

Filings

continued from front

3 Council positions open
Lindsay Azure
Allan Colborn
Adam D. Dunshee
Matt Forsyth
Maggie Gada
Jon McDonald
Jason Taylor

Sharon City
Mayor - Josh Inslee
2 City Council
Wendy Crenner
Brian Smith

Sun City City
Mayor – Terah Murphy
5 Council
Gerry L. Black
Teena Thurber
Travis Vanover
Brendon Woods

The general election will be held November 4, 2025. In order to be eligible to vote in the election, persons must be registered. The deadline for registering to vote is October 14, 2025.

Voters can request that ballots be mailed to their address. This is especially helpful for students enrolled in higher education and individuals who are serving in the military. Ballots will be mailed to those who have requested them via USPS and may be returned to the clerk's office in person or sent back through USPS. The ballot must be postmarked no later than the day of the election and must be received no later than the Friday following the election.

Applications for both voter registration and advanced voting ballots can be found on the county website (barber.ks.gov) by hovering on "Elected" - "County Clerk" - "Elections" and clicking the desired PDF. Applications need to be turned into the Barber County Clerk's office in person, USPS or via email.

Early voting may also be done in the County Clerk's office. For the general election early voting will begin October 15, 2025. Early voting will end at noon one day prior to the election.

A website with voter information is available and can be accessed at <https://myvoteinfo.voteks.org/VoterView>. Approximately two weeks prior to an election, a sample of the ballot a voter will see at the polls is available to view. Also listed on the site are the districts a person belongs to, which includes all the positions within the district the voter has the option to vote for. In addition, the voter's voting history is available, which includes the election dates, election names, type of election that was held and the voter's method of voting (at the polls, early, etc.).

Any questions regarding elections may be directed to the County Clerks Office in the Barber County Courthouse. Their phone number is (620) 886-3961.

City

continued from front

dinance. It was moved and seconded to table the issue in order to form a group. The motion failed 3-2.

Lee then asked if the council would be willing to table the issue in order for more people to fill out the survey mentioned above and for that data to be compiled. The motion was made and then amended to include a two week time frame. The motion passed 5-0.

Following the vote Mixon asked her fellow council members if it would matter to them if the results of the survey indicate that the public is ok with the allowance of chicken. Forsyth stated that he isn't opposed to chickens, but would want no more than seven chickens to be allowed.

City resident Don Poindexter asked if the matter could be put on an official ballot to be voted upon by registered voters. Hagood was concerned about what question would be asked on a ballot vote. He then stated that he is for chickens, but also for limitations. No action was taken on the suggestion.

The council then moved on to talk about the city pool and the slide at the pool. Lee stated that, due to repairs and maintenance that were required, the council has invested \$90,000 in order to open the pool this year. He also shared that there were bad spots on the slide that needed attention. Pool Manager Bree Hernandez shared that on the first day they were open that one girl was cut by the slide and that the slide was shut down for the remainder of the day. She and other staff members had spots on buffering out the rough works. Someone from outside the city has been called in to assess the slide.

In new business, Kandi Williams shared that the Medicine Lodge Area Chamber of Commerce requested two Porta-pots and free swim for Junefest, which will be held on June 14th. A motion was made and passed.

In department head reports: Medicine Lodge Fire Chief Matt Azure shared that he is still waiting on a quote for a roof for the firetruck garage.

Medicine Lodge Police Chief

John DeFore shared that there was no update on the new patrol unit that they have on order. He also shared that he is working on a bike rodeo. He is hoping to include skateboards and scooters in the event, as well. He is working to get enough donations for every participant to go home with a new helmet.

City Works Director Wayne Ostrom shared that he is waiting on bids for the firehouse roof and the pool concession building roof. He also said that KDOT has proposed that the city take care of the highways within city limits and that they would give \$400,000 to the city to do so. Ostrom stated that the money could purchase a truck and a briner. The council wanted him to confirm that the agreement would include KDOT maintaining the surface of the roads. Ostrom then shared that Eck Services is working on the HVAC system in the new City Hall building. He also wanted the council and the public to be aware that a raccoon has been sighted during the day in the 700 block of North Oak and that it is

not typical to see raccoons out during the day.

City Clerk Kandi Williams said that there had been several code enforcements on several properties who had been given 10 days to comply that would be published in the paper. She thanked Hernandez for doing a very good job with the management of the city pool.

Lee then asked if the council members would prefer to use paper or a tablet for their meetings. One member stated that he prefers paper and several others shared that their current tablets do not work well. Lee is going to work with Mixon to find something that will work.

Lee stated that they have extended an offer to Jeff Porter for the city administrator position and that he would have the contract ready soon. He again shared that Williams and Ostrom had stepped up during the time between administrators and that it would enable the organization to move forward better than transitions in the past. He said everyone on staff had been doing a great job.

Red Cross: Tips to stay safe during swimming season

Warmer weather is coming our way, and taking a dip in a pool or lake is a great way to cool off. The American Red Cross Kansas and Oklahoma Region wants to ensure everyone swims safely this season.

Drowning can happen quickly and silently. Unless rescued, it could take as little as 20 to 60 seconds for a drowning person to submerge. Be "water smart" - build confidence in the water by learning to be safer, making good choices, learning to swim and knowing how to handle emergencies.

Prevent unsupervised access to water, provide constant and active adult supervision, and know how to swim.

Never swim alone - adults and teens as well as children. Never leave a young child unattended near water, and do not trust a child's life to another child. Swim in an area with lifeguards.

Designate a "water watcher" whose sole responsibility is to keep a close eye and constant attention on everyone in and around the water until the next water watcher takes over.

Don't just pack it, wear your life jacket - always on a boat and if you are in a situation beyond your skill level.

Reach or throw, don't go! In the event of an emergency, reach or throw an object to the person in trouble and tell them to grab on to it. Don't go in! You could become a victim yourself.

NEW PROGRAM AVAILABLE
The Red Cross is also pleased to announce it has revamped and relaunched its Longfellow's WHALE Tales Water Safety for Children program, all in Spanish. The free program, now

transcreated in Spanish, is designed to help children from all backgrounds in kindergarten through fifth grade learn vital water safety behaviors without having to be at a swimming pool.

Recent studies show that 45% of Hispanic/Latino children have few to no swimming skills, which significantly increases their risk of drowning. Through transcreated Spanish content with a new cast of animated and live action characters, rhymes and songs, the Red Cross is working to increase water safety skills for children across the country.

DELIVER THE WHALE TALES PROGRAM WHALE Tales are short, engaging and age-appropriate lessons that cover important water safety topics in different environments such as pools, waterparks, oceans, lakes and rivers. Each lesson centers on a memorable rhyming phrase to help children retain what

they've learned. Anyone can use the WHALE Tales program.

If you're an educator or youth leader teaching a group, the easy-access, free downloadable resources include lesson plans, course presentations and engaging materials such as videos and activity sheets. Visit redcross.org/WHALEtales or CruzRojAAmericana.org/WHALEtales-espanol.

If you're a parent or caregiver teaching your own children, visit redcross.org.watersafetyforkids. In addition to videos and activity sheets, resources also include a helpful discussion guide for water safety conversations.

The Red Cross WHALE Tales program - which stands for Water Habits Are Learned Early - is named in honor of Commodore Wilbert E. Longfellow who started the Red Cross Lifesaving Corps in 1914. The Red Cross created the first national water

safety program in the U.S., helping millions of kids, teens and adults learn how to swim so the water can be a safer place for everyone - and today it's still the gold standard for aquatics training. In the last century, the Red Cross has helped to reduce accidental drownings by nearly 90% nationwide.

About American Red Cross:

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides comfort to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; distributes international humanitarian aid; and supports veterans, military members and their families. The Red Cross is a nonprofit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to deliver its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org or CruzRojAAmericana.org, or follow us on social media.



The great outdoors is even greater with **WI-FI**

SCTelcom understands how wonderful it can be to combine nature with technology. That's why we offer the option to add an outdoor mesh extender to Managed Wi-Fi for a great internet connection on your dock, patio, deck, and more.

**TO LEARN MORE,
CALL 877-723-6875.**

sctelcom

www.sctelcom.net



SWIMMING LESSONS

will be June 9-19th and June 23-July 3rd.

Lessons will be \$25 per child per session, or \$40 per child for both sessions. Lessons will be held Monday through Thursday with no classes on Fridays unless we need to make a lesson.

Details are on the sign up sheets, which are available at City Hall and at the pool.

For more information call 620-388-2779.