

Your Connection

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



Brain Drain Winners (L-R) Sean Seamster, Kevin Coon, Marshall Manahan, Andrew Mead

Employee Appreciation Week

The annual Employee Appreciation Week (EAW) celebration is a time to say thanks to the hard-working public servants who are the backbone of City government. The accompanying photo montage (right) is one expression of that gratitude. EAW gives City employees an opportunity to enjoy many sports activities, various games, social gatherings and great food including pancakes, sausages and hot dogs. Thanks to all who helped plan and execute the week.



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Q & A Captain Brad Crisp & Jodie



Captain Brad Crisp is a 17-year veteran of the Wichita Fire Department. Captain Crisp has spent the last 11 years in fire prevention as an inspector, public educator, and fire investigator. Brad was certified as an investigator in 1998 and has investigated over 600 fires. He has a Master of Arts degree in Criminal Justice, and over 1200 hours of training in fire investigation. He is an adjunct instructor for the Butler Community College Fire Science Program, and a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives Accelerant Detection Canine handler. He is also certified through the International Association of Arson Investigators, the National Association of Fire Investigators as a Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator, and the International Fire Code.

Accelerant Detection Canine (ADC) Jodie

Statistics thru Sept. 2007

Jodie is an 8-year old Labrador Retriever, trained and certified by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives as an Accelerant Detection Ca-

nine (ADC). Jodie is assigned to Captain Brad Crisp of the Wichita Fire Department, Fire Investigations Unit. Jodie is a food reward/passive response K-9 who has worked 294 fire scenes since her initial certification in 2001. Jodie is trained to display a change in behavior (alert) when she encounters specific types of ignitable liquids, including, but not limited to, gasoline, diesel, solvents, lighter fluid, and lamp oil. There are only 70 ATF-ADC's in the United States.

- Total uses in structure fires - 294
- Total uses in incendiary (arson) fires - 189
- Total uses in accidental or undetermined fires - 105
- Total uses where felony arrest has been made - 52
- Total accuracy rates for samples collected - 99.10%
- Total demonstrations for schools and civic groups - 109
- Total dollar loss of fires where Jodie has been utilized - \$39,398,800.00

Q You describe Jodie as "food reward/passive response." Please explain. Sounds like me and my college buddies in study hall.

A Jodie only eats when she is training or when she is in a fire scene where an ignitable liquid, such as gasoline, had been used to set a fire. When she finds something, she simply sits down and "snorts." Her training is everyday, including the weekend and holidays, for approxi-

mately one hour per day. She is eight years old and has never eaten from a dog bowl!

Q Can you share details about her training to become a firefighting, fire prevention dog?

A Jodie was initially trained as a guide dog for the blind, decided on a career change, and became an arson K-9. She spent 10 weeks of encoding, becoming familiar with sights, sounds and smells of typical fire scenes, before being certified by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms as an Accelerant Detection Canine and being assigned to the Wichita Fire Department. Jodie is certified to detect down to a level of 1 micro-liter.

Q What are a few highlights of Jodie's career?

A Jodie is tied to 52 felony arrests of arsonists, several of which were homicide cases. The most recent case was at 1701 S. Laura on 12-02-06. Jodie located an area where an ignitable liquid was used to set fire to the structure. A female died in the incident, and we used the evidence Jodie located as proof of the aggravated arson. The case was recently adjudicated and the suspect, Billy McCaslin, was found guilty.

Q What do you enjoy most about working with Jodie?

A She is my partner 24-7 and is by my side during the good times and bad (I generally have more bad days than she does) so she picks me up with her spunk and enthusiasm.

Q What does Jodie enjoy most about working with you? (Please translate if she answers)

A Bark bark, woof woof, sniff, snort . . . translated means she is a "people person" and LOVES coming to work. There are very few instances where we get out of the City building without meeting or greeting someone with a sniff or a lick. I joke about this, but there is an element of truth. Most people know Jodie's name and not mine . . . I'm just the guy on the end of the leash!

Q How does Jodie spend her spare time and with whom?

A Jodie enjoys her naps and chasing a tennis ball. She usually ends up asleep on my couch, which my wife Christine is not too thrilled about. Jodie will literally chase a tennis ball thrown by my kids, Coleton and Caitlin, until she drops from fatigue. The way I see it, it allows bonding time with the family and Jodie, and it is good exercise for both!

Q What song makes you dance like no one's watching and sing like no one's listening?

A I dance like I'm having a muscle spasm and sing like a dying rabbit. But, if no one is around or watching, I'll sing to just about any country song. I really like the new song by Kenny Chesney "Don't Blink"; there is a huge truth to that song. I've been with the Fire Department for over 17 years and it seems like yesterday when I was hired. This February, when I celebrate my hire date, I will have spent half of my life working for the WFD.

Environmental Services Partners with Police

On Sept. 5th, Kay Johnson, Director of Environmental Services, presented certificates of appreciation to two Wichita Police Officers, Steve Patton and Paul Kimble, for their active roles in partnering with Environmental Maintenance Inspectors in the continuing battle against blight.

Officers Patton and Kimble are stationed at Patrol North. Both officers stay in touch with key personnel at Environmental Services so that they can promptly report illegal dumpsites, inoperable vehicles on private property, trash and bulky waste that clutter neighborhoods, and vicious dogs that run loose. They take pictures of problem properties and accompany staff

where threats are received, providing safety and security for Environmental Services.

“We appreciate all that they do for us and we want them to know that we never take them for granted,” said Kay Johnson. “These two officers don’t know the meaning of

‘can’t’. And no matter the circumstances, they always remain calm and polite.”

Environmental Services plans to recognize more employees in the WPD and other City departments who go above and beyond to assist Environmental Services in helping to

clean up Wichita and to carryout department operations. It takes all departments working together contributing in so many ways to accomplish the City and Environmental Services goals.



Officers Patton and Kimble holding certificates while surrounded by their #1 fans

Monthly Report of TW Activity By Category

Project Team

- Plans are being formulated for the next Managing For Results (MFR) budget cycle and appointment of Strategy Teams (STs).
- MFR Calendar to be finalized late Sept./Oct. and distributed.
- Strategies are being discussed/developed with the City Manager’s Office Communications Team to enhance communication with employees about Transforming Wichita.
- Applications for case studies for the Alliance for Innovation 2008 conference program were due by Aug., 2007. Coordination of the city’s submittals was facilitated by the Project Team.

Strategy Teams

- Managing for Results

processes will begin early fall for the next budget cycle. Refinements to the ST membership and work processes are under consideration. Team appointments will be solicited from department directors after consensus is reached on the framework for the STs.

- Strategy Teams/City Manager meeting held Sept. 6, in City Council Chambers. Purpose was to debrief this year’s process and plan improvements for the next budget cycle.

Training - Learning & Development (TWT and TQG)

- TWT Training Team - 24 members
- Number of TWT classes held in Aug.= 4, reaching approx 100 employees
- Number of TWT classes scheduled for Sept. = 4

- Number of employees completing TWT through July (program to date)

Employee Recognition Programs

- Number of IRISE Thank You cards submitted for Aug. drawing = 51;
- Number of IRISE gift recipients YTD = 80
- Number of Employee Service Recognition (ESR) nominations & ESR Receptions in Aug. = 2 (Library, Public Works)

Employee Suggestions (Continuous Improvement Action Plans)

- 169 improvement plans have been received in CTD July, 19 received during the month of July
- 169 improvement plans in total have been sent

to department directors for review/approval

- 87 improvement plans submitted in total to date have been approved by dept. directors either for further work or implementation. (director approved)
- 10 improvement plans have been denied by department directors and will be reviewed by the Project Team
- 0 improvement plans are pending assignment to the appropriate dept. for further review/action
- 13 dept. denials have been upheld by the Project Team
- 1 dept. denial has been approved by the Project Team

Planning

Dunbar Theater Moves Forward

Fundraising efforts are now in full swing for the revitalization of the historic Dunbar Theater at 1007 N. Cleveland. Restoration of the Dunbar was part of the community's vision that was included in the McAdams Neighborhood Revitalization Plan. POWER Community Development Corp. (CDC) obtained clear title to the property earlier this summer, and was also recently awarded a \$300,000 federal earmark grant through Rep. Todd Tiaht. These are significant steps forward in the creation of a community-based cultural and performing arts center that will serve residents of Wichita.

Bringing Nature and Conservation Together

The Cargill Learning Center at the Sedgwick County Zoo is one of Wichita's first buildings to incorporate Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design



(LEED) techniques. Last year, the Center expanded and also became a "Green Building." Improvements included environmentally friendly construction materials, recycled glass in the floors and countertops, recyclable carpet squares, and energy advantage Low-E windows to optimize solar control, reducing heat gain and increasing light transmittance. The 15,000 square foot Center boasts four permanent classrooms, a large auditorium, a library, interior and exterior gathering places and a channel that connects the Center to the interior of the Zoo.

Not only is the building an environmental showcase, the unique design of the building is based on the equiangular spiral, a shape that is found throughout nature such as in horns, tusks, leaves and shells. The spiral is based on what is known as the Fibonac-

nacci's sequence, a system of numbers that comes from adding two numbers together and then adding the largest of the original numbers to the answer - 1,1,2,3,5,8,13,21. The focal point of the building is a large rotunda with a striking terrazzo cobalt blue spiral nautilus design on the floor, which is made from 100% recycled, crushed glass, just



one of many environmentally-friendly features of the Cargill Learning Center.

WAMPO Area Bridges

Since the I-35W bridge collapse in Minnesota, as well as Wichita's recent closure of the Broadway Bridge near 37th St. South, bridges have become a hot topic and of great concern to the general public within the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

(WAMPO) region.

To ensure that the public is using safe and reliable infrastructure, the U.S. DOT requires that all bridges be inspected and given a sufficiency rating every two years. A bridge's sufficiency rating is determined by an objective set of rating criteria that judges its overall condition. The bridge inspection results provide the basis for the "National Bridge Inventory: Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program Selection List" (R&R List), which is published annually by the Kansas Department of Transportation. To be included on the R&R List, a bridge must receive a sufficiency rating of 50 or less and be deemed structurally deficient or functionally obsolete. Only bridges listed on the R&R List are eligible to receive federal bridge funding. WAMPO is currently working with local units of government with concerns about funding bridge repairs and replacements through the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Welcome Cowtown

City of Wichita Welcomes New Cowtown Employees

Old Cowtown employees are now also City of Wichita employees. The staff at Old Cowtown Museum transitioned over to the city in mid-August as part of the City's acquisition of the museum and its daily operations. The museum staff are now part of the City Manager's Office and John D'Angelo, Director of Arts and Cultural Services,

is leading the City's effort to help the museum and its employees through this transition period. "There is a lot of hard work involved in the transition period but we're all excited to work together towards a promising future" said D'Angelo. Old Cowtown Museum is located at 1865 Museum Blvd, and open Thursday - Sunday. Please call 660-1871 for more information.



Old Cowtown Museum employees include (Back row left to right): Shawn Richardson, Maintenance Supervisor; Chris Connors, Education / Interpretation Coordinator; Bob Garrett, Interim Executive Director; (Front row left to right): Cassie Fahey, Group Tours and Community Affairs; Patrick McKaig, Facility Rental Coordinator; Amy Loch, Curator/Historian; David Abbott, Visitor's Center supervisor; Ed LeRoy, Events Coordinator; and Ron Parker, Farm Manager/Wrangler.

Fire Department

New Fire Recruits

The Wichita Fire Department currently has 18 fire recruits attending a 12-week academy at their training facility located at 31st S. & Oliver. Their training includes instruc-



(L to R) Lana Allen, Timothy Goscha and Scott Riedel

tion in Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), fire behavior, fire control, electrical safety, building construction, search and rescue, forcible entry, hazardous materials, live fire training, defensive driving, firefighter safety, cultural diversity, fire prevention and critical incident stress management. The class includes the Department's first African American female, Lanna J. Allen. The recruits are scheduled to graduate on November 30. At that time, they will be assigned to one of the Department's 19 fire stations.

Fire Prevention Week:

October 7-13 is National Fire Prevention Week and the Wichita Fire Department has lots of activities planned. The department will host events at Cowtown, Sedgwick County Zoo, Exploration Place, Senior Service Center and the West Branch YMCA. All fire stations will have open houses where approximately 2500 visitors will tour the stations. The theme for this year is Practice Your Escape Plan.

New Fire Chief Announced

Ron Blackwell will be the 13th Fire Chief in the fire department's 121-year history. City Manager George Kolb made

the announcement recently at a press conference. Blackwell was one of 45 applicants from across the nation who submitted an application for the chief's position. Chief Blackwell will start his new position sometime in October.



Retiring Chief Larry Garcia (L), shakes hand with his successor Ron Blackwell.

Human Resources

City Manager Approves Shared Leave

The City Manager has approved a Shared Leave Program for the employees of the City of Wichita. This new program allows employees with over 80 hours of accrued leave to donate vacation, sick leave, personal holiday, and well days to a fund maintained by the Employee Emergency Assistance Fund (EEAF). These hours are distributed to employees who demonstrate, to the EEAF board of directors the need for assistance according to the Policy. The Policy and donations forms are available at the HR Office, or

on the HR page of the City Intranet. For further information please contact John Hale 269-4728.

Open Enrollment is Near!

Have changes to make to your benefits? Can't remember what benefits you have? The HR department is geared up to assist you during the upcoming Open enrollment period. From Oct. 15 through Nov. 15, you can enroll in or make changes to your benefits plans. If you would like to have John Hale, the City's Benefit Coordinator, attend a meeting to explain benefits

to your department's employees call John at 269-4728. Here are some highlights:

- Oct. 12th - You will receive a packet with your paycheck that has personalized information regarding your current benefit elections. This packet will also contain information regarding any changes that will go into effect in 2008. Review this information and make sure that it is all correct.
- Oct. 15th - Open Enrollment begins and you can make changes to your Health, Dental, and Flex Spending accounts for
- Oct. 16th - Benefits Fair at Century II 8am-5pm Meet with representatives of the Insurance Companies and attend sessions explaining some of the upcoming changes.
- Oct. 17th - Benefits Fair at Century II 1pm-5pm Meet with representatives of the Insurance Companies and attend sessions explaining some of the upcoming changes

Bilingual Policy

The City Manager authorized a program that allows additional compensation for employees who are fluent in a language other than English, and who use that skill and

ability in the workplace. A list of employees available to provide services to other departments will be posted on the Human Resources Web-site on the intranet.

Scheduling their services is handled between the departments involved. A number of employees have applied for assessment and they will be processed over

the next several months. For more information or to apply for the assessment, please contact Human Resources.

Transit Celebrates 40th Anniversary in October



The commemoration begins with a Wichita City Council proclamation on Oct. 16. Transit employees who represent second and third generations of service will be recog-

nized by the Mayor and Council.

The following week, Oct. 22-26, a variety of special events are planned, leading up to a

40-cent ride promotion on Friday.

Among the week's highlights:

Monday, Oct. 22: Random Acts of Kindness - Randomly chosen passengers will receive a Wichita Eagle newspaper and a goodie bag filled with items including a complimentary single-ride pass and a note of thanks for using our service.

Tuesday, Oct. 23: Gift With a Purchase - Throughout the day, customers who purchase bus passes at the Transit Center information booth will receive a complimentary gift. It's our way of saying thank you for your business.

Wednesday, Oct. 24: Blue Bell

Ice Cream Social at the Downtown Transit Center. During the 3:15 and 3:45 line-up, customers can enjoy a complimentary cup of Blue Bell ice cream and try TRANSIT TRIVIA to win a prize.

Thursday, Oct. 25: Celebrity and Mystery Riders will board Wichita Transit buses at various times throughout the day. Be the first to guess the celebrity/mystery rider and receive a complimentary 20-ride bus pass.

Friday, Oct. 26: Forty Cent Friday - Cash fares including transfers are 40 cents throughout the day on fixed route service only.

Teamwork at Planeview

The Planeview and Hilltop neighborhoods, two of the city's most poverty-stricken areas, recently received some much-needed assistance from the City of Wichita. One of the most daunting environmental issues in these neighborhoods is bulky waste. Residents who live in these areas typically do not have the equipment or the financial means, to dispose of large items such as old furniture, appliances, etc. One pick-up load taken to the transfer station can cost as much as \$40 and for a family living on minimum wage, that can equate to a week's rent, groceries, or medicine. Thus, in Hilltop and Planeview we see a constant accumulation of bulky waste, which has a very negative impact on the self-esteem and general perception of the neighborhood.

But the City gave these areas a huge boost when Public Works

came through on August 27 with 10 trucks and two trailers and collected all the bulky waste that was in the City right-of ways. They cleaned up 40 sites in Planeview and 15 in Hilltop. Both of these neighborhoods have their yearly clean-ups scheduled within the next few weeks, and the work that was completed by Public Works, will allow the citizens to focus their efforts on targeted areas. A number of citizens contacted various City Departments to express their appreciation. The Mayor's Office and the City Manager's Office were instrumental in making this project a reality.

Additionally, Animal Control recently conducted special projects in both neighborhoods to address the troubling issue of dogs running at large. Many of the animals in



these areas are accustomed to running loose and are very streetwise and wary. And sadly, a good deal of the time, they are not licensed, vaccinated or neutered. Animal Control has a special team of officers who are skilled in conducting these special operations: Steve Shoop, Ron Walton and Manuel Meraz. During the first three roundups, assistance was provided by the Wichita Police Department: Officers Colin Gallagher, Vanessa Minks, Michael Cox, Steve Jerrell, Lori Cundiiff, Husam Shourbaji, Brian Shelton and Travis Cleveland. All those involved did an outstanding job of treat-

ing the animals humanely and with compassion, and did so without resulting in any injuries to the animals or staff.

The two round-ups in Hilltop resulted in the capture of 14 dogs, 15 citations and numerous warnings. In Planeview, the roundup conducted on Aug. 30 resulted in the capture of 12 dogs and three tickets. A second Planeview dog round up is slated for late September.

If you are interested in learning more about poverty, the hidden rules of poverty, and how you can make a difference, suggested reading: **Bridges Out of Poverty** by Ruby K. Payne, Philip E. DeVol and Terie Dreussi Smith.

What's Happening at City Arts

In the Gallery

Exhibit: Paintings: *Louis Copt, Phil Epp, and Justin Epp.*

Photographs: *Dan Coburn.*

Large Ceramic Vessels: *Conrad Snider.*

Raku: *Sheldon Ganstrom*

Exhibit Dates: September 5 thru September 29

Reception: Final Friday, September 28, 6-8pm

CityArts is pleased to present the work of six exciting regional artists. This is an ex-

hibit based on the unique visions of each artist that tie back to the Kansas landscape. Each one brings their own unusual twist of interpretation of land and earth.

First Floor Gallery Annex

September 5 - 29, 2007:

"Matthew Hilyard: New Works"

Second Floor Gallery

August 31 - September 26

"Three Fruit Pickers As A Second Language"

CityArts Instructors Buz Johnson, April Scott and Charlotte Martin combine forces for a show of 2-D and collaborative pottery work.

Second Floor Conference Room

September 4 - 29

"Kay Ferris"

CityArts staff exhibits work in the second floor conference room.

Special Events

In mid September Louis Copt will be premiering a short film on the Flint Hills with music by Kelly Hunt in the gallery.

Fall Session Enrollment - Check our web site www.wichitaarts.com for a listing of the Fall classes and workshops and enroll now! We have added many one-day workshops for the Fall session

Fall Session starts the week of September 10.

Central Inspection Gives Tips to Seniors

In June, Dan Leidy and Darlene Hultman from Central Inspection met with a group of senior citizens at the Linwood Senior Center regarding hiring of contractors.

Since senior citizens are often targets of contractor scams, Dan and Darlene gave their audience some tips on selecting contractors and protecting themselves

from being the victim of such contractor scams. In addition to a list of preventative measures, Dan and Darlene provided information on the assistance that Central

Inspection could provide in the event that a senior citizen found himself in a dilemma with an unscrupulous contractor.

Library

Hispanic Heritage Events @ Your Library

Hispanic Heritage Month may run Sept. 15-Oct. 15, but the Library has too much planned to limit the celebration to just those weeks. See the memories of Wichita's Hispanic community as captured on film in *Images of America: Latinos in Wichita* at the Evergreen Branch Library through Oct. 31. Professional comedian Patrick Candelaria will share the humorous side of growing up Latino in America



Patrick Candelaria

on Sunday, Sept. 23, at 2:30 p.m. at the Central Library in an event co-sponsored by

the Loony Bin. Kids have plenty of options too! From South American animals to make-and-take crafts, from a family festival to a book discussion (with prize drawing!), Hispanic Heritage events are another great reason to head for the library

Between Two Worlds: Stories of Estrangement and Homecoming

for a reading and discussion series like no other! Led by Dr. Lorraine Madway of Wichita State University, *Between Two Worlds* features lively discussion of five books as part of *Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature*, a scholar-led reading and discussion program for those interested in exploring Jewish literature and culture.

Between Two Worlds explores the central tension of the Jewish Diaspora on psychological, metaphorical and even physiological dimensions as writers from Egypt, Brazil, Europe, Canada and the United States explore what it means to belong. All sessions will be held at the Rockwell Branch Library, 5939 E. 9th, at 6:30 p.m. To register, please contact the Rockwell Branch Library at (316) 688-9361 for further information. Participants are asked to plan to attend all sessions. *Between Two Worlds* at the Wichita Public Library is made possible by the American Library Association, Nextbook and the Mid-Kansas Jewish Federation.

Oct. 10: Eva Hoffman's *Lost in*

Translation: A Life in a New Language

Oct. 31: Moacyr Scliar's *The Centaur in the Garden*

Nov. 14: Allegra Goodman's *Kaaterskill Falls*

Nov. 28: Andre Aciman's *Out of Egypt*

Kansas Book Festival Oct 5-6

With presentations by more than 60 authors, hands-on activities, an entertainment stage and the Book Fair vendor area, the Kansas Book Festival at Koch Arena, WSU, offers something for everyone!

The Festival is open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Saturday.

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.

September

Julie Linneman
 Scott Fielding
 William E. Bush
 Nathan Bucy
 Pamela Whitaker
 Jamie Goodwin
 Neil Strahl
 David Ellison
 Karen Mishler

10 Years

Library
 Park
 P.W.
 Water
 IT/IS
 Airport
 Planning
 Airport
 Police

25 Years

Linda Firsching
 James Veasey
 David Firsching

P.W.
 Water
 Water

Retirees

William Millspaugh
 M. Paul Bryant
 Willie Whitaker
 Richard Clark
 Glenda Moats
 Karen Wolf

Dept.

Fire
 Water
 Water
 Water
 Park
 Airport

Yrs. Of Service

33 yrs. 04 mo.
 33 yrs. 03 mo.
 32 yrs.
 31 yrs. 11 mo.
 22 yrs. 11 mo.
 20 yrs. 07 mo.

Retiree Deaths

Ruth Green, widow of
 Kenneth Green
 John Coslett, Sr.
 Edward Bocovich
 Faye Hiveley
 Chester Flye
 Norman Zickel
 Wendell Dutton
 Catherine Edwards
 Coleera Johns, widow of
 James Johns
 Vera Harder, widow of
 Barney Harder

Dept.

Fire
 Fire
 Park
 Health
 Fire
 Airport
 Police
 Finance
 Police
 P.W.

Date of Death

06/27/2007
 07/27/2007
 08/06/2007
 08/08/2007
 08/11/2007
 08/11/2007
 08/14/2007
 08/21/2007
 08/21/2007
 08/26/2007

Joe Dermid Celebrates 30 Years

Colleagues surprised Joe Dermid Aug. 7 with a party at Career Development Office to celebrate 30 years of pinching pennies for the City of Wichita.

Rosy and refreshed from his Seattle vacation, Joe quickly joined the celebration by pinning a twinkling "30 years" button to his tie. "I was surprised," said Joe. "Reliving old times and memories of faces past was the best part. It was great seeing so many people I've worked with over the years."

The cake spelled out the timeline for Joe's 30 years of serving Wichita. Guests eagerly supplied tales both funny and inspiring to illustrate Joe's achievements wherever he has worked.

His career with the City began in 1977 and is now a Senior Fiscal Analyst in the Career Development Office (CDO).

Joe confirmed the day's theme of "30 years ... the party continues" by stating he has no plans for retirement.

New OCI Inspector

Central Inspection welcomes Chris Carney, an addition to the mechanical section. Before coming to the City of Wichita, Central Inspection, Chris was employed by Hanna Heating and Air for the last three years. Chris holds a Master Mechanical Certificate in HVAC, and a EPA Certification. Chris will be one of three mechanical field inspectors whose duties include the inspection of air conditioning and heating installations in new and existing construction.



City Connection Team

Debbie Aviks	CMO
Gordon Bassham	Police
Megan Buckmaster	City Manager's Office
LeeAnn Casey	Human Resources
Vallery Fields	Transit
Larry Fooks	Park & Recreation
Dale Goter	CMO
Elaine Hammons	OCI
Mike Hampel	Planning
Jennifer Heinicke	Library
Kay Hurdle	Law
Stacy Jenkins	City Arts
Pamaline King-Burns	Water Utilities
Denise Klug	IT/IS
Deb Legge	OCI
Donte Martin	Municipal Court
Kristine McMinnville	Water Utilities
John O'Hara	City Manager's Office
Michelle Rucker	Housing & Comm. Services
Marge Seger	Finance
Mo Terrebonne	Environmental Services
Bob Thompson	Fire
Denise Tipton	Water Utilities
Gail Williams	Public Works
Van Williams	CMO
Valerie Wise	Airport

U. S. Air Race

On July 16-17, 2007, Col. James Jabara Airport was the site for the 12th annual U.S. Air Race. Twenty-two teams competed in this amateur sport of cross-country speed air racing. A cross country air race is a test of all pilot skills in the real world of flying. The goal is to fly the designated course in the fastest time and races are precisely timed. Aircraft are handicapped to equalize them. In other words, all instrumentation is taped over and a map and compass are the only

tools pilots and their navigators can use. Special divisions provide for non-handicapped planes of the same type, model or horsepower. Turbo/supercharged engines fly in separate divisions, and flying is daylight VFR only.

The Wichita Airport Authority and Mooney Airplane Company sponsored this event. The economic impact of this event is 10-fold, or an estimated \$90,000, and a 40-fold return in terms of publicity for Wichita throughout the U.S.



Mayor Carl Brewer flags off the racers at the U.S. Air Race