

Kansas

GOVERNMENT JOURNAL

VOLUME 101 NUMBER 4

MAY 2015



Getting Disaster
Recovery Costs Moving

CNG and the
City of El Dorado

From Ubiquitous
to Assessed Tax
Abatement



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Kansas

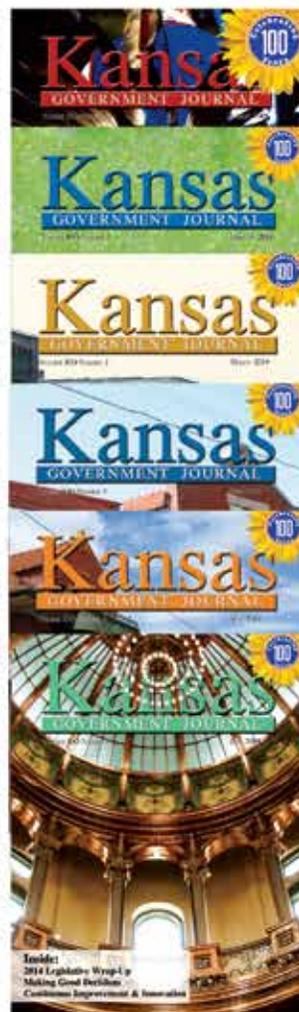
GOVERNMENT JOURNAL

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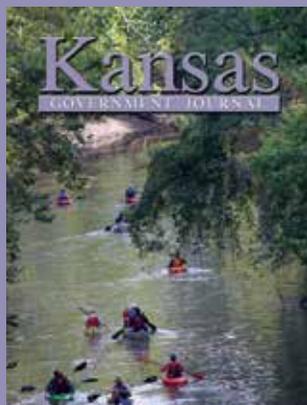
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Correction

Listed on page 123 is a correction for Brenda Chance's League Profile from the April issue of the *Kansas Government Journal*.



About the Cover:
Photo of a Kansas River float trip from Eudora to De Soto. Photo provided by Barack Matite.

Kansas

GOVERNMENT JOURNAL

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The mission of the League shall be to 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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2015 LKM Events Calendar

May

15, 16 - Governing Body Institute, Topeka

25 - LKM Holiday: Memorial Day

June

05 - Governing Body Meeting, Topeka

18 - MLA: City Clerk Fundamentals, Ness City

19 - MLA: City Clerk Fundamentals, El Dorado

25 - MLA: City Clerk Fundamentals, Belleville

26 - MLA: City Clerk Fundamentals, Mission

July

03 - LKM Holiday: Independence Day

Obituaries

James (Jim) Leon Enyart, 84, died March 24, 2015.

Enyart was born March 24, 1931, in Greentown, Indiana. He graduated from Akron High School and received his bachelors of pharmacy degree from Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. He served in the United States Air Force from 1950 until 1954. Enyart loved flying and was a pilot for forty-seven years. From 1965 to 1991, he was the owner and operator of Horton Pharmacy in Horton, Kansas. Enyart also served many years as the mayor of Horton.

Joseph Preston Odle, 79, died April 14, 2015.

Odle was born January 2, 1936, in Kansas City, Kansas, and has been a lifelong area resident. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of the Korean Conflict. He worked for over 30 years for the Kansas City, Kansas, Fire Department, retiring as Captain and Union President in 1984. He later served as mayor of Basehor, as a Basehor city councilman and was appointed as the Kansas State Fire Marshal.

Robert L. Sobba, 93, died April 12, 2015.

Sobba was a lifelong resident of Fowler. He was born December 1, 1921, on the family farm north of Fowler, to Christopher and Ruth (Ralston) Sobba. He graduated from Fowler High School in 1940, married Lula Belle Reese July 12, 1942, and served in the Army from 1942 until 1945. After returning from the service, he began his career in farming. He served as a Ford County Commissioner in the 1980's. He was also a board member for the Ford County Soil Conservation District and a board member of the Federal Land Bank in Dodge City.

Director's Foreword

by Erik Sartorius



As this issue of the *Kansas Government Journal* reaches you, I will be completing my first year with the League. The past twelve months have gone by incredibly quickly. I am thrilled to be part of this organization, and could not have imagined a better place to be. I feel fortunate to have been able to meet

so many members across the state, and plan to see many more communities as summer arrives.

I believe we have moved forward in many respects over the past several months. This magazine now reaches you in a timely manner, and we continue to fine tune the information we provide to reflect the preferences you have shared with us. Legislative relationships are being rebuilt, with a growing number of legislators reaching out to us for the municipal perspective on issues. Lastly, I hope you have had the experience I have with our organization becoming even more focused on member service.

More elements of the League's strategic plan will receive our attention in the coming year. Refining and updating our programming for you, and how we provide that information to you will be among our tasks. Increased outreach to you, and guidance for working with state legislators and state agencies on your local issues, will also be on our "to do" list.

Your feedback on what we are doing at the League is important to our efforts to provide member services that benefit you. If you have comments, would you be willing to share them? The League Governing Body conducts an annual performance evaluation of me, and their preparation is underway. You may send comments to League President Terry Somers at tssomers1@gmail.com. I hope, too, that you have experienced an increased focus by our organization on member service.

We have completed our first annual "Hometown Showdown," and the success of this contest wowed all of us at the League. Cities have a serious stockpile of Facebook friends more than willing to "like" them! All told, over 55,000 "likes" were received for the photos submitted by the 59 participating cities. Congratulations to the City of Haysville, which edged out the City of Independence in a close 52%-48% contest.

I hope you enjoyed taking part in the contest, and will be looking forward to signing up for the 2016 contest. Several cities showed great enthusiasm in promoting their photo and getting the word out to their residents and beyond. If you didn't receive Independence's

YouTube video, here's a link: <https://youtu.be/eL30J5spfsQ>. The quick promo video was shared with residents via the city's website, and was then added as a comment to their photo in the final round.

As the contest progressed, the number of Facebook participants who "liked" the League exploded. We began the contest period with 250 "likes." By now, that figure has exceeded 2,750. Not only will that help us in the future to share the message of municipalities, but it also created the opportunity to expose thousands of people to many of the extraordinary cities of Kansas. Thank you again to all cities that participated, and start saving great photos for 2016!

On another front, the League's Governing Body Institute is right around the corner. It is not too late to register! The more we work on this as a staff, the more excited I am about the information we will be sharing with you. Beyond the expertise of the League staff, you will be hearing from other professionals and outside experts. Some of these topics you may not yet even realize you need to know about! The Institute kicks off Friday with a session providing you tips for resolving conflicts. Saturday's first session provides you a review of the Kansas Open Meetings Act, with other opportunities to learn about relationships with businesses and some "rules for the road" in the world of social media. We are also serving up a lunch designed to educate and entertain you as we take you through a mock council meeting full of common pitfalls.

On behalf of the League, I'd like to extend congratulations to six Kansas cities who were recently designated as Kansas PRIDE Communities of Excellence. The Cities of Dover, Glasco, Larned, Lecompton, McFarland, and Randolph and their local PRIDE groups are to be commended for their efforts to showcase and improve their communities. If your community is interested in the PRIDE program, you can find more information at <http://www.kansasprideprogram.ksu.edu/>.

Don't forget to send us information on your city's upcoming events for our events calendar. We are hitting prime festival time in Kansas, and we would love to be able to share with our readers (and online) all of the fabulous events Kansas cities have to offer. Contact Andrey Ukrazhenko at andrey@lkm.org, sharing the following information: name of the event and city, a short description of the event, and contact information (phone, website). We will then quickly add your events onto the list both in the magazine and here: <http://www.lkm.org/events/>.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments – I'd love to hear from you: esartorius@lkm.org or 785-354-9565.



Cindy Green Joins The League

Cindy Green has joined the League as its Deputy Director.

Erik Sartorius, Executive Director of the League said, “Cindy brings to the League a wealth of experience. Her public service, both as a city councilmember and with Senator Moran, provides a unique perspective that will benefit our members. Throughout our selection process, our conversations with her coworkers and colleagues was overflowing with positive comments about Cindy as a person and a professional.”

Green most recently served as District Representative for U.S. Senator Jerry Moran in northeast Kansas. Prior to that position, she was Vice President of Government Affairs for the Kansas City Regional Association of Realtors. In addition, she has a background in banking, sales, and customer service.

Green is a former Lenexa city councilmember and planning commissioner. She also has been active in multiple chambers of commerce, serving as the Lenexa Chamber Chair of the Board,

and Overland Park Chamber Government Affairs Chair. She is a graduate of Leadership Kansas, Leadership Lenexa, and Leadership Overland Park.

“My civic engagement began at the local level of government, so I am pleased to join the League in advocating on behalf of the cities of Kansas and their citizens,” said Green. “The League is a respected source of information on cities and I look forward to communicating with our state and federal elected officials, professional organizations, and the League’s affiliate organizations.”

“Kansas cities are rich in history and I plan to visit communities across the state to learn more about what makes each one unique and important to its citizens so the League can continue to provide opportunities to make them the best they can be.”

2015 LKM Annual Conference

Hotel Accommodations & Reservation Procedures

October 10-12 • Capitol Plaza Hotel • Maner Conference Center

Capitol Plaza Hotel**
1717 SW Topeka Blvd
Topeka, KS 66612
785.431.7200
Rate: \$102 + tax per night
Cut-off date: September 18, 2015

**Capitol Plaza requires a non-refundable deposit equal to one night's stay in order to secure reservations.



ADDITIONAL ACCOMMODATIONS:

Ramada, Downtown Topeka
420 SE 6th St
Topeka, KS 66607
785.234.5400
\$99 + tax per night
Cut-off date: 10/1/2015

Hyatt Place Topeka
6021 SW 6th Ave
Topeka, KS 66615
785.273.0066
\$102 + tax per night
Cut-off date: 9/25/2015

Clubhouse Inn & Suites
924 SW Henderson
Topeka, KS 66615
785.273.8888
\$ 83+ tax per night
Cut-off date: 9/25/2015

RESERVATION PROCEDURES:

- LKM has made special arrangements with the hotels listed to provide accommodations during our Annual Conference.
- Reservations may be made beginning February 1, 2015.
- Attendees are responsible for making their own reservations. Please contact the hotel directly.
- Remember to ask for the special LKM conference rate when making reservations.

SPECIAL NOTE:

If you are making hotel reservations for someone else, please confirm with each person that they actually need hotel accommodations before making the reservation.

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GETTING DISASTER RECOVERY COSTS MOVING

How to navigate FEMA procedures
to collect recovery costs

By Hilary Cairnie, Maria Coor, and Bill DeVinney

Communities hit by such natural disasters as hurricanes, earthquakes, fires, floods, tornadoes, and landslides are often faced with large-scale and costly recovery efforts. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is the federal agency whose primary mission is to provide monetary assistance to those communities devastated by disasters, but communities' cleanup efforts might need to be performed before FEMA's financial assistance can begin. Recovery efforts invariably begin immediately and end with debris removal operations that involve, among other things, removing downed and damaged trees and hauling those materials away. Even a small event is capable of generating tens of thousands of cubic yards of debris and large-scale events can result in millions of cubic yards of debris. Within the first 100 days following Hurricane Sandy, for example, more than 8 million cubic yards of debris were removed from the streets and public areas of affected communities. Debris removal and the associated costs incurred in performing debris removal may be eligible for federal assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act ("Stafford Act"), 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5208, under which FEMA is authorized to provide public assistance grants to communities recovering from a natural disaster.

Debris Removal Funding

The Stafford Act provides relatively vague guidance regarding eligibility of debris removal operations and gives the U.S. President broad discretion to grant funding under the act. The President, in turn, has delegated his authority to FEMA. FEMA determines whether a community is entitled to receive post-event assistance and if so, the amount. FEMA has implemented rules and developed grant-making criteria to govern the process to be followed when a community seeks assistance. Broadly speaking, in order to be eligible for assistance, the debris—be it a leaning tree, a fallen or dangling branch, or vegetation clogging a waterway—must be the direct result of an event that is a presidentially declared disaster. If the debris was there before the event occurred, then its removal would not be eligible for public assistance. The debris also must in some way encumber a public right of way or public property (parks, recreation areas, roads, sidewalks, etc.) in such a way that it threatens public health and safety, or improved property, like roads, pathways, and power lines. The applicant for public assistance for emergency debris removal, which usually is a state or local government, must present evidence demonstrating the eligibility for identifying, removing, and disposing of that debris. The applicant must also demonstrate that the costs incurred to identify and remove eligible debris were reasonable.

An applicant's public assistance request can be denied as the grants to remove disaster debris are by definition discretionary, and FEMA's decisions under the Stafford Act are not subject to judicial review. A community cannot challenge FEMA's decision in court; the court, be it federal or state, has no jurisdiction to consider such a matter.

Administrative Review Process

In lieu of judicial review, FEMA has implemented an administrative process for reviewing the decisions of its officials and representatives. The administrative review process consists of two levels of appellate review within FEMA. The first appeal may be lodged with FEMA's regional office ("first-level appeal"), that being the FEMA region tasked initially with deciding the application for relief. Sometimes these appeals are denied in whole or in part, and sometimes the appeals are settled by FEMA and the applicant. If an appeal is settled or decided favorably for the applicant, there would be no need to file a subsequent appeal. If the first-level appeal is denied in whole or in part, the applicant may file a second appeal with FEMA headquarters (the "second-level appeal"). Sometimes these second-level appeals are denied in whole or in part, and sometimes they are settled by the parties. The process for both appeals is similar, but the deciding officials are not the same. FEMA maintains a public database of appellate decisions.¹ In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and through Section 601 of the 2009 stimulus act, Congress allowed aggrieved communities to seek independent review of FEMA decisions through a special arbitration process. For disputes arising out of

TAKEAWAYS

- FEMA's rules setting out the requirements for public assistance eligibility, particularly with debris removal, can be vague or confusing and difficult to navigate for public officials not familiar with these rules.
- FEMA wields great discretion in interpreting and applying rules that can result in inconsistent application and leave a community unexpectedly burdened with crippling costs.
- A manager can take precautionary measures to protect a community from arbitrary treatment from FEMA.

certain disasters occurring before 2012, arbitrations against FEMA could be filed before a panel of three judges sitting on the Civilian Board of Contract Appeals (CBCA). The CBCA arbitration panel reviewed the application for public assistance de novo. In other words, the panel reviewed the same evidence presented to FEMA and decided anew, as though for the first time, whether the applicant qualified for assistance.

A Shift in Procedure

For disasters declared on or after October 30, 2012, the arbitration procedure has shifted from CBCA to the U.S. Coast Guard's Office of Administrative Law Judges. The shift to a new forum also entails the application of a narrower standard of review, under which FEMA's decision will stand so long as it has a reasonable and rational basis and is not found to be arbitrary or capricious.

Preparedness Is Key

In order to better prepare for the possible paperwork associated with public assistance proceedings, community leaders should develop emergency preparedness plans because these plans identify the necessary first steps in responding to a natural disaster, identify the individuals responsible for accomplishing those

tasks, and identify the community's available resources for those critical tasks, including capability and capacity of nearby hospitals or medical centers, vehicles and heavy equipment available for emergency evacuation, and personnel and contractors available for emergency repairs. Thus, when disaster strikes community officials already know what tasks must be done, who will perform those tasks, and which resources are available to complete them.² With that information readily available, community leaders will later be better prepared to justify the resources expended when requesting public assistance from FEMA. Communities will pull together in time of disaster to help one another and to achieve the greater good for the benefit of all. That same *esprit de corps* can be mustered long before a disaster is forecasted. Local community leaders from area businesses, churches, government, schools, and volunteer organizations can organize to provide human capital to form and implement preparedness plans—plans that, however informal, could make the difference between a favorable and unfavorable FEMA determination. Millions of dollars are at stake for any given disaster. Whether or not a disaster preparation plan has been developed, once a disaster hits, communities can act with **C.A.R.E.:**



Communicate with FEMA. During the recovery process, applicants and their contractors should work as closely as possible with FEMA personnel to try to avoid instances in which the applicant's interpretation of FEMA eligibility criteria differs from FEMA's eligibility determinations.

Always document communications with FEMA. Applicants and their contractors can and should maintain contact with FEMA representatives through electronic correspondence or some other written communication. Follow-up after meetings or teleconferences with FEMA personnel should be done through e-mail to enhance clarity and mutual understanding of recovery work and the public assistance process.

Recognize your rights. If FEMA denies part or all of an applicant's request for public assistance funding, the applicant has the right to appeal that denial and may have the right to seek arbitration.

Evaluate FEMA precedent. Applicants should use FEMA's second-level appeal decisions to develop the strongest case for recovery should FEMA decide along the way that the applicant is not entitled to complete relief. According to FEMA's Public

Assistance Appeals Database, 152 appeals decisions fall under the category of "debris removal."³ Understanding the nuances of these cases might help applicants as they proceed through possible appeals and arbitration in the future.

 Hilary Cairnie and Maria Coor are partners, and Bill Deviny is counsel, BakerHostetler, LLP, Washington, D.C. (hcairnie@bakerlaw.com, mcoor@bakerlaw.com, wdeviny@bakerlaw.com).

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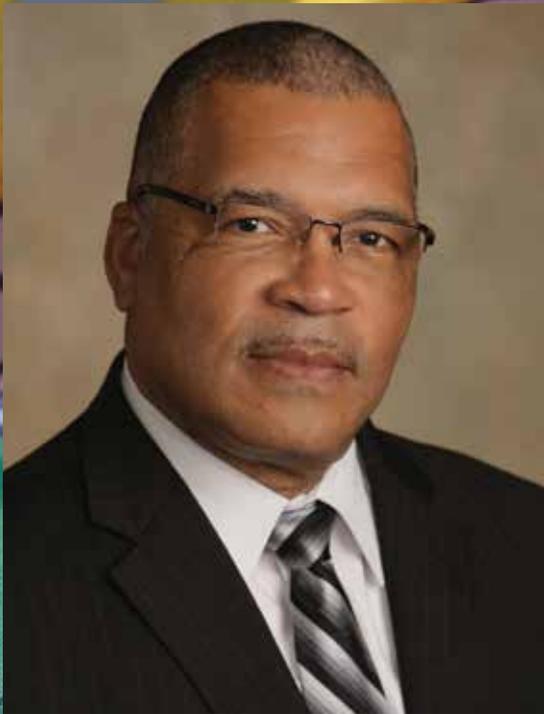
Sources

1. The database of FEMA appellate decisions can be found at <https://www.fema.gov/appeals>.
2. A template for a community disaster plan can be found at http://www.state.in.us/isdh/files/PREPARE_Disaster_Plan_Template_IN_8_08.pdf.
3. See <https://www.fema.gov/appeals>.

Damage from an EF5 tornado that hit Greensburg in 2007. Photo courtesy of Greg Henshall / FEMA.



Recognizing the League's Outgo



Mayor Carl Brewer

Mayor Carl Brewer became Wichita's mayor for his second term on April 5, 2011. Mayor Brewer focused on strengthening relationships with state legislators, the congressional delegation and county government; improved partnerships with developers and business owners; continued improvements in the core area of downtown; enhanced neighborhoods, in part, through efforts to fight blight; and enhanced efforts to recruit and retain young professionals. During his time as mayor he was an active member of the League of Kansas Municipalities. He was on the governing body from June 2007 to April 2015, serving as League President from October 2010 to October 2011.

Mayor Brewer's political career was rooted in civic and community involvement. He has spent much of his professional career in the local aircraft manufacturing industry, as an engineer at Cessna and a manager for Boeing Wichita and Spirit AeroSystems. He was on leave from Spirit while he served his second four-year term as mayor, a full-time job.

He is a native of Wichita, Kansas, where he graduated from Wichita North High School in 1975 and attended Friends University. He is a retired captain with the Kansas Army National Guard. Brewer was also a Wichita city council member from 2001 - 2007.

On April 14, Senators Oletha Faust-Goudeau and Michael O'Donnell, II, sponsored Senate Resolution No. 1729, recognizing Mayor Brewer for his service to the City of Wichita.



Joining Governing Body Members



Blake Jorgensen

Blake Jorgensen has been active in the Ottawa Area Chamber of Commerce, the Ottawa Municipal Airport Advisory Board and was a charter director of Ottawa Main Street. He has also served on the board of directors for the Franklin County Development Council and the Kansas City Area Development Council. Prior to first being elected to the Ottawa City Commission in 2005, he served as Vice Chairman of Ottawa's Planning Commission when it developed the City's current Comprehensive Plan. He was part of the governing body for the League of Kansas Municipalities from October 2011 to April 2015.

Jorgensen strived to steadily and continually improve Ottawa's quality of life, while maintaining the City's uniqueness and keeping taxes as low as possible. He also worked on expanding Ottawa's retail and industrial bases as well as expanding housing and leisure alternatives.

Jorgensen has lived in Ottawa virtually all of his adult life. Before moving to the community in 1987, he graduated with a B.S. degree in Agricultural Economics from Kansas State University. Jorgensen is the Executive Vice President and a director for the Kansas State Bank in Ottawa. As a community banker, Jorgensen works hard to attract, promote and sustain local businesses, economic vitality and development in the Ottawa area. He and his wife, Kelly, have three children.



Rethinking Your Bottom Line: CNG and the City of El Dorado

By Suzie Locke

Successful establishments empower their employees to make decisions for the good of the group. From receptionists to department heads, there should be a sense of ownership in the organization where people take pride in providing exceptional service. Whether the customer being served is internal or external, the interaction should be held to the same organization-wide standard of excellence. The City of El Dorado has nine departments, each with a defined role. The end goal of each department is to meet the needs of the community - now and in the future. It is this goal which first spurred the City's conversation regarding alternative fuels. This conversation yielded results above and beyond the initial hope of impacting a single budget line item.

In 2010, the City of El Dorado Public Works Department began to take an analytical look into the future of transportation and the cost of providing services to the community. EPA mandated changes to diesel vehicles and the inconsistencies of gas prices spurred discussions of utilizing alternative fuels for the City of El Dorado's fleet. On its face, the discussion focused on the bottom line and fostering long-term fiscal sustainability in fuel costs. Five years and one compressed natural gas (CNG) station later, the City of El Dorado has new appreciation for collaborative projects and the impact they can have on an organization.

CNG is a colorless, tasteless alternative to gasoline. With use dating back to WWII, natural gas vehicles are a proven technology that have been enhanced and refined into a viable substitute to gasoline or diesel vehicles. CNG powers approximately 12 million vehicles on the road today. The growth in the use of CNG vehicles is no mystery. Natural gas burns cleaner and has consistently cost less per gas/diesel gallon equivalent than both unleaded and diesel fuels.

When one considers the average cost of fuel, CNG sounds almost too good to be true. For example, the average cost of diesel is \$3.75 per gallon. If you are using 10,000 gallons a year, your diesel fuel bill is \$37,500. If that same truck operated on CNG at an average cost of \$0.85 per diesel gallon equivalent, your fuel costs drop to \$8,500 – a savings of \$29,500 a year per truck. However, despite these numbers, direct costs and savings for the project as a whole are difficult to quantify. There are other costs associated with a transition to any alternative fuel and there are many variables. It is important to assess all factors to ensure a project's success.

It has been said that an idea, once unveiled, has no owner. It is ripe for taking, manipulating, and distorting. Often the best laid ideas can change into projects that become improbable and cost prohibitive.

Roadblocks can bar a good idea from becoming a successful project. From its inception, the CNG project faced the two biggest roads blocks of municipal government. It was the forward thinking mentality of El Dorado staff and elected officials which allowed the CNG project to move forward and become the success it is today.

Roadblock one: "We don't do that." Brad Meyer, Public Works Director and project lead, noted that being told "no" was one of the biggest challenges of the project. The negativity started during the research phase and continued into conversations about vehicle conversions. Meyer heard that companies did not sell CNG vehicles. He also heard about station owners who refused to sell alternative fuels. Several years were spent working unsuccessfully with private sector businesses on developing fueling stations. Without the ability to purchase the vehicles and without fuel for those vehicles, once acquired, the project could have died in the water. But Meyer and the Public Works Department employees refused to take "no" for an answer. Considering the assets of the organization, both in human capital and established community networks, a viable solution was developed. The City of El Dorado would convert its existing fleet in house and build its own fueling station.

Enter roadblock number two: "How are we going to pay for the project?" We are all familiar with the phrase, "It's not in the budget." With the current economic climate, most government entities are cutting projects, not adding new ones. The cost to a private company for a new CNG station is approximately \$1.5 million. And yet there is something to be said for perseverance, exceptional organizational culture, and interdepartmental collaboration. Utilizing the skills and capacities of existing City employees, a new CNG station was built on the Public Works Department grounds for less than ten percent of the private sector cost, and was done within the existing operating budget.

We recognize that current gas prices are lower than they have been in years. We also recognize that CNG stations are not always as convenient as gas stations. Our CNG station was seamlessly integrated into our current fuel system with fast fill and slow fill capabilities. The ability to accept multiple forms of payment provides an asset to the El Dorado community. Now the community, which does not currently have a commercial CNG station, as well as visitors operating CNG vehicles, have access to CNG.

To combat fuel prices and potential refueling issues, the City of El Dorado operates two different styles of CNG vehicle, with the goal of adding a third by the fall of 2015. Dedicated CNG vehicles



The City of El Dorado's fast fill station and storage area. Photo by Brad Meyer.

operate solely on compressed natural gas. El Dorado has three dedicated CNG vehicles including the first dedicated CNG street sweeper in the state. The other vehicles operating on CNG in the fleet are bi-fuel. Bi-fuel vehicles have two separate tanks giving the operator the ability to run on either CNG or unleaded fuel. Operating bi-fuel vehicles allows the operator to make the best possible fuel choice for the situation.

Simply, having the ability to fuel vehicles does not qualify this project as successful. A station is only as good as the vehicles it serves. The City of El Dorado has two staff members who are able to complete vehicle conversions. Eliminating the additional cost of conversion from the manufacturer and adding the ability to perform routine maintenance in house has significantly reduced the fiscal impact of fleet management on this project. Remember, the cost of purchasing EPA regulated diesel vehicles was one of the major reasons the City began exploring the feasibility of this project. The vehicles are already budgeted to be purchased, and we have developed a way to make the transition more cost effective. Today, the City's Police, Fire, Recreation, and Public Utilities Departments all have CNG vehicles in their fleets.

The City of El Dorado CNG project, while still in its infancy, has changed perspectives within the organization and has fostered positive change in the community. Awards and newspaper articles gave some recognition to employees for their hard work, but when a semi-trailer pulled into the Public Works lot a few weeks ago looking for a place to fuel, the influence of accomplishment was truly felt. Unable to access CNG from other stations, the driver had been directed to El Dorado by his dispatcher. The driver left after having a quality service experience: he was able to refuel

quickly, pay with a company card, and have a conversation with people who understood his company's decision to run semi's on an alternative fuel. That is the kind of reward employees and citizens will continue to talk about.

Although encouraged by city management, the CNG project was not a mandate from the top. The organic growth that followed was a result of employee ownership and empowerment. The City of El Dorado recognized the strengths and talents of its employees and took the next step by connecting them with opportunities to contribute outside the scope of normal duties. Because employees have a vested interest in the project and its continued success, there is a deeper desire for achievement. Employees are talking about the project outside of work and driving a continued interest from other parties.

We may not be able to predict the future fiscal impact of CNG on the fuel budget for City of El Dorado, but there are many measurable results. The CNG project has directly impacted five of our nine departments, embedded a sense of pride in employees, stretched and redefined work capacities, and inspired conversations about sustainability and economic development with other businesses in the community. These results have a real impact on the bottom line, across all line items.

 *Suzie Locke is the Director of Human Resources for the City of El Dorado. Suzie can be reached at slocke@eldoks.com.*

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Legal Forum

by Eric Smith

SB 45: Permitless Conceal Carry

As I write this article, the legislature is on break and will be returning soon for the veto session. There are a few gun-related bills that I have provided testimony on this year, but only one that has made its way to the governor's desk. SB 45, often referred to as constitutional conceal carry, was signed by the governor on April 3, 2015, and will take effect July 1, 2015. SB 45 is a seventeen page bill that amends fourteen statutes. I have received several calls concerning SB 45 and will use those questions as a way to explain this new law.

Who can carry a concealed firearm after July 1, 2015? SB 45 provides that individuals who are "not prohibited from possessing a firearm under either federal or state law" may carry a concealed handgun. The bill does not provide a list of what would prohibit an individual from possessing a firearm. However, here are a few of those limitations:

1. An individual must be 21 years of age to carry a concealed firearm in Kansas.¹
2. An individual who is addicted to and is an unlawful user of a controlled substance cannot possess a firearm.²
3. An individual who is or has been a mentally ill person subject to involuntary commitment for care and treatment cannot possess a firearm.³
4. An individual with an alcohol or substance abuse problem subject to involuntary commitment for care and treatment cannot possess a firearm.⁴
5. An individual less than 18 years of age cannot possess a firearm with a barrel less than 12 inches long.⁵
6. An individual convicted of a felony is prohibited from possessing a firearm under federal law.⁶

Does SB 45 eliminate the conceal carry license in Kansas? No, there is still a procedure for a conceal carry license. The law allows individuals 21 years of age and older, who have no legal prohibition from possessing a firearm, to carry a concealed firearm without getting a license. If a resident of Kansas wants to conceal carry a handgun in another state that allows conceal carry and reciprocates with Kansas, they will still need a Kansas conceal carry license. Although a conceal carry license is still available, the legislature provides clear legislative intent that the conceal carry license availability "shall not be construed to impose a general prohibition on the carrying of handguns without such license, whether carried openly or concealed, or loaded or unloaded."⁷

How will this change criminal statutes? K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 21-6301(i)(5) is amended so that an individual, who is "not prohibited from possessing a firearm under either federal or state law," carrying a concealed handgun on or in school property, will not be guilty of the crime of criminal use of a weapon.⁸ Prior to SB 45 this exemption only applied to those individuals licensed to carry a concealed handgun. A word of caution - under federal law, only an individual with a conceal carry license may carry a firearm within a school zone.⁹ There is a clear conflict with this amendment that may need to be addressed in the future.

The crime of criminal carrying of a weapon, K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 21-6302(a)(4), is amended so that it only applies to those individuals under the age of 21 who conceal a firearm on their person, except when the person is on their land, in their abode or fixed place of business.¹⁰

K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 32-1002 is amended making it legal for individuals who lawfully possess a handgun to carry the handgun, open or concealed, while "lawfully hunting, fishing or furharvesting."¹¹

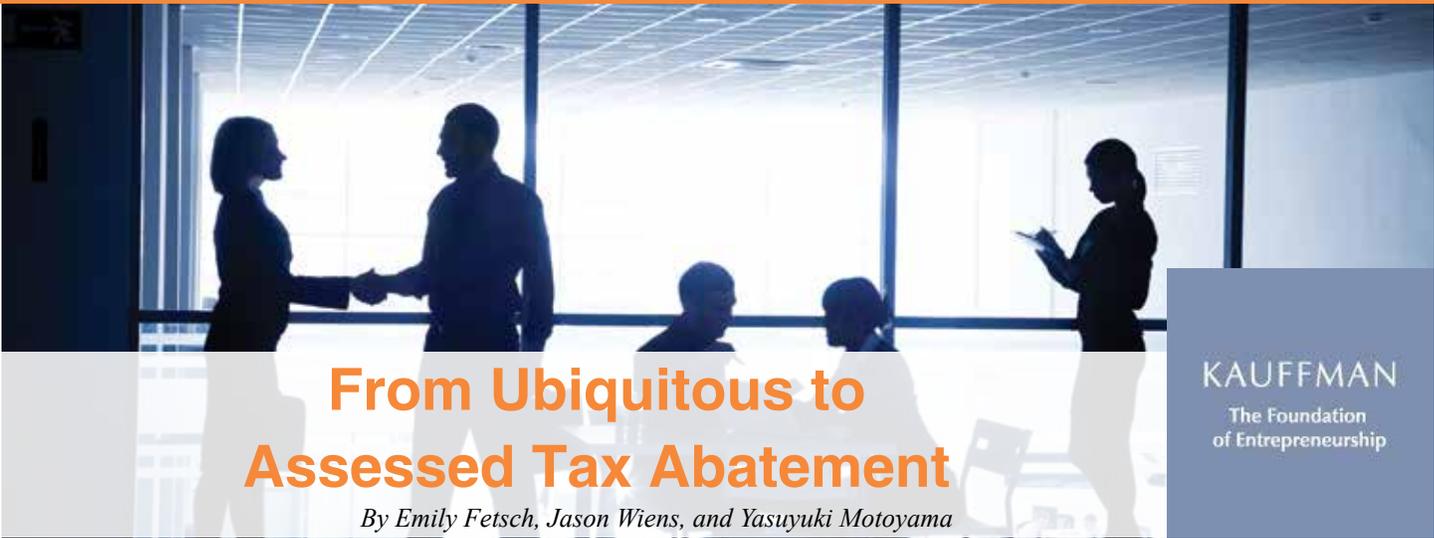
Do we need to change the signs on our buildings? No, nothing in this bill changes the building sign rules and regulations passed last year. However, K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 75-7c10 is amended to clearly establish that the general rule in Kansas is that the carrying of a concealed handgun shall not be prohibited in any building. The exception to this general rule is to post signs on the building in compliance with the rules and regulations of the Attorney General.¹²

Can a city regulate an employee's ability to carry a concealed firearm? Yes, for employment activities outside of a public building, a city can still restrict or prohibit an employee from carrying a concealed handgun with a personnel policy. The only changes made by SB 45 is that the prior law applied to employees who were licensed to carry a concealed handgun, and it now applies to all employees.¹³

Can a city prevent an employee from carrying a concealed handgun in a public building? It is possible, but only if the building has adequate security, is posted with the proper signs, and the employee does not enter the building through a restricted access entrance.¹⁴ The law prior to SB 45 applied only to employees with a conceal carry license but will now apply to all employees who wish to conceal carry.

Sources can be found on page 123.

 Eric Smith is a Legal Counsel for the League of Kansas Municipalities. He can be reached at esmith@lkm.org or (785) 354-9565.



KAUFFMAN
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of Entrepreneurship

From Ubiquitous to Assessed Tax Abatement

By Emily Fetsch, Jason Wiens, and Yasuyuki Motoyama

It is well known that the use of tax abatements to entice businesses to remain or relocate is widespread at both the state and local level. Tax abatements and other business incentives are a favorite tool of state and local economic development agencies.

To uncover how widely such incentives are used by cities in Kansas, the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation partnered with the League of Kansas Municipalities to include several questions about the topic in the League’s annual Municipal Revenue Practices Survey. The survey responses reveal several interesting trends.

Property taxes are one of the few revenue sources for municipal governments. Yet, the survey results reveal that many Kansas cities are foregoing revenue for extended periods of time in exchange for companies doing business in their community. Nationwide, property tax abatements and other economic development incentives combined cost American taxpayers an estimated \$70 billion per year.

While the cost to taxpayers is not in question, what they get for that expenditure is. One study that examined the PEAK (Promoting Employment Across Kansas) incentive program found that businesses receiving PEAK incentives were no more likely to create new jobs than similar firms that did not receive the incentive.

Roughly half (52 percent) of respondent cities offer property tax abatement to companies as a means of retaining or attracting businesses.



Larger cities (defined here as having a population greater than 10,000) are approximately 1.5 times more likely to offer tax abatements than smaller cities.



Of the municipalities that use tax abatements, nearly three-quarters (73 percent) provide a 100 percent value of the tax abatement, which means that the city receives no property tax revenue from that company for the length of the agreement.



Almost eight out of ten (79 percent) cities that provide a tax abatement do so for ten years or more.



Source: LKM Municipal Revenue Practices Survey

In response to criticism about the use and effectiveness of tax incentives, some might claim that forgoing tax revenue to keep an employer in town (even if the employer creates no new jobs) is well-worth the cost. Certainly, many communities—especially those with smaller populations and in rural areas—may not be in a position to absorb the loss of a significant employer. We've heard it said that in many Kansas towns, economic development can be whether you have a grocery store or not.

The issue is complex and more research is needed to understand the impact that incentives, and tax abatements in particular, have on job creation and the overall economic health of a community. In our view, however, municipal governments would profit from considering the trade-offs between the potential benefits (job creation, sales tax generation, population retention, etc.) of economic development tax incentives and the costs (less revenue with which to provide municipal services or higher tax burdens on others in the community to make up for lost revenue).

In April 2014, the Kauffman Foundation hosted the *Incentives to Innovate: State Policies to Jumpstart Entrepreneurship* conference to discuss questions like this and explore alternative strategies to achieve economic growth. The main message of the conference was that incentives, like tax abatements, targeting existing companies

miss the economy's real engine of job creation: new and young businesses. Research has confirmed that companies less than five years old create nearly all of the net new jobs in the United States.

Although the use of incentives, like tax abatements, are widespread, better measurement and data collection from the recipients of financial incentives (and those who do not receive the incentives) is needed to understand what types of incentives work best to drive economic growth. The Pew Charitable Trusts' Economic Development Tax Incentives Project is helping governments with this task. Pew's work with several states may serve as a guide to cities seeking to better understand the impact of incentives.

Since the success of tax abatements in achieving job creation is undetermined, other approaches deserve consideration. The Kauffman Foundation is a resource for cost-effective alternatives that foster entrepreneurship and dynamic markets that generate jobs and innovation.

☀️ *Emily Fetsch is a Research Analyst, Jason Wiens is Policy Director and Yasuyuki Motoyama is a Senior Scholar at the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. They can be reached at (816) 932-1115.*



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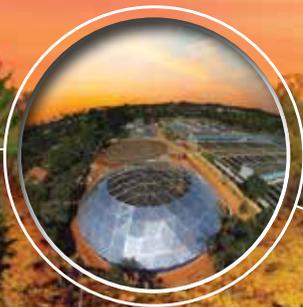
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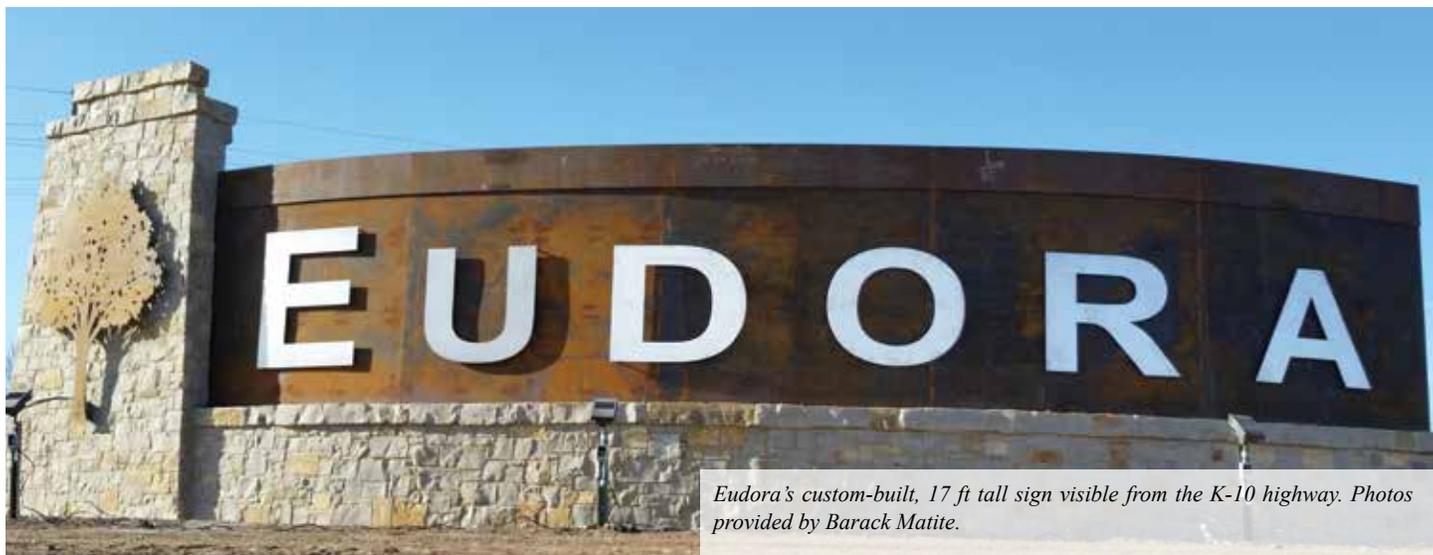
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Best Practices

by Donyell Wolfe

Beyond City Branding: “A Place to Grow”



Eudora's custom-built, 17 ft tall sign visible from the K-10 highway. Photos provided by Barack Matite.

Whether we are aware of it or not, the way we feel about brands influences our day-to-day decisions. The type of vehicles we purchase, and restaurants and businesses we patronize, mostly depend on our experiences with the products or services associated with various brands. Consumers seek certain desirable qualities in the brands they choose. Among others, use and appeal, trustworthiness, and overall value describe qualities that interest buyers.

Local government officials strive to brand their cities in ways that attract residents and visitors to experience what their communities have to offer. Gelder and Allan, authors of “City Branding: How Cities Compete in the 21st Century,” explain, “city branding is about deliberately creating, developing and demonstrating...[value] through appropriate ‘on brand’ actions, which consist of investments, physical and economic plans, attraction programs, events, communications and the like.” They emphasize that a city brand is a promise of value, a promise that patrons expect indefinitely.¹

Eudora’s Branding Initiative

The City of Eudora started their branding journey in 2012 by working with New Boston Creative Group, LLC. New Boston was tasked to “create a unifying message which will increase awareness and exposure of the City of Eudora in order to attract new businesses, residents and visitors to the community.” They conducted interviews, held public workshops and focus groups as part of the

process to find out what made Eudora attractive to outsiders and authentic to residents. Creating an official identity was important to residents and city officials, though it came with the possibility of a hefty price tag.

The Eudora city commission and staff were committed to strengthening the image of Eudora. When the conversation of designing and installing a monumental sign began, the Eudora governing body understood that their decisions regarding the sign project had to resonate with the Eudora of yesterday,

today, and tomorrow. Instead of starting with a budget to build a sign for their community, they started with a vision, preventing a specific dollar amount from getting in the way of the community’s vision. The city recruited Mary Coleman and Ron Renoe to be the creative directors to assist with the project. They were able to use resources within the community such as a local stonemason, metal cutting operation, as well as city forces in controlling material and

production costs while transforming their dreams into a reality that was well within the city’s budget.

For the past two years, the City of Eudora has utilized a creative slogan and logo that satisfy the desires of their residents. An image of a thriving deep-rooted tree along with the phrase, “A Place to Grow,” encouraged city leaders to embark upon their sign-branding journey in a creative and artistic manner. City officials worked together with

“The Eudora city commission and staff were committed to strengthening the image of Eudora.”



Eudora's sign at night, with interchangeable lighting preferences.

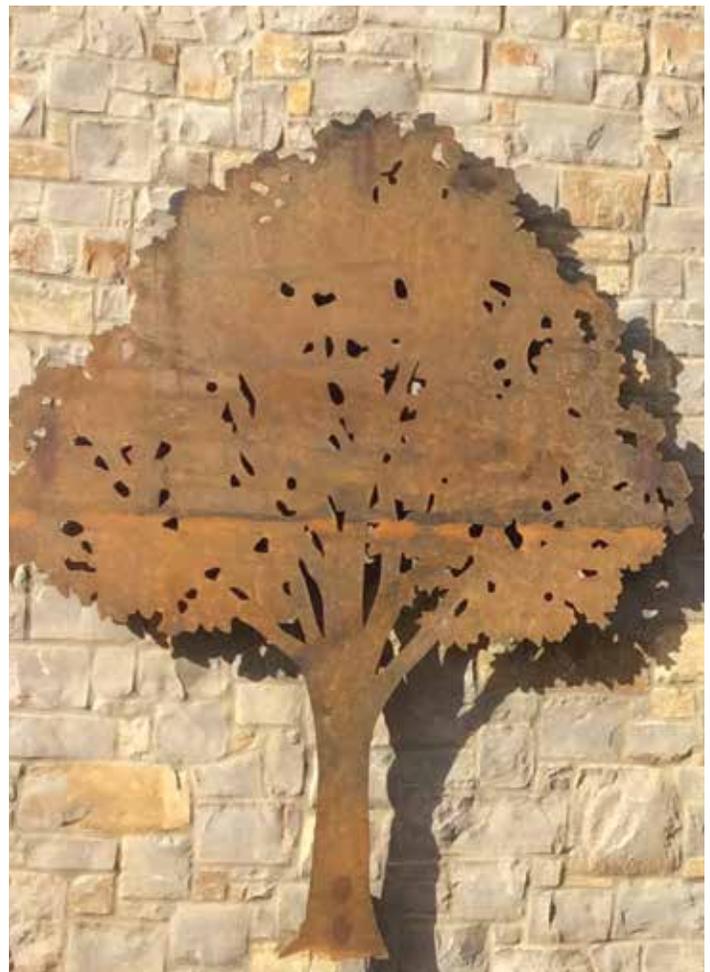
the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) and expressed the significance of placing “City of Eudora” near the highway. It is now difficult to miss the immense Eudora emblem when heading east or west on K-10 highway. The sign was installed at the E 1400 Road exit on K-10, and its presence since its unveiling in January, has elicited positive comments from residents, visitors and drivers traveling on K-10.

The sign has not only improved the landscape, but it has captured the vision of residents in Eudora and is an outward expression of their desire to be recognized as a place of high aspirations and discernible quality. While many believed this project was beyond the city budget, or that it would be impossible to receive KDOT approval, in the end, there have only been compliments and discussions praising all individuals who helped complete this project. City office phones were busy weeks after the sign was set up and illuminated with customizable colors for overnight viewing. Most of all, members of the community were ecstatic about their newfound identity. Residents feel they are Eudora, a place growing and glowing with development, yet maintaining a comfortable small-town feel.

 *Donyell Wolfe is an Intern for the League of Kansas Municipalities. She can be reached at (785) 354-9565.*

Sources

1. Place Brands Places with Purpose, 2015. City Branding - How Cities Compete in the 21st Century http://www.placebrands.net/_files/placebrands_city_branding_book.pdf.



This tree represents the City's ultimate goal and commitment to development, while maintaining a comfortable small-town feel.

KANSAS GOVERN

Abilene

Abilene Continues Business Investment Grant Program

The City of Abilene authorized the second year of the Business Investment Grant Program to promote economic growth and investment in the community. The Economic Development Council will have about \$65,000 to award to businesses and entrepreneurs in the city to start or grow business ventures.

For more information on our program visit:
<http://tinyurl.com/oy7crg>

Greensburg

Greensburg Theater Reopens

When the doors closed on the Twilight Theatre eight years ago, it seemed it would be Greensburg's last picture show.

Yet, at the end of April, the curtains opened again in a brand new Twilight – eight years after an EF5 tornado destroyed much of the town, including the closed-up theater.

Grand opening events for the Twilight Theatre and Community Auditorium were held April 24-26, said Adam Wagner, the theater's executive director.

For more information visit:
<http://tinyurl.com/qezgd5z>

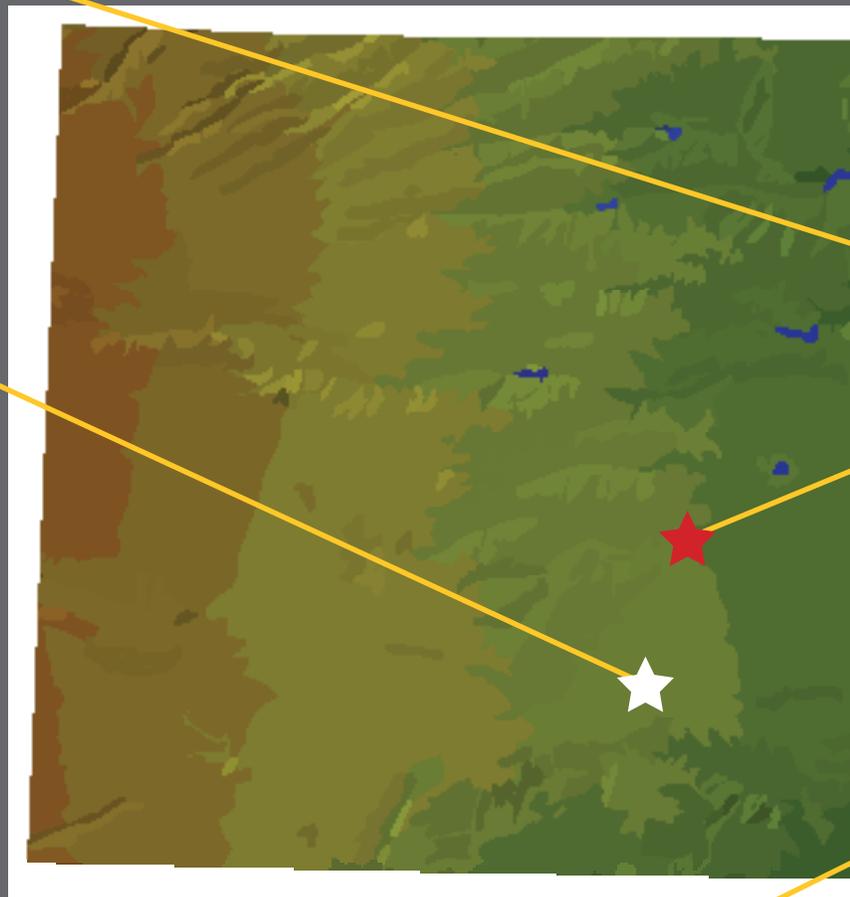
Mulvane

City Council Provides the Local School District \$39,130 for Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counseling and Prevention

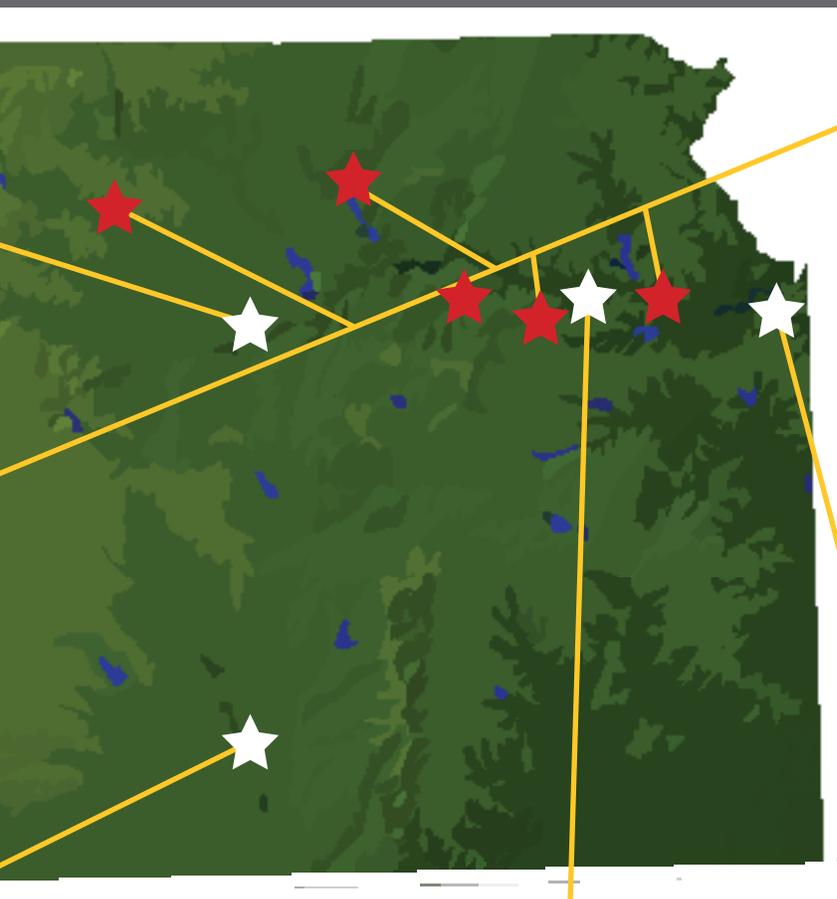
For the third consecutive year, the Mulvane city council approved a grant (\$39,130) to the USD 263 – Mulvane Schools, for the program “Increasing Substance Abuse & Mental Health Support in an Academic Environment.”

This program identifies and supports high school students who have alcohol and drug abuse issues. Trained counselors work with the students to deal with substance abuse issues throughout the school year and beyond. This program has been very effective in reducing alcohol and drug abuse in teenagers in the community.

Total funding provided to USD 263 from the City of Mulvane for Alcohol and Drug prevention and counseling programs now exceeds \$87,000.



GOVERNMENT NEWS



Glasco, Dover, Randolph, McFarland, Lecompton, and Larned

Six Communities Named Kansas PRIDE Communities of Excellence

The Kansas PRIDE program has named six communities as PRIDE Communities of Excellence for their ongoing accomplishments in community development.

The 2015-2017 PRIDE Communities of Excellence are Glasco, Dover, Randolph, McFarland, Lecompton and Larned.

The award is given to local PRIDE volunteer groups that continuously work to improve their communities through activities such as determining the community's needs, establishing goals, creating projects and celebrating successes, said Jaime Menon, extension assistant with the PRIDE program. Volunteers form a local PRIDE organization that works with K-State Research and Extension and the Kansas Department of Commerce to accomplish their goals.

For more information visit:
<http://tinyurl.com/oochsyz>

Topeka

Topeka Holds First "Coffee on Your Corner" Event to Help Communication With Residents

The first "Coffee on Your Corner" event, designed to bring local government to Topeka neighborhoods, was held in the coffee shop area at Dillons, 2010 S.E. 29th, where they heard from Sasha Stiles, director of the city's newly-created department of neighborhood relations, and Monique Glaude, that department's division director for community engagement.

Glaude said the city plans to hold Coffee on Your Corner events about twice a month.

For more information visit: <http://tinyurl.com/pyolc7k>

Lenexa

2014 Kansas Child Passenger Safety Station of the Year Goes to Lenexa Police Department

Kansas Department of Transportation - Northeast Kansas Traffic Safety Law Enforcement Liaison Bob Hamilton presented the Lenexa Police Department with an award for being the 2014 Kansas Child Passenger Safety Station of the Year.

Public Service Officers LaDonna Myers, Shannon Rader and Kristina Hamilton accepted the award. The Lenexa Police Department Public Service Officers conducted 173 child safety seat inspections last year - more than any other jurisdiction in Kansas!

For more information on our program visit:
<http://tinyurl.com/kr6f5bq>



Joe Denoyer

LKM

Governing Body Member

What is your position and what are your typical duties?

I am currently the Mayor of Liberal. In a commission style government, I usually sum it up by saying, the Mayor's job is to run meetings, go to a lot more, and answer a lot of phone calls. I have been on the Liberal city commission since 2005.

What do you think is the primary role of municipal government?

To serve the community, meet their basic needs through services, create and maintain a safe environment, and provide quality of life amenities to draw and retain individuals and families to your community, all the while keeping things affordable and taxes as low as possible.

What is your favorite thing about Kansas?

The opportunities that are here state wide. From jobs, to diverse cultural activities and landscapes, to the opportunity to be whatever you want to be and to live, work, play, and raise a family in an environment where you can go to sleep at night knowing that you can feel safe. Tomorrow's opportunities are only limited by your imagination. In Kansas, there is the feel of family, there are no strangers here, only friends we haven't met yet.

Please share a little personal information about yourself.

I have been married to Elizabeth for nine years, am father to seven children, and a foster parent to two more. I was born and raised south of Chicago, but Kansas has been my home since 1982. I work for a radio station founded by Governor Alf Landon, which is still family owned.

What is your favorite thing about your community?

The diversity of our hard-working, friendly citizens.

What made you want to join city government?

I wanted to make a difference. You have no right to complain if you are not willing to step up and try and make things better.

Is this your first time on a statewide board?

The League of Kansas Municipalities is my first statewide board. I have been with the Governing Body since 2009.



James Toews

LKM

Governing Body Member

What is your position and what are your typical duties?

Mayor of Inman - hold the monthly council meeting, recommend direction to go on new business, oversee senior staff, check signing and read invoices, and interface with the chamber and school board.

What is your favorite thing about Kansas?

The best thing about Kansas is the people. There is not a more caring place than Inman or cities like Inman.

Please share a little personal information about yourself.

I attended school in Inman, attended Wichita State with a B.A. in Business and Minor in Government Administration.

I served on the city council for seven years in Lindsborg, Kansas, a term on the Bristol, Tennessee, city council, and the Silver Haired Legislator for McPherson County.

What is your favorite thing about your community?

Well, we don't have a lot of high anxiety issues, citizens will accept change if it is well planned, we are friendly, and if you need something, just let it be known.

What made you want to join city government?

There is a lack of volunteerism in America. If the few of us who do run for council or mayor didn't, municipal government would pass to the county or state. Our towns would no longer be as nice a place to live.



Eric Smith

LKM Staff

What is your position and what do you do?

My position is Legal Counsel. My duties consist of several responsibilities and often vary depending on the time of year. I answer member legal inquiries, lobby and testify before the legislature concerning issues of interest to the League, provide training in municipal finance for the MLA program, draft and edit League publications and other duties as assigned.

What is your favorite thing about Kansas?

My favorite thing about Kansas is the openness and the people.

A little bit of information about you.

My wife and I have two adult children and two grandsons. I began my law career in Hugoton, Kansas, as an Assistant County Attorney. I later served a term as the Stevens County Attorney before accepting a position with the City Attorney's office in Topeka.

Have you always lived in Kansas?

I have always lived in Kansas. I grew up on a farm southeast of Dodge City in Ford County. I have a degree in Agricultural Economics from Kansas State University and a law degree from Washburn University School of Law.

What is your favorite scenic part of Kansas?

My favorite scenic part of Kansas would be the open range in Clark County, south of where I grew up. This part of the state looks very much the same as it must have to the early pioneers, with its rough cut draws and red dirt buttes.

How long have you been with the League?

I have been with the League since January of 2013.

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Classified Advertising

City Administrator

Louisburg, Kansas (pop. 4,299; \$13.1 million budget; 30 FTE's), is a fast-growing, scenic community located at the southern edge of the Kansas City metro area. Its rapid rate of growth is due to its combination of rustic charm, high-quality public schools, affordability, and proximity to metro area amenities. The former city administrator left to take the city manager position in a community over twice the size of Louisburg.

The City operates under a five-member mayor-council-administrator form of government, and provides natural gas, water, and sewer service. The City also operates an aquatic center, an event space, a city lake, and several parks and athletic fields. Ongoing and future initiatives include implementation of the city's "5X5 Vision" plan, renovation of City Hall, partnering with the Louisburg Chamber of Commerce to foster economic development, and collaborating with the school district to establish a recreation district.

The ideal applicant should have a Master's degree in public administration and at least three years of city management experience. Candidates should also have demonstrated experience crafting municipal budgets and successfully managing personnel. Finalists will also be able to showcase a history of sound decision-making and open communication with their governing body and citizens.

Competitive benefits; Salary \$85,000 - \$100,000 DOQ. Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and three work-related references to LEAPS-Louisburg@lkm.org or LEAPS-Louisburg, 300 SW 8th, Topeka, KS 66603. If confidentiality is requested, please note in application materials. Application review will begin May 26. EOE.

City Website: <http://www.louisburgkansas.gov/>

Budget Document:
<https://admin.ks.gov/docs/default-source/municipal-services/budgets/2015-budgets/cities/louisburg.xls?sfvrsn=2>

City Clerk

The City of Parsons, Kan., is accepting applications for City Clerk. This position requires supervisory experience, records and maintains minutes of council meetings,

keeps fiscal records and accounts, and oversees the utility customer service. Qualified candidate must be detailed oriented, have strong communication skills and budgetary knowledge. Bachelor's degree in business or minimum equivalent five years of related experience. Salary \$50,000 to \$60,000 DOQ, and competitive benefits. Position will remain opened until filled. Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume and references to Karen Wheat, Human Resource Administrator, P.O. Box 1037, Parsons, KS 67357 or electronically to kwheat@parsonsk.com. EOE.

City Manager

Missouri City, known as the "Show Me" city, has a population of over 70,000 and is conveniently situated 20 miles southwest of downtown Houston. The city covers 29.8 square miles and is easily accessible by major transportation thoroughfares including US 90A, Beltway 8 (Sam Houston Tollway), Fort Bend Toll Road, and State Highway 6. Most of the city is located in Fort Bend County, with a small portion in Harris County. Missouri City is a short drive from both major Houston airports and less than 60 miles from Galveston.

The City of Missouri City operates under a Council-Manager form of government. The City Council appoints a professional City Manager to lead and manage the day-to-day operations of the organization. Other positions appointed by the City Council include the City Attorney, City Secretary, and Municipal Court Judges. The City Manager oversees 338 employees and a combined annual budget of over \$105 million.

A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major coursework in Political Science, Public Administration, Business Administration, or a related field is required. A relevant master's degree from an accredited college or university is preferred. The selected candidate must have 10 or more years of progressively responsible municipal government operations experience, including five years of experience as a city/county manager or assistant city/county manager.

The City of Missouri City offers a starting salary of up to \$200,000, depending on qualifications and experience.

View complete position profile and apply

online at:

<http://bit.ly/SGRCCurrentSearches>

For more information contact:

Mike Tanner, Senior Vice President

Strategic Government Resources

MikeTanner@GovernmentResource.com

Community Development Director

The City of Abilene, Kansas is seeking a dedicated and energetic individual who has an interest in serving as the Community Development Director.

The Community Development Director reports directly to the City Manager and is responsible for overseeing a results-oriented, customer-centered approach to the development related services such as land use, development and floodplain regulation administration, nuisance abatement and code enforcement, business recruitment and retention, community marketing, and community data analysis, administration of community revitalization programs to include historic preservation.

Forward thinking, a willingness to innovate and an entrepreneurial philosophy will be paramount for the Director to have success in meeting the community's needs. The Director will be expected to have a presence in the community and will be required to conduct "sales calls" in the field to accomplish goals. Public relations will be a critical skill for this position.

Individuals interested in the position should have a Bachelor's degree in planning or public administration or a related field of study. A minimum of five years of municipal planning and/or development experience is preferred.

The Salary range for the position is \$57,512 to \$77,854, although the actual stating salary is negotiable depending on qualifications. In addition to salary, the City of Abilene offers a competitive benefits package.

Initial review of applications will begin May 22, 2015, although the position will remain open until filled. Interested persons may apply online at www.hrepartners.com or <http://www.abilenecityhall.com/jobs.aspx>

Communications Manager

The City of Raymore is seeking a professional manager to lead its daily communication efforts. This position

develops coordinates and implements the City's strategic community engagement and communications plan. This position will serve as the City's primary media contact and spokesperson through the use of a variety of established and emerging communication media. This includes speaking to the media, preparing and coordinating press releases, and coordinating press conferences on an as needed basis with internal staff and community partners. Developing and delivering exceptional content through multiple channels is of the utmost importance for this position. We are looking for someone who can effectively serve the diverse populations of the City of Raymore. Minimum Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in Journalism, Public Relations, Business Communications, Public Administration or related field. More information about this position may be found on the city website at www.raymore.com. Interested applicants should send a completed application, resume and cover letter addressing the job requirements, salary expectations and three professional references to Shawn Aulgur, Human Resources Manager, City of Raymore, at 100 Municipal Circle, Raymore, Missouri, 64083, or electronically to recruiter@raymore.com. Applications will be accepted until 12:00 p.m. on May 22, 2015. Employees of the City must live within thirty-five (35) miles of the city and have a valid driver's license. The City of Raymore, Missouri is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Police Chief

The City of Oakley is seeking applicants for the position of Police Chief. Oakley has

a population of 2054 and is located at the junction of I-70, Hwy 40 and Hwy 83 in western Kansas. Responsibilities include overall management and supervision of the City's Police Department that consists of 7 sworn officers and 5 dispatchers. The ideal applicant will have at least ten years of law enforcement experience, with three years of supervisory experience. Preference will be given to those with municipal experience. A high school diploma or equivalent is required. Some higher level education in criminal justice or business administration is preferred. Competitive benefits. Salary \$37K-\$58K. Submit cover letter, and resume with 3 work related references to: City of Oakley, RE: Police Chief Search, 209 Hudson Avenue, Oakley, Kansas 67748 or via email to oakleyca@st-tel.net. EOE. Application review begins 5/15/15. For additional information about the community visit www.discoveroakley.com.

Police Officer position(s)

The City of Edwardsville, Kansas is accepting applications to fill future Police Officer position(s). Generous benefits including health insurance, equipment, retirement, vacation hours, and pay. Prior law enforcement experience preferred, but not required. No residency requirement.

Pay: \$40,000/yr. to \$47,773/yr.

Please visit our website to learn more and apply!

www.edwardsvilleks.org

Water Treatment Plant Supervisor

Salary Range: \$53,892 - \$78,336/yr – EXEMPT – Performs skilled and specialized work supervising, directing, and participating in the operation and

maintenance of the City of Gardner's water treatment plants and storage facilities. The employee in this position is a working supervisor responsible for assigning and supervising the work of the water treatment division. The Plant Supervisor (Water) is responsible for collecting and submitting all records, testing reports and chemical analysis needed to comply with KDHE permits to produce a potable water supply for the City of Gardner. Requires high school diploma or GED. Minimum of four (4) years experience in operation and maintenance of a water production plant, storage facilities, inlet structures, towers and pumping stations with a minimum of two (2) year supervisory or lead worker experience or any equivalent combination of training and experience that provides the required knowledge, ability and skill. Requires possession of a Class IV Water Plant Operator certification from the State of Kansas. Requires the possession of a valid driver's license and a good driving record. Application Deadline: Open Until Filled

Application and job description available at City Hall or on-line at www.gardnerkansas.gov Submit completed application to City of Gardner, HR Department, 120 E. Main, Gardner, KS, 66030. All offers of employment are conditional upon the successful completion of a post offer physical exam, drug screen, and background check including driving record. EOE

Correction

An error was made in the *League Profile* article in the April 2015 issue of the *Kansas Government Journal*. Below is Brenda Chance's actual answer to the question, "What is your favorite thing about your community?"

What is your favorite thing about your community?

I like the downtown area with the beautiful courthouse square and parking in the middle of the street. The courthouse square is a great place for community activities and at Christmas the decorations are beautiful. The parking in the middle of the street is a unique feature to our downtown and I love to hear the visitor's reactions to it.

Sources from Legal Forum, page 113

1. SB 45 Sec. 3.
2. K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 21-6301(a)(10).
3. K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 21-6301(a)(13).
4. *Id.*
5. K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 21-6301(a)(14).
6. 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1) and K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 21-6304.
7. SB 45 Sec. 8.
8. SB 45 Sec. 2.
9. 18 U.S.C. § 922(q)(2)(A).
10. SB 45 Sec. 3.
11. SB 45 Sec. 6.
12. SB 45 Sec. 11.
13. *Id.*
14. SB 45 Sec. 13.

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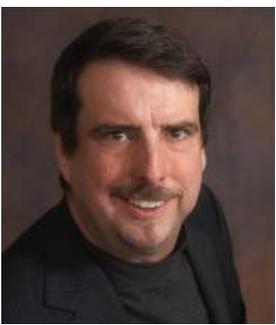


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Jim Mathis is an international Certified Speaking Professional (CSP), strategist and best-selling author. He has been writing, speaking and consulting for over 35 years. He helps leaders who want to reinvent themselves in changing economic climates. Jim has much to share about business marketing strategy.

Jim will present “Reinvention Made Easy” for the Mayors opening session on Friday afternoon.

Join us at the 2015 Governing Body Institute for many more valuable sessions, discussions, and networking opportunities.

Attending GBI is the first step new officials should take toward success in public office. Re-elected officials or longer-term appointed officials will also value the up-to-date information on municipal operations and networking opportunities this conference offers.

See the full schedule of events at lkm.org/training/gbi/



Lenexa Art Fair

May 9 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Join us for the Lenexa Art Fair, which will be held in the beautiful park setting in Central Green Park at City Center. The Lenexa Art Fair is a juried exhibit featuring about 50 fine artists. You will enjoy meeting artists while shopping at the various fine-art booths. Other activities include wine and craft beer tastings, live music and delicious food. Free admission for the art fair. Wine/beer tasting tickets will be available at the event.

www.lenexa.com/ArtFair

Marysville Mother's Day Flea Market & BBQ

May 9-10

The 38th Annual Koester House Museum Flea Market. Vendors will be open from sun up to sun down. Proceeds go to restoration and preservation of the Koester House Museum. The event is located at the Marysville City Park.

(785) 562-3101

Katy Days

May 22-24

In 1870, the first Missouri-Kansas-Texas train rolled into the new town of Parsons. Visit the city to celebrate its railroad heritage and town history with the Katy Days Festival. The event is located in Forest Park at 13th Street & Broadway.

(620) 421-6500 | katydays.com

Sedan Yellow Brick Road Festival

May 23 at 10:30 a.m.

Parade, vendors, games, contests, art shows and music at the Kurtis Art Plaza. Free Harmonica Workshop with David Bernston. Chautauqua Hills Blues at the Gregg Theater at 6 pm.

(620) 725-4033

Gypsum Car Show

May 24 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

See all of the cars shown off on main street!

(785) 536-4296

Moundridge Black Kettle Festival

May 30

Come spend the day with us! We have an all day festival starting with a 2 mile run/walk, parade, moving into the annual car show, food vendors, non-food vendors, art in the park, mud volleyball, and a basketball tourney. There are more fun and exciting things to do this year. We have changed it up and would like for you to come out and get involved. We have a Facebook page "Moundridge Black Kettle Festival 2015" check it out, it will have updates on all the activities. Bring your lawn chairs and listen to the Jazz band in the park and bring your appetites there is plenty of food.

(620) 747-0199

Get Outdoors Lenexa

June 13 at 9 a.m.

Bring the entire family - from toddlers to grandparents - to Black Hoof Park for an exciting morning of outdoor fun, fitness and safety. Take part in fitness demos, participate in playground challenges, get your blood pressure checked, and learn valuable information about bike, trail and boat safety. A fishing derby for kids, ages 6-12, will also be held. Admission to the event is free.

www.lenexa.com/GetOutdoors

Ottawa SWAN Arts Festival

June 19-20

The SWAN Arts Festival features live music, arts and artisan craft vendors, artist demonstrations, and children's activities. The festival takes place in Ottawa's historic downtown City Park. Admission is free. Headline entertainers this year include Member's Only (80s covers) and the Funky Butt Brass Band.

(785) 418-5838 | www.SWANartsfestival.com

Lecompton Territorial Days

June 19-20

In 1975, a ceremony was held in downtown Lecompton on Elmore Street, celebrating the dedication of Constitution Hall as a National Historic Landmark. Until then, Lecompton's annual summer picnic, since before the turn of the Century, had been known as the Harvest Home Picnic. But, because of the national recognition of Constitution Hall, Lecompton and Kansas Territory, the city fathers decided to call the summer outing Territorial Days. The event has grown to two days in June and it's the highlight of the year for Lecompton.

(785) 887-6617

www.lecomptonterritorialdays.com

Have an upcoming city event?

For events and instructions on how to submit your city event, visit <http://lkm.org/events/>.



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