



Keeper Dedication May 18, 2007

# Your Connection

*A City government newsletter that promotes Transforming Wichita, an organizational improvement initiative supporting Visioneering Wichita*

## City of Wichita Assists in Greensburg Recovery

On the evening of May 4, a deadly tornado swept through Greensburg leaving the town destroyed. Soon after, the City of Wichita Fire Department deployed 30 people to assist in search and rescue efforts, particularly at the destroyed Greensburg hospital. The Wichita Police Department assisted with security and public safety. WPD found looters and arrested them. WPD and WFD remained



WFD takes a break to prop up the US flag.



Public Works plans the day for clean-up.

to serve as Greensburg's public safety operations and returned home on June 4.

The Office of Central Inspection dispatched inspectors to assist in damage assessment. While in Greensburg, Wichita inspectors helped create an inspection department. With this help, one of the actions that the Greensburg City Council took in the aftermath was to adopt several national building code policies. Prior to that, the City of Greensburg did not have building code compliance or enforcement.

Public Works sent more than 80 people and heavy equipment to assist in cleanup efforts. The Public Works crew was one of the largest groups on site outside of the citizens

of Greensburg. Two volunteer groups assisted in the cleanup and each group remained for seven days and worked 12-hour shifts. They were housed at "Tent City." Park & Recreation and Water Utilities also sent heavy equipment and manpower.

Environmental Services was asked by KDHE to provide environmental health assistance. The department sent 17 employees who assisted as animal control officers, air quality inspectors, food service protection, environmental maintenance and water quality inspectors. Water Utilities evaluated fire hydrants, and Greensburg's water and sewer systems, then assisted with repairs.

Wichita Transit provided bus

service for the FEMA disaster relief team, the Federal delegation, Wichita City Council and other dignitaries to survey the damage following the storm. Transit picked up Public Works employees who were on the first shift so that the heavy equipment could stay in Greensburg.

The City of Wichita still has people on site in the cleanup effort. This cooperative effort is a fine example of the Transforming Wichita initiative, as we worked together to help another community. The City of Wichita remains committed to assisting Greensburg in their rebuilding efforts and is proud of the employees involved.

**GREAT WORK TO ALL!**

**In this issue:**

Q&A with Cynthia Berner-Harris	2
Adios Johnson	2
Communities Initiative	3
TW Trainers	3
Library	4
Trash Round-Up	4
Trolleys Return	5
Career Development	5
Planning	6
Human Resources	6
Adios Graffiti-Hello Art	7
Fire	7
For the Record	8



## Q & A With Cynthia Berner Harris



**C**ynthia Berner Harris is a native Kansan who began her library career as a summer reading storyteller at age 14. After serving as the system consultant for the Panhandle Library Network in Scottsbluff, Nebraska, and as director of the Winfield Public Library, she joined the staff of the Wichita Public Library as manager of the Westlink branch in 1984. Later, she served as the Coordinator of Extension Services and Coordinator of Administrative Services. She was appointed as Director of Libraries in October 2000.

Over her tenure, she has been involved in the construction of two new branch libraries, the recently adopted master plan for library facilities, completion of a \$2,000,000 challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and a variety of projects that are helping

to expand library programs and services. She currently serves as co-chair of the Kansas Library Association Governmental Affairs Committee, as Chair of the Affiliates Board of the Kansas Center for the Book and on the Executive Committee for the Kansas Book Festival (which returns to Wichita for a second year in October). She's also a sustaining member of the Junior League of Wichita and involved in a number of community organizations.

She was awarded a Shining Star Award from the State Library of Kansas in January and named this year's winner of the City's 2007 Excellence in Public Service Award.

**Q** Which author would you most like to meet?

I'd love to have had the opportunity to meet Theodor Seuss Geisel (a.k.a. Dr. Seuss). I think most people don't realize what a great talent he really was and how he has impacted generations of young readers. Children continue to celebrate his birthday with *Read Across America* day. But since meeting him is impossible, I'd pick David McCullough. He is a master of narrative history, bringing important people and events to life and letting you feel as if you really know them.

**Q** Where is your best reading spot or hangout?

The public library, of course!

**Q** Which book or author has inspired you the most and why?

I think an inspirational book is one that you happen to read at just the right time in your life. That has happened to me countless times. One that comes to mind as something that keeps coming back to me is *Fish! A Remarkable Way to*

*Boost Morale and Improve Results* by Stephen C. Lundin, Ph.D.; Harry Paul and John Christensen. It is a simple book, but the messages of choosing your attitude when you come to work and recognizing that every person has the power to make a difference in the workplace are concepts that I come back to on the tough days.

**Q** If you could attend a significant or historical event, which would it be and what would you be doing?

That's a tough question, but I'd love to have seen the ratification of the 19th amendment, which gave women the right to vote. Since my undergraduate training is as a political scientist, I'd be cheering.

**Q** Now that Mayor Brewer has promised you a new Central Library, where would you build it?

In the target area identified in the master plan – which is in the downtown core, centrally located with lots of convenient, dedicated parking.

## It Has Been My Honor...

As I say goodbye to my "City Family" after 8 great years as Marketing Director, I can't help but reflect on some of the key accomplishments I've had the honor of being part of. If I would pick 5 (due to space limitations, all I can!) I'm most proud of, it would be:

1. Keeper of the Plains & River Corridor Project
2. Aviation Festival
3. Tourism Summit
4. Craig Morgan Video
5. Fair Fares Air Service

The reasons I would cite those as my favorite would be because of the cooperative efforts it took to make them happen. It was never "my" project, always "our" project. In this position, I've been able to work with some of the brightest, talented and most dedicated people I've ever had the honor of knowing. They work in all departments, at all levels, from management to staff. We take pride in what we accomplish because we know that together, we are making a difference.

I always felt comfortable in this organization. I consider you my friends as well as my co-workers. I know you will continue to support each other and help the City succeed. There are times when we feel frustrated, or that we didn't get the respect we deserved (darn Opinion Line!) . Remember: don't let the negative get you down. Your efforts will always be positive.

Chris Cherches always said, "Leave this place better than you found it." I am proud to be



one of the many people in this organization who did just that. Thank you for all you have done. It has been my honor to work with such great people! I have always said that I had the best job ever. I found a better one: mom.

## New Communities Initiative

Mayor Brewer, Vice Mayor Fearey and City Manager Kolb have been leading the charge of a new effort designed to revitalize portions of central and northeast Wichita. It is called the New Communities Initiative (NCI), and is supported by a wide coalition of state and local leaders from the public and private sectors, whose vision is to enhance the lives of residents of this area with coordinated service delivery and neighborhood revitalization efforts. The NCI also has the support of national organizations who believe this approach can become a national model!

There are five "Pillar" areas which have been identified by

the initial NCI work group: 1) Adult Education and Economic Development; 2) Housing for All; 3) Physical, Mental and Behavioral Health; 4) Children and Youth; and 5) Safe and Secure Neighborhoods. Each of these areas has a team of staff and volunteers from the City, County and State, and they have identified goals which they hope to achieve through coordinated service delivery and citizen engagement over the next 12 to 18 months.

The work of these groups will ultimately achieve the goals of the initiative which are to:

- Provide quality housing for all incomes

- Expand employment opportunities for those needing and seeking jobs
- Enhance the learning environment across all age groups
- Reduce the conditions of blight/revitalize the neighborhood
- Address and positively impact quality of life issues
- Develop nurturing opportunities for children and youth.

The New Communities Initiative is partnering with ongoing City efforts, including the START Team which is a part

of the StopBlight program. The objective is to work with existing programs and resources – not necessarily create new ones.

The New Communities Initiative was presented to the Mayor and City Council on May 16 and a copy of the PowerPoint presentation is available on the Housing and Community Services Department web page. Check it out if you want more information, and watch for the transformation of northeast Wichita through collaboration, expansion, enhancement and other Transformation Wichita qualities.

## Transforming Wichita & Training

### The TWT Training Team Adds New Members

In April, Human Resources' Learning & Development held a train-the-trainer session for new members of the Transforming Wichita Together (TWT) training team. The two-day event included the new members reviewing all con-

tent covered in TWT and allowed for some practice time before delivering the curriculum to classes. Welcome, new TWT members.

### Customer Service to be the Next Focus of TW

A second major component of Transforming Wichita is the

focus on Customer Service we deliver to both external and internal customers. "The City used to have a great training program on Customer Service," said Chris Atlee, Manager of Learning & Development. "It was just time to grab the manual off the shelf and blow off the dust." Beginning with the 2007 Fall CU course listing, "Enhancing Your Customer & Quality Service Skills" course will be offered on a monthly basis. Employees are encouraged to attend. "It will eventually become a required orientation course for all new employees to the City," said Atlee.

### Transcripts are required for completion of Spring Tuition Reimbursement

If you were approved for tuition reimbursement for the 2007 spring semester and your class is completed, please turn in your transcripts as soon as possible. Please contact Chris

Atlee @ ext. 4534 if you have questions.

### June IRISE Winners

Pat Arnett	OCI
Christie Barnaby	Library
Stephanie Charles	Police
Larry Clark	PW
Diana Coldiron	Police
Kendall Durst	Library
Emily Frost	Police
Lee Grandstaff	OCI
Kathleen Harris	CDO
Jan Jarman	Law
Becky Johnston	Finance
Pam Kester	Police
Jennifer Martin	Library
Shirley Mast	Finance
Diana Mefford	CMO
Mike Koehn	Police
Karen Nethercott	Police
Chris Patchett	IT/IS
Donna Sanchez	Housing
Kendra Walker	Housing

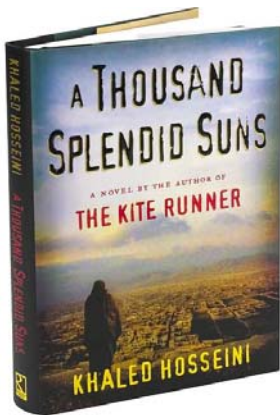


Back Row: Tammy Penland, Ken Berman, Pamaline King-Burns Front Row: Vicki Forbes, Roger James, Karla Bennett, (Not Pictured: Debbie Williams)

## Library

### Khaled Hosseini Is Coming to Wichita

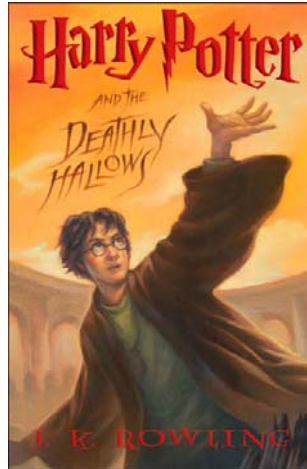
Khaled Hosseini, author of *The Kite Runner*, will read and sign his new book, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, on Wednesday, June 27, at the WSU Metroplex. His visit is made possible by Watermark Books and co-sponsored by the Wichita Public Library and the Friends of the Wichita



Public Library. Tickets are required and available from Watermark Books for \$10 or free for Friends of the Library Gold and Platinum members. Tickets are also free for those who purchase Hosseini's new novel from Watermark Books.

### Harry Potter Fever Sweeps the Library

Two different contests run from June 1-July 13 to captivate Harry Potter's many fans between the ages of 8-18. A trivia contest offers six chances for those in the know to enter to win one of 10 copies of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* (which will be released on July 21). A book cover contest asks readers to draw what they think the last Harry Potter should have looked like. Three winners, one for each age category (8-11, 12-14 and 15-18), will win a copy of the new



Harry Potter book plus a \$10 gift certificate to Michael's. Six runners-up, two for each age category, will win a copy of the book. See the Library or [www.wichita.lib.ks.us](http://www.wichita.lib.ks.us) for complete rules.

### Library Outreach at TPA Homeschool Convention, Kids' Zoobilee

To further boost participation

in the Library's summer reading programs, the Library offered registration on the road! By giving families a chance to sign up for summer reading programs at Library booths at two popular events, the Teaching Parents Association Homeschool Convention and Kids' Zoobilee, the Library enrolled 136 youth offsite. At Kids' Zoobilee, Library staff reported they talked to several parents who didn't know about the reading program, so it was a fantastic way to reach new library users.



Children's Center Section Manager Tracie Partridge assists registrants.

## Butterfly House at Botanica

The Butterfly House at Botanica officially opened on June 2. Experience

hundreds of colorful butterflies in free flight as



you stroll through the garden. You might even get to see one emerge from its

chrysalis in the hatching cabinet.

## River Trash Round-Up

### Thank you, Round-Up Volunteers!

Coordinated each year by the City's Environmental Services Department, the River Trash Round-Up offers citizens, organizations and businesses an opportunity to join together in making a clean sweep of the Arkansas River in downtown Wichita.

The weather cooperated on Saturday, May 5th for the 6th Annual Arkansas

River Trash Round-Up. Although windy, **98 volunteers** came out to help pick up trash from the banks of the Arkansas River. Public Works employees, Bill Bush and Ernie Stang, worked into the afternoon collecting and weighing the bags of trash from along the River's edge. The cleanup effort netted **171 bags of trash** totaling **1.64 tons!** Thank you, to all the citizens who came out to help and the following organizations for encouraging their members and employees to participate:

Bank of America; Sierra Club; Arkansas River Coalition; City of Wichita; Coleman Company; AmeriCorps; Kansas Canoe and Kayak Association; South Central Progressive Neighborhood; CDM; Live Oaks Community Church; Riverside Neighborhood; and the Wichita Police Department.

The next Round-Up

will focus on the Little Arkansas River on June 23rd.



River Trash Round-Up Volunteers

## Trolleys Return for Summer!



The Q-Line is back with expanded service. The weekday 25-cent lunch service will continue from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday through the downtown core area, Old Town and Delano.

New this year is service on Friday and Saturday nights that run in the entertainment district of Old Town. The price is only a quarter! This service is a test project to determine the Q's probability as a future role in transportation options for the redeveloped downtown. This route will connect downtown attractions such as major hotels, Century II, the Orpheum Theater, and Old Town.

### Discover Historic Wichita

The 2007 Historical Trolley Tour season has begun. The trip begins at CityArts in Old Town Square. Guests enjoy the scenery of Wichita, learn about our history and relax on one of our air-conditioned trolleys. Each trip is narrated and lasts approximately 1-½ hours. The tours travel through some of Wichita's most distinguished historic neighborhoods and districts.

**When:** 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday

**Where:** CityArts, 334 N. Mead, in Old Town Square

**Admission:** \$10 for adults; \$8 for seniors and youth. Children 5 years and younger ride free. Please call in advance for group information and/or reservations.

**How:** Reservations are requested. Trolley capacity is 25 with a minimum of 8. Group tours of 10 or more pay in advance. Trolleys are wheelchair accessible.

Call CityArts at 462-2787 for reservations.

**Theme Tour:** The Frank Lloyd Wright Tour/Allen Lambe Interior Tour will include a guided tour of the inside of the Allen Lambe House. Prices are \$20 per person and no discounts apply. Tours are every other Saturday at 12:30 p.m.



This booklet was inserted in the *Wichita Eagle* on May 31. Get your copy in the 1st Floor Info area. For multiple copies, call the CMO!

## Career Development Success Story

As a single mother it is often difficult maintaining a job and all the chores and responsibilities that go along with raising children. It is more difficult finding a job when you haven't had one for some time.

Lachelle Crenshaw, however, decided to weigh all of her options and she chose to participate with the Career Development Office.

She had not been unemployed long enough to require assistance from SRS. After lengthy discussions with her case manager, Patricia Foxx, she was referred to CDO for guidance with career planning and a job search.

Lachelle had young children and no transportation, but she did not allow those barriers to keep her from becoming employed. With the help of her CDO Employment Specialist, Sharene Thompson, she was able to determine what skills she possessed and how she could best utilize them.

After much work, Lachelle became employed with INFONXX, as a customer service representative. After working there for a few months, she discovered that the road to success is never ending. She continued working while searching for a better paying job in her field of interest.

Lachelle is currently working for the Sedgwick County Mental Health Department as a

Child Attendant Care Provider. She loves it! She is presently preparing to go back to school online at Fort Hays State University to get a Sociology degree.

Not only is Lachelle an asset

in the working society, but, she is able to chauffeur her children around in the car she was able to purchase.



Lachelle Crenshaw

## Planning

### WAMPO

The Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO) currently is in the final stages of assembling a new Policy Body. This group formally consisted of nineteen voting members and one non-voting member. The new Transportation Policy Body will consist of nine members, all of which will be eligible to vote. Representation will consist of appointed and elected officials: one member from the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission, one member representing KDOT, three members from the Wichita City Council, two members from the Sedgwick County Commission, one member from the Sedgwick County Association of Cities, and one member from Butler County/Sumner County Commission. The WAMPO Transportation Policy Body is the decision-making group and oversees the implementation of transportation documents, such as the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The Transportation Policy Body also reviews the adequacy of current and future transportation plans and programs. WAMPO appreciates

all of the hard work and time dedicated by previous members of the Policy Body and welcomes the new members.

### Development Trends

The 2007 Development Trends Report is now available. This report summarizes development and building activity in 2006 for Sedgwick County and all of its incorporated cities. The following are some of the highlights.

Based upon census and building permit data, Wichita's population now exceeds 360,000 and Sedgwick County grew to 474,500. There were 9,561 homes sold in 2006, and this is a record.

In subdivision activity, the number of residential lots fell 11% below the five-year average of 3,245 while commercial activity was 27% above the five-year average of 132 lots. Industrial activity was 53% below the five-year average of 69 lots.

Vacant "buildable" lots, residential lots that have water, sewer and roads in place so that a home can be built, were at a six-year high with 3.6 years of inventory at current building rates. The number of new homes built in

2006 fell 10% from 2005 levels. Over 74% of these were in Wichita, which is an 11% increase of Wichita's five-year average. Over \$327 million was invested in commercial building activity in Sedgwick County for 2006. This was down only 1% from the five-year average.

The full report can be viewed on the Planning Department's web page ([www.wichita.gov](http://www.wichita.gov)).

**Historic Preservation** Two projects in Wichita were selected to receive recognition for their efforts to preserve Kansas heritage by the Kansas Preservation Alliance. These two projects competed for recognition against other projects submitted from throughout the state.



St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church (256 Ohio) received a Medallion Award for their \$1 million restoration. The restoration was accomplished over a five-year period and included repair of the roof and window systems,

upgrade of the mechanical system and restoration of the decorative painting and plaster sculpture work in the sanctuary.

Developer Grant Gaudreau received an Honor Award for the rehabilitation of the English Court Apartments (1100 block of N. Emporia)



English Court Apartments

in the Topeka/Emporia National Register Historic District. The rehabilitation involved 24 apartment units encompassing 22,000 square feet at a cost of \$2,000,000. In addition to qualifying for the state and federal historic income tax credits, it is also an affordable housing complex. Part of the project included building a new eight-unit apartment building. The developer worked closely with the Historic Midtown Citizens Association to ensure that his project blended with the neighborhood.

## Human Resources

### Who gets the money? Keep your beneficiaries current.

Who receives the proceeds of your group life insurance benefit? If you didn't designate a beneficiary, or haven't checked it lately, don't be so sure. Over time, events such as marriage, divorce, the birth or adoption of a child, remar-

riage and death may dramatically change the intent of how you wanted the money paid.

Here's an example. An employee who enrolled for group life insurance assumed that the plan's 'order of priority' would properly distribute the life insurance benefits to his spouse, then to his three mi-

nor children. Several years later, he divorced and then remarried, but didn't change the beneficiary designation on his policy. When he passed away, the benefits went to his current spouse instead of the children from his first marriage that he wanted to benefit.

Having a life event is a good

time to re-evaluate your life insurance coverage and to update your beneficiaries. Checking them regularly, such as during annual benefits enrollment, is a good idea, too – not only for life insurance, but also for your retirement benefit.

## Adios Graffiti— Hello Art

Partnerships between Evergreen Neighborhood City Hall, Westar Energy, and Pleasant Valley art students led to a way to slow down graffiti in the area neighborhood.

An energy pole constantly tagged with graffiti located in Schell Park was the pilot project for Adios Graffiti - Hello Art. The plan is to remove

temptation from the popular spots that are commonly tagged.

The artist is a seventh grader, who, along with fellow eighth grade students, assisted with scaling the design to size and painting the pole. The project took place on Friday, May 18th, the day of the annual Pleasant Valley neighborhood

cleanup with 600 students participating.

So far, the pole and other articles in Schell Park have remained untouched by taggers.

Keep on the lookout for more poles to be painted adding outdoor art to area neighborhoods.



Pleasant Valley Art Students

## Health & Wellness Tips



Save some money with or without health insurance.

Check this out!

### Play *Let's Make a Deal*.

Doctors, dentists, and hospitals will sometimes accept less money if you bargain.

**Pay in cash.** You can sometimes save up to 10% by paying in cash. Doctors lose thousands of dollars each year on collections and processing fees.

**Look at your bills.** Mistakes on your bills can often be costly. Keep track of your

visits, tests and medications and double-check that information against your bill.

**Follow directions.** Medications work best when they are used correctly. Not following directions on your medications can result in them being ineffective and/or dangerous.

**Flexible Spending Accounts.** Did you know that this employee benefit can save you approximately \$300 for every \$1000 that you put in?

**Choose generics.** Generic drugs are usually sold at 15 to 50% less than brand names. You can save hundreds of dollars by choosing to use generic equivalents of

drugs. Your copay for a brand name drug can be up to 8x more expensive than the generic equivalent.

**Split your pills.** Many physicians will prescribe half as many higher-strength pills and have the patient split them in half to achieve the correct dosage. This can save 50% of the cost of some medications.

**Ask for alternatives.** Sometimes there will be no generic equivalent of a drug, but there may be a lower cost alternative. Ask your doctor if there is a cheaper, equally effective substitute.

**Bring your lunch.** Homemade meals contain less fat than fast food, and prepared foods.

They also cost less. It is estimated that not eating out for lunch every day could save the average American \$1000 per year.

### Quit Smoking!

The average cost for a smoker's health care is \$1,600 more than a non-smoker. On average quitting smoking saves approximately \$1,800 per year in the cost of cigarettes alone. Imagine, that is like being paid \$3,400 per year not to smoke. That's almost 2 payments on that Shelby Cobra GT!



## Fire Department

### Hotel and Motel Inspections

Recently the City of Wichita was listed as the second-cheapest place in the U.S. for tourists to take a vacation this summer, according to an AAA survey. To make sure these tourists and others are safe while staying in local hotels and motels, the Fire Prevention Division has launched an intensive life

safety inspection program where they will inspect more than 100 lodging facilities in the city for possible code violations.

Inspectors will check life safety requirements for smoke detection, fire alarm systems, exiting, flame spread and other safety factors. Some of the greatest losses of lives come from hotel and motel fires.

### Fire Department Continues To Hire Recruits:

Plans are in the works to hire 16 fire recruits for an August recruit class. With three new fire stations being added to the city, the department will need approximately 24 firefighters over the next year and a half to staff the new stations in order to maintain "24/7 coverage".



Congratulations to these employees who reached 10 or 25 year career milestones with the City this month. Contact Carolyn Bowen in Human Resources if you have questions regarding the Career Awards Program.

**June**

Glenda Watkins  
 Terry Feaster  
 Chris Carrier  
 Paul Shoate  
 Frederick Person  
 Gary Morris  
 Steven Cavitt  
 Jason Cates  
 Sarah Hamilton  
 Alex Dean  
 Chris Robinson  
 John Groh  
 Jerry Wilkerson  
 Brian Gilchrist  
 Scott Moon  
 Cornelius Hulum  
 William Stevens  
 Lee Eisenbise  
 David Hinners  
 Duane Crafton  
 Robert Preble  
 Juan Atondo  
 Long Nguyen

**10 Years**

IT/IS  
 Finance  
 Public Works  
 Transit  
 Airport  
 Police  
 Police  
 Police  
 Police  
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 Police  
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 Airport  
 Police  
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 Police

**25 Years**

Water  
 Water  
 OCI  
 Env. Services  
 OCI  
 Police  
 Police  
 Police  
 Police  
 Police

Charles Patton  
 William Thayer  
 Mitchel Murdock  
 Dennis Graves  
 Martin Leidy, Sr.  
 Danny Farlow  
 Kim Giffin  
 Kevin Hazelwood  
 Gregory Dalton  
 Phillip Smith

**Retirees**

Philip B. Cook  
 Harold A. Hughey  
 Mark A. Parmenter  
 Doyle L. Robertson, Jr.  
 Charles L. Patton  
 David A. Darrow  
 Janice J. Dickinson  
 OK Sun Easterling

**Dept.**

Park  
 Park  
 Airport  
 Water  
 Water  
 Fire  
 P. W.  
 Airport

**Yrs. Of Service**

35 yrs.  
 35 yrs.  
 31 yrs. 1 mo.  
 30 yrs. 1 mo.  
 26 yrs. 5 mo.  
 25 yrs. 11 mo.  
 25 yrs. 10 mo.  
 12 yrs. 5 mo.

**Retiree Deaths**

Sue Ella Bausch, widow of  
 Charles J. Bausch  
 Ruby G. Saunders  
 Dorothy D. Malone, widow of  
 Warren R. Malone  
 Geneva O. Twining  
 Londell P. Sills  
 Althera Ledbetter, widow of  
 George Ledbetter  
 Dennis R. Cowel  
 G. H. Wilton

**Dept.**

Fire  
 Library  
 Police  
 M. C.  
 Fire  
 Police  
 Fire  
 P.W.

**Date of Death**

05/01/2007  
 05/07/2007  
 05/09/2007  
 05/13/2007  
 05/17/2007  
 05/20/2007  
 05/21/2007  
 06/02/2007

**OCI Promotes & Hires**



**Maria Bias** has been selected as the Administrative Supervisor for OCI. She replaces Gary Cortner, who retired in May. Maria's 23 year tenure with the City of Wichita began with the Wichita/Sedgwick County Health Department as a Clerk I. In 1986, Maria transferred first to a secretarial position in the Environmental Health section, and then moved to the Department of Housing and Economic Development as a Secretary II. Maria joined the staff of Central Inspection as a Secretary II in 1990. She became an Administrative Aide I where she remained until her promotion to Administrative Supervisor.

**Debra Shauers** started as a Neighborhood Inspector in Central Inspection on April 2, 2007. Prior to joining the inspection staff at Central Inspection, she worked for the State of Kansas in Great Bend. Debra will be working as one of the three Neighborhood Inspectors out of the Atwater Neighborhood City Hall.



**Nolan Dealy** started as a Neighborhood Inspector for Central Inspection in April. Nolan comes to us from the City of Newton, where he has been an inspector for the past five years. He has also served as an Officer on the Board for the Kansas Association of Code Enforcement.

**Environmental Promotion**

Lisa Hilyard has been promoted to Division Supervisor for Environmental Services Administration. She has been with the City since July 2002 where she worked in Treasury. Hilyard went to Property Management in 2003. She recently graduated from Friends University with a degree in Business Administration. She has been married for almost 18 years and she has 3 sons ages 18, 17 & 15.



<b>City Connection Team Contributors for this Issue:</b>	
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Terri Dozal, CMO	
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Elaine Hammons, OCI	
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Jennifer Heinicke, Library (Proofreader)	
Jessica Johnson, CMO (Designer/Editor)	
Michelle Rucker, Housing	
Marge Seger, Finance (Proofreader)	
Mo Terrebonne, Environmental Services	
Bob Thompson, Fire	
Denise Tipton, Water Utilities	
Gail Williams, Public Works	
Van Williams, CMO (Reporter/Editor)	