



Harvey County News

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

FALL 2013

UPCOMING DATES

Courthouse Closed:

Oct. 14

Nov. 11

Nov. 28

Nov. 29

Dec. 25

Solid Waste Transfer Station Fall Hours Beginning Oct. 5

Mon.-Fri.:

8 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Sat.:

8 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

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Health Department awarded grant

To help organizations meet the needs of their communities and develop pathways of volunteerism, the Kansas Volunteer Commission (KVC) hosted a mini-grant competition addressing four priorities:

- Service-learning initiatives;
- Engaging adult volunteers in K-12 education;
- Leveraging pro bono and/or skilled volunteers;
- Volunteer engagement projects.

The KVC has announced more than \$30,000 for Kansas organizations in Volunteer Generation Fund mini-grants.

The purpose of the Volunteer Generation Fund is to increase the number of people who serve communities across Kansas.

As more Kansans are finding themselves in need of assistance, more Kansans are also stepping forward to make a difference.

Award recipients were selected based on innovative approaches,

size and scope of projects and the organization's readiness to implement the project. A total of 54 applications requesting more than \$190,000 were submitted; nine applicants were chosen for \$31,490 in awards.

Harvey County Health Department was selected to receive \$2,713 for the "5 Gallons of Preparedness" program they have instituted.

The grant has two purposes for us in Harvey County:

- 1) Raise awareness and educate residents about emergency preparedness procedures — should medication need to be distributed on a community-wide basis.
- 2) Increase our volunteer base to assist in these types of emergencies. This includes volunteers with medical training (clinical) and non-clinical training.

The 5 Gallons of Preparedness refers to an exercise to open our Point of Distribution on Nov. 14,

when we will encourage residents to experience a simulation of going through the POD. Our POD is the Grace Community Church, at 1600 S. Anderson in Newton.

As they move through the stations of the POD, each family will prepare an emergency kit in a five-gallon bucket. They will also learn how to react in a real emergency. Residents will also be given the opportunity to become a Medical Reserve Corps volunteer with the Health Department.

The Health Department is hoping to engage many in the Hispanic community in this exercise. There will be Spanish interpreters and translators present on Nov. 14.

If you wish to volunteer for the Medical Reserve Corps, please contact Skip Cowan at the Health Department, 316- 283-1637.

Park board members awarded

Concluding a monthly Harvey County Advisory Parks Board committee meeting on Aug. 19, an appreciation presentation was held for four members who recently completed their maximum three consecutive three-year terms. The award recipients and previous board members are Norman Alexander, Larry Schmitt, Walt Silvernale and Dorothy Zook.

Presenting the award



(from left) Ron Krehbiel, Larry Schmitt, Dorothy Zook, Chip Westfall, Randy Hague

plaques were Harvey County commissioners, Randy Hague, Ron Krehbiel and Chip Westfall.

This is a voluntary board position in which the members are committed to advising on all issues involving the three Harvey County parks.

The board meets once a month, alternating in all three parks. If you are interested or know someone who would like to participate and become a member, please feel free to contact County Administration for an application.

The best in public transportation

By Kristine Schmucker, Harvey County Historical Museum



A view of Car #12 at the Sedgwick Depot, Nov. 11, 1932.

The Arkansas Valley Interurban was a system of electric rail cars that connected three county seats, Wichita, Newton and Hutchinson, and several smaller towns in South Central Kansas from 1910 to 1938. This was a time before highways and interstates, when roads were often poor and the best way to get around was by the AVI. Freight service on the AVI continued until 1942.

The AVI track was laid into Newton and the first car made the trip on Oct. 11, 1911. At the height of use, the AVI had 60.5 miles of track. A one-way ticket from Wichita to Newton was 65 cents and took about 75 minutes. The combination passenger, smoker and baggage cars could travel at about 45 mph.



Map showing complete route.

According to Webster T. Bolin, "It stopped anywhere along the track letting on hunters or ladies with baskets of eggs."

The stop at Sand Creek had a small shelter for people to wait.

The leather seat in the collection at the Harvey County Historical Museum and Archives comes from AVI Car No. 12, which in 1917 "embodied the latest developments in steel construction and the finest passenger interurban car." Constructed by American Car Co., the exterior was painted red and cream. An

the varnish rubbed to a dull finish. The ceiling is cream color to increase the light by reflection. The main and the smoking compartments are finished in the same style and are separated by a glazed partition ... the seats are of the Brill stationary-back type with headroll ... and upholstered in dark green plush. Those in the smoking compartment are the same except they are upholstered in leather and four have reversible backs. The toilet room at the rear of the main compartment has a sidewall type of flush closet with over-



Shelter House, Sand Creek Station, circa 1912

article in *Brill Magazine*, 1917, described the new car: "It is big, handsome, thoroughly modern and the roomy, bright and attractive interior with its well-planned compartments and comfortable seats will doubtless win additional traffic. Each side of the car has 14 windows ... all doors, sashes, moldings and small panels are made of cherry stained mahogany and

head tank."

Car No. 12 carried passengers until 1938, when passenger service was stopped. At that time, windows were boarded up and seats removed to use as an express car for freight.

When the AVI disbanded, this car was sold to a private individual and used for feed storage at Bentley, Kan.

Most of the remaining traces of the AVI are on private property or are very difficult to get to, but through the magic of the internet you can take a virtual tour at: bridgehunter.com/category/railroad/arkansas-valley-interurban-railroad/.

Think tomorrow today

Contributed by South Central Kansas Prosperity Plan office



Local jurisdictions in South Central Kansas no longer compete just against each other for jobs and economic development. We are competing against others, nationally and globally. To be economically competitive in a world marketplace, we must work together to identify a collective vision for our future and design strategies to achieve it.

To that end, we are embarking on a two-year process to develop a plan for prosperity for South Central Kansas that encompasses Butler, Harvey, Reno, Sedgwick and Sumner counties.

The effort will focus on six key areas. They are:

- Built Environment;
- Healthy Community Design;
- Natural Resources;
- Transportation;
- Water;

- and Workforce and Business Development.

This plan will build on all that has been accomplished in our region, respecting it, not replacing it. Further, the process will consider each community’s unique needs, priorities and aspirations, ultimately developing a menu of voluntary, cooperative strategies designed to advance the public’s vision for their communities. In other words, the plan will not mandate any actions. Instead, it will provide a blueprint for how we achieve the vision we define for ourselves, functioning as a guide as we work together to accomplish our mutual goals. In so doing, we will:

- Use limited public funds more efficiently;
- Connect people with quality jobs through coordinated

workforce development;

- Align regional housing, transportation, and infrastructure investments;
- Protect important resources such as water, air and farmland;
- Build safe, healthy and attractive neighborhoods; and create lasting value for our local communities and economies.

So much has already been accomplished in our region. This plan will simply build on that work, respecting it, not replacing it.

For more information about the South Central Kansas Prosperity Plan process, contact Paula Downs at 316-978-6678.

“This plan will build on all that has been accomplished in our region, respecting it, not replacing it.”

End domestic violence

Contributed by Harvey County domestic violence sexual abuse task force

Domestic violence and sexual assault are pervasive and life-threatening crimes affecting millions of individuals across our nation regardless of age, economic status, race, religion or education. Domestic violence and sexual assault not only severely impact victims but our entire communities and are linked to many other social ills.

Children are particularly vulnerable as both victims and witnesses to domestic violence. In order to break the cycle of violence, we must intervene and provide services. Domestic violence shelters and programs provide children with a safe and caring atmosphere in which to process their trauma and begin to heal. Children’s services also help support the non-abusive parent as they deal with their own experience of abuse and begin to rebuild the family in an environment free from violence.

In addition to the devastating physical and emotional damage domestic violence has on victims and their families, domestic violence also has

huge financial costs.]

Here are ten things you can do to end domestic violence:

1. **Know the Facts**
Sexual and domestic violence are complex issues. Learn to distinguish between fact and fiction.
2. **Learn the Resources**
Confidential, 24-hour support is available at **888-END-ABUSE (888-363-2287)**. Find a domestic violence program serving your community at KCSDV.org.
3. **Look & Listen**
Learn how to recognize subtle signs of sexual and domestic violence, and how to start a conversation with someone you think may be a victim.
4. **Be a Safe Friend**
Learn how to provide information and support for a victim that you know.
5. **Seek Support**
If you are a victim or if you are assisting a victim, support is available 24 hours a day.
6. **Speak Up**
Learn how to speak up against messages that, sometimes inadvertently, support violence.
7. **Get Involved**
Every step you take moves us all one step closer to ending sexual and domestic violence in Kansas.
8. **Advocate for Change**
Find out how to get your community involved in the movement to end sexual and domestic violence.
9. **Teach Others**
Learn how to teach future generations to respect personal boundaries and form healthy relationships.
10. **Donate**
Gifts of time and resources are invaluable for advocacy programs serving your community.

For more information, please contact the Harvey County domestic violence and sexual abuse task force, located in the Harvey County courthouse, at 316-284-6920.

October

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5 Transfer Station begins Fall hours.
6	7 Commission Meeting	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Commission Meeting Courthouse Closed	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Commission Meeting	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Commission Meeting	29	30	31		

November

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4 Commission Meeting	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Courthouse Closed	12 Commission Meeting	13	14	15	16
17	18 Commission Meeting	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Commission Meeting	26	27	28 Courthouse Closed	29 Courthouse Closed	30

December

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Commission Meeting	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Commission Meeting	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Commission Meeting	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 Commission Meeting	24	25 Courthouse Closed	26	27	28
29	30 Commission Meeting					