



Talk of the Town

City of Victoria

May 1, 2014

Volume 27, #2



Community News



Members of the St. Fidelis Parish will celebrate the dedication of their church as a basilica at a **special mass** on June 7 at 10:30 a.m. Bishop Edward Weisenberger will be the official celebrant for the occasion. Following the mass, a luncheon will be served.



Victoria citizens took advantage of the opportunity to purchase **rain barrels** offered for sale through the KSU Watershed Project in March. All 100 were sold at a cost of \$26 per barrel. With the city at Stage 3 water restrictions, it is thought that barrels will assist residents with keeping plants and shrubs alive.



Victoria City Council members have approved the bid to have the parking lot at the medical facility removed and replaced. Work will be done in August and will take between six to eight days. Low bid was submitted by JCorp at a cost of \$38,550.

Victoria senior **Kristin Huser** has an exciting summer ahead of her. She has been selected to play on the USAII women's basketball team which will compete in the United World Games in Austria in June. She has also signed to play for Fort Hays in the fall. Kristin is the daughter of Galen and Shelly Huser.



Senior **Audra Nowak** will continue her basketball experience as well. Nowak has signed a letter of intent to play for Colby Community College. She is the daughter of PJ and Kim Nowak.

Longtime Victoria **Superintendent Linda Kenne** will officially retire as of June 30. David Ottley, elementary principal, has been named as Kenne's replacement. He will continue to serve in his elementary post as well. Kenne first came to Victoria in 1995 and began her service to the district as elementary principal.

City Officials

Mayor

Curtis Unrein

City Council

Jerry Brungardt

Erica Dinges

Kenneth Pfeifer

Jan Piesker

Leroy Schmidtberger

City Clerk

Mary Pfeifer

Utilities Clerk

Nancy Piatt

City Superintendent/

Building Inspector

Julius Windholz

Public Works Asst.

Terry Riedel

Police Chief

Cole Dinkel

Patrol Officer

Ryan Mauch



City Hall will be closed May 26 in observance of Memorial Day.

Trash will be collected on Tuesday, May 27.

City Hall will also be closed on July 4. Happy Fourth!

Phone number: 735- 2387

Lessons: times to be announced.
Check the city website or call the pool for more information.

Victoria Pool Info

Opening day: May 27th

Hours: 1:30 pm —7:30 pm

Daily admission: 5-15 \$1.00,

16 & over \$1.50

Passes: Family \$55.00,

one adult \$20.00,

second adult \$15.00,

one child \$16.00,

second child \$14.00, third child \$12.00



Calendar of Events



- 5 Cinco de Mayo
- 6 K-6 Spring Concert
- 11 Mother's Day
- 12 School Board Meeting
- 18 VHS Graduation
- 19 City Council Meeting
- 21 Eighth Grade Promotion



- 7 St. Fidelis Basilica Ceremony
- 9 School Board Meeting
- 14 Flag Day
- 15 Father's Day
- 16 City Council Meeting
- 21 Summer Begins



- 4 Independence Day
- 14 School Board Meeting
- 21 City Council Meeting

If you do mowing, weeding, painting or any other type of odd jobs and would like to have your name put on a contact list, please call City Hall at 735-2259 with your name, phone number and type of jobs you do. If you have had your name on a previous list, please contact us again so that we can be sure our list is up to date.



30

Congratulations to Victoria business owner Sharon Bleske for thirty years in the cosmetology field.

FYI

The May city bills will reflect the new sewer average for each account. This figure is determined by the water usage between December 20 and March 20. The average is kept for one year.



Sunflower Bank employees were caught recently making Playdough ice cream sundaes as part of a display to promote their new program. As part of the display, old-fashioned ice cream parlor furniture is featured, courtesy of Jan Piesker and her business N-Excess.



"When the well is dry, we know the worth of water." —Benjamin Franklin



FOREIGN EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Host families are needed for high school exchange students for the 2014-15 school year. Students arrive from their home countries in mid-August and stay with the host family for one semester or the entire school year. They are in need of caring American families (with or without children) to provide a loving home and share with them this unique experience. The host family provides a bed, meals, friendship, understanding and a genuine desire to share the American way of life. The students speak English, are covered by medical insurance, and have their own spending money. Approved families can view student applications online and select a student that best matches their own family. For more information, please call Kori Braun at 785 735-4161. Below are two specific students who are looking for a family to host them.

My name is Nils and I am from Germany. First, I thank you for thinking about hosting me. I am now 16 and attend the 10th grade. I live in a small village with 1300 inhabitants situated between Karlsruhe and Stuttgart. I live with my family in a house with a big garden in the countryside. I have two brothers. Each of us has his own room into which we can retreat. My older brother is 19 and my younger one is 13. I shouldn't forget our family member #6 our cat. You should know that in a big family you are always forced to do something. Everybody is used to help in our household and garden. It never gets boring. Sure my brothers sometimes get on my nerves, but most of the time we really get along well. Since we are older, my mother started to work half a day in administration. Because of his career, my father is most of the time away on business in Germany and sometimes other countries like France and Austria. Still we try to spend time together as often as possible and go for nature trips.

Now I will tell you something about myself. School keeps me busy on a daily basis. Twice a week I get home at 1 pm and three times a week it lasts until 3:30. After that I do my homework and study for tests. I play tennis with my younger brother. I used to play both soccer and basketball in a club. Today I am in a basketball school team. I have already tried rugby, archery, and learned skiing. Furthermore, I belong to a young group of my Catholic Church. We meet once a week. I also go to the cinema or swimming with my friends, stroll into the nearest town or meet friends for a soccer match. Reading is also an interesting free time activity. My interest in going abroad to the US has evolved over time. At first I couldn't imagine to stay away from the family and friends for such a long time. But gradually my curiosity about another country and its culture was greater than my fear of the unknown. I want to make new friends and look forward to the challenge of speaking English on a daily basis. I am also excited about school life and the community in a high school because this is supposed to be organized quite differently than in Germany. This year abroad will be an experience for me which I will profit from my entire life. I want to thank you in advance for giving me the opportunity to spend a year in the US with you and your family.

Hoping for an American Home Sweet Home



Dear Family, I know that I should start this letter saying "Hi, I'm Gabriela and I'm 14 years old" but I, in the first place, want to thank you for being so kind and offering me to be part of your family. Since I applied for the cultural interchange program, I've been thinking and asking myself what should I write? Should I include that? Should I not? But I realized it's much more simple than I thought. I'm just going to be honest about who I am, because honesty is the first step to the good relationship I'm willing to have with you. I really love writing and talking about myself so I hope the length of this letter doesn't bother or get you annoyed. I wish from all my heart you enjoy it. So finally...Hey I'm Gabriela and I'm 14 years old! I can be pretty shy sometimes but mostly I'm talkative. I can say that I'm friendly and people say I'm adorable. I mean, I'm not trying to look confident or anything, but seriously I'm adorable. I am polite and respectful and always trying to get out of my 'comfort zone'. I am a quick learner. So yeah these are some adjectives that describe me. I was born on April 22, 1999, in the state of Mina Gerais known by its colonial art and historical cities. I live with my parents James and Ilma and my little brother Gustavo who is 7 in an apartment in the downtown. I also have a half-brother Tunai (he is 31) but he doesn't live with us. My mother's part of the family live in the state of Rio De Janeiro and since it's far from us we visit them only a few times in the year. But we always spend Christmas and New Year's together. Here in Brazil we don't have Thanksgiving so I'm excited to be part of it and to be celebrating with you. My favorite seasons are Carnival, Halloween and the 4th of July (even though it's only celebrated in the US). I simply love seeing people dressed up as Uncle Sam, everything decorated red, white and blue, and the fact that Americans are so proud of their country. Here we don't have big celebrations for the Independence Day. I enjoy reading, but mostly I enjoy talking about books. Whenever I read a good book, I feel the need of sharing it with people. My favorite genre is suspense, but of course I also read romance, sci-fi novels, and whatever shows up at my door. As for music, I don't have any favorites. I think that the most important part of the song is the lyrics and the harmony that beautiful words create. I like traveling, taking pictures and recording videos. I like sports (but like the most watching them). I like to take a walk in the park with my friends and family. I don't have any pets. I like almost all kinds of food, I eat vegetables. Fruits and salad. I don't have problems with eating. I like trying new things in general. I don't have a boyfriend. I don't have lots of friends but the ones I have are awesome. I like spending quality time with family and I'm learning to cook. I love preparing desserts. So...I think these facts are the basics; however, they are essential. It's a dream come true to be able to do a cultural exchange in your country.

The City of Victoria is seeking to fill a public works position with the possibility of advancement to City Superintendent. Job duties include but are not limited to ensuring the city's water, street, and solid waste functions are maintained. Applicant should possess excellent public relations, organizational, and communication skills. Must be high school graduate, obtain Kansas CDL within 90 days of employment, and reside within the USD #432 school district. Previous municipality experience helpful. Salary DOQ. If interested, please send resume to City Hall, P.O. Box 87, Victoria, KS. For more information or job description, email victoria@ruraltel.net or call (785) 735-2259. Position open until qualified applicant is found. EOE

As we Americans go about planning our Memorial Day weekend, few of us know the real history of the holiday. When first instituted on May 5, 1865, the day then known as Decoration Day was first observed in the U.S. with the tradition of decorating soldiers' graves from the Civil War with flowers. The observance date was later moved to May 30th and included American graves from World War I and World War II, and became better known as Memorial Day. In 1971, Congress moved Memorial Day to the last Monday in May, thus creating a three-day holiday weekend.



Reminder

Stage 3 Water Restrictions are currently in effect. Residents are reminded that all outdoor water use is prohibited until further notice. Violators are subject to water being disconnected and a fine.

Members of the Victoria Volunteer Fire Department teamed up with other members of the Regional Rescue Squad from Hays and Ellis for their quarterly drill. Onsite at the Victoria elevator, they practiced rescue maneuvers in the underground tunnel.

