

Talk of the Town

City of Victoria

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Victoria Coalition receives Dane G. Hansen Grant

The Victoria Community Coalition has received word that they have been selected to receive a \$500,000 grant from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation of Logan, Kansas. This is the first sizable grant they have received.

According to Board President Jeff Pfeifer, this award is a huge boost to the Coalition's efforts to repurpose the former Victoria nursing home, now known as St. John's Place. Phase 1 is to build 12 senior apartments, a space to accommodate 2023 children for child care, a community center and a satellite site for the Ellis county Historical Society.

The Coalition is in the final planning stage to kick off a capital campaign with a goal of raising \$650,000.

Recently the Board was awarded the Heartland Community Foundation's Community Impact award for "Outstanding service to others, commitment to



Coalition board members Jeff Pfeifer, Brenda Dreiling, Marilyn Braun, Nancy Piatt and Jim Dreiling celebrate the arrival of the grant check.

Individuals served, leadership within the Heartland community and exceptional innovation during the past year."

Members of the Board have been busy getting the word out about their mission with presentations to the Victoria Alumni Association, the USD #432 School Board, the St. Fidelis Church Council, the Herzogfest Committee and the Victoria Recreation Commission.

Two promotional videos have been created with Gerard Wellbrock as narrator and Bernadette Younger speaking about the history of the building and the need to support its repurposing. These will be aired via Grow Hays, Imagine Ellis County as well as Hays Post.

Ellis County Commissioners have shown their support by agreeing to waive all landfill fees that would be incurred with the removal of discarded materials when the actual construction begins.

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City Clerk: Jamie Sterling

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: John Weber

Assistant Fire Chief: Scott Wellbrock

CITY WIDE CLEANUP &

GARAGE SALE

Dumpsters Available

May 5th 4:00—8:00 pm

May 6th 9:00 am—8:00 pm

May 7th 9:00 am-4:00 pm

**NO TIRES, BATTERIES, PAINT OR
HOUSEHOLD WASTES.**

NO APPLIANCES WITH FREON.

Council appoints Matt Sander



The Victoria City Council has a new member at the table, following Councilman Zach Kanzenbach's resignation. Matt Sander was appointed to fill that post until the next election.

Sander, a native of Victoria, returned to the area after working out of state for several years. He currently is employed at Grainger in Hays as a Senior Government Account Manager, a position he has held for over three years. He has been with the company for over ten years. Before that, he was employed as a territory manager of sales for Milwaukee Power Tools in Tulsa.

Sander says his decision to return to Victoria evolved after living in larger cities for many years as he "better understood the values and benefits that a small town like Victoria offers." He also wanted to raise his family here and to become more involved with the family farming operation.

He and his wife Erika have two daughters: Adalynn, seven, and Harper, five.

An alumni of Victoria High School, Sander holds a degree in Business Administration from FHSU.

In accepting the Council position, Sander says he wanted to become more involved in the community and to give back in some capacity. He hopes to be seen "as a common-sensed member of the Council who contributed and helped continue the upward trajectory that the City of Victoria is currently on."

In addition to his new Council position, Sander also serves on the board of the Victoria Alumni Association.



Victoria residents are invited to attend the Spring Market set for Sunday May 7 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at the elementary cafeteria. Coordinators Andrea Schmidtberger and Kaylee Robben are expecting between 22 and 25 vendors for this event. Shoppers will have the opportunity to purchase a wide variety of times including women and children's' clothing, jewelry, crafts, foods, and more.



When the Knights of Columbus put on a Fish Fry, it is no small operation! Just the ingredients are impressive: 280 pounds of fish, 160 pounds of potatoes, 32 bags of cole slaw, 45 bags of noodles made by Ethel Younger and then 'doctored up' by Leroy Schmidtberger, and 33 bags of navy beans prepared by Bob Stramel.

On the day of, customers have three options: home delivery, carry out or dine-in with an all-you-can eat option. At their last event, 290 meals were served.

For some of the work crew, those Fridays are a 12-hour day counting preparation, serving and clean up. Just the fish preparation involves two days, one for thawing and refrigerating, and then breading and frying. Usually the project involves a crew of 20-25 workers.

The meal is always taste-tested by a crew at lunchtime to be sure of quality control.

Proceeds from the events go to support a variety of projects in the community.

This has become a valued community tradition.



After a long search, the City has purchased a new Ravo Street Sweeper. City Superintendent Brad Schmidtberger says this particular model is designed for low maintenance costs and longevity. "It will greatly help in cleaning up town streets," he commented. After the completion of the water project and the Cathedral Street project, the City Council chose to proceed with this purchase.

Here comes summer!!!

City Pool opening May 22

Hours 1:00— 7:00 daily

Open Thursdays til 10:00
starting in June

Two sessions of swimming lessons:
1 in June, 1 in July

For more details, check out our Facebook page
as time gets closer!!



Watering Policy

No watering is allowed between 10:00 am & 7:00 pm.

Residents living **SOUTH** of 10th St. may water lawns on **Tuesdays**

Residents living **NORTH** of 10th St. may water lawns on
Thursdays.

Filling of swimming pools, hot tubes and storage containers is not allowed.



40 years of celebrating our German Heritage! Are you making plans to attend the Annual Herzogfest Celebration August 11th and 12th? We are bringing back events from the past and adding a few new things. Special edition 40th year merchandise will soon be advertised for purchase to wear to the event.

The festival will kick off Friday at noon with a keg tap. Drinking game Olympics will start soon after at 1 pm. 2 person teams can sign up to part of the challenge. A horseshoe tournament will begin around 4 pm. Friday night's musical entertainment (names soon to be announced) will take the stage at 7 pm followed by the headliner at 9 pm.

Saturday morning will start with the annual 5k race/walk at 7:30 am. The Heritage market will be underway at 9 am. Don't miss the parade which will be back for the 40th year at 9 am Saturday as well. The car show will kick off at the festival grounds at 10 am. Back again are the valve cover races for all ages at noon. Don't miss the polka mass at 4 pm followed by the polka band at 5 pm. The stein hoist will take place around 6 pm that evening followed by Saturday's musical talent. The opener will be on stage at 7 pm followed by the headliner at 9 pm.

The 40th year will be better than ever. Get your parade entries ready, competition teams pinned down and clear your schedule for August 11th and 12th. Follow us on social media or check out our website theherzogfest.com so you don't miss any details for this year's festival.

Authority on trafficking to speak

High school students and adults are invited to attend a program on Human Trafficking to be held in the high school auditorium on Wednesday, May 3 at 7:00 pm.

Presenter for this event is Sr. Margaret Nacke, a Sister of St. Joseph of Concordia, who founded the U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking ten years ago. Sister recently received the Radical Abolitionist Award from a project known as SOAP (Save our Adolescents from Prostitution).

Sponsors for this event are St. Fidelis Christian Mothers/Altar Society and the Knights of Columbus St. Fidelis #1867.

The program will consist of information regarding the different kinds of trafficking as well as the variety of victims including runaways, refugees who do not speak English, children from dysfunctional families and more.



High school art students Sienna Schmeidler, Lindsey Scheck and Brody Novak accepted the challenge to create the new vinyl ad for Sunflower Bank. Sunflower employees Wanda Karlin and Gina Oberle encouraged their efforts.



Victoria FFA has reached their busy season. Spring brings travel for livestock judging contests, hosting the annual Petting Zoo and then the FFA year-end banquet. Anyone interested can follow them on the Victoria FFA Facebook page.

Some proud moments this spring were Benjamin Dome placing second at Discussion Meet and the Ag Mechanics team comprised of Levi Wellbrock, Cody Schmidtberger, and Saige Moos bringing home a second place as well.



FCCLA sponsor Connie Braun reports that several members have made Victoria Jr./Sr. High very proud. Junior Kennedy Amrein was elected to District B Secretary for the 23-34 school year. Benjamin Dome was elected State FCCLA VP of Individual Program. He will compete at State in Public Policy Advocate; others qualifying for state are Brinly Lichter, Emma Dinkel and Shelby Dorzweiler—Level 2 National Programs in Action; MaKenna Wellbrock and Aurora Nowlin—Level 3 Food Innovations; Saige Moos—Level 2 Job Interview; Averi Windholz, Sienna Schmeidler and Jillian Schmidt—Level 2 Interior Design.

The chapter would also like to thank members as well as community members for donating to the bi-annual Red Cross Blood Drive in March.

Longtime educator announces her retirement



Debbie Bottorf, elementary and junior high physical education teacher, will officially end her 29-year teaching career in May.

Bottorf began her years in the district as a paraprofessional and then progressed to being a middle school reading teacher and later transitioned to PE.

In addition to her classroom duties, she coached many years as well: head high school volleyball, assistant high school basketball, middle school volleyball and basketball.

Principal Deena Clark commented: "For three decades, USD 432 has been fortunate to have Debra Bottorf leading our children to stay healthy and love fitness. Her talent for making fitness fun and into a game is inspiring to watch.

She has taught generations of Victoria students and will be missed greatly. We joke that she can't leave us unless she leaves her playlist of music and agrees to come back and teach us all the crafts she designs."



Fourth graders in Jeanne Brungardt's class recently got creative while learning about measurements. How many cups, quarts, etc. go into a gallon? Alivia Windholz displays her model: 'gallon girl'. Each student created his/her own version.

The Victoria school administration as well as the community extends a special thank you to Jay Dinkel, Frank Dreiling, Ryan Lichter and Norman Kuhn for their service as crossing guards at the elementary school this past year. Your time and effort to ensure our children's safety is greatly appreciated!

