

# The Secret Isn't Much Of A Secret

## It's Chicken, Not Beef Hockey Pucks

### At The Courtland Fun Day Fundraiser



#### It Takes A Lot Of Charcoal

Thirty bags of charcoal are used to grill 400 chickens served by volunteers at the annual Courtland Fun Day barbecue. In all, 800 chicken halves are served at the popular fundraising event. And the secret to making the highly sought after meal...a temperature of 155-degrees and plenty of Lawry Seasoning.

-Telescope Photos by Fred Arnold

By Katy Duryea  
Telescope News

How many licks does it take to get to the center of a tootsie pop?

Good question. One? Two? Three?

Thanks to Mr. Owl, the world may never know.

The same can be said that the world may never know how much work goes into the annual Courtland Fun Day chicken dinner fundraiser. The event is held each year at the Courtland Fire Department as part of Courtland Fun Day.

“We order the chickens in March,” volunteer Scott Hoard said. “Approximately 40 cases of chicken. Each one gets split in half. That’s about 400 chickens. We prepare to cook 800 meals.”

Hoard has been a volunteer for the annual fundraiser for a while. He said the community event has transformed over the years.

First question... why not beef?

“It started with some guys a long time ago. They tried cooking hamburgers, but it was kind of the meal to avoid, because they were like hockey pucks. The beef was dry because the men had been mostly focused on drinking beer. We were just having fun.”

“We had beef for several years, but other towns had beef too,” Fun Day Committee President Brian Freeman said. “Everybody wanted us to cook chicken.”

This was not good news for Mr. Chicken. “The chicken, a long time ago, used to get really burned and dry, because we were still just a bunch of guys drinking beer and flipping stuff,” Hoard said. “Now the younger guys are taking care of watching the temps and flipping the chicken beds. We’re getting more serious.”

Hoard said they started learning to take the bird off the grill once the meat reached

155 degrees and putting the meals in foil before boxing and stacking them up to go.

“When it sits there it gets to 170 degrees, and it gets super juicy,” Hoard said. “The chicken stays hot. And that’s what makes it really good. It’s not dry.”

Second question....how?

“We start with 30 bags of charcoal into six piles,” Hoard said. “It takes a couple hours for the heat of the grill to settle down. We have eight racks that we stack chicken on. Each rack holds 42-48, I think. We always put rights on one side and lefts on the other. They just stack better.”

Hoard said he watches the fire, because it’s very important to add the charcoal at the right times.

“We’ve got it down to a science,” he added. “There are about four, five, six people, my wife included.”

“My wife (Brenda) is the only lady down there,” Hoard said. “Bless her heart. When

we got married, this was something I did. She’d come down and

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-Scott Hoard  
Courtland Fun Day Volunteer

start helping. And now, she’s probably the organizer,” Hoard added. “I’m sorry, but a lady is a little better organized than a man. So she kind of keeps things going, and she’s there to tell us to go easy on the Lawry’s.”

This leads to the third good question... What’s the secret spice?

“Our secret recipe is that we use Lawry’s,” Hoard said. “That’s it.”

Lawry’s Seasoned Salt. A mix of salt, sugar, paprika, turmeric, onion, garlic and other spices.

Created in 1938 to enhance the flavor of prime rib. Hoard said this is the only seasoning sprinkled on the chicken.

How much work goes into the Courtland Fun Day chicken fundraiser?

Now the world knows.



#### More Than 200 Deep

Two lines of people totalling more than 200 gathered to wait for the serving of chicken dinners at the annual Fireman’s BBQ fundraiser in Courtland Saturday.

-Telescope Photo by Fred Arnold

### PUBLIC NOTICE

(First published in The Belleville Telescope, Thursday July 31, 2025) 1t

FINANCIAL STATEMENT COUNTY OF REPUBLIC, KANSAS FOR QUARTER ENDING JUNE 30, 2025				
FUND	BEGINNING BALANCE	REVENUE	EXPENSE	ENDING BALANCE
STATE EDUCATION	\$0.00	\$22,819.57	(22,819.57)	\$0.00
STATE INSTITUTION	\$0.00	\$11,419.52	(11,419.52)	\$0.00
GENERAL FUND	\$2,237,217.83	\$659,527.56	(785,404.72)	\$2,111,340.67
16/20M TAX	\$2,059.19	\$47,978.28	(45,653.84)	\$4,383.63
2023 ESCROW TEMP	\$19,851.37	\$9,397.53	(7,087.09)	\$22,161.81
ADVANCE TAX	\$949.43	\$478.70	0.00	\$1,428.13
ALCOHOL & DRUG ABUSE	\$6,295.95	\$3,287.72	0.00	\$9,583.67
AMB SPEC EQUIP FUND	\$378,647.10	\$0.00	0.00	\$378,647.10
AMBULANCE	\$405,193.06	\$228,900.51	(251,004.25)	\$383,089.32
AMBULANCE MEMORIAL	\$5,041.84	\$25.00	0.00	\$5,066.84
AMER. RESC PLAN ACT	\$28,392.51	\$0.00	0.00	\$28,392.51
APPRAISER	\$143,743.60	\$57,541.77	(61,535.51)	\$139,749.86
Capital Impr County Shop	\$63,000.00	\$14,000.00	0.00	\$77,000.00
CAPITAL IMPROVEME RESERVE	\$22,480.62	\$0.00	0.00	\$22,480.62
CITIES	\$0.00	\$375,729.12	(375,729.12)	\$0.00
CKL- GEN	\$0.00	(19,563.43)	(19,563.43)	\$0.00
COUNTY BUILDING FUND	\$268,189.65	\$22,826.09	(27,070.52)	\$263,945.22
COUNTY EQUIPMENT RESERVE	\$498,385.42	\$0.00	0.00	\$498,385.42
IMPROV R	\$19,629.80	\$0.00	0.00	\$19,629.80
CURRENT TAX	\$215,382.07	\$4,039,451.64	(3,727,203.54)	\$527,630.17
DELINQ 16/20M TAX	\$1,404.70	\$2,787.06	(4,093.52)	\$98.24
DELQ PERS PROP TAX	\$6,329.41	\$8,516.86	(8,152.82)	\$6,693.45
DRAINAGE DIST #1 D60 SCHOOL	\$0.00	\$477.22	(477.22)	\$0.00
DRIVERS LICENSES	-\$777.50	\$2,511.00	(1,733.50)	\$0.00
DRY CREEK W.SHED WS555WS	\$0.00	\$17.75	(17.75)	\$0.00
ELECTION FILING FEE	\$20.00	\$900.00	0.00	\$920.00
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$1,489,519.14	\$522,432.87	(583,239.30)	\$1,428,712.71
ESCROW/PARTIAL PAYMENT	-\$6,448.92	\$0.00	0.00	(\$6,448.92)
FIRE DISTRICTS	\$0.00	\$46,461.79	(46,353.07)	\$108.72
FISH & GAME	\$2.50	\$419.00	(419.00)	\$2.50
FUEL CENTER	\$95,269.16	\$62,652.88	(79,084.33)	\$78,837.71
HEALTH	\$700,647.50	\$136,647.55	(142,624.98)	\$694,670.07
HEALTH MEMORIAL	\$3,137.90	\$0.00	0.00	\$3,137.90
HERITAGE TRUST FUND	\$925.00	\$1,068.00	(786.00)	\$1,207.00
HIGH BANKS WIND FARM	\$983,320.66	\$63,826.98	(15,284.15)	\$1,031,863.49
HILLCREST LIBRARY DIST.	\$0.00	\$7,464.53	(7,464.53)	\$0.00
HOSPITAL MAINTENANCE	\$57,769.42	\$128,752.21	(3,623.87)	\$182,897.76
HOSPITAL REV DEBIT SERVICE	\$43,238.76	\$13,685.00	(52,265.77)	\$4,657.99
IN/OUT	\$22.80	\$5,191.05	(5,191.05)	\$22.80
INTANGIBLE TAX	\$428.67	\$3,586.97	(3,831.82)	\$183.82
IRRIGATION O & M	\$73,798.20	\$330,547.65	(404,345.85)	\$0.00
IRRIGATION REPAY	\$7,696.10	\$34,475.72	(42,171.82)	\$0.00
K-9 ACCOUNT	\$407.61	\$0.00	0.00	\$407.61
LATCF GRANT	\$97,953.60	\$0.00	0.00	\$97,953.60
MV LICENSES	\$1,495.42	\$90,010.50	(90,010.50)	\$1,495.42
MV SALES TAX	\$42,749.63	\$132,666.18	(123,973.43)	\$51,442.38
MV TAX	\$217,724.60	\$274,258.38	(267,138.69)	\$224,844.29
NEIGHBORHOOD REVITAL FUND	\$400.00	\$115,178.39	(114,778.39)	\$800.00
OPIOID PROGRAM	\$17,750.31	\$987.77	0.00	\$18,738.08
P.A.T. FUND	\$23,889.52	\$435.00	0.00	\$24,324.52
R V TAX	\$3,767.01	\$5,004.48	(4,510.96)	\$4,260.53
RCD KDOC FUND	\$584.44	\$14,033.29	(9,135.45)	\$5,482.28
RCD ORIGINAL FUND	\$144,880.51	\$21,470.51	(55,220.64)	\$111,130.38
RCD-SPECIAL PROJECT	\$6,906.23	\$0.00	0.00	\$6,906.23
REDEMPTIONS	\$83,284.15	\$116,981.63	(28,636.13)	\$170,629.65
REGISTERED OFFENDER	\$4,267.50	\$260.00	0.00	\$4,527.50
PROJEC	\$175,000.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$175,000.00
RIVER VALLEY EXT NO 4	\$0.00	\$46,433.59	(46,433.59)	\$0.00
ROAD & BRIDGE	\$2,568,389.89	\$876,513.15	(875,014.00)	\$2,569,889.04
RP COUNTY 911	\$24,236.86	\$17,534.35	(15,315.09)	\$26,456.12
SALES TAX-NEW HOSPITAL	\$144,800.31	\$290,555.65	(361,133.06)	\$74,222.90
SHORT/LONG	\$240.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$240.00
SP HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS	\$457,847.98	\$0.00	(166,389.47)	\$291,458.51
SP PARKS & RECREATION	\$18,053.66	\$673.18	0.00	\$18,726.84
SP BRIDGE	\$694,698.97	\$45,652.22	(21,575.06)	\$718,776.13
SPEC CLERK TECH FUND	\$9,103.37	\$560.13	(301.68)	\$9,361.82
SPEC TREASURER TECH FUND	\$2,062.37	\$539.44	(640.58)	\$1,961.23
SPECIAL AUTO	\$34,695.90	\$11,093.75	(10,554.93)	\$35,234.72
SPECIAL EQUIPMENT	-\$35,024.18	\$61,959.24	(97,090.20)	(\$70,155.14)
SPECIAL GUN PERMIT	\$1,330.00	\$32.50	0.00	\$1,362.50
SPECIAL REGISTER OF DEEDS	\$60,480.84	\$2,309.07	(46.55)	\$62,743.36
TAX SALE	-\$621.00	\$0.00	0.00	(\$621.00)
TOTAL CEMETERIES	\$37.35	\$25,495.64	(26,501.10)	\$2,031.94
TOWNSHIPS	\$0.00	\$8,580.29	(8,580.29)	\$0.00
TRANSPORTATION	\$124,857.01	\$21,181.11	(28,293.51)	\$117,744.61
UNCLAIMED LEGACY	\$107.93	\$0.00	0.00	\$107.93
USD DISTRICTS	\$0.00	\$1,262,743.18	(1,262,743.18)	\$0.00
WASTE	\$262,147.56	\$141,212.82	(95,400.73)	\$307,959.65
WASTE POST CLOSURE	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$75,000.00
WEEDS	\$100,429.98	\$23,863.54	(41,990.82)	\$82,302.70
WORTHLESS CHECK TRUST	\$8,742.62	\$0.00	0.00	\$8,742.62
TOTAL	\$13,143,440.89	\$10,493,587.51	(10,488,059.49)	\$13,151,968.96

I certify that the foregoing accounts are just and correct and have been received and paid. All accounts payable are on file in the office of the County Clerk. Kathleen L. Marsicek