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Breeze

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Use of land a hot topic for city

By Taylor Messick

Bel Aire's master park plan continued to be the center of attention in September as at least one city council member squared off against what he called a "very expensive" deal.

An amendment to the city's zoning map was approved with a 4-1 vote at the Bel Aire City Council's Sept. 17 meeting. The map was last updated in 2016.

The planning commission approved the new changes ahead of the council's Set. 3 meeting. However, when the item was brought before the council that evening, staff was unsure whether "lot 19" on the zoning map needed to be zoned as residential or commercial. That lot is owned by Silver Kottages, with which the council made an agreement last month.

Owner Dr. Greg Lakin, agreed to purchase 1.5 acres of city land near City Hall if the city agreed to build phase one of its master park plan around the City Hall campus. The city agreed that it would build the $1 million park if it could sell another two acres of land by 2022.

The zoning map was not approved by the council on Sept. 3 because council members wanted to make sure the Silver Kottages lot was properly zoned.

Council member Jim Benage has opposed the deal from the beginning. Other members of the council shared his concerns but

See LAND, Page 2

Election to decide mayor, council

By The Breeze staff

Bel Aire voters will choose two city council members and a mayor in the upcoming election.

They have plenty of candidates from which to choose.

For the two seats on the council, there are four candidates — incumbent Jeff Hawes, Joel Schroeder, John D. Welch and Diane Wynn. Betty Martine did not file for re-election.

For mayor, incumbent David Austin is facing challenger Jim Benage, a current council member.

An at-large school board race in USD 259 (Wichita) also is up for grabs. Sheril Logan's term will expire in January. She has filed for re-election to a four-year term. She will be challenged by Joseph Shepard.

Early voting will begin Oct. 21. Election Day is Nov. 5.

Inside

Candidates answer questions

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City to residents: Fix your sidewalks

By Taylor Messick

Sidewalks were a major topic at the Bel Aire City Council's Sept. 3 meeting. The city has been receiving feedback from concerned residents after sending out letters calling for sidewalk repairs last month.

A pair of residents who live on Country Lane just southeast of 45th North and Oliver spoke at the meeting and shared their concerns. Bob Graham and Rui Figueiredo said they received letters dated Aug. 19 from the city stating that they had exactly one month to make repairs to the sidewalk in front of their respective properties.

Graham said he noticed that someone came through the neighborhood last year and marked sidewalks that needed repairs. He said that another person came out and marked the sidewalks again about two

See WALKS, Page 2

KICKING IT

Many young players participated in the first day of soccer at the Bel Aire Recreation Center Sept. 7.

Courtesy photos

Safety net

Bel Aire City Attorney Jacqueline Kelly and police Chief Darrel Atteberry are pictured with retired Dallas police Chief David Brown. Brown was chief during a Dallas ambush shooting that killed five police officers. Brown was the guest speaker at the Hopenet Foundation Banquet in Wichita on Sept. 22. Hopenet is an organization that helps people who are in mental health crisis and struggling with personal issues.

Courtesy photos

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Mayor's corner

By David Austin

I am excited to announce we've had a land sale in the 20 acres across from City Hall. Though it is small, it is the first domino we needed to fall. The reason they chose Bel Aire, and that specific location, is the new gathering place being proposed that many of you support as well as helped design.

The city manager and I continually have meetings with prospective business looking at the area. They are all excited about the many events that can take place in the Bel Aire Commons, such as car shows, open-air concerts, food trucks and many more events.

I have mentioned in previous articles our community is growing as are our community events. Quite simply, we have run out of room at the Rec Center to hold the very popular Fall Festival and Easter Egg hunt. We held our National Night Out at City Hall this year, which had a tremendous turnout. The proposed new gathering place is exciting for our community as well as bringing new interest in Bel Aire as a destination spot for new businesses.

The city has many needs and priorities, such as improving roads, updating water and sewer lines, public safety and the many other responsibilities we have. But there is an expectation that we provide the best quality of life as well.

We have been dedicating $500,000 toward street improvements over the last several years, upgrading water and sewer mains as well as being in the Top 20 safest cities in Kansas for the last several years. It is also time for Bel Aire to improve the quality of life that has attracted many of us here.

A gathering spot where we can meet and enjoy friends to hear concerts, grab dinner from a food truck event, shop for fresh produce at a farmers' market, watch kids and grandchildren playing in the splash pad or on new play equipment, stroll through a car show and enjoy all our regular events.

I am proud to say we are moving Bel Aire forward with new businesses, land sales and population growth. This gathering spot is being built without raising one cent in taxes and in the end, at the very least offers the opportunity for parking and safety for our kids at events.

This is the focus that needs to continue to keep Bel Aire the family friendly community we are and this is the focus needed to help us attract more land sales.

Bel Aire man dies after attack in Dillons parking lot

By Taylor Messick

On Aug. 21, Wichita police were called to Dillons near 21st and Rock at about 2 a.m. When they arrived, they found 33-year-old Haley Collins unconscious with critical injuries.

Collins, a Bel Aire resident, was in the hospital fighting for his life for about two weeks before he died due to the injuries he suffered that night. He died on Sept. 5.

Police stated that an argument broke out in the grocery store parking lot between Collins and an acquaintance, Steven Speakman. That's when Speakman physically battered Collins and caused the deadly injuries that would end his life.

Officers arrested Speakman at the crime scene and initially booked him for aggravated battery. He now faces a charge of first-degree murder and is being held without bond.

City looks at backflow prevention requirements for irrigation systems

By Taylor Messick

The Bel Aire City Council last month unanimously approved changes to its inspection requirements for backflow prevention. The city is aiming to keep drinking water safe by keeping up with sprinkler backflow regulation.

One of the changes the city made was to delay the deadline date for backflow device inspections from April 1 to June 1. Council wanted to give residents more time to get their systems inspected after the weather warms up a little more.

Council also wanted the process clarified for people who might not be using their irrigation systems. A stipulation was made for lines that are not in use that they will need to be capped and inspected by the city. The city will provide those inspections at no cost.

Another change was that inspectors must be certified by the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County. The city previously required inspectors to be approved by the state, but felt that approval through Wichita and the county were more appropriate.

There was a lot of discussion from the council about the requirement of backflow device inspections on irrigation systems to occur every five years. Several council members questioned whether every five years for required inspections was too often or too burdensome for residents.

Staff said they were comfortable with the five-year requirement because it is meant to be a preventative measure. The city does not want to find out too late that its drinking water is being contaminated. Also, the five-year inspection requirement is recommended by both KDHE and Wichita.

Walks

Continued from Page 1

weeks before the Sept. 3 council meeting, saying that the marks left the previous year were incorrect. Graham said he heard from other neighbors that their sidewalks were marked differently this year than the previous year. Figueiredo said he called a contractor to check their availability after receiving the letter and was told it would be at least a month and a half.

Graham spoke to the person marking the sidewalks and learned that he would be responsible for the repairs last year. He and Figueiredo have lived in the community for over 20 years. They said they did not know they were responsible for maintaining the sidewalks in front of their houses until this began. Graham said he hadn't noticed his sidewalk looking much different than when he moved in.

Graham was told the sidewalk would cost about $100 per square the last time this work was done. He was surprised to have received a letter in the mail estimating $400 per square last month. City Manager Ty Lasher said that was an "up to" amount but the letters did not specify that. Both men said they received the letters about Aug. 21. Graham described his letter as coming with "four dollars worth of postage" and said he had to dig through the package to find out what it was about.

A state statute is what originally set up homeowners in Kansas to be on the hook for sidewalk repairs on their property and it is still in effect in Bel Aire. Graham and Figueiredo expressed concerns that they would not be able to get contractors to come fix small portions of sidewalk in a timely or cost-effective manner. They would like to see the city help the Homeowners Association bundle the sidewalk jobs in the neighborhood together to make the process more efficient for everyone.

Council member Justin Smith tried to motion to add an item at the end of the agenda for more discussion on the subject. He proposed discussing the temporary suspension of enforcement of the letters the city recently sent out. Mayor David Austin was worried about adding the item at the end of the agenda and asked City Attorney Jacqueline Kelly if it was allowed. Her response was that it was "not the most egregious agenda violation" and that it was up to the mayor.

Council member Jeff Elshoff agreed with Smith that suspending the Sept. 19 deadline the letters set for sidewalk repairs was a good idea. He thought the city should give residents an answer before their next council meeting, which is two days before that deadline. Austin was still concerned with what he called a "slippery slope" when picking and choosing which ordinances to enforce, even though Kelly didn't explicitly advise against the action. Austin then proposed a 10-minute executive session. Elshoff said he didn't understand the need for an executive session and that he would vote against it.

Council member Betty Martine proposed discussing the item at the council's Sept. 10 workshop. She said the city should send letters to all of those who are supposed to make sidewalk repairs explaining that the city will be looking at ways to deal with the issue at its workshop. The council agreed that it would like to handle the situation that way, and the motion and second to for Smith's suggestion were rescinded. Smith said he thought the council should look at the legislation that forces homeowners to handle sidewalk repairs on their property at the workshop. He said the city should also look at the ways in which it notifies homeowners of their responsibility to maintain sidewalks.

The council ended with the 10-minute executive session before adjourning. All members of the council were present.

In other business, the council:

•Unanimously approved the consent agenda and appropriations ordinance 19-17 in the amount of $375,848.76.

•Unanimously accepted petitions for water, sewer, paving and sidewalks in Rock Spring 3rd Addition.

•Unanimously approved the advisability of paving, sanitary sewer, sidewalk and water distribution system improvements to Rock Spring 3rd Addition.

•Approved an ordinance in connection with the city's zoning map with a 5-1 vote.

•Unanimously approved an ordinance setting the date for elected officials to take their seats in December.

CHURCH HIGHLIGHTS

Christ Lutheran-ELCA

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

Each Sunday we have two worship services offering Holy Communion. Worship services are at 9 a.m. (contemporary) and at 10:30 (traditional). Sunday School for all ages begins at 10:15 a.m.

For more information about the church and its activities, find us online at www.christ-lutheran.org, on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/CLC wichita or call 744-1242.

Chad Langdon is the pastor.

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 at 8 a.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Resurrection Catholic School has students from preschool through eighth grade.

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

The Rev. Michael J. Schemm is the pastor.

Community Bible Chapel

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

If you have any questions about our church, please call Amy Smith at 323-2819.

Cornerstone Christian

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

Sunday worship is at 10:15 a.m. A nursery is provided.

Wednesday study groups at 6:30 p.m. include adult studies, youth and Awana.

Cornerstone Christian Church will host a free family fun even from 4 to 6 p.m. the third Saturday of each month. See you there.

Pastor is Jim Rackham, and youth pastor is Tate Strasner.

Gospel Assembly

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.

Youth activities are on the first Saturday evening of each month.

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

Greenwich United Methodist

Greenwich UMC at 5500 N. Greenwich Road is one mile south of K-254 and five miles north of 21st North.

Sunday worship is at 9 a.m. with Life Studies for all ages from 10 to 10:30.

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 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 and Wichita Children's Home, to name a few.

Like us on Facebook at Wichita Greenwich United Methodist Church. Call us at 744-0203.

Kechi United Methodist

Located at 4533 E. 61st North in Kechi. Sunday worship is at 9:03 a.m. (contemporary) and 11 (traditional), with Sunday school at 10.

Bingo is at 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month.

Men's Bible study is at 6:30 a.m. Wednesdays.

Our pastor is Michelle Gowin. Find us online at www.KechiUMC.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.

Life University/Sunday school meets at 9 a.m., with Kids Church at 10:30. There is no regular Sunday night service. For special activities, check online at www.lpcag.org.

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

Adult small groups meet throughout the community.

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

Risen Savior Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

Located at 6770 E. 34th North in northeast Wichita.

You can reach us at 683-5538 or via email at postmaster@risensavior.net.

Sunday morning services in our new Worship Center are at 8 and 10:30, with a nursery and Children's Church during the 10:30 service. We provide adult Bible classes and children's Sunday school beginning at 9:15 a.m.

Each month we provide options to participate in a variety of Bible studies, fellowship and service opportunities for all ages.

Find us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter — search RisenSaviorICT! Find out everything Risen Savior has to offer on our website www.risensavior.net.

Senior pastor is Tom Harmon. Assistant pastor is Nick Cordt.

Saint Michael Western 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.

Sunday worship has Matins at 9:45 a.m. and Divine Liturgy (Mass) at 10. Adult class at 9 a.m. studies the Biblical Journey of Faith.

Saturday Vespers are at 4:30 p.m.

For more information, call 734-6248, go online at www.saintmichael orthodoxchurch.com or email inquiries to jflora@cox.net.

The Very Rev. Dr. John Flora is archpriest and pastor. The Rev. Father Basil Anderson is deacon. Frank Tritschler is head chanter. Readers are Moses Rothenberger and James Finneran. Mrs. Sally Buxon is organist.

Wichita Three Angels Seventh-day Adventist

Located at 4558 N. Hydraulic, Wichita.

Birger Draget is pastor. Sabbath school at 9:30 a.m. with worship service at 11.

For more information, go online at www.godscloset.com or on Facebook (Gods Closet - Wichita).

For God's Closet, call 778-0474.

Send your church's upcoming events and service times to legals@arkvalleynews.com or call 755-0821.

Land

Continued from Page 1

seemed to have changed their stances. Benage spoke against the deal again on Sept. 3.

"It is worse than a fire sale," said Benage. "The cost to the city is over $1 million. The traffic count … is insufficient to support retail development. … The best-case revenue scenario — a $5 million assessed value investment of that property — would take 30-plus years to return tax revenues to pay for that $1 million investment that the city is trying to do. If we could get a $15 million assessed value investment for 20 acres, the tax revenues would take about 10 years. That would probably be a decent deal to do. But the way the contract is right now, this is very expensive."

When the zoning map was brought back to council with zoning for Silver Kottages straightened out on Sept. 17, it was approved 4-1 with Benage being the only vote against it.

Land use has been one of the main areas of difference between Benage and Mayor David Austin as Benage prepares to challenge for the mayoral seat in the upcoming election.

Austin has been the most adamant supporter of getting the master park plan in place in hopes that it will drive developers and businesses to the city while giving citizens a nicer gathering space than the city currently has.

Benage opposes the risk of getting the city further into debt for the park. He has also stated that higher traffic counts on Woodlawn should make it the city's initial focus for development over Rock Road.

CLASSIFIEDS

8 For Sale

1 plot at Resthaven Gardens of Memory in Rose Garden. Lot 3C with vault. Individual marker with vase opening and closing 316-518-3868.

The Bel Aire Breeze

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HIGHLIGHTS

Local students graduate Hays

Two area students completed degree requirements at Fort Hays State University during the summer 2019 term. Elizabeth A. Tinch earned a master of professional studies (organizational leadership), and Matthew Reed earned a master of science in health and human performance.

— The Breeze staff

Bel Aire Dollar General opens

Dollar General opened a new store at 4554 N. Woodlawn in Bel Aire this week. The store's official grand opening will be 8 a.m. Sept. 14.

"Dollar General is committed to delivering a pleasant shopping experience that includes a convenient location, a wide assortment of merchandise and great prices on quality products," said Dan Nieser, Dollar General's senior vice president of real estate and store development. "We hope our area customers will enjoy shopping at Dollar General's new location."

Traditional Dollar General stores employ six to 10 people, depending on the need.

— The Breeze staff

Wrecks on rural roads

Sedgwick County sheriff's deputies were busy responding to vehicle wrecks in the north part of the county Sept. 22.

Between 2 and 8:30 p.m., there were four wrecks on area rural roads.

The first happened in the 8500 block of West 73rd North, where a vehicle went out of control, left the road and flipped in a ditch. No injuries were reported and no citations were issued.

The second happened in the 10700 block of North 135th West. A vehicle struck a parked vehicle near a driveway. No injuries were reported.

The third was an hour later in the 10300 block of North 151st West. A vehicle went out of control and left the road. No injuries were reported. The driver was arrested on charges of DUI, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

The fourth wreck happened in the 12300 block of North 111th East, where a vehicle struck a deer. The occupants of the vehicle were OK. The deer couldn't be found.

The wrecks came five days after a fatal two-vehicle wreck at the intersection of 109th North and 167th West. A vehicle driven by Clifford Bliss of Sedgwick apparently ran a stop sign and collided with a semi. The sheriff's office said Bliss' vehicle was submerged in a drainage pond. Bliss was taken to the hospital, where the 58-year-old was pronounced dead.

— The Breeze staff

2 safest cities in the area

North Sedgwick County has two of the safest cities in Kansas, according to a recent survey.

Security Baron, a company that reviews and compares security systems, announced last week that Bel Aire was the safest city in the state and Valley Center was sixth, based on FBI statistics.

Bel Aire had a safety score of 86.19 with 1.66 violent crimes per 1,000 citizens. The city has a citizen-to-officer ratio of 1.53 per 1,000 people.

The analysis found that Valley Center had an average safety score of 81.83 and a rate of 1.48 violent crimes per 1,000 citizens. The city also has a citizen-to-officer ratio of 1.88 per 1,000 people. Additionally, Valley Center had a rate of 14 property crimes per 1,000 citizens.

By comparison, Security Baron found that Independence ranked last on the list, with a safety score of 38.79. The city in Montgomery County has a rate of 6.9 violent crimes per 1,000 citizens, along with a citizen-to-officer ratio of 2.07 per 1,000 people.

— The Breeze staff

Suspect gets away with loot

Of all the vehicle burglaries reported in Bel Aire over the past couple of months, the owner of a Jeep Cherokee in the 5300 block of North Lycee may have suffered the biggest loss.

On Aug. 20, a resident came to the police department to report an unknown person entered his unlocked Jeep Cherokee. The suspect took a laptop bag containing the man's wallet, his driver's license, credit cards, debit card, cash, a laptop, a Samsung Galaxy Note 8 cellphone, Samsung earbuds and miscellaneous other property.

Many suspects get away with loose change only.

— The Breeze staff

Stolen iPod returned

And then there's the conscientious suspect.

On Aug. 21, a woman in the 5300 block of North Lycee told police that her 2013 Hyundai Elantra was ransacked by an unknown person. She said the door lock was broken on the front passenger door. Change and an iPod were taken from the vehicle.

The suspect apparently returned the iPod to the woman's mailbox later that day.

— The Breeze staff

Vehicle chase ends with arrest

A vehicle pursuit that started in the county, came through Bel Aire and ended in the Chisholm Creek condominiums Aug. 21 with a suspect in a trash can.

According to Bel Aire police, Sedgwick County sheriff's deputies found a stolen red Honda at QuikTrip at K-96 and Oliver. Deputies initiated a traffic stop and a pursuit ensued. The Honda went east on 37th.

A Bel Aire officer was in the 5900 block of East 37th when he saw the Honda traveling east toward him. He activated emergency lights and pulled off to the north side of the road to allow the Honda and deputy to pass. The driver swerved toward the stopped patrol vehicle, nearly colliding with it.

The pursuit ended in Chisholm Creek condominiums, where the suspect stopped and ran away.

Officers located the suspect in a residential trash container.

Dylan Anthony Martin of Wichita was arrested on charges of aggravated assault of a law enforcement officer, driving with a suspended license, fleeing or attempting to elude a law enforcement officer during a pursuit, interference with a law enforcement officer, no proof of insurance and possession of stolen property.

— The Breeze staff

Police help stop burglary

Bel Aire police helped Wichita officers catch a suspected burglar in the act.

Just before midnight Aug. 31, two Bel Aire police officers assisted Wichita police on a burglary in progress at a residence in the 8200 block of East Saw Mill Court.

The officers approached from the west and stopped at a house across the street to assess a good way to approach the house. They saw a man dressed in black clothing walk from behind the house toward a newer model F-150 parked in the street. They confronted the man and he took off running. The suspect threw a gun to the ground and ran west behind homes under construction. One officer pursued the man directly while the other cut through the houses to cut him off. The suspect jumped over a mound of dirt and faceplanted into a mud puddle. He got up and ran through a row of trees. As he ran through the trees, a Kechi police officer was waiting for him on the other side. The suspect gave up and was apprehended.

The suspect was turned over to Wichita police Department.

The gun was recovered by Wichita officers and the F-150 pickup truck the suspect arrived in was listed as stolen through Wichita.

— The Breeze staff

No pirates in city, police say

Walk the plank.

On Sept. 7, a man in the 5900 block of East Forbes Court reported to police that a pirate flag was stuck in the ground at a pond near his residence. Further, the man said, this was the second time an unknown person has planted a pirate flag at the location.

Police said there are no known actual pirates in the city limits of Bel Aire.

— The Breeze staff

Neighbor rude around guests

That's not neighborly.

On Sept. 10, a man in the 4000 block of North Clarendon reported to police that every time he has company or guests at his home, his next-door neighbor comes out of her home and makes inappropriate comments to his guests.

The man reported that he wanted the police department to be aware of the situation because the woman has threatened to call the police in the past.

— The Breeze staff

DEATH

DALE WALTER

Dale E. Walter, 84, of Bel Aire, died Sept. 19, 2019.

Walter

He was a former mayor of Bel Aire and member of the city council member, sales professional and member of St. Joseph Catholic Church.

He was preceded in death by parents Elmer and Bernice Walter of Keokuk Iowa. Survivors include wife Maureen Walter of Bel Aire; daughter Vanessa (Kevin) Brown of Kansas City; son Chris (Bernadette) Walter of Wichita; grandchildren Isabella Walter, Blaise Walter, Jordan Smith and Chase Smith of Wichita; brothers Jim (Debbie) Walter and David (Barbara) Walter of Keokuk; and sister Marilyn (Terry) Freitag of Madison, Wis.

Funeral service was Sept. 28 at St. Joseph Catholic Church of Wichita. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 1820 E. Douglas Wichita KS 67214 and Good Shepherd Hospice, 7829 E. Rockhill, Suite 403, Wichita KS 67206. Baker Funeral Home of Wichita had charge.

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MEET THE CANDIDATES
BEL AIRE CITY COUNCIL ELECTION
October 24th at 7 p.m.
Bel Aire City Hall
Candidates running for Bel Aire City Council positions and the position of mayor will be there. Each candidate will have an opportunity to speak and answer questions. Everyone welcome!
Presented by: BEL AIRE Area Chamber of Commerce

City of Bel Aire

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

Pickleball — Monday, Thursday, Friday 9 to 11:30 a.m., Friday 5 to 7 p.m., Saturday 9:30 a.m. to noon, Rec Center, $2/person
Bel Aire Walkers — Monday through Friday, 8-9 a.m., Rec Center (indoors)
Line Dance Class — Monday and Friday, 1 p.m., Community Room
Sew & Sew More — Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 1 p.m., Rec Center
Dynamic Aging — Tuesday and Thursday, 9 a.m., Rec Center. $40 for four weeks or $5 per class. Call Chris at 620-640-2104 for more info.
Bridge Games — Tuesday, 1 p.m., Senior Center, must RSVP.
Low Impact Aerobics — Wednesday, 9 a.m., Rec Center
Open Sewing — Wednesday, 10 a.m., Rec Center
Senior Breakfast — Fridays, 9 a.m., various locations

Monthly & Special Events

Oct. 2, 10 a.m. — Volunteer library work time, Senior Center
Oct. 3, 1 p.m. — Hand and foot canasta, Senior Center
Oct. 7, 11:30 a.m. — Potluck dinner program, Fire Safety, CPAAA, Community Room
Oct. 7, 7 p.m. — Local candidate forum, Rec Center
Oct. 8, 2 to 3 p.m. — Walgreens flu shot clinic, Community Center
Oct. 9, 10 a.m. — Open sewing, Rec Center
Oct. 10, 1 p.m. — Open card and board game play, Senior Center
Oct. 14, 1:30 p.m. — Movie "Hocus Pocus," Senior Center
Oct. 15 — Life Line screening, Rec Center (must RSVP)
Oct. 16, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. — Blood pressure check, Rec Center (sponsored by Catholic Care)
Oct. 17, 1 p.m. — Hand and foot canasta, Senior Center
Oct. 19, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. — Fall Festival, Rec Center
Oct. 22, 6 p.m. — Ladies dine out, call Anita 744-2840 for info
Oct. 23, 1:30 p.m. — Book Club meeting, Senior Center
Oct. 24, 1 p.m. — Open card and board game play, Senior Center
Oct. 24, 6:15 p.m. — Melodrama "Harry Squatter," Mosley Street Melodrama
Oct. 28, 6 p.m. — Covered dish dinner & program, Rec Center
Oct. 30 — Medicare open enrollment, RSVP to Tasha 744-2700, Senior Center
Oct. 30, 7 p.m. — BUNCO, RSVP required
Oct. 31 — HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

Community Events

Oct. 1 — Council meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall.
Oct. 2 — Chamber of Commerce, noon, City Hall.
Oct. 2 — Municipal Court, 7 p.m., City Hall.
Oct. 5 — Fall curbside clean-up day, items must be at curb before 7 a.m.
Oct. 7 — Meet the Candidates forum, 7 p.m., City Hall, sponsored by the Bel Aire Seniors Club.
Oct. 9 — Bel Aire Lions Club, 11:30 a.m., Gospel Assembly Church.
Oct. 10— Planning Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall.
Oct. 12 — Brush site opens at 9 a.m., 53rd North between Rock and Webb, closes for season at 1 p.m.
Oct. 15 — Council meeting, 7 p.m., City Hall.
Oct. 17 — Municipal Court, 12:30 p.m., City Hall.
Oct. 19 — Fall Festival, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Bel Aire Rec Center.
Oct. 21 — Utility Advisory Committee, noon, City Hall.
Oct. 23 — Bel Aire Lions Club, 11:30 a.m., Gospel Assembly Church.
Oct. 24 — Meet the Candidates forum, 7 p.m., City Hall, sponsored by the Bel Aire Chamber of Commerce.
Oct. 28 – Tree Board, 7 p.m., City Hall.

More information about events can be found at www.belaireks.gov.

Bel Aire Recreation

HELP WANTED

We are accepting applications for Dance and Tumbling instructors. Classes are held on weeknights or Saturdays. Please contact Ashley Sherwood (asherwood@belaireks.gov) if interested.

Little Dribblerz PK/K

This is a three-week coed instructional basketball program for PK&K youth (must be 4). Basic fundamentals & strategies of basketball will be introduced. The program will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:15 p.m. from Oct. 24 through Nov14.

5 on 5 Basketball (grades 5/6)

Separate boys and girls divisions begin practice in November with games scheduled to begin in December. This is a joint league with Valley Center Rec with games played at both locations. Practices will be held at Bel Aire Rec. Registration deadline is Nov. 2.

3 on 3 Basketball (grades 1/2 & 3/4)

Separate boys and girls divisions begin practice in December with games scheduled to begin in January. This is a joint league with Valley Center Rec with games played at both locations. Practices will be held at Bel Aire Rec. Registration deadline is Nov. 23.

Taekwondo (ages 5 & up)

Classes meet Tuesday and Thursday at 6:30 p.m. These are great classes for beginners to black belts.

Dynamic Aging

Geared toward individuals age 50 and up provides opportunities to practice a variety of movements in a safe environment. Classes meet Tuesday and Thursday at 9:00 a.m.

Adult Pickleball

Held Mondays 9:00 – 11:30 am, Thursday & Fridays from 9:00 – 11:30 am & 5-7pm & Saturdays 9:30 am-12:00pm in the Rec Center Gymnasium! Just $2 drop in fee!

Yoga

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

Barn Quilt Workshop

Bring the beauty of quilts to the city. No skills needed. For this class you will take home a finished project. Space is limited; please call to reserve a spot. First Saturday morning of each month.

Senior Aerobics

Includes fat burning cardio aerobics. These low-impact exercises are designed to reduce stress on your joints and back while using all major muscle groups. This class meets Wednesdays from 9 1to 10 a.m.

Fitness Center

The Fitness Center consists of elliptical cross trainers, free weights, multistation weight machine, recumbent bike and treadmills.

FREE Senior Programs

Line dancing, senior aerobics, Bel Aire Walkers, gameday, potluck dinners, sewing, blood pressure checks and more! Talk with Tasha for more information.

For more info about any Bel Aire rec program, call 744-2700 or visit www.belaireks.gov. Follow us on Facebook @ BelAireRec.

DID YOU KNOW?

Some items **CAN'T** be recycled in your curbside recycling bins. These items include **plastic bags, Styrofoam, shredded paper, food, electronics** and **yard waste**. Loads contaminated with these items can't be made into new goods and must be sent to the landfill to prevent jamming the recycling machines. What a waste! However, you can take these items elsewhere to be disposed of or recycled. Here are some options:

- Plastic bags- take to Dillons or Walmart
- Motor oil containers- Walmart, O'Reilly Auto Parts, Sedgwick County 660-7458
- Tree limbs- Bel Aire's seasonal brush site, 744-2451; Sedgwick County, 660-7200
- Yard waste- Call Sedgwick County 660-7200 for complete list
- Electronics-Bel Aire's E-Recycle Day, 744-2451; Sedgwick County, 660-7200
- Hazardous waste- Sedgwick County Hazardous Waste Facility, 660-7458
- Shredded paper, Light bulbs, Mirrors, Window glass, Ceramics, Dishes- 660-7200

For more options, contact:
- Sedgwick County Environmental Resources, 316-660-7200
  Or go to **www.sedgwickcounty.org/environment/recycling-guide**

Next Month: Learn how water use affects your sewer rate

Brought to you by the Utility Advisory Committee

BEL AIRE POLICE REPORTS

Aug. 14 — A student from Northeast Magnet High School at 5550 N. Lycee posted a threat on social media. The student resides in Wichita and the Wichita Police Department went to interview the student. At the conclusion of the interview, the student was arrested and booked into juvenile detention on a charge of criminal threat.

Aug. 16 — Officer Forman observed a brown 2016 Honda Accord traveling north through the 4900 block of North Woodlawn on the shoulder of the road. As he followed the Honda, he saw the driver cross over the yellow centerline and continue driving in the southbound lane. The vehicle was stopped and the driver admitted to having consumed alcoholic. Yiselda Rivera of Benton was arrested on a charge of DUI and other traffic charges.

Aug. 16 — Officer Gibson saw a 2009 white BMW with a license plate belonging on a Jeep Grand Cherokee. He stopped the vehicle in the 5000 block of North Rock Road and contacted the driver who said he has owned the vehicle for three months and hasn't gotten around to registering it. The driver received a notice to appear in court for driving on an illegal tag and for driving with an altered, canceled, revoked or suspended driver's license. The tag was removed from the vehicle and submitted to evidence.

Aug. 17 — Officer Manuel was driving south on Woodlawn going to back Officer Forman on a traffic stop when he saw a vehicle speeding 62 mph in the 40 mph zone. The vehicle was stopped in the 4400 block of North Janesville. Manar Alzidlani of Bel Aire was arrested on charges of DUI, possession of marijuana and speeding.

Aug. 17 — A man reported a green Dodge truck struck a silver Chevrolet Malibu in the 4800 block of North Farmstead. The Malibu was legally parked on the road. The driver of the truck claimed the steering in his truck was "loose" and he did not turn the wheel soon enough, striking the parked Malibu. The driver of the truck was unable to provide proof of insurance, and was issued a citation for the violations.

Aug. 19 — Officer Manuel saw a silver Toyota Camry speeding on Rock Road. The driver did not have a license from the United States. He presented a Kuwaiti driver's license. The tag on the vehicle was expired and the driver could not provide proof of liability insurance. A passenger in the vehicle had warrants out of Mulvane and Bel Aire. The driver received a citation for speeding, driving with no license, driving with no proof of liability insurance and driving with an expired license plate.

Aug. 19 — Officer Manuel found a dead dog in the 4200 block of North Oliver. He contacted the owner from information on the dog's collar. The owner said the dog got out the previous night and he has been driving around looking for it. A short time later a man called the Bel Aire Police Department to report he hit something on Oliver. He said he didn't know what it was. The man reported to Manuel that he was driving north on Oliver when he saw a police patrol car on the side of the road a couple of blocks away. The man said he was staring at the patrol car when he struck a "hard" object. The man said that he kept driving but decided to go back about 20 minutes later to see what he hit. By the time he returned, the owner had already picked up the dog so he did not know what he hit. The driver filled out an accident report.

Aug. 19 — Chief Atteberry reported citing a man for driving his 2015 Nissan Sentra with an expired registration in the 4600 block of North Rock Road. The man said he just doesn't pay attention to that stuff. The man discovered that the police do pay attention.

Aug. 19 — A man was driving a box truck when he thought a fox or dog ran out in front of him in the 9300 block of East 53rd North. The driver stopped to avoid the animal and his truck was rear-ended by the car behind him.

Aug. 19 — A woman was driving a white Toyota Camry north on Woodlawn passing cars and driving into oncoming traffic when he struck a black Ford Escape in the 4500 block of North Woodlawn. The woman got out of her car and collapsed in the ditch. The woman was transported to Wesley Emergency Room in serious condition. During the investigation, a glass smoking device and an empty pill bottle with a green leafy botanical residue was found inside the woman's vehicle. Investigation is ongoing.

Aug. 20 — A man in the 4800 block of North Farmstead Court reported that an unknown person took his 2012 Red Chevrolet Silverado 2500 with a black flatbed from his driveway. The theft happened overnight. He said the keys were left in the vehicle. The vehicle was recovered in Wichita.

Aug. 20 — A Bel Aire resident in the 5200 block of East 37th North reported a man on his property was acting suspiciously. The suspect was wearing a red shirt and black pants. The resident described the man as agitated and nervous and he had blood coming from his nose. The area was searched, but the man was not located.

Aug. 20 — A man in the 5700 block of North Lycee reported that an unknown person entered his unlocked 2008 Volvo XC90 and removed a black laptop. The man said his entire vehicle had been rummaged through but the laptop was the only thing missing.

Aug. 20 — A man from the 5300 block of North Lycee came to the Bel Aire Police Department to report an unknown person entered his unlocked Jeep Cherokee. The suspect took a laptop bag containing the man's wallet, his driver's license, credit cards, debit card, cash, a laptop, a Samsung Galaxy Note 8 cellphone, Samsung earbuds and miscellaneous other property.

Aug. 20 — A woman in the 4900 block of North Farmstead Court reported an unknown person entered two vehicles in her driveway and went through property sometime during the night. No loss was reported. Both were unlocked.

Aug. 20 — A man in the 5300 block of North Lycee came to the Bel Aire Police Department to report an unknown person entered his unlocked black Chevy truck that was parked in front of his house. The suspects took cash and a bank card.

Aug. 20 — A woman in the 8400 block of Granite Court reported an unknown person entered her 2019 black Ford Edge sometime overnight via unlocked doors. The suspect ransacked the vehicle and opened a package, but left the contents. Loss from the vehicle was two phone charging cables.

Aug. 20 — A woman in the 4600 block of North Farmstead Court reported an unknown person entered his unlocked gray Ford Fiesta. The suspect rummaged through the contents of the glove box and center console. A company fuel card was reported missing.

Aug. 21 — Sedgwick County sheriff's deputies found a stolen red Honda at QT at K-96 and Oliver. Deputies initiated a traffic stop and a pursuit ensued. The Honda went east on 37th. Officer Manuel was at 5900 E. 37th when he saw the Honda traveling east toward him. He activated emergency lights and pulled off to the north side of the road to allow the Honda and deputy to pass. The driver swerved toward the stopped patrol vehicle, nearly colliding with it. The pursuit ended in Chisholm Creek condominiums, where the suspect stopped and ran on foot. As officers pursued, they located the suspect in a residential trash container. Dylan Anthony Martin of Wichita was arrested on charges of aggravated assault of a law enforcement officer, driving with a suspended license, fleeing or attempting to elude a law enforcement officer during a pursuit, interference with a law enforcement officer, no proof of insurance and possession of stolen property.

Aug. 21 — A woman in the 5300 block of North Lycee reported her red 2013 Hyundai Elantra was ransacked by an unknown person. She said the front passenger door lock was broken. Change and an iPod were taken from the vehicle. The iPod was returned to her mailbox on Aug. 21.

Aug. 22 — Officers went to a residence in the 5900 block of East Memphis to check for a stolen vehicle. While arriving, officers saw a man attempting to enter the backyard of the residence. A records check indicated the man was wanted on bench warrants through Wichita. Justin Steven Bugner of Wichita was arrested on a charge of contempt of court.

Aug. 22 — A man found a plastic coin holder from a car with two dimes in it in the 4800 block of North Farmstead. The man figured that this was related to all the car break-ins in his neighborhood.

Aug. 23 — Officer Forman saw a silver 2012 Chevrolet Impala drive left of center in the 7800 block of East Central Park Upon conducting a traffic stop, he observed open bottles of beer in the car. Chancelor Ashton Sweat of Bel Aire was arrested on charges of DUI and transporting an open container of alcohol.

Aug. 23 — A woman reported she was northbound on Woodlawn at 45th in a white 2007 Toyota Solara convertible. She said as she was pulling through the intersection, her car was struck from behind by an older white Ford Explorer, also going north. She pulled through the intersection and the Ford Explorer took off eastbound on 45th. No suspect was located. Damage was over $2,500.

Aug. 23 — Chief Atteberry reported citing a driver for speeding, driving with no driver's license in possession and failing to provide proof of liability insurance in the 5500 block of East 45th North. The man was insistent that he was only going 50 mph in the 40 mph zone. He was told he could discuss it with the judge when he went to court on his Bel Aire Municipal Court date.

Aug. 23 — Officer Gibson assisted the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office with a stolen vehicle investigation in the 6700 block of North Rock Road.

Aug. 24 — Officer Steele and a Sedgwick County sheriff's deputy went to an address to check for a wanted man in the 3800 block of North Toben. They located and arrested the man.

Aug. 24 — Officer Trumbull stopped a Chrysler Sebring with no headlights on in the 4500 block of North Oliver. The driver said she did not have a driver's license. She was cited for no driver's license. A licensed driver arrived and took control of the vehicle.

Aug. 25 — Officer Manuel stopped a vehicle for failing to use a turn signal in the 3800 block of North Parkwood. The driver was discovered to be driving with a suspended driver's license. The driver also had warrants from Cowley County. The driver was arrested. The arrestee's name was not available.

Aug. 25 — Officer Steele contacted a man regarding a vehicle that had become stuck in the ditch to the south of the driveway of 4700 N. Greenwich. The black Dodge Ram departed the scene before Steele's arrival. Steele noticed large tire marks in the ditch in the city right-of-way.

Aug. 25 — Officers Trumbull and Gibson assisted the Wichita Police Department on a custody dispute call in the 7600 block of East 37th.

Aug. 25 — A woman in the 5600 block of North Lycee reported that an unknown person) entered her unlocked vehicle and stole two debit cards from her wallet and other property.

Aug. 26 — A man backed out of his driveway and was putting his vehicle into drive when another driver across the street backed out of her driveway and collided with the vehicle already in the street in the 5300 block of North Cypress. No injuries were reported.

Aug. 27 — A silver Toyota Camry was stopped for speeding in the 4900 block of North Rock Road. The driver was stopped and it was discovered he had no valid driver's license and failed to produce proof of liability insurance. Mohammed Mohsen Aly Alajmy of Bel Aire was arrested on a charge of no insurance.

Aug. 27 — Officer Manuel stopped a gold Ford Explorer for speeding and a vehicle defect in the 7800 block of East 45th North. The driver did not have a valid driver's license. He was issued a citation.

Aug. 27 — Officer Moore stopped a vehicle for speeding in the 4700 block of North Rock Road. Deonte Raychon Berry of Iscaloosa, Ala., was arrested on a charge of contempt of court.

Aug. 27 — Officer Trumbull stopped a vehicle for speeding in the 4000 block of North Woodlawn. The driver did not have identification on his person and was confirmed through SPIDER to have an ID card only. The man was cited for driving with no driver's license and speeding.

Aug. 28 — A man was observed walking at 4400 N. Gunnison at 2 a.m. Officer Crouse checked on the man and during the process it was discovered he had a Park City warrant. Brit Damon Hostetter o Andover was arrested on a charge of failure to appear in court.

Aug. 28 — While transporting a subject to the Sedgwick County Adult Detention Facility, Officer Crouse advised Officer Forman of property in the road in the 4300 block of North Janesville. Upon arrival, Forman located a Black and Decker fast drive drill, a can of white spray paint, a tire pressure gauge and a Dewalt tool bag with a blue stubby puller. The items were photographed, collected and placed into evidence at the Bel Aire Police Department.

Aug. 28 — A business owner from the 4000 block of North Woodlawn called the Bel Aire Police Department to report a man was hired by the business on Aug. 19 and was issued company tools. The man never returned to work and has not answered any attempts of contact by the business.

Aug. 28 — Officer Smithwick stopped a blue 2007 Nissan Titan for speeding in the 4700 block of North Rock Road. The driver was cited for speeding and driving without proof of liability insurance.

Aug. 30 — Chief Atteberry reported citing a teenage driver for running a stop sign, careless driving, no proof of insurance and driving in violation of license restrictions. The driver ran the stop sign at Krueger and Battin at 40 mph in the 25 mph zone. The driver had only had her restricted license for two days at the time of the violations. She knew she was running the stop sign and speeding, but did not want to be late for school. She had a teen passenger. The driver's father was notified of the violations and the Wichita Heights High School resource officer responded to the scene and transported both teens to school. The vehicle was left legally parked.

Aug. 31 — A burglary in progress was reported at 8200 E. Saw Mill Court just before midnight. Officers Forman and Manuel switched to the Wichita police radio channel and went en route to assist with the call. Forman and Manuel approached from the west and stopped at the house across the street to assess a good way to approach the house. They saw a man dressed in all black clothing walk from behind the house toward a newer model F-150 parked in the street. They confronted the man and he took off running. The suspect threw a gun to the ground and ran west behind new construction houses. Manuel pursued the man directly while Forman cut through the houses to cut him off. The suspect jumped over a mound of dirt and face-planted into a mud puddle. He got up and ran through a row of trees with Forman and Manuel close behind. As he ran through the trees, Officer Heiar from Kechi was on the other side. The suspect gave up and was apprehended. The burglar was turned over to the Wichita Police Department. Forman and Manuel then helped Wichita officers clear all the newly constructed houses on the block. The target house had a broken window on the west side. The gun was recovered by Wichita officers and the F-150 pickup truck the suspect had arrived in was listed as stolen through Wichita.

Aug. 31 — Officers Manuel and Forman were at the QuikTrip in the 3800 block of North Rock Road refueling their vehicles when they heard an active disturbance. Officers approached an orange Dodge Caliber and observed a woman on top of her friend in the back seat. The woman was yelling, non-compliant, aggressive and profane. After the situation de-escalated, the woman said her friend was drunk and she was only trying to help. She was later released. Officers then changed a flat tire on the woman's vehicle.

Sept. 1 — A man reported overcorrecting after losing traction on his bicycle and colliding with a parked vehicle in the 6400 block of East Rodeo. The bicycle rider had some injuries and went to the hospital for treatment.

Sept. 1 — Two sisters from the 4900 block of North Parkhurst reported they were locked outside of their residence by their sister. Officer Steele

Sept. 2 — A Silver Ford Crown Victoria was seen stationary at the intersection of Danbury and Woodlawn. It hadn't been moved for a long time. The occupants were observed exiting the vehicle and then getting back in multiple times. Upon conducting a traffic stop, the vehicle fled. The vehicle stopped at 6800 E. Perryton. All occupants of the vehicle were taken into custody without issue and transported to the jail. The driver was booked on a notice to appear in court on charges of various traffic violations, possession of paraphernalia and possession of marijuana, and on a Wichita warrant. A passenger in the rear seat was arrested on a warrant, and a gun was later discovered in the seat pocket in front of where the convicted felon was sitting. A third passenger also was arrested on a warrant. The arrestees' names were not available.

Sept. 2 — Officer Steele responded to a call of a man riding a motorized wheelchair on Rock Road north of 45th North. All was OK.

Sept. 2 — Officer Steele responded to a call of welfare check in the 4000 block of Danbury. A woman was not answering calls from relatives.

Sept. 3 — A Bel Aire man in the 4400 block of North St. James Place reported he received a bank card from Chase Bank in the mail for an account that he never opened. The man contacted Chase Bank, which informed him that an unknown person opened a checking account using his personal information (name and Social Security number) and deposited $240. According to Chase Bank, this generated a debit card, which was sent to the man's home address. The man opened a fraud case with Chase Bank and the account was frozen. He was advised to contact all three credit bureaus.

Sept. 3 — Officers were dispatched to a disturbance in the 4200 block of North Westlake Court. A woman believed the vehicle she was operating was vandalized by another woman while it was in Park City.

Sept. 4 — An unknown vehicle collided with a parked vehicle in the 4200 block of North Rushwood Court.

Sept. 4 — A woman in the 6700 block of East 45th North reported the window of the rental vehicle belonging to Steven Import Group had been smashed, and she reported her purse had been removed from the vehicle. There was no suspect description.

Sept. 4 — A vehicle was traveling north on North Rock Road when it failed to yield the right-of-way left turn and his pickup struck a vehicle traveling south. The impact caused the southbound vehicle to strike a third vehicle that was waiting at the stop sign at 53rd. The driver of the southbound vehicle was transported to Wesley Medical Center to be treated for injuries. The driver of the pickup was cited for failure to yield right-of-way left turn.

Sept. 4 — Chief Atteberry reported citing a driver for driving an unregistered vehicle and for driving with a suspended driver's license in the 3800 block of North Woodlawn.

Sept. 6 — A vehicle was traveling north on Greenwich and crossed the railroad tracks near 53rd. The driver lost control of her vehicle and skidded sideways 100 feet to the northwest corner and her vehicle rolled 25 feet into the ditch. The woman's two small children were in the vehicle with her at the time. EMS responded to check the condition of those involved in the crash.

Sept. 6 — A woman in the 4200 block of Westlake Court reported her neighbor alerted her to an unknown person entering her attached garage without permission while she and her husband were asleep in the residence at 3:12 a.m. The witness said the person quickly exited the garage when the motion light in the garage activated. The suspect then entered a white or silver sedan and the vehicle sped off. The witness waited until the next day to tell her of the incident instead of calling 911 at the time.

Sept. 6 — A woman in the 5900 block of East Danbury reported she has been receiving lewd and inappropriate text messages from a man she only knows as Kevin. She reported she has been receiving these texts every two three months since Sept. 2018.

Sept. 6 — Officer Manuel was traveling south on Rock Road and was stopped at 45th when he saw a man walking on the road. Manuel stopped the man, who refused to identify himself and said he did not have identification. During the investigation, the man's identity was discovered. The man did not have any warrants so Manuel gave him a verbal warning about walking in the lane of traffic and released him. He refused a ride home and said he would rather walk.

Sept. 7 — Officer Forman saw a white 1999 Pontiac Grand Prix speeding northbound on Woodlawn. The driver also failed to signal his turn onto Danbury. Forman stopped the vehicle and contacted the driver. He detected indicators of impairment. Johnathan David Phelps-Johnson of Valley Center was arrested on charges of DUI and driving with a suspended license.

Sept. 7 — A man reported a pirate flag was planted in the ground at a pond near his residence in the 5900 block of East Forbes Court. This is the second time an unknown person has planted a pirate flag at the location. There are no known actual pirates in the city limits of Bel Aire.

Sept. 7 — A man and woman went to the Bel Aire Police Department regarding a manufactured check incident that occurred at the QuikTrip at 2510 W. Pawnee. The couple had bank statements and a copy of the manufactured check.

Sept. 7 — A woman in the 4200 block of North Rushwood Court reported her daughter's money cup missing from her room after she had movers were in her residence. The woman said the movers were the only individuals in her home and the money cup was there prior to their arrival.

Sept. 8 — Officer Manuel stopped a silver Buick van for speeding in the 4000 block of North Woodlawn. The driver was on her way back to work at Catholic Care Center. Candace Joe Schoenberger of Wichita was arrested on a charge of driving with a suspended license.

Sept. 8 — Officer Manuel was dispatched to assist the Butler County Sheriff's Office in the 4700 block of North Hillcrest. A Butler County deputy was working a felony drug case when he located various stolen property. Among that property were two credit cards. Two of the names on the credit were from a husband and wife from Bel Aire. Officers Crouse and Manuel went to speak to the couple. The two cards recovered in Butler County were not the same as the credit cards involved in a previous fraud case. The couple did not recognize the credit cards and said that their former caretaker is not allowed to be in possession of any of their credit cards since she quit working as their caretaker in January of 2019. Officers Crouse and Trumbull faxed a letter to the credit card company requesting the records and are awaiting reply. The suspect was transported to the Butler County Jail on various charges but was not officially charged in relation to these two credit cards until more followup work could be completed.

Sept. 10 — A man in the 4000 block of North Clarendon reported that every time he has company or guests at his residence, his next-door neighbor comes out of her home and makes inappropriate comments to his guests. The man reported that he wanted the police department to be aware because the woman has threatened to call the police in the past.

Sept. 8 — A woman from the 6800 block of East Rodeo Court reported paying her bills online and noticing a charge of $149.06 that occurred at a Walmart in Stockbridge Ga. The woman contacted her bank and notified them of the fraudulent charge. She is in physical possession of her credit card. The woman closed the credit card with the bank and was given a Bel Aire Police Department identity theft packet.

Sept. 9 — A woman in the 4500 block of North Westlake Court reported that her boyfriend would not give her the keys to the residence and the garage door opener. She said that during an argument, her boyfriend held her down. He stated that his girlfriend pursued him during the entire argument and tried to physically get the keys and garage door opener from his pocket. Their recollection of events differed and neither had marks on their bodies.

Sept. 10 — A man in the 4100 block of North Woodlawn reported being involved in a confrontation with a subject over what he believed was illegal dumping in a rented dumpster west of his business. The man was able to get the license plate of the trash disposer. During follow-up, Officer Steele contacted the trash disposer in Kechi. The situation was handled sufficiently for the complainant.

Sept. 10 — A student in the 5500 block of North Lycee was found possession of a vape pen, which contained THC oil, by school staff. He was suspended pending a hearing.

Sept. 10 — Officers Trumbull and Smithwick were dispatched to a disturbance call in the 4100 block of North Edgemoor. A man reported he had been robbed. The man said a blue bag of expensive collectible cars was missing, and he thought his wife had assisted someone in stealing it. He stated the home phone was disconnected from the plug-in, and there were people in a locked room in his home at some point. I was discovered the man suffers from dementia. The man's wife was contacted regarding the call to police.

Sept. 11 — A man in the 4500 block of North St. James Place reported by telephone that he had received a call from a female. He said he was advised to call another telephone number that allegedly was regarding a law firm representing U.S. Financial. The man reported he had been advised that a warrant would be issued for him the next day at 2 p.m. and he had been told to be at the police department.

Sept. 12 — Officer Forman observed a gray 2011 Hyundai Sonata traveling westbound in the 8100 block of East 53rd North. A verification of the registration showed the plate status removed. Forman conducted a traffic stop and made contact with the driver who said the DMV was sending him a new license plate because he had sold the Hyundai to his friend. The vehicle identification number did not match the tag on the vehicle. The man was issued a citation and given a Bel Aire Municipal Court date. Forman removed the illegal tag and placed it into evidence. The vehicle was towed.

Sept. 12 — Officer Forman saw a white 2000 Chevrolet Malibu in the 4900 block of East 48th North. A registration showed the plate status removed and belonging on a Dodge Dakota. He conducted a traffic stop and made contact with the driver. The driver said she recently sold the Dodge and purchased the Chevrolet she was driving. She said she placed the registration tag from the Dodge Dakota on the Chevrolet but had yet to register the vehicle. While conducting a verification of the woman's driver's license, Forman discovered she had a warrant through Sedgwick County. The woman was issued a citation and given a Bel Aire Municipal Court date for the traffic violations. She was then taken into custody and transported to the Sedgwick County Adult Detention Facility, where she was booked on the warrant. The arrestee's name was not available.

Sept. 12 — Officers responded to a vehicle wreck in the 4700 block of North Rock Road. A red Chevy Impala struck a deer while traveling south on Rock Road. The deer was injured and had to be put down by Officer Forman.

Sept. 12 — Officers responded to a call of a disturbance between a landlord and a former tenant in the 4600 block of North Hedgerow. The tenant had been evicted and the landlord was attempting to sell property belonging to the evicted woman. Chief Atteberry defused the situation and both parties came to agreements on how to deal with the situation.

Sept. 13 — Bel Aire officers assisted Valley Center officers on a report of a suicidal subject in the 100 block of North Dexter in Valley Center.

Sept. 13 — Officers responded to a two-vehicle wreck in the 3800 block of North Oliver. A vehicle was stopped behind a second vehicle at a red light. When the light turned green, the trailing vehicle drove forward and the first vehicle didn't go as fast. The trailing vehicle rear-ended the first vehicle. No injuries were reported.

Sept. 13 — Lt. Foxx responded to a welfare check of a white female walking north on Greenwich from K-254 asking for gas money. Officers later discovered that the woman was being sought by El Dorado police as a suspect in an auto theft case. The vehicle the woman had been driving was located in Kechi and discovered to be the stolen vehicle from El Dorado. The woman was turned over to El Dorado for questioning.

Sept. 13 — A man came to the Bel Aire Police Department to report his 2017 Mongoose Heavy Duty Mountain Bike was missing. The man reported leaving his bike at his employer's on Aug. 18 and discovering his bike missing on Sept. 7.

Sept. 14 — Officer Manuel observed a gold Hyundai Sonata fail to stop at the stop sign at 4700 N. Farmstead. The driver did not have a valid driver's license or proof of liability insurance. The driver was issued a citation for the violations.

Sept. 14 — Officers Manuel and Forman were dispatched to the report of a domestic violence disturbance in the 5300 block of North Cypress. The reporting party said her ex-boyfriend was ringing her doorbell and would not leave. Forman made contact with the ex-boyfriend. The ex-boyfriend had a strong odor of consumed alcoholic beverage and was drinking from a can of Coors Light. He admitted to not being invited to the residence. The woman said she did not wish to have any contact with her ex-boyfriend. The vehicle the ex-boyfriend claimed he did not drive to the residence was removed from the woman's property by Kidd's Towing at her request.

Sept. 14 — A woman reported an incident regarding her son and his girlfriend in the 5700 block of North Lycee. The woman said her son's girlfriend left their residence with the couple's daughter. When the girlfriend returned to the residence, she and the boyfriend engaged in a verbal altercation. The boyfriend left with his parents for the night, and the girlfriend stayed at the residence with their daughter.

Sept. 15 — Officer Forman saw a maroon 2005 Jeep Grand Cherokee traveling 51 mph in a posted 40 mph zone. Upon attempting to conduct a traffic stop, the unidentified driver of the Jeep accelerated and a pursuit was initiated. The pursuit went south into Wichita. The vehicle was lost during the pursuit, but later located abandoned at the intersection of 26th and Poplar. No suspect was identified. The Jeep was towed.

2019 GENERAL ELECTION: THE CANDIDATES

Bel Aire City Council

Jeff Hawes

Age: 42

Political experience and community involvement: Bel Aire City Council, 2018 to 2019; council president 2019; K-254 Corridor Development Association president 2018 to 2019; Bel Aire Community Development Committee member 2016 to 2017; Bel Aire Community Development Committee president 2017.

1. I am running for re-election to the council to continue the work I have started in my first two years in office. I was a founder of the K-254 Corridor Development Association and it my goal to continue to gain members and get funding from the State of Kansas to upgrade K-254 to a limited-access freeway to help protect the lives of the citizens of Bel Aire. I have also been meeting with USD 259 to strengthen the relationship with the city.

2. We have to stay the course and continue to market to all businesses and home developers. Any time we get anyone interested, it is one more domino to help propel additional sales. I brought in a homebuilder who has completed a home in Bel Aire and is looking to continue to build in Bel Aire. We need to continue trying to get the city to the point of being attractive to developers. We have heard what they want and are trying to continue to be that destination for them.

3. I do feel that the city does a good job explaining items. As with anything, I believe having too much information is better than not enough. I believe that we must continually look for more ways to get information out to reach as many people as possible. Executive sessions are a necessity to protect the city using attorney-client privilege. The last thing anyone wants to do is get the city in trouble by not following a procedure, and sometimes guidance is needed.

John D. Welch

Age: 61

Occupation: Retired software developer

1. I am running for city council to (a) get the city out of its suffocating debt, sadly 20 percent of the budget goes solely for land debt; (b) change the mindset that the city is better at development than are professional developers with years of experience; (c) stop the city from making bad land deals such as the latest land deal to sell a parcel for $100,000, which could require Bel Aire to build a $1 million park, and now that parcel's use has been reclassified, resulting in a property tax reduction.

2. Some of the land is too far out to be developed anytime soon and should be put up for auction bringing in the highest current value. It is better to pay off some of the debt through sales than to keep paying for all of it through taxes. We need to seek business development along Webb such as a hotel near the Next Level Hoops Academy. We should advocate with the county and state to have an interchange at Webb and K-254, making the area more attractive for businesses and safer for drivers to enter and exit 254.

3. The public should have an opportunity to interact with the council during workshops. It is especially aggravating when the city surveys the public but uses biased questions providing only options the city prefers. For example, the survey for the park by city hall had no options allowing you to say you did not want the park or any of its features. Also, when the majority of citizens expressed a preference regarding Woodlawn expansion, then the council went against those wishes. The council should provide a better overview about what occurs in executive session. Simply stating "no binding action was taken" is not very informative.

Diane Wynn

Past political experience: City council member from 2015 through 2017.

1. I am running because a group of residents who have known me for a long time approached me and asked me to do so. They know I have strong ties to the community since I have lived here since 1971, and they know that I have been involved in a lot of community activities and events.

2. There is nothing wrong with owning land. They aren't making any more of it so the value is always negotiable. The city has not done a complete study of what the community needs and wants to attract. It currently has no one in charge of bringing in potential business or industry. That is desperately needed. And they need a process, it should not be our city administrator. There should be someone with skills in real estate and planning.

3. For the most part, the information provided to the public is sufficient. If more information is needed, postpone the vote until that has happened. Executive sessions are necessary and they are not enjoyed by the council anymore than the public. I am not sure why the question was asked this way as there are many regulations regarding executive sessions that must be followed. The public should make known to a council member or city staff ahead of time if they feel they do not have the complete story.

Questions

1. Why are you running for office?

2. The city is still saddled with a great deal of land and debt. How do you feel the city should market that land and what types of businesses and entities should the city be trying to attract? Do you have suggestions on how to accomplish this?

3. Do you feel that the governing body and staff do a good job of explaining the issues they are working through to the public? Do you think more information could be provided on subjects at council meetings to help the public understand items? Do you feel that the city excessively uses executive sessions?

Joel Schroeder

Editor's note: Did not return candidate questionnaire.

Mayor

David C. Austin

Age: 47

Occupation: Director of philanthropy and communications at Kansas Children's Service League

Political experience and community involvement: Bel Aire mayor (2013 to the present); Bel Aire City Council (2009 to 2013); Bel Aire Economic Advisory Committee (2007 to 2009).

1. Bel Aire's best days are right in front of us. I am running for re-election because we must continue looking toward the future through big-picture and strategic thinking. Bel Aire citizens deserve a mayor who is present and sees the value in having this opportunity to design and build the future. The current governing body didn't choose this land debt, but it is up to us to capitalize on it and ensure Bel Aire's future remains bright. Auctioning off or giving away the land, as my opponent has suggested, is irresponsible and will destroy property values and our city's future.

2. We don't have the traffic counts retailers/developers demand when choosing a location, but a developer recently chose Bel Aire because of the proposed gathering place across from City Hall. Since announcing it, we have experienced a significant increase in interest from prospective buyers who are excited about the commons area. Bel Aire is the fastest growing city in Sedgwick County, and Sunflower Commerce Park is one of the most sought-after commerce parks in Kansas. It took prudent investing in infrastructure to attract major employers to build there. Now, we are doing this with the commons area, without raising taxes.

3. There are reasons that legally require an executive session, and our city follows those requirements. Due to the amount of land Bel Aire owns, there is a lot of privileged information that sometimes requires an executive as discussions could potentially limit our bargaining. All decisions, however, must be made in public. Information flows from staff to council via emails and reports, and are discussed at length, at our workshops, making them last longer than council meetings. All council meetings and workshops are open to the public, broadcast live and available for future viewing on YouTube.

Jim Benage

Age: 65

Occupation: Self-employed business consultant/auditor

Political experience and community involvement: Member of the Bel Aire City Council since January 2018. Precinct BA03 Republican Party Committeeman since August 2018. Longtime member of Church of the Resurrection serving in various roles; coordinate winter meals for homeless people for Interfaith Ministries; volunteer for Kansas State Rep. Chuck Weber campaign and U.S. Congressman Ron Estes campaign.

1. The city council has done some good things. We also made some poor decisions. At times we are not able to effectively act on citizen input. As an example, the Woodlawn project had more citizens select as their No. 1 choice the option of a five-lane road with traffic lights at 45th than the number of citizens who voted for two of our current council members. We ignored that overwhelming input and selected the three-lane option. I voted with the citizens. This is a leadership problem. I have the education (MBA) and experience to refocus the city into positive action. We can do better.

2. To date, there has been no significant sale of land or reduction in debt. A workshop in late 2018 resulted in a new policy on spec buildings and some billboard marketing. Too much effort on buying more land, developing a park and pursuing city lead real estate developments. Focus on getting out of the real estate development business, not starting new adventures. In our region, new and expanding buildings are going up. Bel Aire only has one; a spec building under construction. We should pursue distribution, truck services, manufacturing, and focus retail on the Woodlawn corridor. We can do better.

3. There is a significant transparency issue with city government. This also is a leadership problem. Issues often are pushed through council too quickly to properly vet concerns. Today, there is no opportunity for the public to have a discussion with the city council as a whole. As mayor, I will look into how we can open the workshops into interactive discussions with citizens. There are too many executive sessions. We need to be much more effective and efficient with executive sessions. As mayor, I will work to streamline our use of executive sessions. We can do better.

Bel of the Ball Courtesy photo

The annual Bel of the Ball father-daughter dinner and dance took place Aug. 9 at the Bel Aire Rec Aug. 9.

School supplies Courtesy photo

Bel Aire city employees took supplies that were donated during this year's school supply drive to the Wichita Children's Home last month.

American Ninja Courtesy photo

Bel Aire resident Russell Warnky stopped by the Bel Aire Recreation Center on Aug. 23 with his granddaughter Michelle Warnky, who is an American Ninja Warrior. She is the second woman in history to finish a City Finals. She now moves on to Las Vegas for the National Finals.