Diaper donations at this morning’s “Coffee with a Cop” were fantastic, but City Administrator Laura Smith is going one step further! She says: “I am going to challenge all our awesome Facebook followers and friends to help us knock this diaper drive for HappyBottoms.org out of the park! I’ll personally match the next 25 diaper donations we receive at City Hall between now and Wednesday’s Council meeting.” Game on, Mission! And thanks in advance!

Did you know, if 1% of the Kansas population is under counted in the 2020 Census, the state of Kansas could miss receiving approximately $603,990,400 in federal funding over a 10-year period? This week, the League of Kansas Municipalities, and their Census 2020 partners, launched the official website for the 2020 Census in Kansas.

You can visit www.KansasCounts.org for information on your community and to find resources to promote the census in your community. Check out the ‘government resources’ tab for city-specific data. Ensure you count, ensure your community counts, ensure Kansas Counts by participating in the 2020 Census! Laura and Emily are staying connected to the Johnson County Complete County committee and will update our informational platforms and social media appropriately to encourage participation in the census.

Did you Know?

Paraskevidekatriaphobia” is the official name for a fear of Friday the 13th? In 2013, Donald Dossey, a folklore historian and founder of the Stress Management Center and Phobia Institute in Asheville, North Carolina, estimated that “$800 or $900 million is lost in business on [Friday the 13th] because people will not fly or do business they normally would.”

Statistically speaking, Friday the 13th is actually safer than most days? Whether this is because people are staying at home, fearfully tucked in bed, seems unlikely, but the Dutch Centre for Insurance Statistics conducted a study in 2008 that showed there were fewer traffic accidents, fires and robberies on Friday the 13th, compared to other Fridays.

WELCOME PENN!

Our new Parks and Recreation Director, Penn Almoney officially joined the Mission team this week. We have wasted no time introducing to all the great people and programs we offer. Watch for details regarding a “Meet and Greet” at the Community Center next week.

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Weekly Top 4 (too long for 5 this week)

- Commissioner Becky Fast will attend the next meeting of the Sustainability Commission for an informal discussion with the group about their work and their thoughts for the future for Johnson County. The Johnson County Solid Waste Management Plan was approved this week. Emily has copies. Commissioner Fast will also be attending the October Council meeting to provide an update.

- Several members of the Mission Police Department joined other first responders for the 9-11 Heroes Luncheon at Rushton Elementary School on Wednesday. It is always a great opportunity to build relationships with our youth and support the men and women who “serve and protect” us each day.

- Gateway Project Update: All of the piers and grade beams for Cinergy (outside of the area of the JCW main relocation) have been drilled and poured. VCC has a plumbing crew and an electrical crew doing underground rough in for the next two weeks. Sewer main relocation continued with Emory Sapp completing the install of the new pipe. The pump around pipe was sleeved under Roe, and this work will continue through ext week.

- KCPL confirmed receipt of the letter from Roeland Park assuming responsibility for 25% of the cost of the traffic signal at Johnson Drive/Roe going forward. Mission was asked to send a letter indicating our intent to pay 75%. De-annexation discussions have gone very well this week.

The Summit is finally here! We look forward to Mission representatives bringing back lots of good information to share and spur conversations in the months ahead. If you are still interested in attending, the afternoon session is open to the public.

Repairs of a recent stormwater pipe failure shows the challenge cities face with the corrugated metal pipe (CMP) that was installed for many decades in cities across the country.

When water rests in the ridges of the corrugation, it causes the pipe to rust and deteriorate. Many of the CMP pipes in Mission look similar to the pipe you see on the left of the photo.

As that pipe is replaced with the new material, either a thermoplastic HDPE pipe like you see on the right, or in some cases, reinforced concrete pipe, we have something that is built to last. Some even estimate a 100 year life span.

City of Mission - Employee Profile

Aaron Cherry—Facilities & Maintenance Supervisor
Employee since: July 9, 2018

What do you do?

As Facilities and Maintenance Supervisor, I maintain all of the building's mechanical systems to make sure they operate as efficiently as possible. I also oversee all of our outside service contractors that come on site to make equipment repairs.

What do you like most about your job?

Seeing the smiling faces from all ages - from kids playing in the gym to seniors talking to friends while walking around the track.

How does your work impact the lives of Mission residents?

Ensuring the building functions and operates correctly while we are open for business every day, allows members to have a pleasant visit while exercising or conducting meetings in one of the conference/meeting rooms.