

# PARK CITY POST

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## BACK ON TRACK



Photos by Mark Weaver

Bicyclists practice on the Park City BMX track after the public facility opened in 2011.

## Park City BMX facility relies on volunteers

By Matt Heilman

Despite obstacles and frustrations, the long-term vision for Park City's BMX bicycle track at the far west end of Hap McLean Park remains intact.

The track is there for residents to enjoy, but from Day 1, one of its main objectives was to attract competitive BMX riders of all ages from across the central United States and beyond.

The track, visible from the northbound lanes of I-135 near 77th North, was built to a standard a developer described as "Olympic quality." It measures 154 feet wide by 375 feet long. It includes paving at the angled turns and downhill slope out of the starting gate and compacted dirt on each straightaway where the jumps are featured. At the starting gate, bikes lean against a flap that drops to signify the start of a race. When the track was built, the plans called for it to host organized races every Saturday and every third Sunday of the month.

So far this year, there hasn't been much racing.

But that was to change on July 28 when Park City's BMX track was to host its next sanctioned event, the Kansas State Qualifier.

The state qualifier was expected to bring riders to Park City from across Kansas, Oklahoma and the Kansas City metro area, said Jeremy Guinn, the track operator.

At the event, riders affiliated with an organization called USA BMX were expected to compete in several



Riders practice in 2011. The track is designed to host competitive races.

age groups ranging from 5 years old to older than 60, and in three skill sets: novice, intermediate and expert, Guinn said.

The top overall riders in each age group accumulated points that go toward qualifying for the President's Cup, scheduled during the Thanksgiving weekend in Tulsa, an event that Guinn described as "the Super Bowl of racing."

Prior to the President's Cup, state championship racing is planned for Sept. 15 at either Topeka's Heartland BMX track, the Emory Park track in south Wichita or in Park City, Guinn said.

If the track was too wet for racing on July 28, Guinn said the state qualifier would be rescheduled to another

date prior to the state championships.

As its operator, Guinn has spearheaded volunteer efforts to maintain the 2-year-old track in Park City. It's been an uphill battle to keep the track in racing condition. Vandalism and a lack of volunteer help have kept the track from consistently hosting events this year.

Until a recent cleanup effort, the track was covered in tall grass and weeds. Extensive dirt work was also needed.

Park City Administrator Jack Whitson said there have been problems with juveniles riding bikes on the wet track and creating ruts and divots that add several hours' worth

See TRACK, Page 4

## City violates Kansas open meetings law

By Matt Heilman

Park City leaders broke the law. That's what a recent ruling from the Sedgwick County District Attorney's Office says.

Last fall, then Mayor Emil Bergquist and the eight-member city council agreed to hold an Oct. 10 special meeting, a meeting in which the public didn't receive proper notice and formal action was taken.

A ruling was made in mid-July week that the meeting violated the Kansas Open Meetings Act. The ruling was made after the district attorney's office reviewed the case that was initially brought to their attention by a Park City resident.

Park City was assessed a \$500 fine and ordered "to undertake remedial measures to attempt to ensure that future violations will not occur."

The remedial measures include improving the notification process on the city's website and training for the city's staff on the requirements of the Kansas Open Meet-

ings Act.

Seven council members at the group's Oct. 9 regularly scheduled meeting signed the petition to hold a special meeting. Park City Clerk Dennis Nichols circulated the petition among the council members. Bergquist authorized the following evening's special meeting with his signature.

The purpose of the Oct. 10 special meeting was to discuss cuts to personnel and a question about the city pool in Hap McLean Park.

During part of the meeting, the council was to consider placing an item on the April election ballot for a public vote to decide if residents were willing to pay one extra mill in property taxes to support keeping the city pool open for this summer.

The Ark Valley News, the official newspaper for Park City, didn't receive the notice for the special meeting until after 5 p.m. Oct. 10 when the News office was

See MEETING, Page 4

## Fireworks cause severed thumb and house fire

By Matt Heilman

A man lost his thumb and Valley Center fire crews were kept busy on America's birthday, but overall, the July 4 celebration didn't overextend emergency personnel in north Sedgwick County.

Valley Center crews were called to at least eight fireworks-related fire calls July 4 and early July 5.

It started with a grass fire in a ditch in the 8600 block of North Ridge Road around 4 p.m. July 4.

Crews then responded to a wheat field fire in the 11700 block of North Maize, 81st North and Hoover, and 85th North and Woodlawn.

Firefighters also went to a grass fire in the 7400 block of North Ridge and a brush fire in the 6100 block of East 85th North.

Sedgwick County fire crews were also busy throughout the Fourth of July weekend. In north Sedgwick County, crews responded to field fires and a couple of mobile home fires in Park City's mobile home park north of 61st North and Broadway. The first call

reported July 5 destroyed a mobile home on East Sequoia. Sparklers that were left on a back deck of the home caused the fire.

A second fire to a mobile home reported on July 7 was extinguished on the underside of the structure.

For area police departments, the holiday celebration was for the most part calm, although there were a couple noteworthy calls in Valley Center and Park City. In Valley Center, Police Chief Mark Hephner cited an incident where a man lost his thumb in a July 4 fireworks accident as the one call that stuck out in a week that he otherwise described as "relatively quiet."

In the July 4 emergency call, police said Brian Russell, a 35-year-old man visiting friends and relatives from Texas was lighting fireworks at a residence in the 3900 block of West 77th North when an artillery shell apparently exploded prematurely and tore off his left thumb.

The artillery shell blew through

See FIREWORKS, Page 4

## City's 2014 budget requires no tax increase

By Matt Heilman

Last year, there was lengthy discussion and some disagreement. This year, it's been smooth sailing. Park City clerk and finance director Dennis Nichols presented a draft of the 2014 budget that calls for no tax increase and an overall sunnier financial picture than what the council had to deal with last year.

At its July 23 meeting, the council voted 7-0 to approve the publication of the draft of the 2014 budget that

shows the overall property tax mill levy to hold steady at about 39.6 mills. The budget also calls for a 3-percent cost-of-living adjustment for city employees.

Council member John Lehnerr was absent from the July 23 meeting.

Park City's assessed valuation in the 2014 budget projects an increase of about \$900,000 or 1.6 percent to \$59,925,455. One mill equates to \$1 of taxes for every \$1,000 of assessed property value. So, one mill in Park City is projected to bring in nearly

\$60,000 in 2014.

Nichols said the valuation increase can primarily be attributed to new home construction and added tax revenue with sunsets reached on abatements for a few industrial revenue bonds. Also, the 2014 budget allows two mills from the bond and interest fund to roll into the general fund where the bulk of city tax dollars are spent.

Last year, the council approved a two-mill property tax increase to cover a deficit in the bond and interest fund, primarily caused by delinquent special

assessments on undeveloped residential lots.

Nichols said increased franchise fees, permit fees and progress with commercial development has Park City's projected revenue up in 2014. Nichols said the general fund, bond and interest fund and utility fund are all in solid shape, but he recommended that the council consider a slight water rate increase this fall to assure that revenue exceeds expenses with the utility. The Chisholm Creek Utility Authority, which is the primary source of

water for Park City, is seeing increased operating costs and with more rain, residential water usage has slightly decreased in recent months.

The 2014 spending plan gives the city about \$13.8 million to work with. Moving forward, the council has the option to lower the property tax mill levy approved for publication, but it can't raise it.

"I feel good about the budget and I think you guys can feel good about going ahead and publishing it," Nichols said to the council.

# HIGHLIGHTS

## City issues 20 permits in June

The City of Park City issued 20 building permits during June for a total valuation of \$549,247. There were no new home permits issued.

- June 3, 850 E. 45th North, new commercial construction, \$276,000;
- June 4, 2524 Charleston, deck, \$3,000;
- June 5, 2601 Prairie Rose Circle, basement finish, \$2,000;
- June 6, 6320 W. Parkview, tearoff/reroof, \$2,000;
- June 7, 1231 Denver, tearoff/reroof, \$1,700;
- June 7, 1624 Lancaster, tearoff/reroof, \$2,000;
- June 12, 6000 Hattan Drive, commercial remodel, \$200,000;
- June 13, 518 Rolling View Drive, tearoff/reroof, \$9,492;
- June 13, 1931 Wyndham Road, tearoff/reroof, \$5,500;
- June 17, 1625 Evanston, tearoff/reroof, \$2,400;
- June 18, 6987 Wendell, roof cover for deck, \$1,941;
- June 18, 6200 Jacksonville, commercial remodel, \$10,000;
- June 20, 8824 Hidden Lane, tearoff/reroof, \$7,500;
- June 21, 1516 Frontenac, porch/siding/tearoff/reroof, \$3,800;
- June 24, 5818 Park Place, tearoff/reroof, \$1,000;
- June 24, 6550 W. Parkview, tearoff/reroof, \$2,350;
- June 25, 4664 Cheltenham Court, tearoff/reroof, \$5,864;
- June 25, 628 Rolling View Drive, tearoff/reroof, \$2,700;
- June 26, 2534 Cambridge Court, basement finish, \$1,500;
- June 27, 509 Rolling View Drive, deck, \$8,500.

— The Post staff

## Jewelry taken in burglary

An unknown amount of jewelry was stolen in a burglary reported in the early morning hours of July 1 in Park City.

Park City police responded to a general alarm at the residence in the 1300 block of East Evanston shortly before 4:30 a.m. When officers arrived on scene, they noticed someone had broken into the home through a bedroom window. The officers did not identify any suspects.

— The Post staff

## Schools increase options for lunch

In the name of reducing the amount of wasted food and making sure students get the midday nutrition they need, the Wichita school district is adding options to school lunches this fall.

A news release from the school district said students at the elementary level will be able to make their own choices and serve themselves. There will also be more menu items for all grade levels as well as

choices for breakfast.

Based on student feedback, the increased variety on the lunch menu includes more vegetarian offerings.

For lunch, elementary students will be offered a choice of three entrees (two hot and one cold), two choices of fruit and two choices of vegetables. The students have to take three to five items, one of which must be a fruit or vegetable.

— The Post staff

## Thieves target Westar substation

Thieves escaped with more than \$12,000 worth of equipment in a pair of break-ins at the Westar Energy substation at 640 E. 45th North, Park City. In two nights, thieves broke into a trailer on the site owned by Wichita's Shelley Electric Inc.

The first break-in was reported about 9:30 a.m. July 7. Park City police say entry was made onto the site when a thief or thieves cut an eight-foot wide, by eight-foot long hole in the fence on the north side of the compound. About \$2,000 in equipment was stolen in the July 7 incident that likely had occurred during the overnight hours of July 6.

A second burglary was reported about 9 a.m. July 8. Park City police said entry was made onto the compound through the hole in the fence from the previous burglary. This time, about \$10,160 was stolen from the Shelley Electric trailer.

Park City Police Sgt. Trent Johnson said most of the equipment taken was copper wiring that belonged to Westar Energy. He said the recent thefts in Park City are two of four break-ins to Westar facilities reported in the last three weeks.

He said the break-ins reported on back-to-back days in Park City are just a couple of cases in an overall problem with copper wire thefts in the area. Johnson said copper is a popular target for thieves because it sells for about \$6 per pound.

The cases in Park City are under investigation. Johnson said it's unknown if the thefts in Park City are connected to any other unsolved copper wire theft in the area.

"There are just so many burglaries," he said.

— Matt Heilman

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# School right around the corner

By The Post staff

Sorry Alice Cooper. School didn't let out forever. Summer vacation's days are numbered. Whether students like it or not, it's almost time to go back to the classroom.

In the Wichita school dis-

trict, the first bell of the school year will ring on Aug. 14. The first official day of school for every student in the district is preceded by an Aug. 13 orientation day for sixth-grade students and high school freshmen.

The Valley Center school district has a more staggered

start. Students in first through fifth grades, seventh grade and ninth grade and students new to the district start school on Aug. 15. Students in sixth grade, eighth grade and 10th through 12th grades start on Aug. 16 with kindergartners starting on Aug. 20.

At Bel Aire's Sunrise Christian Academy, junior high schools students return on Aug. 14, followed by high school students on Aug. 15 and elementary school students on Aug. 16. Bel Aire's Resurrection Catholic School starts on Aug. 16.

# Organizer pleased with turnout for Salute

By Matt Heilman

The overall attendance is difficult to peg, but organizers were pleased with the turnout for the annual Salute to Freedom celebration July 4 in Park City. Park City community events committee member Sheryl Karleskint said between 800 and 900 people attended a concert in the park from country music artist and Mound Valley native, James Wesley.

The concert was free to the public, but tickets were used in an attempt to gauge how many people attended the show. Karleskint said 724 tickets were distributed at the Wholesale Fireworks tent just east of 61st North and Hydraulic and about 100 people without tickets were admitted to the outdoor concert in Hap McLean Park.

The concert was followed by a fireworks display that capped off a full day of activities in Park City that began with the annual Salute to Freedom parade at 9 a.m. With unseasonably moderate temperatures for the Fourth of July, a crowd that appeared to easily eclipse 1,000 people visited the park after the parade where activities included a car show, kids' games, a horseshoe tournament, live music, inflatables, a kids' barbecuing contest and a pet show.

Karleskint's family's adopted miniature horse, Goliath, won the "best dressed" category in the pet show with red, white and



Matt Heilman

Cindi Hudlin of the U.S. Army is honored on the TNT Daycare float during the July 4 Salute to Freedom parade.

blue feathers in its mane, a red white and blue skirt tied around its back hips and an American flag bow on its tail.

Funding for the event was made possible with proceeds from sales in the Wholesale Fireworks tent near the Park City Library east of 61st North and Hydraulic. In exchange for working the tent for Wholesale Fireworks every year, the events committee gets 20 percent of

the proceeds. All of that 20 percent goes toward funding the annual Fourth of July celebration in the city, Karleskint said.

This year, the events com-

mittee sold almost the entire inventory in the tent and profited about \$1,000.

"Our sales were up significantly," Karleskint said.

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# THE PARK CITY REPORT

## \$\$\$ Or How Your Dollars Are Spent \$\$\$

### CITY OF PARK CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

#### June 25, 2013 Regular Meeting:

- A Resolution determining the advisability of issuing Taxable Industrial Revenue Bonds in the amount of \$26,000,000 for the purpose of financing the acquisition, construction and installation of a scrap metal processing facility by Midwest Scrap Management, Inc. was approved by the Council.

- A Public Hearing concerning the condemnation of a garage structure located at 1213 E. Fairchild was held. Upon conclusion of the Public Hearing the Council approved a Resolution determining the said garage as unsafe and ordered repaired and/or demolished.

- A Resolution which calls for the establishment and maintenance of a reserve for accounting accruals for employee benefits payable in the General Fund was approved by the Council.

- An Ordinance was passed by the Council which provides the Council the option for the Governing Body to decline salary increases that are provided to employees.

- The Council approved an Ordinance amending Section 5-501 of the Municipal Code relating to the definitions used in Chapter 5, Article 5; Regulating Massage Businesses.

- The Council approved the purchase of a ZTR Mower for the Street Department by accepting the low bid of \$9,907.50 from Maximum Outdoor Equipment.

- The following low bids were accepted by the Council for repairs to the exterior of City Hall: Building Repairs – S & J Construction (\$8,970); Painting – Klein Construction (\$2,115.76); and Electrical – David Oldham (\$760).

- Council approved the

purchase of new uniforms for the Police Department at a cost of \$8,400.

#### July 9, 2013 Regular Meeting:

- The Council approved the payment of annual membership dues in the Greater Wichita Area Sports Commission in the amount of \$5,000 utilizing Transient Guest Tax proceeds.

- The Council made the following approvals concerning General Obligation Bond Issue – Series 2013: 1.) Approved each of the documents presented for consideration; 2.) Established August 13, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. to meet for the purpose of hearing any and all written or oral objections to the respective assessments set forth in the documents; 3.) Caused the City Clerk to publish the Notice of Public Hearing; 4.) Mail the Form of Notice of Hearing and

Statement of Cost Proposed to be Assessed; and 5.) File each of said documents of record in the office of the City Clerk and make the same available for public inspection.

- Scheduled a Public Hearing for July 23, 2013 at 7:15 p.m. for the purpose hearing from any person(s) on the list of delinquent recycling fee list.

- The Council approved Councilmember Tom Jones as the City's representative to the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and Councilmember George Capps as the alternate.

- The Council approved expenditure not to exceed \$26,000 for the upgrading of computers and the terminal server.

- The Council agreed to hold a Council Workshop for the purpose of providing training on municipal government and team building.

#### Park City Senior Center Calendar of Events

##### Aug. 2013

For a complete schedule of all daily/weekly activities & programs, call Vicki Shepard at 744-1199.

##### Monday

9:15 AM exercise  
10:15 Bible study  
1:00 Crochet/art class  
7:00 Cards

##### Tuesday

10:00 Chair exercise  
Foot Care every other month  
1:00 Bridge lessons  
5:30 TOPS every Tuesday

##### Wednesday

Toe Nail Care with Brenda 2nd Wednesday of each month  
Chisholm Trail catered meal & meeting (1st Wed. of each month)

9:15 AM Exercise  
1:00 PM Walk With Ease  
2:30 Line dance lessons

##### Thursday

9:00 AM Wii Bowling (except 2nd Thursday of month)  
10:00 Chair exercise  
11:30 Agent with Humana 3rd Thursday of each month  
1:00 Shoot the breeze  
1:00 3rd Thursday Card Bingo  
5:30 PM Finger food on 3rd Thursday evening of each month  
7:00 PM Square Dance 1st, 2nd & 4th Thursday

##### Friday

9:15 Exercise  
1:00 Pinochle  
6:00 PM Food/fun/games 3rd Friday of each month

##### Saturday

1:00 PM cards  
7:00 PM 1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturday of each month Dances

**Monday thru Friday**  
noon, GNNP Lunch (by res.)

Homebound delivery Monday through Friday

##### TOPS

Take pounds off sensibly will begin meeting at the Park City senior center on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 PM. For more information on joining contact GiGi Roths at 312-1945.

**Aug. 5, 10:30 AM** Board Meeting

**Wednesday, Aug. 7, 10:30 AM** Chisholm Trail Seniors Catered Lunch and Meeting (lunch by reservation)

**Tuesday Aug. 20, 8:00 AM** Breakfast at Auntie C's

**Tuesday Aug. 20, 11:30** Virtual Tour of Dementia—This program will put participants through a virtual tour to show what it feels like to have Dementia

**Thursday, Aug. 15, 1:00 Card** Bingo—Fee \$1.00

**Thursday, Aug. 15, 5:30 PM** Finger Food

**Friday Aug. 16, 6:00 PM** Fun-Food-Games with Darlene

##### SENIOR DANCES

**Saturdays Aug. 3-7:00 PM** Yesterday's Playboys

**Aug. 17-7:00 PM** Wildwood Band

**Aug. 31 7:00 PM** Wildwood Band

Information on senior activities and senior information contact Vicki Shepard—Tri-City Senior Director at 744-1199

### Park City Police Department Has New Blue Uniforms!

The goal of the Park City Police Department and the Officers is to serve the citizens and to keep you safe. The Officers wear uniforms so that you can easily identify and recognize them when they are out in the community. The Park City Police Department would like you to know that they have updated their uniforms. Please note that the color of the uniform has changed from tan to blue.

## Keep Your Grass Mowed

Remember it is your responsibility to mow your grass so it does NOT get too high. Code enforcement does not want to give you a notice of violation. Only one notice will be given, and then a citation will be issued for failure to comply!

### Fight The Spread of West Nile Virus — Eliminate Standing Water

Mosquitoes are annoying but they can also cause serious health problems like the spread of West Nile Virus. Standing water is a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Make sure when it rains to eliminate any water that has not drained from pots, gutters, tires, tarps, wagons wheelbarrows – anything that holds water. Change the water in wading pools, pet dishes and bird baths several times a week.

### LIKE Park City on Facebook!!

## Water Conservation Rebate Program

In an effort to promote water conservation Park City is partnering with the City of Wichita in a Water Conservation Rebate Program. Rebates applied to water bills of up to \$100 are being offered when a qualified low flow toilet, high efficiency dishwasher, high efficiency clothes washer or smart irrigation controller is purchased and installed. Rebates may be applied to the water bill of up to \$75 for eligible rain barrels. The rebates are for qualifying devices or appliances purchased between May 1, 2013 and December 31, 2013. The rebates will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Rebates are available only to single-family, owner occupied residences and there is a limit of five rebated items per household. For more information, see the Park City website at [www.parkcityks.com](http://www.parkcityks.com)

## Conserve Water!

It's hot! As the temperature rises, so does the demand for water. The increased demand puts a great deal of pressure on the pumps at the water plant. Please water lawns between sun down and sun up.

### Check out the latest blog —

Have you been on the Park City website lately?

Would you like to know more about the Park City Planning Commission? Make sure to check out the latest blog.

[www.parkcityks.com](http://www.parkcityks.com)

## Water Excess Use Charge

The water and sewer billing received around the first of August will reflect an "Excessive Use Charge" for residential customers who used over 15,000 gallons during a billing cycle. This period began with the usage from June 15th and will extend through October 15th. The Excessive Use Charge for Commercial Customers is calculated on a different basis.

A garden hose left on can pour out 1,000 gallons of water or more in only a few hours. Remember that when you leave the sprinkler running all day or leave the hose unattended, thousands of gallons can be used in a very short time. A toilet flush uses up to seven gallons, water taps run at about five gallons a minute while waiting for the water to get hot or cold, showers use five to ten gallons a minute, and leaks can soak up hundreds or even thousands of gallons a day.

### I-135 BRIDGES AT 53RD STREET NORTH RESTRICTED TO SINGLE LANE TRAFFIC

A Kansas Department of Transportation project to repair bridges on I-135 over 53rd Street North will restrict traffic on I-135 to one lane for each direction for two months. Set-up of traffic control signs and lane closure equipment for the 1/2-mile work zones began on Monday, June 17 and the work should be completed in mid-August.

The bridge repairs will include concrete patching of the bridge deck, a new concrete driving surface and new bridge approaches. One lane of traffic will be maintained for both directions on I-135 through the relatively short work zone and the speed limit will be reduced to 50 mph. The ramps to and from 53rd Street will remain open.

Wildcat Concrete Services of Topeka is the primary contractor for the \$556,252.25 project. The project is part of the highway preservation component of T-WORKS, an \$8 billion, 10-year transportation program approved by the 2010 Kansas Legislature. More information on the program is available at <http://kdotapp.ksdot.org/TWorks/>. Information on this and other Wichita highway projects is available at [www.WichitaKDOT.org](http://www.WichitaKDOT.org).

**TUESDAYS, Aug. 9 and 23 ARE RECYCLING DAYS IN PARK CITY**  
(Place recyclables at curb by 6 a.m.)  
**GET YOUR RECYCLING CART – CALL CITY HALL TODAY**

**ALL TOGETHER NOW!**  
MIX THE FOLLOWING RECYCLABLES IN HERE:

**PLEASE NO:**

- styrofoam
- electronics
- ceramics or dishes
- food waste
- plastic grocery bags
- motor oil containers
- household hazardous waste
- light bulbs, window glass, or mirrors
- yard waste or trash

**WASTE CONNECTIONS INC.**  
Connect with the Future!  
316-838-6664

**RecycleBank**  
REWARDS FOR PEOPLE & PLANET

### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Aug. 3:** Senior Dance 7 pm at Senior Center

**Aug. 4:** PCYP board 7 pm at Community Building

**Aug. 5:** Park board 7 pm at City Hall

**Aug. 7:** Seniors catered lunch 10:30 am Senior Center

**Aug. 8:** Court trials 1 pm City Hall, Court 6:30 pm City Hall, Library Board 7 pm Park City Library

**Aug. 10:** Park City Pride 9 am

**Aug. 13:** City Council meeting 7 pm City Hall

**Aug. 15:** Seniors finger food 5:30 pm Senior Center, Court 6:30 pm City Hall

**Aug. 17:** Park City Alive! 7 pm Park City Library; Senior Dance 7 pm at Community Building

**Aug. 19:** Planning/BZA 7 pm City Hall

**Aug. 22:** Court trials 1 pm City Hall, CCUA Bel Aire 4:30 pm City Hall, Court 6:30 pm City Hall

**Aug. 27:** Council 7 pm City Hall, Seniors Square Dance 7 pm Senior Center

**Aug. 28:** Chamber Luncheon 11:30 am

**Aug. 29 —** Court 6:30 pm City Hall

**Aug. 30 —** Commodities 8 am Leekers

### AUTOMATED PHONE SYSTEM AT CITY HALL

City Hall now has an automated phone system. When you call you will be asked to make a selection from the menu and will be connected to a specific department. The Police Department and the Court have a direct number that may be called from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. A list of extensions/numbers is provided below for your convenience.

203	City Administrator
215	Assistant City Administrator/HR
204	Finance Dr./ City Clerk
214	City Attorney
206	Mayor
202	Accounts Payable
209	Payroll
208	Building Permits
207	Utility Billing
201	Utility Billing
213	Inspections
225	Compliance Officer
205	Compliance Officer
210	Court Clerk
216	Asst. Court Clerk
744-2011	Police
744-6417	Court

The City of Park City offers e-mail utility bills. If you would like to have your bills e-mailed instead of receiving a card in the regular mail just complete this form and return it to City Hall. You may also sign up on our website [www.parkcityks.com](http://www.parkcityks.com).

Name as it appears on bill: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Service Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Automatic Payment of Utility Billings

Enroll now for automatic payment of water and sewer bills. Once enrolled, a billing will continue to be mailed to you that will show the amount that will be automatically deducted from your bank account. If you would like to enroll in this plan, just come by City Hall and complete the authorization form or call the water clerk at 744-2026.

# Joining students in dreading end of summer

Walmart's shelves are stocked with school supplies. We're done blowing up fireworks and kids are packing away their baseball gloves and lacing up their football cleats.

Nevermind what the outside temperature gauge and extended sunlight hours tell you, the end of summer is almost here.

At the July 16 Valley Center Chamber of Commerce meeting, USD 262 Superintendent Cory Gibson casually mentioned that in exactly one month, the hallways at every school in the Valley Center school district will be filled with students.

Fall sports practices will soon kick into high gear and the Class of 2014 will carry the self-assigned role of "best class ever" just like every

## Heil on life

By Matt Heilman



senior class before it in the history of public education.

I'm going to turn 28 next spring. I've been out of the public school system for almost as long as I was in it.

So why do I join students across the land in dreading the end of summer? I don't swim very often. I don't go on family vacations every summer and I don't take time off work. But here I am, pleading for the

clock to slow down. I guess I just empathize with the kids.

I don't care how much students might be looking forward to going to football games on Friday nights and spending all day with their peers.

I don't care how cool your new outfit is or how much fun it is to drive to school for the first time if you're 15. Waking up with the sun — or often before it if you're involved in an extracurricular activity — isn't fun.

Eating from a limited menu and having a short time in which to finish your lunch isn't all it's cracked up to be, I don't care how compelling of a conversation you have with the people at your table.

It's not all bad, of course. For students, the start of another school

year means another year closer to freedom to pursue their education because they want to and not because they have to.

When the pools close and the bus traffic picks back up next month, I think students and teachers throughout the district will be ready to start another successful year of solid test scores and improved season records. I truly believe the 2013-14 school year could be one for the ages.

It's going to be a fun ride. But let's face it, no matter how much there is to look forward to, the end of summer is a bummer.

*Matt Heilman is a reporter for The Park City Post. Reach him at 755-0821 or matt@arkvalleynews.com.*

# Air-conditioning makes school bearable

It seems August should be a free summer month before school starts, but not so. School will start in the middle of the month. Thank goodness most or all the schools have AC which makes it bearable for students and teachers.

The program on Fossils at the library on July 20 was quite interesting. It makes you wonder what creatures were like on the earth millions of years ago! The couple



## Around Park City

By Cecile Cox

that spoke told of their many digs for fossils in several states. Some

interesting facts to know: the bones were brought out from the dirt and they had to be glued right away or they would fall apart. That would be quite a hobby to undertake.

Many were able to take vacations before the price of gas raised again. It's hard to know why the price goes up and down so often. But I guess there is nothing we can do except quit driving more

than we have to.

There have been many demonstrations concerning the Trayvon Martin and George Zimmerman trial. We were all created equal in God's sight. We need to respect and treat others the way we want to be treated. We can't all agree that the verdict was fair, but I believe the Jury debated long and hard on their decision.

The rain has been so welcome!

# Park City police officers get new uniforms

By Matt Heilman

Out with the tan, in with the blue. The Park City Police Department is sporting new threads.

After about 11 years in tan shirts and pants, Park City officers have returned to the navy blue uniforms.

Park City Police Chief Phil Bostian said commanders and officers wore navy blue for about 20 years before switching to tan in 2002. On July 16, the navy blues made their return.

Bostian said his officers wanted to switch back to a darker colored

uniform that is more commonly used in departments across the country and more widely manufactured.

Bostian said the new uniforms are covered in the department's budget with money that is allocated for uniforms. For now, the car decals, patches and badges are the same as they were before the uniform change.

The department is currently looking to fill one more navy blue uniform.

Bostian said the city is in the process of hiring a full-time officer to put the department at the full capacity allocated in the city's budget.



**Officer Chuck Trimmell sports the new navy blue uniforms the department began wearing July 16.**

Matt Heilman

## Track

Continued from Page 1

of needed maintenance. When the track isn't hosting an event or being worked on, members of the public are allowed to ride their bicycles on the track. But non-compliance with rules has caused problems, especially after it's rained.

Signs at the entrances and base of the track are in place to remind the public that only bicycles can be ridden on the track and riding is not allowed on the track when it's wet.

After the Park City BMX track was completed in the fall of 2011, it drew mostly positive feedback from young riders and parents affiliated with BMX racing. Ron

Helmers, the father of two competitive BMX racers and the owner of Helmers Construction that completed most of the dirt and paving work on Park City's track, said the facility was "the best around."

Former Park City Council member Keith Thomas brought up the construction of the track for the council to consider at a September 2010 meeting. Thomas also served as the council liaison for the city's park and rec board that first discussed the plans for a new BMX track before the council approved it.

After receiving input from Thomas and Wichita's Ron Sebor, a man affiliated with BMX racing who first spotted the land off the interstate as a promising spot for a new track, the council voted to allocate \$70,000 from a reserve fund

to build the track.

Sebor served as the first track operator before the responsibility was handed over to Guinn.

Shortly after the construction of the track was complete, the city was called on to spend more money on the facility. About \$15,000 in additional expenses included construction of a sidewalk, the addition of parking stalls and fuel costs for equipment needed to maintain the track.

All of the expenses were covered without dipping into the general fund where the bulk of property tax dollars are spent.

The plans for the track were for a portion of USA BMX membership fees, race entry fees and concession sales to pay for its upkeep. Future plans for the track call for the addition of lighting, more fencing and

more parking.

With increased support in the track's upkeep and compliance with the rules posted at the track, Guinn said he's optimistic the facility can become a regular host for regional and national races and become self-sustaining.

Thomas said he recruited volunteer help from his church to improve the facility in hopes of having it ready to host the Kansas State Qualifier. Guinn said current council members George Glover and Melvin Kerr also pitched in during a recent workday at the track.

He said he appreciated the volunteer help and the time city workers have taken to work on the track.

"We've got to make that track where people want to come and race on it," Thomas said.

## Fireworks

Continued from Page 1

the side of the cardboard mortar, hitting Russell's thumb and severing it from his hand below the second knuckle. Russell was taken to Wesley Medical Center in Wichita. What was left of Russell's thumb was recovered, but police weren't sure whether doctors would attempt to reattach it to his hand.

In Park City, Chief Phil Bostian said his department had been short-staffed and was "really, really busy in general" in early July, not limited to calls relating to fireworks.

In one fireworks-related call, a man was reported to be driving in the city and shooting fireworks at people from his vehicle. Bostian said the man threatened a person who confronted him about shooting

## Fireworks to blame for mobile home fire

Sedgwick County Fire officials said sparklers left outside a residence caused a July 5 fire that destroyed a doublewide mobile home on East Sequoya in Park City.

The residence is in Park City's mobile home park, about a quarter mile north of 61st North and Broadway.

Residents inside the home made it out safely and the fire did not spread.

The fire was called in about 1:30 p.m. and was extinguished about two hours later.

Fire crews had to fight the blaze defensively from the outside of the home. The home was considered a total loss.

— Matt Heilman

fireworks from his car on July 2 in the 1400 block of East Ashford. A victim stated the man confronted him and threw a firecracker at him after he began video recording the man's actions.

While on the disturbance call, officers observed the suspect throwing fireworks into the street, which is in violation of city ordinance, but there were no reports of an arrest or citations issued in connection with

the case.

In Bel Aire, Chief John Daily said his department received 25 fireworks-related complaints, most of which were called in before July 4.

In Bel Aire, the national holiday was the only day residents were allowed to detonate fireworks although they went on sale in the city June 27. Daily said most of the complaints dealt with people who didn't know the city rules pertaining to fireworks. He said fireworks ordinance violators approached by officers in the city cooperated after receiving a warning and police didn't have to confiscate any fireworks.

Kechi had the smoothest sailing through the Fourth of July celebration. Chief John Blevins reported that there were just two calls relating to fireworks in Kechi from the time fireworks went on sale June 27 through July 4.

# Cities can learn from Park City's mistake

We value transparency in government. And that's why we were pleased with the Sedgwick County District Attorney's recent decision to formally call out Park City for being secretive.

We believe the decision sends a message to all governments that there is no such thing as a low-key public meeting.

Last fall, the Park City council held a special meeting in which it conducted business it didn't want trumpeted to the public. At the Oct. 10 meeting, the council voted to close the city's swimming pool and suspend previously approved raises for city employees.

By design, the decisions were made in a mostly empty council chambers. Park City broke the Kansas Open Meetings Act in its failure to notify the public of the special meeting.

The city received a \$500 fine for the violation.

In its findings against Park City, the district attorney's office found that just two names on a list of 16 people or entities requesting notice of special meetings were alerted of the Oct. 10 meeting. And the two notices that were issued weren't sent out until about two hours before the special meeting started.

It was clear Park City leaders didn't want the public to be there. The city's attorney, Doug Moshier, admitted as much.

The meeting was secretive because the council had to make some difficult personnel decisions and didn't want to air dirty laundry in front of an audience.

We understand the rationale, but it doesn't excuse Park City for violating the letter and spirit of the Kansas Open Meetings Act.

Anytime a majority of a governing body is gathered, the people it represents deserve to be notified.

The law is about as clear as it can get. Within open meetings, there are measures governments can take to protect non-elected personnel and confidential information.

But by law, the public has the right to know every formal action a governing body takes.

Park City isn't the first city in north Sedgwick County to violate the Kansas Open Meetings Act and it likely won't be the last, unfortunately.

Valley Center was assessed a \$100 fine in the fall of 2008 for failing to notify the public of a special meeting. At the time, Mayor Mike McNowen said the city didn't intentionally hide the fact that the council was planning to meet outside of a regularly scheduled meeting.

We don't think any of the cities in our coverage area have anything to hide or would intentionally break the law and try and get away with it.

On behalf of Park City, Moshier said the district attorney's ruling was a valuable learning experience for the mayor and council and the city will improve the way it issues notices for future special meetings.

On every level, it would be in the best interest of government to keep an open door policy with the public and do what it can to build trust.

— The Park City Post

## The Park City Post

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## Meeting

Continued from Page 1

closed. The city claims it faxed the notice at 4:45 p.m. The meeting started at 7 p.m.

The Park City council took a vote to close the pool.

The measure passed 7-1 with then council member Cecil Goldsmith opposed. The council also suspended employee raises that had been approved in the 2013 budget and approved a severance package for departing city employees

that received layoff notices.

Park City Attorney Doug Moshier said the special meeting was intentionally kept on the down-low because much of the discussion at the meeting dealt with non-elected city employees.

At regularly scheduled meetings that occur in Park City on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month, matters relating to non-elected personnel can be discussed behind closed doors in executive sessions.

The executive sessions are

allowed as long as the council states their purpose and gives a time limit for how long the discussion should last. But the council is not allowed to take any formal action unless it's in an open meeting.

As of Oct. 9, the city maintained a list of 16 names of people or entities that had formally requested notification of regular and special council meetings.

From that list, the district attorney's office found that only two entities were notified of the Oct. 10 special meeting.

The city also maintained a list of 80 names that requested agendas for regular council meetings, 37 of which requested to be notified by email. Moshier said the city was at fault in its failure to alert the 16 names that had formally requested notice of special meetings.

"As a result of the DA's investigation, we realized that we had some real potential problems in our process of giving notice for special meetings," Moshier said.

He said the city "agreed to

make some further changes" in its outreach to people and entities that request notifications for all meetings. The changes included the improved notifications on the city's website.

Moshier said the city would reverse its previous rule that told people they had to reach out to the city every year to keep their names on the list to be notified for meetings. Now, any citizen that has requested to be notified of meetings will stay on the list unless that citizen makes a request to be taken off the list.

Moshier said he has not been made aware of any concerns with notices for the regularly scheduled council meetings that take place twice per month. Moving forward, he said the city will have the same transparency for special meetings as it does for regular meetings. He said Park City leaders now have a better grasp of their responsibilities following the district attorney's ruling against the city.

"It was a good learning experience for the governing body," Moshier said.

# HIGHLIGHTS

Pittsburg State University has released the honor roll for the 2013 spring sessions. To qualify for Dean's Scholastic Honors, a student must complete at least six semester hours, receive a grade point average (GPA) of 3.6 for all credit work that semester and have no grade lower than a B and no grade of an I in any course during that semester. To qualify for All-A Scholastic Honors, a student must complete at least six semester hours, receive a grade of A in all credit course work for the semester and no grade of I in any course during the semester.

Clayton Argyle of Park City, a senior history major, was named to the Dean's List.

Hutchinson Community College announced its list of spring graduates.

Emilio Garcia III of Park City was among the 277 students to receive an associate of applied science degree at HCC.

More than 1,400 students completed their degrees at Wichita State University in spring 2013. Undergraduate students who have attained a grade point average of 3.9 out of a possible 4.0 received

the summa cum laude award; those with an average of 3.55 received the magna cum laude award; and those with an average of 3.25 received the cum laude.

From Park City, Ian A. Burford, bachelor of science in bioengineering, bioengineering, magna cum laude; Deanna S. Harter, master of education, counseling; Georg Schirmer, master of science, aerospace engineering; Blake Smith, master of arts in teaching.

Wichita State University has announced the names of more than 2,000 students who were on the WSU dean's

honor roll for spring 2013. To be included on the dean's honor roll, a student must be enrolled full time (at least 12 credit hours) and earn at least a 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

From Park City, Ian A. Burford, Wendy S. Nicholson, Kimberly D. Sims.

Preston Crisp of Park City, majoring in biology was named to the honor roll for the spring 2013 semester. To qualify for the semester honor roll, students must earn a minimum 3.80 semester grade point average in at least 12 graded hours.

# CHURCH HIGHLIGHTS

## Christ Lutheran Church

The new summer service times are 9 and 10:30 a.m. with the Kid Friendly Service that used to be at 9:45 incorporated into both services. The new item is a 6 to 8 p.m. service that will incorporate vacation Bible school for the youth, and Bible study for the adults. This will begin with a free light supper at 6 p.m. and then split into various activities before wrapping up at or before 8 p.m. Each night is a stand-alone service.

As always, Communion will be served at all morning services.

A variety of weekly and monthly activities are offered including Falcon Fellowship (Free lunch for students at Heights High School on the second Wednesday of the month), youth groups, quilting, choirs and men's breakfast.

Find the church online at [www.christ-lutheran.org](http://www.christ-lutheran.org); e-mail office@clc.kscoxmail.com. Pastor Chad's email is pastor@clc.kscoxmail.com. Call the office at 744-1242.

The church is located at 5356 N. Hillside (at 53rd and North Hillside, across from Wichita Heights High School).

## Church of the Resurrection

Church of the Resurrection (Roman Catholic) is located at 4910 N. Woodlawn in Bel Aire.

Masses for the Lord's Day are 5:30 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday. Weekday Masses are 8 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; also at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

Resurrection Catholic School has students from preschool through eighth grade.

The parish/school website is [www.resurrectionwichita.com](http://www.resurrectionwichita.com). Phone number is 744-2776. Rev. James F. Weldon is the pastor.

## Greenwich United Methodist Church

Sunday worship service at 9 a.m. Fellowship and coffee follow the service.

Pastor Jeff Miller can be reached at 744-0203.

Senior Day first Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m.

United Methodist Women meet the first Thursday of each month at 1 p.m.

Movie night is the second Saturday of each month at 6:30

p.m. A snack is served.

The church is located about a mile south of K-254 on Greenwich Road. The phone number is 744-0203.

## Gospel Assembly Church

Located at 4230 N. Oliver in Bel Aire, service times are 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., Sunday. Prayer service is 7 p.m. Tuesday. Praise and worship is 7:30 p.m. Wednesday. The first Saturday evening of each month are youth activities.

Phone number is 744-1502. Rev. Gary D. Green is the pastor.

## Kechi United Methodist Church

Kechi United Methodist Church is located at 4533 E. 61st North. The phone number is 744-1221.

Rev. Guy E. Rendoff is the pastor. Website is [www.kechiumc.org](http://www.kechiumc.org); Email is [kechiumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kechiumc@sbcglobal.net)

Worship services on Sunday morning are at 9:03 and 11 a.m. with Sunday school at 10 a.m. During both worship services, children's church and a nursery are offered.

## Park City Church of the Nazarene

Sunday school for all ages is at 9:30 a.m. Worship and children's church are at 10:45.

Wednesday Bible study for adults begins with sandwiches and chips at 6:15 p.m.

The church is located at 2100 E. 61st North in Park City.

## The United Methodist Church at Park City

Located at 1510 E. 61st North. The church has "Worship & Connection Time" on Sunday mornings at 9 and 11 a.m. Children's ministries are provided and a nursery is available.

Mondays at 6:30 a.m., there is a men's coffee group at Auntie C's.

Mondays at 7 p.m., the church has a free Zumba class for women. And at 8:15 p.m., there is a Christian yoga fitness class. (Donations are accepted for fitness classes.)

Tuesday evenings from 6 to 7:30 p.m., there is a Celebrate Recovery 12-step study. Child-care is provided.

Wednesday evening Family Ministry Night will resume in

the fall.

Park City Christian Preschool is enrolling for fall a.m. and p.m. classes. Call Miss Kim at 744-0030 for more info.

Call or e-mail Pastor Rob with any questions about upcoming events and activities at 744-0029 or 200-0156. Find the church on Facebook or follow on Twitter "@Churchparkcity" or visit the website [www.churchatparkcity.com](http://www.churchatparkcity.com) for more info.

## Randall Road Baptist Church

Randall Road Baptist is located at 6556 N Randall, Park City.

Sunday School starts at 10 a.m. Worship is at 11 a.m.

Sunday evening activities start at 6 p.m.

Wednesday bible study begins at 7 p.m.

Contact Pastor Jim McQuery at 201-1696 or e-mail at [jmcquery@cox.net](mailto:jmcquery@cox.net)

## Riverview Baptist Church

Located at 844 W. 53rd North. The church office can be reached at 838-4861. The pastor study number is 832-9060.

The church's website is [www.wichitariverviewbaptist.org](http://www.wichitariverviewbaptist.org).

Sunday schedule has Bible study at 9:30 a.m., morning worship at 10:45 and evening worship at 6.

Fellowship meal is at 6 p.m. Wednesday. At 7 is adult Bible study and prayer and youth group (grades nine through 12).

## St. Michael's Orthodox Christian Church

The church is located at 2710

E 61st Street in Park City It is a congregation of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America.

"The Story of Christianity," an adult class is offered at 9 a.m. on Sunday. Service of Matins is at 9:45 a.m. followed by the Divine Liturgy (Mass) at 10 a.m.

Wednesday night service is at 6 p.m. First and third Wednesday liturgy is followed by a potluck and program.

Saturday Vespers start at 5:30 p.m.

Men's Study Group is the first and third Monday of each month at 7 p.m.

Women's Study Group meets every second and fourth Friday of each month at 10 a.m.

Call the church for more information at 734-6248 or visit [www.stmichaeloc.org](http://www.stmichaeloc.org)

Fr. John Flora, pastor, can be reached at 734-6248 or [jflora@cox.net](mailto:jflora@cox.net).

Send your church's upcoming events and service times to [legals@arkvalleynews.com](mailto:legals@arkvalleynews.com) or call 755-0821.

# DEATHS

## NANCY DECKER

Nancy S. (Sam) Decker, 61, died July 8, 2013, after a brief illness.

She was born to Harold Smith and Velva Bevan Smith on Aug. 6, 1951, in Lincolnville. She graduated from Centre High School in Marion County in 1969. She started a career in banking after high school. On July 14, 1978, she married James Byron Decker. They both retired from banking in 1986 from Anadarko National Bank

She was preceded in death by her father, Harold Smith; her oldest sister, Donna Clark; and her husband, James Decker. She is survived by her mother, Velva Smith; sisters, Sharon Kuether and husband, Greg, of Andover, Barbara Reeder and family, and Kathy Johnson and family, all of Park City; step-daughters, Victoria Buel and husband, Robert, and their children, Matthew, Katherine, and Cynthia, of Manhattan, Kan., Mary Decker of Kansas City, Mo., Marti Decker of Portland, Ore.; daughters, Angela Decker and Amy Decker, both of Edmond, Okla.; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

A memorial service was July 13 at New Covenant United Methodist Church, Edmond, Okla. (A memorial service will be held in Enterprise at a future date.) Services are under the direction of Matthews Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Memorial gifts may be made to the New Covenant United Methodist Church Children's Building Fund, 2700 S. Bou-

levard, Edmond, OK 73013, or the Kairos Outside Prison Ministry (Kairos Prison Ministry, P.O. Box 54383, Oklahoma City, OK 73154, specify "Kairos Outside" on your payment).

## MICHAEL ROGERS

Michael Joe Rogers, 56, Agco employee, died July 3, 2013.

He is survived by his wife, Brenda Rogers; children, Crystal (Brent) Smith of Inman and Brandy (Josh) Noone of Park City; grandchildren, Savannah Smith, Cheyenne Smith, Mckenzie Smith and Alexis Noone; parents, Barbara Hays of Wichita; brother Jack (Charisa) Hays of Valley Center; sisters, Sherry (Dan) Murphy of Wichita and Lori DeWeese of Overland Park; and many other family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his fathers, Phil Rogers and Jack Hays.

Services were July 9 at Westview Baptist Church in Wichita.

Memorials may be made to National Wild Turkey Federation, P.O. Box 530, Edgerfield, SC 29824.

Baker Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



Rogers



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[broadwaysalvage.com](http://broadwaysalvage.com)

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

### Valley Center Christian Church

1801 E. Fifth, Valley Center  
**755-1233**

Sunday—9 a.m. Sunday School  
10:15 a.m. Worship  
Wednesday—6 p.m. Dinner  
7 p.m. Youth & Adult Studies  
Bus service provided, please call church office.

### Randall Road Baptist Church

*6556 N Randall Rd*  
Park City  
Sunday School 10 am  
Worship 11 am  
Sunday Evenings 6 pm  
Wednesday Bible Study 7 pm  
Contact Pastor Jim McQuery for more info at 201-1696 or email at [jmcquery@cox.net](mailto:jmcquery@cox.net)

### Christ Lutheran Church ELCA

**Tradition with a Twist**  
9:00 • Contemporary Service  
10:30 • Traditional Service  
VBS 6-8 p.m. Sunday nights  
Communion will be at all services.  
Starts May 26

"Come give us a try, you'll like it!"  
**5356 N. Hillside, Wichita**  
744-1242 | [christ-lutheran.org](http://christ-lutheran.org)

### Grace Connections Church

(American Baptist)  
**300 N. Ash, 755-1855**  
Valley Center  
Pastor: Doug Wedan  
**Sunday**  
Morning Worship 9:30 a.m.  
Adult Bible Studies 10:45 a.m.  
Nursery provided  
**Wednesday** Family Dinner 6 p.m.  
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## CHURCH DIRECTORY

### Valley Center Christian Church

1801 E. Fifth, Valley Center  
**755-1233**

Sunday—9 a.m. Sunday School  
10:15 a.m. Worship  
Wednesday—6 p.m. Dinner  
7 p.m. Youth & Adult Studies  
Bus service provided, please call church office.

### Randall Road Baptist Church

*6556 N Randall Rd*  
Park City  
Sunday School 10 am  
Worship 11 am  
Sunday Evenings 6 pm  
Wednesday Bible Study 7 pm  
Contact Pastor Jim McQuery for more info at 201-1696 or email at [jmcquery@cox.net](mailto:jmcquery@cox.net)

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### Grace Connections Church

(American Baptist)  
**300 N. Ash, 755-1855**  
Valley Center  
Pastor: Doug Wedan  
**Sunday**  
Morning Worship 9:30 a.m.  
Adult Bible Studies 10:45 a.m.  
Nursery provided  
**Wednesday** Family Dinner 6 p.m.  
Children & youth classes 6:30 p.m.  
*Nursery provided*

# Local martial artists perform well at national tournament

By Matt Heilman

A group of five students from the Holloway Martial Arts Training Center brought home nine medals from the July 11 through 14 USA Karate Nationals at the Bi-Lo Center in Greenville, S.C. Four of the five participants brought home at least one

medal, said Dan Holloway, who owns the training center at 53rd North and Seneca. "They all did great," Holloway said. Holloway's daughter, Erin Holloway, a junior at Northeast Magnet High School in Bel Aire, won two gold medals in weapons and Kata. Kata is a martial arts discipline that involves defense and attack maneuvers.

Erin Holloway also won a bronze medal in sparring. Valley Center High School sophomore Khen Luong won a silver medal in weapons and two bronze medals in Kata and sparring. Khen's younger brother, Kain, an eighth-grader at

Valley Center Middle School, won a bronze medal in weapons. Northeast Magnet freshman Cameron McDowell brought home a gold in Kata and a bronze in weapons. West Elementary third-grader Aizik Lopez also competed at the national tournament. Holloway said between

12,000 and 13,000 young martial artists from across the country competed at the four-day national tournament. In five years, Holloway Martial Arts has grown to about 80 students at its location southeast of Valley Center. When students aren't

traveling to tournaments, the studio offers lessons in self-defense and body control to adults and youth. Professional instruction is available in karate, TaeKwonDo, Jujitsu and weapons training. Holloway said he plans to bring more students to next summer's Karate Nationals in Reno, Nev.

# Clerk and finance director to retire

Nichols served in Park City for almost three years

By Matt Heilman

After serving almost three years as the city clerk and finance director for the City of Park City, Dennis Nichols is answering a higher calling. Nichols, 67, has accepted a ministerial position within his church where he will be working with the homeless population in downtown Wichita.

In accepting the position, Nichols is stepping down from his role in Park City. His last day at City Hall will be Aug. 31.

Nichols, who started with the city in September 2010, said he planned to serve his role for longer than three years, but he couldn't turn down the call to return to ministry and devote full-time service to disadvantaged people he has a heart for. "I've been in and out of



Matt Heilman

**Park City finance director and city clerk Dennis Nichols is retiring from the city at the end of August. Nichols, 67, is transitioning to full-time ministry work with his church.**

full-time ministry off and on over the years and in between time, I've tended to work for cities," he said. Nichols, who earned a degree in accounting from

Wichita State University,

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spent 25 years working in banking. His finance career has also included roles as the city clerk and finance director for the City of Hesston and as the city administrator for the City of Marion.

In leaving Park City, Nichols said he is going to miss past and former city council members who have become his friends and the city staff that he worked with on a daily basis.

"I have a great staff and I have just thoroughly enjoyed working with them," Nichols said.

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LEAVE MESSAGE

## City moves toward permanent financing for improvements

By Matt Heilman

It's time to get the ball rolling on the bill for sanitary sewer, water and paving improvements to lot owners who benefit from the infrastructure work.

Three years is up and it's time for temporary notes issued for infrastructure improvements on some residential and commercial lots in Park City to be rolled into permanent financing through special assessments that will be included on property tax bills.

At its July 9 meeting, the Park City council took formal action to roll temporary notes into permanent financing for 116 lots in the Cambridge Valley and High Ridge additions near 69th North and Hydraulic and the expanded facility of FMI Inc. in the 5600 block of North Broadway.

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