

October
2014

SPRING & HILL KANSAS

City Newsletter

City officials join in on Fall Festival fun



Council President Chris Leaton, Mayor Steve Ellis and Councilman Floyd Koder march along the busy parade route during the Spring Hill Fall Festival.



Councilman Clint Gillis takes in the parade sights from the seat of a Street Department truck.

The city of Spring Hill was a proud sponsor of the 60th annual Fall Festival, which was celebrated Sept. 18 through 21. Great games, entertainment, vendors, food and the annual parade made this year's festival one to remember!



Dozens of businesses, community groups and youth organizations wowed the crowd.



The organizers of the Fall Festival had plenty to smile about!



New city councilman Brad Zerr passes out handfuls of candy.

City of Spring Hill, KS

401 N. Madison
P.O. Box 424
Spring Hill, KS 66083
(913) 592-3664

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In this issue

E-newsletter launching.....2
A new way to pay utility bills.....2
Recycling bins removed.....2
Trick-or-treating tips.....2
Calendar of events.....2

Intersection studies planned.....3
Autumn storm drain care.....3
Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund.....4
Hometown Holidays approaches.....4
Volume 2, Issue 10

News to note from City Hall

Keep up with your city government!

Starting Oct. 15, the city of Spring Hill will begin producing biweekly e-newsletters to keep our residents up-to-date on city projects and happenings. To sign up, visit www.springhillks.gov and click on the "Notify Me" link on the left side of the page.

Recycling reminder

The recycling bins behind the Civic Center have been removed due to inappropriate trash-dumping. A bulk paper bin is still available.

Looking for a great place to work? The city of Spring Hill has several positions open. Visit www.springhillks.gov to learn more or apply.

Tips for smart trick-or-treating

- Only go to homes with a porch light that's turned on.
- Use sidewalks and drive-ways to approach homes - not yards - and walk on sidewalks - not in the street.
- Don't allow children to eat any candy before it's checked. Throw away any candy that looks unusual or is unwrapped.
- Always carry a flashlight with fresh batteries.
- Young children should always be accompanied by a parent or adult. Older children should stay in groups, walk slowly and only trick-or-treat in familiar neighborhoods.

A quicker, safer way to pay your utility bill

Paying your utility bill by calling City Hall is a convenient option for many residents - but it also puts your personal information at risk of being compromised. To keep your personal information - and our own - secure, City Hall will no longer accept credit card payments over the phone beginning **October 20**.

Instead, we're asking our customers to use a secure, convenient service offered by our payment processing vendor, Federal Payments. You can now call 877-690-3729 toll-free to pay your utility bill 24 hours a day.

You will need to know your **jurisdiction code (6528)**, **utility bill and/or account number**, **the amount you need to pay** and **your credit card number**.

Questions? Call City Hall at 592-3664.

02

Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

04 Open gym begins

The gymnasium at the Civic Center will be open Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Tuesdays from 6 to 9 p.m. for residents. Check our website for a list of open gym rules.

06

Public Safety Advisory Board meeting, 7 p.m.

09

City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

14

Spring Hill PRIDE Committee meeting, 6 p.m.

October events

20

Green Board meeting, 7 p.m.

21

Arts Council meeting, 6:30 p.m.

23

City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

31 Halloween

The Spring Hill Police Department will be busy keeping kids safe and well-supplied with sweets on Halloween night! Officers will have candy in their patrol cars to pass out to children. For safety reasons, please don't allow children to run up to the police cars. The officers will pull over to hand out the candy.



Meetings take place at the Civic Center unless otherwise noted.



Paving the way for big improvements

Two recently approved studies will help city staff move forward with fixes for intersections.

223rd Street and Webster

The city of Spring Hill, Miami County and the Kansas Department of Transportation are partnering up to address concerns about the busy 223rd Street corridor - in particular, the road's intersection with Webster/Harrison Street.

The three government entities have collectively requested that KDOT's on-call consultant for the K-7 corridor conduct a study on 223rd Street from Columbia Road to Victory Road. The study will address impacts from additional traffic due to proposed and anticipated development in this corridor.

The partnership will result in considerable cost-savings for the city. The city of Spring Hill will pay \$8,333 for the study. KDOT will contribute \$25,000 and Miami County will provide \$16,667 of the \$50,000 fee.

Ridgeview Road and 199th Street

Several residents have recently voiced their unease regarding traffic conditions near Wolf Creek Elementary School and Spring Hill High School. Parents have expressed interest in seeing crosswalks and sidewalks installed near the school or the speed limit on Ridgeview Road lowered.

City staff is committed to finding safe and appropriate solutions for these concerns. At its Sept. 11 meeting the Spring Hill City Council directed staff to begin a traffic study on the area in question to help the city move forward responsibly. We'll keep you updated on its findings!

On the ballot: Miami County road and bridge sales tax renewal

Future improvements to the intersection of 223rd and Webster streets and surrounding areas could receive substantial funding from Miami County if a sales tax renewal on the Nov. 4 general election ballot is successful.

Miami County's quarter-cent sales tax for special road and bridge projects is up for renewal this year. The previous three issuances of the sales tax have funded more than 20 major infrastructure projects, including the railroad overpass at 223rd and Woodland Road.

Should the tax pass, the Miami County Commission has voted to pledge \$500,000 to each of the county's cities to help fund a major infrastructure project. Spring Hill's allotment will likely go to address the 223rd Street corridor improvements.

Well-kept yards prevent storm drains from flooding in autumn



The city's stormwater collection system requires regular inspections and maintenance of the streets, curb inlets

and drain openings by the city's street crew. Residents and business owners are responsible for sidewalks and lawn maintenance within road right-of-way of abutting properties. Failure to do so will create an improper flow of water into the storm drains, which could result in flooding to your property, as well as your neighbor's.



Yard waste is collected by the city's contracted trash service, L&K Trash Services, and

included with regular trash pickup. Only yard waste in compostable, biodegradable bags with tops rolled down are accepted. Six bags is the weekly limit, except in November and December, when the limit is ten bags. Limbs and branches are to be bundled with rope or twine only and may not exceed 50 lbs.



For price quotes on hauling large loads of yard debris to area landfills,

residents can contact the Olathe Composting Center at 971-9311 or the Miami County Transfer Station at 294-2674. For additional information on composting and yard waste disposal, visit the city's website at www.springhillks.gov.

The Street Department would like to thank you in advance for helping to keep our city's storm drains flowing freely! If you have any questions, please call the Public Works Office at 592-3317.



A message from the mayor's office

As we say goodbye to summer and welcome cooler fall weather, it is time to begin thinking ahead once again to the holiday season. It is during this time that we place an even greater emphasis on those in our community in need. In 2013, we launched the Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund, and both corporate and individual citizens proved, without a doubt, that Spring Hill is a truly caring, giving, and extremely generous community.

Through your gifts last year, you helped 51 families maintain their utilities through a harsh winter through the Utility Assistance Fund at the Spring Hill Multi-Service Center, you provided approximately 7,500 meals through the Spring Hill Food Pantry, now at Life Spring Church, and you gave five children a backpack filled with food every week during the school year through the Spring Hill Rotary Club's BackSnack program. More importantly, you gave hope to those most vulnerable in our community.

This year, we are hoping to raise \$10,000 through the 2014 Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund. This year's program will benefit the same three important local initiatives that provide invaluable services to children and families as we did in 2013. Each of these organizations provide services to members of our community without regard to religious affiliation, national origin, race, sex, or disability. In short, they provide services to all of God's children.

Remember, your contribution may be tax deductible (check with your tax professional) and 100% of contributions will be distributed to the organizations above. If you would like to make a contribution you can use the donation form below, send a check payable to "Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund" to PO Box 424, Spring Hill, KS, 66083, or drop your contribution off at City Hall or in the night deposit outside of City Hall.

I also hope you will join us again this year for our annual Hometown Holidays celebration on Saturday, December 6, from 6 to 8 p.m., held again in our historic downtown. We will light the Mayor's Christmas Tree, Santa will join us as well as Rudolph, there will be photos with Santa, carolers, and most importantly, you! Please watch our Facebook page (/springhillks) Twitter feed (@springhillks) or our city website (www.springhillks.gov) for additional details.

Mayor Steven M. Ellis

*Mayor's
Christmas Tree
Fund*



*Mayor's
Christmas Tree
Fund*

Drop off your form and donation at Spring Hill City Hall (You can include your donation in the same envelope as your utility bill - just make sure there are two separate payments!) or mail your donation to City Hall, P.O. Box 424, Spring Hill, KS 66083.

Name or organization: _____

Address: _____

I would like to donate _____ to the Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund.

Checks should be made payable to "Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund."