

# The Bel Aire Breeze

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Photos by Dave Dinell

Oscar Hooper provides instructions to the 4- to 6-year-old group. Hooper had his students working on the fundamentals of soccer, such as dribbling and passing.

## Soccer skills: Bel Aire youth pick up tips from British experts

By David Dinell

With careful aim — and a serious demeanor — young Bel Aire resident Danielle Murfin gives the white soccer ball at her right foot a swift kick and it punches through the air to its target five yards away. Nearby, an adult with a decidedly thick British accent shouts encouragement as Danielle dashes off to her next assignment.

Although she's only 4, Danielle is picking up the game quickly, declaring that her favorite part is "kicking the ball."

She's also sharpening her skills at a one-week soccer camp that was held from July 13 to 17 at the Bel Aire Recreation Center by British Soccer, a firm that brings high-level British players to the United States for youth camps.

It's the first time the camp has come to Bel Aire and it's worked out well, said Drew Conwell, the center's program supervisor.

"We thought it would be a good idea," he said, "as we're looking for new, innovative things."

The popularity of soccer, especially among girls with the recent victory of the U.S. women's team in the World Cup, certainly helped, he said.

The only drawback, he said, was the

scorching mid-summer Kansas heat, but players were taking plenty of breaks along with drinking lots of water to temper that.

The program attracted five participants in the 4- to 6-year-old category and almost four times that amount, or 19, in the 7- to 14-year-old camp. The younger group was taught by Oscar Hooper and the older children were taught by Liam Brennan and Callum Moloney.

Hooper and Brennan, who both were making their first trip to the United States, play at the semi-pro level in Britain. Moloney also plays at that level, although he currently is a trainer for the company and based in St. Louis. Hooper was pleased with the kids' progress, especially given their young ages.

"They're good kids," he said. "They listen and that's the most important thing."

Those players were working on the fundamentals of soccer, such as dribbling and passing. At a nearby field, the older kids had more intense drills, including scrimmages where they were broken up into team "World Cup" teams to make the play more exciting.

Indeed, the camps are designed to be as fun and entertaining as educational. The days have different themes, including one for kids to wear their favorite colorful decorative socks. The coaches



Danielle Murfin, 4, says kicking the ball is her favorite part of soccer.

See SOCCER, Page 4

## Proposed budget cut results in close vote

By David Dinell

Bel Aire residents won't be seeing an increase in property taxes for 2016. In addition, the city's budget for next year will be reduced.

By how much remains to be determined, but at least three council members insisted that commodities purchased by the city and contracts signed by its officials be cut by 10 percent.

They got their wish as the body voted — by an unusually close 3-2 margin — at its July 21 meeting to do just that.

That means a cut of about \$77,000 in the \$13.2 million budget. Council members Ramona Becker, Guy MacDonald and Betty Martine voted for the measure and Ken Lee and Peggy O'Donnell voted against it, saying that it wasn't a matter of being against the reduction, but they wanted more flexibility in being able to shape the final numbers.

Mayor David Austin doesn't vote unless it's to break a tie, but he made it clear that he was against the measure because the council is now locked into the cut and it cannot legally increase spending in

See BUDGET, Page 2

## Bel Aire fireworks rules appear effective

By David Dinell

The strict fireworks rules in Bel Aire appear to be working.

The Bel Aire City Council discussed fireworks during its July 7 meeting.

At least one council member, Ramona Becker, said she received complaints from residents about them being set off too early. However, others, including Mayor David Austin and council member Betty Martine, said that they didn't get calls.

Austin also commented that he was happy that residents took to the streets the morning after to clean up the debris.

In the past, allowing fireworks in Bel Aire was a highly charged topic, and during hearings on it in 2009, the city's chambers were packed with opponents and proponents of them.

"Not everyone is going to be happy," Austin said. "That is the sad truth. And

See FIREWORKS, Page 4

## Two killed in crash on K-254 near Bel Aire

By David Dinell

Two women from southeast Kansas were killed July 17 when their car was hit by a truck on K-254 at Greenwich. Irene Smith, 83, the driver, and passenger Rose Maddox, 82, both of Iola, died at the scene after their 2005 Mercury Sable went into the eastbound lanes of the highway and was hit at 11:08 a.m.

The truck driver, Robert Driskill, 34, of Eureka, attempted to avoid hitting the Sable, but failed and the truck hit the passenger side of the car, according to the Kansas Highway Patrol, which investigated the accident. Both vehicles went in a ditch southeast of the intersection. Driskill was not

seriously injured in the accident and declined treatment. All three people were wearing seatbelts.

The scene is slightly outside the Bel Aire city limits. However, city-based emergency services helped out at it. Two Bel Aire police units were the first to respond and provided traffic control after the KHP reached the scene.

Bel Aire police also diverted northbound traffic on Greenwich, and Sedgwick County Fire Department's Station 37, based in Bel Aire, responded to the accident.

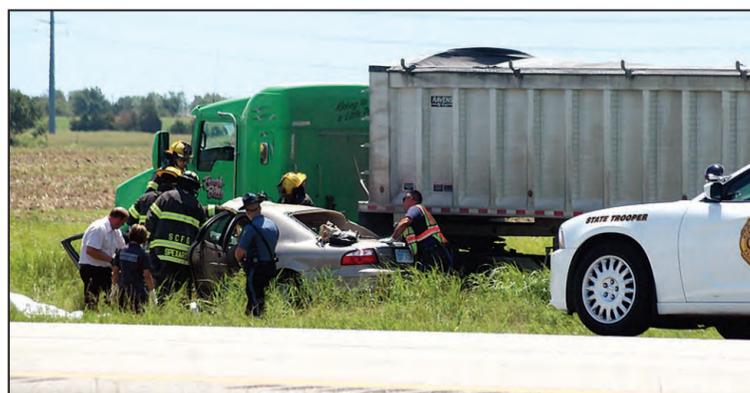
Smith had been driving west on K-254 when she made a left turn at the intersection in an attempt to go south on Greenwich. No charges will be filed against Driskill because the car driver was at fault.

She misjudged the distance the truck was and its speed, according to KHP trooper Chad Crittenden.

It's not uncommon for drivers to make an error in that section of K-254, he said.

The speed limit on the highway is 70 mph, which translates to 102.6 feet a second, thus, within three seconds, a vehicle on the highway covers the length of a football field — and even more distance if it's speeding past the limit. Further, the chances of serious injuries or death doubles with each increase of 10 mph past 50 mph, according to officials at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

See CRASH, Page 4



David Dinell

Emergency personnel work the scene of a fatality accident at the intersection of K-254 and Greenwich July 17. Two women were killed.



**Mayor's corner**

By David Austin

It's budget time again. I know in my household, we refer to the budget as the fun sucker. But a city budget is totally different.

There are several steps the city must take to have a budget officially adopted. The city manager and staff spend several months gathering numbers and holding meetings to create a proposed budget to present to council. Council then reviews the numbers and assists in project prioritization. Following that, council approves a proposed budget to be published and then sets a public hearing. Once the proposed budget is published, it cannot be raised, but it can be lowered.

At the July 21 meeting, the city council approved a proposed budget to be published and set the public hearing for Aug. 4. The budget is a guide for staff to use in upcoming months to continue to provide top services to all citizens. The budget must be adopted by Aug. 20 of each year even though the fiscal year doesn't begin until Jan. 1, which requires city staff to forecast months in advance.

Civic lesson aside, I have exciting news.

For the third year in a row, Bel Aire residents will enjoy a zero-mill tax increase. That's right, no tax increase for Bel Aire residents. Our city staff is one of the smallest in number among cities in Kansas with similar populations and I appreciate each and every one of them greatly. They work hard, indeed, for our growing city. Sadly, our staff operates on just 44 percent of revenue brought in. The remaining 56 percent goes toward land debt and transfers.

I find myself envious of neighboring cities this time each year when I look around and see that they get to operate on 100 percent of their revenue. Some day we will have that luxury. We continue to pay down the land debt by attracting new businesses, selling land and maintaining spending. To date, we have 50 new homes already under construction or completed for calendar year 2015.

**Increased transparency:** Your city council has public workshops each month. These are less formal than council meetings and allow for a lot more discussion and review of items that will soon come before the council. We sit down to hash out and review coming agenda items.

Due to a couple of recent job vacancies, Bel Aire was able to transition from using a contractual IT company to hiring a full-time IT person. Not only does this mean vast improvements to the city website, streaming of meetings, Channel 7 and more, it also saves the city money and gives the city more control over our IT needs.

For months now, staff has had a desire to broadcast and re-run the workshops in addition to the council meetings. This dream became reality with the July 13 city council workshop. While workshops have always been open to the public and taking official action is forbidden, very few citizens attend. I should warn you some have run for as long as five hours, as we do a deep dive on matters coming to your council, but I do encourage you to watch or attend if you're able.

Not only will workshops now be aired live, they and your city council meetings are all just one mouse click away by visiting [www.belairesks.gov](http://www.belairesks.gov). Technology improvements have been a long time coming for the city, and now meetings are available 24-7 online, on your smartphone or tablet, as well as on television.

**Hot dawgs:** Your first dog, Lucky, still isn't too excited about swimming, but he still loves the Hot Dawgs Pool Party and wouldn't miss it for anything! From 6 to 8 p.m. on Aug. 10, all dogs and their humans are invited to the third annual Hot Dawgs Pool Party at the Bel Aire swimming pool in Central Park.

Before closing the pool for the season, dogs and their humans can cool off together in the pool. Contests for the biggest, the smallest, the hairiest, as well as for best costume and best trick will take place and vendors will be on hand as well. All participants must pay \$5 and sign a waiver verifying that their dog is licensed.

If you don't have a dog, come on out and see the excitement. And if you are looking, three local rescue groups will be on hand with loving dogs looking for a forever home.

**The Bel Aire Breeze**

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**HIGHLIGHTS**

Jeremy Buoy, Devin Duerksen, Stephen Jones, Kaylee Love, Tyan McCalla, Emily Stone and Emily Tracy from Valley Center, along with Andrew Nicholson from Wichita, are scholarship recipients from the Butler Community College Theatre Department for the 2015-16 theater season.

Kaitlin Mar of Wichita was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. She was initiated at The University of Tulsa.

Mar is among approximately 32,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation and requires nomination and approval by a chapter.

Founded in 1897 at the University of Maine and headquartered in Baton Rouge, La., Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline honor society. The Society has chapters on more than 300 college and university campuses in North America and the Philippines. Its mission is "To recognize and promote

academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."

The following area students received degrees during May commencement ceremonies at Baker University in Baldwin City: Jonathan Hochstetler and Brian Prahm, both of Valley Center, and Desiree Allen and Kendra Stuever of Wichita.

Hochstetler received a Master of Business Administration, Prahm and Allen each received a bachelor of business administration, and Stuever received a master of

arts in education. Additionally, Joshua Ortiz of Valley Center and Jayden Smith of Wichita were named to Baker's College of Arts and Sciences and School of Education undergraduate dean's list for maintaining a 3.5 or higher grade point average during the spring 2015 semester.

The first university in Kansas, Baker has been listed among the top schools in the Midwest in the annual college rankings by U.S. News & World Report. It was selected as a top school in the Midwest by The Princeton Review.

**DEATHS**

**MARK WADAS**

Mark Daniel Wadas, 24, died July 6, 2015.

He graduated from Derby High School in 2009 and was a student at Wichita State University.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother Granny Pat. Survivors include his parents Michael and Denise Wadas of Derby; brother Ryan Wadas (Megan) of Tampa, Fla.; sister Jennifer Wadas of Bel Aire; grandparents Leonard and Bernice Wadas of Madison, Wis.; grandfather William Bloom-



Wadas

berg, of West Burlington, Iowa; several aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Funeral service was July 10 at

All Saints Catholic Church in Wichita with burial at Hillcrest Cemetery. Memorials to either the Spina Bifida Association of Kansas or All Saints Catholic Church.

Smith Family Mortuaries of Derby had charge.

**WILLARD THIESSEN**

Willard E. Thiessen, 94, of Whitewater, died July 5, 2015. He was a farmer and stockman.

He was born April 23, 1921, at Whitewater, one of 12 children born of Peter and Kaete (Regier) Thiessen. He married Lena E. Nuefeld on March 9, 1947.

He was preceded in death by his wife. Survivors include children Lauren (JoAnn) Thiessen of Bel Aire, Jolyn (David) Stark of

Raymore, Mo. and Lavada (Dan) Klinger of Phillipsburg; siblings Floyd Thiessen of Lipscomb, Texas, Esther Stucky of Wichita, Selma Entz of Whitewater and Lois Frey of Hesston; 13 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Funeral service was July 9 at Emmaus Mennonite Church, Whitewater, with burial at Emmaus Cemetery. Memorial to Berean Academy or the Wheat State Manor Renovation Fund in care of Lamb Funeral Home, 120 S. Main, Whitewater KS 67154.

**Budget**

Continued from Page 1

those two areas.

The cuts don't affect jobs, salaries or benefits.

The council had two budgets to consider — one with the cuts and one without. At issue was which one to go with and a decision had to be made at the meeting as, by law, it needs to be published.

While civil, the prolonged discussion sparked some pointed debate among the council. "All we're voting on is the publishing," Austin said. "If we go with the cuts, we take away our flexibility."

He also said the spending could be necessary to keep pace with expenses for a growing city.

Lee agreed. "We don't want to take a 10 percent hatchet cut to this," he said. "I do want to see cuts, but a 10 percent across-the-board is dangerous."

Becker, among the most outspoken for the straight-cut measure, said she feared "incremental budget" growth in which spending simply increases year after year.

"We need to be saving money," she said.

Becker, frequently citing managing her own personal budget, said a more conserva-

tive spending approach is what Bel Aire needs.

"It's not like we're starving the city. We can always get by — it can be done."

O'Donnell said, to be fair, if the council is seeking a 10 percent cut, it also needs to have its budget cut, citing a training expenditure.

"We then take it out," Martine said.

Austin said the move would be setting some departments "up to fail" as they grapple with higher expenses. Proponents of the measure objected to that, saying that was not at all the intent.

"No one is being set up to fail," Martine said.

Whatever side they were on, council members complimented the staff on its job.

"We asked the staff to make a 10 percent cut and they did," MacDonald said. "They weren't just hatchet cutting. They were careful."

The next step in the budget process is a public hearing on it, which is set for the next council meeting, Aug. 4. The final document needs to be sent to the Sedgwick County clerk by Aug. 25.

In other action, the council:

- Approved an appropriations ordinance of \$508,045.
- Listened to Scott Knebel of the Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Department make a presentation on the TIGER grant

application for Wichita/Sedgwick County. The grant would be for \$18.8 million and help pay for improvements around Wichita State and northeast Wichita. Although the money wouldn't be spent in Bel Aire, it would help the city's residents who work at or go to WSU, Knebel said. If the city got the funding, it would match it with \$9 million. However, getting the grant is highly competitive, and the city stands about a one in 20 chance of receiving it. Knebel was at the meeting to seek the council's support as an important part of the process is getting endorsement from surrounding communities. The council was receptive to the proposal and writing a letter of support.

•Approved a utility easement encroachment agreement at 4255 N. Auburn St.

•Accepted paving, sanitary sewer and water petitions for Phase 2 of the Courtyards at Elk Creek. In an related measure, approved a contract for engineering services with MKEC Engineering Inc. for the same development. "The Courtyards are selling very well," Austin said, "so well, that they ready to sell Phase 2."

•Listened to City Manager Ty Lasher report that there were three 911

calls about fireworks on July 4 to Bel Aire police. Officers responded to all three calls, however, no citations were issued. He also reports that there were 99 loads of trees and limbs received at the city's recent yard clean-up day. "It was very successful," he said. On the technology front, the city has moved to having all of its council meetings and workshop available online as well as Channel 7 on Cox.

•Heard Becker remind residents that the third annual Hot Dawg's Pool Party is from 6 to 8 p.m. Aug. 10 at the city pool. "It's been a tremendous success and everyone has enjoyed it," she said of the event in which dogs take a dip in the pool on its last day of the season.

All five members and the mayor were present. There was no executive session.

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# City of Bel Aire



## Bel Aire Recreation

**COED OUTDOOR SOCCER**  
Soccer is for boys and girls 4 through 11 years old. Games will be played Saturdays from Sept. 12 through Oct. 24. Practices will be set up by the coaches on weeknights starting Monday, Aug. 31. Registration deadline is Aug. 22.

**COED FLAG FOOTBALL**  
Bel Aire will be teaming up with the Valley Center Recreation Commission for flag football. Practices will be held at the respective home location, with games being played at both sites. Flag Football is for boys and girls in third through sixth grades. Games will be played Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday evenings or Saturday mornings. Practices will be set up by the coaches on weeknights starting Monday, Aug. 31. Registration deadline is Aug. 22.

**VOLLEYBALL**  
Bel Aire is teaming up with the Valley Center Recreation Commission for boys and girls volleyball. Practices will be held at the respective home location, with scrimmages played at both sites. Volleyball is for boys and girls in the third through sixth grades. Practices will be set up by the coaches on weeknights starting Monday, Aug. 31. Scrimmage dates are TBA. Registration deadline is Aug. 22.

**TAE KWON DO (ages 5 & up)**  
Classes meet either Monday and Friday from 5 to 6 p.m. or Tuesday and Thursday from 7 to 8 p.m. These are great classes for beginners to black belts.

**YOGA**  
Classes are held Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:10 to 7:10 p.m. Participants need to provide their own yoga mat. Adults and teens can join at any time.!

**FITNESS CENTER (ages 16 & up)**  
The Fitness Center consists of elliptical cross trainers, treadmills, recumbent bike, multi-station weight machine and free weights. There is no charge for pass holders. You may also use the center with the purchase of a daily pass.

*A \$5 late fee will be charged to all sign-ups after registration deadlines. For more information on these or any Bel Aire Recreation Programs call 744-2700.*

*Last day the Bel Aire swimming pool will be open this season is Aug. 9!!!*

## 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.

### Locations

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

Call for more information about hours, prices, private/group swimming lessons facility rentals

## Weekly Events

- Bel Aire Walkers** — M-F, 8-9 a.m. at the Rec Center (indoors & climate controlled). Free for BA Senior members, alternate times available
- Yoga** — Mondays & Wednesdays, 6 p.m. at the Rec Center (monthly fee)
- Chair Exercises** — Tuesdays and Fridays, 10:30 a.m., at the Rec Center
- Bridge Games** — Tuesdays, 1 p.m. at the Senior Center
- Low Impact Aerobics** — Wednesdays, 9 a.m. at the Rec Center
- Senior Coffee** — Wednesdays, 10 a.m. at the Senior Center
- Braum's Breakfast** — Fridays, 9 a.m. on North Rock Road
- Line Dance Class** — Fridays, 2:30 p.m in the Community Room

## Monthly & Special Events

- Aug. 3, 6:30 p.m.** — Potluck dinner, Galapagos Island with John Ellert, Community Room.
- Aug. 5, 10 a.m.** — Volunteer library work time, Senior Center.
- Aug. 5, 11:30 a.m.** — Medicare and Long Term Care with Bankers Life, Senior Center
- Aug. 5, 2:30 p.m.** — Pearson Farm's Mobile Farmers Market, Rec Center
- Aug. 6, 1 p.m.** — Game day, Rec Center.
- Aug. 7, 6 p.m.** — Pitch, Senior Center.
- Aug. 12, 10 a.m.** — Open sewing, Rec Center.
- Aug. 13, 1 p.m.** — Balance Disorders and Brain Health, Dr. Hubbard, Senior Center
- Aug. 18, 6 p.m.** — Ladies Dine Out, call Anita 744-2840 for more info.
- Aug. 19, 10:15 a.m.** — Senior aerobics brunch, different locations.
- Aug. 19, 1:30 p.m.** — Book Club meeting, Senior Center.
- Aug. 19, 2:30 p.m.** — Pearson Farm's Mobile Farmers Market, Rec Center
- Aug. 21, 6 p.m.** — Pitch, Senior Center.
- Aug. 24, 6 p.m.** — Covered dish dinner and program with Frankie Valli, Rec Center.
- Aug. 26, 7 p.m.** — Bunko, Senior Center, call 744-2451, ext. 121, for reservation.
- Aug. 27, 11 a.m.** — Rite Bite Series, topic: Sweeteners, Senior Center.
- Aug. 27, 2 p.m.** — Genealogy group, Senior Center.

## Community Events

- TOPS** — Tuesdays at 9 a.m., Senior Center
- City Council meetings** — First and third Tuesday of each month
- Aug. 8** — Red Cross Blood Drive, Community Room
- Aug. 11** — Community clean-up day
- Aug. 15** — Brush site open, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free mulch available.
- Aug. 14, 7 p.m.** — Bel Aire Heights HOA meeting, Senior Center
- Aug. 14, 7 p.m.** — Central Park HOA meeting, Community Room
- Aug. 13, 11 a.m.** — Red Hat outing and lunch. Call Anita 744-2840 for more information,

## Bel Aire PD invite you to attend National Night Out

The annual event will be from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Aug. 4 at Sedgwick County Fire Station No. 37, 4343 N. Woodlawn. National Night Out is a cohesive effort to promote involvement in crime prevention activities, police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. It sends a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. There will be something for every age. Dunk tanks, inflatables and handouts for the kids and kids at heart. Hot dogs, refreshments and meet and greets with community leaders and your local law enforcement, fire and EMS crews.



## Beautify Bel Aire

Congratulations to Tracy Carney Sr., 6519 E. Danbury. Tracy is the winner of the Beautify Bel Aire campaign for July. He received a \$50 gift card from Tree Top Nursery, and a sign was placed in his yard for one month. To be considered for September's BBA contest, please send your entry to Tristin Terhune at tterhune@belaireks.gov by Aug. 17.



BEFORE

AFTER



## City of Bel Aire contacts

### City Hall

- Ty Lasher, City Manager ..... 744-2451, ext. 217
- Recreation Department ..... 744-2700
- Central Park Pool ..... 744-7331
- Parks Department ..... 744-8609
- Police • Emergency ..... 911
- Non-emergency ..... 744-6000
- Animal Control (Sedgwick County) ..... 660-7070
- Public Works ..... 744-2888
- Water/Sewer Emergency (after 5 p.m.) 761-6972 or 761-6973
- Utility Billing ..... 744-2451, ext. 132
- (Waste Connections) ..... 838-4920
- Hazardous Waste (Sedgwick County) ..... 660-7464

Interested in learning about Bel Aire MAYOR'S YOUTH COUNCIL.

Are you a Bel Aire resident attending high school between the ages of 13-19? We want YOU to apply NOW for the Youth Council at [www.belaireks.gov](http://www.belaireks.gov). Contact Tristin at 744-2451 for more information.

3RD ANNUAL HOT POOL DAWGS PARTY

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## CHURCH HIGHLIGHTS

### Christ Lutheran Church

Christ Lutheran is located at 53rd North and Hillside, across from Wichita Heights High School.

Summer services through Labor Day weekend are at 9 a.m. (contemporary) and 10:30 a.m. (traditional). Communion is offered at both services.

For more information about the church and its activities, either find the church online at [www.christ-lutheran.org](http://www.christ-lutheran.org) or call 744-1242.

Pastor Chad Langdon is the minister.

### 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](http://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 316-323-2819 with any questions.

### Cornerstone Christian Church

Cornerstone Christian Church is located at 5531 E. 37th St. 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 11:00 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

The church welcomes a new minister, the Rev. Larry Young.

Visit the newly renovated building at 1605 Fairmount in Wichita, one block south and one block east of Hillside and 17th North.

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.fairmountuccc.org](http://www.fairmountuccc.org).

### Gospel Assembly Church

Located at 4230 N. Oliver in Bel Aire, service times are 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday. Prayer service is 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

Sunday worship service at 9 a.m. with fellowship and coffee afterward.

Pastor Jeff Miller can be reached at 744-0203.

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

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

Movie night is at 6:30 p.m. the second Saturday of each month. A snack is served.

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

### Kechi United Methodist Church

You are invited to worship at 9:03 a.m. (contemporary service) or 11 (traditional service) Sundays, with Sunday school at 10 a.m., at Kechi United Methodist Church, 4533 E. 61st North in Kechi. All are welcome.

Men's Bible Study is at 6:30 a.m. Wednesdays. The coffee is always on.

CareGivers Support group meets at 7 p.m. the first Monday of every month in the basement parlor.

Bingo is at 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of every month. Everyone is welcome to join in.

Thursdays throughout the summer, KUMC hosts the Kechi Farmers Market from 4 to 6:30 p.m. in the parking lot. Come see what's going on.

The Rummage Sale is Aug. 13 through 15. Come check it out. Our new pastor is Greg Reed.

Find us at [www.KechiUMC.org](http://www.KechiUMC.org) and "Like" us on Facebook. The church phone number is 744-1221.

### LifePoint Church

A fellowship of the Assemblies of God, LifePoint is located at 400 S. Abilene.

Sunday worship service and Kids Church are at 10:30 a.m., and Life University/Sunday school for all ages is at 9. No regular Sunday night service. For special activities, see the website, [www.lpcag.org](http://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 Soyez. Children's pastor is Nathaniel Thurman. Call 755-2331.

### Risen Savior Lutheran Church

#### — Missouri Synod

Contemporary Sunday worship services are at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Communion 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 Bible class and second service.

Risen Savior will be hosting a "Donor Jam" with SAM (Sharing America's Marrow) in honor of our member, Desmond and his family, who are currently fighting Desmond's battle with blood disorders. We are hoping to sign up as many people as possible who could be the cure for Desmond or any patient needing a transplant. To register, please come to Risen Savior Lutheran Church (6770 E. 34th St. North) on Wednesday, July 15th from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. Potential donors must be between the ages of 18 and 55, in general good health and willing to donate to any patient in need. It is free and all it takes is a check swab and a consent form to join the donor registry.

There are two weekly sessions of Lifetree Café in Valley Center. Thursday at 1 p.m. (lunch at noon) at the Community Building (316 E. Clay) and Sunday at 5 p.m. at the home of Pastor Terry and Barb Wiechman (1241 S. Park). 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.

Risen Savior Preschool classes for 3- to 5-year-olds are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 to 11:45 a.m. Enrollment forms and information are available at the church office. Please contact Michelle Peshek, director/lead teacher, with questions at [atmichellep@risensavior.net](mailto:atmichellep@risensavior.net) or call the church office at 683-5538.

Please join us. The church is located at 6770 E. 34th North in Wichita. The phone number is 683-5538 and we are online at [www.risensaviorwichita.net](http://www.risensaviorwichita.net). Senior pastor is Tom Harmon.

### St. Michael's Orthodox Christian Church

Saint Michael's Orthodox Christian Church is located at 2710 E. 61st North, Park City, KS 67219. 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 congregation 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 is at 9 a.m. Wednesday service is at 6 p.m. with Saturday Vespers at 4:30 p.m.

Call the church for more information at 734-6248 or visit our website at [www.saintmichaellothodoxchurch.com](http://www.saintmichaellothodoxchurch.com).

Email inquiries to [jflora@cox.net](mailto:jflora@cox.net).

### Wichita Three Angels Seventh-Day Adventist Church

The church is located at 4558 N. Hydraulic Wichita, KS 67219.

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](http://www.godsclot.com) or on Facebook, email [eric@godsclot.com](mailto:eric@godsclot.com) or call 530-1040.

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



David Dinell

**Braelyn McSparent, 14, moves the ball past two defenders during a workout. She plans to play high school soccer this year and said the camp allowed her to "learn some new moves."**

## Soccer

Continued from Page 1

keep the banter light, active and non-stop. One started a drill by jumping on a bunch of soccer balls, much to the kids' delight. They also interjected some international culture, too, referencing what they call things in Great Britain, such as "crisps" for "potato chips."

Alas, a pop quiz on what countries make up Great Britain didn't go as well as the field play, as the students

were stumped on geography. One volunteered "London," as a country and another "Norway," before Moloney, a little exasperated by the wrong answers, explained that it was England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and moved on to a different topic.

The British coaches said they were enjoying the United States, with all commenting on the sheer physical size of the country and the amount of open land there is. There also are numerous cultural differences, such as the portions of

food and beverages served. "Everything is bigger here," Moloney said, "even the soft drinks."

A couple of the older, experienced students said that the camp sharpened their skills.

"I've played for a few years," said Noah Glendenning, 14, "but this is getting me better at it."

Braelyn McSparent, also 14, plans to play high school soccer this upcoming year and said the camp allowed her to "learn some new moves."

For parents, along with

providing their children with more skills, the camp got their kids out and about.

"I'm glad to see them running," said Laura Murfin, who had two kids, Danielle and Jessica, 6, in the camp.

"They do keep them moving," said Murfin as Danielle, her cheeks rosy-red, gulped down a cup of cool water.

Murfin also said she likes all the games the coaches introduced the players to.

"They got exposure to British-style soccer," she said.

## Fireworks

Continued from Page 1

when not everyone is happy, you try to make as many people as you can somewhat happy."

Some people say the Fourth is a time of celebration and deserves to be marked with fireworks, Austin said, while others say the noise is not worth it and disturbs their sleep and pets.

The ordinance allowing an extended selling period but a restricted firing-off period — only allowing them to be used on the Fourth — seems to work well, he said.

"The way the law is written, it's the perfect compromise," he said.

Austin admitted that the law wasn't followed perfectly as he still heard fireworks before and after what the law

permitted. However, violations were not widespread, he said.

"A lot of people are pretty respectful of that (ordinance)," he said. Also, Bel Aire restricts those setting off fireworks to people 14 or older. Those under 14 must be supervised by an adult.

Fireworks help the city financially, as Austin reports that it took in \$12,000 from three permit fees charged to fireworks retailers in the city limits. It has room for four tents, so it would be even more if another retailer signs up in the future.

One outlet was a tent operated by the Bel Aire Lions Club. Council member Guy MacDonald, who also is part of the club, reported that he received numerous compliments from consumers about the way the club uses its proceeds for civic projects.

"There are no administra-

tive costs," he said. "Every cent we make goes back to the community."

While he put in about 30 hours of service at the tent, he said club officer and former mayor Gary O'Neal logged long hours, even working until the early hours of the morning a few times. He also said the club is open for a new project using the funds.

"Just let us know and we'll consider it," he said.

In other action, the council:

- Approved an appropriations ordinance in the amount of \$546,549.
- Approved a residential developer marketing agreement with Crown III Realty to promote city owned lots in the Central Park development. The contract is for one year, but can be canceled with a 35-day notice.
- Witnessed a presentation from Bel Aire resident Adam Cloyd of a boxed U.S. flag that was flown on Sept. 11, 2010 over Base Mehtar Lam in Afghanistan. Austin accepted the gift for the city. Cloyd is currently in the Kansas Army National Guard.
- Approved four appointees to

the Community Development Committee. They are Linda Scott, Diane Wynn, Elliott Green and Shelly Smith. Several council members asked Austin that, in the future, they be given a two-week notice on such appointments so they have time to interview them or do research on the candidates.

"When these are given to me on the same day as the vote, it's hard to decide," MacDonald said.

Others concurred and said while they respect the nominated individuals, they want to be able to make an informed vote.

•Heard City Manager Ty Lasher say that officials are working on updating computer software. With newer software, it will be able to stay abreast of posting video of city meetings on Channel 7.

•Set times and dates for upcoming budget workshops. Both are at 6:30 p.m. One is July 13 and the other is Aug. 11.

•Heard Austin state that Aug. 10 will be the annual "Hot Dawgs" party at the city pool. That's the last day of season for the pool and, as part of a tradition, it's open to dogs before the water is drained.

There was one executive session, which lasted 10 minutes. No binding action was taken.

## Crash

Continued from Page 1

Because there are open intersections with no traffic lights, it's important to use caution and allow sufficient time for east and westbound traffic, which have the right of way, to clear before crossing the highway, Crittenden said.

Crittenden said he's worked a number of accidents along K-254, including ones at the intersections of Greenwich, Webb and Rock.

A March 26 crash near Bel Aire killed a 20-year-old Wichita man at the intersection of K-254 and Webb Road. It also was a failed-to-yield

incident.

Officials at the Kansas Department of Transportation say they're aware of the dangers of the road, but add that there is limited funding to change it and the lack of traffic volume doesn't make major improvements as much of a priority as other highways.

However, Bel Aire Police Chief Darrell Atteberry said there have been early discussions about making some changes, such as putting in red blinking flashing lights and a warning that cross traffic doesn't stop at Rock and K-254, which is just at the city limits.

"We recognize that it's a problem and we're looking at

it," he said.

The city of Bel Aire would like to be a part of a solution to it, he said, but there's no one "silver bullet" to solve the issue, he said.

Atteberry said he's extremely cautious at all times when

using that road and, if crossing it, looks both ways and then repeats the process to ensure movement is safe.

"It's hard to judge high speeds," he said, "and I've seen a lot of near misses there."

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Deadline for September: August 21

# Bel Aire Breeze

# BEL AIRE POLICE REPORTS

**July 14** — Officer Davis stopped a vehicle for a defect in the 5900 block of East 37th North. The driver was cited for driving with a revoked license.

**July 14** — Officer Crice was notified by Senior Patrol officers that they found an open door at a residence in the 6100 block of North Edinburg. Officers checked the residence. Officer called the homeowner, who said she thought her daughter and son-in-law might have come and gotten a washer. She said she would check with them and let me know if there were any other problems. The house was secured.

**July 14** — Officer Crice took a report of vandalism in the 5200 block of Tolar. The calling party reported vandalism to his 2008 Chevy Suburban by a known suspect. The windows were broken out with an unknown object. Nothing was missing from the vehicle.

**July 12** — Officer Davis stopped a vehicle for running a stop sign at 53rd North and Lycee. The driver was cited for driving with a suspended license and running a stop sign.

**July 12** — Officer Menges took a report of a wreck in the 4500 block of North Westlake Court. The calling party said his vehicle had been hit and he believed his neighbors across the street may be responsible for the damage.

**July 12** — Officer Menges took a report of larceny in the 6900 block of East Odessa Court. The reporting party said his Home Depot credit card had been stolen from his home, and the card had been used several times.

**July 12** — Officer Elpers stopped to assist a stranded motorist in the 5000 block of East 45th North. The driver was cited for driving with a suspended license and arrested on a Sedgwick County warrant. The arrestee's name was not available.

**July 12** — Officer Davis stopped a vehicle for defective lights and no license plate in the 4000 block of North Woodlawn. The driver was cited for no registration.

**July 11** — Officer Menges responded to a report of vandalism in the 4200 block of North Janesville. The calling party said her mailbox had been hit with a blunt object.

**July 11** — Officer Menges responded to a two-vehicle wreck in the 4500 block of North Woodlawn. No injuries were reported.

**July 11** — Officer Elpers responded to a parking complaint in the 6500 block of East 45th North. The complainant said someone parked a vehicle behind her vehicle, and she was not able to leave. Officer contacted with the owner of the vehicle who said he did it on purpose because the woman parked in his reserved spot. Eventually the owner was convinced to move his vehicle.

**July 10** — Officer Crice took a report at the station. The reporting party said her child's father had been sending bills to her current husband's insurance on their daughter, in violation of a court order.

**July 10** — Officer Davis checked the welfare of a man who illegally crossed 37th North. He appeared to be stumbling and unsure of where he was going. He was not cooperative and stated that the officer did not know what his life was like. He was released after he was checked for warrants or warrants.

**July 9** — Officer Davis responded to a verbal argument in the 3800 block of North Oliver.

**July 8** — Officer Louks responded to a report of disorderly conduct in the 6400 block of East Rodeo. A threat allegedly occurred at a Wichita McDonalds. The calling party was told to contact Wichita police.

**July 7** — Officer Davis' patrol vehicle struck a dog in the 4300 block of North Woodlawn. Officer pulled

over to check on the dog. He saw the dog running south in the northbound lanes of Woodlawn and then west on Perryton Street. He was unable to locate the dog again. He checked the vehicle and there was no damage.

**July 7** — Officer Roney responded to the 4500 block of North Westlake Court. A process server was serving an eviction at the residence. The process server wanted the animals inside removed. The process server was informed that the police could not do so legally. However, officer was able to contact the owners to come get the animals and remained at the scene for a civil stand-by until the animals were removed.

**July 7** — Chief Atteberry stopped a vehicle for a headlight violation in the 5000 block of East Willow Point. The driver was cited for no driver's license.

**July 7** — Officer Roney responded to the 4500 block of North Westlake Court. While conducting a civil stand-by, officer was contacted by the process server conducting an eviction. The process server had found contraband in the residence. Officer took possession of several items of paraphernalia and submitted them as found property.

**July 7** — Officer Elpers stopped a vehicle for an expired tag in the 4600 block of North Rock Road. The driver was cited for the violation and was arrested on Wichita warrants. The arrestee's name was not available.

**July 7** — Officers responded to check the welfare of a citizen in the 5700 block of East 49th North. The man was taken to the Andover Police Department on a warrant.

**July 6** — Officer Crice responded to a two-vehicle wreck in the 5400 block of East Willow. No injuries were reported.

**July 6** — Officer Crice responded to a two-vehicle wreck in the 4900 block of Hedgerow Court. A parked vehicle was struck by an unidentified vehicle.

**July 6** — Chief Atteberry took a fraud report at the station. The reporting party said he was involved in a secret shopper scam. He said he responded to an e-mail regarding a job. He said he received a U.S. Postal Service envelope that contained a fake check and instructions from the secret shopper. He became suspicious and called his bank which told him that the job offer was a scam. After he learned of the scam he came to the police department to make a report. He did not lose any money.

**July 5** — Officer Camplin responded to an overdose in the 4500 block of North West Lake Court. The patient was taken to the hospital.

**July 5** — Officer Camplin assisted the fire department on a house fire in the 5600 block of East 48th Circle North.

**July 5** — Officer Menges stopped a vehicle for a cracked windshield in the 5600 block of North Oliver. The driver, Tamairla Laraine Spencer, was cited for cracked windshield and was arrested on a Wichita warrant.

**July 5** — Officer Menges responded to the 5600 block of North Lycee. The calling party said his fiancé had been receiving harassing calls from an unknown male for the past several days.

**July 5** — Officer Menges responded to a disturbance involving a father and daughter in the 4100 block of North 127th East. The father was bleeding profusely from his nose. The father had been physically abusive towards his girlfriend. The daughter went to the defense of her father's girlfriend and hit him several times in the nose to get him to stop. During the disturbance, he also hit his daughter in the right side of her face.

**July 5** — Officer Davis responded

to the 5900 block of East 47th North. The calling party said a teen was in the park smoking and skateboarding after being told not to be there.

**July 5** — Officer Davis responded to a firework complaint in the 5700 block of East Denise. Officer told a person that fireworks were not allowed after the Fourth of July.

**July 4** — Officer Davis stopped a vehicle for a defect in the 5400 block of North Rock Road. The driver, Alonzo Samilton, was arrested on a Wichita warrant.

**July 4** — Officer Davis stopped a vehicle for lights not properly functioning in the 5400 block of North Rock Road. The driver was cited for driving with a suspended license.

**July 4** — Officer Davis stopped a vehicle for speeding in the 4200 block of North Oliver. The driver was cited for speeding and driving with a suspended license.

**July 4** — Officer Elpers stopped a motorcycle for an expired tag in the 5500 block of North Rock Road. The driver was cited for no insurance and no motorcycle license.

**July 4** — Officer Davis stopped a vehicle for speeding in the 4000 block of North Oliver. The driver was cited for speeding and driving with a suspended license.

**July 3** — Officer Davis stopped a vehicle for a defect in the 3800 block of North Woodlawn. The driver was cited for driving with a suspended license. He also was arrested on warrants through Wichita. The arrestee's name was not available.

**July 3** — Officer Davis stopped a vehicle for speeding (52 in a 40) in the 5000 block of North Oliver. The driver was cited for speeding and driving with a suspended license.

**July 3** — Officer Elpers responded to a hang-up call in the 5800 block of East Memphis. The calling party said she was getting phone calls from India telling her to send money via Western Union. Officer advised her it was a scam and not to send money.

**July 3** — Officers Elpers and Davis responded to a fireworks complaint in the 5700 block of East Denise. Officer Davis advised the homeowner that fireworks were allowed only on July 4.

**July 3** — Officer Elpers responded to a fireworks complaint in the 4300 block of North Mission. Officer told the homeowner that fireworks were allowed only on July 4.

**July 3** — Officers responded to a fireworks complaint in the 4100 block of Stratford Lane. Officers advised several individuals of the Bel Aire ordinance on fireworks.

**July 2** — Officer Davis responded to a report of vandalism in the 4200 block of Westlake Court. A garage light received damage.

**July 2** — Officer Davis responded to a one-vehicle wreck in the 4900 block of North Woodlawn. A person was injured.

**July 1** — Officer Roney responded to a report of a suspicious character in the 6200 block of East Woodlo. Neighbors reported suspicious activity at a residence that was recently sold. Officer contacted a man who was agitated that officers contacted him, stating he is the new owner of the residence. This was unconfirmed. However, he was checked through SPIDER and found to have a valid license and no warrants.

**June 30** — Officer Davis responded to a report of vandalism in the 6400 block of East Perryton. The calling party said the driver's side window of his vehicle was spray-painted white. Officer found three additional vehicles that were vandalized. All of the owners were contacted and pictures of each vehicle were taken.

**June 30** — Officer Crice noticed paint on a street, stop sign and street

directional sign in the 6600 block of East Odessa. The marks were "Blood 1700" and "CDK." Officers are looking for a suspect.

**June 30** — Officer Elpers noticed a tag displayed on a black Ford F-150 came back to a Chevrolet Silverado. The driver said he might have forgotten to register his vehicle. The driver was cited for the violation.

**June 30** — Officer Camplin stopped a vehicle for speeding in the 4200 block of North Oliver. The driver was cited for speeding and driving with a suspended license.

**June 29** — Officer Menges responded to a two-vehicle wreck at Quail Ridge and Edinburg. No injuries were reported.

**June 29** — Officer Toomy responded to a suspicious character call in the 4300 block of North Country Lane. The calling party said a young man in his 20s contacted the homeowner and asked about his children. A few minutes later, police located him and he was going door-to-door throughout the neighborhood. He was indeed asking families about their children in the process of selling subscriptions to "educational books." The man did not have a permit and was instructed to stop his sales activity without a permit.

**June 29** — Officer Steele stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation at 37th North and Cozy Drive. Officer also noted recent collision damage to the front left portion of the vehicle, and a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage emanating from the man's breath. The driver was arrested on a charge of DUI. The arrestee's name was not available.

**June 28** — Officer Davis stopped a vehicle for speeding in the 4800 block of North Greenwich. The driver was cited for speeding and driving with a revoked license.

**June 28** — Officer Davis responded to a domestic violence with weapons call in the 4400 block of East Mission. The calling party said the mother threw an Xbox while in the residence. Officer could hear the mother yelling from outside of the house. During the investigation it was found to be verbal only and she volunteered to leave for the night with her 13-year-old daughter. Her father picked them up and they all left the scene.

**June 27** — Officer Menges responded to the 5900 block of Flagstaff. The calling party said an unidentified vehicle hit the driver's side of his vehicle, causing damage.

**June 27** — Officer Menges responded to a larceny in the 6900 block of East Odessa Court. The calling party said his daughter had stolen a credit card from his home. He said \$700 worth of charges was placed on the card and that she added herself to the account.

**June 27** — Officer Elpers responded to a possible suicidal person in the 6800 block of Rodeo Court. The mother showed officers the message that her son sent to his ex-girlfriend. Officers were unable to make contact with the son as he was at work. After finishing the call and leaving, officers received a call from the mother advising that her son was at Wesley Hospital to self-admit due to taking a bottle of aspirin.

**June 27** — Officer Elpers saw heavy smoke and flames coming from a residence in the 3900 block of North Oliver. Officer called for Sedgwick County Fire and spoke with one of the homeowners who stated that they were just burning brush off and "had

everything under control." Fire arrived on scene and took over the investigation.

**June 26** — Officer Davis stopped a vehicle for a tag light violation in the 5900 block of East 37th North. The driver was cited for driving with a suspended license and no insurance.

**June 26** — Officer Elpers assisted Wichita police on an armed robbery in the 3600 block of North Rock Road. Officer contacted with the victim and gave out a better description to responding officers. The case will be further investigated by Wichita police.

**June 26** — Officer Davis stopped a vehicle for speeding (56 in a 45) in the 4900 block of North Rock Road. The driver was cited for speeding and driving with a suspended license.

**June 25** — Officer Camplin stopped a vehicle for failure to dim high beams in the 4000 block of North Oliver. The man was arrested on charges of driving with a revoked license and driving while a habitual violator.

**June 25** — Officer Davis responded to a two-vehicle wreck in the 4100 block of North Woodlawn. No injuries were reported.

**June 24** — Officer Louks took a report of a telephone scam in the 6500 block of East Perryton. The numbers were from Maryland and Arizona. Officer attempted to call the numbers and could not get through. Officer gave the man a handout with contact information for the fraud department with the IRS.

**June 24** — Officers assisted EMS in the 6000 block of East Clarendon. A patient reportedly had been stung by a wasp. The man did not appear to have a sting.

**June 23** — Officers responded to a report of domestic violence in the 4200 block of North Stratford Lane. Officers contacted the victim, who had many visible bruises and several red marks that appeared fresh on her chest, arms and legs. She reported that her husband had struck her repeatedly. She stated that the event took place today and repeatedly over the last three days, while he was in a drunken state. The husband, Joshua Paul Kocher, was arrested on a charge of domestic violence.

**June 23** — Officer Crice responded to a two-vehicle wreck in the 4000 block of North Woodlawn. No injuries were reported.

**June 22** — Officer Menges took a report at the station. A man came to the Bel Aire Police Department to report that his son became violent with him at this home in the 6000 block of East Clarendon. The man said that he knows his son is off his medication and just wanted to document the behavior. He said his son "flicked" water on him and "chest bumped" him several times.

**June 22** — Officer Elpers stopped a vehicle for speeding in the 4200 block of North Woodlawn. The driver was arrested on a charge of not having an ignition interlock as required. The arrestee's name was not available.

**June 22** — Officers responded to report of domestic violence in the 4400 block of North Edgemoor Court. The calling party said he had an argument with his girlfriend. The girlfriend then took his vehicle and left.

**June 21** — Officer Davis responded to a domestic violence call in the 8400 block of East Granite Court. The caller said she and her husband were arguing over a personal matter. She said she was on the couch when her husband walked up, tilted up the couch and caused her to fall to the floor. She had no marks, and the living room and couch were in order with nothing knocked over. She stated she did not want to press charges. The husband said his wife was lying and nothing happened. The husband spent the night at a hotel.

**June 21** — Officer Camplin stopped a vehicle in the 6600 block of East 53rd North. The driver was arrested on a warrant. The arrestee's name was not available.

**June 21** — Officer Davis took a report of a larceny in the 4600 block of Farmstead Court. The calling party said someone entered his vehicle, which was parked in his driveway, and took a prescription medication.

**June 21** — Officer Elpers responded to a two-vehicle wreck in the 4100 block of North Woodlawn. The calling party said her ex-husband had her daughter and was told that the daughter was taken to St. Joseph Hospital for a mental evaluation. Officer confirmed that the daughter was at St. Joseph Hospital.

**June 21** — Officer Davis responded to the 4400 block of North Janesville. The calling party said she and her daughter got into a verbal argument. No physical contact occurred. The daughter called for a ride to leave the residence.

**June 21** — Officer Elpers assisted Wichita police with an armed robbery in the 3300 block of North Rock Road. Officer contacted the store employee who said a black male put a gun to his head and demanded money when he was behind the store taking out the trash. The suspect fled northeast on foot.

**June 20** — Officer Davis stopped a vehicle for speeding in the 5200 block of North Woodlawn. The driver was cited for speeding and driving in violation of a restriction.

**June 20** — Officer Elper checked a vehicle at Eagle Lake Park. The vehicle was empty. Officer then saw five white males get up from a park bench and run. Four of them stopped and returned. They said the fifth boy had marijuana with him. The boy was not located.

**June 19** — Officer Davis stopped a vehicle for a tag light violation in the 5900 block of East 37th North. The driver was cited for driving in violation of restrictions.

**June 19** — Officer Camplin stopped a vehicle for speeding (52 in a 40) in the 4000 block of North Oliver. The driver was cited for no driver's license.

**June 18** — Officer Crice arrested a man during city court on a Bel Aire warrant. The arrestee's name was not available.

**June 18** — Officer Davis took a report of an animal bite in the 6100 block of East 41st Circle North. A resident reported that his daughter was bitten by a neighbor's cat.

**June 16** — Officer Menges took a report of vandalism in the 5900 block of East 47th North. A spillway and a park bench were tagged with graffiti.

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# Fire heavily damages Bel Aire home

By David Dinell

An early morning fire on July 5 caused extensive damage to a house in the 5600 block of East 48th Circle North in Bel Aire. The seven occupants were able to escape the blaze, which destroyed the garage and the majority of the roof.

Units from the Sedgwick County Fire Department, which provide fire services for Bel Aire, responded to the 1:25 a.m. fire and were on the scene for several hours.

The cause of the fire is still undetermined, said Craig Leu, deputy fire marshal for Sedgwick County Fire District 1, which includes Bel Aire. The cause may or may not include fireworks. The fire was reported just hours after the legal period for them to be shot off.

"We haven't ruled out anything; we're still investigating," said Leu, who was at the scene during the blaze.

One thing is certain: the damage is extensive. The house is valued at between \$170,000 and \$180,000 and with its ruined contents, the damage is around \$250,000, he said.

"The true loss isn't known until after the insurance company is done, and that could take a year," he said. "We take a shot at it based on what we know."

Leu added that contents are difficult for department investigators to gauge, which is why they leave the final tally to insurance officials.

A photo taken shortly after the blaze began showed large flames leaping from the roof into the night sky.

"It was terrible," said Bel Aire Police Chief Darrell Atteberry.

He wasn't at the scene during the fire, but paid it a follow-up visit to view the damage. No other houses were damaged during the blaze.

After the police department got the call, several officers responded to provide traffic control and security.

"When the officers got



David Dinell

**A house fire at 5622 E. 48th Circle North in Bel Aire July 5 causes extensive damage. All occupants were able to escape safely and there were no injuries.**

there, it was fully engulfed in flames," Atteberry said.

One of the officers contacted the homeowner and she said everyone got out OK.

"The lady woke up and heard a noise and then saw the fire and then got everyone out of the house," he said.

The police stayed until all fire units left.

Due to the intense nature of the blaze and its proximity to other structures, about a dozen units responded, including some from the Wichita Fire Department under a mutual aid agreement. Units were on the scene from the start until 5 a.m., which Leu said was a typical timeframe for a house fire.

If there's anything positive about the fire, it's that there were no injuries and the residents did what they needed to do, he said.

"The key to it was the family got everyone out quickly,"

he said. "That's what we preach to everyone. If your house is on fire, get out. They did exactly right and called the fire department. That's the take-away we like to see because there's nothing in a house worth your life."

Atteberry also was grateful for the lack of injuries and said he was impressed with the way neighbors awoke and took action to ensure that others were safe.

"You're not going to find that in all neighborhoods," he

said. "They were going door-to-door making sure their neighbors didn't have fires on their roofs because there were

embers blowing around. They really look out for each other that way, which is wonderful."

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