

Annual Celebration is now Salute to Summer Festival

It is almost time for La Vista's annual community celebration, known to many of you as La Vista Daze.

When festivities get underway this year over **Memorial Day Weekend, May 21-24**, the celebration will have a new name and a new brand. The **Salute to Summer Festival** will be full of fun, family-friendly activities and many of the same traditions you've come to love – the parade, community cookout, fireworks, car show and carnival will once again be part of the celebration.

The renaming and rebranding of this event is part of an effort to tie all of the summer activities together and develop a theme that carries from year to year. Our festival is the first in the metro area to kick off the summer season, and the fact that it is held on Memorial Day weekend, provides an opportunity to incorporate a patriotic/veteran's component.

In keeping with this theme, the first event of the weekend will be one that honors our active-duty military personnel and our veterans. The **Hometown Heroes Event** (named in conjunction with a new program that you can read about on page 7) will take place on **Thursday, May 21, at 6 p.m.** at the flagpoles outside City Hall.

This event will include the unveiling and dedication of a new Blue Star Memorial plaque, which honors those who have served, are serving or will serve in the armed

services of the United States. All residents are invited to attend this ceremony and encouraged to invite family and friends who have served or are currently serving in the military.

For more information on the Salute to Summer Festival and other Salute to Summer events see the information on pages 3-4 of this newsletter or visit the City's website at www.salutetosummer.org.



Look Out La Vista Continues This Summer!

Look Out La Vista, the City's comprehensive plan update project, got off to a fantastic start in late March with the City hosting a series of kickoff events. Internationally known author and speaker, Peter Kageyama, conducted sessions with several groups of people over a two-day period including a large public kickoff event and a half-day workshop. We had great participation in these events and hopefully created some positive energy that will carry over to upcoming activities throughout the summer.



A series of stakeholder interviews were held in April with specific groups (seniors, developers, real estate agents, students, etc.) to gather their feedback on the things they feel make La Vista special, as well as what they would like to see in La Vista's future.

If you missed out on these events, there are more opportunities coming up! We want this to be an inclusive process and (Continued pge 7)

A MINUTE WITH
mayorkindig



These are exciting and important times in La Vista!

Look Out La Vista is off to a fantastic start! The kick-off events were well attended and I am excited about all of the positive energy that resulted. I want to thank all of you who took the time to participate and encourage you to stay involved. For those of you who weren't able to attend any of the events, I hope that you will follow our progress and find an opportunity to get involved. We need to hear from you!

We are striving to make the city planning process as fun and transparent as possible and provide opportunities for residents to participate at times, places and in ways that are convenient and entertaining.

Look Out La Vista will result in an updated Comprehensive Plan and a long-term strategic plan for the City. These will serve as a blueprint for future decisions, so let your voice be heard.

I also wanted to provide you with an update on 84th Street. Earlier this year the City Council approved a contract with Midwest Right of Way, a company that will be negotiating on the City's behalf with the landowner of Brentwood Crossing regarding the acquisition of this property.

This contract is a very important step in the revitalization of 84th Street, which remains our top priority. As we continue to make progress, we will keep you updated.

We have a number of wonderful events planned for you this summer, beginning with the Salute to Summer Festival during Memorial Day weekend.

I hope to see you at the events this summer!

– Mayor Douglas Kindig

La Vista City Calendar

All meetings held in the Harold "Andy" Anderson Council Chamber unless otherwise noted.

May 2015

- 3 Spring Kite Festival, noon-4 p.m., Soccer Complex
- 5 City Council, 7 p.m.
- 11 La Vista/Metropolitan Community College Condominium Owners Association, 4 p.m., Library
- 12 Lego Club, 3:30 p.m., Library
- 14 Library Advisory Board, 5:30 p.m., Library
- 19 City Council, 7 p.m.
- 20 Park and Recreation Advisory Board, 7 p.m.
- 28 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- 21-24 Salute to Summer Festival

June 2015

- 2 City Council, 7 p.m.
- 6 Public Works Open House, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Public Works Facility
- 9 Summer Hot Wheels Drag Races, 5:30 p.m., Community Center
- 11 Citizen Advisory Review Committee, 7 p.m.
- 12 Outdoor Concert and Movie - Charm School Dropouts followed by "Big Hero 6", 7 p.m., Library
- 16 City Council, 7 p.m.
- 17 Park and Recreation Advisory Board, 7 p.m.
- 18 Dinosaur Egg Hunt, 3 p.m., Central Park
- 18 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- 25 Discover: Flight, 3 p.m., Community Center
- 27 Public Visioning Event, Central Park

July 2015

- 1 Super Hero Academy, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Library
- 7 Summer Hot Wheels Drag Races, 5:30 p.m., Community Center
- 7 City Council, 7 p.m.
- 9 Library Advisory Board, 5:30 p.m., Library
- 10 Outdoor Concert and Movie - Blue House followed by "Pitch Perfect", 7 p.m., Library
- 11 Star Wars Party, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Library
- 12 Splash Bash, 1-4 p.m., Pool
- 15 Park and Recreation Advisory Board, 7 p.m.
- 16 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- 17 Hydrant Party, 3 p.m., Central Park
- 21 City Council, 7 p.m.
- 30 Library day at the pool

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**MEMORIAL DAY
WEEKEND**

MAY 21-24

NEW NAME. SAME GREAT FESTIVAL!

#LVS2S



**LA VISTA
SALUTE
TO
SUMMER
FESTIVAL**

**MILITARY
DISCOUNT
ALL WEEKEND!**

CARNIVAL & VENDOR BOOTHS

ALL WEEKEND IN CENTRAL PARK



**FAMILY
POOL
PARTY**

HOMETOWN HEROES EVENT

THURSDAY, 6 P.M., CITY HALL



**BEER
GARDEN**

COMMUNITY COOKOUT

CAR SHOW, FIREWORKS

FRIDAY, 6 P.M., CITY HALL/LA VISTA KENO



**HOT
WHEELS
RACES**

PARADE

SATURDAY, 1 P.M.

PARK VIEW BLVD. 87TH TO 75 ST.



GLOW BALL GOLF

SATURDAY, 9:30 P.M.

\$13, PLUS BALLS

SALUTETOSUMMER.ORG

Public Works Open House

Have you ever wondered what Public Works is all about?

You'll get your opportunity to ask that and many more questions during the La Vista Public Works Department's inaugural open house on Saturday, June 6, at the Public Works Facility, 9900 Portal Road.

The event will be held from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and is open to the public. Take advantage of the opportunity to meet staff from each of the six divisions - Streets, Parks, Sewer, Fleet Maintenance, Building Maintenance and Administration.

In addition, you can experience live demonstrations, view equipment and even operate a backhoe!

Parking will be off-site at adjacent locations with shuttle service being provided. Parking locations will be posted on the City's website at www.cityoflavista.org/publicworks.

For more information contact the Public Works Department at 402-331-8927.

THOMPSON CREEK CHANNEL PROJECT UPDATE**Channel Work**

Utility relocations have been underway most of the winter along Park View Boulevard from 72nd Street to Edgewood Boulevard. The contract for channel reconstruction has been awarded to Anderson Excavating Company of Omaha. Work on this portion of the project started approximately April 1 and is expected to be completed by September 1.

Rain Barrels

Rain Barrel rebates are available again this year in the Thompson Creek Watershed area. A limited number are also available in other areas of the City Limits. Applications are available at City Hall or on the City's website at www.cityoflavista.org/thompsoncreek.

Planting Plan

Design of a tree and shrub planting plan along Thompson Creek from Edgewood Boulevard to 72nd Street will get underway

this summer. An open house to obtain citizen input will take place sometime this summer. Watch for details on the City's website.

THOMPSON CREEK LEVEL RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Reconstruction of the levees along Thompson Creek east of 66th Street at the La Vista Soccer Complex will be taking place throughout 2015 and finish in the spring of 2016.

The Papio-Missouri River NRD is leading this project, which was necessary to bring the levees into compliance with current requirements from the U.S. Corp of Engineers.

The project will widen the levees and flatten the side slopes for ease of maintenance. Work on the project started in March 2015 with the relocation of a sanitary sewer line followed by the relocation of power lines by OPPD.

Olsson and Associates Office and Lab Community Development Department Project Update

Contractors and building companies are busy in various parts of La Vista completing a variety of projects, big and small, for local companies.

Pictured is the new office for Olsson & Associates under construction near 114th Street and Giles Road. The more than 20,000 square-foot facility will be an office and testing lab for the company.

For a complete list of ongoing development projects, visit our website, www.cityoflavista.org/constructionupdates.



Be a Hero, Read this Summer at the Library!

Registration for the Library's summer reading program will begin on Tuesday, May 19!

This year's theme is "Heroes!" Children, birth to fourth grade, will enjoy reading and learning about all kinds of heroes, including the following events:

- Super Hero Academy-Wednesday, July 1, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Watch your child turn into a superhero. Don't forget to get your face painted by a professional face painter. All ages welcome! Registration is not required. Parental participation is appreciated.
- Star Wars Party-Saturday, July 11, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Calling all Jedi knights and princesses to a galaxy not so far away (the library) for a summer Star Wars Party. Enjoy a variety of different activities and get your picture taken with Star Wars characters. Bring your cameras!

Drop-in any time to pick up a reading bingo card and summer calendar! All bingo cards must be turned in by Friday, July 31 before 5 p.m. to receive a prize!

For more information, contact Jennifer or visit our website for a calendar of events.

Scholastic Book Fair

We invite all families and the community to our Scholastic Book Fair, June 1-9. All purchases will benefit the Library.

Teen Summer Reading Program

The 2015 Teen Summer Reading Program begins on Thursday, May 28 with a kick-off party at 3:30 p.m.

Teens (those who just completed 5th grade and up) can register, receive their reading cards, enjoy snacks, play games, and ask questions about any of the programs.

Teen activities will be held every Tuesday and Thursday between May 28 and August 7 at 3:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. (Different programs at each time!)

Teens can earn Book Bucks by reading and attending programs and use those Book Bucks to redeem prizes in the READ Prize Store. No library card required to participate.

The theme this year is comic book related goodness! For more information please see the official calendars, which can be obtained at the library, starting in May or contact Lindsey Tomsu, Teen Coordinator, ltomsu@cityoflavista.org.

Summer Storytimes

Tiny Tots Storytime with Miss Marjie, 10 a.m. - this weekly storytime will engage children with short stories, finger plays, action rhymes, and songs. It is ideal for children three and under. Registration is not required. Parental participation required. Begins Tuesday, June 2.

For more information, visit our website, www.cityoflavista.org/library.

Retirement Series

Mark your calendars for June 2, 9, 11, and 16 when the library will host a series of retirement transition programs which will include Medicare 101, Social Security Strategies, Long Term Care, and Wills and Estate Planning. This series will be presented by Sequent Planning, LLC.



For your convenience... the La Vista Public Library now has three memberships to choose from: annual membership for your household for \$60 or a 6-month membership for \$35 or a monthly membership for \$7.

Database Highlight

Free electronic magazines! The Library is offering online magazines through Zinio. Complete digital magazines. These online publications can be easily viewed on any Internet-enabled device. Check 'em out!

Want instant downloadable books? Visit the library's web page and look for Freading.



Continued: Look Out La Vista

are working hard to come up with creative ways for citizens to participate. During the Salute to Summer Festival over Memorial Day weekend you can stop by the Look Out La Vista booth in Central Park. There will be free snacks, games and prizes, so come over, hang out, and let us know your thoughts on La Vista.

Another fun family evening in Central Park is being planned for June 27. There will be activities for children, and adults can get a "Taste of La Vista" while participating in a "visioning" process that will help to set the course for the City's future. Updating the comprehensive plan is important work and can only be successful if the citizens of La Vista participate. We look forward to seeing you this summer!

For more information about Look Out La Vista and upcoming events, visit the City's website www.cityoflavista.org/lookoutlavista.

Hometown Heroes Banner Program



La Vista Hometown Heroes



*Charles A. Lausten
WWII
US Marine Corps*

La Vista residents have a new opportunity to honor loved ones who have served in any branch of the military.

The Hometown Heroes Banner Program was presented as a legacy project by participants in Leadership Sarpy, a leadership development effort sponsored by the Sarpy County Chamber of Commerce.

Banners are available at a cost of \$175, which covers the banner, installation materials and maintenance. The banners, which measure 80 inches long by 30 inches wide, will be on display on utility poles along 84th Street and will feature a photo of the person being honored.

A sample banner will be on display throughout the Salute to Summer Festival Memorial Day weekend.

Residents can apply until June 5 and during the first year of the program banners will be on display from the Fourth of July through Labor Day. Each banner purchased will be guaranteed to be displayed a minimum of two seasons. This year the program will be limited to the first 38 applications.

For more information on the Hometown Heroes Banner Program, visit the City's website, www.cityoflavista.org/hometownheroes, or call City Hall, 402-331-4343.

Council Clips

The following items are highlights of recent City Council action:

- Approved traffic signal study on 96th Street from Giles Road to Harrison Street.
- Approved contract for acquisition and relocation services in the 84th Street Redevelopment Area.
- Approved contract for technology improvements in the Harold "Andy" Anderson Council Chamber.
- Awarded bid for the Thompson Creek Channel Reconstruction Project.
- Approved appointment of a new Finance Director, Cindy Miserez.

police department



National Night Out Celebration Scheduled for August 4

The Police Department will host its annual National Night Out festivities beginning at 6 p.m., Tuesday, August 4, at Central Park.

Bring the whole family for a night of fun and activities, including games, free community cookout (while supplies last) and vehicles on display from the Police, Fire and Public Works departments.

New to this year's event will be a concert from the band Moonlight!

Festivities will take place throughout the park with vehicles on display on the west end, food served in the shelter by the restrooms and the concert taking place in the tennis courts.

For more information, contact Officer Jamie Brown, 402-331-1582.

Mayor

Douglas Kindig

City Council

Kim Thomas, Ward 1
Mike Crawford, Ward 1
Ron Sheehan, Ward 2
Terrilyn Quick, Ward 2
Deb Hale, Ward 3
Alan Ronan, Ward 3
Jim Frederick, Ward 4
Kelly Sell, Ward 4

City Administrator

Brenda Gunn

Management Team

Rita Ramirez, Assistant City Administrator / Director
Kevin Pokorny, Director of Administrative Services of Community Services
Joe Soucie, Director of Public Works
Bob Lausten, Police Chief / Director of Public Safety
Pam Buethe, City Clerk
Ann Birch, Community Development Director
Cindy Miserez, Finance Director
Rose Barcal, Library Director
Scott Stopak, Recreation Director



Employee Recognition Awards

Employee of the Year honors for 2014 went to Parks Foreman Jeff Thornburg for his overall dedication to excellence.

Outstanding service awards were given to Jan Bolte and Mandy Garrod.

TEAM awards were given to the Salute to Summer Festival Car Show Committee, E-Team and the La Vista Public Library Programming Team.

CityWise is published by the City of La Vista to keep citizens informed about city programs, policies and services. Please send comments and suggestions concerning the publication to the above address. CityWise can also be accessed on La Vista's Web site, www.cityoflavista.org.

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City of La Vista
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La Vista, NE 68128





Special Services Bus

Available for senior citizens age 60 and older and all special needs/handicapped residents residing in the cities of La Vista and Ralston. The service operates Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.; the service does not operate on City of La Vista declared holidays or when Papillion-La Vista or Ralston schools are closed due to weather conditions. For questions about service, fees, etc., please call the La Vista Recreation Department at 402-331-3455 or visit us online at www.cityoflavista.org. For reservations, call 402-657-3550 at least 48 hours in advance. We make every effort to accommodate, but due to prior scheduling, we may not be able to help everyone at their requested times.

Second Special Service Bus

A second Special Services Bus is available Tuesday's and Thursday's from 7:00am to 4:30pm for riders. This bus will run the same times as our other bus. Please call 402-657-3550 to make your reservations!

La Vista Senior Activity Center

The La Vista Senior Activity Center, located in the Community Center, offers friendship, food, fitness, field trips and many more fun activities. Bring a friend or come join others for a home-cooked meal on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. The suggested contribution for the meal is \$3.50 for adults over 60 years and older. To participate, call or sign-up at the La Vista Community Center to reserve your meal by noon the business day before you intend to join us for lunch. Be sure to look at the other activities you may want to come early or stay late! The meal program is sponsored by ENOA, and catered by Valley Food Service. Visit our website, www.cityoflavista.org/seniorcenter, for the monthly senior newsletter, and to look at scheduled activities/trips and lunch menus. For more information contact Program Coordinator Rich Carstensen, 402-331-3455.

Community Center hours of operation (please note: hours are different for adult and youth):

Mon. - Fri.: 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Sat. (May 2 - Sept. 5): **OPEN**

Sun. (May 3 - Sept. 6): Closed

Adults Only

Mon. - Fri. (School year): 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Adults and Youth

Mon. - Fri. (School year): 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Mon. - Fri. (Sched. days off): 1:30 - 9 p.m.

The Community Center will be closed on all major holidays.

FEES:

Resident Adults: \$3.00 Drop-In

1R0HVLGH0V\$GOWV0RS0 bbbbbb

5HVLGH0VWK0QH0JUH

Resident Seniors (55+): Free

Non-Resident Senior (55+): \$2.00 Drop-In

**(Non-Resident Youth not allowed in Center unless involved in a class or sport).



ALWAYS CHECK AT THE RECREATION CENTER FOR EVENTS THAT MAY NOT BE LISTED IN THIS

NEWSLETTER. WE POST FLIERS OFTEN FOR SPECIAL EVENTS PLANNED AFTER THE NEWSLETTER IS PRINTED.

Please Note: The La Vista Recreation Department sends youth and adult sport registration information via e-mail only.

If you have provided us with your e-mail address, you will receive a message each season when we open registrations. This information is also available by visiting

the City's Web site, www.cityoflavista.org. RUJVSURUV DG EYLVWLQWKH D BVWD

Community Center.