

Talk of the Town



City of Victoria
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A Message from your Mayor...

As your mayor, I would like to address a couple of issues that have been brought to my attention by concerned citizens. The first item is that some people have expressed concerns that a large amount of money was spent on our current water tower last year, and that we should not have had that done since we will be getting a new tower soon. Yes, there was needed maintenance done in 2018, but no, it did not cost the City much at all. Those repairs were covered under a service agreement that we have with a company called Utility Service Company. This agreement costs less than \$6,000 per year and I can assure you that it is money well spent.

The next concern that I've been asked about was why the Mayor and the City Council get their health insurance paid for by the City. I do not know where this idea came from, but it is completely false. The only compensation given to our elected officials is a monthly stipend of \$300 per month for the Mayor, and \$150 per month for each City Council member. While some jurisdictions may offer health insurance or other benefits to their elected officials, the City of Victoria does not.

As your Mayor, I am always happy to visit with you and answer any questions or concerns that you may have. Feel free to be in touch with me. I hope that by addressing these issues, I can put to rest some of the misinformation that has been out there.

On a positive note, you will soon see some new signage around town designed to give visitors clearer directions to points of interest in our community. They were paid for by a grant from the Dane Hansen Foundation and designed by Rick Rupp. A big thank you goes to Jane Wagner who took the initiative to bring this project to completion. It required hours of planning and coordination between entities and we appreciate her willingness to do this for the City. John Schulte

City Officials

Mayor

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City Council

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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: Kevin Klein



In observance of Memorial Day City Hall will be closed on May 27. TRASH PICK UP WILL BE ON TUESDAY, MAY 28.

Sunflower Bank awards cash



USD #432 participated in Sunflower Bank's ABC Program for the 18th year. This signature program runs January 2 through March 31 and has raised over \$1.2 million since its inception. Each year the bank provides money to benefit local K-12 students and their school by making ABC Program donations based on every Spend & Sign & Save checking and savings account package opened and registered to a participating school, and **through "Cash for Swipes" when school-registered debit cards are used for signature transactions.** For 2019, the Victoria district will be presented with a donation check totaling \$1,020.95 from Sunflower Bank.

In addition, all students in the community were invited to drop off their report cards to the Victoria branch for a chance to earn **up to \$100 for their A's.** If their report card was one of the five selected, a matching donation was also provided to USD #432. The 2019 report card winners in Victoria are Chase Schmidt, William Scherrer, Kali Weber, Brody Nowak and Rachel Kuhn. All winners and schools will be contacted by Sunflower Bank.

FYI

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



VICTORIA POOL
OPENING DAY MAY 24

POOL HOURS
1-7 (SUN, MON, TUES,
FRI, SAT)
WED. 1-7 (ADULTS 7-8)
THURS. 1-10



SWIMMING LESSONS
SESSION 1 JUNE 10-14
SESSION 2 JUNE 17-21

Celebrate May



National Salsa Month National Golf Month



Our City workers report there has been a problem with motor oil being dumped in trash containers. This is not allowed! If the residents who do this are found, they could jeopardize their trash pickup and could be assessed a fine for clean up.



A message from Fire Chief Tom Tholen: any residents who have planted vegetation around fire hydrants need to remove it as this is an issue when needing to access the hydrants. Your cooperation is appreciated.



Residents are reminded that alleys need to be maintained so that vehicles are able to go down them without any obstructions such as shrubs, trash, etc. They are used by service vehicles from the Gas Company, Midwest Energy, etc.



All ATV owners who have not renewed their licenses for 2019 are reminded that that is a requirement to keep your vehicle legal. The fee is \$25 and proof of current insurance is required.



With the weather warming up, some homeowners may be ready to embark on renovation projects. A reminder that a building permit is required for these projects. Permits are intended to protect the homeowner from unlicensed workers and fraud.

St. Fidelis News

Filing Deadline

The St. Fidelis Thrift Shop and Gift Shop continues to be successful thanks to the volunteers, donors and buyers. We are grateful for all of you! Please do NOT drop off items that cannot be sold such as mattresses, televisions, old computers, and appliances. We have to pay to have them removed. Also, if something does not work, please do not drop it off.

Anyone interested in filing for public office for the City of Victoria must do so at the Ellis County **Clerk's office by June 3 at noon.** The Mayor position and two City Council positions will be open.

We will have the summer lunch program again this year during the months of June and July, Monday-Friday from 11:00 to 11:30. All children are encouraged to stop by for a quick lunch. Caregivers, babysitters and grandparents are also welcome to attend. There is no need to sign up or call ahead.



New nurse practitioner services available in Victoria



To all members of the Helping Hands of God,

For Victoria and residents in the area, a new option for some medical services is now available.

Thank you from all of the veterans at Post 1751. Words alone cannot express the gratitude for the fundraiser that you held for us. It truly was an amazing event. Your generosity and hard work are so greatly appreciated.

Jamie Schneider, nurse practitioner, has opened an office located in the Robben Insurance Building.

The money received will go a long way to help the Post in finishing the bathrooms and to start saving for the remodeling of the kitchen.

Schneider has been a nurse since 1996 and furthered her education to include a BSN from FHSU, completion of the FHSU Nurse Practitioner program, as well as a Master's and Doctorate degree from FHSU.

From each of us to all of you a very sincere thank you.

She has worked in family practice (her first love) for 7+ years and recently left Russell Regional Hospital to work in the Emergency Department in Great Bend for the last eight months.

All members of Post 1751

Her choice to come to Victoria stemmed from having patients from Hays and Russell and she thought this would be a good, convenient location. Currently, she does not keep regular office hours, but instead has seen patients before and after the typical 9-5 hours and even on weekends if feasible. "I'm very flexible if I'm in town."

Schneider commented, "I am able to see any acute or chronic illness in the clinic from newborns to elderly. I also do well visits for children, men and women. I can also provide laceration care, wart removal and other minor clinical procedures. I am currently credentialed with BCBS, United Health Care and Medicare."

Patients can reach her by calling her cell phone to schedule an appointment at 785.623.3840.

Schneider's long term goals include growing her practice to full time and hiring additional staff.

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM



"IF YOU FALL OFF THAT SWING AND BREAK YOUR NECK, YOU CAN'T GO TO THE STORE WITH ME."

"WHEN THAT LAWN MOWER CUTS OFF YOUR TOES, DON'T COME RUNNING TO ME."

Community unites to raise \$35,194.18 for new gym floor



Third grade student Lilianna Aguilar recently portrayed Pocahontas for The Living Museum, a class project in **Brittney Dannels' class**. Listening to her presentation were Jalynn Hammersmith and Emersyn Brown. Each student researched a famous individual and then became a 'live' exhibit for an audience of parents, community members and other students.

For residents of Victoria, the weekend of March 23-24 was all about German food, fundraising, and working enthusiastically as a team. Community members, faculty, students, coaches, alumni, parents and other interested citizens pulled off a German meal to help fund a huge project: replacing the original gymnasium floor that dates back to 1950.

The idea originated from Brenda Dreiling who says, "What started as a small vision became bigger than we could have imagined." In just 35 days, her team marshaled the forces to bring an old-fashioned German meal of homemade noodles and beans, creamed potatoes and dumplings, brats, and kuchen to fruition. The effort yielded 1015 tickets for the meal and over \$5,000 in raffle donations. The funds will be added to those donated by the Victoria Alumni Association. It is hoped that the project will be completed over the summer.

To promote the event, every junior high and high school student was asked to sell five tickets. All those who sold more than 10 had their names entered in a drawing that was held at an all-school assembly when the final announcement was made of the money raised.

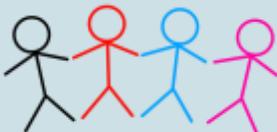
Would your family like to learn more about another culture, possibly visit a foreign country someday, or even learn a different language?

HOST FAMILIES are needed for high school exchange students for the 2019-2020 school year. The students will arrive in mid-August and will stay with the host family for either one semester or until the end of the school year.

They need caring American families (with or without children) to provide a home and share with them this unique experience. The host family is only responsible to provide a bed, meals, friendship, understanding, and a genuine desire to share the American way of life with a student from overseas.

The students speak English, are covered by medical insurance, and have spending money for their personal expenses. Approved families can view online student applications and select the student that best matches their own family.

For more information, please contact Kori Braun at 785 735-4161.



Brenda Dreiling (far left) and Shannon Karst (far right) awarded cash prizes to Jason Karst (\$100), Macy Hammerschmidt (\$75) Lydia Sander (\$50) and Brooklyn Nowak (\$25) as winners of the drawing following the big German meal fundraiser for a new gymnasium floor at the junior/senior high school. Total amount raised through donations, ticket sales and raffle items was \$35,194.18



The 2019 Victoria Junior High Leadership Class will host a 5k run/walk May 4 at the school to raise money for the St. Fidelis Emergency Fund. The students and their leadership teacher Mrs. Carolyn Nelson organized the 'Squires Run This Town' event as a way to impact the community. Participants will receive a t-shirt.

Students gained first-hand experience with fundraising including writing and sending letters to potential sponsors, designing the t-shirt and promoting the event. Students involved were Brooklyn Nowak, Raegan Winter, and Tanis Brungardt.

Principal Dylan Dronberger says, "This civic engagement project goes beyond the classroom and encourages students to give back to their community. VJSHS staff is proud of these students and what they were able to accomplish with this project."