

# Talk of the Town

City of Victoria  
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## Fire Department acquires new equipment

Thanks to the CARES ACT, which provided COVID funds to approved entities, the Fire Department received \$65,000, which enabled them to make several upgrades. According to Chief Tom Tholen, these monies allowed them to purchase 10 new air packs, three sets of bunker gear, each costing \$2500, and a highly specialized washing machine costing \$3,500 designed specifically to handle laundering bunker gear.



## POSITIONS OPEN

For anyone interested in serving, the City has three openings for City Council as well as for mayor. Filing deadline is June 1 at 12:00 noon at the Ellis **County Clerk's office.**



Once again the City will be conducting the annual citywide cleanup the weekend of May 8. Dumpsters will be available on Friday, May 7 from 4-8 pm, Saturday May 8 from 9 am—8 pm and Sunday May 9 from 9am—4 pm.

Saturday will also be the day for bargain hunters as well as those with wares to peddle as **that's when the citywide garage sale** will be held.

A list of participants can be **found on the City's Facebook** page. Flyers can also be picked up at City Hall.



In observance of Memorial Day, City Hall will be closed on Monday, May 31. Trash will be collected on Tuesday.

## City Officials

Mayor

John Schulte

Shultz@ruraltel.net

City Council

Erica Dinges

ericadinges@hotmail.com

Zach Kanzenbach

KanzenbachVCC@gmail.com

Ryan Lichter

ryanlichter@hotmail.com

Harland Rupp

hrupp@ruraltel.net

Dustin Schumacher

DSchumacher  
@Shelterinsurance.com

City Clerk: Mary Pfeifer

Utilities Clerk: Nancy Piatt

City Treasurer: Jerry  
Schmidtberger

City Superintendent:

Brad Schmidtberger

Public Works Assistant:

Terry Riedel

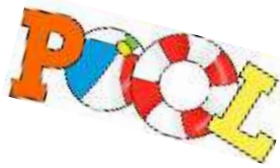
Jeff Dorzweiler

Police Chief: Cole Dinkel

Patrol Officer: Ryan Mauch

Fire Chief: Tom Tholen

Assistant Fire Chief: John Weber



### VICTORIA POOL

OPENING DAY MAY 24

POOL HOURS

1-7 pm EVERY DAY BUT THURSDAY

1—10 pm ON THURSDAYS

SWIMMING LESSONS

SESSION #1 JUNE 14-18, SESSION #2 JULY 5-9



If you are a renter experiencing financial difficulties due to the COVID pandemic, there is some help available. The Kansas Emergency Rental Assistance (KERA) program will assist eligible households with rental assistance and home energy costs (electricity, gas, water, wastewater, trash removal and internet). For more information, you are encouraged to visit the website at [www.kshousingcorp.org](http://www.kshousingcorp.org). The program is being administered through the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation (KHRC). The way the program is set up, once you qualify, payments will be sent directly to the landlord or service provider.




The Herzogfest Committee encourages everyone to mark their calendars for Saturday, August 14. Herzogfest is back!

The biggest change for this year is no Friday entertainment. Instead, grounds will open at 8:00 am on Saturday with all the normal activities for the day.

Headlining entertainment is Read SouthHall Band with Wes Cosman Band.

Anyone wanting to be a sponsor or volunteer is encouraged to contact Ashley @ 785.639.0788.

**Found! A wedding ring set. If you have lost one, contact City Hall and identify it.**



At 3 years "Mommy, I love you."  
 At 10 years "Mom, whatever."  
 At 16 years "Mom, you're so annoying."  
 At 18 years "I'm leaving this house!"  
 At 25 years "Mom, you were right."  
 At 50 years "I don't want to lose my Mom."  
 At 70 years "I would give anything to have my mom here with me."



✓ The May City bills reflect the new sewer averages based on customers' usage from Dec. 20-Mar. 20. This average is kept for one year.

✓ The City's watering policies for the upcoming months will remain the same as last year. Watering of shrubs and flowers and washing of cars is allowed any day during the appropriate hours. Residents may also water their lawns one day per week. Those living south of 10th St. may water on Tuesdays; those living north of 10th St. may water on Thursdays. **ALL WATERING IS TO BE DONE BEFORE 10:00 AM OR AFTER 7:00 PM.**

✓ All ATV owners who have not renewed their licenses for this year are reminded that that is a requirement to keep your vehicle legal. Fee is \$25 and proof of current insurance is required.

✓ We at City Hall would still like to have your cell number if you haven't already provided it for us!



**Good news for Victoria readers!** The Hays Bookmobile will be coming back to us beginning on June 4. The plan is to have it at the park on the first and third Fridays from 2:30-4:30 pm. Books, movies, CDs, and more will be available, plus they will deliver anything patrons order online.

## Sunflower Bank sponsors coloring contest



In March, Sunflower Bank in Victoria held a coloring contest in honor of St. Patrick's Day. There were two age categories provided for a chance to win (ages 4 & under/ ages 5-11). Gage Pfanenstiel and Kennedy Orr had the luck of the Irish on their side and were the winners. Each won a \$20 gift card for their outstanding entries. The contest judges had a difficult time picking only one winner in each category due to the overwhelming response. The Sunflower Bank team enjoyed seeing all of the different illustrations submitted. Be sure to watch Sunflower Bank's Facebook page for future contests or stop by or call 785.735.2201 to learn more.

## Welcome To Victoria



When newcomers to Victoria come in to sign up for their utilities, they receive a little something extra. Thanks to members of the Victoria Vikings 4-H Club, they receive a welcome package of homemade cookies. The club decided to take on this project as a way to welcome new folks and to make their presence known for anyone who might be interested in joining. Danielle Schumacher has been in charge of keeping the supply coming.

## St. Fidelis News

St. Fidelis will again sponsor the summer lunch program at the Parish Activity Center. A note with the details will be sent home with the school children towards the end of the school year. Announcements will also be posted in the church bulletin. If anyone would like to volunteer, call Jan at the parish office.

The St. Fidelis Thrift Store continues to do amazingly well. Thanks to all who support this effort in any way, but most importantly, thank you to all the volunteers that make it work so smoothly. They continue to show up every day. We accept most clean donations, so please don't think your items are not worth donating. If we cannot use them, we will pass them on to another organization who can.

The Fidelisfest has been postponed this year due to the fact that we are refurbishing many areas of the church. This project has taken a lot of volunteer hours. We still have a long way to go to finish up. We will try to plan something later on in the summer or fall. Again, thank you to all who volunteer their time in any way to help the church.

## Grade schoolers gain skills from new camp

Victoria youth in grades three through sixth recently had the opportunity to participate in a new basketball experience. Building Better Knights Basketball Camp was created by community member Sean Rodger, who wanted to see instruction in the fundamentals of basketball.

The program had nearly forty kids involved and was designed for in-district players although Rodger had interest from parents in Russell and Hays as well.

The Saturday morning sessions were held at the elementary school and the Victoria Recreation Commission provided the equipment which included balls, cones and jerseys. Rodger expressed his appreciation to both USD 432 and the Commission for their support.

Rodger credits the success of the camp to the other coaches who volunteered their time: Dale and Danielle Windholz, Ryan Lichter, Jacquelyn Stoffel, Chris Teeter, Brooklyn Kuhn and Brinly Lichter. Each coach was responsible for teaching a 20-minute block on a specific skill and then each group rotated between those sessions. Skills focused on were ball handling, passing, shooting, and defense awareness. At the end of the camp, a competition drill between the kids tied all the fundamentals together.

According to Rodger, the camp's mission was "to introduce, build, and improve the foundation of the game through the teaching of fundamentals for the future of Victoria's young athletes."

Rodger hopes to continue building the camp in the coming years. Part of what he hopes his players learned is showing respect toward others, doing the right things, being coachable and working hard to achieve their goals.

He thanked the parents who brought their kids to camp and stated, "Hopefully, we'll see more and more kids in their driveways and at the playground working on what they have learned."







# SCHOOLHOUSE NEWS

## From Tammy Lichter, School Board President

As the school year that we thought might never happen comes to an end, I believe we have much to celebrate. Eight months ago, the administrators and School Board were all concerned about what the year might look like. While everything was a little different, we have made it through, thanks to the teachers, janitors, paras, cooks, secretaries, coaches, students and families all doing their part.

As the year draws to an end, we have to tell several school personnel farewell. **Bruce Engel**, our shop teacher, will be retiring after 30 years in our district. His knowledge and expertise will be greatly missed.

**Luke Johnson**, our music and band teacher, will be leaving us after six years. We will miss his lively concerts and wonderful pep band. He will be starting a new adventure in Ingalls, Kansas.

**Dylan Dronberger**, our middle school/high school principal and athletic director, will also be leaving after nine years. He served as the high school history and government teacher for six years before assuming his role as principal. We are thankful for his leadership.

Finally, **Kent Michel**, our superintendent and elementary principal, will be moving on. We were fortunate to have him lead our district the past three years. He has brought several new programs to our district including MTSS, a math and reading curriculum. He will be the STEM teacher in Hiawatha and will enjoy being closer to family.

We wish each of these men success in their new adventures.

There will be several new faces in our district next year beginning with **Kim Woolf**, who will serve as our new superintendent and jr. high/high school principal. Mrs. Woolf is coming from Stafford, Kansas, where she is currently the K-8 principal. She has been in education for 29 years: 16 in the classroom and 13 in administration.. She is excited to be a part of our district.

Our new elementary principal will be **Deena Clark** from Hays. She is leaving her post as Hays Middle School counselor to serve us. She is in her 27th year in education with experience as classroom teacher, as well as counselor.

We are currently working to fill other positions that have come open. **Kelby Parton** has accepted the shop position, and **Ashley Urban** will be our new preschool teacher and interventionist at the elementary school. We are excited to have these new faces join our USD 432 family.

The other Board members and I realize that this year has been difficult and different from what anyone has ever been through or imagined. The hard work from all our school employees is greatly appreciated. Everyone has had to do more, and it does not go unnoticed. We are thankful for everyone that is involved with our students.



**THANK YOU!**  
*thank you!*