City Hall has fielded many comments and concerns in recent months regarding our trash and recycling service provider. While we cannot say for certain whether our provider will stay the same or change in the future, we offer these suggestions for the time being:

**Trash – pick up every Wednesday**
- Have your trash at the curb by 7:00 a.m. Call City Hall if you feel your trash was missed in error.
- Continue to use up your supply of black, clear or other trash bags that were provided in the past. When you run out, please purchase your own for the time being. You may use 13 gallon tall kitchen bags and larger.
- Please close bags securely.

**Recycling – pick up on 1st & 3rd Tuesdays**
- Use up any remaining blue and green recycle bags that have been provided in the past. If you run out, City Hall will dispense a few to you or you may purchase your own see-through recycle bags.
- Have your recyclables at the curb by 7:00 a.m.
- Set out recycle bags only when they are full as the recycler considers a half full bag wasteful.
- Close bags securely.
- If it's windy, weight down your bag of metals and plastics and any corrugated cardboard.
- Recyclables not picked up usually means something was done improperly. Refer to the Recycling-at-a-Glance at www.northnewton.org or pick up a guideline sheet at City Hall.

Call City Hall if you do experience a problem. You may bring your concerns to a City Council meeting which meets every second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

**2014 PET TAG DEADLINE IS MARCH 1**
Howdy dog and cat owners! I'm reminding you to license your pets for the 2014 calendar year. This also applies to owners with new pets, indoor-only pets, and new residents moving to town with pets. Please provide an unexpired Rabies Certificate for each pet. Tags cost $2.00; $3.00 if the animal is not spayed or neutered. A $15 penalty is added to your tag fee after the March 1, 2014 deadline.

Dog owners are reminded that dogs cannot run at large and waste matter is to be picked up on streets, walkways, and public or private property.

**NEW NEIGHBORS IN TOWN**
- Luis Lujan – 2314 Berry Avenue
- Ian Van der Weg – 307 Lakewood Drive

**CELEBRATE KANSAS DAY!**
Kauffman Museum at Bethel College invites you to attend Celebrate Kansas Day! Saturday, January 25, 2014 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. This free community event commemorating Kansas statehood and highlighting the arts in Kansas will feature entertainment, demonstrators, wagon rides, crafts for kids and a bake sale. Celebrate Kansas Day! is sponsored by a North Newton Community Development Grant. For more information, contact Andi Schmidt Andres at Kauffman Museum by telephone, 316-283-1612, or email, asa@bethelks.edu

**INTANGIBLES TAX REMINDERS**
North Newton continues to levy an intangibles tax. This is a 2% tax on interest and dividend earnings. Persons who have such income must file Kansas Tax Form 200 with the County Clerk's Office on or before April 15, 2014. The County Clerk posts the tax to property tax statements. Your accountant will be aware of the requirements and procedures. If you complete your own tax forms or have recently moved to North Newton, this is a matter you should be aware of. Go to the following website for a 2014 form—http://www.ksrevenue.org/formsint.html.

--- Jim Goering, Chair, NNCF Board.

**TAKE NOTE, PLEASE...**
- With New Year's Day on a Wednesday, trash pick up that week will be Thursday, January 2.
- Discarded Christmas trees will be picked up from your curbs December 30, January 7 and 14.
- Please remove cars from the street during moderate to heavy snowfalls to allow for more efficient snow removal.
- Bicyclists be safe when riding after sundown — wear reflective clothing and have proper reflectors and flashing lights on your bicycle.
- The next three City Council meetings will be held January 13, February 10, and March 10 at 7:00 p.m.

**NORTH NEWTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION REACHES $51K IN ASSETS**
The NNCF completed its first two years of operations on December 7 with an asset base of $51,457. It now comprises six funds: Impact: $18,393; Sher Klassen Neufeld: $10,773; Jacob D. and Beth E Goering: $10,374; Jim and Shirley Goering: $10,013; Vincent Hill: $1,772; Operational: $132. The NNCF payout for the 2012 funding cycle totaled $1,696 and moderately larger distributions are expected in 2013. At the October Board meeting Dr. Gerald Greene and Pat Redding were elected to Board membership, with Pat taking the position of Vice-Chair. Grant application forms for the 2013 funding cycle will be available on-line near the end of January 2014 at www.centalkansasncf.org. Applicants must be registered as a 501(c)3 organization, involved in betterment programs for the North Newton community consistent with the NNCF mission statement. The emphasis is on expansion of educational opportunities, cultural enrichment, and improvement of human health and the physical environment. Grants will be awarded mid-April on the basis of a competitive evaluation process.

--- Jim Goering, Chair, NNCF Board.
This is an attempt to summarize the major accomplishments and events in North Newton during the year. Please note that the daily routine responsibilities of maintenance, police work, utility billing, accounting and administration are what drives the City and provides service to our citizens.

GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE
- Building permits for new improvements were in the amount of $1,509,796 with one new housing start.
- Completed another year with a satisfactory audit.
- Participated in the Harvey County Council of Governments.
- Participated in various Chamber of Commerce committees.
- Provided funding for Hesston/Bethel Performing Arts, Bethel College Fall Fest, and Kauffman Museum for Kansas Day celebration.
- Approved a grant from the Sher Klassen Neufeld endowment fund.
- City Clerk Redding attended training at the City Clerk's Institute in Wichita.
- Conducted the biannual municipal election. Incumbents Jane Schmidt, Jim Goering, and Gregg Dick were reelected.
- Held a joint watermelon social with the Sand Creek Trail Committee in which the City’s 75th anniversary of incorporation was recognized.
- Conducted discussions with Newton regarding water and sewer rates.
- Adopted the 2014 budget.
- Provided $5,000 in matching funds for the North Newton Community Foundation.
- Continued membership in the Public Wholesale Water Supply District #17.
- City staff and mayor participated in various committees, educational opportunities, and peer group associations sponsored by the League of Kansas Municipalities or other professional organizations.
- Raised sewer rates.
- Conducted a fall tree planting program.
- Negotiated for 30 easements for the water line project; contracted for the renovation of pump and well house at existing well site #1; retained a geotechnical firm to investigate subsurface adequacy at water tower site.
- Received approval of a low interest loan from KDHE for water infrastructure improvements.
- Contracted with the engineering firm of Bartlett and West for a sewer feasibility study; implemented a sewage flow monitoring study; received and reviewed both studies.
- Recognized David Jantz and Mark Kreider as National Merit Scholarship Finalists.
- Experienced an unprecedented flood event on July 29.
- City assisted property owners with clean up, culvert cleaning, etc.
- Participated with all other cities in the County to retain a state house lobbyist.

STREET AND MAINTENANCE
- Purchased and erected soccer goals in Cottonwood Park.
- Cleaned out 8,521 feet of sanitary sewer lines.
- Offered spring and fall clean up weeks to assist citizens with landfill of special items.
- Installed four new water service lines.
- Humanely trapped and disposed of 12 cats, 1 opossum, 10 skunks, and 3 raccoons.
- City Superintendent maintained water and wastewater certifications.
- Picked up 40 Christmas trees after the holidays.
- Provided wood chips for the Sand Creek Trail walk paths.
- Repaired two water main breaks.
- Applied 23 tons of salt and sand mix on streets during the winter of 2012-2013.
- Completed street repairs on Witmarsum West.

POLICE AND MUNICIPAL COURT
- Provided security for Bethel College basketball and football games.
- Police Chief Ray Classen retired in September and Randy Jordan was hired as new Police Chief.
- Maintained a good working relationship with Bethel College faculty, staff, and students.
- 138 cases handled through Municipal Court.
- Purchased a new video camera for a patrol car.
- Participated in a new committee organized to develop a critical response plan for schools.
- Changed uniform style for police officers.
- Our Police Department is a drop-off site for the safe disposal of unused or expired medications.