

# The Bel Aire Breeze

Vol. 11, No. 3

April 2016

Complimentary copy

## Bel Aire to survey residents' priorities

By David Dinell

Residents of Bel Aire will have a chance to weigh in on its future. At its March 15, meeting, the Bel Aire City Council approved undertaking a comprehensive survey, which will be conducted by Wichita State University's Hugo Wall School of Public

Affairs. City officials are in the process of mapping the future of Bel Aire with the development of master plan being conducted by PEC/Law Kingdon, and council members believe it to be important they receive community input. WSU has completed this type of service for other

municipalities and schools in the region and has a good understanding of south-central Kansas, said City Manager Ty Lasher. The proposal includes the citizens' survey as well as citizen engagement groups to help lead the initiative. "Such input helps the city identify its needs,

wants and willingness to pay related to the budget and development," Lasher said. Cost of the survey is \$19,525, but members think it will be well worth it as it will provide a firm framework for the city going forward and result in the type of community residents truly want.

Mayor David Austin said the cost may appear high, but surveys of this type are involved and time consuming and the data collected is well worth it as it will serve as a planning tool for years to come. "We may not do this for another decade," he said. Member Ramona Becker, who was involved in the

last survey, echoed that and said that she "knows how much work it is." Some 2,500 surveys will be sent out, which Becker called a "large study," and officials are looking for a 20 percent return, or 500 surveys. The survey should get underway within the

See CITY, Page 5



Courtesy photos

Susan Adams, co-owner of Wings of the Wind Kites and Toys, works on one of her kites for sale. There was more than enough wind to send kites flying high during the March 12 Spring Festival in Bel Aire.

## Festival draws a crowd to Bel Aire Rec Center

By David Dinell

With cool temperatures and a brisk breeze calling for coats and even hats and gloves, it didn't seem too spring-like when Bel Aire residents and visitors gathered in mid-March to celebrate its annual Spring Festival, but like a theater production, the show went on.

The event's highlight, of course, was the traditional Easter egg hunt, although the word "hunt" could be a bit of a stretch here as the eggs were conveniently placed throughout the wide-open fields, so it was more like an egg scramble.

There were some 10,000 eggs set out for the kids, who were grouped by ages. A police siren went off to signal the start, and among the hunters was Elisebeth Waas, 2, who headed out to the field with a bit of trepidation but quickly found her egg-gathering ability with the help of her dad, Woshin Waas.

Another tyke in the event was newborn Gilbert Slater, who, at only 3 months, was enjoying his first Easter. Mom Sarah Slater helped him with an egg or two. Slater saw the festival publicized on a social media site and bundled up Gilbert for the hunt.

It was good they all moved quickly as it didn't take but three minutes for the plastic eggs to be scooped up. Adrian Hayes, 4, took his Easter basket inside the rec center building to count his haul and eat a late lunch. "It was fun," was his



Kids flock to be part of bubble soccer, a new event as the festival. There also was face painting, a bounce house and food trucks.

assessment of his sprint for the eggs.

While the candy was welcomed, he was especially pleased with a shiny coin in one of the eggs.

But there was more than egg hunting during the afternoon.

Susan Adams, co-owner of Wings of the Wind Kites and Toys and who had a booth set up selling colorful kites and related gear, was philosophical about the chill. "You can't pick the weather for the day," she said.

There was plenty of wind for kite flyers — actually almost too much.

"Eight to 15 miles per hour is fine," she said.

Much over that and it can get too rough for the kites and people trying



Ayden Hart, 1 1/2, visits with the Easter bunny. There were other costumed characters for the children to visit with.

See FESTIVAL, Page 2

## Senior Patrol looking for candidates

By David Dinell

Are you interested in preserving the safety and welfare of Bel Aire and have some time to help do that? If so, Police Chief Darrell Atteberry is interested in talking with you.

He's seeking volunteers to become part of the city's Senior Citizen Patrol Program, which acts as additional eyes and ears for the department.

The program is slated for four people and one them recently stepped down to spend more time with family and to travel, thus the opening. The volunteers work in two-officer teams and need to have about eight hours a week to give to the endeavor.

"It's not a huge amount of time, but it is consistent," Atteberry said.

There's no financial compensation, but there are intangible benefits. For one, team members get a sense of satisfaction of helping out their city and they form rewarding relationships with each other.

"These people aren't retired from life, they're still engaged — and that's what I really like," Atteberry said.

- There are some requirements, including:
- Have a current Kansas driver's license and clear official driving record.
  - Pass a criminal background check.
  - Demonstrate proficiency with the police radio.

See PATROL, Page 2

## McGinn to face challenger in primary

By Chris Strunk

Carolyn McGinn will have a challenger. Renee Erickson, a public school principal in Wichita and a Newton school board member, filed as a candidate for the Kansas Senate District 31 seat as a Republican. She will face McGinn in the Aug. 2 primary.

"I appreciate my opponent's years of service, but her votes are not aligned with how she has campaigned, and constituents deserve to know the difference," Erickson said. "I am very proud to say that I

will vote in Topeka in the same way I campaign back home."

McGinn will be seeking her fourth term in the Senate.

"The voters in our community know there is a clear difference between where I stand on the issues and where my opponent says she stands," McGinn told The News. "I look forward to discussing those differences in the



Erickson

See SENATE, Page 4



**Mayor's corner**

By David Austin

Amazing things are happening in Bel Aire.

We did it again! In April an additional \$725,000 was paid towards our regularly scheduled debt payment. This is above and beyond the regularly scheduled payments required by the terms of our loan bond. Paying down the principal continues to be an exciting priority.

That is just one of many exciting events for our great city.

March Madness. Temperatures in the 80s and 30s in the same week. Yep, it is springtime in Bel Aire. On March 14, it was great to hear Sports Talk Daily devoting nearly two full segments to the Bel Aire connections to the NCAA tournament, mainly Tum Tum Lourawls Narin and Buddy Hield, who came from Sunrise's post graduate program. More than once I heard Bel Aire mentioned during the Oklahoma game, too. And it won't be long before we hear Hield from Sunrise in Bel Aire mentioned as a first-round draft pick in the NBA draft.

But perhaps even more exciting was seeing the more than 2,000 kids and parents who braved the chilly and windy weather on March 19 to enjoy the Bel Aire Spring Festival and Easter Egg hunt. This is what Bel Aire is all about — families coming out and enjoying what we have to offer. It was a great event and just one of four community events the city hosts every single year.

Every Sunday when realtors hold open houses in Bel Aire, it is amazing how many families come through our town. Many have remarked to me that it is our safety, walkways, parks and the schools that attract them to consider seriously moving to Bel Aire. Soon new homes will sprout up on 53<sup>rd</sup> Street and along 45<sup>th</sup> Street. At your last city council meeting, your governing body approved an addendum for Iron Gate to move into Phase 2 of construction.

Zippa.com named Bel Aire as the seventh smartest city in Kansas. The website researched and compared Kansas citizens with master's degree and college degrees. Other media groups have pointed out the affluence of Bel Aire citizens, while others have pointed out the diversity in age, race and religion that make up our great city.

Like I said, lots of amazing things are happening. We want to keep current residents and continue to attract families. Wichita State University in concert with city staff and your governing body are engaging citizens. We want to hear from all citizens as we continue to grow. We will have focus groups and ultimately a survey to gather public input in a number of areas including social media, growth priorities, budget, etc.

In closing, get out and enjoy our parks and the nice weather April is sure to bring. We will continue to promote our adopt a park, adopt a fire hydrant and yard of the month contest. Invite your friends to look at the many different homes available for sale during the Spring Parade of Homes. Remember how I mentioned the diversity of our city? Brand new homes from \$150,000 to over \$550,000 are all available in our safe and clean community.

**The Bel Aire Breeze**

Published monthly by Strunk Publishing LLC at P.O. Box 120, Valley Center, Kan. 67147. Publisher: Chris Strunk. Telephone: 316-755-0821. Fax: 316-755-0644. E-mail: legals@arkvalleynews.com. The office is located at 210 W. Main, Valley Center, Kan.

**New policy governs city council replacement process**

By David Dinell

It's been a months-long process, but the Bel Aire City Council finally has its replacement policy in place. By a 5-0 vote, the council approved the framework for appointing a new member at its March 1 meeting.

The issue traces its roots back to the resignation of Ken Lee on Sept. 1.

At that time, policy called for the mayor to submit names to the council and have it approve the new member. However, a just-passed state law mandated that appointments outside of normal elections be made in 60 days.

If not, a costly special election had to be held. The escape clause was if the city had its own replacement policy, which this document provides.

During the replacement process, members said they were not willing to approve the mayor's choices and then provided one of their own, Diane Wynn, who is the most recent council member.

Since the council didn't want to repeat that bumpy and sometimes heated process, it sought this new process, one that took much time and effort.

As Mayor David Austin put it: "We've been talking about this for quite awhile."

At the same time, it was worth taking the extra time to "get it right," he said.

Member Peggy O'Donnell, the last council member to agree to the policy, said after her final examination, it did make sense to her and she is comfortable with it.

Under the policy, a vacancy is to be filled in 120 days, instead of 60 days. Citizens can apply with the mayor to fill the opening within 45 days.

The mayor then will recommend a replacement to the open council position. If not confirmed by a majority, another name is submitted and that process continues until confirmation is made in a 75-day period.

The mayor cannot vote on the nomination, which

was a point of contention.

The subject was brought forth late last fall and tabled as disagreements concerning wording raised. After several revisions, this blueprint was agreed on.

Council members say it will give them enough time to review the applicants and interview them if necessary.

The mayor serves for two years and each council member for four. Their elections are staggered so that either two or three seats are filled every two years.

In other action, the council:   
•Approved a fireworks sales permit from Shocker Fireworks LLC with the Bel Aire 4-H Club as its sponsor. Sales will take place on the northeast corner of 45th and Oliver. The city's fireworks ordinance allows four permits to be issued each year. To date, this is the second application for a fireworks sales permit.

•Listened to two residents, Jeff Oldenettel and Kelly Brewster, discuss the recent agreement between the city and Sunrise Christian Academy concerning use of the recreation center fields. Both were in favor of the working relationship, which trades field use for parking space use at the academy. "It's a benefit for the school and

the city," Oldenettel said. In a related matter, Austin announced the creation of a committee to iron out future details of the arrangement.

•Austin also proclaimed March as American Red Cross Month, which is designed to honor and celebrate all the volunteers who support the mission of the organization.

•Approved appropriations of \$326,049.

•Listened as Austin proclaimed March 14-18 as Severe Weather Awareness Week, which is an initiative of the National Weather Service, Kansas Emergency Management and Sedgwick County Emergency Management. The purpose is to educate citizens of the dangers associated with severe weather. "This is an opportunity for Bel Aire to take part in the awareness of severe weather and encourage our citizens to be prepared as spring is quickly approaching," wrote City Manager Ty Lasher in a report.

•Approved a utility and drainage easement for Lot 7, Block B of Aurora Park, which is owned by the city. An additional 20 feet is needed from this lot for drainage purposes along 37th Street. The move is basically a legal one so that if the lot is sold in the future, its easement will be protected.

•Approved an industrial revenue bond administrative costs agreement for origination and administrative fees on Phase 1 and 2 of the Next Level Hoops Academy in the Sunflower Commerce Park. At issue is a

fee for issuing a bond and an administrative fee to cover recordkeeping costs. "As Next Level Hoops has never issued an IRB before, they didn't understand this needed to be part of their financing and therefore did not include the fee," Lasher said. Rather than paying nearly \$83,000 for the origination fee of both fees, its officials have asked for a payment plan during the length of the IRB terms. For Phase 1, \$28,000 is owed and officials plan to have that paid off in 2019. For Phase 2, which is under construction, \$55,000 is due and that amount will go through 10 years.

•Approved new members of the Community Development Advisory Committee. The new members are: Chris Jones, Joe Woodward, Jeff Hawes, Benjamin Wulbern and Brian Turner. Council members had been provided background on each candidate. Previously, they had commented that they wanted such information before voting. Lasher said that "due to various reasons," the committee had decreased in size and city officials want to bring it back to full strength. The committee, which can have up to 12 members, is responsible for all community development efforts within Bel Aire and meets on the third Monday of every month at 7 p.m. in City Hall.

All five members and the mayor were present. There was one 30-minute executive session concerning non-elected personnel and contract negotiations. The next meeting is at 7 p.m. March 15 at City Hall.

**DEATHS**

**DORIS GOLDEN**

Doris "Dodie" Laurene Golden, Bel Aire, 79, died Feb. 27, 2016.



Golden

She was a retired senior central supply technician with Riverside Hospital.

She was born March 23, 1936, to Ted and Sylvia Black Golden in Durand, Wis. The family moved to Herington in 1940, and she attended Herington High School. She obtained a GED at age 50 and attended classes to become a state-certified medication aide. She worked at Green Meadow Nursing Center for 10 years before going to work at Riverside Hospital.

She was preceded in death by her parents, son Clarence Breesse and great-granddaughter Kiley Robertson. Survivors include her children, Michal (Jennifer) Breesse, Benjamin (Curtis Jr.) Breesse-Isley and Danna Breesse; siblings Paul (Doris) Golden, Lyle (Meri) Golden, Roger (Melinda) Golden, David (Rita) Golden, Fay Golden and Lurlynn (Maurice) Trimmell; nine grandchild-

dren and 29 great-grandchildren.

Funeral service was March 5 at Gospel Assembly Church, Bel Aire, with graveside service at Sunset Hill Cemetery, Herington. Memorials to Mullineaux Arms Apartments, 4230 N. Oliver, Bel Aire KS 67220 and Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice, 313 S. Market, Wichita KS 67202.

**BEVERLY KIRKLAND**

Beverly Ann (Atkinson) Kirkland, 76, of Wichita, died March 1, 2016. She was born in Wichita to Malcom Cleo Atkinson and Golda Ann (Pore) Atkinson.

She was preceded in death by her parents and son Kurt Kirkland. Survivors include children Yolonda (Jon) Henning of Cheney, Annette (Charles) Wright of Knoxville, Tenn., Dana (Aaron) Cox of Douglass, and Shera Kirkland of Bel Aire; 11 grandchildren; 31 great-grandchildren; and many other family and friends.

Private family services were held. Baker Funeral Home of Valley Center had charge.

**EUGENE THOM**

Eugene "Gene" Thom, 81, of El Dorado, died March 9, 2016.

He was born Sept. 2, 1934, in Carey, Ohio, to Russell and Irene Lang Thom. He graduated from



Thom

Dodge City High School and attended St. Mary of the Plains in Dodge City.

He served in the U.S. Army. He married Eunice M. Ackerman on June 4, 1960, in Windthorst. He had been part owner and independent agent of the J.C. Hoyt Insurance Company in El Dorado, and an insurance marketing agent.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother-in-law Mike Carmichael. Survivors include his wife of 55 years, son Mike (Linda) Thom of Bel Aire; daughters Shelly (Omar) Almoussli of Austin, Texas, and Melinda Thom of Hutchinson; sisters Mary Lou (Vernon) Agur of Dodge City and Nancy Carmichael of Anthony; grandchildren Jamal and Brian Almoussli, Alaina Thom, Nathan Thom, Joseph Thom and Ella Thom.

Rosary was March 13 and funeral Mass March 14, both at St. John's Catholic Church in El Dorado, with interment at Sunset Lawns. Memorial contributions to TECH (Training & Evaluation

Center of Hutchinson) in care of Carlson and Kirby-Morris Funeral Homes of El Dorado.

**MARVIN TYSON**

Marvin Mark Tyson, 77, of Bel Aire, died Jan. 31, 2016.



Tyson

He was preceded in death by his mother, Ann Tyson; sister Mary Jane Pankey and brother Phillip Tyson.

Survivors include his wife of 51 years, Marcia; son Christopher Tyson; daughter Debra Boyd; grandchildren Kendall, Tyler and Evan Boyd; sister Barbara (Gene) Kading; half-sister Valene (Dave) Amsdill; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friend.

Funeral service was Feb. 6 at Central Christian Church, Wichita. Memorials to His Helping Hand and Central Christian Church. Broadway Mortuary of Wichita had charge.

**JOSEPH KERN**

Joseph "Joe" Earl Kern, 67, of Bel Aire, died March 20, 2016. He was retired from Koch-Glitsch, formerly Koch



Kern

Engineering. He was born Sept. 29, 1948, in Parsons to Emil "Jack"

Loren Kern and Velda Marguerite Minton. He began high school in Hoisington and graduated from Wichita Heights High School. He married TaMyra "Tammy" Bowhay in 1966 and began working for Koch Engineering, which was Koch-Glitsch when he retired in 2013 after 39 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents, infant brother Jere Dean Kern and sister Barbara Kay Nance. Survivors include son Troy Michael Kern and grandson, Joshua Roman Kern of Arizona; brothers Jack William Kern of Wichita and James Loren Kern of Bel Aire; sisters Donna Sue Stafford of Derby and Tina Marie Wallace of North Platte, Neb.; and many other relatives and friends.

Graveside service was held March 31, 2016 at the Kechi Cemetery in Park City.

**Patrol**

Continued from Page 1

•Be physically able to walk around houses and outbuildings.

•Follow established policies and procedures.

There's no requirement for prior law enforcement background and patrol members don't carry weapons or are sworn officers. There is no firm age requirement other than to be a "senior citizen."

Patrol members are provided with an official uniformed shirt, police

**To volunteer**

If you're interested in volunteering with the Senior Citizen Patrol Program, contact Chief Darrell Atteberry at 744-6000 for more details and an interview.

radio and marked vehicle. Atteberry said the presence of the vehicle on the streets is a benefit to the city.

"They're like a force multiplier," he said. "We like it because bad guys see a marked police car driving around and they don't know

who is in it."

Mostly the patrol members act as trained observers and when they see something awry, they call it in for on-duty personnel and then back off of the scene.

Many of their duties involve checking homes where residents are away, on vacation or business. The patrol members work to ensure that nothing has been disturbed. They also look over vehicles, boats, outbuildings and more.

Another aspect is checking on the elderly, recently released patients from the hospital, or any Bel Aire resident who may request

such services.

"Say we have a senior or someone who loses a family member to death, they'll stop by and check on them just to make sure everything is going OK," Atteberry said.

Atteberry recalls a resident whose wife died a year ago.

The resident was visited for a while by the volunteers before the calls tapered off. However, he contacted the patrol again

and its members asked if he wanted the checks to resume.

"Yes, I'd like that," he told them.

"He was going through a hard time and just wanted someone to show some interest," Atteberry said.

Building that type of relationship is something Atteberry said he "really likes" and shows a real benefit to the patrol — one that benefits the whole community.

**Festival**

Continued from Page 1

to control them, she said. Adams has taken part in the festival before.

"It's a great facility here," she said, scanning the open field with about a dozen kite flyers. "I love getting out here, and kite flying is something everyone can do."

Not everyone can play bubble soccer, but if you're young — or young-at-heart — and can fit into a large plastic bubble-like contraption, it may be for

you.

Bubble soccer, a new event at this year's event, attracted a steady stream of youngsters who slid into the plastic orbs and attempted their best to move a soccer ball across the field with varying degrees of success.

There also was face painting, visits with the Easter bunny, a bounce house and a variety of food trucks.

Officials estimated that about 2,000 people attended the event. The crowd thinned out after the egg hunt as the weather got a bit much for some, but

organizers were pleased by the turnout.

"This is fantastic," said Mayor David Austin as he viewed the crowd of a thousand-plus children and parents lined up for the hunt. "It shows how much community and family mean and it's what the town is all about."

The annual event was put on by the city of Bel Aire with sponsorship assistance from Revolution Church and Cornerstone Christian Church. There is a Fall Festival held in mid October, also at the Rec Center.

**Salute Your Graduate**  
in the May 12 issue of the Ark Valley News!

Easy as:

1. Pick a size
  - 1x3 \$20
  - 2x2 \$25
  - 2x3 \$35
  - 2x4 \$45
2. Write a brief personal message
  - Deadline is noon MAY 9
3. Drop it off at:
  - 210 W. Main, Valley Center, or mail it to: The Ark Valley News, Box 120, Valley Center, KS 67147.
  - Be sure to include a photo (if desired) and payment, plus your name and phone number.
  - You may e-mail your ad to: ads@arkvalleynews.com. Include the information for your ad and attach a photo in tiff or jpg.
  - Call 755-0821 when paying with MasterCard or Visa.



# City of Bel Aire



## Bel Aire Recreation

### BLASTBALL

Blastball is an introductory coed T-ball program for 4-year-olds. Games will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings beginning April 12. Please call for information about openings.

### RECREATIONAL SUMMER BALL

Practices begin the week of May 9 and games will be played on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday beginning May 31. For boys ages 5 through 11 and girls ages 5 through 12. Registration deadline is April 23.

### SUMMER DAY CAMP

The Wichita YMCA will again offer a state-licensed day camp this summer at the Bel Aire Recreation Center. Elementary-age activities include arts & crafts, games, sports, swimming, field trips, and more. For more information or to register, call the YMCA at 264-1610.

### CARDIO FUSION

This adult fitness class is for ages 16 & up. We will focus on total body fitness, including cardio and strength training. Every workout can be scaled to fit each participant's level of needs. The movements will incorporate lifting, yoga, and agility techniques to give you a unique

workout each time. Cardio Fusion will be held at 8 p.m. Thursdays.

### YOGA

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

### SENIOR AEROBICS/CHAIR EXERCISES

The senior aerobics class meets on from 9 to 10 a.m. Wednesday. Chair exercise meets 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! Classes will be at 1:15 p.m. 1:15 p.m. Fridays in the Community Room at City Hall, and at 1:15 p.m. Mondays at the rec center.

*A \$5 late fee will be charged to all sign-ups after registration deadlines. For more information about these or 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). Free for Bel Aire Senior members, alternate times available

**Line Dance Class** — Mondays, 1:30 p.m. at the Rec Center and Fridays, 1 p.m. in the 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

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

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

## Community Events

**TOPS** — Tuesdays at 9 a.m., Senior Center

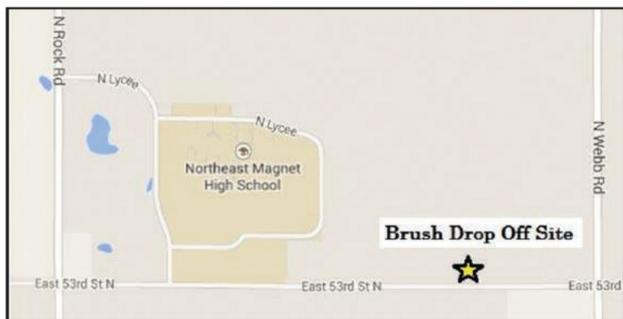
**City Council** — First and third Tuesday of each month

For Red Hat Information, please call Anita at 744-2840.

**April 2, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.** — Community Blood Drive, City Hall.

**April 6, noon to 1 p.m.** — Bel Aire Chamber of Commerce.

**April 9, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** — Brush site open



**May 7, 9 a.m. to noon** — Electronic recycling and shredding day. City Hall north parking lot.

**June 23-25** — Citywide garage sales.

**July 9, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** — Communitywide cleanup day.

## Monthly & Special Events

**April 1, 6 p.m.** — Pitch, Senior Center.

**April 4, 6:30 p.m.** — Potluck dinner and program with Bel Aire police Chief Atteberry, Community Room.

**April 5, 8:30 a.m.** — Breakfast.

**April 6, 10 a.m.** — Volunteer library work time, Senior Center.

**April 7, 1 p.m.** — Game Day, Rec Center.

**April 7, 2 p.m.** — Loss and Grief workshop with Mark Pennington, Senior Center

**April 11, 11:30 a.m.** — Lunch.

**April 13, 10 a.m.** — Open sewing, Rec Center.

**April 13, 10:30 a.m.** — Dementia support with Cypress Springs, Senior Center.

**April 14, 2 p.m.** — Veterans benefits with Barbara Hardyway, Senior Center.

**April 15, 6 p.m.** — Pitch, Senior Center.

**April 19, 6 p.m.** — Ladies Dine Out. Anita at 744-2840 for more info.

**April 20, 10 a.m.** — Men's coffee at Braum's, North Rock Road.

**April 20, 10:15 a.m.** — Senior Aerobics Brunch, different locations.

**April 20, 1:30 p.m.** — Book Club meeting, Senior Center.

**April 20, 2 p.m.** — Women's coffee at Braum's, North Rock Road.

**April 21, 1 p.m.** — Game Day, Rec Center.

**April 25, 6 p.m.** — Covered dish dinner and program, Rec Center.

**April 27, 7 p.m.** — Bunko at Senior Center. Call 744-2451, Ext. 121, for reservation.

**April 28, 2 p.m.** — Genealogy group,

**April 30, 12:30 p.m.** — Private traditional acoustic music jam. Listeners welcome. Senior Center.

## 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

## Connect with us!



## BEL AIRE

Area Chamber of Commerce

Linking Community & Business

### Chamber Corner: Catholic Care Center Community Events

**Parkinson's Education Symposium**  
9 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 23  
Hughes Metroplex, 29th North & Oliver

Join us to learn more about medications used to treat Parkinson's, the benefits of therapies, how to manage caregiver stress, and more! The event is free and open to the public, free lunch provided. Registration required; RSVP by calling Jennifer at 771-6593.

**IN MOTION: Parkinson's  
Community Exercise Program**  
Tuesdays & Fridays through April 22  
from 1 to 2 p.m.  
Hughes Metroplex, 29th North & Oliver

This partnership between Catholic Care Center and the WSU Public Health Science Aging Studies Program offers people living with Parkinson's disease and their caregivers to participate in exercise classes designed to focus on strength, balance and brain health. All classes are free and open to the public; attend as many as you like. For more information, call Jennifer at 771-6593.

## 2016 Bel Aire Spring Festival

Thank you to Cornerstone Christian Church and Revolution Church for providing the eggs for our largest-ever Easter Egg Hunt!



## Community Electronics Recycling & Shredding Day

- Microwave Ovens
- DVD/VCR Players
- Cameras/Camcorders
- Gaming Consoles
- Computer Monitors
- Hard Drives
- Stereos/Radios/CD Players
- Printers
- Scanners
- Cell Phones & Telephones
- Fax Machines
- House Hold Appliances
- Modems/Routers
- Televisions (Add'l charge for Cathode Ray Tube - \$1.00 per diagonal in)

**May 7th**  
**9am-12pm**

**Bel Aire City Hall**  
**7651 E Central Park Ave**  
**(North Parking Lot)**

Document shredding & 12 ton press for data destruction will be on site.

Open to Bel Aire residents only.



# CHURCH HIGHLIGHTS

## Christ Lutheran

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

Contemporary worship service is at 9 a.m. with a traditional service at 11. Communion is offered at both services. Sunday school for all ages begins at 10:15.

For more information about the church and its activities find the church online at [www.christ-lutheran.org](http://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 at 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](http://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.fairmountuccc.org](http://www.fairmountuccc.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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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 Soye. 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](http://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 [atmichellep@risensavior.net](mailto:atmichellep@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.

Men's Bible Study Group will meet at 7 p.m. April 4 and 18 to study A Christian Appraisal of the Quran.

Women's Bible Study Group meets at 10 a.m. April 8 and 22 to study The Ladder of Divine Ascent: Thirty Steps to Heaven.

We are in Orthodox Lent throughout the month of April. Orthodox Easter is May 1 this year. Our spiritual journey through 40 days of fasting and prayer culminates in the liturgies of Great and Holy Week and the celebration of Our Lord's Resurrection.

Call the church for more information at 734-6248 or visit our website at [www.saintmichaellorthodoxchurch.com](http://www.saintmichaellorthodoxchurch.com). Email inquiries to [jflora@cox.net](mailto: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.godscloset.com](http://www.godscloset.com) or on Facebook, email [eric@godscloset.com](mailto:eric@godscloset.com) or call 530-1040.

Send your church's upcoming events and service times to [legals@arkvalleynews.com](mailto:legals@arkvalleynews.com) or call 755-0821.

# NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

Sunrise Christian Academy is teaming up with Rusty Eck Ford on a fundraiser called Drive 1 for SCA.

From 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 8, Rusty Eck Ford will offer test drives of a new vehicle on the Sunrise campus. Each test drive earns Sunrise \$20.

All money raised will go toward the updating of the Sunrise van fleet.

Alex Schrader of Wichita was initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. He is pursuing a degree in chemistry at Drury University in Springfield, Mo.

Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors, having at least 72 semester hours, are eligible for membership.

Molly Wierman of Wichita, an English major at the University of Dallas, had works accepted for presentation at the Sigma Tau Delta 2016 International Convention last month in Minneapolis. She attended the conference and read scholarly

works aloud to an audience.

Sigma Tau Delta is an international English honor society founded in 1924.

Cassandra Stropel and Caleb Egan, both of Wichita, were recognized for scholarships they received from Fort Hays State University at a Student Recognition Program in Wichita.

Stropel, a 2016 Wichita Heights High School graduate, accepted a \$1,500 Hays City Scholar Award. The daughter of Matthew Stropel, of Wichita, she plans to major in biology.

Egan, a 2016 Wichita Collegiate School graduate, accepted a \$2,000 University Scholar Award and a \$900 Academic Opportunity Award in health and human performance. The son of Ed and Cindy Egan, Wichita, he plans to major in health and human performance.

Rachel Fenske, an American Family Insurance agent in Wichita, KS has been recognized for providing an outstanding customer experience under the American Star Excellence in

Customer Experience Certification Program.

"Customers are our number one focus, and agents who earn the American Star Excellence in Customer Experience Certification have been given the highest marks from customers for excellent service," said Bill Westrate, chief operating officer of American Family Insurance. "These agents provide the exceptional service and attention customers expect and deserve, time and time again."

The service excellence distinction was determined through an evaluation process conducted under guidelines established through the American Star Excellence in Customer Experience Certification Program. The process consists of a customer satisfaction survey which measures customers' overall experience with their current American Family agent.

Fenske has been an agent for American Family since July, 2006. Her office is located at 8343 E 32nd St N, Ste 130, Wichita, KS 67226. The office phone number is 744-7700 and website [www.rachelfenske.com](http://www.rachelfenske.com).

## Bel Aire man named PE Teacher of the Year

By The Breeze staff

Bel Aire resident Karl Ely of Christa McAuliffe Academy will be honored as the Central District Middle School Physical Education Teacher of the Year by SHAPE America (Society of Health and Physical Educators) at its 131st National Convention & Expo in Minneapolis April 5 through 9.

SHAPE America's Central District represents nine states from Colorado to Minnesota. The award is given in recognition of outstanding teaching performance at the middle school level and the ability to motivate today's youth to participate in a lifetime of physical activity.

Ely, a physical education teacher in Wichita for more than 13 years, will vie with three other district winners for the distinguished honor of National Middle School Physical Education Teacher of the Year. At the convention, SHAPE America and Sportime &

SPARK — innovators of equipment and evidence-based programs for physical educators — will celebrate the 27th anniversary of this Teacher of the Year awards collaboration.

The National Middle School Physical Education Teacher of the Year award recipient will be announced on April 8 at the SHAPE America Hall of Fame Banquet, sponsored by Human Kinetics, an employee-owned company committed to serving the physical activity field. Lindsay Whalen, U.S. Olympian, five-time WNBA All-Star and point guard for the Minnesota Lynx, and Alan Faneca, former Pittsburgh Steelers All-Pro guard, will be inducted into the SHAPE America Hall of Fame that evening.

One of Ely's primary goals as a middle school PE teacher is to expose students to a wide variety of physical activities — all of which have a purpose and coincide with SHAPE America's National Physi-

cal Education Standards for K-12 Education. He also wants to help each student find an activity they enjoy enough to continue doing outside of physical education class.

"Meeting the individual needs of every student is very important," says Ely. "This is especially true during our daily fitness activity. I constantly remind students that fitness is individual. Not all students learn in the same way and certainly at the middle-school level they progress in skill development at different times."

In addition to teaching, Ely serves as his school's Physical Activity Leader, implementing strategies that led to the school receiving a Let's Move! Active Schools National Award. He also coaches the school's cross-country team.

Ely received his bachelor's degree in K-12 physical education from Wichita State University and his master's degree in curriculum and instruction from Baker University.

# Senate

Continued from Page 1 campaign."

Erickson, who lives in Walton, is in her sixth year as a member of the Newton school board. She has been in public education for more than 16 years as a teacher and an administrator. She is principal of Brooks Center for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and Arts Middle School in Wichita. Her husband, Roger Rickson, recently retired as principal of Newton High School.

Erickson said she has experience with education and the state budget.

"When we're dealing

with a budget shortfall, it's even more important to prioritize where the money is allocated and how it is actually spent, while still recognizing the importance of education and social services needs we face," she said. "I chose to run because I have the experience and skill sets needed to provide important insights to these conversations."

Erickson said it's not appropriate for school districts to continue to sue the state for more funding.

"Attorneys are the only winners," she said.

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"Those dollars should be going to the classroom, not the courtroom."

The Valley Center school district has supported Schools for Fair Funding lawsuits.

District 31 includes all of Harvey County and parts of Sedgwick County, including the cities of Valley Center, Sedgwick,

Bentley, Mount Hope, Park City and parts of Bel Aire, Maize, Kechi and Wichita.

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# BEL AIRE POLICE REPORTS

**March 14** — Officer Elpers was dispatched to a vicious dog report in the 4500 block of North Westlake Court. Upon contact with the calling party, he was told that a brown and white Jack Russel terrier continually gets out of his yard and chases people as it barks at them. The owner was notified of the issue and told to fix her fence and to not let the dog out.

**March 14** — A woman from the 7400 block of East Summer Side Place reported that her sister has been verbally threatening her and her family through phone messages, text messages and social media. This has been going on for nine years.

**March 12** — Officer Brown and Officer Davis were dispatched to a domestic disturbance call in the 5600 block of North Lycee. The call text stated the suspect left the scene about 10 minutes prior to the call being placed. After talking to all parties involved, it was found to be just a verbal disturbance. Both parties were given domestic violence packets.

**March 12** — Officer Elpers stopped a vehicle for failure to dim headlights in the 4600 block of North Rock Road. The driver was cited for failure to dim lights. The passenger was arrested on Riley County warrants. The suspect's name was not available.

**March 11** — Neighbors in the 4900 block of North Parkhurst Court called and stated they have not heard from their neighbor in about five days. Officers were unable to contact her and family members were unable to contact her. Officers entered the residence but were unable to locate her in the residence. She was entered as a missing person, but later located at a local medical recovery center.

**March 10** — A woman was driving her 2005 silver BMW X5 on Gunnison making the curve towards the south, when she had a medical episode that caused her to drive into a tree in front of a residence. The woman was transported to Galichia Hospital. The vehicle was towed.

**March 10** — Officer Roney responded to a vehicle-vs.-deer crash in the 4800 block of North Greenwich. The deer was removed from the roadway.

**March 9** — While the Wichita Police Department K-9 unit was conducting an open-air sniff of vehicles at Northeast Magnet High School, they alerted on a white Dodge Stratus. Illicit drugs were found in the vehicle and the owner/driver was arrested. The suspect's name was not available.

**March 9** — A man reported some tools missing from an Enterprise rental car after it was released from impound in Harvey County. The vehicle was impounded after the man's son was arrested by the Harvey County Sheriff's Office. The man claimed there were expensive tools in the car at the time of his son's arrest. He claimed the tools were gone when he went to the rental office to collect them. He is continuing conversations with the Harvey County Sheriff, Enterprise Car Rental and the tow company in Harvey County.

**March 9** — Officer Roney responded to a dispatched call of a violation of protection-from-abuse order in the 6700 block of East Rodeo Court. A woman said her mother observed her ex-husband on the street near her home. She was afraid because he is not supposed to be around her residence. Officer

contacted the suspect who said that during a standby to prevent conducted by our department on March 6 he had moved one of his vehicles from his former residence and parked it legally at Rodeo and Woodlawn and then returned for the vehicle.

**March 9** — Officer Roney responded to Isley Elementary where he was advised that the parent of child had not shown up to pick her up when school ended. The school tried numerous times to contact all of the emergency numbers on the contact list without any response. Officer later made contact with her mother at the Bel Aire Police Station. The mother said there was a misunderstanding between her father and grandmother, who were supposed to pick the child from school. The child was released to her mother.

**March 9** — While investigating a case in the 5500 block of North Lycee, a female subject interfered by hiding keys, which would allow officers access to a vehicle that was to be searched.

**March 9** — Officer Brown was dispatched to a suspicious character call at the intersection of 50th North and Toler. The caller said there were three vehicles on the wrong side of the road and one had the air bags deployed. Officer discovered individuals were racing and one vehicle ran into the curb, disabling the vehicle. The other two vehicles belonged to friends of the driver. When the other drivers arrived, the batteries in their cars died and they were unable to move them off the roadway so they called somebody else to pick all three of them up. The driver was cited, and the vehicle was towed.

**March 8** — Officer Trelow assisted a Sedgwick County sheriff's deputy with transporting a male juvenile to the Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center.

**March 8** — A resident from the 6900 block of East Odessa Court reported her debit card was used to make a purchase on Amazon and two purchases to Turnkey Corrections without her permission. The woman advised she was credited the money from her bank but wanted a report made for information purposes.

**March 8** — A Bel Aire resident is reported to be harboring nuisance feral cat by providing food and water. The cat has destroyed neighbor's property by digging holes and defecating in other people's yards.

**March 7** — Officers received a call to stand by to prevent a disturbance in the 5800 block of East Perryton as a man was being evicted. There were no issues as he removed his property from the residence.

**March 7** — A resident reported that items in his home had been moved around in the 5800 block of East 48th North. Lamps were flipped over, pictures were moved and DVD's were restacked next to his TV. The man was advised to change his locks and alarm code.

**March 6** — Officer Davis stopped a vehicle for speeding in the 5000 block of North Woodlawn. Officer witnessed the female driver switch seats with the male passenger. The female, Randi Nicole Johnson of Wichita, was arrested on a charge of DUI. The male, Antoine Soukameuth of Wichita, was arrested on a charge of DUI.

**March 6** — Officer Trelow was dispatched to the 4200

block of North Woodlawn for a lost property call. A man reported that he left a red duffel bag by the train tracks and now it is gone. Officer contacted the man's mother and she stated he has mental issues and the bag is probably in the house somewhere.

**March 6** — Officer Davis was dispatched to suspicious character call in the 6700 block of East 45th North. The calling party there was an individual walking down 45th between Rock Road and Woodlawn. The calling party said the person appeared to be hitchhiking. Officer located a white juvenile male wearing black shorts, red shirt and black book bag. The youth said he ran away from the Wichita Children's Home. The children's home confirmed he is supposed to be there. The boy was returned to the Wichita Children's Home.

**March 5** — Officer Trelow stopped a vehicle for an illegal tag in the 8300 block of East 53rd North. The driver was cited.

**March 5** — Officer Brown stopped a vehicle for running a stop sign at Danbury and Woodlawn. The driver was cited for failing to stop at a stop sign and driving without a valid license.

**March 5** — Officer Roney stopped a vehicle for failing to come to a complete stop at the intersection of 45th North and Oliver. The driver was cited for failing to stop at a stop sign, no proof of insurance, driving without a valid license and no driver's license in possession.

**March 5** — Officer Davis was dispatched to the report of a domestic disturbance in the 8400 block of Granite Court. He arrived and made contact with a woman and a man. The officers discovered there had been no physical contact between them. The man volunteered to leave. He gathered some of his belongings and left.

**March 4** — A Bel Aire resident went to the Bel Aire Police Department to report he had been a victim of identity theft. The man said someone filed his taxes before he had and the IRS sent him a letter stating so. The man said he just needed to make a report for the IRS.

**March 4** — Lt. Foxx and Officer Camplin assisted the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office with a vehicle fire with a possibility of someone still being inside in the 7800 block of North Hillside. The victim said someone was still inside the vehicle. Lt. Foxx and Officer Camplin searched the area and vehicle and did not locate any additional victims. The victim of the accident was taken to an area hospital. It was discovered she had overdosed on illicit drugs and crashed her car. The Sedgwick County Sheriff investigated.

**March 3** — Lt. Foxx and Officer Camplin were dispatched to a report of a trespasser at Northeast Magnet High School. Dispatch informed the officers the trespasser was an eighth-grader who was suspended from Wilbur Middle School and he was at Northeast for lunch. Upon arrival, high school staff said the youth had been banned from all USD 259 properties until his suspension was complete. The youth was transported to his home in Wichita.

**March 2** — A man was found to be in violation of court order by Judge Keith. Caleb Karlowksi of Park City was taken into custody on a charge of failure to appear in court.

**March 1** — A resident reported that sometime between Feb. 29 and March 1, unknown

person(s) shattered the driver's side back passenger window of her vehicle in the 5800 block of East Denise. The vehicle was parked on the south side of the street in front of the residence facing east. Damage was estimated at \$300.

**March 1** — Officer Roney stopped a vehicle for speeding in the 5700 block of North Oliver. The driver was cited for operating a vehicle without a valid driver's license, speeding and having an unrestrained child in the vehicle. The driver was also booked for interference since she provided false information to the officer. Other occupants of the vehicle were arrested on marijuana charges and Wichita warrants. The driver of the car contacted her cousin to come pick up the vehicle. When that person arrived, they were checked to make certain they had a valid driver's license and it was discovered that person had active Wichita warrants, so that person was arrested also. Three infant children were transported to the Wichita Children's Home. Suspects' names were not available.

**March 1** — A man reported he came home for his lunch break and noticed damage on the back of his van that was parked in his driveway in the 4600 block of North Hedge-row. The damage appeared as if someone shot it with an air rifle.

**Feb. 29** — Officer Wallender was dispatched to the report of a dog at-large in the 4100 block of North Parkwood. The complainant reported that a dog being harbored in the 3800 block of North Cozy Drive caused property damage by digging under her fence. Once in the fenced area, the dog mated with the complainant's registered Golden Retriever. The Golden Retriever was in season. This happened one previous time and the complainant has incurred approximately \$3,000 in loss. Attempts have been made to work with the persons harboring the dog, but there has been no cooperation. Investigation and prosecution are ongoing.

**Feb. 29** — Officer Elpers was dispatched to assist the Exploited and Missing Child Unit and the Wichita Police Department's crime scene investigators in the 4500 block of North Glendale. The Wichita Police Department had taken a report at Wesley Medical Center involving a 19-month-old. It was reported that the child and his 6-year-old brother were playing in the backyard unsupervised when the 6-year-old began to swing a pitchfork garden tool around wildly and accidentally struck the 19-month-old in the back of the head, causing traumatic injuries.

**Feb. 28** — Officer Davis stopped a vehicle for speeding and failing to stop at a stop sign. The driver was cited for speeding and driving with a suspended license.

**Feb. 28** — Officer Davis stopped a vehicle for speeding in the 4300 block of North Woodlawn. The driver was cited for possession of marijuana and driving with a suspended license.

**Feb. 28** — Officer Camplin was dispatched to take a report about plants being stolen in the 6300 block of East Central Park. The suspect said he had been doing some work in Bel Aire. The man admitted to the theft and wanted to pay for the plants. The complainant did not wish to press charges since the suspect was willing to pay for

the plants.  
**Feb. 28** — Officer Wallender was dispatched to a report of a man having a mental episode in the 4200 block of North Woodlawn. The man was walking to Dillons at 37th and Woodlawn when contacted. He said he was on his way to pick up his medication. Officer escorted the man to the Dillons pharmacy to pick up his medications and then gave the man a ride back to his residence in Bel Aire.

**Feb. 28** — Officer Elpers was eastbound on 37th North when he noticed a vehicle westbound in the eastbound lanes. The vehicle almost collided with the officer's vehicle. The vehicle was stopped. Officer could smell burnt marijuana coming from the vehicle. After a search of the vehicle, no marijuana was found. After investigation, the driver was determined not to be impaired.

**Feb. 27** — Officer Elpers stopped a vehicle for speeding in the 3800 block of North Oliver. The driver was cited for no driver's license.

**Feb. 27** — Officer Elpers stopped a vehicle for displaying a license plate that came back to a different vehicle. The driver was found to have a suspended driver's license. The driver was cited for six misdemeanors and the tag was seized.

**Feb. 24** — Officer Trelow stopped a vehicle for speeding in the 5300 block of North Oliver. He contacted the driver and smelled the odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle. Following procedure, he searched the vehicle and found a marijuana pipe. The driver was cited for speeding and possession of drug paraphernalia.

**Feb. 23** — Officers Brown and Steele responded to a call of a suicidal person in the 4800 block of North Farmstead Court. A person had contacted COM-CARE and made suicidal statements. A woman was transported to COMCARE.

**Feb. 22** — Officer Wallender was dispatched to a suspicious person trying to get into cars in the area of 45th and Woodlawn. After checking the area for some time, a subject matching the suspect's description crossed 37th in front of Wallender. The subject went into the Dillon's Store. When Det. Davis and Wallender attempted to contact the suspect, he fled the store, but was tackled by a citizen. In the short time the suspect was in the store he had already shoplifted items. The Wichita Police Department worked the shoplifting case and the Bel Aire Police Department made a suspicious character case. The suspect was cited for jaywalking, shoplifting and resisting police.

**Feb. 22** — Sometime between Feb. 19 and 22, an unknown subject attempted to pry open a coin-operated machine in the girl's locker room at Northeast Magnet High School. The money was not accessed, and a few feminine products were missing.

**Feb. 22** — Officer Wallender was dispatched to a check welfare call in the 4800 block of East 40th North. He found a woman in a car screaming for help. She appeared to be having a psychotic episode. Officer called for Sedgwick County EMS. The woman was taken by ambulance to Galichia Medical Center, where she was treated for a drug overdose.

**Feb. 22** — Officer Wallender was notified by public works of property damage to a city sign and a pump cover at 7600 E. Central Park.

**Feb. 21** — A teenager in the

4400 block of North Rushwood called police due to his parents locking him out of his house after finding a marijuana pipe. The teenager turned over the pipe and was transported to the Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center without incident.

**Feb. 20** — While traveling northbound on Woodlawn, Officer Camplin observed a vehicle traveling south at 53 mph in a 40 mph zone. The driver was cited for driving with a suspended license and failing to have an interlock device installed on the vehicle.

**Feb. 20** — A woman in the 5600 block of North Lycee reported her neighbor sent her a text message. The suspect denied sending the text message in malice.

**Feb. 20** — While in the 3700 block of North Oliver, Officer Roney observed a vehicle with an improper license plate. The driver was cited for illegal tag, no driver's license in possession and no proof of insurance.

**Feb. 19** — Officers Trelow and Roney responded to what appeared to be a domestic disturbance in the 5300 block of East Ashton. Officers discovered that a father and his son had a verbal disagreement. The father decided to punish his son by disposing of the son's Xbox.

**Feb. 18** — While working court, Judge Keith ordered a defendant into custody for her Bel Aire municipal warrant. The woman was given a court date.

**Feb. 18** — While working the Operation Lifesaver project in the 4100 block of North Woodlawn, a violator drove through an operating rail crossing without stopping. He was also driving without a valid license. He was cited for the violations.

**Feb. 18** — Officer Crice was contacted by Isely Elementary School about a possible sexual assault that occurred in Wichita about six months ago involving a student. The case was referred to the Exploited and Missing Child Unit.

**Feb. 18** — Officer Crice was called to Sunrise Christian Academy about a domestic dispute after the fact. A teacher reported a student came to her about to a fight she had with her stepfather the previous night. The student reported her stepfather broke her I-pod and slapped her after a verbal dispute. The case forwarded to the Wichita Police Department.

**Feb. 17** — Officer Trelow assisted Sedgwick County sheriff's deputies on a disturbance with a weapon in the 11100 block of East 85th North. The victim was held by one suspect while another hit him. A third suspect used a pipe and hit the victim's vehicle, causing damage.

**Feb. 16** — Officer Elpers was dispatched to a non-injury accident in the 6300 block of East 45th North. A vehicle pulling a trailer backed up and struck a second vehicle. A citation was issued for inattentive driving.

**Feb. 16** — Officers Elpers and Roney responded to assist Sedgwick County deputies with a suicidal subject in the 6400 block of North 95th East. The situation was resolved without incident.

**Feb. 16** — Officer Roney responded to a call regarding a protection-from-abuse order in the 6000 block of East Clarendon. A man reported his son violated a PFA by contacting him by phone. Officer checked with sheriff records and discovered the PFA was issued but had not been served to the man's son yet. The man did not know where his son was at the time officer Roney was on scene so could not serve of the document.

## City

Continued from Page 1

next several weeks.

Lasher wants to be able to use the survey results in the budget planning process, which goes through the summer.

In other action, the council:  
•Approved a resolution expressing the city's displeasure at the Kansas Legislature's law capping local property tax increases to the consumer price index for that year. The legislation is to take effect in 2018. Legislators are currently reviewing the law to possibly move up the implementation for 2017 and remove some exemptions. The resolution comes at the suggestion of REAP, or the Regional Economic Area Partnership. Lasher will be sending copies of the resolution to all legislators representing Bel Aire. Austin called the bill an "assault on local government."

•Approved a Fourth of July fireworks sales permit for Farha Fireworks LLC under the sponsorship of the Bel Aire Lions Club. The stand will be at the southeast corner of 45th and Woodlawn. There are four permits permitted season and this is the third one issued.

•Recognized Taylor Hoffman of Sunrise Christian Academy for his regional win in the "If I Were Mayor" essay contest sponsored by the League of Kansas Municipalities. Taylor and his family were at the meeting.

•Recognized the Sedgwick County RSVP Senior Corps volunteers who live in Bel Aire by issuing a proclamation. The Bel Aire volunteers provided 1,971 hours, which totals an economic impact of \$42,658 into the community.

•Approved a 2016 property and liability insurance policy through EMC for \$88,164 with a

\$3,000 deductible. "EMC appears to still provide the best rate for Bel Aire when considering deductibles and dividends," Lasher said in his recommendation to the council. Last year, the city received a dividend of about \$10,000 from EMC, essentially bringing the premium cost down to \$78,000. There were two other vendors, Travelers and One Beacon, and while their premiums were about the same, neither offered dividends.

•Adopted "Bob's Rules of Orders" for council meetings and to identify protocol. "Council would like to simplify the rules of order to something less burdensome and easier to understand," Lasher said. Bob's Rules were written by Bob Myers, city attorney for Newton. Bel Aire's rules will follow Bob's Rules of Order and then utilizes Roberts Rules of Order when an issue arises not covered in the city's rules of order. The policy has

been reviewed at several workshops and reformatted for ease of reading, Lasher said.

•Approved a developers' agreement addendum for Chapel Landing Iron Gate. The developers would like to install a new phase next to Woodlawn for patio homes and are requesting an addendum to the agreement to allow that to happen.

•Heard Lasher report that an Internet survey found Bel Aire to be the seventh "smartest" city in Kansas, based on education level

completed. Lasher is going to use the data in the city's website. "It's a neat way to mark our community," he said.

•Heard Austin report that the city will make an additional payment down on its principal on

May 1 in the amount of \$725,000. Paying off debt has been an objective of Austin and the council.

All five members and the mayor were present. The next meeting is 7 p.m. April 5 at City Hall.

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Out of town East of Meridian & North of 5th / 85th  
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# Changes in store for highways

By David Dinell

Motorists could experience major traffic flow changes in north Sedgwick County where four highways merge, but whether all — or any — are implemented or not remains to be seen.

The plan, called the “Wichita North Junction Concept Study,” deals with the I-135, K-96, K-254 and I-235 interchanges.

The changes aim to replace decaying bridges, cut down on rush-hour congestion and provide for infrastructure upgrades and smooth connections between highways. With a total projected price tag of more than \$250 million, given the state’s fiscal condition, observers say there’s no certainty of it being completed.

But the plan is in place.

The design was presented to 34 business and community leaders Feb. 24 at the monthly meeting of the Park City Chamber of Commerce at the Best Western on 53rd Street by Mitchell Coffman, a planner for Professional Engineering Consultants PA of Wichita.

An initial study of the area was completed in 1998 but nothing was done after that.

This updated plan builds on that study and re-evaluates the area’s needs.

Kansas Department of Transportation officials say they want to address issues such as “increased traffic count, bridge replacement, bottleneck areas and modern traffic needs.”

Its planners say the design could handle traffic through 2050.

Commuters are familiar with rush-hour congestion



Photos by David Dinell

**The “Wichita North Junction Concept Study” deals with four plans for the I-135, K-96, K-254 and I-235 interchanges. Total estimated cost of all work is more than \$250 million.**

in the junction and it’s only going to get worse if nothing is done, Coffman said.

Along with longer drive times, congestion also is a safety issue. Some 82 percent of accidents in the area are rear-end collisions, Coffman said, which are frequent on roads with traffic that quickly slows mixed with faster-moving vehicles.

In addition, the poor condition of bridges is a serious concern, Coffman told the meeting’s attendees.

KDOT has identified three bridges that are “structurally deficient” and 18 other bridges that are “functionally obsolete,” Coffman said.

Bridges with structural problems are a serious con-

cern because of the danger of collapse, which can lead to injuries or fatalities.

The plan breaks the project up into four phases, known as the Green, Gold, Purple and Orange projects.

Funding has been identified for the final design, right-of-way acquisition and utility relocation of the Green Project, but not for

construction. The project is anticipated to get underway in fall 2017, but that is not a done deal. Funding has not been identified for any of the other projects.

As for scope, the projects break down as such:

- Green: Replace bridges and add I-235 continuous auxiliary lanes. It also contains improvements to the

interchange at Broadway. Cost estimate: \$71 million.

- Gold: Ease traffic congestion during the morning and late afternoon rush hours. Cost estimate: \$65 million to \$80 million.

- Purple: Undertake major infrastructure improvements. It also completes interchange connections to all major roadways. Cost

estimate: \$110 million to \$124 million

- Orange: Change an upgraded connection from K-96 to I-135 from an existing ramp to an improved loop ramp that can expand in the future if needed. Cost estimate: \$5 million to \$6 million.

The Gold plan gets the most reaction, Coffman said.

“That’s the one everyone gets excited about because it gets rid of the congestion,” he said.

The first part of the plan, or the Green Project, is a “good start,” said Park City council member Tom Jones, but he said it all needs to be done, especially considering the amount of traffic the area gets at rush hour.

Dee Stuart, co-chairman of Park City Pride and a regular motorist through the interchanges, said the presentation, which she hadn’t seen before, was informative.

If she was surprised by one thing, it was the cost estimates; she thought they would be higher than they were. The work, she said, needs to be done, especially on the area’s bridges.

“Those bridges are in terrible shape,” she said.

For more on the study, go to [www.wampo.org](http://www.wampo.org) and click on the Resource Library link.





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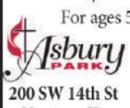
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