It is always possible to save money in the short-term by deferring maintenance. The real question we should be asking is whether preventive maintenance, involving a small expenditure of money today, and on an ongoing basis, would be a better long-term investment than waiting for our infrastructure, buildings, public parks, etc., to deteriorate to such an extent that the only real solution is to knock them down and start over.

It is one of life's truisms that while it may be comfortable in the short-term to put off expenditures to the future, that is seldom the best long-term solution. The best solution is the one that maximizes the public's dollar while at the same time recognizing that some expenditures are inevitable to maintain what has been put in place, and to make sure that it is as good or better for those who follow us. Do not be misled into thinking that saving a dollar today means that you have actually saved a dollar tomorrow. All that has really been accomplished is kicking the can down the road so that it is somebody else's problem to fix, and typically at a much greater cost.

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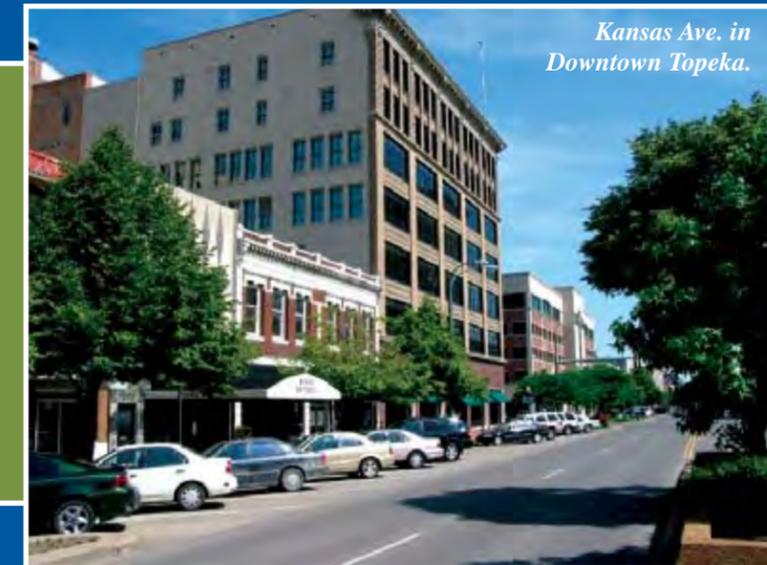
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