

Talk of the Town

City of Victoria

February 1, 2016

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www.victoriaks.com

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Message from your Mayor...

I hope that everybody's holidays went well. Now that they are over, we need to look into 2016.

First of all, our water committee consisting of Mark Karst, Kenny Pfeifer, Harland Rupp, Brad Schmidtberger, and Curt Unrein will have their first meeting in January. Hopefully, we can all get on the same page to get that moving forward.

Then we will start to look for swimming pool help early this year.

When it gets warmer outside, we need to test fire hydrants and paint them. The water that comes from testing will be used to clean streets. The maintenance of our streets is a must!

The Council did pass a water use permit for house maintenance such as washing your air conditioner and power washing your house before painting. You can call City Hall for further details.

I would like to set up another town hall meeting in the near future. If anyone has any issues, do not hesitate to contact me. The Honorable Jerry Kanzenbach

City Officials

Mayor

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City Council

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City Clerk Mary Pfeifer

Utilities Clerk Nancy Piatt

City Superintendent:

Jacob Nuss

Building Inspector:

Scott Zimmerman

Public Works Asst.

Brad Schmidtberger

Police Chief

Cole Dinkel

Patrol Officer

Ryan Mauch



It's official! Brian Brady, CEO of First Care of Hays, did the ribbon cutting to mark the re-opening of the Victoria facility. Victoria Council members Leroy Schmidtberger, Erica Dinges, and Ken Pfeifer, in the foreground, represented the city at the occasion. Also pictured are Troy Schippers, Rhiannon Maier, Janie Tholen, Dawn Knapp, Dedra Karlin and Jim Huenergarde.



“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world!”

Anne Frank

Like us on Facebook



Calendar of Events

February



- 2—Groundhog Day
- 7—Super Bowl Sunday
- 8—School Board Meeting
- 9— Ash Wednesday
- 12—Lincoln’s Birthday
- 14—Valentine’s Day
- 15 —Washington’s Birthday
—City Council Meeting



March

- 13—Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 14—School Board Meeting
- 17—St. Patrick’s Day
- 20—First Day of Spring
- 21—City Council Meeting
- 25—Good Friday —City Hall Closed
- 27 —Easter Sunday

April



- 1 — April Fool’s Day
- 11 — School Board Meeting
- 18 — City Council Meeting
- 22—Earth Day
- 27— Administrative Assistants’ Day

Our city workers are asking for the public’s assistance in their usage of the recycling facility. **Please do NOT throw** any form of Styrofoam or any kind of poly plastic such as chip bags or trash bags in the bins. The bins are clearly labeled to indicate what materials can be disposed of in each bin. Your help is appreciated!



Citizens also need to know that the burn pile is restricted to tree limbs no bigger than 6 inches in diameter. No other lumber or furniture items are allowed!



Pet owners are reminded that it’s time to register their furry friends at City Hall **BEFORE March 1**. Both dogs and cats require tags. Cost of tags for spayed/neutered animals is only \$2.00 if purchased before that deadline. A current rabies immunization must be presented at the time a tag is issued. After that deadline, a late fee of \$1.00 per month is charged.. Owners whose pets are not licensed also run the risk of a \$50 fine if their pet is picked up without a tag.

Yours for the Asking...

Senior citizens’ reduced trash rate for those over 65 —forms are available at the City office. Proof of age is required.

Automatic withdrawal payment option: forms for this are also available at the City office.

Monthly statements via email—see page three for details.

UPS pickup—you can drop off your pre-labeled items or we can process packages for you.

A water permit allowing you to do non-cosmetic household jobs like power washing or other necessary maintenance items. We have a form for that as well!



Did you know?

Earth Day is the largest civic event in the world, celebrated simultaneously around the globe by people of all backgrounds, faiths and nationalities. More than a billion people participate in its campaigns every year.



Citizens are reminded that new sewer averages are figured on their water usage between December 20 and March 20. The new amount will be reflected on the May bills. These averages are kept for one year.

St. Fidelis News

Fans of the Fidelisfest need to mark their calendars for April 24—a different date compared to prior years. No big dinner is scheduled for this time, but all the other regular events will be held.

FOUND

In the July 9, 1953, *Ellis County Farmer* in the weekly Brungardt's IGA ad

Grade A beef roast .39 lb
Sliced peaches 4 cans
\$1.00

The New Blue Cheer .29 package
Vine-ripened tomatoes .25 lb.



Spring is just around the corner — time for cleaning closets, cupboards, etc. and getting rid of all those unused or outgrown items in the kids' closets.

The Victoria citywide garage sale is set for Saturday, April 30. If you would like to participate, bring a short list of items along with your address and fee of \$8.00 to City Hall no later than April 8th. Ads will be placed in both the Hays Daily News and the Russell County News. Participants' addresses will also be posted on our website.

Spring Cleanup Scheduled

In connection with the citywide garage sale, the City will again provide dumpsters at the recycling site the weekend of April 30 for disposal of large items. Hours will be posted on the city website. Residents are reminded that if disposing of refrigerators or air conditioners, Freon must be drained from them. Also, no household hazardous waste or tires will be accepted.

City Receives Funds

The City of Victoria has received a \$1,000 donation from the Midwest Energy Community Fund spring disbursement. These funds will be used to replenish the mulch on the city playground in Honey Braun Park. Over 110 organizations submitted applications for the awards.

The Midwest Energy Community Fund was created in 2005, and provides funds to activities that focus on youth, arts, education, libraries, community events, and similar projects. Five committees of Midwest Energy customers determine who receives the awards ranging from \$50 to \$1,000.

The Midwest Community Fund awards grants twice a year; application deadlines are March 1 and October 1. Applications are being accepted now for disbursements in the spring of 2016. Interested organizations should visit www.mwenergy.com, and the "Community" tab, for guidelines and an application.



New Billing Option

Now that the City has a new utility billing system, we have the capability of providing monthly statements for our customers via email. If you would be interested in making this change, please complete the form below and return to the City office. E-Bills would be sent on the first of each month just like our traditional bills. You do not have to be signed up for automatic withdrawal to receive electronic billing. If you have questions, please contact the City office.

Name on the account: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY



Provided by USD #432 Superintendent David Ottley

January is school board member appreciation month. This is a critical time to have board members who stand up for public education. Keeping a vital and successful school is of great significance for our entire community! Our school board members work hard to create a future for every child in our district. I would like to extend a huge "Thank You" to each of our board members: Kevin Huser, Darrell Dortland, Karen Nowak, PJ Nowak, Don Pruitt, Shannon Radke, and Alan Schulte. I would also encourage you to do likewise if you have the occasion.

With revenue streams continuing to shrink in the state and school district, each community member in our school district feels a greater burden with property taxes. Due to shrinking district assessments, our district lost \$173,435 in funding. The state of Kansas offered an opportunity to apply for "extraordinary funding" through the State Finance Council. District need was based on increased enrollment, loss of assessed valuation and other unforeseen circumstances that impact budgets. USD #432 applied for this funding on the basis of loss of assessed valuation. I am very pleased to announce that our district received \$133,901 from this fund. The money cannot be spent this budget year. It will be applied directly to our LOB, local option budget, for the 2016-2017 school year. This equates to a savings of over four and a half mills of tax relief for the taxpayers in our district.

Mr. Luke Johnson has the band and chorus sounding wonderful. He showcased the talents of his students at our district Christmas program. The music was enjoyed and appreciated by everyone in attendance!

We are excited about the education that we offer at USD #432! Our students are eager to learn, and our staff is second to none! 2016 brings great promise and an opportunity to implement change and growth within our schools. Again, I want to recognize the value of a community that is so proud of its past, yet so excited about its future. Our students are our best advertisement and our future. Please help USD #432 to build on our success of the past to ensure a bright future for all of our students.

I would like to extend a wish that everybody had a happy, safe holiday season. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support during this and every football season. The support our team receives from the Victoria community is unbelievable! Our players appreciate the support and I truly believe play at a higher level because of it. I tell our players on a daily basis that they represent our school and our community by how hard they compete and how well they conduct themselves before, during, and after competition. I hope that we are representing our town and school in a manner that makes the community proud. Again, thank you for everything and Go, Knights!

Doug Oberle,



Victoria Knights Football

Ways to Help Our Schools

If you are interested in helping our schools, the following items are currently being collected.

Drop off at either school building
or the City office.

Campbell's Soup labels

Box Tops for Education

Pop can tabs

Sunny D labels

