



**GARNETT
CITY
COMMISSION**

Town Talk



KEEPING YOU INFORMED

WINTER 2010



**Chris C. Maynard,
Mayor**



**Michael L. Norman,
Commissioner**



**Greg A. Gwin,
Commissioner**

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Page 2... From the City Manager
- Page 2... Utility Bill Payment Policy
- Page 2... Did You Know
- Page 3-4 2010 Recreation Fun Guide
- Page 5... Update: Garnett Airport
- Page 6... It's Happening Calendar

**CITY HALL
131 W. 5TH AVE
GARNETT, KS
66032**

From the Commission...

The new Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) has been installed and is now in use at the city airport. This equipment assists pilots in navigating our air space safely and with much more information available than ever before. Gary Ecclefield has done a superior job as our new Airport Manager. Take some time, stop by and let Gary show you around the airport. We are in the process of adding additional tie downs to accommodate more airplanes. Reuben Esh has installed new T-hangers at the airport. This will encourage airplane owners from other communities to make the Garnett Industrial Airport their new home.

We are getting very close to letting bids for our water line project from Cedar Valley pump house directly to our water treatment plant. This will give us a chance to not only improve the quality of our water supply but will allow us to increase the amount of water available to our customers. Some improvements will also be made at the water treatment plant. The funding for this project comes from the federal government stimulus package to create jobs. This project is a win-win for all of us.

The City of Garnett has acquired a 75-foot Quint ladder truck for our fire department to add another dimension to our fire and rescue capability. This truck is a copy of the other two engines we already have in our inventory. We were able to purchase this truck partially with the proceeds from selling our tele-squirt and our Seagraves to Anderson County. By doing this we will have those trucks nearby for backup if needed. Once again, this is a win-win for all of us.

Our 2010 special events calendar just came out. I hear so often that there is nothing to do in Garnett. I beg to differ. Many times my wife and I can't make some of the events because there is so much to do. Our parks and recreation have so many activities such as baseball, softball, soccer, flag football, and adult volleyball. The Garnett Sporting Club does a super job keeping our rifle and pistol range running smooth, as well as assisting our youth in safe hunting

courses. In just looking at the calendar we have so many activities already. In May, the Garnett Farmer's Market begins and BPW hosts the 38th Annual Square Fair arts and crafts festival. In June there are Kart enduro road races around Lake Garnett. Racers from all over the nation come here to race. I would just like to take time to thank Ron Anderegg and his family for all they do to keep this tradition alive. Also in June is the Kansas INT water ski and wakeboard tour and the Lake Garnett Cruisers Auto & Motorcycle Show. A new twist to the special events calendar is NBRA boat races sponsored by the Oklahoma Boat Racing Association on Lake Garnett held June 25-27. July 4th is Libertyfest,

then our county fair with the Outlaw tractor pull and Mo Bandy music show. August brings more go kart races, the demolition derby and the INT league water ski and wakeboard state championships. September brings the Greeley Smokeoff, Cornstock, and the 102nd running of the Kincaid Free Fair. October welcomes the 4th Annual Autumn Blaze BBQ Smoke Off sponsored by Garnett Knights of Columbus. Before you know it, we're back into the holiday season activities.

This is only a portion of what's going on in and around the Garnett area. The one thing I would like to

point out in all of this is, not a single one of these events could happen without hours upon hours of dedicated volunteers. Our volunteers are the lifeline of our community. The city does not have the manpower or the resources to pull all of this together. For all who serve on our advisory boards, committees, and in community service organizations, we cannot thank you enough. Your time, dedication and knowledge are crucial to our city's success. For all the volunteers that make all the area events happen, we salute you. Now this shows you there is always something to do. Take some time and get involved. The quality of life in Garnett depends on all of us.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Norman
Commissioner



From the City Manager...

Another year is almost gone. As I look back over 2009, I am proud of all the work that has been completed by city workers; the new ordinances that have been passed by the governing body and new personnel policies and safety manuals adopted. Some new equipment was purchased including a new backhoe, ball diamond rake and a mower. Used equipment purchases included a fire truck, two (2) pick-up trucks and a dump truck for the park department.

New personnel policies and job descriptions have been completed. The last time personnel policies were updated was in 1990 so this was a long overdue project. The employee advisory board played a big role in helping with the revisions. Former police chief Pat Tate was named Public Safety Director to oversee the operations of the fire and police departments. One project that Pat, Troy Hart, Butch Rockers and I are working on is a complete review of our water system, fire department training records, meeting attendance, fire response and equipment inventory in an effort to improve our ISO rating which can help lower our residents' insurance premiums. The last review was completed several years ago so we are hopeful that we can improve our rating. The motor pool department is in full operation and we continue to see big savings as they repair city vehicles and equipment. Gary Ecclefield was named the new Airport Manager. Gary is doing a great job in this position. He and city crews are making many improvements to the city's hangar and workshop area. Gary is also overseeing the installation of the Automated Water Observation System, the majority of which is being paid for with

an FAA grant.

Major improvements included repairs to the Cedar Valley Reservoir that was damaged in August, 2007. The repair work was completed in August of this year. Storm water improvements on the downtown square and other areas were completed by street department, water and gas personnel; something that saved the city thousands of dollars because the work was done by city crews. Power plant personnel continue to use their welding skills to build and repair many items for all departments, another cost savings for the city. A major wind storm occurred on July 8, 2009. City crews were mobilized within 30 minutes of this disaster and thanks to our electric distribution crews, the majority of our residents had power restored by the close of that day. Being able to generate power and not having to rely solely on the Kansas City Power and Light interconnection was a blessing. If we didn't have the power plant, we would be forced to wait our turn until out-of-town utility crews could assist us with restoring power.

We have been working on plans to install a new water line from the Cedar Creek pump station into the water treatment plant. Federal stimulus monies will be used to fund this project. Bids for this project will be opened on January 7, 2010.

We recently learned that the local National Guard armory will be closing. This building will revert back to the city as in 1954 the voters passed a bond (*Continued on page 5*)



Changes in Utility Bill Payment Policy

Beginning January 2010, the billing department will be implementing changes in the collection of past due utility accounts. Due to recent economic hardships, we will now allow customers to request up to a maximum of six (6) payment extensions per calendar year. We feel that this should more than cover the winter and summer month bills when consumptions tend to be higher. However, as in the past, extensions cannot be requested for back-to-back months and all extensions must be made in person and the designated extension form completed prior to the disconnect date. **Phone in or hand written payment extensions will not be approved.**

As a reminder, utility bills are mailed to all utility customers on the last business day of the month. Our customers should receive their bills the first of the following month. Payment is due upon receipt or by the 15th day of the month, unless the 15th falls on a weekend or holiday. In that case, payment is due the next regular business day. The due date is printed on the utility bill. If payment is not received on or before the due date, a late penalty is assessed and a delinquent notice is sent by mail. If payment is not received or a payment extension requested in person by 1:00 p.m. on the 25th day of the month, or subsequent (*Continued on page 5*)



DID YOU KNOW...

Pet License Reminder: Owners of dogs and cats within the city of Garnett are required to purchase pet licenses annually at city hall.

Between January 4 and March 1, 2010, the city will collect a registration fee of \$5 for spayed and neutered dogs and cats, and \$10 for any cat or dog that has not been spayed or neutered. As of March 1, pet owners who have not purchased 2010 pet licenses will be subject to a court fine in addition to a late registration fee of \$10 for spayed and neutered dogs and cats, or \$20 for any cat or dog that has not been spayed or neutered. Certificate of current rabies vaccination provided to you by your veterinarian is required at time of city permit purchase.

The City of Garnett recognizes the following employees for their years of service: 30 years - **Roger Montgomery**, Firefighter; 20 years - **Farrel King**, Street Department Superintendent; 10 years - **Keith Chambers**, Power Plant Operator; 10 years - **Kelly Meyers**, Firefighter.

The City of Garnett would like to remind all property owners, whether residential, business or industrial, the importance of having address numbers on buildings. Approved address numbers should be displayed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road in front of the property. The numbers should be Arabic numbers, 4 inches high, and contrast with their background. Properly numbered buildings that are easily legible are essential for the response of fire, police, ambulance and utility personnel during emergency or everyday situations.

2010 Recreation Fun Guide



WHERE TO BUY KANSAS OUTDOOR RECREATION LICENSES AND PERMITS:

Locally, state fishing permits can be purchased at Alco, North US 59; Anderson County Courthouse-Clerk's Office and Cedar Creek Outfitters, 4th Avenue & US 59. State boater's registration and fishing licenses can be purchased online at: www.kdwp.state.ks.us.

ATV Regulations

City permits are required for anyone operating a motorized, non-highway vehicle at Cedar Valley Reservoir. The operator of the ATV must carry the permit at all times. Anyone possessing an age restricted permit (under 16 years of age) can operate an ATV only when accompanied by an adult (18 years of age or older) who possesses a valid city ATV permit and who is riding in the general proximity of the age restricted permittee. ATV permits can be purchased at Garnett City Hall or Cedar Creek Outfitters.

PLEASE NOTE: "Quiet Time" is to be observed within any city park from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. (CST).

Prairie Spirit Rail Trail

The Prairie Spirit Trail is managed by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks and follows what was once the Santa Fe Railroad through Garnett. The trail spans more than 51 miles, from Ottawa to Iola, Kansas. Trail permits are required for persons over the age of 15 who venture outside the city limits of Garnett, Ottawa and Iola. Daily permits are

\$3.50; annual permits are \$12.15. Daily permits can be obtained at the self-pay stations located at trailheads, such as the Santa Fe Depot, 7th Avenue and Main Street. Annual trail permits can be purchased wherever Kansas hunting and fishing licenses are sold or online at www.kdwp.state.ks.us. For more information about the Prairie Spirit Trail, please visit www.prairiespirittrail.org.

Brochures on city outdoor recreational facilities, attractions, dining and shopping venues are available at Garnett City Hall, Garnett Public Library, Garnett Chamber of Commerce and the Santa Fe Depot (trailhead for Prairie Spirit Trail).

For more information please contact:

Garnett City Hall
131 West 5th Avenue
Garnett, Kansas 66032
Telephone: (785) 448-5496
Email: info@garnettks.net
Website: www.garnettks.net



GARNETT RECREATION DEPARTMENT 2010 PROGRAMS AND SCHEDULE

Name	Registration Begins	DEADLINE	Fee	Program Info
Spring Coed Volleyball League	February 16, 2010	February 26	\$100/Team	TBA, held on Friday evenings at ACJSHS - Adults.
Baseball/Softball	March 15, 2010	April 2	\$ 30	TBA, T-ball and coach pitch leagues, boys baseball and girls softball leagues. Ages 5 years and up.
Swimming Lessons	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Fall Soccer Program	July 12, 2010	July 30	\$ 30	Begins August 13; held on Tuesdays & Thursdays for children in Grades 1-6. Fee includes shirt.
Flag Football	September 3, 2010	September 17	\$ 30	Begins October 1; held on Tuesdays & Thursdays for children in Grades 2-3 & 4-6. Fee includes shirt.
Fall Coed Volleyball League	September 3, 2010	September 17	\$100/Team	TBA; held on Friday evenings at ACJSHS - Adults.
Biddy Basketball	November 15, 2010	December 10	\$ 30	TBA; held on Saturday mornings at GEC for children in Grades 3-6.
Exercise Class	Ongoing	Prior to Participation	\$ 20/month	Taught by Donna Brummel, these exercise classes are open to persons of any age, held weekly on Mondays and Wednesdays at the Community Building, 9:00 a.m.

Registration forms are available at Garnett City Hall or download and print off registration form at www.garnettks.net, see "Links & Email". Return registration form to city hall with applicable fee. A 50% late fee will be assessed to anyone who signs up after deadline, if registrations are still accepted.

For more information please contact Josh Elliott, Recreation Coordinator, Garnett City Hall, (785) 448-5496.

2010 Recreation Fun Guide

The City of Garnett welcomes you to what has been called, "The best kept secret in Kansas." If you love the great outdoors, then please allow us some time in your busy schedule to share our best kept secrets with you!



Watersports

As a participant in the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Communities Fisheries Assistance Program, the City of Garnett does not require city boating and fishing permits. However, state boater's registration and state fishing licenses are required. All existing ordinances regulating city parks are in effect. Copies of city park regulations are available at Garnett City Hall, 131 West 5th Avenue.

Boating

Valid state boater's registration is required to boat on Garnett city lakes.

Lake Garnett (a/k/a North Lake Park), Park Road

Speed boating and water-skiing is permitted on Lake Garnett on the following specified days: each Wednesday and Sunday, the first and third Saturdays of each month, and Memorial Day, July 4 and Labor Day.

Crystal Lake (a/k/a South Lake), Veterans Memorial Park, US 59

Canoes and fishing boats with electric powered motors are allowed on Crystal Lake. However, gas powered motors are prohibited.

Cedar Valley Reservoir, located approximately 7 miles west of Garnett at Kentucky and 1500 Road.

Boating can be enjoyed year round on Cedar Valley Reservoir, weather permitting. This lake has 3 boat ramps and 3 floating docks.

Fishing

Game fish stocked in Garnett's fishing areas include Walleye, Wiper, Channel Catfish, Flathead Catfish, Bluegill, Bullhead, White Bass, Green Sunfish, White Crappie, Black Crappie, Black Buffalo, Red-ear Sunfish, Large Mouth Bass and Rainbow Trout.

Lake Garnett and Crystal Lake Length Limits

Catfish, except Bullhead, must be	15 inches
Walleye or Wiper must be	18 inches
Crappie must be	10 inches
Black Bass must be less than	13 inches
or more than	18 inches

Lake Garnett and Crystal Lake Creel Limits

Bluegill (Crystal Lake only)	10
Catfish, except Bullhead	2
Crappie	10
Walleye	2
Wiper	2

Cedar Valley Reservoir Length Limits

Black Bass, Walleye or Wiper	18 inches
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Cedar Valley Reservoir Creel Limits

Black Bass	2
Walleye	2
Wiper	2
Crappie	20
Catfish, except Bullhead	5

Rainbow Trout Season

Rainbow Trout Season is held annually at Crystal Lake from approximately October 15 thru April 15. The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks requires that Kansas anglers 16 through 64 years of age and non-Kansas residents 16 and older must possess a valid fishing license. All anglers over 16 must possess and a state trout permit. Anglers 15 years and younger no longer must possess a trout permit to fish in designated trout waters, however, there is a daily creel limit of two (2) trout unless they purchase a trout permit which allows a full daily trout creel limit. The daily creel limit is 5 trout.

Camping

Camping facilities are available in designated areas at all three city owned lakes. Camping permits are required.

As of May 15, 2009: Camping is on a first come, first serve basis with self-pay permit stations located in each city park.

Pre-payment to reserve a campsite for future use is no longer accepted. Occupancy must coincide with time of payment.

A camping unit can stay at a city park campsite for up to seven consecutive days. Upon the eighth day, the camping unit must leave the park for at least five days or relocate to a campsite located in another Garnett city park.

Lake Garnett

Seven camping spots are located on the east side of Lake Garnett (adjacent golf course) with electric and water hook-ups. Sixteen camping spots with electric only hookups are located on the north side of the lake (near dam). A designated wilderness campsite (tent camping or no hookup) is also located within the north side camping area.

Crystal Lake

Five camping spots with electric and water can be found on the south side of Crystal Lake. Wilderness camping is prohibited unless by special permission.

Cedar Valley Reservoir

Wilderness camping is very popular at this scenic lake. There are 12 camping spots close to the park entrance providing electrical hookups for camping. Nearby restroom facilities are also available.

Camping Permits:

Wilderness overnight camping per unit, per night –	
Garnett resident	\$5
Anderson County resident	\$7
All others	\$9

Electric hookup, overnight camping per unit, per night –

Garnett resident	\$10
Anderson County resident	\$12
All others	\$14

Electric and water hookup, overnight camping per unit, per night –

Garnett resident	\$12
Anderson County resident	\$14
All others	\$16



Update: Garnett Industrial Airport

There have been a lot of exciting changes going on at the Garnett Industrial Airport. The long awaited AWOS (automated weather observation system) is installed and is almost complete. This system is located on the airport property just east of the paved runway. It monitors the weather conditions, day and night, seven days a week, and sends the data via wireless connection to a computer in the airport terminal building where a screen has all the current airport data for pilots to view. This data, which includes wind direction, wind speed, temperature, visibility and ceiling, is also available to any pilot from anywhere via telephone. The pilot simply calls the number and a digitized voice gives him, or her, the current conditions at Garnett over the phone. The system is also available to incoming and departing aircraft over the VHF radio in the aircraft by a series of clicks on their microphone. The data from this system will eventually be shared throughout the national system of transportation and can be expanded or added to. Funding for the cost of the AWOS came from a grant through the

Federal Aviation Administration. The grant funded 95 percent of the project. We are proud to be able to offer this service to pilots and hope it will make flying to Garnett easier and safer.

In 2008 we were able to get a grant to increase our parking ramp for airplanes, increasing the area to hold 15 airplanes rather than only 5. This makes it a lot easier for pilots to taxi up for fuel or to take on luggage and passengers. This also gives much more room to the crop spray plane operations going on during the spring, summer and fall farming season. Soon we will construct tie-downs on this new ramp area so that visiting pilots are able to tie their planes down for an extended visit to Garnett. This project was also accomplished with a federal grant through the FAA.

The lack of hangar space has long been a problem at the airport. Recently licensed, Reuben Esh, owner of Esh Quality Structures, has built a 4-plane hangar complex adjacent to the new ramp area. He intends to use one of the spaces and rent the other three. As of this writing, two of the three have

been leased. This brings the total based aircraft at Garnett to 14. More airplanes equal more flying opportunities, more fuel sales and more land leases for more hangars. These are all good things for the airport and for the City of Garnett. Maybe someday you can buy a ticket to Branson or other destinations right here in Garnett.

In the hopes of bringing visiting pilots to Garnett in the future, we are working toward getting a loaner car, or courtesy car, for pilots to use while they are here. Most other airports offer a courtesy car for visiting pilots so they can visit the town or people they have come to see. This will be another incentive to visit Garnett, explore our community and patronize local businesses. We have a great little airport here and with some work we think it can be an even more vital part of our community.

Sincerely,

Gary Ecclefield, Manager
Garnett Industrial Airport



Garnett Industrial Airport

K68

1202 E. 4th Ave
Serving Anderson
County, Kansas
since 1949

Latitude: N38° 16.75'

Longitude: W95° 13.02'

Hours:

8 a.m. - 4 p.m. (Winter)
7 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Summer)



Changes in Utility Bill Payment Policy, continued from page 2.

working day, utilities are subject to disconnection without further notice and a \$50 fee will be assessed to all delinquent accounts to cover administrative costs. Utility service will not be reconnected until the bill and fee are paid in full. **No service will be reinstated after normal working hours.**

Garnett City Hall front lobby hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. We also offer drive-up window service Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The drive-up window is located in the alley, between Fourth and Fifth Avenues. In addition, we have two (2) drop boxes. One is located next to the drive-up window and the other at the front of the city hall building.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

Respectfully,

Donna V. Roberts
Billing Clerk Supervisor

From the City Manager, continued from page 2.

issue in the amount of \$50,000 to construct the facility on city property. This building will be a wonderful addition to our park and recreation departments. We do know that park department crews will occupy the very north end of the facility and it is hoped that we can finally realize a long time dream for a community recreation center. After the first of the year, I will be asking the commission to conduct a public meeting to receive our citizen's comments and suggestions on how the building can be used.

May your new year be filled with hope, happiness and good health!

Joyce E. Martin
City Manager



TO: CURRENT RESIDENT

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 7
Garnett, Kansas 66032

City of Garnett
131 West Fifth Avenue
P.O. Box H
Garnett, KS 66032



It's Happening In Garnett!

January

- 1 New Year's Day - City Hall closed.
- 4 Pet licenses go on sale at City Hall.
- 6 Garnett Sesquicentennial meeting at City Hall, 7 p.m.
- 9 Bidy basketball games begin at GEC, Ray Meyer Gymnasium.
- 12 City Commission meeting.
- 18 Kick-off party for Adult Reading Program at Garnett Public Library, 7 p.m.
- 26 Commission seat filing deadline at City Hall, 12 p.m.
- 26 City Commission meeting.
- 27 Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet, VFW Hall, 6:30 p.m.

February

- 1 Midway party for Adult Reading Program, Garnett Public Library, 7 p.m.
- 9 City Commission meeting.
- 15 President's Day - City Hall closed.
- 16 Team sign-up begins at City Hall for Spring Coed Volleyball League.
- 23 City Commission meeting.
- 26 Sign-up deadline for Spring Coed Volleyball League.

March

- 1 Final day to purchase pet licenses at reduced rate.
- 1 Celebration party for Adult Reading Program, Garnett Public Library, 7 p.m.
- 9 City Commission meeting.
- 10 Prairie Spirit Trail Anniversary Celebration, Community Building, 6 p.m.
- 15 Baseball/Softball Sign-Up Day at City Hall.
- 16 Book Discussion, "The Jungle Book", Garnett Public Library, 7 p.m.
- 20 Women's Fair at ACJSHS, hosted by Garnett BPW.
- 23 City Commission meeting.
- 31 Book Discussion, "Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry", Garnett Public Library, 7 p.m.

**City Commission meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. at Garnett City Hall, 131 West Fifth Avenue. The public is always welcome.*

For more information on what there is to see and do in Garnett and Anderson County, please visit: -
www.experiencegarnettks.net



Garnett City Hall
131 West Fifth Avenue,
P.O. Box H
Garnett, Kansas 66032
Telephone: (785) 448-5496
Email: info@garnettks.net

Municipal Government Website:
www.garnettks.net
Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Drive-Up Window: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.