



Talk of the Town

City of Victoria

May 1, 2022

Volume 35, #2

EVERYONE'S INVITED

The Victoria Recreation Commission is excited to sponsor its first Community Outdoor Night on May 22 from 6:30-8:30 pm at the Grade School Park.

All ages from 0-99 are encouraged to attend and the cost is free.

Activities will include pickleball, tennis, kickball, basketball, etc.

Come enjoy the evening, meet new people, catch up with friends!



Spring Clean-up Days!

The City is once again sponsoring its annual clean-up and citywide garage sale on the weekend of May 13-15.

Dumpsters will be available at the recycling site on Friday, May 13 from 4 -8 pm, Saturday May 14 from 9 am-8 pm, and Sunday May 15 from 9 am-4 pm.

Saturday will be the day for bargain hunters as well as for those with wares to peddle. A list of participants can be found on the City's Facebook page. Flyers will also be available at City Hall.

For anyone interested in advertising, the deadline is Monday, May 9. Cost is \$5.00. Please provide us with a list of items you would like to advertise.

Watering Reminders



As the weather warms up and the prospects of planting flowers and growing a garden return, City officials want to remind everyone of the current water policies.

- ◆ Lawn watering is allowed one day per week. Residents living south of 10th St. may water lawns on Tuesdays. Those living north of 10th St. may water on Thursdays.
- ◆ All watering must be done before 10:00 am or after 7:00 pm.
- ◆ Hand watering of trees, flowers and gardens IS permitted.
- ◆ Washing of hard surfaces such as driveways, parking lots, windows is prohibited.
- ◆ Filling of swimming pools and hot tubs is not allowed.
- ◆ Filling of water storage containers is not allowed.
- ◆ Waste of water is prohibited.

City Officials

Mayor

John Schulte

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City Council

Erica Dinges

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Zach Kanzenbach

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Matthew Orr

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City Clerk: Mary Pfeifer

Utilities Clerk: Nancy Piatt

City Treasurer: Jerry Schmidtberger

City Superintendent:

Brad Schmidtberger

Public Works Assistant:

Terry Riedel

Jeff Dorzweiler

Police Chief: Cole Dinkel

Patrol Officer: Ryan Mauch

Fire Chief: John Weber

Assistant Fire Chief: Scott Wellbrock

Memorial Day



"Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices." — President Harry S. Truman



OPENING DAY MAY 23

DAILY HOURS 1:00—7:00 THURSDAYS STARTING JUNE 2 1:00 -10:00

SWIMMING LESSONS JUNE 13-17 & JULY 11-15

FLYERS WILL BE SENT HOME WITH ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

HERZOGFEST

VICTORIA, KS

The Herzogfest Committee encourages everyone to mark their calendars for this year’s event on Aug. 12 and 13. We have signed a music headliner and will be excited to share more details soon.

We need your help in making the event bigger! The committee is making a call for sponsorships. Committee members will be visiting businesses in the upcoming weeks to seek your support. If there is a specific part of the festival that your business would like to sponsor, we would love to explore those opportunities as well.

Committee members are Brenton Hoffman (pres.), Jennifer Pfeifer (vice-pres.), Ashley Wellbrock (secy), Miranda Pfanestiel (treas.), Jeff Pfeifer, Logan Stanton, Jordan Robben, Ashley Kanzenbach, Andrea Schmidberger, Eric McAlonan, Austin McAlonan, Erika Sander, Haley Gagnon, and Bill Leikam.



Council appoints Matt Orr

Victoria has a newly-appointed Council member. Matt Orr has replaced Dustin Schumacher who moved to Hays.

Orr holds a bachelor’s degree in Industrial Engineering from Kansas State as well as a Master’s of Engineering Management earned while working for the Navy as a civilian engineer. Currently, he is the Vice President of Operations for Hess Services, Inc. in Hays.

Commenting on his appointment, Orr remarked: “I have thought about serving my community in some capacity for awhile and when I was asked to join the Council, I thought it would be a good chance to find out if City Council was the right fit.”

Talking about the strengths he brings to this position, Orr says he has had quite a bit of experience in analyzing problems, developing solutions, managing projects, budgeting and partnering with people to accomplish goals.

He says, “I grew up in a town of about 1,800 people where kids could ride their bikes to the pool and most days you could find a pickup basketball game somewhere in town.” He sees Victoria as a similar place where people step up to help their neighbors.

Orr and his wife Rachele (formerly Geist) and their two daughters moved to Victoria about seven years ago.



According to our records, there are numerous pet owners who have not yet gotten their 2022 tags. Please come in and take care of this as it is a city ordinance. The cost is \$2.00 for spayed/neutered pets and \$5.00 otherwise, plus a penalty for going past the deadline of Mar. 1.



ATV owners are also reminded that renewals are past due. Cost is \$25 and proof of current insurance is needed.



The May City bills reflect the new sewer averages based on customers’ consumption from Dec. 20—Mar. 20. This average is then kept for one year.



Never doubt a mother! She can carry a screaming toddler, two gallons of milk, talk on her cell phone, and still slap you for looking at her crazy.

The Victoria Housing Authority, The Elms, is looking for a committed candidate for the volunteer position of Board of Commissioner. The Elms is a low-income public housing facility that consists of seven one-bedroom duplexes, one two-bedroom handicapped duplex and a community building.

The mission of the FHA’s board of Commissioners and staff is to provide decent, safe and sanitary housing to low-income individuals or family. If interested, please stop by the office at 612 Grant St. Terr. or call Marla Robben, Executive Director, at 785.735.2620 or 785.735.8073.

Strengths, needs, future — City residents are talking

A group of Victoria citizens recently had the opportunity to interact, discuss, assess and dream about the future of our community. A forum sponsored by the organization *Imagine Ellis County* provided the means for this gathering. Prior to the business of the evening, participants enjoyed a meal prepared by Brooke Olsen of Fork That Bakery.

Representatives from the Hays City Commission, Grow Hays and the Heartland Community Foundation, spoke briefly before turning the meeting over to Betty Johnson, a consultant from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation, who then facilitated the two-hour gathering. In groups of 8-10, participants were guided through a series of topics including identifying the strengths of our town, its needs, and people's dreams for the future.

Positives included community pride, appreciation of the German heritage, the security and cleanliness of the city, the park and playground, and the annual Herzogfest celebration. Also discussed was the growing momentum around the sale of the former rest home and its possibilities.

Items considered needs were more affordable retail choices in Hays, perhaps a Dollar General in Victoria, affordable homes and available lots for building, and daycare.

When asked to envision the community ten years from now, the group pictured a community recreation center, fitness trails, businesses in every store front, beautification projects with trees and flowers and a more connected community that held block parties, a community garden, and more.



Fire Department participates in mock accident

Thanks to a huge cooperative effort, Victoria junior/senior high students recently witnessed how community resources work together in the event of an accident. Senior members of SADD, with invaluable help from Kami Weber who brought the resources together, planned the event. The objective was to provide students with understanding of the serious consequences of distracted driving.

At the accident location, a school bus had collided with a car with injured students in both vehicles. In total, four students were involved.

On the scene were members of the Victoria Fire Department, Ellis County EMS, the Sheriff's department, Victoria Police, Eagle Med, and Hays Memorial Chapel. Chandra Augustine, a VHS graduate, provided her makeup services known as moulage to give an even more visual effect.

Students watched as one of their peers, Kaitlyn Windholz, was transferred to the helicopter and another, Kassi Weber, was placed in a body bag.

Following the demonstration, an assembly was held where students were addressed by Sheriff Scott Braun, Police Chief John Weber, Fireman Cole Dreiling, and EMS Director Matt Meagher.

SADD sponsor Christie Sander expressed her appreciation to everyone who was involved with the event—a definite eye-opener for all in attendance.

Meet Joe Leroux

Victoria resident Joe Leroux now serves on the Ellis County Commission, following the resignation of Dean Haselhorst

A retired military man, he has lived here for seven years and been actively involved with Grow Hays, the Hays Chamber of Commerce and Imagine Ellis County.

He has a website where more info is available: www.commissioner-joe.com.



St. Fidelis News

St. Fidelis Parish will again offer a free summer lunch program. The starting date has not been decided but will be announced in the parish bulletin. A note will also be sent home with all Victoria grade school students. It will run Mondays through Fridays beginning at 11:00 a.m. and will be held at the Parish Activity Center. We would like to thank all who donate money or food to this program. Last year we averaged 40 kids per day.

Vacation Bible School is set for June 6-10. Contact Jeanette at the parish office for more information.

Be sure to stop by the St. Fidelis Gift and Thrift Shop at 503 Main during the citywide garage sale. We will have extra special bargains for the occasion.



SCHOOLHOUSE NEWS



On Tuesday, May 3, the public is invited to Project Citizen, the final presentation of Victoria seniors' civics projects. From 6:00 pm—7:15 pm in the high school gym, the seniors will present their displays and speak about their work.

Throughout the semester they have been learning about the “different spheres of society: private, civil and government.” They gained insight into how each can interact with the other to promote change and improvement. Their work has involved presentations to government bodies, research, surveys, as well as hands-on work including painting and construction.

The projects and their groups are as follows: **Beautify the Baseball Park**, Shelby Schmeidler, Grant Schoenrock, Kenzie Sweat, and Grant Hammerschmidt; **Welcome to Victoria**, Cadence Dickey, Jessica Schroeder, and Christian Wellbrock; **From the Ground Up Community Center**, Kaitlyn Windholz, Levi Huser, Melany Huser, and Kassi Weber; **A Box of Wonders**, Eric Braun, Benjamin Housley, Sam Leavitt; **Coats of Quality**, Isaiah Aguilar, Tate Dorzweiler, Dylan Robben, Nate Windholz.

This is the second year that the civics project has been implemented. The class is taught by Kate James.

It's Elementary!

On **National Quartet Day**, music instructor Max Befort invited the Ellis County Barbershop members to perform for the school's honor choir.

Almost 600 hundred people were served at the **annual breakfast fundraiser** on Apr. 10 by the VES staff. Coleen Dickenson coordinated the event including ticket sales, food orders, and the final financial report.

The **annual year-end fun day** will consist of two activities: a trip to the Dream Theater in Russell sponsored by the PTO and game rotations.

Donuts for Dads in the Pre-K room was hit with 100% turnout of a parent/guardian/grandparent in attendance.

Principal Deena Clark and preschool teacher Ashley Urban have submitted an **early childhood kindergarten readiness grant**. If the district receives it, the \$25,000 will help start the all-day preschool program in the fall.



JOB OPENING

The City of Victoria is accepting applications for a temporary part-time position of City Clerk. The position will transition to full-time after the part-time training period. The position is responsible for maintaining official city records, ordinances and contracts. The employee attends and maintains records of the proceedings of all regular and special meeting of the governing body. The City Clerk is responsible for the City's financial records, municipal documents, and performs administrative, financial and clerical record keeping. Competitive wages based on experience. Excellent benefit package. Must reside within 6 miles of Victoria within 6 months of employment. Complete job description available at City Hall, 1005 4th St., Victoria, Ks 67671. Resume may be submitted by email at victoria@ruraltel.net, dropped off at City Hall or mailed to P O Box 87. EOE Position open until filled.

Sunflower Bank

Sunflower Bank congratulates its most recent winners in the ABC Program Report Card: Easton Nuss, Ella Haselhorst, Mason Mauch, Shelby Schmeidler and Kinsley Orr! Through it ABC Program, more than \$1.5 million has been raised for local schools and students since 2001.



UPCOMING VISITS at the park

May 13, 3-4 pm

June 10, 3-4 pm

July 8, 3-4 pm