

# The Bel Aire Breeze

Vol. 10, No. 9

October 2015

Complimentary copy

## City council rejects cell phone tower

Structure would have been built near Sunrise

By David Dinell

There won't be a cell phone tower built in Bel Aire — at least not for awhile. A proposal to construct a 170-foot cell phone tower west of Sunrise Christian Academy, at 5450 E. 45th St. N., was voted down by a

3-2 vote Sept. 15 by the Bel Aire City Council. Members Ramona Becker, Guy MacDonald and Betty Martine voted against the proposal and Peggy O'Donnell and Mayor David Austin voted for it. Ken Lee is no longer on council, having resigned. The mayor was allowed to vote

as it dealt with a special use permit. However, after the vote, representatives of the tower developer said they will appeal the decision to the Federal Communications Commission and, if needed, take the issue to district court. The council members who

voted no said that they realize that their decision may ultimately be overturned by a higher governing body, but they felt it was important to take a stand and that they were representing the will of residents. The appeal process also could end up costing the city

thousands of dollars in legal fees if it has to go to court to defend its action, Austin said. Not only could it lose and be out the money, it could also end up with a tower that is even higher than currently called for, Austin said.

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## Students arrested in school threat

Heightened security at Northeast

By Chris Strunk

Northeast Magnet High School in Bel Aire was on lockdown with heightened security Sept. 22 as authorities responded to a possible threat to the school the night before.

Bel Aire police said they received information about the possible threat about 8:45 p.m. Sept. 21.

The threat was posted to a social media website and involved photos of firearms and warnings not to attend school on Tuesday.

Students who viewed the posts alerted their parents and those parents notified the Bel Aire Police Department.

Police identified three students suspected to be involved in the threats. All three were taken into custody without incident and were questioned.

Each faces charges regarding the threats of violence.

As a safety precaution, there was an increased law enforcement presence at the school on Sept. 22. Officers from the Bel Aire Police Department, Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office and the school district's security services were on hand.

District security conducted a metal detector search of each student entering the school, which was placed on lockdown.

District administrators notified parents before the start of school about the increased law enforcement presence.

Bel Aire Chief Darrell Atteberry said the students who notified their parents of the threat are to be commended for taking action to stop violence at their school.

The case remains under investigation, he said.

## Member of city council steps down

By The Breeze staff

A Bel Aire City Council member has resigned. On Sept. 1, the city council accepted the resignation of Ken Lee.

Lee said his personal and professional obligations were not allowing him to spend the amount of time on the job he needed.

"This has nothing to do with the city or council members," he said.

He said he didn't want to take on a job unless he could do it well.

Mayor David Austin is expected to name a replacement in October.

Lee served on the city's economic advisory board before he was appointed to the city council in 2012 to fill a vacancy. He won election to a full term this past spring.



Photos by David Dinell

Ground is officially broken on new projects in Bel Aire's Sunflower Commerce Park. The ceremony was well timed as heavy rains fell immediately after it.

## 'IT'S EXCITING' Ground broken for new developments

By David Dinell

Heavy rain and even some lightning held off just long enough for Bel Aire officials to conduct a brief groundbreaking ceremony Sept. 19 at Sunflower Commerce Park. They were welcoming construction on buildings that will house two new enterprises: Factory Direct Copper & Granite LLC and the South Central Kansas Economic Development District, or SCKEDD.

"This is an exciting occasion for us," said City Manager Ty Lasher. "Anytime we have new buildings in Bel Aire it's exciting."

The entities are wasting no time getting going.

"We actually closed on the lot on Wednesday and they're moving dirt today (Friday)," Lasher said.

Developers say they want to finish the work by January, but that will depend on weather.

Scott Bishop, owner of Factory Direct Copper & Granite, called his company's new building "a life-changing event for myself, my company and my family."

"It's going to be super exciting to get into a larger facility and showcase what we can do," he said as his family looked on.

The new location, Bishop said, will give the company a chance to be more efficient, do more and take care of more customers.

SCKEDD officials likewise said they will be pleased to move into their new home.

Four members of the Bel



ABOVE: Scott Bishop (left), owner of Factory Direct Copper & Granite LLC, comments about his business' planned new home in Bel Aire as his family looks on. LEFT: Developers waste no time on the project as an earthmover was in action the morning of the groundbreaking.

Aire City Council were present at the ceremony, including Betty Martine, who said the new businesses are a positive sign for the city.

"The more, the better," she said.

A long-time resident of Bel

Aire, Martine commented that it was "just wheat fields" when she moved to the area.

The new buildings will be at 5101 N. Toller Drive, or the northeast corner of Webb and 50th North.

Factory Direct Copper &

Granite is a locally owned company that specializes in granite countertops and sinks along with kitchen remodeling work. It's having a 25,000-square-foot warehouse and showroom built. It currently is in northeast Wichita.

SCKEDD is a nonprofit

See BUSINESS, Page 5



**Mayor's corner**

By David Austin

Happy fall. A classic car show, petting zoo, dancing and health screenings are all in our future.

The second annual Bel Aire Fall Festival takes place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 17 at the Rec Center.

There will be free health screenings sponsored by the Bel Aire Lions Club, a classic car show, dancing and a pickle ball tournament sponsored by the Bel Aire Seniors. Your Community Development Advisory Committee has planned a lot of fun activities for the whole family to fill the four hours. Additional entertainment includes a petting zoo, sponsored by Chisholm Trail State Bank and the Bel Aire Chamber of Commerce. Covered wagon rides, pony rides, face painting, vendors, food options, square dancing and a whole lot more are all planned.

Told you it was a full four hours. But perhaps the most important is the Kansas mobile screening van that offers free sight, hearing, blood pressure and diabetes testing.

And it's all free.

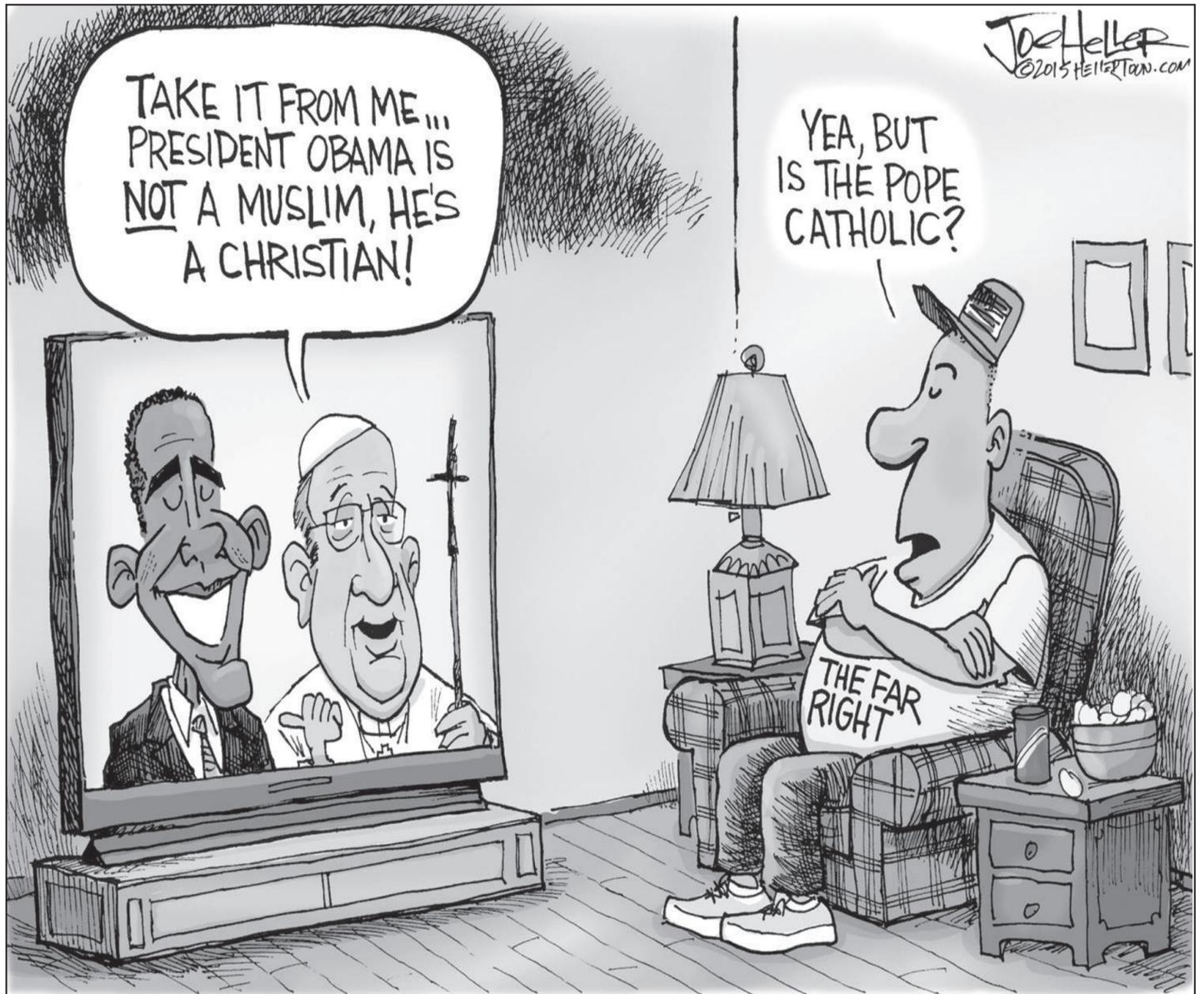
At your last two city council meetings, we have been blessed to hear and receive two great stories of giving.

First, members of your Bel Aire Police Department were recognized for going above and beyond in helping a local senior citizen. This gentleman had been living for a few months without water or electricity, but told no one he needed help. A member of our police department learned about the man and immediately worked to get him resources available to help his situation. In addition to that, on his own, he mobilized other members of the department to collect food items they delivered to him.

And at the last meeting, members of the Bel Aire Lions Club were on hand to present a check to the city to purchase an A.E.D. to be placed at the city pool.

I am blown away by the generosity of our community and I hope to see it continue. It is a work in progress, but my plan is to unveil the Mayor's Commission to lift up our community. With our city cutting its budget and the county cutting social services, we need more private giving now more than ever. Hopefully we can continue to recognize a community member(s) on a regular basis who give to help others.

Our city continues to grow and you don't have to look too hard to see new homes being built on a daily basis. We will have much more to celebrate in the upcoming months, too. I thank you again for the honor of serving as your mayor.



## Former Wildcat musician says just chill

I'll admit it. I laughed out loud when I saw a video of the Kansas State University marching band's halftime performance in Manhattan Sept. 5.

The space-themed routine appeared to include a sex act against a University of Kansas Jayhawk. Maybe you've seen it.

It's worth a peek, if you're interested. Apparently, the Star Trek Enterprise (formed by marchers) looked like a giant male sex organ poking at the Jayhawk.

The band's directors are taking a lot of heat for this. The band issued an apology this week, saying the resemblance was purely accidental. Accident or no accident, it must be difficult to be a member of the KSU marching band these days, I thought.

The band has a couple of recent Valley Center High School graduates. Cole Klinkhammer and Wesley Crow, who graduated this past spring from VCHS, are members of the marching band. Cole is

### Out of the office

By Chris Strunk



part of the drumline, while Wesley plays trombone.

I reached out to Cole on Facebook to get a comment from him about the debacle. Rightly so, he told me that students have been instructed not to say anything to the press or on social media.

I'm just a casual observer, but I have to believe that the resemblance was just an accident.

Knowing Cole and Wesley, there's no way those guys would knowingly be a part of something like that, even though it's really only mildly offensive.

Anyway, I can't be sure, but I bet Wesley and Cole feel the same way that another VCHS alum does.

Jacob Miller, who graduated from Valley Center High School in 2010, graduated from KSU this spring. He was a member of the KSU marching band for five years and was the head section leader for the trombones the past two seasons.

He told me he was heartbroken by the amount of ridicule taking place.

"The incident from the band's halftime show this past Saturday is a perfect example of how social media has corrupted this country over time," said Miller, who is an assistant band director for the Dodge City school district. "People that don't even know anything about this band, its staff and traditions are so quick to whine and act like a know-it-all without understanding the situation because they love attention and a good argument."

Miller said the KSU marching band has really improved over the years because of former members and because of the efforts of the band's director, Frank Tracz, as well

as assistant director Don Linn, who are coming under attack.

"This is not the first band in the country to poke fun at another school in a show," Miller said. "The KSU marching band is at a new experimental stage where creating new animations and entertaining formations is a regular. The directors designed the drill, but I guarantee had absolutely no intention of creating the inappropriate image others claim to see. This wonderful group is being criticized over something that they didn't intend to create, rather than be praised for a terrific and impressive first show of the season. Coming from a proud Valley Center and Kansas State graduate, it sickens me that my mentor and role model is in a great deal of discomfort and regret just because some people are so negative and can't handle a mild joke. I don't hate the University of Kansas, but I do bleed purple. Rock Chalk or EMAW, this isn't a big deal."

Well said, Jacob.

Along with Klinkhammer and Crow, Eli Karst and Logan McKinley are part of the band. Karst is a senior at Manhattan Christian but audits and marches with K-State and plays the trombone. McKinley is a junior at K-State and also plays the trombone.

K-State likes its trombone players from Valley Center.

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

### The Bel Aire Breeze

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Deadline for November: October 16

# Bel Aire Breeze

www.arkvalleynews.com



# City of Bel Aire



## Bel Aire Recreation

### HIP HOP — DON'T STOP!

Are you ready to get your groove on? This exciting class will teach kids hip-hop techniques and choreography in a fun, positive environment. Class is taught by Wichita Heights High School cheerleader Jordan Atwater. Classes begin Oct. 20. Ages 4 through 6 will practice from 6:15 to 7 p.m.; 7 years and up will practice from 7 to 8 p.m.

### BOYS BASKETBALL

Boys basketball is for ages 5 through 11. Games will begin Jan. 9, 2016. Registration deadline is Dec. 12.

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

Girls basketball is for ages 5 through 11. Practices will be set up by coaches on weeknights beginning Oct. 19. Games will be played on Saturdays beginning Oct. 31. Registration deadline is Oct. 10.

### LITTLE DRIBBLERS

This skills and drills program is designed to introduce basketball to 4-year-olds. The players will be divided into small groups and

rotated through stations to learn basic skills such as dribbling, passing, shooting, defense and the rules of the game.

### TAEKWONDO (ages 5 & up)

Classes meet 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 Monday and Wednesday from 6:10 to 7:10 p.m. Participants need to provide their own yoga mat. Teens & adults 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, or it is available 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.*

## 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

### 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** — Thursdays, 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

## Community Events

- TOPS** — Tuesdays at 9 a.m., Senior Center
- City Council** — First and third Tuesday of each month
- Oct. 13, 7 p.m.** — Bel Aire Heights HOA meeting, Senior Center
- Oct. 13, 7 p.m.** — Central Park HOA meeting, Community Room
- Oct. 17, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** — Fall Festival, Rec Center

## Monthly & Special Events

- Oct. 1, 1 p.m.** — Game Day, Rec Center
- Oct. 2, 6 p.m.** — Pitch, Senior Center
- Oct. 5, 6:30 p.m.** — Potluck dinner, "Benefits of Honey" with Britt Hopper, Community Room
- Oct. 7, 10 a.m.** — Volunteer library work time, Senior Center
- Oct. 8, 2 p.m.** — Flu Shots provided by Walgreens. Covered 100 percent by Medicare. Call 744-2451, ext. 121, to RSVP
- Oct. 14, 10 a.m.** — Open Sewing, Rec Center
- Oct. 15, 11:15 a.m.** — Fall Prevention with Samantha Maehs, Brookdale Home Health
- Oct. 16, 6 p.m.** — Pitch, Senior Center
- Oct. 20, 6 p.m.** — Ladies Dine Out, call Anita for more info, 744-2840.
- Oct. 21, 10:15 a.m.** — Senior Aerobics Brunch, different locations
- Oct. 21, 1:30 p.m.** — Book Club meeting, Senior Center
- Oct. 22, 2 p.m.** — Genealogy group, Senior Center. Trip to Wichita Public Library
- Oct. 26, 6 p.m.** — Covered dish dinner, Rec Center
- Oct. 28, 7 p.m.** — Bunko, Senior Center (reservation required, call 744-2451, ext. 121)

# FALL FESTIVAL

**Oct 17th | 10am-2pm**  
Bel Aire Recreation Center  
(5251 E 48th St North, Bel Aire, KS 67220)

**PETTING ZOO** train rides  
**Food VENDOR FAIR**  
face Bounce House games  
painting *Cruise into Bel Aire*  
**music Car Show**

**FREE ADMISSION**

City of Bel Aire  
www.belaires.gov

For more information, contact  
Tristin Terhune  
744-2451  
tterhune@belaires.gov

**CITY OF BEL AIRE**  
**FALL FESTIVAL**  
**OCTOBER 17, 2015**

Attention:  
Crafters & Vendors

If you are interested in having a booth at the Bel Aire Fall Festival, please contact:

Tristin Terhune  
744-2451 ext 119  
tterhune@belaires.gov

### City of Bel Aire contacts

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

## Beautify Bel Aire

Congratulations to Marty and Anna Hess at 3900 N. Parkwood! They are the final winners for the 2015 Beautify Bel Aire campaign.



They received a \$50 gift card from Tree Top Nursery and a sign was placed in their yard during the month of September.

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.belaires.gov](http://www.belaires.gov). Contact Tristin at 744-2451 for more information.

## CHURCH HIGHLIGHTS

### Christ Lutheran Church

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

Worship services are held at 9 (contemporary) and 11 (traditional) a.m. Communion is offered at both services. Sunday School for all ages begins at 10:15 a.m.

For more information about the church and its activities, find the church online at [www.christ-lutheran.org](http://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](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.fairmount-tucc.org](http://www.fairmount-tucc.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

Greenwich UMC, at the edge of Wichita, KS, is a traditional, family church that serves all ages. Sunday Worship is at 9 a.m. Life Studies (study group for all ages) is Sunday from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

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 hosts 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 [shagemester@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shagemester@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 Childrens 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.

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 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.

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, Valley Center.

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.

Wednesday Evening Ministries are from 6:30 to 8 p.m. There are activities for all ages. A nursery will be available for preschool age children. King's Kids is for children in kindergarten through fifth grade. Confirmation class is for children in grades six through eight. IMPACT! is for grades nine through 12. There will also be Adult Bible Classes available.

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 Monday at 6 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. Please contact Michelle Peshek, director/lead teacher, with questions at [atmichelpe@risensavior.net](mailto:atmichelpe@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.

Men's Bible Study Group will meet at 7 p.m. Oct. 5 and 19. It will study the Old Testament Deuterocanonical Books.

The Wednesday program is at 7:15 p.m. Oct. 7 and 21, following Liturgy at 6 p.m. and potluck supper. The topic: An Orthodox Interpretation of the Book of Revelation.

Women's Bible Study Group will meet at 10 a.m. Oct. 9 and 16, studying "Thirty Steps to Heaven."

The second annual church rummage sale will be from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 10.

Holy days during October are Oct. 7, Saint Mark the Ascetic; Oct. 15, Our Lady of Walsingham; Oct. 18, Saint Luke the Evangelist; Oct. 21, Saint Hilarion of Gaza; Oct. 24, Archangel Raphael; Oct. 28, apostles Simon and Jude; and Oct. 31, Vigil of All Saints.

Fridays are days of fasting and abstinence during October.

Sunday Adult class is at 9 a.m. Discovering Jesus in the Book of Deuteronomy is the topic.

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.saintmichaelsorthodoxchurch.com](http://www.saintmichaelsorthodoxchurch.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.

## DEATHS

### CLIFTON HEALY

Clifton H. Healy, 72, Toronto, died Sept. 18, 2015.

He was July 17, 1943, in El Dorado to Clifton F. and Christine Healy.

He was preceded in death by his parents and daughter by marriage Kristina Marie Payne. Survivors include wife

Frances Healy; son Clifton D. Healy of Tulsa, Okla.; daughters Stephanie (Brian) Goldsmith of Goddard and Kim (Paul) Ralston of Bel Aire; sons Steve (Lisa) Payne of Windsor, Colo., Tom (Lizzie) Payne and Jesse (Cindy) Payne all of Augusta, and Don (Sheri) Payne of Andover; sister Lavaun (Dr. Duane) Thomas of Siloam Springs, Ark.; brother Roger (Marla) Healy of Parker, Colo.; 18 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were Sept. 23 at the First Baptist Church in Augusta. Memorials to the Cancer Center of

Kansas, 3243 E. Murdock, Suite 300, Wichita KS 67208. Headley Funeral Chapel had charge.

### JOHN VOSS

John Joseph Voss, 54, Bel Aire, died Aug. 27, 2015.

He was born Feb. 8, 1961, to Clarence Voss and Jean (Bartlett) Smith.

He was preceded in death by parents; sister Vicki Logsdon; and companion Leon Sanders. Survivors include sisters Sheri (Dan) McDaniel and Jane (Bruce) Myers; uncle Richard (Janet) Bartlett; and dog Max.



Voss

A memory of life celebration will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 12 at Lakeview Funeral Home,

12100 E. 13th N., Wichita. Inurnment to follow at Lakeview Mausoleum. Memorials are to the Sweet Emergency Fund, the Kansas Humane Society or the American Cancer Society.

## Tower

Continued from Page 1

Tower project manager Reagon Hicks said the Bel Aire vote was highly unusual.

"We've rarely been turned down by other cities," he said.

Becker continued to question the need to place the tower where it was planned, which she said is too close to a residential area. For his part, Hicks said that was the one area identified that would have maximum effectiveness for cell phone and data customers.

Resident Helen Duncan, who has lived in the area since 1965, spoke out at the meeting, saying the structure would devalue her home.

"I do not want that tower in my back yard. If you put the tower in there, what's next for that land?," she asked.

MacDonald said he was told through an informal survey he took that most people don't want the tower.

O'Donnell remained the lone council member backing the tower, saying she doesn't understand the opposition to it, especially after the developers went through the proper steps and got the planning commission's approval.

Before the vote, Austin said "the special use permit should be approved." After the vote, he was disappointed but not surprised.

"They (the developers) did what they were supposed to do," he said.

Austin said the city will be less attractive to future growth.

"We're going to be seen as anti-growth and that's where we want to be," he said.

"We're not building to the future."

Austin said there is no doubt the tower would have led to better cell phone coverage.

"The help would have been tremendous," he said. He also said he had no dispute with the location selection, adding that the people who researched it knew where to place it.

The subject came before the council at its Sept. 1 meeting, but at that time, members said they didn't have enough time to study the issue. They also had concerns as to whether the site was the right place or not, along with possible effects on property values.

To cover those concerns, a special one-hour workshop on the matter was held before the regularly scheduled Sept. 15 meeting.

The tower had been approved by the Bel Aire Planning Commission by a 4-2 margin, and recommendations by that body usually move with little fanfare through the council. While council members wanted more time, there were limits on how long it could take, as it was under a 30-day timeframe to get the matter settled.

The next meeting would be Oct. 6, thus it matter needed to be settled at its Sept. 15 meeting.

The tower, to be built by Nathez, Miss.-based Stout & Co. LLC, is on property owned by Sunrise superintendent Robert Lindsted and not the school. However, the school would stand to benefit as its would have much improved data transmission, he said.

After completion, Stout & Co. would lease rights to cell

phone companies. Although the tower will be the same height as the city's water towers, it won't have the same visual impact, as it will be a narrow, thin structure and only have antennas on it and not microwaves, supporters said.

The company had to get approval from the Federal Aviation Administration because of the tower's height. Company officials say they have received FAA clearance and will place warning devices for aircraft on the structure.

In other business, the council:

- Approved an appropriations ordinance of \$308,041.

- Received a check for \$1,643 from the Bel Aire Lions Club for a defibrillator to be placed at the city pool. "I hope it never has to be used, but if it does, it could save someone's life," said Richard Caldwell, club president. City Manager Ty Lasher accepted the funds on behalf of the city. Other club members present were Gary O'Neal, Grace Kneil and Pat MacDonald. The club raised the money from service projects and fireworks sales.

- Authorized a \$8,850 change order for Rock Spring for retention pond grading and seeding. The change was requested by the developer.

- Approved a change order with Kansas Paving for up to \$8,850.

- Held a public hearing, as required by state law, on a proposed \$7.5 million industrial revenue bond for Buzzi Unicem. No one from the public spoke during the hearing.

- Appointed Ken Lee to the Chisholm Creek Utility Authority board. Lee is a professional engineer and has an interest in the CCUA and its undertakings as the water supplier for Bel Aire.

- Approved two agreements with Park City. One dealt with a waste water agreement regarding treatment costs by CCUA, the other concerned a financing agreement for an energy conservation project between Bel Aire, Park City and the CCUA.

- Authorized the sale of general obligation bonds. They are: Series 2015D; taxable general obligation bonds, Series 2015E; and general obligation temporary notes, Series

2015F.

- Approved the consent agenda, but not with a special provision for a homeowner to gain an exemption on water and sewer billing.

In other business Sept. 1, the council:

- Witnessed Community Police Awards presentations by Police Chief Darrell Atteberry. Atteberry told of how some of his officers worked to help out an elderly resident who had fallen on hard financial times after the death of his wife. They enlisted the help of area churches and obtained donations to assist him. Council members applauded the efforts. "They reached out and did the right thing," Ramona Becker said. "That is true community policing."

- Heard Lasher say that August was a good month for housing. There were eight starts on single-family house, four duplexes and one four-plex. "It's exciting to see all that work going on," he said. Lasher also mentioned that the bush dump site will be open again Sept. 12.

- Held a public hearing for property owners and others concerning the special assessments for the Rock Spring and Sunflower Commerce Park additions.

- Accepted the water, sanitary sewer and storm water petitions for Phase 2 of Lycee Heights.

- Approved appropriations of \$1.4 million. The amount is higher than normal because of capital expenses and bond and interest payments.

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# HIGHLIGHTS

## Club offers free health screenings

Kansas Lions have purchased a Vision Screen to use for children from six months through pre-school age and older. This screener looks into the eyes through the pupils and sees problems before they become apparent to the parents.

While it is estimated that approximately 5 percent to 10 percent of all children experience sight-robbing problems 14 percent of U.S. children six and younger see an eye doctor for testing. By the time they are 4 years of age, it can already be too late to stop or reverse the damage eye diseases are doing.

The Kansas Lions Mobile Screening Unit, along with the Bel Aire Lions Club, will be

offering free sight, hearing, blood pressure and blood sugar screenings. These will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 17 at the Bel Aire Fall Festival at the Bel Aire Recreation Center, 5251 E. 48th North. During this time, a vision screener will be used to test children from about six months of age to 20 years of age and older. The vision screener is having success on adults if not able to get a reading on the vision screener.

Everyone attending the Bel Aire Fall Festival is invited to stop by for free screenings in the MSU. All you need to do is show up while the unit is open, register and come inside. Results will be given to each person screened and those results can be taken to the appropriate medical professional.

— The Breeze staff

## Student receives legacy award

Hannah Tritschler of Bel Aire is one of 133 students who received a K-State Alumni Association's Legacy Scholarships. The recipients were recognized during a presentation at the Kansas State University football game in Manhattan on Sept. 5.

The \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to children and grandchildren of K-State alumni for the 2015-16 academic year. K-State students receiving the scholarship are incoming freshmen as well as current and transfer students. Applicants are considered if at least one parent or grandparent is a K-State alumnus, with preference given to members of the

Alumni Association.

— The Breeze staff

## Health dept. encourages shots

The Sedgwick County Health Department (SCHD) encourages everyone in Sedgwick County to get a flu shot. SCHD says that vaccination is still the best way to protect yourself and your family from becoming ill with the flu.

Influenza is a contagious disease that spreads around the country every year usually between October and May. Flu vaccinations are recommended for anyone six months or older, unless otherwise directed by a physician.

If you have questions about the flu vaccine, you

can call the health department's immunizations line at 316-660-7362.

Residents who qualify for free or reduced cost vaccinations may visit the health department's clinic at 2716 W. Central in Wichita. Clinic hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, from noon to 6:30 p.m. Thursday and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday.

If you do not qualify for a free flu vaccination, please visit your primary care provider or neighborhood pharmacy to receive one.

— The Breeze staff

## Fall is festival time in Bel Aire

The Bel Aire Fall Festival is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17

at the Bel Aire Recreation Center, 5251 E. 48th St. N. It will have food, vendor fair, music and a "cruise into Bel Aire" car show. Features for children include a petting zoo, train rides, face painting and a bounce house. The event is sponsored by the city. For more, call Tristin at (316) 744-2451.

— The Breeze staff

## Police reports not available

This month's Bel Aire police reports were not made available by press time to be included in The Bel Aire Breeze.

The police department told The Breeze that it will provide the reports for the November edition.

— The Breeze staff

# Couple opens unique shop in Park City

By David Dinell

Shoppers never know what to expect when they enter the doors of Paak Ratz Trade Post in Park City — but then again, that's the whole idea. Constant turnover of merchandise is what makes running the secondhand store fun for shoppers, say owners Andrea and Aaron Lagree.

"If I can't sell it, I'll donate it," Aaron Lagree said. "Anything to get it on its way."

Indeed, there's even a "free" box at the store's entrance for small items Lagree wants to give a new home.

Paak Ratz is different from nonprofit thrift stores in that Lagree is willing to bargain on the merchandise — and does just that on a regular basis.

Horse trading comes naturally for the outgoing and free-talking Valley Center resident. The store, at 420 E. 61st North, is not a pawn shop and it doesn't buy merchandise, although it will take donations,

and sometimes gets them from people who just want their stuff to get a new home and don't want to throw things out.

"I like this," Lagree said. "It's the suspense and excitement of the treasure hunt."

As the name — a play on pack rats — implies, it's all about stuff, stuff and more stuff. Of course, one person's junk is another's treasure.

The merchandise reflects that.

Want a drum set? Check.

Want a Swiss Army knife? Check.

Want a window fan? Check.

It's all there, and more, but, given the churning nature, it could be gone in hours and something else will have taken its place.

Merchandise is stocked throughout the cozy 650-square-foot store — but wait, there's more.

Outside, in the 1,000-square-foot backyard, Lagree has tables and tables full of miscellaneous items along with

furniture of all types such as tables, dressers and chairs.

Paak Ratz has been open since mid-August, just when the couple's children went back to school. Andrea helps at the store a few days a week and is going to school.

Aaron Lagree staffs the store during the bulk of its hours, which are Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Lagrees do some online business, mostly through Facebook and some through Craigslist and a local classified service, but he stays away from eBay, which he called "too big and with too many rules."

So most of the business is in person, and that suits the people-oriented Aaron Lagree fine.

On a recent day, Park City resident Michelle Rubia stopped by, searching for unique gifts for her new grandchild.

She found a colorful bench

and toy — and got a 20 percent discount to boot. She even gave Lagree a special request: Scrabble letters, and the couple said they would call her if they found them.

The store has had many lives before, including a hamburger joint and a beauty salon.

The curious shopper, of course, wonders where on earth Lagree gets all the stuff.

The bulk of it comes from storage auctions, wherein a business sells off all the contents of a storage locker whose customer has failed to pay the rent, or quite often, simply disappears.

There's no time to go through the whole locker's contents, so Lagree simply sticks his head in, takes a look and joins in the bidding. He never knows what he'll get.

"It's all hit and miss and there's all kinds of crazy stuff," he said.

That once included dynamite, a situation that resulted in the bomb squad being called.



David Dinell

Andrea and Aaron Lagree have opened Paak Ratz Trade Post in Park City. The secondhand store, at 420 E. 61st North, carries a little bit of everything and is constantly turning over its stock.

Ironically, given his love of merchandise, one might think Lagree, a former factory worker, would have a passion for conventional shopping, but

that's not the case. "I hate shopping, especially for clothes. You ever try and find a Five X?" asked the robust-sized Lagree with a laugh.

## Lions help city be prepared

Bel Aire City Manager Ty Lasher accepts a check for \$1,643 from the Bel Aire Lions Club to buy a defibrillator for the city's swimming pool complex. The club raised the money from service projects and fireworks sales. Club members on hand for the event at City Hall were, from left, Gary O'Neal, past president; Pat MacDonald, club member; Grace Kneil, treasurer; and Richard Caldwell, president.

David Dinell



## Business

Continued from Page 1

organization that serves 14 counties, including Sedgwick, in south-central Kansas with their economic development efforts.

Another entity is building the 15,000-square-foot warehouse and office space for it and SCKEDD will be in the structure under a lease agreement.

It now has two locations, an office and warehouse, and

will consolidate its operations in Wichita.

Ground was broken on the first phase of the 155-acre business park Nov. 5, 2012. Since then, about 55 acres have been sold.

Customers include Buzzi Unicem, Century Manufacturing, FedEx and Next Level Hoops.

Lasher said he is pleased that the city has been able to attract a diversity of businesses at the development.

The city is in the process of discussing deals with other

ventures to open at the park and leaders want to realize

continued growth there, he said.

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# Bluml homicide accomplices appear in court

By David Dinell

Legal proceedings in the 2013 deaths of rural Valley Center residents Roger and Melissa Bluml are winding down.

The last of four defendants charged in the couple's murder, Braden Smith, 20, entered a plea of guilty to two charges of second-degree intentional murder Sept. 14 in Sedgwick County District Court.

On Aug. 27, accomplice Andrew Ellington was sentenced to life in prison on a first-degree murder conviction. However, he will be eligible for parole in 25 years. If he gets that parole, he then will need to start serving a 155-month sentence, or almost 13 years, for his role in the murder, a combined 38 years in prison.

Smith will be sentenced Oct. 29. The district attorney has requested a sentence of 24 1/2 years. While not at the scene of the murders, Smith provided two guns to be used at the crime scene and since the weapons were provided with the intent of committing the killings, he becomes part of the crime, said Marc Bennett, district attorney.

However, Smith made a deal with prosecutors in which he wouldn't be charged with capital murder and instead get the two counts of second-degree murder in exchange

for testifying against the other three in the case.

The Blumls were shot on Nov. 15, 2013, outside their home as they were returning from dining out.

They both survived, but died later. Melissa Bluml, 53, died Nov. 26, 2013 and Roger Bluml, 48, died a little more than a month later.

Two others were involved: Krisha Schaberg and her biological son, Anthony Bluml, who also was the adoptive son of the Blumls. Ellington and Smith were friends of Bluml from their days at Valley Center High School.

Schaberg and Bluml pleaded no contest to capital murder charges and in exchange for their pleas, were saved from the death penalty. Both are serving life terms without parole.

The murders were an attempt to get life insurance money from the Blumls' estate. The plan was conceived by Schaberg and her son.

The Sept. 14 hearing was brief and, unlike other legal proceedings in the complex case, fairly uncrowded.

About six family members filled part of a bench in District Judge Jeffrey Goering's courtroom as Smith was led in.

Dressed in an orange jail jumpsuit, Smith was shackled and expressionless. He didn't make eye contact with the family or courtroom gallery and remained subdued throughout the 16-minute hearing, answering the judge's series of questions in a monotone, "yes, sir," or "no, sir" reply.

Repeatedly, Goering asked Smith if he was entering the pleas voluntarily and if he realized he was giving up his constitutional right to a trial, and Smith said he was and made the decision on his own.

Upon release from prison, the judge informed Smith that he will have to register as a violent offender.

By entering the plea, virtually all of Smith's appeal avenues are now shut down, the judge told him.

As Smith was led out of the courtroom, he simply looked ahead and then down, again not viewing the courtroom audience.

As in the past, the Bluml family declined to make any public statement. Compared to other hearings, this was more businesslike and less emotional.

The family has one more court appointment, Smith's sentencing. However, even

after that, as one member commented earlier, they feel the loss of their loved ones constantly, especially at gatherings and during the holidays.

On June 23, Ellington pleaded no contest to the first- and second-degree murder charges he faced. He had previously pleaded not guilty, but those pleas were changed as part of an agreement worked out with District Attorney's Marc Bennett's office.

As part of the agreement, Ellington can't appeal his conviction or prison term. By taking the no-contest route, he avoided being put on trial for capital murder and a possible death penalty. Also, as part of the deal, he didn't face charges of robbery and burglary.

Ellington was responsible for driving Schaberg to and from the scene and holding a gun to Roger's head.

Bennett was not at the sentencing as he was at a trial in El Dorado, but earlier he said that while Ellington was "the least involved" of the group and didn't pull the trigger, he was still a vital part of the plot and is responsible for his actions.

The courtroom during Ellington's sentencing was crowded with Bluml family

members and friends of the couple. Ellington appeared in a dark blazer, white shirt and tan pants for the 20-minute hearing and was represented by attorney Jay Greeno. Upon entering, he glanced at the courtroom gallery, but showed little emotion during the proceedings.

A family member, Patty Bluml, read a brief statement to the court, thanking law enforcement and taking Ellington to task for his role in the murders. She asked Ellington why he didn't just stop and turn around instead of driving to the Blumls' residence.

"But you didn't, you wanted an ambush," she said.

While Ellington didn't pull the trigger of the murder weapon, his role cannot be understated, she said.

"Although you plead no contest, you are guilty," she said.

The loss of the Roger and Melissa Bluml continues to impact the extended family, she said. During family gatherings, their absence is felt, she

said. "There are holes in our lives," she said.

After the statement, she hugged another family member and there were tears from both.

Ellington told Wilbert he had nothing to say, but his attorney read a brief statement, saying that Ellington "really wished he had an answer" as to why he did what he did, but there was no answer. Greeno also said that Ellington didn't realize "how quickly lives could be lost."

With the hearing concluded, Ellington was led out of the courtroom by two of the five Sedgwick County deputies present.

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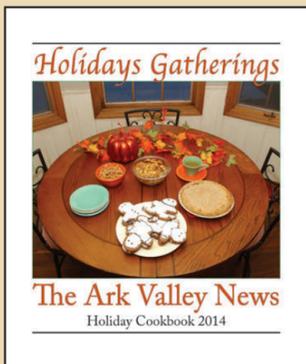
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