



WELCOME TO  
**AMERICUS**

FOUNDED IN 1857

"A PLACE TO CALL HOME"



- 1st - Laverne Soetebier  
Pat Sutton
- 2nd - Kailyn Schlimme  
Steven Romeis
- 7th - Briley Cannon
- 10th - Brian Cannon  
Cindy Edmiston
- 14th - Cohen Heiman
- 15th - Emerie Morgan
- 19th - Dee Matile
- 22nd - Rosalie Edmiston  
Cheyenna Riley
- 23rd - Emily Centlivre
- 24th - John Soetebier
- 26th - Anna Crabtree
- 28th - Karis Williams
- 30th - Dylan Kosinski

Tim & Shelli Deleamp  
December 25th

- PLANNING & ZONING BOARD**  
City Hall  
1st Monday @ 6:00 pm
- AMERICUS REC. ORGANIZATION**  
NLC Elementary  
3rd Wednesday @ 6:30 p.m.
- CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING**  
City Hall  
2nd Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.
- FIRE BOARD MEETING**  
Library  
2nd Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m.
- TOWNSHIP LIBRARY BOARD**  
Library  
4th Monday @ 5:30 p.m.
- MUNICIPAL COURT**  
City Hall  
2nd Wednesday @ 3:00 p. m.
- AMERICUS TOWNSHIP**  
Library  
Last Thursday @ 7:30 p.m.
- RWD #1 BOARD**  
3rd Tuesday @ 7:30  
Water Board Office  
2501 W. 18th, Emporia

Trash pick up will be on Saturday  
December 30th and Saturday  
January 6th because of the  
holidays.

**CITY HALL WILL  
BE CLOSED**

**DECEMBER 25TH FOR  
CHRISTMAS  
&  
JANUARY 1ST FOR  
NEW YEARS**

WISHING EVERYONE TRUE

*Happiness and Peace*

THIS CHRISTMAS AND  
INTO THE NEW YEAR!

Mayor Wright, Council Members  
and staff at the City of Americus

**ATTENTION**

**ALL PROPERTY OWNERS:**

Sewer accounts must be paid in full by  
12:00 noon on Friday, Dec. 29, 2023.

A \$100 late fee will be applied to all  
accounts with a balance at 12:00 noon on  
Friday December 29, 2023.

# Americus Police Department

Non emergency number: 620-487-5899



## Code Enforcement Violation Notices Served

### KNOW YOUR SPEED

The city has purchased a speed indicator sign. The sign will be moved to different location around town.



## From City Hall:

The following minutes are from the November 14th business meeting. As of print time the minutes have not been approved by the council.

#### MINUTES

AMERICUS CITY COUNCIL

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14 2023 – 7:00 P.M.

#### CITY HALL

**CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Dustin Wright. Council members present were HAMLIN, BURTON, HARMON, and HINRICHS. NUESSEN was absent. Also present were City Clerk Jana Smart, City Treasurer Brian Anstey, Police Chief Jody Meyers, and maintenance Nick Gadino.

**VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** David Goldsmith and Cindy Jensen (arrived at 7:11 p.m.)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** September 12 th public hearing, September 12 th budget hearing, September 12 th business meeting. Moved by HAMLIN to approve the September 12 th public hearing, September 12 th budget hearing, and the September 12 th business meeting. Motion seconded by HINRICHS. 3-0-1 vote. BURTON abstained. October 11 th business meeting. Pass

**BILLS TO PAY:** Moved by BURTON to approve the accounts payable for November 2023 in the amount of \$15,249.13. Motion seconded by HARMON, 4-0 vote.

#### REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

**MAINTENANCE:** They have been busy winterizing. The sewer adjustment riser ring came in and is installed at College Block and they are getting ready to put up Christmas decorations.

**PROJECT PLAYSCAPE:** Match Day was yesterday, November 13. Jana and Britney went in and volunteered for a few hours. Checks for Match Day will be handed out on November 28 th at the Flint Hills Mall starting at 10 a.m. Look forward to a few upcoming fundraisers!

**CLERK:** The employee's health insurance through Blue Cross and Blue Shield is up 15.25% for 2024.

**ADOPT THE AGENDA:** Moved by BURTON to adopt the agenda. Motion seconded by HINRICHS, 4-0 vote.

1. **DAVID GOLDSMITH:** College Block. He has questions on the marketing/advertising/commission on the sale of the lots at College Block. The city clerk will direct the questions to legal and then get back to him. David left at 7:09 p.m.

**2. KVOE:** Area Game of the Week sponsor. Northern Heights will have 3 area game of the week games on KVOE. The total for all 3 games would be \$126. Moved by BURTON to sponsor the 3 Northern Heights basketball games on KVOE for \$126. Motion seconded by HINRICHS. 4-0 vote.

**3. CHRISTMAS PARADE:** Project Playscape. The annual Christmas parade is scheduled for Saturday, December 2 nd . HINRICHS has asked for \$175 for Santa’s travel expenses and \$300 for items for the Christmas event. Moved by HARMON to pay \$175 for Santa’s travel expenses. Motion seconded by BURTON. 4-0 vote. Moved by HAMLIN to pay \$300 for items for the Christmas event. Motion seconded by HARMON. 4-0 vote. Will also need the road closed for the parade. Moved by BURTON to close Main Street from Walnut to Broadway on Saturday, December 2 nd from 6-8 p.m. contingent upon the ok from the county. Motion seconded by HAMLIN. 4-0 vote. HINRICHS is working on dates in December for a breakfast and a kids book swap at the community center and would like to ask the council to waive the rental fee for the events. Consensus of the council to waive the fee for the December events for Project Playscape.

**4. CASEY’S CMB LICENSE RENEWAL:** The city has received everything needed to renew the CMB license for 2024 and there have been no filed complaints. Moved by BURTON to renew Casey’s CMB License for 2024. Motion seconded by HINRICHS. 4-0 vote.

**5. OPEN BURN POLICY:** Updates were added to the policy to make it read more clearly. Will post a copy in the city newsletter and copies will be available at City Hall. Moved by BURTON to update the City Burn Policy as per city code Chapter VII, Article 2, Section 7-204. Motion seconded by HAMLIN. 4-0 vote.

**6. CINDY JENSEN:** 2022 Audit report. Cindy reviewed the 2022 audit report with the council. Moved by HARMON to approve the 2022 audit report as presented. Motion seconded by HINRICHS. 4-0 vote.

Moved by HARMON to adjourn at 7:27 p.m. Motion seconded by BURTON. 4-0 vote.

AGENDA  
AMERICUS CITY COUNCIL  
BUSINESS MEETING

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2023 – 7:00 P.M.

CITY HALL

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL:

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October 10 th business meeting and November 14 th business meeting

BILLS TO PAY:

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

PROJECT PLAYSCAPE:

MAINTENANCE:

CLERK:

ADOPT THE AGENDA

**1. 2023 BUDGET: Encumbrances**

**2. ACCOUNT MODIFICATION FORM:** Approval of 2023 form

**3. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Non-elected personnel matters

# M.A.D.

Plumbing & General  
**Licensed and Bonded**  
Maintenance  
Free Estimates



Mark Dixon  
406 Hackberry  
Americus, Ks  
620-443-5386 or  
620-794-1417



## NEW POLICY in effect:

In an effort to improve the appearance of our cemeteries especially with mowing and weed-eating the Americus Township Board has adopted a policy banning the planting of trees, shrubs, plants or flowers in the cemetery. Signs have been ordered and will be put in place in the near future. We also ask that when placing other items that they be placed in such a manner as to not interfere with maintenance. We appreciate your cooperation.



**\$2.50/ Dozen**

Robert & Linda Clark 620-443-5257 Please leave a message if no answer.

## C P ROOFING & TREE SERVICE LLC Contractor

cproofing11@yahoo.com

(620) 794-4387

Free Estimates

Fully Insured



**DOO LITTLE TRAILER MFG.** **LOAD TRAIL**

**Diligent Trailers**  
Sales & Service

**Bobcat**

Open Monday-Saturday  
**Diligenttrailers.com**  
1521 Road 175 Emporia, KS  
620-342-6456

**NEXTECH wireless**  
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# Spring Lawn Care Packages Available Now

Mowing • Fertilizing • Weed Control  
Lawn Insect Treatments • Leaf Removal  
Landscaping & Landscaping Maintenance  
Sprinkler Systems and More



SET ANNUAL PRICING • NO CONTRACTS • CANCEL SERVICES ANYTIME



RICHMOR  
LAWN CARE LLC

620-341-3890  
WWW.RICHMORLAWNS.COM



## Harry & Lloyds

**Sports Bar** 608 Main Street ~ Phone 443-5066

Give us a call for carry-out service



Call us to schedule your  
Patio Party

- \* Graduation, \* Birthday,
- \* Reunion \* Just a get together

We are your party headquarters.

**OPEN**

Tuesday - Thursday 5:00 p - 8:00 p  
Friday & Saturday 5:00 p - 2:00 a  
Sunday 3:00 p - 7:00 p



CHECK US OUT ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR  
LIVE MUSIC ON WEEKENDS.

**DO NOT FLUSH  
WET WIPES  
DOWN THE TOILET  
DON'T BELIEVE  
THE HYPE...  
FLUSHABLE WIPES  
CLOG OUR SYSTEM.**



### **Small Engine Repair**

2348 Rd F4 Across the road from the Baptist Church

We service lawn mowers, chainsaws, weed eaters, tillers, and small engines. Chainsaw sharpening, mower blades and parts available.

PICK-UP AND DELIVERY AVAILABLE.  
WE ARE REASONABLY PRICED.

Call Larry Edmiston:

443-5993 or 794-4501



## **McKee's Gifts**

### **Flinthills Mall**

Hours 11:00 am to 7:00 pm

**From November 24th  
To December 24th**



### ***Cindy's Leather Repair***

2348 Rd F4 across the road from the Baptist Church

All types of leather repairing:  
Now rebuilding Birkenstocks from the bottom up



- \*Belts \* Purses
- \*Saddles \* Boots/Shoes
- \*Zipper Repair
- \*Replace Shoe Heel
- \*Prescription Shoe Lifts

Call Cindy Edmiston  
443-5993 Leave a Message

# Gifts For The King

Christmas is more than a holiday and a day off from work. It's actually Jesus' birthday. What we see today is quite a contrast with the simple stable where Jesus was born. And the gifts we give to each other were originally meant to be given to Jesus.

Even when Jesus was born, King Herod set out to kill Him. But, Jesus was sent by God for a special purpose and mission. That's why we can sing, "Joy to the World" because we know who He is.

*"For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace". (Isaiah 9:6)*

Countryside Baptist Church  
Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m

6 First Street, Americus Ks.  
Pastor Rich Arnold



## Choose how you want to mentor:

### Community-Based

- ✔ Individual, couple, or family match options
- ✔ Plan your own activities in the community or at home with your Little
- ✔ Flexibility in scheduling hangouts
- ✔ Meet 2 times a month

### Site-Based

- ✔ Visit your Little on a designated day once a week at their school
- ✔ Play games, go outside, do homework, or talk
- ✔ Meet for an hour or less each week

Scan to become a Big or learn more



KANSASBIGS.ORG/BE-A-BIG | FOLLOW US



**AMERICUS**  
*Community Center*

516 Locust Street ~ Americus, KS 66835  
For reservations call City Hall at 620-443-5655

For more information on renting the  
**Americus Community Center**  
call Americus City Hall at  
620-443-5655.



## Americus United Methodist Church

413 Walnut, Americus, KS  
620-443-5371

Adult Sunday School  
Sundays at 9:30 am  
Worship Service  
Sundays at 10:30 am  
Children's Sunday School  
During services

### Americus Community Food Pantry

*The pantry will be pre-boxed pickup only*

**Tuesday**

**Saturday**

*December 5th*  
6:00pm. - 7:30 pm.

*December 16th*  
9:30 am. - 11:00am.

We welcome any nonperishable donations. Drop off on the parsonage porch or contact the church at 620.443.5371. Thank you to the community for all donations

Social distancing practices will be in place. Open to those living in USD 251 school district.

**DURING SERVICES A NURSERY IS AVAILABLE.  
WE INVITE ALL TO JOIN US.**



## Countryside Baptist Church

6 First Street, P.O. Box 524  
Americus, KS 66835

### SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages  
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship (nursery available)

**Pastor Rich Arnold**

Call 620-343-1546,  
For more information.

For a Bus Ride to Church, call (620)443-5177

Just a thought: Isn't it amazing that we celebrate Christmas at the end of the year so that we can start the New Year with excitement and hope that the birth of baby Jesus gives us?

## Amish Woodwork

Sheds  
Furniture  
Playsets

Great Products & Service

See Our New  
Location

Exit 135 off of I35



1521 Road 175 Emporia, KS  
620-208-7433

amishwoodwork.com

Like us on Facebook

Carports  
Garages  
Barns



Check out our calendar online  
[americusrec.org](http://americusrec.org)

Or for more information contact:  
Ashley Darbro (620) 794-1119  
darbroa@usd251.org





**EK REAL ESTATE, INC**  
**1201 W. 6TH - EMPORIA, KS**



Thinking of Selling your Home?

Call us for a free Market Analysis to assist in determining what your home is worth as well as tips on getting it ready to put on the market.

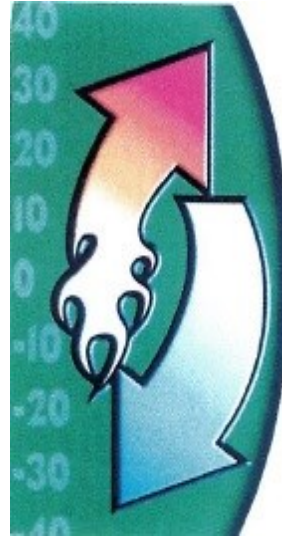


**Financing!** Americus is eligible for 100% Rural Development financing. Ask us about first time home buyers grants available for qualified buyers.



Lacie Hamlin - Cell: (620) 481-0213  
 Email: laciehamlin@gmail.com

# Air Conditioning Specialists



- ~ **Heating**
- ~ **Cooling**
- ~ **Refrigeration**
- ~ **Free Estimates**

Casey Crist **620.343.0889**

## Americus Township Library

710 Main Street/ PO BOX 404  
 Phone: 443-5503 Fax: 443-5218  
 Email: americuslibrary@gmail.com  
 Webpage: americus.lib.nckls.org  
 Facebook: americuslibrary.facebook.com

**Library Hours:**  
 Mon, Wed, Fri: 12:30-5:00pm  
 Tues, Thurs: 9a - 12p and 1p - 5:00pm  
 Sat: 9a-12p (afternoon closed)  
 Sunday: closed

The library is collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Northeast Kansas (Topeka). When aluminum pop tabs are sent they are taken to a recycling center. The money then goes back into the House for general operating expenses.

Closed December 23rd through December 25th.

**Many Adult and Children's books for sale**  
**Price: Free will donation**

### Preschool Story Time

Thursdays 10:00 to 10:30 am  
 December 7th and 14th. Will resume January 11th.

The Crayon Initiative is a wonderful organization. When you donate your unwanted or broken crayons, they will recycle them into new ones. These new crayons are then donated to schools, hospitals, or art programs. The library has a drop-box!



Do you think you would qualify for **HOME BOUND LIBRARY SERVICES?**

Call us to see how we can help!



## **Burn Policy**

As per city code Chapter VII. Fire, Article 2, Section 7-204

### **OPEN BURNING.**

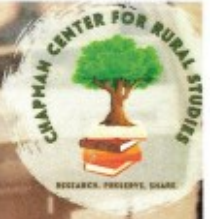
Open burning is defined as the burning of any materials wherein air contaminants resulting from combustion are emitted directly into the ambient air without passing through a stack or chimney.

Open burning is restricted to:

- (a) The hours of sunrise but must be extinguished before sunset.
- (b) Leaves, tree trimmings no larger than one person can handle, and naturally occurring landscape waste only. No trash, household furnishings or construction waste.
- (c) Burning off yard grass, ditches, other natural vegetation in close proximity to combustible structures is permitted with appropriate supervision and water supply.
- (d) Bona fide controlled burnings conducted by the Americus Fire Department, Americus, Lyon County, Kansas, or its successor in interest, pursuant to a training program that is designed to insure that firefighters are trained and capable of meeting emergencies.
- (e) Must be supervised at all times and have a water source present to extinguish the burn immediately if conditions change.
- (f) Must be Reported in the Lyon County online Burn website  
[www.lyoncounty911.org/burn](http://www.lyoncounty911.org/burn)  
Questions—[www.lyoncounty911.org/burn-faq](http://www.lyoncounty911.org/burn-faq)
- (g) Open burning shall not be:
  - (1) Within a commercial zone as designed by the zoning ordinance of the city.
  - (2) Within 50 feet of any structure except in approved burner built of brick, cement, stone, or metal located not less than 15 feet from any structure and constructed in a manner to securely confine burning material and with all openings protected with steel netting of ½ inch mesh or with steel plate with no larger than ½ inch holes therein.
  - (3) Upon any street or alley open to vehicular traffic or upon any sidewalk of the city.

Recreational fires shall not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure of combustible material unless contained in a barbeque device. (Ord. 431, Sec. 3)

Barbeque device is defined as any appropriate manufactured device that is designed to contain an open flame.



# PRESERVE YOUR *Family History*

## JOIN US FOR DIGITIZATION DAY



*When:*

1:00 PM - 3:30 PM  
December 8, 2023



*Where:*

Americus Township Library  
710 Main St, Americus, KS 66835



*What can you digitize?*

- Single or multi-page documents such as newsletters or smaller maps
- Flat documents such as letters and posters up to 8 1/2" x 11"
- Photographs up to 8 1/2" x 11"

\*Staff will be available to discuss film and audio digitization upon request.\*



**FOR MORE INFO OR TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE:**

[ksu.edu/chapman/preserve/DigitizationDays.html](https://ksu.edu/chapman/preserve/DigitizationDays.html)

785-532-0380  
CHAPMANCENTER@KSU.EDU



# Kids Winter Book Swap



**When:** Wednesday, December 6th

**Where:** Americus Community Center

**Time:** 5:00–8:00 pm

## How does a Book Swap Work?

Kids can bring up to 3 books from home to swap out with different books!



## Additional Fun:

Kids can make a Gingerbread craft & decorate their own Gingerbread!



Please RSVP on Facebook event page or at [projectplayscape4community@gmail.com](mailto:projectplayscape4community@gmail.com) so we have enough supplies!

# HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES

## 2023 THEME: GINGERBREAD CHRISTMAS

### GINGERBREAD CONTEST

Enter your gingerbread cookie and/or Gingerbread house to win a holiday gift basket with gift card!

\*Cookie &/Or house should be delivered to Americus City Hall by Friday (12/1) or Americus Fire Dept. between 5-6PM (12/2)

We will display entries at the Cookies w/Santa Event where the community can vote!

### AMERICUS CHRISTMAS PARADE

Saturday, December 2nd, 2023

LINE UP: 6:15 PM

PARADE STARTS: 7:00 PM

(Corner of Main & Walnut)

Entry Forms available at: Americus City Hall or Project Playscape Facebook or Event Page.

### COOKIES w/Santa Event following parade @ the Americus Fire Department

\*Sign up for family giveaways. (1 entry per family)

\*First 100 kids will get a Santa Goodie Treat Bag

\*Free Book per family until supply runs out.

\*Hot Chocolate & Cookies

\*Emporia Arts Mobile Craft!

\*Gloves for kids until supply runs out.

\*See Santa! Photo Op!

\*Collecting Donations for Americus Pantry & Lending Library.



Questions? Contact [projectplayscape4community@gmail.com](mailto:projectplayscape4community@gmail.com)

# Cookies with Santa Event

## Saturday, December 2nd-Following Parade



Project Playscape, City of Americus, & Americus Fire Dept. presents...

- \*Sign up for family giveaways. (1 entry per family)
- \*First 100 kids will get a Santa Goodie Treat Bag
- \*Free Book per family until supply runs out.
- \*Hot Chocolate & Cookies
- \*Emporia Arts Mobile Craft!
- \*Gloves for kids until supply runs out.
- \*See Santa! Photo Op!



*Happy Holidays!*



Drop your **Santa letter** in Santa's Mailbox. Be sure to include a return address, as Santa will send a reply letter.

## Donation Station:

- \*Americus Food Pantry: We are taking donations of any can or non-perishable item for the local pantry.
- \*Americus Lending Library: We are taking donations for any children's used books for placement at the lending library.



## NEW! Gingerbread Contest

Enter your Gingerbread cookie and/or Gingerbread house to win a holiday gift basket with gift card!

- \*Cookie &/Or house should be delivered to Americus City Hall by Friday 3pm (12/1) or Americus Fire Dept. between 5-6PM (12/2)
- We will display entries at the Cookies w/Santa Event where the community can vote!



# AMERICUS CHRISTMAS PARADE

## 2023 THEME: GINGERBREAD CHRISTMAS

Saturday, December 2nd, 2023

LINE UP: 6:15 PM

PARADE STARTS: 7:00 PM  
(Corner of Main & Walnut)

Entry Forms available at:  
Americus City Hall  
Project Playscape Facebook  
Event Page  
or QR code below

**COOKIES w/Santa Event following parade @  
the Americus Fire Department**



Questions? Contact [projectplayscape4community@gmail.com](mailto:projectplayscape4community@gmail.com)

Postal customer  
Americus, Kansas 66835

PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S.POSTAGE  
PAID  
EDDM Retail

## HOLIDAY HOURS

**FRIDAY DEC 22<sup>ND</sup> 7:30 TILL NOON**

**MONDAY DEC 25<sup>TH</sup> CLOSED**

**FRIDAY DEC 28<sup>TH</sup> 7:30 TILL 3 P.M.**

**MONDAY JAN 1<sup>ST</sup> 2024 CLOSED**



KansasLand Bank

702 Main St. Americus KS 66835

620-443-5163 Member FDIC

[www.kansaslandbank.com](http://www.kansaslandbank.com)



EQUAL HOUSING  
LENDER

### Lyon County Recycle Trailer

The recycle trailer is located on the south side of the grade school gym.



December Schedule  
6th & 20th  
January Schedule  
3rd & 17th

### City Hall

Hours:  
Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

PO Box 526  
Americus, KS 66835  
Phone: 620-443-5655  
Fax: 620-443-5644

[www.cityofamericus.municipalimpact.com](http://www.cityofamericus.municipalimpact.com)

Americus Police Department invites you to visit their Facebook page

*All newsletter submissions need to be into City Hall or emailed to*

[amcitynews@gmail.com](mailto:amcitynews@gmail.com)  
*by the 23<sup>rd</sup> of each month.*

### Americus Recycling Trailer

Located behind City Hall

Recycle items only.

Please break down all boxes and rinse all containers.

**Empty trash containers/bags into bins, do not dispose of plastic bags in the recycle bins.**

