



## Owner seeking new purposes for former rest home

Jeff Pfeifer, Victoria native and new owner of the former St. John's Rest Home, is a man with a mission. When he purchased the 40,000 sq. ft. facility which has been vacant since 2012, he clearly had two goals: to preserve the building and to make it an asset for the community.

With those goals in mind, he has been hard at work researching, networking with community members and investigating potential sources of funding.

In mid-September, Pfeifer hosted a tour of the building and a brainstorming session for anyone interested. Approximately 90 people attended. Many ideas were suggested for the use of the space including use by the Victoria Recreation Commission as an exercise facility and a gathering place for groups for activities and social events, the Ellis County Historical Society, community daycare and senior apartments being the most popular. While many would like to see it used as a care facility once again, Pfeifer says the attorneys he has consulted say that according to terms of the original sale, the building could never be used for that purpose in perpetuity.

Pfeifer has set up a Facebook page, [savetheresthome](#) where he encourages people to "follow, like, share, message and comment." He is also available for communication through his email [006pfeifer@gmail.com](mailto:006pfeifer@gmail.com).

Presently he says that finding the funding for any development can go two directions: either through grants and private donations as a 501c(3) or through other entities that would have a for-profit trajectory.

In his view, Pfeifer sees daycare as the top need and the area where he is investing most of his energy. He encourages anyone interested in opening a daycare to contact him. Meanwhile, Pfeifer asserts, "I'm working as fast as I can and leaving no stone unturned!"



**New owner of the former rest home property, Jeff Pfeifer addresses the members of the community who attended a meeting to brainstorm possible uses for the facility.**

## City Officials

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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:** John Weber

# WINNER!



Congratulations to the winner of Sunflower Bank's Back-to-School supplies drawing: MacKenzie Hattenbach! Providing school supplies is one of the ways Sunflower gives back to students and schools. Additionally, through the ABC Program, more than \$1.5 million for local schools and students has been raised. Sunflower customers can help their school by using their debit card to make everyday purchases. The annual donation each school receives depends on how many customers choose a school and the number of qualifying transactions they make.

## THANK YOU

Speaking on behalf of the Victoria community, I would like to offer our sincere thanks and appreciation to Tom Tholen as he retires at the end of the year from the Victoria Volunteer Fire Department. Tom has served since August of 1999 and finishes his service as Fire Chief since 2019 when he replaced Verlin Hammerschmidt. We wish him good health and good fortune in the years ahead.

John Schulte, Mayor



# HERZOGFEST

VICTORIA, KS

The Herzogfest committee is off to a great start after the 2021 festival. The committee was pleased with the turnout at this year's event. Even though it may have been a little different, we are planning for a bigger and better event in 2022. Our committee has welcomed new members: Jeff Pfeifer, Logan Stanton, Kelly Vonlintel, Andrea Schmidtberger, and Eric McAlonan. Returning committee members are Brenton Hoffman (president) Jennifer Pfeifer (vice president) Ashley Wellbrock (secretary) Miranda Schmeidler (treasurer) Austin McAlonan, Erika Sander, Ashley Kanzenbach, Haley Gagnon, Jordan Robben, and Bill Leikam.

On September 18<sup>th</sup>, we hosted the annual coed softball tournament. Seven teams participated in the event. We started at 9 am and concluded the tournament at 9 pm. Tournament champion this year was Ashley Schmidtberger and "The Gunners." Runner-up was Taylor Rome and "Express Well Service." The committee served pulled pork sandwiches and nachos which sold out! We hope to have everyone back next year.

The committee has two great events planned for December. Help us kick off the month of December with an Ugly Sweater Party. Find the ugliest holiday sweater and join us December 4<sup>th</sup> at the VFW Hall! There will be a cover charge to attend the BYOB event. Music, games, and lots of fun will be included.

December 5<sup>th</sup>, the committee will host the annual Holiday Caboose Light Up in the city park. A visit from Santa, other fun things for the kids, and even some treats are part of the event. The lighting of the caboose will conclude the event.

Follow us on Facebook for more details as the events draw near.



The Victoria VFW invites the community to attend a Soup 'n Sandwich Luncheon on Sunday Nov. 7 from 11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Pet tags for 2022 will be available at City Hall beginning January 2. All dogs and cats need one. Cost is \$2.00 for spayed/neutered pets and \$5.00 otherwise. Proof of current rabies vaccination is required when renewing. Deadline is March 1.

ATV tags for 2022 will also be available. Cost is \$25 and proof of current insurance is needed.

### New Bookmobile Schedule

The Hays Library Bookmobile has changed to one visit per month. For the remainder of the year the visits will be Fridays Nov. 12 and Dec. 10 from 3:00—4:00 p.m.



**Don't Forget**  
**Election Day**  
**Nov. 2**

## VETERANS DAY



*It is the Veteran, not the reporter,  
who has given us freedom of the  
press.*

*It is the Veteran, not the poet,  
who has given us freedom of  
speech.*

*It is the Veteran, not the lawyer,  
who has given us the right to a  
fair trial.*

*It is the Veteran, not the campus  
organizer, who has given us  
freedom to demonstrate.*

*It is the Veteran who salutes the  
flag,*

*Who served under the flag,  
Whose coffin is draped by the flag,  
Whose sacrifices made it possible  
for the protester to burn the flag.*

*Remember our Veterans.*

*All gave some; some gave all.*

### Help Wanted!

**The Victoria Fire Department is looking for more volunteers to join their team. If you would like to be on the department or have any questions about it, please call City Hall, or secretary Kami Weber at 785 735-4862.**

## Victoria Fire Dept. promotes prevention awareness



Every year during Fire Prevention Week, it's all hands on deck for the Victoria Volunteer Fire Department as they bring activities to the students at Victoria Elementary. On Tuesday morning, Oct. 5, the day began with the sirens blaring as the crew drove the trucks to school for photo ops and tours.

During the morning, all students rotated three different activities: a movie about fire safety followed by the opportunity for questions and answers; obstacle courses for students to physically engage with some of the equipment, and tours of the trucks/equipment and ambulance.

The department also sponsors a coloring contest for all students preK-sixth grade. This has been a tradition dating back to 2013. Students have the choice to either color pictures related to the theme of the year or draw their own pictures. This year's theme was "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety."

Winners were the following: pre-K Vivian Windholz, Rhett Hoffman; first grade Georgia Jones, Malachi Mackey; second grade Eagan Nicodemus, Maci Heier; third grade Sasha Robbins, Zeek Dinges; fourth grade Gage Pfanenstiel, Peyton Bucher; fifth grade Trey Riedel, Ben Kuhn; sixth grade Addison Von Lintel, Cidnee Werth.

## St. Fidelis News

St. Fidelis Thrift and Gift now has a new sign. We are still doing great, thanks to everyone: volunteers, donors, buyers and maintenance men. Thank you for your amazing help!

We continue to offer the food bank and commodities for the Victoria, Walker, and Vincent communities. Call Jan at the parish office, 785 735-2777 for more information.

The parish would like to have your email address and phone numbers and mailing address if it has changed in the last couple of years. The post office will not deliver if you have a PO Box number and the address is a physical one. Many of you have no land line, only cell numbers. You can contact Jan at the parish office, send a quick note in the mail or drop the information in the collection basket in an envelope with Jan's name on it. The church does not give out phone numbers to any other people or business.

**In observance of Veterans' Day, City Hall  
will be closed November 11.**





# SCHOOLHOUSE NEWS



Coming soon to an auditorium near you! The annual Victoria High School Fall Production under the direction of Kori Braun and RuthAnn Zimmer.

This year's performance *Above Average Man* will debut on Saturday, Nov. 13 at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 and youngsters sixth grade and younger will be admitted free.

Taking the audience back to the world of radio, this show opens with Max Best (AKA Captain Stupendous) once again keeping the streets of Populous safe from his arch enemy Nefarious. Things get tricky when Piper Penbrooke, a smart upstart reporter, discovers an unknown truth: Captain Stupendous doesn't have any superpowers; he only thinks he does. Struggling with this new reality is only half the battle especially after Nefarious and his league break out of jail.

Come support the cast and crew and treat yourself to a night of light entertainment!

## Book Fair Shoppers



Three generations of the Kuhn family were among the supporters of the Victoria Elementary Book Fair. Fifth grader Ben Kuhn, his mom Marlaina, and grandma Kathy display their purchases.



## MUSICIANS WANTED

New band instructor Max Befort and his trusty assistant Kathy Dreiling Amrein are seeking more members for the newly re-organized Victoria Community/ Alumni band. Rehearsals are held every other Thurs. night from 6:15-7:15 in the VHS band room.



Elementary Principal Deena Clark reports that students in her building are taking new pride in their school after learning and focusing on the term initiative during September. Students began volunteering to help clean tables and sweep the cafeteria. They have implemented a student rotation to allow everyone a chance to help. Students are excited about being the helpers for the day and it gives them pride in having a clean cafeteria. Staff have noticed that students are also being more mindful of how much of a mess they make themselves. Third-sixth graders are currently helping and will train second graders next month.



Front: Callie Lane, Lindsey Scheck, Kaitlyn Windholz, Shelby Schmeidler, Cadence Dickey; Back: Brooklyn Nowak, Kennidy Amrein, Kassie Weber, Melany Huser

The VHS Cheer Squad would like to extend a HUGE thank you to the community and businesses that have supported us in our efforts to fundraise for our new cheer uniforms. Thank you for participating in our Easter egg hunt, carwash, face painting at Herzogfest, our 50/50 raffle at home football games, buying apparel from our FanCloth store, and our "Lil Knights Cheer Camp." We were able to buy brand new uniforms, jackets, and ear warmers. We will continue to fundraise throughout the year so we will be able to go to cheer camp this summer. Thank you for your enthusiasm and support. GO KNIGHTS!