



**GARNETT  
CITY  
COMMISSION**



Michael L. Norman,  
Mayor



Greg A. Gwin,  
Commissioner



Daniel V. Morgan,  
Commissioner

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

# Town Talk

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

WINTER 2012

## From the Commission...

Wow, what a wonderful sesquicentennial year Garnett had. It all started with a New Year's Eve Dance at the Knights of Columbus Hall on December 31, 2010, followed by a ball drop at midnight on the town square and with a "flying" pancake breakfast with Chris Cakes at the fire station. That was only the beginning.

We celebrated Kansas' 150<sup>th</sup> year of statehood in January. The Anderson County Historical Society rolled out 2 days of tours at the museum and Harris House with an overwhelming attendance. Our community gathered at the Anderson County Hospital to celebrate 60 Years of Wellness in February. We are blessed to have a local hospital.

In March, the Friends of the Prairie Spirit Trail celebrated the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the official opening of the now 51-mile trail. A ribbon-cutting officially opened the doors to the new Garnett Recreation Center and Goppert Wellness Center. The Friends of the Prairie Spirit Trail organized a "Garnett 150" Easter Parade and the Chamber hosted their annual Easter Egg Hunt. The Garnett Business and Professional Women (BPW) hosted the Women's Fair in March and the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Square Fair in May.

The Avenue of Flags flew for 4 days during Memorial Day Weekend with one of the best attended Memorial Day Services ever held at the Garnett Cemetery.

June was a busy time in Garnett. The Bike Across Kansas (BAK) made their final overnight tour stop in Garnett, bringing over 800 cyclists plus their support crew with them. Thanks to the folks at Ethanol (Renewable Fuels Association) and EKAE, their sponsor-

ship clinched the National Hydroplane Boat Races for Garnett held in June at Cedar Valley Reservoir. That event brought people in from 20 states. The Kansas INT water-ski and wakeboarding organization held 3 events at our north lake during the months of June, July and August. Two major go-kart races were held on the road course around Lake Garnett, sponsored by Ron Anderegg and the Garnett Kart Club. The Anderson County Fair and the Lake Garnett Cruisers car show went off with seemingly no hitches. Don't forget what a success Cornfest was in 2011 with the Pink Heels fire trucks and focus of support of our local WINGS organization.

Storm chaser Reed Timmer dropped by Safety City at the festival, and the big hit was the super Concert on the Hill with Craig Morgan, bringing thousands of people to Garnett.

The Garnett Knights of Columbus sponsored their 5th annual Autumn Blaze Smoke Off, a Kansas City Barbecue Society sanctioned

event, which brought to Garnett 39 of the best, world class barbecue teams in this part of the country. Not surprising to me, some of the winners were actually from the local area!

The weekly farmer's market, the great dinner theatre productions presented by the Chamber Players, and the Garnett Area Community Band performances accentuate the fact that we are blessed with amazing talent.

The greatest event this past year had to be the Garnett 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration Days held October 7-8. The weather was great. Our citizens came out in support of the wonderful community dinner and one of the largest parades we have seen in recent years. The reenactments, stage-coach rides, the 5-cent Cokes, children's



## From the City Commission (Continued from page 1)...

activities, displays, tours, and entertainment at the Donna Harris Park; to the burial of the time capsule and fireworks at dusk. Wow, what a celebration!

For those of you that say there's nothing to do, please take the time to get out and enjoy some of these activities. This was only a sample of what goes on in our wonderful community. Let 2012 begin!

I would like to take time to thank all of our special volunteers that serve on our advisory boards. They are some of the greatest community minded people and spend countless hours helping our city. I can't stress enough how important these advisory boards are to the day to day decisions for the city.

Our city employees have been very busy this year as well. They are always focused on making improvements to our infrastructure. Most recently their work includes adding and extending infrastructure to the new elementary school project on North US 59 Highway. What an asset this school will be for our children and community.

City crews are also working on storm water improvements on Kaw Avenue and the Hayden Addition. Our water line project from the water plant to Cedar Creek hit another snag. Believe it or not, it is difficult to find American made parts to finish and the federal stimulus grant requires it.

I can't brag on our city employees enough. They took it upon themselves to donate their time to raise money for a local charity this past year. If you happened to see a pretty

## From the City Manager...

In the spring of this year, a visit by First Impressions, which is a community betterment program sponsored by the SEK Regional Leadership Academy, provided some observations concerning the problem with a lack of adequate signage to help visitors get in and around Garnett. While many positive comments were made about our community, the group told of problems they had trying to locate the hospital, high school, swimming pool, lakes and other attractions. This prompted the City Commission to ask the Tourism Advisory Board to review local signage and report their observations and make recommendations. KU Professor Greg Thomas was contacted requesting his help to develop a wayfinding/signage program for the City. Professor Thomas came to Garnett to begin what has been a very enlightening journey to help us understand our citizen's perception of Garnett and what we need to do to increase tourism, encourage retail growth, entice people to move to Garnett and determine a tagline that delivers a promise that we can keep.

Approximately 30 students from the University of Kansas visited Garnett to become familiar with the community to help them develop signage proposals for our city. In order to give the students some direction to complete their design projects, a Garnett Image/Brand Survey was conducted with nearly 600 people voting on their favorite logo and tagline. The results of the survey were given to the students who were divided into three (3) groups. Their proposals, along with the top vote getters for the logo and tagline, were pre-

sented at the December 13, 2011 commission meeting. Our new tagline is, "Small, Serene, Simply Garnett". A picture of the new logo is on display in the front lobby at City Hall.

Where do we go from here? The Commissioners will meet with Professor Thomas in early 2012 to develop a budget on items that need to be changed to reflect the new logo and tagline. We will start small, replacing our city letterhead, envelopes and business cards once our existing supply is gone. Such things as street and entrance signs will have to be budgeted and changed over a period of time.

Professor Thomas and his family will celebrate New Year's Eve with us to provide more information on this project. We will be concluding our very successful year-long celebration of Garnett's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday with a ball drop in front of the arbor on the courthouse lawn. There will be a fireworks display followed by pancakes and sausage served at the fire station by Chris Cakes.

Mayor Norman's article reviewed all the great things that have happened in 2011. Many people have commented to me that it amazes them how much goes on in a town our size. I challenge you to get involved and help us as we accept the challenge to continue our journey to help Garnett grow and thrive.

May 2012 bring you good health and happiness.

Your Voice at City Hall,

Mike Norman  
Mayor



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May 2012 bring you good health and happiness.

Joyce E. Martin,  
City Manager

## It's Happening in Garnett

### December 2011

- 31 New Year's Eve Dance, Knights of Columbus Hall, 8-11:45 p.m.
- 31 New Year's Eve Ball Drop, Fireworks and Chris Cakes Pancake Breakfast, ending Garnett 150th celebration year, Town Square & Fire Station, 11 p.m. - 2 a.m.

### January

- 1 Happy New Year!
- 2 City Hall closed, New Year's Day holiday observed.
- 3 Pet licenses go on sale at City Hall.
- 7 Bidy basketball games begin at Garnett Recreation Center.
- 10 Read-a-thon, Garnett Public Library, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- 10 City Commission meeting.
- 11 Knowledge @ Noon, "Pruning & Spraying, Get Ready for Spring!", Anderson County Extension, Annex, 12 p.m.
- 16 Kick-off party for Adult Reading Program at Garnett Public Library, 7 p.m.
- 24 Commission seat filing deadline at City Hall, 12 p.m.
- 24 City Commission meeting.
- 25 Book Discussion, "Highest Duty", Garnett Public Library, 7 p.m.

- 26 Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet, Knights of Columbus Hall, 6:30 p.m.

### February

- 5 Community Spelling Bee at Garnett Rec Center, 2 p.m.
- 6-17 Team sign-up at Rec Center for Spring Coed Volleyball League.
- 6-24 Sign-up for Spring Soccer League at Rec Center.
- 8 Knowledge@ Noon, "What's New in Vegetable Plants" by Rita Arnold, Anderson County Annex, 12 p.m.



- 14 City Commission meeting.
- 20 President's Day - City Hall closed.
- 20 Sign-up begins for Little Goalies Soccer Program at Rec Center.
- 22 Book Discussion (TBA), Garnett Public Library, 7 p.m.
- 28 City Commission meeting.
- 29 Final day to purchase pet licenses at reduced rate.



### March

- 2 Deadline to sign-up for Little

- 2-4 & 8-10 Goalies Soccer Program at Rec Center.
- 8-10 The Chamber Players Community Theatre presents, "Almost Maine".
- 13 Baseball/Softball Sign-Up Day at Rec Center.
- 13 Garnett Public Library celebrates 100 years.
- 13 City Commission meeting.
- 14 Knowledge @ Noon, "KSU Prairie Star & Prairie Bloom Flowers", Anderson County Extension, Annex, 12 p.m.
- 17 Women's Fair at ACJSHS, hosted by Garnett BPW and A.C. Farm Bureau Women.
- 27 City Commission meeting.



- 28 Prairie Spirit Trail 16th Anniversary Celebration, Community Building, 6 p.m.
- 28 Book Discussion (TBA), 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.*

## DID YOU KNOW...

Please take note of the new hours of operation for the Garnett Recreation Center found on page 5. The City has received a few requests to open the facility as early as 6 a.m. If you are interested in utilizing the Rec Center during such early morning hours, please stop in and let Rec Center staff (Howard or Charlie) know, or give them a call at 448-3023. Use of the exercise facility continues to increase each month. Memberships and daily visitors doubled from October to November, and as of the writing of this newsletter, December is well on the way to be a record month. Thanks to generous donations, memberships and the Garnett Foundation Advisory Board fundraisers, carpet has been installed in the Goppert Wellness Center and a new exercise bicycle purchased. Individuals continue to donate equipment as well.

**NOTE:** Financial and equipment donations can be claimed as tax deductions when you file your income tax. For additional information please contact the City Manager at 448-5496.

The City of Garnett welcomes new employee **Dane Byerley**, Power Plant Operator. **Gabe Mader** recently transferred from the Power Plant to the Water & Gas Department. We also would like to thank **Lewis Kennard** for his 30 years as a Gas and Water Maintenance Worker, and **Mike Carpenter**, Law Enforcement Officer, and **Roy Salazar**, Power Plant Operator, for their 15 years of dedicated service to Garnett.

Citizens of Garnett who are interested in running for a seat on the City Commission are reminded that the filing deadline is 12:00 noon on Tuesday, January 24th. File with the City Clerk at Garnett City Hall, 131 W. 5th Avenue. The filing fee is \$5.

City Hall staff asks that anytime your pet's rabies vaccination is updated by your veterinarian that you please bring proof to City Hall so that your pet's records can be kept up to date on their filing system.

## From the Gas Department...

Important Information You Should Know:

- ▶ How, when and where to report a possible gas leak, gas odor, or carbon monoxide problem;
- ▶ Call Kansas One Call before you dig;
- ▶ Gas appliance connectors;
- ▶ Customer owned bare steel gas service lines.

It is time once again to remind our gas customers to be aware of natural gas. Natural gas is very flammable, potentially hazardous, and can be explosive under certain conditions. You can recognize a gas leak by using your senses. Seeing bubbles appear in a wet or flooded area, dead or discolored vegetation in an otherwise healthy environment, or a sometimes quiet to rather loud hissing sound can be signs of a gas leak. However, in most cases a leak can be recognized by the strong smell of odorant. Our gas system is always odorized so that people can easily detect a leak by its smell.

If you smell gas inside or outside a home, business or other structure, please report it to the gas department by calling Garnett City Hall at (785) 448-5496. Call the Law Enforcement Dispatch Center at (785) 448-6823 after normal business hours. If you have a gas emergency and the odor of natural gas is very strong and seems to be everywhere, DO NOT operate any light switches, try to air out the building or use your phone. EXIT IMMEDIATELY to a safe area away from the potential gas leak, such as going to a neighbor's house, and then call 9-1-1. Wait at your safe place for emergency personnel to arrive.

Our natural gas system transports gas to businesses and homes within the city of Garnett. Overall, this system is very reliable and in good condition. We have procedures to determine where problem areas may exist and adapt as necessary. Accidents on gas systems are extremely rare but they can occur.

The gas department regularly trains with local emergency personnel, including fire, police and dispatchers.

When a gas leak or related incident is reported, the proper department can be dispatched to provide public safety assistance and to respond to the gas emergency.

**Call BEFORE you dig!** Always call Kansas One Call before you dig to have utilities marked. Do this not only for your safety, but because it is the law. Kansas One Call will notify utility companies to mark the area with paint and flags, if their utilities exist. If there are no utilities in the project area usually "OK" is painted on the ground along with a flag, or the utility company will contact you by phone. Contact Kansas One Call by dialing 8-1-1 (not 9-1-1) or by calling 1-800-DIG-SAFE. If you see what appears to be unauthorized excavation or destructive activities around our gas system, please give us a call at city hall at 448-5496 so we can investigate.

**Beware!** Carbon monoxide (CO) is a very toxic and sometimes deadly gas that is colorless and odorless. This gas is a product of incomplete combustion. Whenever you use your furnace, wood stove, hot water tank, stove, automobile or even your charcoal grill, CO is the gas that is produced and vented out of your home through a chimney, flue or vent pipe. All gas burning equipment needs to be inspected and maintained regularly to keep it in good running condition. Chimneys and vent pipes need to be vented and kept in good working order as well. Carbon monoxide poisoning gives you flu like symptoms. So if you are seemingly not feeling very well, especially when at home, it could be a carbon monoxide problem. Call us. We can help by checking if carbon monoxide is a problem in your gas burning appliances. Every home should have a carbon monoxide detector and a smoke detector to help ensure your safety.

Gas connectors are corrugated metal tubes used to connect gas appliances in your home to gas supply pipes. Some of these old brass colored connectors can have a flaw in how the tubing was made and over time can

separate causing a potentially serious gas leak. These uncoated brass connectors have not been made for over 25 years, but many are still in use. Although not all brass connectors have a flaw, it is very difficult to tell which ones do. Therefore, any uncoated brass colored connector should be replaced with either a plastic coated brass or stainless steel connector. Connectors can wear out from too much moving and bending and should always be inspected closely whenever an appliance is replaced or moved from its location.

Any additional gas safety related information is always free and available at Garnett City Hall.

### Bare Steel Gas Lines

Do I need to have my bare steel gas line replaced?

*The Answer:* Yes.

All bare steel gas lines are slowly corroding and will eventually leak and have to be replaced. We don't know when these lines will eventually leak and have to be replaced. We don't know when these lines may begin to leak which is why they need to be replaced before any leakage occurs. The Gas Department already has an ongoing program to replace all of the city's bare steel mains and service lines.

On August 28, 2007, the city passed an ordinance requiring the replacement of any existing customer owned gas service line at the time of the sale of the property. It usually takes less than a day for one of our qualified plumbers to replace most bare steel service lines. Most of these plumbers will give you a prior estimate of how much it will cost.

Please feel free to contact me to find out if you have a bare steel service line, or if you have any other questions.

Sincerely,  
Earl "Butch" Rocker  
Gas and Water Superintendent





*Small, Serene, Simply Garnett.*

## GARNETT RECREATION DEPARTMENT 2012 PROGRAMS AND SCHEDULE\*

Registration forms are available at the Garnett Recreation Center, City Hall or download and print off registration form at [www.garnettksonline.com](http://www.garnettksonline.com). Return the registration form to the Garnett Recreation Center 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 Brad Yeubanks, Recreation Coordinator, (785) 448-5496.

Name	Registration Begins	DEADLINE	Fee	Program Info
Spring Coed Volleyball League	February 6, 2012	February 17	\$100/Team	Held on Friday evenings at ACJSHS. Adults.
Spring Youth Soccer League	February 6, 2012	February 24	\$ 30	Held on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings for Grades 1-6. Fee includes shirt.
Little Goalies Soccer	February 20, 2012	March 2	\$15	Held indoors at Rec Center for children 4-6 years old. Practices TBA. Games on Saturday mornings.
Baseball/Softball	April 12, 2012	April 27	\$ 30	TBA, T-ball and coach pitch leagues, boys baseball and girls softball leagues. Ages 5 years and up.
Summer Coed Softball League	May 1, 2012	May 18	\$200/Team	Held on Friday nights at Garnett Sports Complex.
Swimming Lessons	TBA	TBA	TBA	Sign up at pool after it opens for summer.
Flag Football	August 13, 2012	August 31	\$ 30	Held on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings for children in Grades 1-3 & 4-6. Fee includes shirt.
Youth Volleyball	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Fall Coed Volleyball League	September 3, 2012	September 21	\$100/Team	Held on Friday evenings at ACJSHS gym. Adults.
Biddy Basketball	November 19, 2012	December 12	\$ 30	Held at Garnett Recreation Center on Saturday mornings for children in Grades 3-6.
Exercise Class	Ongoing	Prior to Participation	\$ 2.50/class	Led by Donna Brummel, these classes are open to persons of any age, held weekly on Mondays and Wednesdays at the Garnett Rec Center, 9:00 a.m.

*\*Additional announcements to be made as information becomes available. All content subject to change.*

### Garnett Recreation Center - Goppert Wellness Center

**NOW TAKING MEMBERSHIPS FOR 2012**

510 North Lake Road ~ (785) 448-3023

#### MEMBERSHIP FEES

Single (11-18)	\$10/month
Single (19-54)	\$20/month
Family	\$30/month*
Senior Citizen (55 & over)	\$10/month
Daily Fee, all ages	\$ 2

Any child 11 years of age and under cannot use the facility without being accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or adult. No fee will be charged for those under the age of 11.

However, if the parent, legal guardian or adult accompanying someone in this age group wants to use the facility, they must have a membership or pay a daily/monthly fee.

Pay yearly fee and receive 2 months free.

\*Family of four includes mother, father and two kids or a single parent and three kids. Any additional kids up to the age of 18 years of age will be an additional \$10 per month. A married couple will qualify for the family plan.



#### HOURS OF OPERATION

*Effective January 1, 2012\**  
 7 a.m. - 9 a.m. Monday-Friday  
 2 p.m. - 8 p.m. Monday-Friday  
 8 a.m. - noon Saturday  
 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday  
 \*Subject to Change

# 2012 Outdoor Recreation Fun Guide



## 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 May 1-November 15, on the following specified days: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays, the first and third Saturdays of each month, Memorial Day, July 4 and Labor Day, from 8:30 a.m. to sunset.

**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.

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.

**GOOD NEWS:** As of January 1, 2012, reservations can be made to secure your campsite! Reserve your spot by calling Garnett City Hall, (785) 448-5496.

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

Fourteen camping spots are located on the east side of Lake Garnett (adjacent golf course) with electric and water hookups. 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

## ATV Regulations

City permits are required for anyone operating a motorized, non-highway vehicle at Cedar Valley Reservoir. 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).

### 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

# 100 Years of Opening Books & Minds

## WHERE IT ALL BEGAN:

A group of Garnett women formed the Women's Library Association in 1910 and from that entity the Garnett Public Library was formally established in the spring of 1912 as a municipally owned and supported institution. Books from an early-day attempt in the 1880's to start a library, and from a later effort to create a local Y.M.C.A., had been kept in storage and were used to form a nucleus of the new library. It was located in the upstairs rooms over what was then the National Bank of Commerce. This building at the corner of 5th and Oak was most recently occupied on the ground floor by Sisters Antiques.

In the early months of the library, members of the club took turns serving as librarians. In March, 1912, the city took over the library and it has been supported by tax levy since that time. Miss Nannie Hunter was the first salaried librarian and there were 1,000 volumes and 50 membership cards.

In 1918, the city purchased the former St. Paul's Lutheran Church at the present library location, 125 W. 4th Ave. A sum of \$1,500

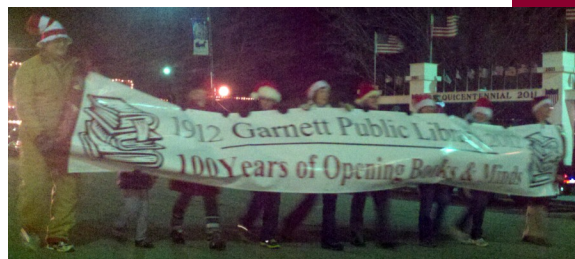
was paid for the building.

Miss Hunter was librarian for 14 years and was succeeded by Mrs. Pearl Whitney, who served for nearly 25 years, with Miss Mabel Jones as her assistant. Mrs. D. D. Richards became librarian in 1949 and was assisted by Mrs. J. J. Brown. When she retired in 1960, Miss Mabel Jones became librarian, assisted by Mrs. Evert Fink.

In 1968, a new building was constructed at a cost of approximately \$150,000. Garnett voted a bond issue of \$75,000 and the remainder of the funding was from federal participation through grants and donations from individuals and groups. In 1968 the library had over 20,000 volumes, plus periodicals and newspapers.

Miss Jones retired in 1968 and Mrs. Fink became the librarian and served until 1974, at which time Emma Jean Pretzer became librarian. In 1984, Sue Harris Schuster filled in as the library director until 1988 when present director Andrea Sobba became library director.

The library was first automated in 1998. At about the same time



the library got "online" with its first public access internet computers. Interlibrary loan became more efficient through the use of the state library online catalog.

In the fall of 2001, the library building was enlarged. This addition doubled the size of the present building and allowed for an expanded children's section, an art gallery for the Walker Art Collection, a public meeting room, handicap accessible bathrooms, community display space and much needed storage space.

In 2009, a new automation system was installed that allows our patrons to access our card catalog via the internet. The Garnett Public Library is now part of a consortium of libraries from throughout the Southeast Kansas

*(Continued on page 8)*

## New Pet Licensing Fees for 2012

The City Commission recently adopted an ordinance increasing the dog and cat tag registration fees. Pet licensing is required within the city of Garnett during the months of January and February of each year without penalty.

Previously, the fees were \$5 for a sexually altered or neutered dog or cat, and \$10 if the animal has not been sexually altered or neutered. On March 1 of each year the fees would double to \$10 and \$20.

Effective January 1, 2012, the new fee charged is \$7.50 for a sexually altered or neutered animal, and \$20 for a pet that is not sexually altered or neutered. This rate is in effect from January 1 to February 29, 2012. As of March 1, 2012, the fees will double to \$15

and \$40 respectively. Replacement tag fees increase from the prior charge of \$1 to \$5.

Pet licensing fees have not been raised since 1997. However, animal control expenses continue to increase. Fees account for half of the total budget needed to operate this department.

A new provision of the ordinance will cause the City Clerk to send notification to a pet owner 30 days in advance of the expiration of their rabies tag. Owners will be required to provide the new rabies information to the city within 30 days of notification. Failure to comply will result in the tag being revoked and a fine issued.

Mark your calendar to get your pets licensed in January or February.





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

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

**TO: CURRENT RESIDENT**

## 100 Years of Opening Books & Minds (Continued from page 7)...

Library System, which currently has 30 members. This enables library staff and patrons to easily place holds on books and other material, resulting in very quick receipt of the item. Patrons can place holds, renew items and check their accounts all from the convenience of their home.

Currently the library has over 1,900 patrons and over 36,000 materials in various formats. Gone are the days of only being able to check books out at the library. Today, you can check-out books, movies, puzzles, audio books, puppets and magazines. The library has 7 public access internet computers and wi-fi. The state library has many databases that our patrons can access for free as well as downloadable audio books. The library also offers fax and copy services. Visitors can view the Walker Art Gallery, peruse the community display hall to see what latest local talent is being shared and view the current collection in the display case.

The library has many fun and educational programs for all ages to enjoy. Each winter the Adult Reading Program provides incentive to read, as well as lots of fun. Storytime is held weekly at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesdays during the school year.

The summer reading program is always a hit with the kids and keeps their reading skills sharp over the summer. Last year the library had over 160 kids participate. Each fall the library participates in the statewide *Kansas Reads to Preschoolers* program. In 2011 the library gave books to 160 children, thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Library and other community organizations.

The Garnett Public Library is very fortunate to have an active and enthusiastic Friends of the Library group. Most of the programming is funded by the Friends. Each year they give several thousand dollars to the library and numerous hours of volunteer service. Some of their annual events include the Holiday Homes Tour, the book sale, and the ice cream social.

The library currently employs Andrea Sobba as library director, Sharon Rocker as adult services librarian, Amanda Teal as youth services librarian, Connie Fagg as interlibrary loan clerk, Jackie Gardner as cataloger, Violet Brownrigg as a circulation clerk and Shirley Benjamin as custodian.

Many events are planned for the upcoming year-long 100th birthday celebration. Happenings will be publicized on a monthly basis. Make plans now to participate in the Garnett Public Library's centennial activities.



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[www.garnettksonline.net](http://www.garnettksonline.net)  
[www.garnettks.net](http://www.garnettks.net)  
[www.ExperienceGarnettKS.com](http://www.ExperienceGarnettKS.com)

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.