

GARDEN CITY

Community Update

Summer 2026



Mayor's Message



As summer reaches its peak, Garden City is full of activity. From improving public safety to investing in our infrastructure and planning for the future, we continue making progress on the priorities that matter most to our residents and businesses. Thank you for your continued support and for helping make Garden City such a special place to live, work, and recreate.

One of my top priorities is ensuring our Greenbelt remains safe and enjoyable for everyone. This month, the City installed new Greenbelt safety signs reminding users to slow down, pass carefully, ride safely, and be courteous to others.

Garden City also joined the Treasure Valley Partnership and mayors from across the valley in a regional public awareness campaign promoting safe use of the Greenbelt. Together, we are working to educate the public about sharing our pathways responsibly while helping preserve these important community resources.

In addition, the City recently adopted an ordinance prohibiting electric dirt bikes and electric motorcycles from operating on the Greenbelt, in our parks, and on city streets where they are not legally permitted. These vehicles create significant safety concerns for pedestrians, cyclists, and families enjoying our parks. We appreciate everyone's cooperation as we continue working to keep Garden City safe.

Garden City has submitted an application to the Governor's Office requesting designation of a new Opportunity Zone within our community. If selected, this designation could attract significant private investment, encourage redevelopment of underutilized properties, create jobs, and support long-term economic growth. While the selection process is competitive, we believe Garden City is well-positioned and appreciate the support of our regional partners throughout the application process.

A sincere thank you to everyone who attended and supported this year's Library Bash. Thanks to the generosity of our community, the event raised over \$18,000 to support programs and services at our outstanding Garden City Library. Our library continues to be one of Garden City's greatest community assets, offering innovative programming for residents of all ages. Thank you to the sponsors, volunteers, staff, and everyone who helped make this year's event such a tremendous success.

Thank you for staying engaged and involved in our community. Garden City continues to move forward because of the dedication of our residents, businesses, volunteers, and community partners.

Bill Jacobs
Mayor, Garden City



WHAT'S NEW



Complete!

[ACHD's 43rd St. Enhanced Crossing Project, now through Summer, 2026](#)



So Chi

[Second urban renewal district proposed south of Chinden Boulevard.](#)

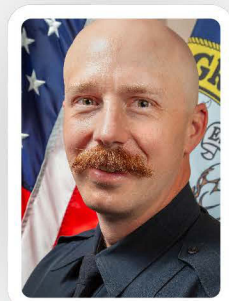


Calendar

America 250
Mural unveiling
watch our social media for details

Employee Spotlight

By
Ben Johnson



**GCPD
Officer Voth**

Meet Police Officer Christopher Voth. Four years into his career with the Garden City Police Department, Officer Voth has already made an impact in his community and earned recognition for his dedication, compassion, and commitment to making a difference in Garden City.

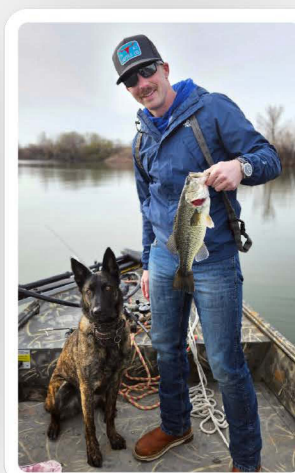
Voth was nominated for Officer of the Quarter twice, a recognition that reflects his dedication and commitment to the community. He also received a Chief's Citation for going above and beyond during a call that began as a routine welfare check and eventually became a heartwarming viral story.

The incident involved a welfare check of a woman who had been seen resting in a mechanic shop parking lot. After responding to the welfare call, Officer Voth learned that she had been walking several miles to and from work. Seeing an opportunity to help, Voth gave her a ride to the State and Glenwood bus stop and planned to purchase her a bicycle from Walmart out of his own pocket. After hearing Officer Voth's generosity, Walmart decided to partner with the Garden City Police Department to donate a bicycle to her instead.

That simple act of kindness became a turning point in the woman's life. She later reached out to the department through social media to share her story. With dependable transportation, she was able to continue working, save enough money to purchase a car, and eventually regain custody of her children.

When he's not on duty, Chris enjoys the great outdoors and spending time with his family. As the father of a new baby, he enjoys being a parent while taking advantage of all the recreation Idaho has to offer. Whether it's hunting, fishing, mountain biking, or skiing, he stays active outdoors.

Officer Voth's story reflects the values of the Garden City Police Department: Safety, Excellence, Respect, Valor, Integrity, Community, and Empathy. His career serves as a reminder that sometimes the greatest impact comes not from dramatic moments, but from small acts of kindness.



Community Updates



Celebrating Well-Deserved Promotions



Congratulations to Brydon Wiggins on his promotion to Sergeant and Jim O'Gorman on his promotion to Lieutenant. Their leadership, dedication, and commitment to serving our community have earned them these well-deserved advancements. We are proud to celebrate this exciting milestone and look forward to all they will accomplish in their new roles.



Summer Reading Party!

The Library is throwing an End-of-Summer reading party! The more we read together, the more fun we can have. Will we have crafts? Snow cones? Obstacle Course? Games? Music? Pizza? Each log turned in gains a point towards our goal. August 7, 2:30 - 4:00 pm.

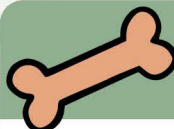
August Events



Western Idaho Fair starts



City Budget Public Hearing



National Dog month

August is National Dog Month!

[Make sure your dog has its license!](#) Licensing helps

responsible dog owners care for their dogs by helping reunite you and your dogs faster!



Flapjack Feed at **JUMP**

Mayor Jacobs will be flipping flapjacks from 8-8:30 AM, August 13th, for [United Way's annual Flapjack Feed](#) — a community breakfast with flying pancakes, live entertainment, and plenty of reasons to show up hungry.



August 13, 2026



7:30 - 10 AM (whole event)



[1000 W Myrtle St.](#)



NeighborWorks® Rake Up Boise™

Serving Boise, Garden City, Eagle, Kuna, Meridian, and Star!

Volunteer with a team, donate, or apply for assistance! [2026 Team registration opens in August!](#)



Bonnie, Hannah, and Kent enjoying time in the Sawtooth Wilderness and Sawtooth Lake

Kent Rasmussen

By Ben Johnson

Meet Garden City, City Council Member Kent Rasmussen. Elected in 2023, he is passionate about our city and enjoys leveraging all its attributes to the benefit of residents and visitors. He began his involvement with the city by serving on the Garden City Planning and Zoning Commission in 2019. He enjoyed his role of site evaluation for a large retail organization earlier in his career, making his work history align well with his volunteer service on the commission. Kent shared that the most rewarding part of serving the city is seeing how much Garden City residents and city staff genuinely care about the community and its future. He is particularly excited about the future redevelopment of the Ada County Highway District's facility on the east end of town and looks forward to supporting a plan to bring continued economic strength and vibrancy to the area and the city. Outside of city council, Rasmussen enjoys spending time outdoors with his family exploring the Idaho mountains and walking or biking along the Greenbelt. When he's looking for a bite to eat, some of his local favorites include Rosa and Spitfire, and he looks forward to more great places opening in the future. Rasmussen says he is grateful for the opportunity to serve the residents of Garden City and is excited about the city's future. As Garden City continues to grow, he is committed to helping support actions that create an even more livable and prosperous community that benefits all of us.



Labor Day holiday



IRU End-of-Float Season
Boise River Cleanup



GCPOA softball fundraiser
6 PM at Memorial Stadium



Sept. Library updates

[Friends of the Library.](#)
[Fall Book Sale](#)

Books, CDs, DVDs, puzzles, & more!

All proceeds benefit the Garden City Public Library.

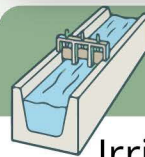
September 22nd - 25th, 2026

Tues 2:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Wed & Thurs 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Fri 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Friday is \$5 Bag-of-Books Day!



Canal Maintenance Coming This Fall

Irrigation canals are flowing, and annual maintenance is just around the corner. Once irrigation water is shut off on October 15, the local canal districts will clear vegetation & perform routine maintenance along the canals.

This helps keep the canal system operating safely and efficiently and is expected to continue through January or February 2027.

As you enjoy walks or bike rides along the canals this fall and winter, you may see maintenance crews and equipment at work. This is scheduled maintenance being performed by the canal districts, not the City of Garden City.

Please do not report these workers to Police or Fire unless you observe an actual emergency.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as this seasonal work is completed.



U of I plant diagnostic clinic ends in September

Get free gardening advice from volunteer [Idaho Master Gardeners](#) on plants, insects, & diseases!

📍 5880 Glenwood St., Garden City



River Clean-up Day

Idaho Rivers United is seeking volunteers for the End-of-Float-Season Clean-Up of the Boise River on **September 12, 2026**

[End-of-Float Season Party.](#)



Domestic Violence Awareness Month



AC Boise season ends



Trunk-or-Treat date to be announced



West Nile Virus tracker

[Ada Co. Mosquito Tracker map](#)



New e-moto laws

Let's Keep Our Greenbelt Safe & Enjoyable for Everyone.

The Boise River Greenbelt is one of our community's greatest treasures, a place to walk, bike, connect with nature, and enjoy the Boise River.

As more residents and visitors use this shared pathway, we all have a part in keeping it welcoming, safe, and enjoyable.

A reminder for Greenbelt users: high-speed electric dirt bikes and motocross-style electric motorcycles are not permitted on the Greenbelt, in public parks, or on city streets.

Approved e-bikes (750 watts or less) with proper classification labels, along with traditional bicycles, scooters, walkers, and runners, are welcome.

Help everyone enjoy the Greenbelt by practicing good trail etiquette:

- Keep right, pass on the left
- Let others know when passing
- Give pedestrians the right of way
- Maintain safe speeds
- Keep dogs leashed and pick up after them
- Respect wildlife and the natural environment
- Keep the pathway smoke-free

Thank you for doing your part to help protect and enjoy this incredible community resource!



Domestic Violence Awareness Month

[Each October, DVAM unites advocates across the nation in their efforts to end domestic violence.](#)



Winter Reading Program

Keep an eye on the [Library's Events page!](#) The Winter Reading Program will be in December!



Celebrating Lisa Mitchell

After more than 21 years of dedicated public service, Evidence Room

Manager Lisa Mitchell is retiring from the Garden City Police Department, leaving behind a remarkable legacy of leadership, professionalism, and service. Lisa began her career with the department as a Records Clerk from 2010–2011 before returning in 2014 as Evidence Room Manager. Throughout her career, her attention to detail and commitment to excellence played a critical role in numerous high-profile cases, helping bring offenders to justice. She also served her fellow officers as Treasurer and President of the Garden City Police Officers' Association, always willing to step up and support those around her. In recognition of her many contributions, Mayor William Jacobs proclaimed July 20, 2026, as Lisa Mitchell Day in Garden City. Lisa's dedication has made a lasting impact on the Police Department and the Garden City community. We are grateful for her years of service, her friendship, and the example she has set for others. Please join us in thanking Lisa for her commitment and wishing her a happy, healthy, and well-deserved retirement filled with new adventures and time to enjoy the things she loves. Congratulations, Lisa—you've certainly earned it!



Our writer: Ben Johnson

Ben is a volunteer marketing intern with the Garden City Marketing Committee and a Senior at BSU, studying Business Administration. Throughout his internship, Ben has interviewed inspiring community members and shared their stories in the city newsletter, as well as created social media content that helps keep residents informed and engaged. He takes pride in having the opportunity to support Garden City and share the stories of the people and projects that make it such a great place to live. Outside of work and school, Ben enjoys skiing, fishing, sports, and taking advantage of Idaho's great outdoors.