

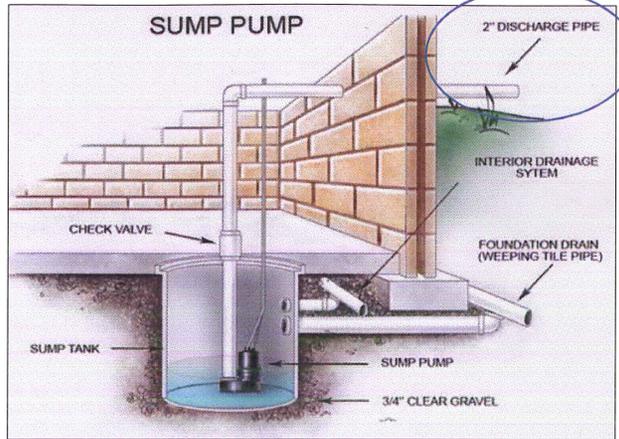
REVIEW OF RECENT STORM EVENTS

For a three week period in May North Newton and Harvey County received records amounts of rain. While no structures were flooded with surface water, many basements were flooded by rising ground water. On May 8th, we received a call from the City of Hesston reporting that their sewage treatment facility was being overwhelmed by a rising Emma Creek. Hesston requested that North Newton cease pumping our sewage to their facility. We agreed and immediately informed Newton of our action. As a result, the storm water filled the collection well, topped out and gravity flowed to Newton. The system operated as designed and no sewage backed up into basements. We began pumping back to Hesston 24 hours later.

Over the next weeks, there were two more episodes where the storm water topped out and went into Newton's system, even though we pumped to Hesston continually. Contractually we can pump 440 gallons per minute without penalty. If the flow exceeds that amount and we do not ratchet up our pumping, the water will top out and flow to Newton. One event lasted for 24 hours, the other for 48 hours. We are currently in discussion with Newton about what, if any, compensation they should receive for these events, and to prepare an agreement to cover future events.

The series of events was very instructive in determining the risk we face and what needs to be covered in the agreement to address these risks. Our previous experience has been that short heavy rains would cause the water to rise in the collection well, but would recede within a few hours. The recent rains were of such a magnitude and over such an extended period that we continually pumped our maximum to Hesston and could not always keep up. We attribute this to a rise in the water table with infiltration into the sanitary sewer system. While part of the problem can be attributed to leaks in the system, and the use of lawful basement floor drains, we believe that a significant part of the problem is basement sump pumps that are unlawfully tied into sanitary sewer lines. If, for example, there are 20 such operating sump pumps that are discharging 25 gallons per minute into the sanitary sewer, then this is equivalent to more than

we can contractually pump to Hesston. **WE CANNOT STRESS TOO STRONGLY THE IMPORTANCE THAT BASEMENT SUMP PUMPS DISCHARGE INTO YARDS OR THE STREET AND NOT INTO THE SEWER.** Doing otherwise puts the City and all rate payers at significant expense.



NNCF AWARDS CEREMONY HELD

The 2019 Awards Ceremony for the North Newton Community Foundation took place at Mojo's Coffee Bar on June 20. At that time \$8,700 was awarded to eleven grant applicants from the Newton and North Newton areas. Nearly \$42,000 in grants has been awarded in the seven-year history of the foundation.

The current asset balance of all funds, after payment of the recent awards, stands at \$243,000. For calendar year 2019, \$15,500 of North Newton City Funds remains to be matched by private donations on a dollar-for-dollar basis. \$10,000 of that is designated for new funds and \$5,500 for donations of any amount to the named funds.

In further news, Melvin Schadler became a member of the NNCF Board in March.



WALKING PATH ADVANCES

The long awaited walking/biking path is scheduled to go to bid in August, with construction this fall. This path will hug the trees on the East side of Kidron Creek north of 30th Street, proceed northward

and enter the woods West of the Northwoods Plaza, cross Kidron Creek and proceed on the South side of 36th Street, turn South on the East side of Anderson, proceed past the new pickle ball court, and enter Kidron Bethel Campus South of Witmarsum West. Kansas Dept. of Transportation is paying for 80% of the cost of this project. North Newton will pay for the remaining 20%.



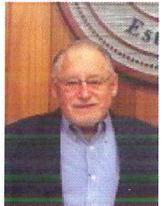
MEET THE CANDIDATES

At the November 5 General Election the following four candidates will be on the ballot running for the two North Newton City Council member slots.



Incumbent **Ron Ratzlaff** has served on the City Council since 2001. Ron has enjoyed serving the citizens of North Newton as we work together to maintain and enhance our community and the services provided. He is employed at Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas.

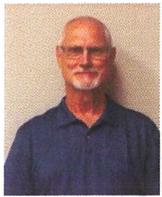
Incumbent **Paul Harder** first took office in 2007. It is his hope to continue supporting actions that ensure the high quality of life we experience in North Newton. He advocates fiscally responsible policies that result in excellent fund balances and permitting the City to provide services our residents expect.



Mark Jenkins recently retired from the City of Newton as a Building Inspector and Building and Zoning Supervisor. After working for city municipalities for 33 years he would like to give back to the community in a positive manner.

Kurt Friesen is making his third bid for City Councilman. Kurt wants to offer his experience and vision to help ensure North Newton remains a safe and affordable community for families to live and grow.





Mayor Ron Braun is running unopposed for the Mayoral seat and has served since 2007. Priorities for him are agreements with the City of Newton and securing future reserves for our long-term water needs. Mayor Braun is Vice President of Philanthropy for Tabor College.

Go to www.hvcoksvote.com for a Kansas Voter Registration application, online voter registration, 2019 election information, and much more. You may also contact the Harvey County Election Office at 316-284-6840 for general questions. ☆☆

**NEWTON USD 373
ENROLLMENT FOR 2019-2020**

One-Stop Enrollment for all **new** USD 373 students to the district will be Tuesday, July 23 in the Railer West Gym at Chisholm Middle School, 900 East First Street (parking on north side). For **returning** students online enrollment help is available at www.usd373.org or by calling 316-284-6250.



15th Annual
Fireworks Extravaganza
Thursday, July 4 • 7 p.m.

No Admission charge

KIDRON BETHEL VILLAGE
BLUESTEM COMMUNITIES
3001 Ivy Dr. • North Newton, KS 67117

Fireworks • Food
Children's Games
Live Music • Raffle • & more!

A Health Care Benevolent Fund benefit. Follow us on for more information!

2020 BUDGET REVIEW

As this edition of the ECHO goes to press, the 2020 city budget is a work in process. While we cannot say anything definitively, it appears that the budget will hold the line with little or no increase in the mill levy or water or sewer rates. The budget will be presented to the City Council at July 8 Council meeting. A public hearing on the budget will be held at the August 12 Council meeting.



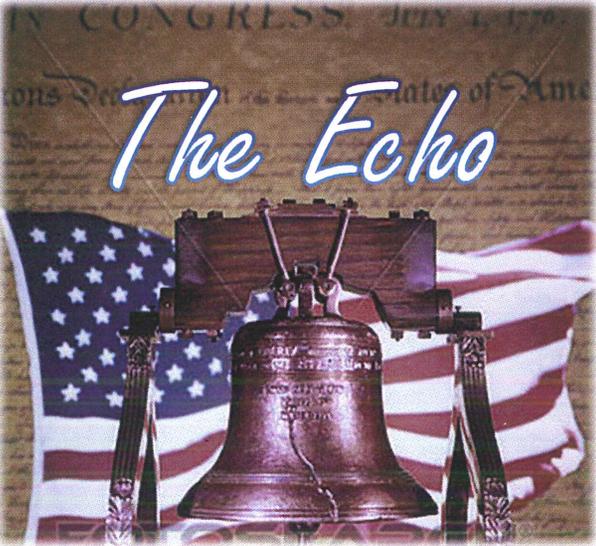
MAY WE INFORM YOU...

- ➔ **CITY HALL HOLIDAY CLOSINGS:** July 4th and 5th; and Labor Day, September 2nd.
- ➔ Class C, or common **FIREWORKS**, can be discharged in North Newton only on July 4th between 10:00 a.m. and midnight. CLEAN UP YOUR FIREWORKS DEBRIS PLEASE!
- ➔ **SUMMER PUBLIC WORKS** - Bluestem Street from Anderson Avenue to Main Street will be overlaid mid-summer. Various streets will receive chip sealing later this summer. Additionally, the water main will be extended along the south side of 36th Street to the water tower.
- ➔ The speed limit around **KIDRON BETHEL VILLAGE** is 20 mph for a good reason. Please slow down everyone or you may get a citation!
- ➔ Turn away door-to-door salespersons that are not able to show you a **NORTH NEWTON PEDDLER'S PERMIT** then call our Police Department at 283-3191 or 9-1-1.
- ➔ Service vehicles for heating/cooling, electrical and plumbing contractors have been spotted around town at residential homes. We remind all residents that **PERMITS** are required when replacing heating and cooling units, hot water heaters, water softeners, and other things. Call City Hall if you have questions.
- ➔ The next three **CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS** are July 8, August 12, and September 9 at 7:00 P.M.



North Newton's 2019 Consumer Confidence Water Quality Report for calendar year 2018 is now available for viewing through a link on the opening screen at www.northnewton.org or you may request a copy at City Hall.

July 2019



CITY OF NORTH NEWTON

2601 North Main; P.O. Box 87
North Newton, KS 67117

Office Hours

8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Mon. – Thurs.
8:00 A.M. to Noon, Friday

City Hall: (316) 283-7633
www.northnewton.org
Facebook.com/northnewton



Police Department: (316) 283-3191
Twitter: @NorthNewtonPD

A quarterly newsletter for the people of North Newton