

The Bel Aire Breeze

Vol. 11, No. 10

November 2016

Complimentary copy

Sales in city subdivision struggling

Bel Aire
renews
contract
with realtor

By Taylor Messick

During its meeting Oct. 4, the Bel Aire City Council approved another year-long agreement with Crown III Realty for marketing of The Park and The Landing in Central Park, a high-end hous-

ing subdivision between Woodlawn and Rock Road. The new contract was approved by a 3-2 vote. The subdivisions have struggled just to get off the ground under Jeff Richardson and Crown III Realty over the past year

and some members of the council were dissatisfied with the ineffectiveness. Richardson appeared before the council and explained some of the reasons why he has had difficulties with the project, but struggled when he was asked about the solutions

to some of those issues. While The Landing has sold homes close to average cost in the area, The Park sells homes at slightly higher than average prices. Richardson said homes over \$275,000 are much slower to sell and noted that three of the

houses in The Park that are well over that price have been on the market for over a year. He also said that because those houses are higher-end for The Park, potential customers are likely to look

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Community celebrates

Fall Festival



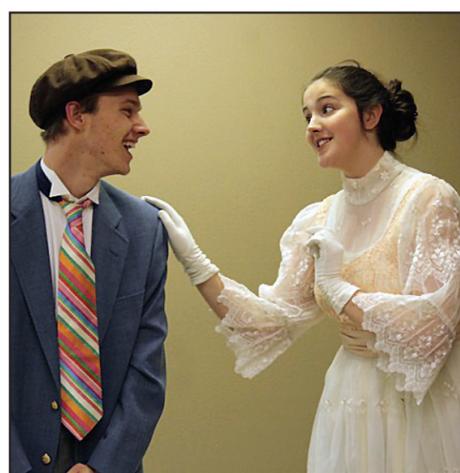
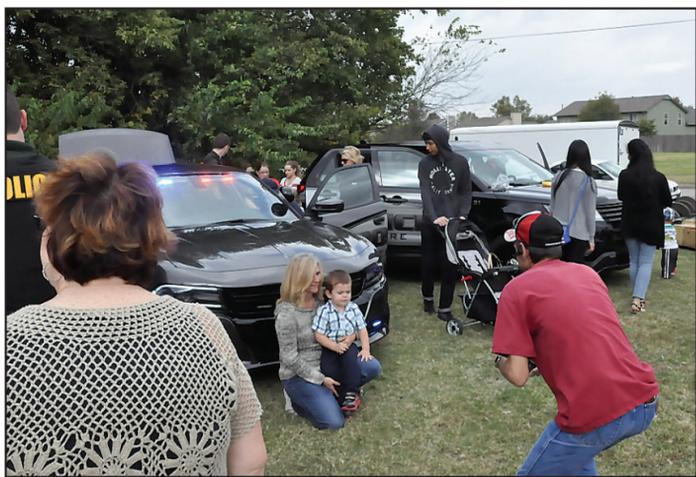
TOP: Families take carriage rides during the Bel Aire Fall Festival Oct. 15 at the Bel Aire Recreation Center. The festival included food trucks, games, vendors and live music.



ABOVE AND ABOVE RIGHT: The car show is a hit at the festival.

RIGHT: Families take pictures next to the Bel Aire Police Department and Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office patrol vehicles.

Photos by Chris Strunk



Courtesy photo

Christina Costello (right) of Bel Aire rehearses a scene for "Mary Poppins." The show will be performed at Isely Traditional Magnet School in Bel Aire.

Poppins 'flying' into Bel Aire

Shows Nov. 3 through 5

By The Breeze staff

Christina Costello of Bel Aire will portray Mary Poppins in Christian Youth Theater (CYT) of Wichita's upcoming performance of Disney's "Mary Poppins."

Costello is the daughter of Joe and Michelle Costello.

The show will be Nov. 3 through 5 at Isely Traditional Magnet School in Bel Aire.

CYT will be bringing in a professional fly system so Mary Poppins and Bert can "fly" during the show.

Show times will be 7 p.m. Nov. 3 and 4 as well as 2 and 7 p.m. Nov. 5.

Tickets are \$11 for students and seniors, and \$13 for adults (add \$2 at the door).

There is a special rate for existing groups, like scouts, for the Thursday evening show.

Tickets may be purchased at cytwichita.org or by calling 682-1688.

CYT Wichita (a licensed affiliate of CYT Inc., the largest youth theater program in the nation, with programs across the country) is an after-school theater arts program, training children in all aspects of the performing arts. Students ages 8 to 18 enrolled in the class session have the opportunity to audition for a Broadway-style production. Toward the end of each session, this fully-staged musical production is presented.

House, Senate races to be decided

By The Post staff

A handful of local Kansas House and Senate races will be decided in the Nov. 8 election and one has already been set.

In the Senate, two area seats are up for election.

District 16, which includes

the eastern part of Bel Aire and a small part of Kechi, is occupied by Republican Ty Masterson of Andover. He is seeking re-election and is being challenged by Democrat Gabriel Costilla of Derby.

District 31 also will be decided. The district includes

the western part of Bel Aire, most of Kechi, Park City, Valley Center and part of north Wichita. It also includes all of Harvey County.

Republican Carolyn McGinn of rural Sedgwick holds the seat. Democrat Michelle Vann of rural Valley Center is

her challenger.

In the House, District 91's new representative will be Republican Greg Lakin, who lives in Wichita. Lakin won the primary election and does not have a challenger in the general election.

The district includes the

east part of Kechi, most of Park City, the south part of Valley Center and part of north Wichita.

Lakin will replace Republican Gene Suellentrop, who is a candidate for Senate District

See ELECTION, Page 2

Empire Wall Systems finds new home in Bel Aire

By Taylor Messick

Sunflower Commerce Park in Bel Aire will welcome another new business to the area. Ryan Nelson has decided to purchase a 10-acre plot in the industrial park to build the

new home for his business, Empire Wall Systems. The business currently has two different properties in the Wichita area and Nelson will now combine those facilities into a larger, more efficient one in Bel Aire.

“We specialize in structural steel stud framing,” said Nelson. “We also do drywall, pre-fixed ceilings and computer floors. Our main specialty is load-bearing steel stud projects — multi-family apartments, assisted-liv-

ing residences and student housing. We produce wall panels on the majority of those projects in a manufacturing facility. Then we take them to the site and put them up like playing cards.” The two divisions of

Empire Wall Systems that are currently separate divide the duties of projects by forming beams out of raw steel at one location and constructing wall panels at the other. Nelson is losing one of those locations near Kellogg and

Greenwich due to a buyout for the expansion project and has taken the opportunity to relocate to a more convenient property. Nelson said when the project is complete his business will employ more than 90 people in Bel Aire.

CHURCH HIGHLIGHTS

Christ Lutheran-ELCA

Christ Lutheran is at 53rd North and Hillside, across from Wichita Heights High School. Services are at 9 a.m. for contemporary, 10:15 for Sunday school and 11 for traditional. Communion is offered at all services. For more information about the church and its activities find the church online at www.christ-lutheran.org, or call 744-1242. Chad Langdon is the pastor of Christ Lutheran Church.

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 at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday. Weekday Masses are 8 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday. Resurrection Catholic School has students from preschool through eighth grade. The parish/school website is www.resurrectionwichita.com, and the telephone number is 744-2776. The Rev. James F. Weldon is the pastor.

Community Bible Chapel

Community Bible Chapel is located at the corner of 45th North and Arlene. Please call Amy Smith

at 323-2819 with any questions.

Cornerstone Christian

Cornerstone Christian Church is located at 5531 E. 37th North in Wichita KS 67220-2037. The church phone number is 686-0208. Our pastor is Jim Rackham and youth pastor is Brandon Morrow. Sunday Worship is at 9:30 and 11 a.m. and a nursery is provided. Our Wednesday Study Groups include adult studies, youth and AWANA. They all meet at 6:30 p.m. Please join us for the service of your choice.

Fairmount United Church of Christ

Visit the church at 1605 Fairmount in Wichita, one block south and one block east of 17th North and Hillside. Sunday worship is at 10:30 a.m., which includes children's church. Sunday school begins at 9:30 a.m. For more information, call 682-1597 or visit at www.fairmountucc.org. Steve Bridwell is the minister.

Gospel Assembly Church

Located at 4230 N. Oliver in Bel Aire, Sunday services are 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Prayer service is at 7 p.m. Tuesday. Praise and worship is at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday. The first Saturday evening of each month are youth activities. Phone number is 744-1502. The Rev. Gary D. Green is the pastor.

Greenwich United Methodist Church

Greenwich UMC, at the edge of Wichita, is a traditional, family church that serves all ages. Sunday worship is at 9 a.m. Life Studies study group for all ages is from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Pastor Paula Scott is available at the church each Wednesday for prayer and fellowship. United Methodist Women meet at 10 a.m. the first Wednesday of each month and also host a church brunch quarterly. Special events are announced on the church sign, Facebook and by mailings. Please call to be added to our mailing list or email shagemaster@sbcglobal.net.

Greenwich UMC missions support large local charities like Open Door, Grace Med or Youthville, as well as small charities like Flint Hills Therapeutic Riding Center, Wichita Children's Home, to name a few. The church is located at 5500 N. Greenwich Road, about one mile south of K-254 and five miles north of 21st North. Like us on Facebook at Wichita Greenwich United Methodist Church. We would love for you to come join us Sunday. Feel free to call anytime 744-0203. Kechi United Methodist Sunday worship is at 9:03 a.m. (contemporary service) or 11 (traditional

service), with Sunday school at 10 a.m., at Kechi United Methodist Church, 4533 E. 61st North in Kechi. Caregivers support group meets at 7 p.m. the first Monday of each month. Men's Bible Study is at 6:30 a.m. Wednesdays. Bingo is at 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month. Our pastor is Greg Reed. Find us at www.KechiUMC.org and "Like" us on Facebook. The church phone number is 744-1221. LifePoint A fellowship of the Assemblies of God, LifePoint is located at 400 S. Abilene in Valley Center. Sunday worship service and Kids Church are at 10:30 a.m., with Life University/Sunday school for all ages at 9. There are no regular Sunday night service. For special activities, see our website, www.lpcag.org. On Wednesday evenings, Launch children's program meets at 6:30 p.m. Velocity Student Ministries for youth meets at 7 p.m. Adult small groups meet throughout the community. Senior pastor is Steve Rains. Youth pastor is Jacob Soyev. Children's pastor is Nathaniel Thurman. Call 755-2331.

Risen Savior Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod The church is at 6770 E. 34th North, Wichita. Phone

number is 683-5538. The church is online at www.risensaviorwichita.net. Contemporary Sunday worship service is at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Communion is on the first and third Sunday. Adult Sunday school and Bible class meet at 9:15 a.m. Children's church is at 10:30 a.m. A nursery is provided during both the Bible class and the second service. Lifetree Café is a conversation café, a place and time for people to gather weekly to experience stories and talk about thought-provoking topics relating to life and faith. They meet Thursdays at 1 p.m., with lunch at noon, at the community building, 316 E. Clay, in Valley Center. Risen Savior Pre-school classes for 3- to 5-year-olds are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 to 11:45 a.m. Please contact Michelle Peshek, director/lead teacher, with questions at atmichellep@risensavior.net or call the church office at 683-5538. Senior pastor is Tom Harmon.

St. Michael's Orthodox Christian Saint Michael's Orthodox Christian Church is at 2710 E. 61st North, Park City. It is a congregation of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America. "The disciples were first called Christians at Antioch." (Acts 11:26) Saint Michael is a western rite congrega-

tion using the Liturgy of Saint Gregory. It is the only western rite Orthodox Church in Kansas. Join us for our worship of the Holy Trinity using the ancient and beautiful liturgy of the Undivided Church. Sunday Adult class at 9 a.m. will study Paul's Letters to the Church in Corinth. Wednesday service is at 6 p.m. Saturday Vespers is at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday's program will begin at 7:15 p.m. following liturgy and potluck supper. Call the church for more information at 734-6248 or visit our website at www.saintmichaelorthodoxchurch.com. Email inquiries to jflora@cox.net.

The Very Rev. Dr. John Flora is archpriest and pastor. The Rev. Father Basil Anderson is the deacon, and James Finneran is the reader.

Wichita Three Angels Seventh-Day Adventist

The church is located at 4558 N. Hydraulic, Wichita. The pastor is Nathan Stearman. The Sabbath school is at 9:30 a.m. Worship service is at 11 a.m. For more information find us at www.godsclot.com or on Facebook, email eric@godsclot.com or call 530-1040.

Send your church's upcoming events and service times to legals@arkvalleynews.com or call 755-0821.

Houses

Continued from Page 1

across the street in Iron Gate instead. Another obstacle the project has faced has to do with recruiting builders. Richardson said he has difficulties finding builders for the area because of high costs presented by planning and zoning regulations. He said many builders want to build the types of homes they've had success selling and that those plans don't always match with planning and zoning regulations. "We've come with two or three plans and been sent back to the drawing board," said Richardson. "I've had a builder that finally said 'I'm done.' I've now brought in Tony Zimbelman. He's not considering the houses with alleys that need all the zoning; that's expensive and it's a hard sell. He's considering the houses along Woodlawn that will be a buffer and will really help The Park." Richardson's hope is that getting some "good

looking" houses along a busier part of Woodlawn will bring more attention to the lots. He also admitted that he thought this project would be easier because of his connections with the Wichita Area Builders Association. "I have a very good relationship with WABA, but I have not been able to get very many models of specs," he said. "I thought just my name would be enough to attract the builders to risk their money; I'm humbled. I'm finding out that isn't enough and I need to prove a little bit of success in Bel Aire to get the builders." Crown III is finally putting up its first spec home a year after taking the marketing job. City Administrator Ty Lasher said he reached out to other entities about the project but got no responses. He also said that conflicts with builders over the style of the homes caused the current realtor more friction. While The Landing has ranch-style homes, The Park was founded on craftsman-style homes.

"Some of the builders brought in homes for us to review for The Park," said Lasher. "The plans were basically all ranch. The people who bought in there bought with the idea that they'd be surrounded by craftsman-style homes." Mayor David Austin said the city wants to "protect the integrity of the neighborhood." He stated that he had no problem urging the council to extend the realtor's contract another year even though some of the council wanted to cut the contract time in half. He noted that he didn't want to see the project implode because of a slow start and even offered the realtor some marketing suggestions. "My recommendation is to approve this," said Austin. "But as the governing body, we're going to need to see something in six months; maybe we ask for quarterly updates. There's been a lot of forward traction. It's happened later than what we thought and I was hoping for something six months

ago; but this contract can be cancelled in 30 days and it costs us nothing to do." While a couple of council members agreed with Austin, others were more hesitant. Diane Wynn suggested tabling the agreement until the release of WABA's upcoming survey; this survey will come out at the end of October and will reveal data about what homebuyers in the area are looking for. Betty Martine agreed and also suggested a meeting with homeowners already living in the area to gather input. Guy MacDonald flat out opposed the extension. "He's a salesman and he said he lost money in Bel Aire over the last year," said MacDonald. "That's not going to inspire confidence. When he spoke at the podium he was a very unconfident individual. When I asked him about spec homes he didn't give a

clear answer because he doesn't know. He's relying on the reputation of the current builder. I'm not in favor of continuing an agreement with this particular business." In other business, the council: •Approved Appropriations Ordinance 16-19 in the amount of \$398,921.11 by a unanimous vote. •Proclaimed October "Bullying Prevention Month." •Approved a special use ordinance on certain property zoned R-1 located within the corporate city limits of Bel Aire by a unanimous vote. •Approved petitions for 53rd Street paving and water main to be constructed between Webb and Rock by a

unanimous vote. •Approved a resolution authorizing the offering for sale of general obligation bonds, Series 2016A and general obligation temporary notes, Series 2016B by a unanimous vote. •Cancelled October's regularly scheduled workshop due to the League Conference. All members of the council were present. There was no executive session.

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Election

Continued from Page 1

27. The election will decide House District 90, a seat held by Republican Steve Huebert of Valley Center. Democrat challenger is Lou Cicirello, also of Valley Center. The district includes

most of Valley Center, parts of north Kechi and parts of north Park City as well as some of northwest Wichita. House District 85 also will be decided in the general election. The district includes the east part of Bel Aire, parts of Kechi and part of northeast Wichita, extending into Butler County. Re-

publican Chuck Weber of northeast Wichita holds the seat and is seeking re-election. He will be challenged by Democrat Patty Beamer of Bel Aire.

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City of Bel Aire



Bel Aire Recreation

BOYS BASKETBALL

For ages 5 through 11. Game begin Jan. 7, 2017. Registration deadline is Dec. 10.

CHEER SQUAD

A recreation class focusing on motions, jumps and routines involved in cheer-leading. Classes will be held on Tuesday evenings beginning Nov. 22. For boys and girls ages 4 through 10.

YOUNG REMBRANDTS

An elementary-age curriculum designed to teach basic to advanced drawing skills, art techniques and vocabulary. Young Rembrandts is held from 5 to 6 p.m. every Monday. Register online at www.youngrembrandts.com.

LIL' DRIBBLERS

For boys and girls who are 4 years old. Lil' Dribblers is a six-week basketball camp designed to introduce the concept of basketball to 4-year-olds. Dribbling, shooting, passing and defense are taught through fun and engaging activities.

Begins Nov. 5.

YOGA

Classes are from 6 to 7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Participants must provide their own yoga mat. Teens and adults can join at any time.

SENIOR AEROBICS/CHAIR EXERCISES

The senior aerobics class meets from 9 to 10 a.m. Wednesdays. Chair exercise is at 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Fridays. You can join at any time.

LINE DANCING

Line dancing benefits the entire body. It can help you lose weight, improve balance and coordination, increase muscle and bone strength, and the best part — it's FUN! Fridays at 1:30 p.m. in the Community Room at City Hall, and Mondays at 1:30 p.m. at the Rec Center.

A \$10 late fee will be charged to all sign-ups after registration deadlines. For more info about any Bel Aire Recreation programs, call 744-2700.

Bel Aire Seniors

All SENIORS 55+ are cordially invited to all events listed below. The Senior Center and library area are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. The library has a wide selection of books to check out with neither cost nor time restraints and computers are available for study or research. Any senior can belong to or attend more than one senior center/club in Sedgwick County.

The Bel Aire Senior Center will be closed for all programs when USD 259 schools are closed due to inclement weather. For more information, please call 744-2451, Ext. 135.

Locations

Senior Center/Community Room
7651 E. Central Park Ave.
744-2451
Recreation Center
5251 E. 48th North
744-2700

Weekly Events

- Bel Aire Walkers** — M-F, 8-9 a.m. at the Rec Center (indoors & climate controlled).
- Line Dance Class** — Mondays & Fridays, 1:30 p.m., Community Room
- Yoga** — Mondays & Wednesdays, 6 p.m. at the Rec Center (monthly fee)
- Chair Exercises** — Tuesday & Fridays, 10:30 a.m., at the Rec Center
- Bridge Games** — Tuesdays, 1 p.m. at the Senior Center
- Scrapbook Class** — Tuesdays, 1 p.m., Community Room
- Low Impact Aerobics** — Wednesdays, 9 a.m. at the Rec Center
- Braum's Breakfast** — Fridays, 9 a.m. on North Rock Road

Community Events

For Red Hat info, call Anita at 744-2840.

- Nov. 1, 7 p.m. — City Council
- Nov. 1-5 — General election advanced voting
- Nov. 10, 6 p.m. — Planning Commission meeting.
- Nov. 12, noon — Bel Aire Chamber of Commerce meeting
- Nov. 12, 4 to 7 p.m. — Bel Aire Lions Club's Taste of Italy
- Nov. 15, 7 p.m. — City Council
- Nov. 15, 4 p.m. — Utility Advisory Committee meeting
- Nov. 21, 7 p.m. — City Council
- Nov. 28, 7 p.m. — Tree Board meeting

Connect with us!



Monthly & Special Events

- Nov. 1, 8:30 a.m. — Breakfast out.
- Nov. 2, 10 a.m. — Volunteer library work time.
- Nov. 3, 9 a.m. — Quilting Bee, Senior Center.
- Nov. 3, 1 p.m. — Game Day, Rec Center.
- Nov. 4, 9:30 a.m. — A Matter of Balance, RSVP to 744-2451, ext 121.
- Nov. 4, 6 p.m. — Pitch, Senior Center.
- Nov. 7 — No potluck.
- Nov. 7 — SHICK Medicare Part D counseling. Appointment required.
- Nov. 8 — Election Day.
- Nov. 9, 10 a.m. — Open sewing, Rec Center.
- Nov. 10, 2 p.m. — MedXPrime information, Senior Center
- Nov. 11 — Senior Center closed for Veterans Day.
- Nov. 14, 11:30 a.m. — Lunch out.
- Nov. 15, 6 p.m. — Ladies dine out. Call Anita 744-2840 for information.
- Nov. 16, 10 a.m. — Men's coffee, Braums.
- Nov. 16, 10:15 a.m. — Senior aerobics brunch.
- Nov. 16, 1:30 p.m. — Senior aerobics brunch.
- Nov. 16, 1:30 p.m. — Book Club meeting, Senior Center.
- Nov. 16, 2 p.m. — Women's coffee, Braums.
- Nov. 17, 9 a.m. — Quilting Bee, Senior Center.
- Nov. 18, 9:30 a.m. — A Matter of Balance, RSVP to 744-2451, ext. 121.
- Nov. 22, 9 a.m. — Foot care, Hermes Health, 260-4110 for appointment
- Nov. 24 & 25 — Senior Center closed for Thanksgiving.
- Nov. 28, 6 p.m. — Covered dish dinner and program.

Bel Aire Fall Festival



Thank you to the Fall Festival sponsors: Bel Aire Chamber of Commerce, Chisholm Trail State Bank, Bel Aire Lions Club & Wichita Hoops.



Bel Aire Car Show

Best of Show



People's Choice





Mayor's corner

By David Austin

Happy fall, everyone. I don't know about you, but I have been waiting for November for several months now. As of press time, we were still two weeks away from election day, and that means the end is near. Not the end of the world, but some folks I talk to seem to think everything will be instantaneously horrible or great depending who is elected to the White House.

Election thoughts

While I do have tremendous concern with the direction our state and our country will head, I know we continue to live in the best country in the world and I am thankful for the freedom we enjoy. It is one of many things I am thankful for us I prepare for the season of Thanksgiving. I am thankful our money says in God we trust, not in government we trust. Sadly, many friends feel the opposite.

But you know what? I am OK with that, because I understand not everyone shares my exact point of view on every issue. Heck, my wife and I don't agree 100 percent on some issues.

But this election cycle has brought out some real ugliness in people. Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump both have huge negatives. Huge. Who has the best interest for our country and the best plan for what you think are priorities for our country? These are things I am asking and wish would be the focus.

Facebook is filled with comments from friends, who I disagree with politically, saying they can't be friends with anyone who would dare not vote for their choice for president. I've seen posts saying how dumb or idiotic a person is for liking candidate A or B.

I encourage everyone to try to get beyond the noise and if you have not done so already, to get informed, study the candidates and vote. Back to being thankful – I am thankful that robocalls and attack ads from candidates will soon end.

Being thankful

We have much to be thankful for, so please don't let the nastiness of this election cycle get you down. I am thankful for all the volunteers who helped make Fall Fest a great success. Thank you.

I am thankful for all the wonderful residents who volunteer on the Community Development Advisory Council, the planning commission, the tree board, the utility advisory committee and at events.

Personally, I am thankful for being married to my beautiful wife of more than two decades, for my adorable healthy granddaughter, for my daughter's ongoing recovery.

Lights

Have you noticed the new L.E.D. lights along parts of Woodlawn? In the near future, these lights will brighten our community on many high traveled streets.

I am amazed at the difference these lights make in making our town look inviting.

History book

The Bel Aire history book is here. For \$20, you can get your copy at the Rec Center or at City Hall. Thank you to all the volunteers who took their time to participate in these discussions.

I can't help but dream and imagine what a history book will look like 30 years from now and what it will say about the current times and the growth it will hopefully show.

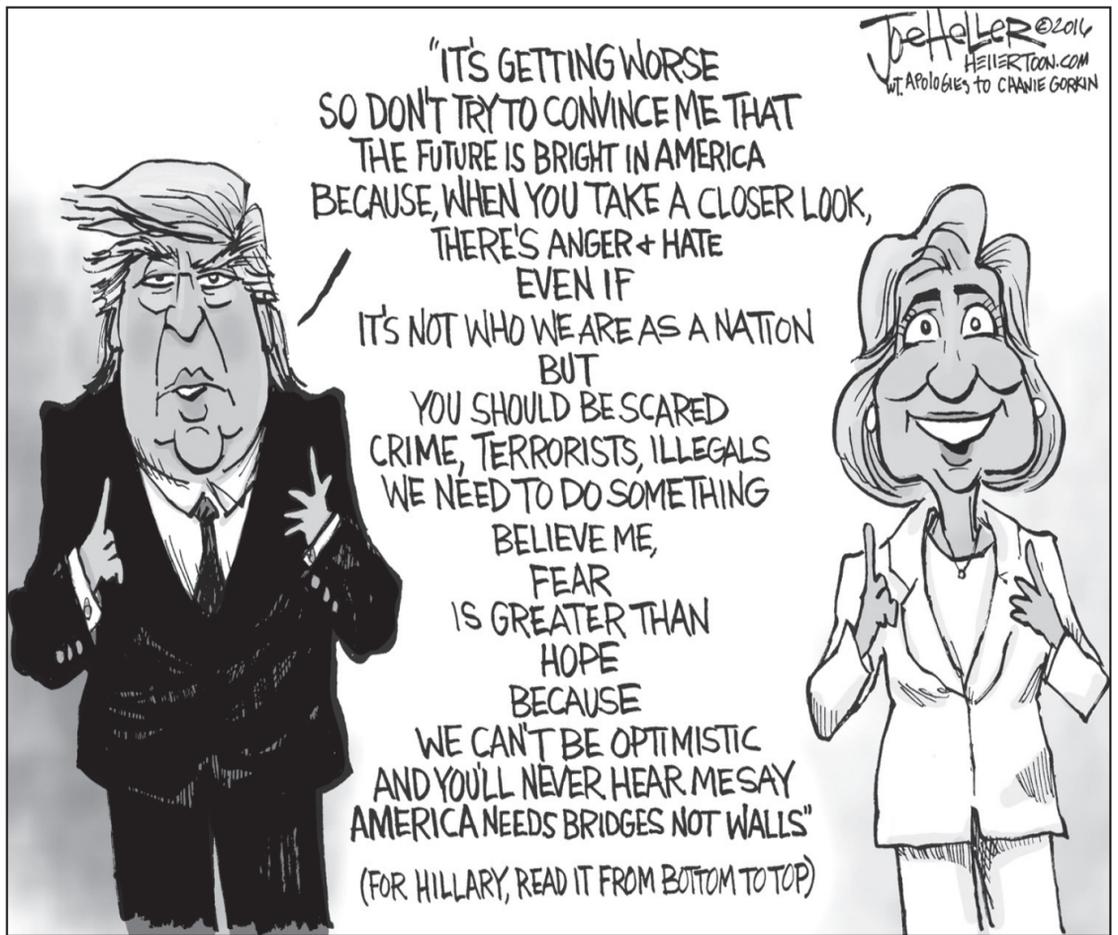
More social media

Many Bel Aire residents have signed up for Nextdoor. This is a growing free-of-charge private social network allowing online conversations about your very neighborhood. All you have to do is type in your street and email address at nextdoor.com. If your neighborhood is already there, the website will walk you through creating your very own free account. If your neighborhood isn't there, you can become a founding member. Just another way to connect.

In the last three weeks or so, I have received a number of compliments about our new city website and the accessibility of getting information. Our social media exploded after the last storm when the city opened the brush site for residents' cleanup.

There are many ways you can stay connected and get up-to-the-minute information about all things Bel Aire. So if you haven't visited belaireks.gov, I encourage you to do so and link to the social sites, so you can instantly be notified.

With all the technology, I do want to let citizens know that council members have not been able to get email the past three weeks, so if you haven't heard back from a message you sent, please call city hall at 744-2451. The technology firm council chose last year continues to work on the problem and hopefully will have it fixed soon.



Who's your pick a thorny question

Hillary or Donald?

It's funny the reactions you get if you dare start talking about the presidential race.

During the election forum The News hosted Oct. 24, someone in the audience asked the candidates to reveal which presidential candidate they were voting for. The responses were, well, humorous.

Republican Rep. Steve Huebert, who is running for re-election to the Kansas House, said there are no good choices, but, "I could never vote for Hillary, I'll tell you that."

"So, that means I'm going to vote for Trump," Huebert said. "I'm not happy with that choice, because it's the only choice I have."

Huebert was the only candidate to stick out his or her neck.

"I have not decided that yet," said Democrat Michelle Vann, who is challenging Sen. Carolyn McGinn for the Senate District 31 seat.

Democrat Lou Cicirello, seeking to unseat Huebert for Kansas House District 91, said he was "as confused as a lot of people when it comes to voting for president."

"I, honestly, have not made up my mind," he said. "... I might write myself in. I don't know. I'm not even sure which one is the lesser of two evils at this point."

McGinn got a bit more philosophical when attempting to answer the question.

"I'm going to stay focused on state and local issues, because I think that impacts your life more than anything,"



Out of the office

By Chris Strunk

she said. "... I'm going to trust the voters of Kansas to make that decision."

I can understand why three of the candidates dodged the question, because this is a crazy election year.

If you say you're voting for Clinton, people look at you like you're crazy. If you say Trump, you get the same reaction. People think you condone the negative behavior of the candidate you plan to vote for.

Unfortunately, those are the choices we're left with this year.

My high school made the news again last month.

A new Wichita Southeast High School opened near Pawnee and 127th this year and has created a traffic headache for the surrounding neighborhoods, bringing hundreds of cars to the area each school day.

The city decided to install stop signs and lights to help control the traffic.

I grew up in a neighborhood near Pawnee and Greenwich. Pawnee wasn't a busy street back then.

When we were young, my mom would never let us ride our bikes

across Pawnee, even though there were very few cars.

A couple of our dogs had trouble with the cars, though, and I think Mom used that to guide her decision. One of our dogs, Duke, was hit by a car on Pawnee. He was hurt so badly, we had to put him down.

Duke liked to chase cars. It was the second time he was hit by one. The veterinarian put a pin in one of his back legs after the first time. He dragged it from then on, but it didn't stop him from chasing.

Another one of our dogs, Snowball, was luckier.

Snowball was running across Pawnee one day when a car drove over him. We were playing outside at the time and just knew Snowball was a goner.

A few seconds later, Snowball popped up and ran off. Apparently, he ducked beneath the car just in time. Like I said, he was lucky.

Chris Strunk is publisher of The Bel Aire Breeze. Reach him at 755-0821, news@arkvalleynews.com or on Facebook.

The Bel Aire Breeze

Published monthly by Strunk Publishing LLC at P.O. Box 120, Valley Center, Kan. 67147. Publisher: Chris Strunk. Telephone: 316-755-0821. Fax: 316-755-0644. E-mail: legals@arkvalleynews.com. The office is located at 210 W. Main, Valley Center, Kan.



Car lover's lane

Classic automobiles are lined up at the Bel Aire Recreation Center during the Bel Aire Fall Festival Oct. 15.

Deadline for December: Nov. 18

Bel Aire Breeze

HIGHLIGHTS

Karg to host Glorious show

Karg Art Glass will present the Glorious Glass Show from Nov. 11, 2016, to Jan. 6, 2017. Come and see glass artists

Dierk Van Keppel, Elizabeth Dunlop, Grant Charpentier, Joe Fernandez, Nic Dikin, Rollin Karg, Scott Garrelts and Zacheri Arroyo. Opening night festivities will be from 6 to 9 p.m. Nov. 11, with music by Victor Rose, wine and hors d'oeuvres and

live glass blowing demonstrations. Karg Art Glass is open Monday through Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. — **The Breeze staff**

'Taste of Italy' set for Nov. 12

The Bel Aire Lions Club will host its annual "Taste of Italy" from 4 to 7 p.m. Nov. 12 at Gospel Assembly Church, 4230

N. Oliver in Bel Aire. The event will feature home-made southern Italian meatballs and pasta for dine-in or carry-out. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 3 to 10. — **The Breeze staff**

BEL AIRE POLICE REPORTS

Oct. 8 — Officer Crice received a call to assist Sedgwick County fire on a welfare check. They received information that a 94-year-old female had not been seen for two days. After making considerable noise, the resident came to the door. She was OK.

Oct. 8 — Officer Trumbull arrested a man on a bench warrant through Bel Aire Municipal Court. The man was transported to the Sedgwick County Adult Detention Facility, where he was booked on the bench warrant. The man's name was not available.

Oct. 7 — Officer Trumbull was dispatched to a disturbance at the Subway restaurant in the 6200 block of East 37th. He contacted the on-duty manager who stated an employee was upset about the schedule and cursed at her and the other employees inside the store. The manager told the upset employee to leave the store, but he refused to leave. The manager called 911 to make a report and the employee left the store. The employee was contacted and the manager advised he was no longer welcome at the store.

Oct. 6 — Officer Trumbull was dispatched to take a larceny report in the 4900 block of East 48th. The victim said she parked her car inside her garage and went inside her residence. The woman said she left her vehicle unlocked and garage door open while going inside. Upon returning to her vehicle, she noticed the driver's side door was partially closed. She opened the center console and discovered her pink wallet was missing. The wallet contained her driver's license, credit cards, health insurance cards and \$20 in cash.

Oct. 6 — Officer Webb was dispatched to take a report of criminal threats in the 6100 block of Edinburg. The reporting party said he received a phone call from an unknown male who told him he knew what he was looking for and if he did not stop, he was going to kill him. The man believed this to be in reference to him reporting his wife missing earlier in the month.

Oct. 6 — Officer Webb was dispatched to take a report of a disturbance in the 5000 block of East Memphis. Two juveniles had been involved in a physical disturbance as they were walking home from the bus stop. One youth hit another with a stick and was throwing hedge apples at him. The victim's father declined prosecution and only wanted the incident documented.

Oct. 5 — A man was taken into custody as a court commit at City Hall. He was transported to the Sedgwick County Adult Detention Facility and booked in for a probation violation. The man's name was not available.

Oct. 5 — Officer Steele attempted to stop a pickup with an attached trailer with no tail lights. The vehicle and trailer fled. After a short pursuit, the vehicle crashed in the 9200 block of East 42nd. The driver fled the scene and was not apprehended. The truck and the trailer had been reported stolen and were later returned to their owners.

Oct. 3 — A man reported his phone was missing. The man

had his phone provider ping his phone and it was located in Bel Aire. Officer Gibson made contact with the resident who handed him the phone. The Bel Aire resident said he attempted to contact the phone owner but could not get ahold of anyone. The phone was returned to its owner.

Oct. 3 — A man reported unknown person(s) driving an unknown make or model possible blue vehicle backed into his 2006 white Chevy Express 3500 van that was legally parked on the street in the 5300 block of East Ashton.

Oct. 3 — A student at Northeast Magnet High School called 911 to report an unknown "friend" request on her cell phone from her Facebook page. The request was related to the local area "scary clown" Internet intrusion. School administration was made aware of the clown call. School district security was alerted to the situation.

Oct. 3 — Officer Toomey was sent to the intersection of Woodlawn and 37th regarding a hit-and-run. During the investigation, he determined a possible suspect. Investigation continues.

Oct. 3 — Officer Toomey took the call of a traffic incident in the 4100 block of North Clarendon. A woman reported damage to her 2006 Dodge Stratus by a large U-Haul truck. A family was moving property and a man attempted to move the U-Haul, striking the woman's vehicle.

Oct. 2 — A Bel Aire resident called in to report a neighbor's barking dogs in the 4000 block of North Clarendon. She would not sign a complaint.

Oct. 2 — A resident at the memory care unit of the Catholic Care Center was recalling memories of crimes that occurred to her decades ago.

Sept. 30 — While at the 37th and Rock Road QuikTrip, Officers Roney and Webb were approached by a QuikTrip manager about a white car that has been abandoned in the parking lot for several weeks. After checking the registration, they found the vehicle was registered to a Bel Aire resident. They made contact with the man who was unaware of his vehicle's location as it was supposed to be in possession of his wife. The man said he had not seen his wife since Sept. 12. After further investigation, officers discovered that the man's wife took their children to another state without his knowledge.

Sept. 29 — Chief Atteberry reported citing a driver for speeding, no driver's license in possession and no proof of insurance in the 5000 block of North Oliver.

Sept. 29 — Officer Crice responded to the call of a child who was afraid to go home in the 5500 block of North Lycee. After some investigation the child was transported to the Wichita Children's Home.

Sept. 29 — Officer Roney responded to a non-injury accident at Perryton and Woodlawn. A 2009 Lexus was struck by a 2000 Chevrolet 2500 truck and trailer. The truck was waiting to make a left turn onto southbound Woodlawn from the eastbound lane of Perryton. The driver of the Lexus stated that she thought the drive from Perryton on to Woodlawn was three lanes despite no lane markings stating so. After waiting for what the driver of the Lexus described as two to three minutes for the truck to turn, she decided to pull to the right of the vehicle to make a right turn to go southbound on to Woodlawn. She did so at the same time that the truck began making its turn. The trailer towed by the truck removed the front bumper cover from the Lexus and caused damage. The trailer fender was torn and the two passenger side trailer tires were punctured. The driver of the Lexus was cited.

Sept. 28 — Officer Steele assisted a Sedgwick County sheriff's deputy in the lobby of Northrock Suites.

Sept. 27 — Officer Roney responded to the report of a suspicious character going door to door attempting to sell magazines in the 4800 block of North Chapel View. The person did not have a permit to do door-to-door sales in Bel Aire. The sales person was released after being checked for warrants and being advised not to return without a permit from the City of Bel Aire.

Sept. 26 — A man called the police station to report unknown person(s) dumping a large stove and air conditioner in his trash dumpster sometime in the 4000 block of North Woodlawn. The man said it is a continuous problem and asked for extra patrol in the area at night.

Sept. 26 — Officer Steele took a report about the violation of a protective order in the 4300 block of North Eagle Lake Court. A mother called Isely Traditional Magnet Elementary School and Oaklawn Elementary School (USD 260) seeking information about one of her children. The phone calls violated the protective order.

Sept. 25 — Officer Steele responded to a dispatched call of a disturbance in the 6500 block of East 45th. A person involved in the call reported she was in the process of acquiring a durable power of attorney regarding her mother. Other family members were upset about

the situation.

Sept. 24 — Officer Crice responded to the call of a civil dispute between brother and sister over who has the right to make medical choices and care for their mother in the 6700 block of East 45th.

Sept. 24 — Officer Roney responded to a wreck in the 6400 block of East 45th. A driver was cited for inattentive driving.

Sept. 24 — A Bel Aire resident reported that an unknown person(s) entered his vehicle and removed a wallet in the 5100 block of East 49th. No damage to the vehicle was found.

Sept. 23 — A Bel Aire resident came to the police station to report his ex-wife came to his residence in the 4400 block of North Gunnison while he was out of town and used a hidden key to enter his residence. The man's ex-wife removed a cooler from the residence. She also set off the alarm. The ex-wife called the reporting party and told him what she had done. The reporting party does not wish to pursue charges at this time.

Sept. 23 — Chief Atteberry reported a 17-year-old driver was speeding during heavy school traffic, but out of the school zone in the 5600 block of East 45th. When stopped, it was discovered the driver's license plate was also expired. She was cited for both violations.

Sept. 23 — While on patrol, officers came upon a non-injury accident that occurred in the intersection of 45th North and Oliver.

Sept. 22 — A Bel Aire resident called from the 4800 block of North Homestead to report the tag registered to her work van was no longer attached to the vehicle. She was not sure when or where it was lost.

Sept. 22 — Officers responded to a dispatched call of a plane crash east of Jabara Airport. Officers located a single engine plane on the south side of the roadway in the 12100 block of East 29th. The pilot was uninjured and Wichita police took over the scene.

Sept. 22 — A 15-year-old female reported a sexual assault in the 5500 block of North Lycee. The suspect was a 15-year-old male. The investigation was presented to the District Attorney's Office and no charges were filed in the case.

Sept. 22 — A man reported from the 4100 block of North Oliver that he received a threatening phone call from his brother. The brother has been in prison and is angry about things that happened decades ago.

Sept. 22 — Chief Atteberry was monitoring traffic when he witnessed a driver speed-

ing 70 mph in a 40 mph zone. After stopping the vehicle in the 5500 block of East 53rd, he discovered the teenaged driver was driving with a suspended license. Additionally, the driver's mother knew the teen's license was suspended but allowed her to drive anyhow. The driver received a citation for speeding and driving with a suspended license. The mother arrived on scene and was cited for allowing an unauthorized driver to operate a vehicle.

Sept. 21 — A Bel Aire resident reported he shredded the registration sticker for his trailer while shedding junk mail in the 4200 block of North Country Lane. The man needed a case number for the Sedgwick County Tag Office so he could get a replacement registration sticker.

Sept. 21 — A Bel Aire resident reported being the victim of a Craigslist scam with a loss of about \$1,300 in the 4300 block of North Mission.

Sept. 21 — A Bel Aire resident called to complain that a Wichita Eagle Neighbor news flier was in the street in front of his residence in the 4700 block of North Krueger. He was directed to make a complaint to the Wichita Eagle. The resident stated he wanted to get "KAKE on your side" to do an investigation into the Wichita Eagle's delivery of the news fliers.

Sept. 18 — Officer Steele assisted Wichita and Park City police with the aftermath of a robbery call.

Sept. 18 — Officer Steele responded to a call of disorderly conduct in the 4400 block of North Gunnison. When he arrived he was informed that some threatening text messages had been sent to the reporting party.

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Officials investigate lion sightings

By Chris Strunk

State officials are investigating two separate mountain lion sightings in the city limits of Valley Center.

The latest sighting was Oct. 26 behind New Hope Services on North Sheridan. A New Hope employee said he saw a mountain lion about 10 a.m. while he was walking from the main building on the campus to a storage and work facility on the west side.

The lion, Chris Ballard said, stood still for a few moments and then started walking northwest toward the Wetland Park, a wooded nature trail.

Police Chief Mark Hephner said nearby West Elementary was notified of the sighting, and the school canceled outdoor recess.

Police and the city's animal control officer searched the area but couldn't find the lion.

The sighting was just three days after residents in the 1100 block of South Meridian saw a mountain lion behind their home.

Kansas Wildlife, Parks & Tourism officials were planning to come to Valley Center Oct. 26 to confirm that sighting.

Craig Curtis, regional wildlife supervisor, told



Chris Ballard points to where he saw a mountain lion Oct. 26 in Valley Center.

The Breeze that without a photograph, it's difficult to determine whether what the resident and a Valley Center police officer saw that night was, in fact, a mountain lion.

"The main documentation or confirmation we've used has been trail cameras or photographs," Curtis said. "We could look for tracks, but if it's dry, it's hard for tracks to show up." Valley Center police

Officer Shannon Meyer was sure it was a mountain that she saw walking away

from the yard at 1151 S. Meridian.

The homeowner called

police after the animal set off a motion-detector light in the backyard. The residents' pet dog, which was inside the chain-link-fenced backyard, also was barking.

Meyer responded to the home about 7 p.m. It was getting dark, she said.

The owners took Meyer to the backyard and pointed toward the lion.

Meyer said she saw the animal near a tree line behind the house. It was about 45 to 50 yards away by that time. It was walking west toward the river.

"It just kept walking," Meyer said. "It was walking along the tree line behind all the house on Ness, just following the tree line in and out, from the trees to the field."

Finally, the lion walked

too far for her to see it, Meyer said.

"It was a full adult," she said. "It was big."

She estimated the animal to be between 75 and 100 pounds.

Meyer said it was too dark and the lion was too far away to take a photograph of it.

Meyer said she has seen mountain lions before on her great-grandparents' farm in Harper County, so she is familiar with them. However, she has never seen one inside the city limits of Valley Center.

Meyer suggested residents call 911 if they spot one.

"Stay in your house and don't go and try to scare it off," she said.

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The Bel Aire Lions Club supports the Bel Aire community, fellow Kansans, and people around the world through giving, lending a hand in times of need, promoting "green" living, and changing lives of the vision impaired, one pair of eyes at a time.

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