

# Community News



## Porch Swing Conversations

Jeanie Hart

www.fstribune.com

### It has begun and Spring Salad

What has begun you say? Bugs! With this wet spring, flies, ticks and even June bugs are zoning in on us. We had to stop last week and shoo a wasp from the car. Husband hates wasps like I hate snakes. He survived.

We had a lovely day last Saturday. It was the annual Ottawa Quilt show and it is one of my favorite spring days. Now, before you feel sorry for Husband at a quilt show, you need to know that we lived in Ottawa for seven years. So, he saw several friends at the show, then we toured the town, (it has changed, but it hasn't changed) drove by our former house and ate at our favorite restaurant. When we lived there we often ate at the Little Dragon, but I'm sorry to say that even the building is gone now. They had the very best cashew chicken. Oh, well.

At the quilt show the members always sell their excess tools, patterns and fabrics so I like to paw through everything. My purchases included rulers for Husband (see, he didn't leave empty handed), fat quarters and what I always look for – depression era fabric already started in blocks. Many times people will begin a project and for some reason not finish it. That's what I'm looking for in the traditional patterns and old fabric. I got a bunch of stars and some flower garden unfinished blocks. The next step is to decide what to do with them! I must say though, every time I leave a show like that I



Jeanie Hart photo

### Spring Salad, an original recipe, great for spring or summer meals.

get ideas, but I also walk away feeling more than a little inadequate. Wow! I love color and some of the patterns were just fabulous. I'm auditioning the blocks for future projects and the show inspired me. We even stopped and bought food for Sunday's dinner.

I need the rain to stop for my attitude and for my poor right knee. I've had others tell me that they are paddling that same boat and need warm, dry weather to feel better. Last Saturday to Ottawa I didn't dress warmly enough and it was chilly even inside.

OK. This recipe is rather simple and you may wonder why I included it. Well, I haven't baked for a while and sometimes I like simple. It's of my own making and changes each time I fix it, therefore you can do the same. So here goes.

### Simple Salad

Romaine lettuce, cut up. You can use spinach or regular lettuce

Carrot, cut in small bits  
Celery, cut in small bits  
Cherry tomatoes, cut in half

Grapes, cut in half  
Strawberries, cut in pieces

Banana, sliced  
Shredded cheese  
Sweet pickle, chopped  
Olives, chopped  
Bacon bits  
Sunflower seeds

I used poppy seed dressing and Husband used his choice

Just pile the stuff of your choosing on top of the lettuce. Now, you could top it with sliced chicken nuggets, tuna, ham, or almost any leftover meat. This could also be a side salad to accompany the main entree.

## Tri-Valley receives Fort Scott Area Community Foundation grant

### SUBMITTED TO THE TRIBUNE

Tri-Valley Developmental Services (TVDS) was the recipient of a \$475 grant from the Fort Scott Area Community Foundation. The gift was used to purchase Friendships and Dating program developed by the University of Alaska - Anchorage. The program will be used to educate individuals with I/DD on the development of healthy, meaningful relationships and prevent interpersonal violence.

"We are grateful to the Fort Scott Area Community Foundation for their generosity in helping us purchase this educational tool," said Bill Fiscus, CEO. "The Fort Scott Area Community Foundation was there to help us, and we appreciate it. The training is already providing huge dividends." The Fort Scott Area Com-



Submitted photo

### Brenda Harrison, Tri-Valley Developmental Services Director of Programming, reviews information for the Friendship and Dating program.

munity Foundation hosts individual charitable funds created by donors who have a passion for giving back to their community. Grants from these funds assist peo-

ple throughout Fort Scott and Bourbon County. Call the Foundation at 620-244-6500 with questions about the Community Foundation.

## Items from the past

### Lightning strikes Catholic church

25 Years Ago  
2000  
May 3

Nurses and other health-care workers will have the opportunity to learn a variety of stress reduction and relaxation techniques at a special one-day workshop May 20 at Fort Scott Community College. "Caring for the Caregiver; Strategies for Relaxation and Stress Reduction" will be held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 20 in the FSCC Cafeteria.

50 Years Ago  
1975  
May 3

Sister Mary Julita, past director of the Mercy School of Nursing, has been notified that all 19 students in the school's last graduating class have passed their state exams. "We congratulate both the students and the instructors for their fine performance," said Sister Mary Trinity, Mercy Hospital administrator.

75 Years Ago  
1950  
May 3

If weather permits, the Oakley Flying Service of Topeka will send two

twin-motored planes over the city early tomorrow evening in the first aerial spraying of Fort Scott in the city's history. This is an effort to save the city's elm trees from the third year of infestation by elm tree canker worms. Citizens are advised to cover any drinking water for pets, chickens, or livestock, or replenish water immediately after the spraying is done. The spray is not poisonous, but leaves a scum on water. Clothes should be off of Fort Scott lines before 4 p.m. However officials say, the spray will wash out of clothes and off of cars and other vehicles without damage to the finish.

100 Years Ago  
1925  
May 5

The children's May Day party was held Saturday at the Country Club. The committee in charge included Mrs. Frank Crain, Mrs. Walter Ryan, Mrs. Brown Penniman, Mrs. Tom Givens, Mrs. Tom Givens, Mrs. James Sheppard and Mrs. Frank Davis. Brick ice cream and cake were served at long tables in the

dining room. The children "caught" toys in a fish pond.

125 Years Ago  
1900  
May 3

During the rain and electrical storm yesterday afternoon, lightning struck one of the large chimneys of the Catholic church and totally destroyed it and did considerable damage on the inside of the building. The church seems to have some attraction for lightning, as it was struck last year and considerable damage was done. The residence of John A. Reeds on South National Avenue was also struck during the storm. The lightning struck the cupola at the front of the house and passed down and out through the pump in the kitchen. The cupola was almost totally demolished and considerable plaster was torn from the room directly below. Mrs. Reeds had been doing some sewing in the room and had just gone downstairs when the building was struck. The lightning also did some damage to the switchboard at the Mutual Telephone central office and impaired phone service for a short time.

## Patrol car replacement

Continued from Page 1

Martin said he has received the same information from the Raymond James representative, who set up the language for the jail sales tax. The representative will explain details on the sales tax funding to commissioners in the future.

Walker said the "good news" is the sales tax is "producing as it should and above." Figures had started to decrease, then show an increase.

"They will continue to drop for a little while because we were transferring money from this fund for jail operations," she said.

Commissioner Mika Milburn-Kee asked which route would lead to not raising property taxes. Murphy said at some point, commissioners will "have to raise the mill levy to offset this cost for operations either in patrol or corrections. You're just going to have to."

"Eventually, this is all going to have to come back to the sheriff's office," Walker said.

Murphy said the money that is generated for the jail is "not sustainable."

"That could change tomorrow," he said. "The counties we work hard to keep contracts with could come in and say 'we're not housing there anymore' and pull funding. It's that simple. It could happen overnight."

Murphy said as a retired sheriff, he thinks the jail revenue should be set aside

in the event of a "major problem" at the jail. As an example, he said an HVAC system in Allen County cost \$115,000. He said the jail only makes money through out-of-county inmates.

Walker said there is money available for emergencies, and some of those dollars could be used to help offset costs.

Murphy said when he served as sheriff in Allen County, the county had a jail board and money was brought in from outside counties to offset bond payments for a new facility.

"We weren't always good on that," he said. "At one point, a couple of years prior to my administration, we didn't bring anything in. We were out \$226,000 and we had to come out of the general fund. Once our bonds were paid off, I asked the commission if we can keep that fund going. I had done my due diligence to keep those monies coming in to offset these large costs should they arise. Lo and behold, the first year after we paid it off, again I had \$115,000 worth of HVAC to replace."

Milburn-Kee asked what happens when other counties begin building their own jails.

"Then we don't have that revenue," Beerbower said.

"It goes away," Murphy said.

Beerbower said revenue from housing inmates occurs in jurisdictions which have overcrowding in their jails. Murphy said Bourbon County houses inmates for Douglas and Wyandotte counties, which have no space. He said other

counties can "shop around" to save costs.

"We've got to watch what we charge them," Martin said. If it's quite a bit, they can go somewhere else. It's basically a bidding game. We have to watch what we do but we don't want to cut our own necks for doing that."

Martin said during discussions on jail populations last year, it was discovered through research by Bourbon County Law Enforcement Center Major Luke Demko that Johnson County is not "overpopulated. They're underpopulated, they have space. They don't use it."

Martin said the jail is able to house inmates from Wyandotte and Douglas counties through Demko's connections and networking.

Martin said when counties find another place that is cheaper to house inmates, he is faced with replacing those inmates.

"We can't really be dependent on this, the funds that are there. It's not a guarantee," he said.

"No, but that's what we have available today," Walker said.

Murphy said the jail funds are typically earmarked for the "safety and security" of the jail facility, and includes the building and maintenance. He said since January about \$60,000 was paid on plumbing in the facility.

"The money could be used for that," he said. "My idea is to set that money aside so it's not tied into the county general."

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A Rust Communications MOKS LLC publication  
6 N. Main, Fort Scott, KS • 620-223-2110  
The Fort Scott Tribune is published, Wednesday and Saturday mornings, except certain holidays.

If you have news of general interest, please phone The Fort Scott Tribune at (620) 223-2110. Display and classified advertisements can be placed between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday by calling (620) 223-2110.

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Letters submitted for publication should be typed or clearly written and should bear the signature of the writer, as well as an address and telephone number that the editor may use to reach the writer for verification or clarification. Unsigned letters will be immediately rejected.

The Tribune reserves the right to edit letters to correct spelling or grammar or due to space constraints or policy guidelines. Preference is given to letters of local interest. **Letters for or against political candidates or issues will be not be accepted.**

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