The City is making every possible effort to communicate with our citizens using various means. If you would like to have updated news and events delivered straight to your inbox, please sign-up for our e-newsletter using the button below.

Sign Up for E News

If you are having trouble viewing the email, be sure to add us to your Safe Senders list. If you have any questions please contact Amber McCullough at (913) 422-1020 or email her at amccullough@bonnersprings.org

2017 Engagement and Transparency Initiatives

The City of Bonner Springs will be rolling out several initiatives aimed at increasing citizen engagement and increasing the level of transparency of the City’s operations.

The City Council, through the City’s Strategic Plan and Annual Budget, prioritized a number of projects to work toward improving the way our residents interact with the City. In the past year, the City has begun to leverage Social Media, such as Facebook and Nextdoor, in addition to the City’s electronic newsletter to communicate with residents about community events, City related news, emergencies situations, and other time-sensitive information. These services are just a first step in Bonner Springs’ move towards providing not only good governance, but better governance.

Citizen Survey
Citizen input is our greatest source of information and is used to ensure our accountability in providing services to our community. Over the next few months, the City will be distributing a community survey to better
Understand YOUR opinion on the quality of the community and services the City provides. Elected officials and City staff can use the survey results as a "power tool" to help make informed decisions about how to allocate resources.

**Enhanced Website**
Currently, the City is working on re-launching an improved City website. The improvements will center around creating a simple, aesthetically pleasing site, while focusing on the ease of access to find the information most important to you—our top priority. Additionally, the website will be developed to be mobile friendly, allowing pages to perform well on all devices. Lastly, the website will be designed as the "Launchpad" for future initiatives such as online permitting and fiscal transparency.

**Fiscal Transparency**
The City is working to launch an online feature to make it easier for residents, City staff and elected officials to find data about the City's budget. The new site, called OpenGov, is an effort to modernize the way the City handles finances and data. OpenGov is used by over 1,000 governments around the country to access, analyze, share and compare financial and performance data in an interactive, online program. Through this initiative, the City will simplify its budget planning, improve its internal data management, and make important information easily accessible to our citizens and elected officials.

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**USD 204 to Host Bond Election**

The USD 204 Board of Education voted on Monday to move forward with a bond election set for May. The bond would give Bonner Springs/Edwardsville Schools a little over $39 million to make critical improvements across the district, without raising the mill levy or increasing taxes.

The BOE vote comes after months of preparation and evaluation to determine the needs of the district. District administrators began working with architects in June to determine immediate needs in each school building based on increasing enrollment. Later in the year a bond planning committee was formed to discuss the proposed projects and prioritize the list based on budget. That committee, comprised of parents, teachers and administrators worked over the course of almost ten weeks to put together a final bond proposal that went before the Board at the end of January.

The bond projects will help the district achieve the following:

- Enhance safety and security across the district
- Maximize space for a growing student population
- Improve parking and traffic flow around district facilities
- Evolve Career and Technical Education programs to prepare students for the future

This bond issue would allow the district to not only enhance the learning environment for all students, but also improve upon facilities that the community can be proud of. Over the next few months USD 204 will host public forums to share the bond projects and the positive impact they will have on students, staff and the community.

[Additional Information]

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**Holiday Office Closures**

City Offices will be closed for the following upcoming holidays:

- Memorial Day - Monday, May 29th (Trash and recycling pick up will be delayed one day.)
- Independence Day - Tuesday, July 4th (Trash and recycling pick up will be delayed one day.)

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**Bonner Springs Arts Alliance Monument of Appreciation**
The Bonner Springs Arts Alliance is planning a North Park Monument of Appreciation to honor those who protect and serve. Engraved bricks with the names of military members, veterans, firefighters, first responders and law enforcement officers will pave a path of individual recognition and gratitude. Would you like to dedicate a granite brick? Each brick is $100 (up to 3 lines). Forms are available at City Hall or you may contact anitaz79@yahoo.com or call 816-678-3739.

EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

Bonner Springs Farmers’ Market

Saturday, May 6th, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Join us for the Bonner Springs Farmers’ Market kickoff event at Kelly Murphy Park! Further details to come, visit our website at www.bonnerlibrary.org or the Bonner Springs Farmers’ Market Facebook page for more information. Save the kickoff event to your Facebook calendar here.

Marble Crazy

See Marbles Made! See the Marble Machine! Visit and Buy Glass Art directly from the Artists! Marble Crazy is a contemporary art glass marble show including artists from around the country, glass working demos, and a marble machine.

Fri., March 3rd, 2017, 10am-7pm
Sat., March 4th, 2017, 10am-5pm

600 East Front Street, Bonner Springs, Kansas 66012
(just west of Hwy K-7 on Hwy K-32)

Additional Information
Agricultural Hall of Fame Barnyard Babies Family Festival

A celebration of youth and birth on the farm! Saturday, April 22, 2017 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Admission: $5 person, one free child with each adult (ages 3-13, 2 and younger free)

Come out to this fun family festival and experience life on a farm – from barnyard babies to a tractor petting zoo, and fresh produce to kiddie pedal pull contests, giant balloon animals, games and much more!

Receive a colorful map and Farm Passport when you arrive. Visit all the Discovery Zones, get your Passport stamped and receive a prize. The Discovery Zones share fun and fresh adventures of a day on the farm. So much to see and do!

Earth Day Clean-Up Event

Save the Date! More information to follow! Visit our Facebook Event Page for Updates.

Each year on April 22nd, Earth Day is celebrated with outdoor activities where individuals or groups perform acts of service to inspire awareness and appreciation for the environment and the protection of the planet. As spring approaches, local attractions in and around Bonner Springs come back to life, bringing many visitors to our city. With combined efforts from residents, churches, civic organizations, schools and businesses our community can be cleared of litter and debris. This will help ensure that visitors leave with a great and lasting impression of our love of the environment and pride in our community.

The City invites individuals and groups to participate in the 1st Annual Bonner Springs Earth Day Clean-Up Event on April 22, 2017, from 8:30 to noon. Opportunities will also be available for individuals or groups to organize their own property, subdivision or area clean-up activities throughout that week. City staff is working on finalization of plans to make this a fun and enriching annual community event. Further details and updates will be provided via the social media platforms in the upcoming weeks.

April 29th is “Drug Take Back Day”

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) is sponsoring another National Drug TakeBack Day. Take your unused, expired and unwanted prescription drugs to the Police Station at 130 N. Nettleton.
Marble Day

11th Annual Marble Day
Sat., May 6, 2017
9:30 am - 2:00 pm
Downtown Bonner Springs, KS

The Annual Marble Day Celebration is a fun, family day celebrating spring, marble games and activities and other old-fashioned outdoor games and activities. Events and activities include a tractor cruise, wacky parade, bike rodeo, marble tournament, marble art and invention contest, Running of the Pinkys, cake walk, straw tunnel and straw mountain, food vendors and other traditional games and activities. It's a day full of smiles and fun fun fun!

www.marbleday.com

Kegs n Eggs at the Renaissance Festival Grounds

April 8, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

Kansas City’s ONLY Adult Easter Egg Hunt AND Craft Beer Festival returns to the Kansas City Renaissance Festival grounds! Come experience this one-of-a-kind event which features:
- Thousands of Hidden Easter Eggs Containing Prizes
- 50+ Craft Breweries
- 10 Food Trucks
- Live Band
- 10+ Craft Vendors
- Competitions and Games
- FUN!

www.KegsNEggsKC.com
This is a 21+ Event only!
Questions? info@KegsNEggsKC.com or 913-721-2110

Brew-B-Que at the Renaissance Festival Grounds

Two of Kansas City’s favorite things - BBQ and Craft Beer - come together in this one-of-a-kind event! Local KC Barbecue Food Trucks battle it out to see who has the best BBQ in Kansas City! Then while you are filling your belly, sample over 100 craft beers from over 40+ local and regional craft breweries, listen to live music, and participate in fun competitions! So come out and partake in KC’s favorite NEW tradition!

VIP Tickets Include:
- Access to exclusive VIP area with ample seating, a private bar, and private bathrooms!
- Sample BBQ from participating food trucks and vote to determine KC’s best BBQ Food Truck
- Unlimited Craft Beer Samples
Commendorative Sample Glass
GA Tickets Include:
- Unlimited Craft Beer Samples
- Commemorative Sample Glass
- Food from BBQ Food Truck available for purchase

More Information

PARKS & RECREATION NEWS

Spring events for our Parks and Recreation Department include Sports Sign-Up, the Annual Easter Egg Hunt, City Wide Yard Sale, Little Chefs and many other programs

Visit our Parks and Recreation Page

Check out our Parks and Recreation Calendar

Parks and Recreation Online Program Guide

Have you seen our new playground at Lions Park? It officially opened on November 22, 2016. This is the hot new attraction that has become the new favorite pastime for families. More Info

Quest for the Blarney Stone

The Parks and Recreation Department has stumbled across their own Blarney Stone and has it hidden in one of our local city parks. In March, clues are posted on our website, Facebook, and at the Community Center. The person that recovers the Blarney Stone must bring it to the Bonner Springs Community Center and will then be pleasantly rewarded with a 10 Punch Pass to the Aquatic Park just in time for the St. Patrick’s Holiday. More Info

April 29 – City Wide Yard Sales
Residents of Bonner Springs, list your yard sale

More Information
April 15 - Easter Egg Hunt
This free event is from 9:00 am - 10:00 am at North Park Soccer Fields (1200 South 134th St.) on Saturday, April 15th. There are four age divisions and the start times for each age group are as follows: 3 & Under hunt at 9:30 am, ages 4 & 5 hunt at 9:35 am, ages 6 & 7 hunt at 9:45 am, ages 8, 9, & 10 hunt at 9:50 am. More Info

April 15 – Easter Dog Bone Hunt
Our annual Easter Dog Bone Hunt will be held 221 Pratt Ave at our K9 & Me Dog Park. This FREE event will be held at the Dog Park on April 15th. Participants will get the chance to take a picture with the Easter Bunny and hunt for fun treats in the park! Dogs under 30 lbs: 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm. Dogs over 30 lbs: 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm. More Info

May 21 – Kids Fishing Derby
Bring the family for an afternoon at North Park Lake on Sunday, May 21st from 2:00 - 4:00 pm. Youth participants under 15 years old are divided into three age groups for a chance to win prizes for the smallest, longest, and most fish. More Info

May 27 – Aquatic Park Opens!
Join us for some Summer Time Fun! Daily admission is just $5.00! Want to save time by not standing in line? Get your Family Pool Pass TODAY at the Community Center located at 200 East 3rd Street. For more information please visit www.bonnersprings.org/pool

UPCOMING PARKS & REC EVENTS

- March 7 – Little Chefs - This class meet once a week for four weeks and will allow your little chef to explore the kitchen by making fun and yummy treats. Children will receive their own cookbook of all the meals they made at the end of the session. More Info
- March 13-17 – Spring Break Camp – Camp Great Adventure returns for some spring fun! Open to ages 6-12 from 7:30am-5:30pm, children will play games, make crafts, and much more. More Info
- March 22 – Youth Summer Ball Deadline - The Youth Summer Ball League is offered to boys ages 4-14 and girls ages 4-15 years old. Age divisions are divided according to participant’s age as of June 1, 2017. More Info
- April 3 – Tumbling Session 3 Deadline - Join a co-recreational class designed for children who are interested in learning about the world of tumbling. There are three separate tumbling classes: Preschool (3 - 5 years old), Beginner, and Intermediate / Advanced on Monday nights. Each session is five weeks with a parent watch night during week five. More Info
April 29 – **Safe Sitter** - This course gives youth ages 11-14 the knowledge, skills and confidence to care for infants through school-ages children. Please register by April 21st to ensure enough supplies for all registrants. [More Info]

May 1 – **Registration Open for Swim Team** – The Dolphins Swim Team is a recreational league that competes against other city teams. This team is comprised of swimmers ages 6-18. [More Info]

May 24 – **Adult Softball Registration Deadline** – There is a Men’s and Co-Rec league. Teams play doubleheaders with 10 games guaranteed per season. Players must be 16 years of age or older to be eligible to play. [More Info]

May 24 – **Adult Sand Volleyball Registration Deadline** – With the addition of the 2 sand volleyball courts at North Park, we are happy to announce the start of this new program. [More Info]

May 30 – **Camp Great Adventure Begins** – This 11 week camp is sure to be the highlight of your kiddo’s summer! Open to ages 6-12, children will play games; make crafts, have weekly swim time at the Bonner Springs Aquatic Park, attend field trips, learn about gardening, and much more! [More Info]

**BONNER SPRINGS LIBRARY NEWS**

Your Library...

In addition to books, movies and periodicals, the Library has several programs for all ages including Story Time, Read to a Dog, computer classes, adult coloring, book discussions, and much more.

Check out the Library Events Calendar

**Legislative Coffee with Senator Steve Fitzgerald and Representative Tom Burroughs**

Saturday, March 11, 10:30 am

Wyandotte County Legislators will have the opportunity to discuss committee assignments and provide updates about their work in Topeka. An audience question-and-answer session will follow. This is an excellent opportunity for Wyandotte County residents to meet and discuss current legislation and developments with Legislators. Coffee and donuts provided. Go to [www.bonnerlibrary.org](http://www.bonnerlibrary.org) for more details.

**Paper SHRED and Electronics Recycle Event**

The Bonner Springs City Library will be sponsoring a Paper SHRED and Electronics Recycle Event! **March 9 - 15**, ProShred will have several secure carts set up at the library. Bring in your old bills, files, statements, and envelopes and place them in the secure carts during library hours. On **March 15th**, ProShred will bring a truck and shred the contents of the carts on site.

**Saturday, March 11th from 9-1pm** Surplus Exchange will be in our back parking lot to collect your old, broken electronics. Go to [www.bonnerlibrary.org](http://www.bonnerlibrary.org) for a list of items they accept.

**7th Annual Books, Blocks, Bubbles &**
At Home on the Range
Thursday, March 30, 6:30 pm
At Home on the Range Community cookbooks have carried the stories of Kansas women over the years, sharing sentiments of home, family, and faith. This talk provides a survey of Kansas cookbooks from 1874 to the present, which reveal not only changes in foodways but also poems, prayers, personal reflections, and histories. Presented by Louise Hanson, a librarian and researcher with over 400 Kansas cookbooks in her collection.

Summer Reading Kickoff Event
Saturday, June 3rd, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Build a Better World @ the Library and come to our Summer Reading Kickoff Event! LegoLand Master Builder Joseph Nunnink will be here doing a live build demonstration. You can also sign up for the Summer Reading Program, enjoy refreshments and more!

Visit the Library Website

SENIOR CENTER NEWS

The Senior Center is open to seniors 55+ years of age. We offer programs in recreation, health, education, and crafts. We are open Monday thru Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Transportation is available thru the Tiblow Transit service in Bonner Springs (913-422-5355).

Our activities include weekly outings, monthly educational presentations, exercise classes, dinner theater trips, bingo and free legal services. We have a wide variety of activities for all interests and abilities. Please stop by the Senior Center or call 913-441-0169.

Upcoming Senior Center Events
March – RSVP Volunteer Recognition: Celebrate the volunteers for helping with a variety of community events such as helping local school children with reading and homework. [More Info]

March 7 – Town Hall Meeting: Meet with the Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging at 10am at the Senior Center to learn more about the resources available in your area. [More Info]

April 19 – Bonner Springs High School Senior Awards Night: We will be presenting two high school seniors each with a $1,000 scholarship from the Nancy Jones-Johnson Scholarship fund. [More Info]

May – Older American’s Month Sock Hop: This is a fun event where seniors get to dance and learn more about the resources in their area. Lunch is included! [More Info]


Visit our Senior Center Page

Check out our Senior Center Calendar

View the Monthly Senior Center Newsletter

PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES NEWS

Fix a Leak Week is March 20-26, 2017
The Environmental Protection Agency celebrates Fix A Leak Week as a reminder to check your household fixtures and irrigation systems for leaks. Look for our banners around town which will remind you to – Inside, check faucets, shower heads and toilets for leaks. Outside, check your garden hose and irrigation systems before use to make sure they were not damaged by frost or freezing.

World Water Day, March 22
The United Nations created this international day of observance. It is used as a day of education on water related issues around the world. This year’s campaign slogan is “Clean Water Here”.

Drinking Water Week
May 7th – 13th is Drinking Water Week. Every year the American Water Works Association and other groups including the CDC and EPA, sponsor this week to bring attention to the importance of tap water and protecting our water infrastructure. Tap water is critical to a successful society. We need to protect our watersupply. We can all do our part through personal water conservation and pollution prevention.

May 21 – 27 is Public Works Week
This year’s theme is “Public Works Connects Us”. We are celebrating the vital role public works plays in connecting us all together. Public works is the cornerstone of civilization providing, maintaining and improving the structures and services that assure a high quality of life for our communities. Streets, roads, bridges and public transportation keep us linked together from coast to coast, and clean water and sanitation services keep us healthy and allow communities to grow and prosper.
April is National Safe Digging Month!
Be sure to call 811 before any digging project. Whether you are putting in a fence, planting a tree or building a deck, knowing where the power, gas and water lines before you dig will save a lot of time, money and pain later.

April 3-7 is Work Zone Awareness Week
At the beginning of construction season, Work Zone Awareness Week draws attention to highway work zones to encourage safe driving. Please use extra caution when entering work zones! This year’s theme is “Work Zone Safety Is In Your Hands”.

Sign up for the Brave Bulletin
Receive weekly updates from USD 204 by signing up for the Brave Bulletin!

Sign up today!
Spring Forward

Set clocks forward

Sunday, March 12 at 2:00 a.m.