

The Bel Aire Breeze

Vol. 11, No. 8

September 2016

Complimentary copy

Bel Aire among safest in the state

By The Breeze staff

Three cities in north Sedgwick County are among the state's 20 safest, according to SafeWise, which released its annual safest cities list Aug. 8.

To compile this report, SafeWise analysts considered the most recent FBI crime data from 2014. All of the cities have a minimum population of 4,000. SafeWise is a home security and safety brand pushing safety

education, awareness and preparedness.

Bel Aire was third on the list, up from eight the previous year. In 2014, there were 1.58 violent crimes per 1,000 residents and 10.5 property crimes.

Valley Center slipped to 10th, down from fifth last year. While the city's violent crime rate was lower at .85 per 1,000, property crimes were 15.02 per 1,000.

Park City was 20th on the list

and was previously not ranked. It had 1.59 violent crimes per 1,000 residents and 22.3 property crimes.

Prairie Village was the safest with .41 violent crimes and 10.18 property crimes.

Dog days

Bel Aire part of animal charity's success



Sasha, a husky, gets rinsed off at RETAIN's dog wash at Heartland Animal Hospital. The organization has dog washes every Saturday during the summer.



Photos by Taylor Messick

Nancy Nguyen calms her Akita named Nikki during a bath at RETAIN's dog wash at Heartland Animal Hospital on Aug. 6.

By Taylor Messick

Since 2000, Jerry McKee and her band of animal-loving volunteers have spent every summer Saturday scrubbing dogs at Heartland Animal Hospital on North Woodlawn.

Heartland provides a space for the dog wash, but the program is affiliated with the foundation McKee started in 1997 called RETAIN — Responsible and Ethical Treatment of Animals In Neighborhoods.

“Our main reason for coming together to begin with was to help low-income families to be able to spay and neuter their cats and dogs,” said McKee.

A couple of years later, McKee came up with the idea for the dog wash. RETAIN is a non-profit organization and the dog wash is a way for the foundation to raise donations for funding. The volunteers wash an average of 50 dogs each Saturday, which helps fund the organizations' other priorities.

In addition to helping



Shandy, a golden doodle, gets scrubbed down at RETAIN's dog wash at Heartland Animal Hospital.

families spay and neuter pets, RETAIN also helps provide pet food for those in need.

“Recently, there was an article in the Eagle about the Pet-food Pantry at Wichita's Metropolitan Community Church,” said McKee. “Since finding out about that, we've taken over soliciting for pet food for them.”

The Pet-food Pantry helps low-income families feed pets by

handing out donated food one Friday a month. The food all comes by way of donations and McKee's contributions help to ensure that the program can continue.

McKee loves helping in any way she can, but says the dog wash is probably her favorite thing she gets to do through the foundation.

“It's really a lot of fun up here,” she said. “We're just a group of

animal-lovers; some work at pet stores or clinics or train animals. Many of us have been here for years. We couldn't do this without our volunteers.”

The dog wash is open from the third Saturday in June until Labor Day Saturday in September between 1 and 4 p.m. For more about RETAIN or to make a donation, see the group's website at retainkansas.org.

Former chief receives probation

Guilty of theft of public funds

By The Breeze staff

A former Bel Aire police chief was sentenced Aug. 19 to six months of probation and was fined \$1,000 after pleading guilty to a federal misdemeanor charge of theft of public funds, acting U.S. Attorney Tom Beall said.



Daily

John R. Daily, 63, of Haysville pleaded guilty to one count of theft of government funds. In his plea, he admitted he filed paperwork falsely representing that certain firearms were purchased for the exclusive use of the Bel Aire Police Department. As a result, no sales tax was collected on the purchase of the four firearms.

The U.S. Attorney's Office said that \$72 in sales tax was not collected on the purchase of a Sig Sauer 1911R TACOPS handgun and \$231 in sales tax was not collected on the purchase of three FNP90 rifles.

Beall said that Daily knew or believed that the firearms would be owned by individuals, not by the department, although the firearms would be available for work use as well as personal use.

Daily was Bel Aire police chief from May 2006 through December 2013.

Bel Aire approves projects for growth

By Taylor Messick

At its meeting Aug. 2, the Bel Aire City Council looked at a number of projects that will improve some existing developments and potentially help to grow new ones in the city.

Possibly the most notable of these projects involves a transfer of the IRB lease for the former Tierra Verde surgical recovery campus located on 77 acres near 47th North and Webb Road. After being granted the original lease, Tierra Verde went into default almost immediately last year and the lease was terminated. Now, an investor in the project — John Eck — has purchased the bonds and hopes to resuscitate the project under the name Tierra Webb Properties LLC.

“We intend for it to do better this time,” said Eck.

Another project that was approved was the water, sewer and paving petitions portion of the design of a cul-de-sac for the Second Addition of Chapel Landing. These will be patio homes located just west of Woodlawn near Iron Gate. The final plat for the addition was approved by the council June 7, and Mayor David Austin said the developer is ready to move forward with the design.

Paving, water, sewer, sidewalk and water petitions were also accepted for the first phase of the Deer Run development located on the east side of Rock Road across from Elk Creek. Austin

Bel Aire owes \$29K to 9 local businesses

By The Breeze staff

The City of Bel Aire is refunding more than \$29,000 in sewer utility fees the city overcharged nine businesses during a four-year period.

City officials hope it's the end to a controversy that's been brewing in Bel Aire for the past five months.

The city hired an auditor to recalculate the rates

for all commercial businesses from Jan. 1, 2003, through Dec. 31, 2007.

"We did this because we wanted to assure citizens that this tax has stopped," Mayor David Austin said. "It isn't happening anymore."

The auditor found that these businesses had been overcharged: Sunrise Christian School by \$1,113, Sunrise Christian Academy by \$5,322,

Resurrection Church and Resurrection by a combined \$4,734, Tree Top Nursery by \$1,115, Catholic Care Center (two customers) by a combined \$14,934, Sedgwick County by \$1,057 and Heartland Animal Hospital by \$983.

Allen, Gibbs & Houlik took the audit further, at the request of city leaders, examining the water and sewer charges for

the same businesses from Dec. 31, 2007, to March 1, 2011. The audit found that five had been undercharged on their water bills by small amounts (combined, less than \$69) and that four had been overcharged by equally small amounts (combined, less than \$104). The audit found that the companies' sewer bills were undercharged by a combined \$3,058.

In addition, Gospel Assembly church was overcharged for water, Austin said.

It's unclear how these discrepancies occurred. However, city council Betty Martine said that when she was Bel Aire city clerk, she was directed to place higher rates on some businesses.

To be sure the problems didn't affect residential customers, Allen,

Gibbs & Houlik also tested a random selection and found that there was a discrepancy.

The total billed among the 10-customer sample was \$19,011. It should have been \$17,867.

The difference in charges appeared to be related to residential units at Catholic Care Center, were charged commercial rates for nearly two years, the auditor concluded.

City stays on track with improvement projects

By Taylor Messick

The past month has been nothing but business for the Bel Aire City Council. The drama of recent months seems to have cleared out of the room and the ability of the council members to get right back to work and focus on improving their city has been a breath of fresh air for everyone.

The previous council meeting saw a number of community improvement projects being approved, and the Aug. 16 meeting was no different, as the council eagerly pushed through the agenda to ap-

prove even more positive projects in the city.

The improvements are being made within the city's budget. The 2017 budget was approved unanimously at the latest meeting and contains no property tax increase for residents while adding \$250,000 to the capital improvement fund and \$400,000 to streets. Mayor David Austin also pointed out that staff actually only gets to work with about 50 percent of that total budget because of current debt.

Many of the projects that were approved at the meeting were in regards to the second addition of

Chapel Landing. Petitions for the project were approved Aug. 2 and the city is now moving along with public funding. Paving, sewer and water improvements were all unanimously approved for the development.

Another project that was approved was the final plat for the second addition of Sunflower Commerce Park. PEC completed the design and the planning commission approved it before the council unanimously accepted the project. Austin noted that the addition already has a commitment from its first business, Epic Sports.

The final improvement project that was approved at the recent meeting was the concrete bid from Kansas Paving for the fourth addition of Rock Springs. Kansas Paving pulled its asphalt bid of \$83,112.60 off the table the day before the previous council meeting, stating that it made an error in calculations for the job cost. After Kansas Paving's recalculation added around \$20,000 to the original asphalt bid, the council decided to accept the bid of \$100,532.60 by a vote of 3-1-1. Council member Guy MacDonald — a former businessman — was unhappy with

the company's business practices.

"If you're in business long enough, it's inevitable that you're going to make a mistake," said MacDonald. "The typical good business response is if you make a mistake and you're the low bidder — you do the job and you take the loss. That's the way it works."

In other business, the council:

- Approved an appropriations ordinance of \$460,603.30.
- Listened to Louis Hendricks express concerns over road conditions near 47th Street and Hedgerow.
- Heard from city manager Ty Lasher that the Hot Dawgs pool party had 300 people, 180 dogs and made \$900. Lasher

also reported that a study found that Bel Aire is the third safest city in Kansas and the safest in Sedgwick County.

• Appointed Anne Stephens to the WAMPO policy board and Diane Wynn as an alternate by a unanimous vote.

• Appointed Wynn to the REAP board of directors by a unanimous vote.

• Approved an ordinance concerning the amendment of Chapter 17, Article 9 of the municipal code of Bel Aire, Kansas in connection with the location of signs on public rights-of-way, public easement, or planned unit development by a unanimous vote.

• Approved a governmental services agreement for limited animal control services with Sedgwick County by a unanimous vote.

All members of the council were present. There was no executive session.

CHURCH HIGHLIGHTS

Christ Lutheran-ELCA

Christ Lutheran is at 53rd North and Hillside, across from Wichita Heights High School.

Labor Day weekend services are at 9 a.m. (contemporary) and 10:30 (traditional). After that, services will be held at 9 a.m. for contemporary, 10:15 a.m. for Sunday school and 11 a.m. for traditional. Communion is offered at all services.

For more information about the church and its activities find the church online at www.christ-lutheran.org, or call 744-1242.

Chad Langdon is the pastor of Christ Lutheran Church.

Church of the Resurrection

Church of the Resurrection (Roman Catholic) is located at 4910 N. Woodlawn in Bel Aire.

Masses for the Lord's Day are 5:30 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday. Weekday Masses are 8 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Resurrection Catholic School has students from preschool through eighth grade.

The parish/school website is www.resurrectionwichita.com, and the telephone number is 744-2776.

The Rev. James F. Weldon is the pastor.

Community Bible Chapel

Community Bible Chapel is located at the corner of 45th North and Arlene.

Please call Amy Smith at 323-2819 with any questions.

Cornerstone Christian

Cornerstone Christian Church is located at 5531 E. 37th North in Wichita KS 67220-2037. The church phone number is 686-0208.

Our pastor is Jim Rackham and youth pastor is Brandon Morrow.

Sunday Worship is at 9:30 and 11 a.m. and a nursery is provided.

Our Wednesday Study Groups include adult studies, youth and AWANA. They all meet at 6:30 p.m.

Please join us for the service of your choice.

Fairmount United Church of Christ

Visit the church at 1605 Fairmount in Wichita, one block south and one block east of 17th North and Hillside.

Sunday worship is at 10:30 a.m., which includes children's church. Sunday school begins at 9:30 a.m.

For more information, call 682-1597 or visit at www.fairmountucc.org.

Steve Bridwell is the minister.

Gospel Assembly Church

Located at 4230 N. Oliver in Bel Aire, Sunday services are 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Prayer service is at 7 p.m. Tuesday. Praise and worship is at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday. The first Saturday evening of each month are youth activities.

Phone number is 744-1502. The Rev. Gary D. Green is the pastor.

Greenwich United Methodist Church

Greenwich UMC, at the edge of Wichita, is a traditional, family church that serves all ages. Sunday worship is at 9 a.m. Life Studies study group for all ages is from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

Pastor Paula Scott is available at the church each Wednesday for prayer and fellowship. United Methodist Women meet at 10 a.m. the first Wednesday of each month and also host a church brunch quarterly. Special events are announced on the church sign, Facebook and by mailings. Please call to be added to our mailing list or email shagemeister@sbcglobal.net.

Greenwich UMC missions support large local charities like Open Door, Grace Med or Youthville, as well as small charities like Flint Hills Therapeutic Riding Center, Wichita Children's Home, to name a few.

The church is located at

5500 N. Greenwich Road, about one mile south of K-254 and five miles north of 21st North.

Like us on Facebook at Wichita Greenwich United Methodist Church. We would love for you to come join us Sunday. Feel free to call anytime 744-0203.

Kechi United Methodist

Sunday worship is at 9:03 a.m. (contemporary service) or 11 (traditional service), with Sunday school at 10 a.m., at Kechi United Methodist Church, 4533 E. 61st North in Kechi.

Caregivers support group meets at 7 p.m. the first Monday of each month.

Men's Bible Study is at 6:30 a.m. Wednesdays. Bingo is at 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month.

Our pastor is Greg Reed. Find us at www.Kechi-UMC.org and "Like" us on Facebook. The church phone number is 744-1221.

LifePoint

A fellowship of the Assemblies of God, LifePoint is located at 400 S. Abilene in Valley Center.

Sunday worship service and Kids Church are at 10:30 a.m., with Life University/Sunday school for all ages at 9. There are no regular Sunday night service. For special activities, see our website, www.lpcag.org.

On Wednesday evenings, Launch children's program meets at 6:30 p.m. Velocity Student Ministries for youth meets at 7 p.m.

Adult small groups meet throughout the community.

Senior pastor is Steve Rains. Youth pastor is Jacob Soyez. Children's pastor is Nathaniel Thurman. Call 755-2331.

Risen Savior Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

The church is at 6770 E. 34th North, Wichita. Phone number is 683-5538. The church is online at www.risensaviorwichita.net.

Contemporary Sunday worship service is at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Communion is on the first and third Sunday. Adult Sunday school and Bible class meet at 9:15 a.m. Children's church is at 10:30 a.m. A nursery is provided during both the Bible class and the second service.

Lifetree Café is a conversation café, a place and time for people to gather weekly to experience stories and talk about thought-provoking topics relating to life and faith. They meet Thursdays at 1 p.m., with lunch at noon, at the community building, 316 E. Clay, in Valley Center.

Risen Savior Preschool classes for 3- to 5-year-olds are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 to 11:45 a.m. Please contact Michelle Peshek, director/lead teacher, with questions at atmichel@risensavior.net or call the church office at 683-5538.

Senior pastor is Tom Harmon.

St. Michael's Orthodox Christian

Saint Michael's Orthodox Christian Church is at 2710 E. 61st North, Park City. It is a congregation of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America. "The disciples were first called Christians at

Antioch." (Acts 11:26)

Saint Michael is a western rite congregation using the Liturgy of Saint Gregory. It is the only western rite Orthodox Church in Kansas. Join us for our worship of the Holy Trinity using the ancient and beautiful liturgy of the Undivided Church.

Sunday Adult class at 9 a.m. will study Paul's Letters to the Church in Corinth

Wednesday service is at 6 p.m. Saturday Vespers is at 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday's program will begin at 7:15 p.m. following liturgy and potluck supper.

Call the church for more information at 734-6248 or visit our website at www.saintmichaellorthodoxchurch.com. Email inquiries to jflora@cox.net.

The Very Rev. Dr. John Flora is archpriest and pastor. The Rev. Father Basil Anderson is the deacon, and James Finneran is the reader.

Wichita Three Angels Seventh-Day Adventist

The church is located at 4558 N. Hydraulic, Wichita.

The pastor is Nathan Stearman. The Sabbath school is at 9:30 a.m. Worship service is at 11 a.m.

For more information find us at www.godsclotest.com or on Facebook, email eric@godsclotest.com or call 530-1040.

Send your church's upcoming events

NEWS

The following area students have been awarded scholarships from Fort Hays State University for the 2016-17 academic year: Cassandra Stroppel, a 2016 Wichita Heights High School graduate, accepted a \$500 Academic Opportunity Award in biological sciences. She is the daughter of Matthew and Keziah Stroppel of Wichita and plans to major in biology. Colton Bauserman, a 2016 Independent School graduate, accepted a \$2,000 University Scholar Award and a \$900 Academic Opportunity Award in art. He is the son of Grant and Jennifer Bauserman of Wichita and plans to major in graphic design. Keagan Davis, a 2014 Circle High School graduate and a Hutchinson Community College transfer student, accepted a \$1,000 Transfer Student Award. She is the daughter of Donny and Dora Davis of Wichita and plans to major in social work.

Massage Therapist Steve Willms
Lic. #2759
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Tradition with a Twist
9:00 • Contemporary Service
11:00 • Traditional Service
Sunday School is at 10:15 for all ages
Communion is offered at all services
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5356 N. Hillside, Wichita
744-1242 • christ-lutheran.org

ANIMAL HOSPITAL
316-744-2043

Heartland
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heartlandpetcenter.com
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----- advertise in the guide -----

To place an ad, or for advertising information, call **Alan Oliver at 755-0821**
Deadline Sept. 16
Available Sept. 22



City of Bel Aire



Bel Aire Recreation

BLASTBALL IN THE FALL

Blastball is an introductory coed T-ball program for 4-year-olds. First practice will be Sept. 13, followed by seven games at either 6:15 or 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

COED OUTDOOR SOCCER

Soccer is for boys and girls ages 4 through 11. Games will be played on Saturdays from Sept. 12 through Oct. 24. Practices will be set up by the coaches on weeknights starting Aug 31. Limited openings remain; please call for more information.

COED FLAG FOOTBALL

Bel Aire will be teaming up with the Valley Center Recreation Commission for flag football. Practices will be held at the respective home location, with games being played at both sites. Flag Football is for boys and girls in third through sixth grades. Games will be played on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday evenings or Saturday mornings. Practices will be set up by the coaches on weeknights starting Sept. 5.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

For ages 5 through 11. Practices begin the week of Oct. 17 and games begin Oct. 29 (no games on Nov. 26). The registration deadline is Oct. 8.

LIL' DRIBBLERS

For boys and girls who are 4 years old. Lil' Dribblers is a six-week basketball camp designed to introduce the concept of basketball to 4-year-olds. Dribbling, shooting, passing

and defense are taught through fun and engaging activities. Lil' Dribblers begins Oct. 29.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Bel Aire will be teaming up with the Valley Center Recreation Commission for girls volleyball. Practices will be held at the respective home location with scrimmages being played at both sites. Volleyball is for boys and girls in third through sixth grades. Practices will be set up by the coaches on weeknights starting Aug. 31, with scrimmage dates TBA.

YOGA

Classes are from 6 to 7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Participants must provide their own yoga mat. Teens and adults can join at any time.

SENIOR AEROBICS/CHAIR EXERCISES

The senior aerobics class meets from 9 to 10 a.m. Wednesdays. Chair exercise is at 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Fridays. You can join at any time.

LINE DANCING

Line dancing benefits the entire body. It can help you lose weight, improve balance and coordination, increase muscle and bone strength, and the best part — it's FUN! Fridays at 1:30 p.m. in the Community Room at City Hall, and Mondays at 1:30 p.m. at the Rec Center.

A \$10 late fee will be charged to all sign-ups after registration deadlines. For more info about any Bel Aire Recreation programs, call 744-2700.

Bel Aire Seniors

All SENIORS 55+ are cordially invited to all events listed below. The Senior Center and library area are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. The library has a wide selection of books to check out with neither cost nor time restraints and computers are available for study or research. Any senior can belong to or attend more than one senior center/club in Sedgwick County.

The Bel Aire Senior Center will be closed for all programs when USD 259 schools are closed due to inclement weather. For more information, please call 744-2451, Ext. 135.

Locations

Senior Center/Community Room

7651 E. Central Park Ave.

744-2451

Recreation Center

5251 E. 48th North

744-2700

Weekly Events

Bel Aire Walkers — M-F, 8-9 a.m. at the Rec Center (indoors & climate controlled).

Line Dance Class — Mondays & Fridays, 1:30 p.m., Community Room

Yoga — Mondays & Wednesdays, 6 p.m. at the Rec Center (monthly fee)

Chair Exercises — Tuesday & Fridays, 10:30 a.m., at the Rec Center

Bridge Games — Tuesdays, 1 p.m. at the Senior Center

****NEW** Scrapbook Class** — Tuesdays, 1 p.m., Community Room

Low Impact Aerobics — Wednesdays, 9 a.m. at the Rec Center

Braum's Breakfast — Fridays, 9 a.m. on North Rock Road

Monthly & Special Events

- Sept. 1, 9 a.m. — Quilting Bee, Senior Center.
- Sept. 1, 1 p.m. — Game Day, Rec Center.
- Sept. 2, 6 p.m. — Pitch, Senior Center.
- Sept. 5 — Labor Day, Senior Center and City Offices closed.
- Sept. 6, 8:30 a.m. — Breakfast out.
- Sept. 7, 10 a.m. — Volunteer library work time.
- Sept. 7, 2 p.m. — FR Agency, housekeeping services info, Senior Center
- Sept. 8, 2 p.m. — Pharmacy delivery, Senior Care Pharmacy, Senior Center
- Sept. 12, 2 p.m. — WSU Life Long Learning, Community Room (must RSVP)
- Sept. 12, 11:30 a.m. — Lunch out.
- Sept. 12, 6:30 p.m. — Potluck dinner and bingo, Community Room.
- Sept. 14, 10 a.m. — Open sewing, Rec Center.
- Sept. 15, 9 a.m. — Quilting Bee, Senior Center.
- Sept. 15, 2 p.m. — Fittings for You, product information, Senior Center.
- Sept. 16, 6 p.m. — Pitch, Senior Center.
- Sept. 19, 1 p.m. — Flu shots, Senior Center. Call 744-2451 for a time.
- Sept. 19, 2 p.m. — WSU Life Long Learning, Community Room (must RSVP)
- Sept. 20, 6 p.m. — Ladies dine out. Call Anita 744-2840 for information.
- Sept. 21, 10 a.m. — Men's coffee, Braum's on North Rock Road.
- Sept. 21, 10:15 a.m. — Senior aerobics brunch.
- Sept. 21, 1:30 p.m. — Book Club Meeting, Senior Center.
- Sept. 21, 2 p.m. — Women's coffee, Braum's on North Rock Road.
- Sept. 22, 2 p.m. — Genealogy & Family History Group,
- Sept. 23, 9 a.m. — Foot Care with Hermes Health. Call 260-4110 to schedule an appointment.
- Sept. 24, 12:30 p.m. — Private traditional acoustic music jam, listeners welcome, Senior Center.
- Sept. 26, 2 p.m. — WSU Life Long Learning, Community Room (must RSVP)
- Sept. 26, 6 p.m. — Covered dish dinner and program.
- Sept. 28, 7 p.m. — Bunko, Senior Center. Call 744-2451, ext 121, for reservation.
- Oct. 3, 6:30 p.m. — Potluck dinner and program. Car Buying/Service Questions You Should Be Asking, Community Room.

Community Events

- City Council** — 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m. For Red Hat info, call Anita at 744-2840.
- Sept. 5** — Labor Day, city offices closed.
- Sept. 7, noon** — Chamber of Commerce meeting.
- Sept. 7, 7 p.m.** — Municipal court.
- Sept. 10, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** — Brush site open.
- Sept. 15, 6 p.m.** — Planning Commission meeting.
- Sept. 19, 7 p.m.** — Community Development committee meeting.
- Sept. 20, 4 p.m.** — Utility Advisory Committee meeting.
- Oct. 15, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** — Fall Festival.

Congratulations to Melissa and Aaron Lair, September Beautify Bel Aire Winner!



Cruise INTO Bel Aire

2016 CITY OF BEL AIRE FALL FESTIVAL & CAR SHOW

October 15th Bel Aire Recreation Center
10 am - 2 pm 5251 East 48th St N, Bel Aire, KS 67220

Show & Shine
EVERYONE WELCOME
Cars, Trucks & Cycles - No Entry Fee

Fall Festival also includes Vendor Fair, Music, Food & Fun for the Whole Family!

For more information, please contact:
Tristin Terhune at 316-744-2451 or tterhune@belaireks.gov

City of Bel Aire 2016 FALL FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15TH 10AM - 2PM

FREE ADMISSION

FOOD TRUCKS

Cruise INTO Bel Aire

CAR SHOW

PETTING ZOO

train rides

BOUNCE HOUSE

GAMES

Vendor Fair

FACE PAINTING

Bel Aire Recreation Center
5251 East 48th St N, Bel Aire, KS 67220

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
Tristin Terhune at 744-2451 ext. 119
or tterhune@belaireks.gov

www.belaireks.gov

Beautify Bel Aire

Have you made improvements to the outside of your home or lawn?

Send us your before & after pictures for a chance to win a \$50 gift card from Tree Top Nursery. One home will be selected each month from April to September.

How to enter:
Share on our Facebook or Twitter (#BeautifyBelAire)
E-mail tterhune@belaireks.gov

City of Bel Aire Fall Festival

October 15, 2016

If you are interested in having a booth at the Fall Festival, please contact:

Tristin Terhune
744-2451 ext 119
tterhune@belaireks.gov



Mayor's corner

By David Austin

I made the mistake of walking past the toy and activity aisle while shopping for shoes with my adorable 2-year-old granddaughter. Oh my goodness, did she get excited and proceeded to say, "like it, like it, want it, want it" (well you get the picture) as we passed every sparkly thing.

Let it be known that PawPaw managed to check out with only one additional item in the cart that was not on our original list. Not bad for this softy, especially when it comes to baby girl.

It was fun to watch her get excited about a possible new book or sparkly thing or more likely something that makes noise and takes batteries, but I digress.

In a way it is that same excitement that I now feel in sharing some great news with you about taxes, a citizen survey and a history book.

TAXES

Once again Bel Aire residents will enjoy a zero mill increase this year. You may have noticed a few cities around the region are experiencing tax rate increases, but that is not the case in Bel Aire. I personally want to thank our staff for all their hard work in making this happen.

Not only are some other cities raising their taxes, they get to budget 100 percent of what they bring in. In Bel Aire, we continue to chip away at a burdensome debt, which costs 50 percent of our budget each year. That's right, our staff works on only 50 percent of the tax revenue and once again taxes remain unchanged here.

We have seen an increase in housing starts and industrial lots sold in Sunflower Commerce Park. My dream, hope and prayer is that retail is soon added to this list.

SURVEY

The future of our community needs careful planning and aggressive dreams as we adjust to global economic and fiscal challenges, technology needs and desires for family housing and recreation activities. It is because of this and other factors, we are engaging citizens in public discussion in hopes we advance public interest and build capacity in Bel Aire.

Officials from the Wichita State University Hugo Wall School of Public Affairs have met with your elected representatives and held focus groups with different community groups. If you would like to be included, one is scheduled for Sept. 6 from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Community Room at City Hall. Feel free to come and join the discussion. The next step will be a city-wide survey which will be sent to each home. We want to hear from our residents. We want to know what attracts you to Bel Aire and what you want to see as we plan for future growth and development.

HISTORY

I can't wait to see the Bel Aire history book. We have been working with Dr. Jay Price at WSU for several months now to update a history book that began nearly a decade ago, but never made it to the finish line.

He, too, has been meeting with focus groups and with individuals suggested by council members to gain insight from residents. In addition, his research of council meetings, news clippings and the interviews are all being compiled into a history book. My understanding is that it is actually nearing completion.

This should be available later this fall, too, just in time for Christmas.

Before I sign off this month, I want to thank are many wonderful volunteers who helped to make the Hot Dawgs Pool Party the biggest ever.



Will this be the year we value education?

Now that the school year has started, we wish students well. We hope this will be the year the fire is started inside of them, giving them a passion for learning and an understanding of the value of a good education.

Will this be the year that teachers fan their own flames, renewing their desire to see young people learn? The profession is under attack. There is no doubt about that. It can be frustrating to go into each school year under a cloud of financial uncertainty, like public education is a pawn in a political chess match.

We know that teaching is a difficult assignment. We hope teachers — as well as staff and administrators — know that they're appreciated and supported.

We also wonder whether this will be the year that parents become a larger part of the education circle. They have the responsibility to be sure their children are prepared for learning. Their role is big. They also must hold educators' feet to the fire, make them accountable for how and what they teach.

We know our communities are proud of their schools and are happy to invest in programs, infrastructure and personnel because the future of the next generation is at stake. That's an awesome responsibility.

We also wonder if this will be the year that the state finally figures out how to fully fund public education. Will it be the year that district leaders won't have to worry themselves sick over whether there will be enough money to meet payroll or keep the doors open? Will it be the year that fear and uncertainty are taken out of the equation?

Will it be the year when districts can focus on education more than economic equity?

We sure hope so.
— **The Bel Aire Breeze**

Budgets balance taxes, needs

Although the state-imposed property tax lid struck fear in the hearts of many city leaders across north Sedgwick County, local governments did well this budget-setting season to balance needs with an undeniable dislike of property taxes.

Park City, Valley Center and Bel Aire approved budgets that hold the line on taxes, while maintaining critical services. Kechi, meanwhile, responded to a glaring need by raising taxes.

That's how local government works.

Fortunately, however, with a conservative approach to spending, which seems to be shared across all governing bodies in north Sedgwick County, local taxpayers have largely been spared sharp spikes in tax rates.

There is a danger, though, in keeping taxes artificially low at the expense of needed infrastructure improvements. Sometimes higher taxes are a necessary evil.

City governments should grow as their cities grow.

Out of the office

By Chris Strunk



The Kechi City Council earlier this month approved a 2017 budget with a property tax increase of 3 mills. The money will be used for roadwork.

"Nobody likes a tax increase," Kechi's city administrator said.

That's why city leaders were transparent with the proposal and up front with the public about how the additional revenue would be used and accounted for.

Valley Center approved a budget with less than a half-mill increase. Council members spent about an hour this summer trimming an original proposal that called for a 2-mill hike.

The Park City council also approved a budget that holds the line on taxes. It had considered a property tax increase to raise money for roadwork. However, a majority of council members turned down the proposal.

The Bel Aire City Council, too, approved a budget with no tax increase. Sure, there are plenty of needs in the city that could warrant an increase in revenue, but council members remained steadfast as they heard from the public and debated the issue.

That's how each city conducted the budget process. Leaders debated, discussed and weighed pros and cons, and along the way, they reached out to the public for its input.

That's how it should be done.

Chris Strunk is publisher of The Bel Aire Breeze. Reach him at 755-0821, news@arkvalleynews.com or on Facebook.

Deadline for October: Sept. 23

Bel Aire Breeze

DEATHS

ALFRED LINDBERG

Alfred "Al" W. Lindberg Jr., 90, died Aug. 2, 2016. He was a retired ELCA pastor. He was born Feb. 20, 1926, in St. Paul, Minn., the son of Alfred Walter Sr. and Irene (Elmquist) Lindberg. He married Louise H. Hovet on Sept. 10, 1949, in Bemidji, Minn.

He was preceded in death by his parents, stepmother Gladys and brother Ron Lindberg. Survivors include his wife of 66 years; children Daniel (Robyn) Lindberg of Kechi, Rosie (Rich) Harder of Bel Aire, Mary (Jim) Garrelts, of Wichita and Joy (Roger) Boldridge of Overland Park;



Lindberg

grandchildren Benjamin, Rachel, Katy, Jeff, Ron, Scott, Mark, Brittany, Ceara, Corinne, Chanelle and Randall; seven great-grandchildren; and brother Mark (Leslie) Lindberg of New Hampshire.

A celebration of life was held Aug. 8 at Christ Lutheran Church. Memorials to Mercy Ship and ELCA World Hunger, both in care of Christ Lutheran Church, 5356 N. Hillside, Wichita KS 67219. Hillside Funeral Home West had charge.

JO ANN SCHMITZ

Jo Ann Schmitz, 70, died Aug. 17, 2016. She was a homemaker. She was preceded in death by her parents, Oscar and Anna Miller. Survivors include husband Larry Schmitz of Bel Aire; sons Larry (Cathy) Schmitz

II of Wichita, Bradley (Christine) Schmitz of San Antonio, Ashley Schmitz of Corpus Christi, Texas, Shelby (Leslie) Schmitz of Corpus Christi and Michael (Chelsea) Schmitz of Wichita; brother Charley (Tan) Miller of Derby; and 10 grandchildren.



Schmitz

Funeral service was Aug. 27 at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church. Memorials to Kapaun Mt. Carmel Catholic High School, 8506 E. Central Ave., Wichita KS 67206. Downing & Lahey Mortuary

East Chapel had charge.

MARY STRUNK

Mary M. (Rohleder) Strunk, 91, of Wichita, died Aug. 16, 2016. She was a retired nurse.



Strunk

She was preceded in death by her parents, Peter and Clara (Toepfer) Rohleder; five brothers and two sisters. Survivors include her husband, Nick; children Kathleen Fehrmann of Bel Aire, Linda (Ralph) Ohl of Conway Springs, Tom (Trudy) Strunk of Valley

Center, Dan (Jan) Strunk of Derby, Karen (Virgil) Neises of Wichita, and Ruth (Dean) Youngers of Clearwater; 14 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren.

Funeral Mass was Aug. 20 at St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church, Schulte. Memorials to St. Cecilia's Catholic School, 1912 W. Grand Ave., Haysville KS 67060 or the Alzheimer's Association Central of Western KS, 1820 E. Douglas Ave., Wichita KS 67214. Webb-Shinkle Mortuary of Clearwater had charge.

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Lori Mitchell, D.V.M.
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Carolyn MCGINN
Kansas Senate

Contact me anytime at 316-772-0147 or mcginnfarm@gmail.com

McGinn wins close race for Senate

By The Breeze staff

Carolyn McGinn, incumbent state senator representing Harvey County and northern Sedgwick County, won the Republican primary election Aug. 2 in a close race with challenger Renee Erickson of Walton.

McGinn beat Erickson with 51 percent of the vote (4,634 to 4,405).

McGinn, a rural

Sedgwick County farmer and former Sedgwick County commissioner who has been in the Senate since 2005, will face Democrat J. Michelle Vann of rural Valley Center in the Nov. 8 general election.

"I think people got tired of the polarized politics, and they want our state to get back on track and move forward again," McGinn said. "They want to be

the state that creates the infrastructure to welcome businesses."

A moderate Republican, McGinn faced a barrage of pre-election mailers that painted her as a liberal who supported tax increases, Democratic initiatives and President Obama. The mailers came from the Kansas Chamber of Commerce and others, including Americans for Prosperity.

"It ended up being a big challenge, of course, because it seems the new strategy is to drop all the ugly cards that are far from the truth," McGinn said.

In Valley Center's seven precincts, voters chose McGinn 450 to 404, but overall, Erickson carried Sedgwick County by 285 votes. McGinn won in Harvey County by more than 500 votes, according to

the Harvey County election office.

In the only other contested area race, Greg Lakin of Wichita defeated J.C. Moore of Kechi 1,310 to 736 in the Republican primary for House District 91, which includes Park City and part of Valley Center. There is no Democratic candidate in the race.

Also of local note, Valley Center Municipal Court

judge Greg Keith won the Republican primary for Sedgwick County District Court Judge Division 3, defeating Carl Maughan 15,311 to 14,350 (51 percent to 48 percent).

In contested area Republican township trustee races, Randy Mark defeated Mike Porter for Grant Township and Dean Patterson beat C.L. Bader for Lincoln Township.

BEL AIRE POLICE REPORTS

Aug. 15 — Officer Toomey stopped a 1995 Jeep for speeding in the 4600 block of North Greenwich. The driver immediately told Toomey he had a suspended driver's license. A quick check of the computer indicated the driver's license was actually revoked in 2007. The man was arrested and transported to the Sedgwick County Adult Detention Facility and booked. The name of the suspect was not available.

Aug. 14 — Officer Steele responded to a runaway report call in the 4000 block of North Farmstead. After some research, Steele located the child at a Wichita hospital emergency room. When contacted, the juvenile said she would attempt to commit suicide if she were left alone at her home. Officer transported the teen to Via Christi St. Joseph Hospital for a psychological assessment.

Aug. 13 — Officer Davis was running stationary radar in the 5200 block of North Oliver facing south, when he witnessed a vehicle speeding north on Oliver. He stopped the vehicle and discovered the driver had an expired driver's license. The driver was issued a citation for the violations and given a Bel Aire Municipal Court date.

Aug. 12 — Officers Roney and Crouse were approached by a man at the Bel Aire Police Station. He said in July he paid Premier Lawn Care for landscaping to his property in the 4000 block of North Edgemoor. The landscaping had yet to be completed, and he has been unable to contact the owner of Premier Lawn Care.

Aug. 12 — Officers Roney and Crouse found a parked car in Forbes Court near a new construction property. The tag attached to the car was expired and issued to a different vehicle and the registration sticker did not match the tag.

Aug. 11 — Officers Roney and Crouse responded to the report of a theft in the 4700 block of North Eagle Lake Court. The caller said his laptop was missing. His daughter-in-law said she had allowed a friend inside of the house on Aug. 10 and 11 believes that her friend took the laptop.

Aug. 11 — Officers Roney and Crouse received a call about a theft in the 6100 block of Danbury. The woman said she lost her wallet at her mother-in-law's house in Bel Aire. Her wallet had been turned into the Bel Aire Police Department as found property. When the wallet was retrieved, the reporting party noted that several items were missing.

Aug. 9 — Officers Crouse and Roney responded to a non-injury accident in the Northeast Magnet High School parking lot. A woman was attempting to back her 2002 Chevrolet Suburban into a parking stall, when she struck a parked 2010 Kia Forte. Both vehicles were operable. The driver of the Chevrolet was cited.

Aug. 9 — Officers Crouse and Roney responded to a call of a fraud in the 4800 block of North Chapel View. A woman reported her computer had been hacked and her credit card information taken. She said her information was used to make multiple purchases online. The woman canceled her credit card

and was reimbursed by the company for the loss.

Aug. 8 — Officer Crice responded to a two-vehicle wreck at 45th and Oliver. No injuries were reported.

Aug. 7 — Officer Davis was dispatched to a disturbance between two women in the 5600 block of North Lycee. When he arrived, there was no active disturbance. He located both of the women involved and received little cooperation regarding what had caused the disturbance.

Aug. 7 — Officers responded to a non-injury accident in the 3800 block of North Woodlawn. A 2012 Chrysler 300 pulled out of a business and sideswiped a 2016 GMC Terrain traveling south. The driver of the Chrysler was cited for driving with a suspended license and inattentive driving.

Aug. 7 — Officers were dispatched to a verbal disturbance between a mother and daughter in the 5600 block of North Lycee. They were having a verbal argument over a Facebook posts concerning a boyfriend.

Aug. 7 — Officer Steele responded to a dispatched call of check a suicidal person in the 5600 block of North Lycee. A woman was taken to the Comcare Community Crisis Center in Wichita.

Aug. 6 — Officer Davis stopped a traffic violator in the 9500 block of East 45th and discovered the driver was operating the vehicle with a suspended driver's license. The driver was cited for driving with a suspended license and other traffic violations.

Aug. 6 — Officers Crouse and Roney responded to a larceny report at Wichita Hoops Basketball Academy in the 5200 block of North Toler, where it was reported that two black males in their late teens to early 20s took two bank bags containing cash from the admission attendants at the entrance to the facility. The suspects then fled the scene.

Aug. 4 — A Catholic Care Center staff member reported a dementia patient was missing bird figurines from her room. Nursing staff and the reporting party stated the figurines were probably misplaced or secured by family.

Aug. 4 — A resident reported a lost Kansas plate off his motorcycle in the 4300 block of Eagle Lake Court.

Aug. 4 — A manager reported finding property dumped on his company's property in the 4900 block of North Tierra Lakes. The property had a phone number on it. When the number was called, it was discovered the dumped property had come from a stolen truck from Park City. The owner of the property recovered it from the dumpsite. The recovered property was valued at \$9,800.

Aug. 3 — A Cox Communications door-to-door salesman was seen at the door of a residence in the 4500 block of Eagle Lake. He was stopped to check if he had a permit. He did not. He received a warning and his boss picked him up. He was instructed to go to the Bel Aire City Building to obtain a permit before making more sales calls.

Aug. 1 — A resident reported her son as a runaway under a Wichita Police Department case. The woman called to report her

son returned home in the 6100 block of Danbury. Officer Davis verified the boy appeared to be in good health and notified WPD to remove him from the active runaway file.

July 30 — A resident reported from the 4000 block of North Parkwood that she lost her checkbook while shopping in Wichita. She said that a subject named Crystal contacted her and said she would make arrangements to return it. She wanted a report in the event that she was unable to get the checkbook back.

July 30 — A two-vehicle wreck was reported in the 4400 block of North Woodlawn. No injuries were reported.

July 30 — A domestic battery case was called in for Kechi. Officer Davis assisted Sedgwick County sheriff's deputies with the call. Officer T. Davis

July 29 — Officer Roney responded to a report of an injury accident in the 4100 block of North Danbury. A 2000 Chevy Monte Carlo struck a 1999 Dodge Ram that was parked in front of the residence at the above location. The driver said that her sunroof opened unexpectedly and as she and the front passenger tried to pull it closed, her car veered toward the parked Ram and struck it. The driver of the car said her steering wheel would not turn and she was unable to avoid striking the truck. The driver and the three infant passengers in the rear of the vehicle were uninjured. However, the front seat passenger suffered one laceration to his right brow area and one laceration to the inside of his left eye. The passenger was transported by EMS to Wesley Medical Center for treatment. The driver was cited for driving with a suspended license, inattentive driving and no proof of insurance.

July 29 — While investigating the traffic accident that occurred in the 4100 block of North Danbury, a marijuana grinder in a Crown Royal bag were discovered in plain sight of the vehicle's floor board. None of the occupants claimed ownership for the paraphernalia. However, the woman who was driving the vehicle suspects it belongs to her boyfriend who is currently in drug treatment. The paraphernalia was submitted as found property.

July 28 — Chief Atteberry reported following a Chevrolet Suburban from Kechi after backing an officer on a call. He observed several traffic violations. When the vehicle drove back into Bel Aire traveling at 59 mph in a 40 mph zone, he was stopped in the 4800 block of North Woodlawn. Justin Royce Cwikla, Wichita, was arrested on a charge of DUI.

July 28 — Officers were dispatched to an abandoned vehicle in the 3800 block of North Hillcrest. Officers located a maroon 2014 Kia Optima. During the investigation, it was discovered the vehicle was rented from Regency Rentals in Garden City over a month ago and abandoned on Hillcrest. The suspect in that case rented a vehicle from Enterprise.

July 27 — Chief Atteberry reported checking a suspicious character sitting in the driveway on the north side of the Gospel Assembly Church in the 4200 block of North Oliver. After investigation it was discovered the 19-year-old was playing Pokemon Go. He left after being checked.

July 26 — Chief Atteberry reported assisting the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office with the apprehension of a suspect in the 9300 block of North Ridge.

July 26 — While on routine patrol and traveling east in the 6200 block of East 37th, Officer Roney observed a vehicle traveling west cross the center lines into his traffic lane without its headlights on. He stopped the vehicle. The driver was arrested on a charge of DUI and other traffic charges. The suspect's name was not available.

July 25 — A resident reported in the 6700 block of East 44th Court that someone used her information to "spoof" text messages to her sons on April 3.

July 25 — Chief Atteberry reported seeing a man driving erratically on 53rd. The vehicle was stopped in the 5400 block of North Webb, where it was discovered the man was driving with an expired license plate. When asked for insurance, the man had no proof of liability insurance. The man was written a notice to appear for the violations.

July 24 — Officer Davis was running stationary radar when he witnessed a gray Mercury Sable traveling 72 mph in a 40 mph zone in the 5100 block of North Oliver. During the investigation, the driver's license was found to be revoked and he was listed as a habitual violator. The man was cited.

July 23 — Officer Davis was traveling south on Rock when he witnessed a white Nissan Murano traveling east on 45th. The vehicle failed to stop at the stop sign at the intersection of 45th and Rock. The vehicle turned north onto Rock. Officer Davis went after the vehicle as the driver attempted to avoid him. When stopped, the driver exited her vehicle and wanted to know what was going on. Bailey Elizabeth Cline, Andover, was arrested on charges of DUI, interference with a law enforcement officer and other traffic charges.

July 23 — Officer Roney responded to the 4700 block of North Webb, where a driver reported striking a deer with his truck. The driver's vehicle received disabling damage and was towed away by a private party.

July 21 — Officers were dispatched to a domestic violence call involving the calling party and her daughter in the 5600 block of North Lycee. The calling party reported her daughter was trying to throw her out of their apartment. The daughter agreed to allow her mother to stay at the apartment until her ride arrived.

July 21 — A red and black Honda Racing HR-220FS mountain bicycle was found in the field northwest of the water tower by Northeast Magnet High School. The bicycle was collected and turned in as found property.

July 19 — Officer Steele responded to assist the Wichita police regarding a dispatched call of a robbery. He assisted on a vehicle stop.

July 19 — Officer Roney responded to the call of vandalism of two mailboxes that had been struck by a vehicle that drove away in the 4600 block of North Krueger. When he arrived on scene, the owner of the vehicle had returned to contact the residents at the home were the two mailboxes were struck to arrange for their repair. All parties were satisfied with the arrangements to fix the mailboxes and did not wish to make a formal report.

July 18 — A resident called to report a suspicious individual in the 4300 block of North Eagle Lake. The man said he left for work early in the morning. He reported seeing a "black male individual, 6 feet in height, jeans and dark shirt wearing eye glasses and driving a compact Ford Escort or possible Hyundai dark in color." The man described leaving his house and then seeing the individual at the house immediately to the south of his. The suspicious character and the reporting party both got in their vehicles and left at the same time. The reporting party lost sight of the car when the suspect stopped at a side street. The reporting party circled the neighborhood several times and then finally continued for work. Much later in the day, the reporting party called police

to make the report. The reporting party was asked to please contact police right away with information about possible suspicious individuals.

July 18 — A woman reported the left front car tire on her car was stolen from the 5900 block of East 37th North. The woman said she went to work at Tree Top Nursery. At the end of her workday, she returned to her 2007 white Ford Fusion to discover her front tire was missing. Left at the scene was a rusted heavy-duty floor jack still under the car's left side. The car was braced with two bricks. The woman had no idea who could have committed the theft. She replaced the missing tire.

July 17 — Officer Davis was sitting in a parking lot at 45th and Woodlawn when he witnessed an orange Chevrolet traveling north on Woodlawn fail to stop at the stop sign at 45th and Woodlawn. He stopped the vehicle and contacted the driver. Samantha Lee Anderson, Wichita, was arrested on a charge of DUI and other traffic charges.

July 17 — A resident reported that an unknown subject broke the passenger side window of his car and went through the glove box in the 5900 block of East 48th. No items were missing.

July 16 — A resident reported from the 4500 block of Eagle Lake that he mailed a vehicle registration to his son-in-law. The son-in-law stated he never received the registration in the mail.

July 14 — A resident reported someone entered her 2001 Honda Odyssey and removed a Sony CD player without her permission in the 4500 block of Westlake Court.

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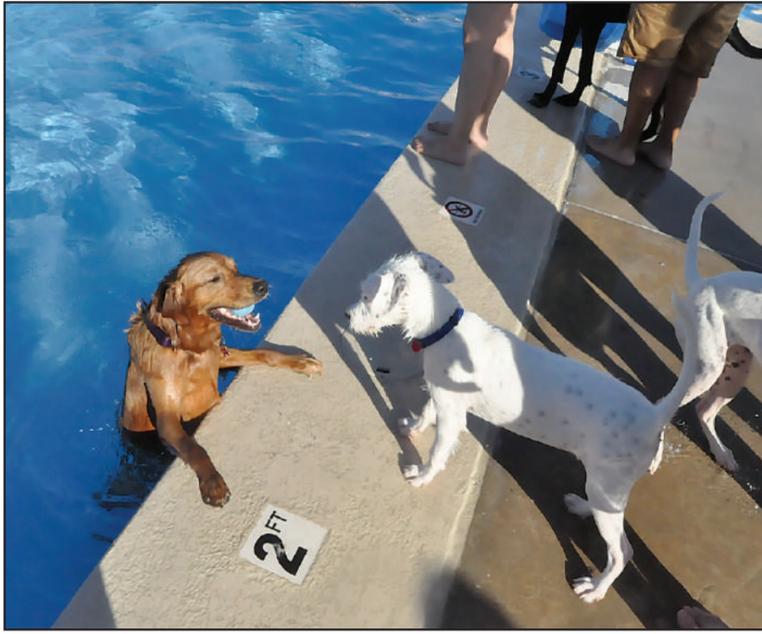
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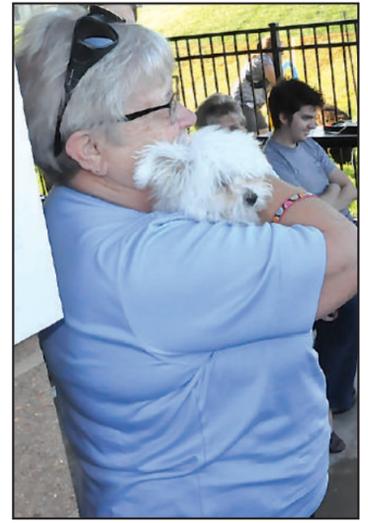
Two dogs greet each other at the Bel Aire swimming pool Aug. 15. Dozens of dogs and their owners participated in the annual Hot Dawgs pool party.

Hot Dawgs pool party

Photos by Taylor Messick



Tito wins best dressed for his alligator imitation.



Maggie takes the prize for smallest dog.



Bronson wins the biggest dog competition.



Koda is awarded hairiest dog.



Piper shows off her obedience to win best trick.

City

Continued from Page 1

is thrilled with the city's current rate of growth and the frequency of developers choosing to build in the city.

"This is more growth, more homes — all good news," said Austin. "Those are exciting things to report about — and on a fairly regular basis it seems like we're doing those things up here."

The council also accepted a bid from Mies Construction for \$34,332. The bid was for the construction of a water main for the fourth phase

of Rock Spring, which is located off 53rd North east of Rock Road. The two leading bids for the construction were from Mies and Dondlinger — both companies in good standing with the city of Bel Aire — and were only about \$300 apart; the council elected for the lower of the two bids.

Paving improvements for the fourth phase of Rock Spring were also on the August 2 agenda, but no action was able to be taken at this time. Two of the bids for the job were unacceptable, as each was more than \$30,000 over the engineer's estimate. A bid from Kansas Paving of \$83,112.60 would

have likely been accepted for the job — but Kansas Paving asked to remove themselves from the bidding the day before the meeting. City administrator Ty Lasher said Kansas Paving believes they didn't bid enough money for the project, but he remains hopeful that the two parties can still work out a deal.

"If it's just a few hundred and it's still under the engineer's estimate then we can all be happy," said

Lasher. "They can't come back just because they were way under everybody else and raise it to \$100,000. When you start putting these numbers in, your special assessments start going up and developers don't like that."

In other business, the council:

- Approved Appropriations Ordinance 16-15 in the amount of \$357,658.90 by a unanimous vote.

- Heard a Presentation of the 2015 city of Bel Aire annual financial audit from Andi Willemms of Allen, Gibbs & Houlik.

- Approved a change order increasing the contract with McCullough Excavating by \$1,500 relating to sanitary sewer extension for Lycee Heights 2nd Addition by a unanimous vote.

- Approved Austin's recommendations for the Bel Aire Planning Commission. The council accepted James Schmidt, Craig Pumphrey and Stephen Crook by unanimous votes.

- Announced a special meeting for a budget hearing on Aug. 9 at 6:30 p.m. There will be a council workshop immediately following the special meeting.

- Listened to council member Guy MacDonald inquire about opening the brush site more frequently. It will be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 13.

All members of the council were present. There was no executive session.

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THE 30TH ANNUAL Taste of NEWTON

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH FROM 6-9:00 P.M.

50-60 Booths Two Stages of Entertainment

Located on the 500-700 blocks of **Main Street in Downtown Newton**

ADMISSION IS FREE • NO PETS ALLOWED
 Please no skateboards or soliciting of any kind.
 This event is sponsored by:
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 Let us get your vehicle ready to take the kids to school with our...

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