



## Looking Back - Looking Ahead

It is that time of year again when we take a moment to look back at how we have grown and changed as a City over the last twelve months, and also contemplate the challenges that lie ahead as we continue our efforts to provide high quality public services to all of the citizens of La Vista.

As 2006 began, the City was dealing with significant change. Douglas Kindig had just been sworn into office as Mayor, Kelly Sell was appointed to fill a vacant Council seat in Ward IV and the City was searching for a new City Administrator. Brenda Gunn (the former Assistant City Administrator) was appointed to that position in April, Rita Ramirez (the former City Clerk) accepted the Assistant City Administrator position in September, and Pam Buethe (former City Clerk in Gretna, NE) was recently appointed to the position of City Clerk in La Vista. As the year ended, four incumbent Council members were re-elected to their positions. We are poised to move forward with a visionary body of elected officials in place and a good combination of experienced management personnel.



L to R: Mayor Douglas Kindig, re-elected Council Members Brenda Carlisle, Terrilyn Quick, Alan Ronan & Kelly Sell.

Construction on the City's second fire station began early in 2006 and the 22,450 sq. foot facility will be ready for occupancy by late February or early March. The building provides five drive-through bays for fire and other emergency apparatus, as well as locker room, administrative and storage

space. Over the past two years the City has purchased two new ambulances and currently has a second aerial and pumper truck on order. The volunteer firefighters in La Vista do an outstanding job and this facility will be a welcome addition as we continue our efforts to provide efficient and effective emergency services to our growing population.

The Police Department said goodbye this year to its first K-9. Police dog Cosmo was officially retired on July 5. During his nearly eight years of service Cosmo and his handler participated in over 1,400 K-9 uses and public demonstrations, assisting in 462 arrests, 406 of which were drug related. The Department replaced Cosmo with a newly trained K-9 named Leda.

A traffic unit was instituted by the Police Department this year and will continue to be visible throughout the City. (See page 3 for complete details).

A new website was unveiled this summer, made possible through a contest sponsored by the CivicPlus organization. La Vista's website was completely redesigned and is being hosted free for one year, an approximate \$20,000 value. We are currently averaging over 300 visitors to the site per day. An abundance of information is available in a user-friendly format, making City services more easily accessible to citizens. We encourage you to visit us at [www.ci.la-vista.ne.us](http://www.ci.la-vista.ne.us)

Work continued throughout the year on the City's municipal aquatics study. In February Water's Edge Aquatic Design presented a report to the Mayor and City Council evaluating the existing pool and providing recommendations for improvement. Several immediate safety concerns were addressed prior the opening of the pool



Fire Station No. 2 nearing completion.

for the 2006 season. The Mayor also appointed a Swimming Pool Advisory Committee to provide input from the public regarding this process. The Committee has met several times and their goal is to develop a conceptual plan for a potential aquatics facility to be presented to the City Council.

The highly anticipated opening of Cabela's in La Vista's Southport West Subdivision took place in November. It is an amazing retail facility and will be instrumental in helping to make this area a destination location. The City also unveiled the Southport parking facility late this fall. Preliminary work has started on the John Q. Hammons Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center, expected to open in June of 2008. A second JQH hotel is also planned in Southport West. Several new office buildings have located in Southport East, and construction is underway on a

*Continued on page 4*



## A MINUTE WITH mayor kindig



As I reflect back on my first year as your Mayor, it has been both an exciting and challenging time. Upon taking office I was faced with the challenge of finding a replacement for our City Administrator who had accepted a new position.

After an extensive search, we determined that our best candidate was Brenda Gunn, our then Assistant City Administrator. Gunn's professional approach to city management and her experience with the City of La Vista made her the ideal candidate to keep the City on track and help a new Mayor learn the ropes. I am proud to say that the transition has gone extremely well and the City has continued to grow and prosper.

The year ended on a very upbeat note with the opening of Cabela's and the City's parking facility in November. These projects and the creation of Southport as a "gateway" to La Vista are something that the City Council and I have been working on for several years. Southport East is turning into a premier office park area. PayPal, the Southport Professional Building, Hampton Inn & Suites, Pinnacle Bank, Fantasy's, and several other businesses have chosen to locate in Southport East. In Southport West, preliminary construction work has started on the John Q. Hammons Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center (expected to open in June of 2008). The developer continues to market the remaining area as an upscale destination location, hoping to attract diverse retail and entertainment venues.

While we are excited about the development taking place on the western edge of the City, there have been challenges in other areas. The loss of WalMart and the potential loss of other businesses along the 84th Street corridor is a concern. The City continues to work with WalMart and other developers regarding this area. Ultimately, the financial benefit resulting from our new development will help with efforts to revitalize existing areas such as 84th Street.

In November, the citizens of La Vista re-elected four incumbent Council members to new terms. The La Vista City Council is a dedicated body that has always maintained a high level of integrity and professionalism. I am proud to serve with them and to be the Mayor of this City at such an exciting time in its history. We are looking forward to a great 2007!

Douglas Kindig, Mayor

## A Helping Hand

The City's Employee Activity Committee organized and coordinated participation in several events this past year to help those less fortunate. La Vista City Hall and the Community Center were once again designated drop off sites for the annual Toys for Tots campaign sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. Several large boxes of toys were collected. Employees and visitors to the Community Center also participated in the Warming Communities - One Coat at a Time project, collecting over 200 coats to be donated to the Open Door Mission.

Additionally, employees and citizens participated in the Salvation Army's food drive. Donations were accepted at the Community Center, the Library and City Hall. Employees also "adopted" a young family in La Vista with four small children and donated money to help provide clothes, toys and food supplies.

Thank you to everyone who made a donation and helped us reach out to others.

## La Vista City Calendar

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

### February 2007

6	City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
14	Senior Valentine Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Community Center
15	Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.
19	Most City offices will be closed for President's Day
20	City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
21	Park and Recreation Advisory Board, 7:00 p.m.

### March 2007

6	City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
8	Library Advisory Board, 5:30 p.m. in Library Board Room
12	Citizen Advisory Review Committee, 7:00 p.m.
15	Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.
20	City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
21	Park and Recreation Advisory Board, 7:00 p.m.

### April 2007

3	City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
7	Easter Egg Hunt at Central Park (see Rec. insert for more information)
13-14	Annual Clean Up Days (see page 5 for more information)
17	City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
18	Park and Recreation Advisory Board, 7:00 p.m.
19	Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.
29	Spring kite festival, noon - 5:00 p.m. La Vista Soccer Complex

**Daylight Savings Time begins March 11**

## A Child is Missing Program

The La Vista Police Department has a new resource to aid investigators when a child is missing. When police receive a report of a missing child or an elderly person with Alzheimer's disease or disabilities, they can contact the "A Child Is Missing" Center based in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

The center establishes a radius around where the individual was last seen and blankets the homes and businesses with a recorded notification. The messages ask people to contact local law enforcement with any information about the missing person. The center can place 1,000 calls each minute.

Unlike an Amber Alert, which can be issued only if it is suspected that a child has been abducted, the "A Child Is Missing" system can be utilized in a broader range of circumstances.

The system was put into action in La Vista on November 28th after a mother reported her 11-year-old daughter missing. Neighbors received a recorded message with the girl's description and were asked to call the La Vista Police Department if they knew her whereabouts.

The girl was located approximately 10 minutes after the alert went out, but her mother said she feels better knowing that police have the capability to get the word out quickly when children are missing.

La Vista Police Chief Bob Lausten reported that the police department was introduced to the program last summer at a training conference.

## La Vista Police Accepting Applications for Citizens Public Safety Academy

In March, the La Vista Police will again present the Citizens Public Safety Academy, an 11-week training session that will cover a wide variety of police work and fire services. Classes will be held every Wednesday night from 6:30 to 9:30 P.M. and will be taught by officers from the LaVista Police and Fire departments. Applications are available at the La Vista police station, 7701 S. 96th Street. For further information please contact Officer James Thompson at 402-331-1582 or email [jthompson@ci.la-vista.ne.us](mailto:jthompson@ci.la-vista.ne.us)



## La Vista Police Roll Out the Traffic Unit

The La Vista Police Department has created a new unit to address the number one concern cited by City residents - traffic. The unit began their mission on November 13, 2006.

The Traffic Unit is a branch of the Police Department's Special Enforcement Bureau and is responsible for traffic safety throughout the city. It is comprised of four police officers supervised by the Operations Commander, Lt. DJ Barcal. Officers Andrew Johnson and Ray Harrod, day shift traffic officers, are also trained as motor officers riding Harley-Davidson "Electra Glide" Police Motorcycles. The motorcycles were obtained through traffic safety grants from the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety. Officers Greg Carrico and John York are assigned to the night shift. Officer York is also the department's K-9 handler and patrols with his K-9 partner, Leda.

It is the mission of all La Vista Police Officers, and of the La Vista Police Traffic Unit in particular, to make the City of La Vista a safe place to drive. We see first hand the devastation and tragedy which can result from negligent, criminal, or thoughtless acts committed behind the wheel. Upon assignment to the Traffic Unit, officers agree to commit themselves to pro-actively addressing the various causes of traffic related deaths and injuries. It is an unfortunate reality that the most effective way to modify bad driving habits is through a strong enforcement profile.

In addition to enforcement efforts, the Traffic Unit investigates all fatal collisions occurring in the city, serious collisions involving great bodily injury, and conducts hit and run follow-up investigations.

# Community Development Department

## **Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church**

Construction is underway on a 49,000 s.f. religious facility that will include sanctuary space (seating for 750), classrooms, a social hall, meeting rooms, administrative offices, an outdoor basketball court for church members, and a licensed daycare facility. Location: 96th & Melissa Street.

## **Cabela's**

Construction is complete and the 130,000 s.f. destination superstore in the Southport West development opened in November of 2006. Inside, the outdoors comes alive with hundreds of museum-quality animal displays, giant freshwater aquariums stocked with native fish and a huge selection of hunting, fishing, camping and outdoor gear. Location: 12703 Westport Parkway.

## **District 2 Fire Station**

Construction is nearing completion on the City's 22,450 s.f. facility. The station is scheduled to be open and operational by March of 2007. Location: 7703 S. 108th Street.

## **Embassy Suites**

Construction has begun on a 248,000 s.f., seven story, hotel with 257 rooms. The hotel will have a full height atrium with dining and lounge seating, two fountains, and full height trees. Amenities at the hotel will include an indoor pool with a hot tub, health and exercise facility, and outdoor sun deck. The hotel atrium will be connected to a conference center by a wide concourse which is to include a restaurant and coffee shop. The proposed conference center will have a capacity of 5,000-6,000 people with a full kitchen, and will be marketed for conventions, corporate meetings, trade shows, fund raising dinners, wedding receptions, etc. Location: 12520 Westport Parkway.

## **Hampton Inn & Suites**

Construction is underway on a 4-story hotel with 116 rooms. The hotel will provide a complimentary breakfast, and an enhanced indoor pool and whirlpool. Construction is expected to be completed in June 2007. Location: 12331 Southport Parkway.

## **Judson Baptist Church**

Construction is underway on a church expansion project which will include a new 16,000 s.f. building to be used as a fellowship hall. Location: 8517 Park View Blvd.

## **Oriental Trading Company**

Construction is nearing completion on a 137,000 s.f. warehouse and office addition to their new facility. Location: 11201 Giles Road.

## **Papio Valley Condominium Warehouse**

Construction has started on a 34,000 s.f. industrial flex building. Location: 12115 Centennial Road.

## **PayPal**

Construction is nearing completion on a new 2-story, 130,000 s.f. building. This is PayPal's second facility in La Vista. Location: 7700 Eastport Parkway.

## **Peel's Salon Services**

This \$4.4 million building is the new corporate office for Peel's, a wholesale distributor of salon supplies. The 96,000 s.f. building opened in October 2006. Location: 11720 Peel Circle.

## **Pinnacle Bank**

Construction is underway on a new 3,251 s.f. bank. Location: 12350 Southport Parkway.

## **Portal Road Flex Buildings**

Construction is underway on two new industrial flex buildings, each with 15,000 s.f. Location: 11529 Portal Road.

## **Productivity Inc.**

A 38,000 s.f. warehouse and office facility is under construction for this machine tool distribution company. Location: 8402 S. 117th Street.

## **Southport Professional Building**

A building permit has been issued for a second office building on an adjoining lot. Location: 12110 Port Grace Blvd.

## **Continued from Cover: Looking Back - Looking Ahead**

Hampton Inn & Suites, as well as Pinnacle Bank. Southport is truly becoming the gateway to La Vista that the Mayor and Council have long envisioned.

While exciting development is taking place on the western edge of the City, change is also occurring in other areas. WalMart moved into its new location in October and we continue to work with them to fill their vacated space. The success of the City's newest developments will contribute to our overall financial health and enable us to assist in the revitalization of other areas of the City, including the 84th Street corridor.

The previous year has been an exciting one for the City of La Vista. We have seen some highly anticipated projects come to fruition while others are under construction or nearing start up. These high profile projects have created the potential for more growth in the near future. It is a busy and challenging time for the City and we are looking forward to 2007 with great anticipation.

## Congratulations

The Nebraska Chapter of the American Public Works Association announced Greg Goldman, City of La Vista Street Superintendent, as the 2006 Outstanding Member at their annual banquet November 7, 2006 in Kearney, Nebraska. Greg was presented the award by National APWA President Bill Verkest and Nebraska Chapter President Al Schoemaker. In addition, Greg was elected to the Nebraska Chapter's Vice-President position after serving as Chapter Secretary for two-years. The La Vista Public Works Department continues to be very active in local and national APWA activities.



Greg Goldman named 2006 Outstanding Member by Nebraska Chapter of APWA.

## Parking Facility Receives Award

The Nebraska Concrete Paving Association annually accepts nominations and rates Portland cement concrete pavement projects in several categories to determine the best designed and constructed projects. Based upon these ratings, awards are presented in several categories. This program is intended to encourage high quality workmanship in concrete pavement projects.

On January 17, 2007 the Association presented awards for 2006 projects. The City of La Vista's public parking facility received the award in the Parking Lots and Other Miscellaneous Paving category. City Engineer John Kottmann was recognized for his design work on the project and Andrus Enterprises was recognized for construction of the facility. The high profile water feature included in this project was both a design and construction challenge; however, it contributes to the uniqueness of the parking facility and sets the tone for the entire Southport development. The City of La Vista is extremely pleased with the results. Congratulations to all who were involved with this very successful project.

## Temporary Signs

A temporary sign, as defined in the City's zoning regulations, is a sign constructed of cloth, fabric, or other material with or without a structural frame intended for a limited period of display, including displays for holidays or public demonstrations. Portable signs are included. Temporary signs cannot exceed thirty-two (32) square feet (8' X 4' for example) and cannot be of such size, message, or character so to harm the public, health, safety or general welfare. Temporary signs cannot be in place for more than fourteen (14) consecutive days, except that real estate signs may be placed until the property sale is finalized and construction signs may be in place until that construction phase is completed

but must be located on the property under construction. With the exception of real estate and construction signs, temporary signs require a permit. No more than (4) temporary sign permits can be issued for one property in a calendar year.

A general rule for the placement of a temporary sign is it cannot be in the right-of-way and so must be 25 feet back from the street curb on major streets (72nd Street, Giles Road and Harrison Street), 50 feet back from the curb on 84th Street, and 12 feet back from the curb on residential streets. This would mean at an intersection, attention would have to be paid to both streets involved in the placement of a temporary sign. In addition, signs may not

## Annual Clean-up Days

The City's Annual Clean-up Days will be held on Friday, April 13 and Saturday, April 14, 2007. All residents; including residents in the City's Extra-Territorial Zoning Jurisdiction, are encouraged to take advantage of this FREE disposal service by bringing discarded items to the Public Works Facility, 9900 Portal Road. Hours of operation will be 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Examples of items that will be accepted include: major appliances, lawn and household furniture, toys, bikes, tires, lawn mowers, grills and mattresses. There will be a separate dumpster to collect yard waste, leaves and grass clippings. Yard waste must be removed from non-biodegradable bags. Branches will be accepted if their diameter is less than 6 inches. Motor oil and anti-freeze will be accepted but must be free of debris. Household batteries and car batteries will also be accepted. Paint and hazardous waste will not be accepted. Proof of residency will be required, either a valid drivers license or a utility bill.



be affixed to utility poles. Signs which are illegally placed within the right-of-way or on utility poles are removed by the City and eventually disposed of. If you have a sign missing, you may contact Public Works at 331-8927.

Violations of the sign regulations may affect the issuance of any future sign permits. If you would like to look at our Zoning Ordinance online, go to <http://www.ci.lavista.ne.us/>

## Technology Classes

Computer classes are offered to library cardholders to provide skills in specific areas: Basic Computer Skills, Basic Internet, Basic Word and Basic Scanning classes. These hands-on classes are held in the library computer lab. A monthly calendar of classes and their content is posted at the library and on the web page. To register or for more information, call Jean at the library.

## Genealogy Group

The Genealogy Group meets on the first Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. for an opportunity to share ideas concerning your family's history.

## Tax Season

Tax season is here! Some helpful websites:

<http://www.irs.ustreas.gov> Internal Revenue site offers forms, publications, regulations, and online assistance.

<http://www.etworkforms.com> E.Smart Tax Forms provides electronic versions of the most common tax forms.

<http://www.taxsites.com/state.html> State and Local Taxes has links to tax departments, tax forms, and tax codes for all 50 states.

<http://www.fourmilab.ch/ustax/ustax.html> U.S. Tax Codes On-Line: A good site for serious tax questions.

<http://www.revenue.state.ne.us/tax/forms.htm> State of Nebraska tax forms. Get forms, use e-filing, check on your return and more.

Read the FAQs sections and get help preparing your tax forms. The library still carries a large assortment of both state and federal tax forms. Also available is a reproducible book to photocopy any tax form you might need.

## Annual Report

The numbers keep growing! The library enjoyed an increase in visitors in 2006. A total of 93,824 people passed through the library gates and 114,801 items were checked out. This is an ongoing increase from the previous year. Thank you La Vista!

Donations to the La Vista Public Library have increased this year by over 2,300 items. Magazines, DVDs, audio books, music CDs, fiction and non-fiction titles are just a sampling of the 10,145 items received in 2006. These donations help make the library's collection broader in scope and a true reflection of our community. Thanks to all who donated for their generosity.

## Summer is Almost Here

The library's Summer Reading Program Kick-off will be held on **Wednesday, May 30th from 2:00-4:00 p.m.** Children will receive their reading packets when they register for this great program. This year's theme is Get a Clue @ Your Library. The Program Kick-off for the Teen Summer Reading Program will be **Thursday, May 31st from 2:00-4:00 p.m.** Teen packets will also be handed out at this time.

## children

The La Vista Public Library continues to present quality programming for children, teens, and families throughout the year.

### Spring Craft Program

The Spring Craft is a drop-in, after-school program for school aged children in Kindergarten through the Sixth Grade. Mark your calendars for **March 14th**. No registration is required.

### Preschool Storytimes

The Spring session of **Preschool Storytime** is currently underway. Please call the library to see if there are openings. The Summer session will run from **June 4th to July 27th, 2007**. Storytime is offered Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Registration is necessary to attend. These weekly sessions are geared to the 3-5 year old child not in kindergarten. The goals of Storytime are to introduce children to the library, the magic of books and reading, and help develop social skills needed for school. If you have any questions, please call Joni at 537-3900.

### Toddler Storytimes

The Summer session of **Toddler Storytime** will run from **June 11th to July 27th, 2007**. Storytime is offered Monday, Tuesday and Friday mornings from 10:10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., coinciding with Preschool Storytime. Registration is required to attend. These weekly sessions are for toddlers: 18 months to 3 years of age. This session provides a small group experience with a parent or adult caregiver. Each toddler becomes familiar with the library, books, songs, and others in the group. The goals are to develop listening and social skills, including taking turns and sharing in an enjoyable setting. If you have questions, please call Miss Marjie at the library.

### Just what IS Lapsit?!

Storytimes are offered for children from 6 months of age to 5 years. The **Lapsit Storytime** is for children from 6 to 18 months of age. Lapsit Storytime will run Thursdays from **June 14th to July 27th, 2007**. Please call Miss Marjie at the library for more details.

## Planning on Installing a Swimming Pool?

Remember to obtain all necessary permits first! La Vista City Code Section 150.47 and 150.51 requires that permits be acquired before work has commenced. A building permit is needed for the pool, an electrical permit if a pump is being used, and a fence permit for the enclosure around the pool.

The definition of a swimming pool is any above ground or below ground body of water in an artificial or semi-artificial receptacle or other container, over two feet in depth used or intended to be used for swimming or bathing.

Please contact the Building Department at 331-4343 for any additional information you may need for your safety and the safety of others.

## Employment Opportunities

Applications for summer employment with the City of La Vista are now being accepted. Positions are available in the Public Works Department and at the Swimming Pool. Applicants for these positions must be at least 16 years of age. Public Works applicants must have a valid driver's license. Opportunities are available in the Street Division, Park Division and at the Golf Course. Wages range from \$7.50 to \$10.50/hour depending on experience. Flexible schedules are available, including weekend hours. Lifeguard applicants must have lifeguard training, be CPR certified, and know basic first aid. Wages range from \$7.00 to \$10.50/hour depending on experience. Applications for all positions are available at City Hall, 8116 Park View Blvd. or download from the City's website [www.ci.la-vista.ne.us](http://www.ci.la-vista.ne.us). Questions should be directed to Karen Fagin at 331-4343. The City of La Vista is an equal opportunity employer.

## Council Clips

*The following items are highlights of recent City Council action:*

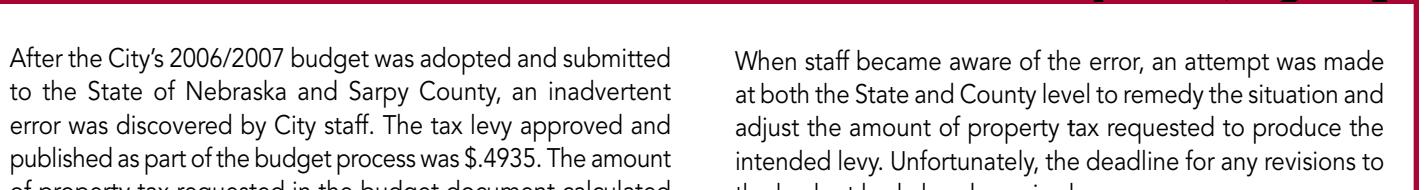
- Awarded a contract for the purchase of two pieces of fire apparatus, a pumper truck and an aerial truck for Fire Station No. 2.
- Approved the installation of "No Parking" signs on both sides of 66th Street.
- Awarded a contract for the next phase of the golf course drainage stabilization project.
- Appointed Pam Buethe as the new City Clerk.
- Elected Brenda Carlisle as the new City Council President.
- Approved an inter-local agreement with the City of Gretna regarding jurisdictional boundaries.

## Change in Tax Levy



After the City's 2006/2007 budget was adopted and submitted to the State of Nebraska and Sarpy County, an inadvertent error was discovered by City staff. The tax levy approved and published as part of the budget process was \$.4935. The amount of property tax requested in the budget document calculated back to a tax levy of \$.498435.

An additional \$32,160.95 was included in the total amount of property tax requested this year to cover the 1% fee charged by the county for the collection of property taxes. The inclusion of this fee in the property tax request was recommended by the State Auditor's Office. The mistake made was that the levy was not recalculated after the addition of the \$32,160.95. The State and County did not discover the error as they look only at the total amount of property tax requested and calculate and set the official levy accordingly. As a result, the City's tax levy was set at \$.498435, not at \$.4935 as intended.



When staff became aware of the error, an attempt was made at both the State and County level to remedy the situation and adjust the amount of property tax requested to produce the intended levy. Unfortunately, the deadline for any revisions to the budget had already expired.

As a result, the City's new tax levy will mean an increase of \$4.94 per year for the owner of a home valued at \$100,000; \$7.40 per year for a home valued at \$150,000 and \$9.87 for a home valued at \$200,000.

The City regrets this error and has taken appropriate steps to ensure that this type of mistake will not occur in the future. If you have any questions please feel free to contact City Hall at 331-4343.

LA VISTA.  
**cityofficials**

**Mayor**

Douglas Kindig

**City Council**

Brenda Carlisle, Ward 1  
Ron Sheehan, Ward 1  
Robert McLaughlin, Ward 2  
Terrilyn Quick, Ward 2  
Mark Ellerbeck, Ward 3  
Alan Ronan, Ward 3  
Anthony Gowan, Ward 4  
Kelly Sell, Ward 4

**City Administrator**

Brenda Gunn

**Management Team**

Rita Ramirez, Assistant City Administrator  
Pat Archibald, Buildings & Grounds Director  
Pam Buethe, City Clerk  
Ann Birch, Community Development Director  
Sheila Lindberg, Finance Director  
Rose Schinker, Library Director  
Kirk Schuster, Fire Chief  
Bob Lausten, Police Chief  
Joe Soucie, Public Works Director  
Scott Stopak, Recreation Director

# Parking Facility Unveiled



La Vista's new parking facility in Southport West includes a state-of-the-art water feature, pictured above, and provides parking for 776 vehicles.



**City of La Vista**  
8116 Park View Blvd.  
La Vista, NE 68128

p: 402-331-4343 | f: 402-331-4375

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
OMAHA, NE  
PERMIT NO. 1313

# what'shappening • spring 2007

## **EASTER EGG HUNT**

La Vista's Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held RAIN OR SHINE on Saturday, April 7, 2007 at Central Park, located at Edgewood Blvd. & Valley Road. Children 12 and under are welcome to participate. Remember to bring your Easter Basket! Please see the following divisions and start times: 4 and under with/without parents: 10:00 a.m. 5 and 6 years old: 10:10 a.m. 7, 8, and 9 years old: 10:15 a.m. 10, 11 and 12 years old: 10:20 a.m.

## **PRESCHOOL PLAY TIME**

Come to the La Vista Community Center as we open the gym for Parents and children preschool-age and under. Bring your child's favorite indoor toys and the Recreation Department will provide extra toys and games. Preschool Play Time runs throughout the school year (only when school is in session) and is for La Vista residents only. When: Tuesday and Thursday morning 10:30-11:30 a.m.

**FEE:** Free

## **TEEN PAINTBALL TRIPS**

Come join teens from La Vista and Papillion for some paint-ball fun at Husker Paintball. Future paintball trips are being planned for the spring, summer, and fall in 2007. Trips are offered to teens in grades 7-12. Watch for flyers at the La Vista Community Center and at the Papillion Recreation Department. Includes transportation to and from the

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

Mon. - Fri: ..... 8 a.m.-10 p.m.  
Sat. (May 1 - Aug. 31): ..... 9 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Sat. (Sept. 1 - April 30): ..... 8 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Sun. (May 1 - Aug. 31): ..... Closed  
Sun. (Sept. 1 - April 30): ..... 1 p.m.-10 p.m.  
Mon.-Fri. (School Yr.): ..... 8 a.m.-3: p.m.  
Adults Only  
Mon.-Fri. (School Yr.): ..... 3 p.m.-10 p.m.  
Adults & Youth  
Mon.-Fri. (Summer): ..... 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
Adults Only  
Mon.-Fri. (Summer/Sched. No School)  
1:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m. Adults & Youth

establishment, protective equipment, paint marker and air, and paintballs.

## **HERSHEY TRACK & FIELD MEET**

Join other youth between the ages of 9-14 (age as of December 31, 2006) from La Vista, Papillion, Bellevue, Gretna and Springfield for the 2007 Hershey Track and Field Meet. Events include long jump, softball throw, 50 meter dash, 100 meter dash, 200 meter dash, 400 meter dash, 800 meter run, 1600 meter run and the 4 x 100 meter relay. Event winners will proceed to the state meet in Grand Island in June. Winners of that meet may qualify for the national meet in Hershey, PA. PARTICIPANTS MUST PRE-REGISTER! There will be no 'DAY OF' entries allowed. Pick up registration form at the La Vista Community Center or the Papillion Recreation Dept. Please contact La Vista Recreation Dept. at 331-3455 for more information. Event date Sunday, May 20, 2007. **NO FEE.**

## **JAZZERCISE-LITE**

A fitness that's not intimidating, just invigorating! This 45-60 minute class pairs moderate aerobics with exercises that are designed to improve strength, balance, and flexibility using easy-to-follow movements. GREAT EXERCISE FOR SENIORS! You can't go wrong with this popular light version of the original Jazercise program. Enrollment is open-join anytime! No contracts or membership fees! Classes on Tuesday and Friday at 9:30 a.m. **FEE:** \$16/month or \$3.00 drop-in. Contact Instructor Mary Beth Brandeau at 935-0472.

## **BELLY DANCING CLASSES**

FOR ALL AGES/ALL SIZES! A continuing class where you will learn an art form and musical instrument (finger cymbals). Enjoy this form of dance that brings out your unique self-expression. For more information, call Wren Newman at 596-1397. Class Times: (Beginner) Tuesday 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. (Advanced) Tuesday 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. **FEE:** \$20 per month.

## **OMAHA JITTERBUGS**

The Omaha Jitterbugs offer a variety of dance lessons at the Community Center such as Lindy Hop, Charleston for Two, Swing and Bal-Swing (Balboa). Length of

sessions and fees vary with classes. For more class and registration information, please visit their website at [www.jitterbugs.org](http://www.jitterbugs.org).

## **YOUTH DANCE LESSONS**

Several dance styles, tumbling and pom offered for youth. Call Janel at 504-4357 for more information and to register for class.

## **KARATE**

Children's classes: Ages 5-12 Tues. & Fri., 6:00 - 6:45 p.m. Adult Classes: Ages 13 & Over Tue. & Fri., 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. **FEE:** \$25.00 per Month with a \$5.00 One-Time Sign Up Fee. For information, call Sensei Porter at 592-7771

## **AIKIDO**

Children's Classes (5-11 yrs.): Mon. & Thu. 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Adult Classes: Ages 12 & Over: Mon. & Thu. 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. **FEE:** Adult Classes: Residents \$30/month; Non-Residents \$35/month. Children's Classes: Residents \$15/month; Non-Residents \$20/month For further information, call Ron Christenham at 339-6124

## **KIKAI FIGHTING METHOD AND A.S.A.P. METHOD**

Adult Martial Arts classes Saturday morning 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. In Kikai, you will learn the core techniques of multiple martial arts. A.S.A.P. (Adrenal-Scenario-Based Awareness & Protection) develops the correct responses in pre-conflict stages. **FEE:** \$40 per month; \$20 for those already enrolled in LVCC martial arts class. For more information, please call 331-3455.

## **NEW! TRADITIONAL JAPANESE SWORDSMANSHIP**

Suio Ryu is one of the few ancient systems of martial arts practiced today. It encompasses a broad variety of techniques such as jojutsu, (Suio Ryu), kumi-iai (paired sword forms), naganata-jutsu, pure kenpo sword and wakizashi techniques. Classes are on Wednesday 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. Adult (ages 18 & older). Open enrollment. **FEE:** \$40 per month. For more information please call 331-3455 or email Britt Nichols at [Info@suioiryu-usa.org](mailto:Info@suioiryu-usa.org).

## INDIVIDUAL WEIGHT TRAINING CLASSES

This class, for adults age 18 and older, teaches the basics of weight training. Learn how to set up and advance; use proper technique and form; and get the most out of your weight-training program using both machine and free weights. This individual training class meets for two 1-hour sessions. Body Fat Testing is included. **FEE:** \$25.00

## LA VISTA (INDOOR) WALKING CLUB

The La Vista Community Center Walking Club, available free of charge, is for any La Vista residents and/or Seniors in the surrounding areas. Walking will begin at 10:30 a.m. on M-W-F. We will walk for up to 1 hour (until 11:30 a.m.) with no interference from other programs. (Walking is available at other times also, but best recommended on weekday mornings).

## MODEL AIRPLANE LICENSE & FIELD TIMES

Model airplane flying licenses may be purchased at the Hobby Town, USA. You must have you A.M.A. card in order to purchase your license. **FEE:** La Vista Residents \$30 Non-Residents \$40 (includes 1 year license and Midwest Performance Flyers Club membership). Flying Times (at La Vista Soccer Complex, 66th St. South of Harrison) will be posted at the La Vista Recreation Dept. and Hobby Town U.S.A.

## INDOOR REMOTE CONTROL MODEL AIRPLANE FLYING

Every Monday from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm participate in Indoor Model Airplane Flying at the La Vista Community Center. These lightweight planes will amaze you, as will the individuals who designed and fly them. A good time is had by all during this weekly event! Come watch at no cost, or come fly your own plane for a small drop-in fee!

## FREE TAX HELP

For taxpayers with low/middle income, with special attention to those age 60 and older. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at the La Vista Community Center, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. No appointments, walk-ins only. Beginning January 30, 2007 through April 15, 2007. Please see instruction sheet at the Community Center for preparations prior to visit.

## KITE FLYING FESTIVALS

The American Kite fliers Association and The La Vista Recreation Department invite you to Go Fly a Kite in 2007! Come see some of the world's largest and most creative kites at our upcoming festivals. April is National Kite Flying Month and to celebrate we are having a Spring Kite Festival, Sunday, April 29, 2007 from 12:00 pm-5:00 pm at the La Vista Soccer Complex. Bring the whole family and enjoy a day of kite flying!

## SENIOR VALENTINES BRUNCH

The La Vista and Papillion Senior Center will be hosting their annual Valentine's Luncheon on Wednesday, February 14, 2007. Food, fun & entertainment will be provided. All Seniors from the area are invited! Advanced tickets are required. Tickets will be on sale at La Vista Community Center, 8116 Parkview Blvd., La Vista, or at Papillion Recreation Dept., 1100 West Lincoln St., Papillion. Sorry, no refunds will be given. Lunch served at 11:30 a.m. Registration Deadline: Wednesday, February 7, 2007. **FEE:** 5.00 per person

## LA VISTA SENIOR CENTER:

The La Vista Senior Center is located in the Community Center and offers friendship, food, fitness, field trips, and many more fun activities. Please contact the Recreation Department at 331-3455 if you would like your name placed on the mailing list to receive a monthly calendar. The Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging provides a hot lunches on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 11:30 a.m., catered by Valley. Lunch reservations need to be made [by noon] one business day in advance by calling 331-3455. A suggested donation of \$2.50 (for ages 60 & over) is appreciated.

The Community Center has Senior walkers every morning (free of charge), and a fitness room with various exercise equipment for your use. There is no charge for La Vista Seniors to use the equipment, with a small charge of \$2 for non-resident Seniors (age 55 & over).

Jazzercise Lite is a moderate aerobics class with exercises that are designed to improve strength, balance and flexibility. This a tremendous class for Seniors - male and female! You may join at anytime. The fee is \$16/month or \$3/class drop-in. Give Instructor Mary Beth Brandeau a call at 935-0472 for more detailed information on days and times.

Seniors go on several outings per month including restaurants, museums, movies or sightseeing. In recent outings, the Seniors have gone to Mahoney State Park Dinner Theater, Rosenblatt Stadium for a Royals game, to Nebraska City for apples and the Christmas Light Tour!

Every Monday at 12:15 p.m. Bridge and cards are offered. On Wednesdays and Fridays pitch and other card games are played after lunch.

Throughout the year, the Seniors have special events such as an annual Valentines Day party, which includes great food and entertainment. Pot-luck lunches are also held frequently, and monthly birthday parties are held the second Wednesday of each month.

A visiting nurse is at the Community Center on the first Friday of each month from 9-11:00 a.m. There is a sign-up sheet across from the front desk, but walk-ins are welcome.

Transportation is available for La Vista and Ralston residents on the Ralston/La Vista Special Services Bus. Please call 331-6677 or 657-3550 for further information.

To look at scheduled activities/trips and lunch menus, be sure to sign up for the monthly La Vista Senior Newsletter by calling the La Vista Recreation Dept. at 331-3455.

### **PALOMINO BASEBALL**

ages 17/18 as of August 1, 2007. Registration Deadline: March 4, 2007. **FEE:** La Vista Resident \$100.00, Non-Resident \$130.00 Uniform Deposit: \$50.00. Players must be registered by the deadline to attend the try out. A try out will be held if more than 15 players are signed up by the registration deadline. This is a competitive league, no guaranteed playing time. Practice starts late March, games late April through early July. Volunteer Coaches Needed.

### **COLT BASEBALL**

Ages 15/16 as of August 1, 2007. Registration Deadline: March 4, 2007. **FEE:** La Vista Resident \$75.00, Non-Resident \$105.00 Uniform Deposit: \$50.00. Players must be registered by the deadline to attend the try out. A try out will be held if more than 15 players are signed up by the registration deadline. This is a competitive league, no guaranteed playing time. Practice starts late March, games late April through early July. Volunteer Coaches Needed.

### **PONY BASEBALL**

Ages 13/14 as of August 1, 2007. Registration Deadline: March 4, 2007. **FEE:** La Vista Resident \$65.00, Non-Resident \$85.00 Uniform Deposit: \$50.00. Players must be registered by the deadline to attend the try out. A try out will be held if more than 12 players are signed up by the registration deadline. This is a competitive league, guaranteed one inning playing time per game. Practice starts late March, games late April through June. Volunteer Coaches Needed.

### **BRONCO BASEBALL**

Ages 11/12 as of August 1, 2007. Registration Deadline: March 4, 2007. **FEE:** La Vista Resident \$45.00, Non-Resident \$75.00 Uniform Deposit: \$50.00 Recreational league, all players registered before the deadline will be placed on a team. Practices start late March, games late April through June. Volunteer Coaches Needed.

### **MUSTANG (KID PITCH) BASEBALL**

Ages 9/10 as of August 1, 2007. Registration Deadline: April 29, 2007. **FEE:** La Vista Resident \$35.00, Non-Resident \$55.00. Practice starts late May, games mid-June through July. Volunteer Coaches Needed.

### **LA VISTA FALLS GOLF COURSE**

8305 Park View Blvd. Visit the La Vista Falls Golf Course, now open for the 2007 season. The Course has open golf, Junior Leagues, Adult Leagues and more. Call Manager Denny Dinan at 339-9147 for more information on hours, fees, and special outings. (If golf course is closed, please call the Recreation Dept. at 331-3455). Watch the Omaha World-Herald and the Metropolitan Tee Times for specials.

### **SPRING & SUMMER GOLF LEAGUES**

Men - 2 Man Teams. Competitive with standings and handicaps, Flag Prizes & Fun Nights

Women - Individual, twosome, threesome and foursome teams. Competitive with Standings. Flag Prizes & Fun Nights

Couples - Male/Female. Competitive with Standing. Flag Prizes & Fun Nights

Juniors - Individual, Groups. Accommodations for Car Pooling. Fun & Supervised Play. On-Course Tips & Instruction. End of the Year Prizes & Party. \*Must have playing ability & knowledge of the game.

Seniors - Any Interested Seniors will be contacted (if numbers are sufficient) to structure leagues or permanent tee times as desired.

Weekend golf leagues or permanent tee time arrangements can be made by contacting Manager Denny Dinan at 339-9147.

### **LEAGUE FEES FOR 2007**

- 1) Leagues with Prize/Party Fund ..... \$170.00 per player
- 2) Junior Golf Program ..... \$ 70.00 per player
- 3) All Other League Play ..... Regular Green Fees x number of weeks

### **GREEN FEES & SPECIALS MARCH 1ST - SEPTEMBER 30, 2007 \*AFTER 3:00 P.M.**

9-Hole Weekdays (adults).....\$ 8.50	Pull Carts .....\$ 2.00
9-Hole Weekends	Rental Clubs .....\$ 7.00
(Sat-Sun) (adults).....\$ 10.00	Electric Carts (9-Holes) .....\$ 6.00
18-Hole Weekdays (adults).....\$ 14.50	Electric Carts (18-Holes) .....\$ 9.00
18-Hole Weekends	
(Sat-Sun) (adults).....\$ 16.00	
9-Hole Weekdays (Jr/Sr) .....\$ 6.00	
9-Hole Weekends*	Punch Card Discount
(Sat-Sun) (Jr/Sr) .....\$ 6.00	Buy 10-Get 12 (Adult).....\$ 85.00
18-Hole Weekdays (Jr/Sr).....\$ 11.00	Buy 10-Get 12 (Jr/Sr).....\$ 60.00
18-Hole Weekends*	Buy 20-Get 25 (Adult).....\$170.00
(Sat-Sun) (Jr/Sr) .....\$ 11.00	Buy 20-Get 25 (Jr/Sr).....\$120.00
1 year Adult Memb.....\$300.00	
1 year Family Memb.....\$600.00	
1 year Jr/Sr Membership .....\$200.00	

### **PINTO (CO-ED COACH PITCH) BASEBALL**

Ages 7/8 as of August 1, 2007. Registration Deadline: April 29, 2007. **FEE:** La Vista Resident \$25.00, Non-Resident \$40.00. Practice starts late May, games mid-June through July. Volunteer Coaches Needed

### **T-BALL**

Ages 5/6 as of August 1, 2007. Registration Deadline: April 29, 2007. **FEE:** La Vista Resident \$25.00, Non-Resident \$40.00 (Co-ed). Practice starts late May, games mid-June through July. Volunteer Coaches Needed.

### **PONY SOFTBALL**

Ages 13/14/15 as of January 1, 2007. Registration Deadline: April 1, 2007. **FEE:** La Vista Resident \$65.00, Non-Resident \$85.00, softball pants deposit \$20.00. Practices start late April, games late May through early July. Tryouts will be held if needed. Players must be registered by the deadline to attend the try out and be placed on a team. Volunteer coaches needed.

### **BRONCO SOFTBALL**

Ages 11/12 as of January 1, 2007. Registration Deadline: April 1, 2007. **FEE:** La Vista Resident \$45.00, Non-Resident \$75.00. Softball pants deposit \$20.00. Practice starts late April, games late May through early July. Volunteer Coaches Needed.

### **MUSTANG SOFTBALL**

Ages 9/10 as of January 1, 2007. Registration Deadline: April 1, 2007. **FEE:** La Vista Resident \$35.00, Non-Resident \$55.00. Practice starts late April, games late May through early July. Volunteer Coaches Needed.

### **PINTO SOFTBALL**

Ages 7/8 as of January 1, 2007. Registration Deadline: April 1, 2007. **FEE:** La Vista Resident \$25.00, Non-Resident \$40.00. Practice starts late April, games late May through early July. Volunteer Coaches Needed.

### **CO-ED YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE**

Ages 4/5 & 6/7. Ages as of August 1, 2007. Spring Session Deadline: March 4, 2007. **FEE:** La Vista Resident \$25.00, Non-Resident \$45.00. Volunteer Coaches Needed.

### **SUMMER ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUES.**

Registration Deadline March 25, 2007. Leagues may fill up before the deadline. Co-ed Leagues Friday and Sunday; Men's League Sunday through Friday; Double Header Leagues Wednesday and Thursday. **FEE:** Co-ed and Men's League \$200.00, Double Header League \$400.00. Umpire Fee: \$18.00 per game paid directly to the umpire - CASH ONLY. Games start week of April 15, 2007.



### **RED CROSS SWIMMING LESSONS**

Registration Dates:

La Vista Residents Beginning: .....Monday, April 30, 2007

Non-Residents Beginning: .....Monday, May 7, 2007

**FEE:** La Vista Residents: .....\$25.00

Non-Residents: .....\$50.00

Swimming Lesson Sessions:

Session 1: .....June 11 through June 22

Session 2: .....July 9 through July 20

Session 3: .....July 23 through August 3

Levels of Lessons: Pre-Beginners, Level I, Level II, Level III, Level IV, Level V, Level VI

Lessons are held Monday through Thursday. Fridays are rain days. Minimum age for pre-beginners is age four. All classes are forty-five minutes in length.

### **LA VISTA MUNICIPAL SWIMMING POOL**

The La Vista Municipal Pool will open on Saturday, May 26, 2007 and close Monday, September 3, 2007 (Labor Day). Pool Hours are 1:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. daily (schedule will change once school begins). Season passes and resident tags may be purchased at the La Vista Recreation Center. Season passes are available for Residents and Non-Residents.

### **SWIMMING POOL FEES - 2007**

Daily Admission:

Youth 5 & under: .....Free

Youth Resident 6-17 years of age (with tag): .....\$ 2.00

Youth Non-Resident 6-17 years of age (with tag): .....\$ 4.00

Adult Resident 18 & older (with tag): .....\$ 3.00

Adult Non-Resident 18 & older: .....\$ 4.00

RESIDENT TAG .....\$ 1.50

YOUTH RESIDENT Season Pass .....\$ 50.00

YOUTH NON-RESIDENT Season Pass .....\$ 80.00

ADULT RESIDENT Season Pass .....\$ 60.00

ADULT NON-RESIDENT Season Pass .....\$ 90.00

FAMILY RESIDENT Season Pass .....\$ 90.00

FAMILY NON-RESIDENT Season Pass .....\$150.00

DAY-CARE Season Pass .....\$250.00

30-Day Pass Booklet (Residents) .....\$ 45.00

30-Day Pass Booklet (Non-Residents) .....\$ 75.00