



## Are You Working From Home?

Nationally and locally, home occupations have become increasingly popular as technology enables more people to work from computers outside of the traditional workplace environment. The City of La Vista recently modernized its zoning code to reflect these advances in technology and provide an efficient process to accommodate the trend. The City believes that home-based businesses should be encouraged and supported, especially if there is no negative impact on your neighbors. A few reasons to support home-based businesses include the potential for reduced commuter traffic, increased time at home for your family, and increased creativity through entrepreneurship.

The new revisions recently adopted by the La Vista City Council redefine "home occupations" to include a variety of home-based businesses, and streamlines the requirements for licensing some types of businesses. For example, home occupations defined as "minor", such as telecommuting, craft-making, or catering with no employees, sales or services at the home, would no longer require a resident to gather signatures of approval from neighbors NOR obtain an annual occupation license from the City.

However, if you have clients or customers who come to your home to purchase goods or services, or an employee who does not live in the home, this is defined as a "major" home occupation. In these cases, you are required to go through a one-time approval process to obtain a special permit. This process includes notice to your neighbors who would have an opportunity to support or oppose your request at a public hearing before the Planning Commission and City Council. If the special permit is approved, you are ALSO required to obtain an occupation license at City Hall which is renewed annually.

If you have a child care home you are not required to obtain a special permit from the City; however, an annual occupation license IS required. Child care homes are also required to be in accordance with Nebraska state laws and providers must obtain a certificate signed by the State Fire Marshall.

If you have any questions about a home occupation in La Vista, please call Marcus Baker, City Planner at 331-4343.



## Tell Us What You Think

How can we make the City's annual celebration a unique and special event? Please take a few minutes to let us know your thoughts on La Vista Days and tell us how we can make the event even better in the future. You can respond online, by mail or by email.

Do you know about La Vista Days?

Did you attend any of the 2009 La Vista Days events?

Tell us what you liked or disliked about the event(s) you attended.

What new events would you like to see at a future La Vista Days?

Would you be willing to volunteer your time to help with an event?

Should we consider a different format for a community celebration? If yes, what would you suggest?

Mail responses to Rita Ramirez, City of La Vista, 8116 Park View Blvd., La Vista, NE 68128-2198, email [rramirez@cityoflavista.org](mailto:rramirez@cityoflavista.org) or go to [www.cityoflavista.org/lavistadays](http://www.cityoflavista.org/lavistadays) to complete the survey online.

## A MINUTE WITH mayor kindig



Summer is winding down and before long school will be back in session. Before we close out the summer season and your thoughts turn to fall activities, I'd like to ask you to take some time to think about the annual La Vista Days celebration and give us your feedback. Next year the City will be celebrating 50 years as a community and we are planning a year full of special events. We want La Vista Days to be an integral part of the celebration and are looking for input from our citizens. Please see the information regarding La Vista Days on page one of this newsletter and let us know what you think.

One of the City's goals in the Strategic Plan is to pursue revitalization of the 84th Street corridor. This project, dubbed **Vision 84**, has been ongoing during 2009 and will continue through early 2010. The first community workshop was held on June 23rd and approximately 75 people attended, offering their ideas and comments about how 84th Street might look in the future. There is an insert in this newsletter reporting on the progress that has been made and outlining opportunities for future input. A survey regarding the features that citizens would like to see in a revitalization/redevelopment plan for the corridor is also included. **A very important part of this project is to garner as much public input as possible.** I hope you will take a moment to complete the survey and return it (postage is paid) or go online at [www.cityoflavista.org/vision84](http://www.cityoflavista.org/vision84) to submit the survey electronically. Also, please consider participating in one of the upcoming events (the second community workshop will be held at City Hall on August 17th beginning at 6:30 p.m.) We want to know what your "vision" is for 84th Street.

Finally, the City Council and I are in the process of developing the budget for fiscal year 2010. This is one of the most important and time consuming projects that we undertake each year. Our goal is always to ensure that citizens will continue to be provided quality public services at a reasonable cost. We will report on the new budget in the next issue of CityWise. — Mayor Douglas Kindig

## Fall Leaf Collection

The City of La Vista will again be offering a free dump site for leaves and yard waste. All residents, including residents in the City's Extra-Territorial Zoning Jurisdiction, can bring their leaves, grass clippings and tree branches to the Public Works Department on **Saturday, November 7, 2009** between the hours of **8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.** Tree branches can be any length but no larger than 6 inches in diameter. Citizens must have proof of residency, either a valid driver's license or a copy of a utility bill. Used motor oil, anti-freeze and all batteries will also be accepted. The Public Works Facility is located at 9900 Portal Road. For more information call 331-8927.

## La Vista City Calendar

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

### AUGUST 2009

- 2 National Night Out Community Celebration, Portal Elementary, 5:00 p.m.
- 4 City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 4 National Night Out
- 18 City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 19 Park and Recreation Advisory Board, 7:00 p.m.
- 20 Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.

### SEPTEMBER 2009

- 1 City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 7 Most City offices will be closed for Labor Day
- 10 Citizen Advisory Review Committee, 7:00 p.m.
- 10 Library Advisory Board, 5:30 p.m. in Library Conference Room
- 15 City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 16 Park and Recreation Advisory Board, 7:00 p.m.
- 17 Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.

### OCTOBER 2009

- 6 City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 12 Most City offices will be closed for Columbus Day
- 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.
- 31 Halloween Safe Night, Community Center, 5:45 p.m.

### trivia

**What was the name of La Vista's first grocery store?**

*Answer on Page 7*

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night Out is a unique crime prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch. Last year almost 10,000 communities participated in the event. The program is designed to heighten crime prevention awareness, generate support for local anti-crime programs, and strengthen community & police partnerships.

On Sunday, August 2nd, the La Vista Police Department will be hosting our annual National Night Out Community Celebration at Portal Elementary School, located at 9920 Brentwood Drive. The festivities will take place from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. A free community cookout, emergency vehicle displays, live D.J., games and more are all part of the fun!

If you cannot join us on Sunday evening, you can still help keep your neighborhood safe by turning your porch light on, sitting out on your front steps for an hour or two, visiting with neighbors in your yard or maybe even having a neighborhood barbecue. Partner with the La Vista Police Department, your neighbors and millions of others across the country to take a stand against crime!

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH GROUP

The Community & Youth Services Unit of the La Vista Police Department is committed to the safety and welfare of our citizens and dedicated to maintaining a strong bond between police, citizens, schools and merchants. Help us, help you! Start a Neighborhood watch group or join our Citizen's Traffic Watch. Call Ofc. James Thompson at 331-1582 or e-mail at [jthompson@cityoflavista.org](mailto:jthompson@cityoflavista.org).

## LA VISTA POLICE CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

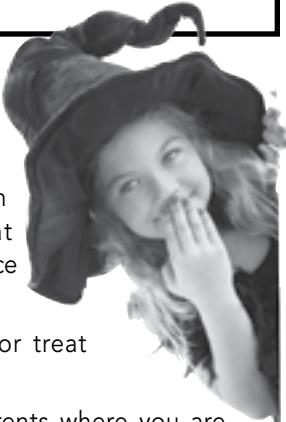
Applications are now being accepted for the 2009 Fall class of the "La Vista Police Citizen's Police Academy". The Citizens Academy is an eleven-week course that will cover a wide variety of police work and fire services. The classes will be held every Thursday night beginning September 10 from 6:30 to 9:30 P.M. and will be taught by officers from the La Vista Police and Fire departments. Applications are now available at the La Vista police station, 7701 So. 96th Street or on-line at [www.cityoflavista.org](http://www.cityoflavista.org). For further information please contact Officer James Thompson at 402-331-1582 or email [jthompson@cityoflavista.org](mailto:jthompson@cityoflavista.org)



## Halloween Safe Night

The City of La Vista and the La Vista Chamber of Commerce would like to invite all kids 12 and under, (accompanied by a parent), to Halloween Safe Night on **Saturday October 31, 2009 from 5:45 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** at the La Vista Community Center. There will be food, drink, candy and lots of Halloween surprises. Local businesses and organizations interested in being a part of Halloween Safe Night, should call David at 331-3455. Businesses and organizations should have a minimum of 1000 pieces of candy to sponsor a table. Donations, bags of candy and volunteers are also welcome.

## HALLOWEEN SAFETY



A reminder from your friends at the La Vista Police Department:

- Never trick or treat alone.
- Tell your parents where you are going and who you will be with.
- Wear a costume that you can see out of.
- Don't eat unwrapped candy. Have your parents check the candy before eating.
- Trick-or-treat in neighborhoods that you are familiar with.
- If a house doesn't have a porch light on, pass on by.
- Don't go inside people's houses when trick-or-treating.
- Take a flashlight with you.
- Watch for moving cars. The drivers may not see you.
- Say "THANK YOU".
- HAVE FUN!

## LA VISTA RECEIVES NRD GRANTS

On April 9, 2009, the Papio-Missouri River NRD Board of Directors approved the City of La Vista's requests on two grant applications. The first request was for assistance in the preparation of individual master plans for the city's parks. The NRD's Draft FY 2010 Budget includes \$7,000.00 for this project. The project was approved under the NRD's Recreation Area Development Program. Master plans will be developed for each of the city's 14-parks and will include recommendations for updates to current amenities and the addition of special features.

The second request was for assistance with the installation of a storm water treatment system. This system is installed in an existing storm sewer pipe and separates debris and silt before it reaches a stream or lake. The system can be pumped out using a vacuum truck which then disposes of the material properly. The city will be installing the system on a storm sewer pipe leading to the upper lake at the golf course which regularly has problems with trash, debris and silt. The NRD has approved \$10,000.00 to assist with this project. The project was approved under the NRD's Storm Water Best Management Practices Program.

## Community Development Department

**Abante** - Construction has finished on the 10,140 s.f. industrial building and warehouse. This company, which does printing on hats and shirts, is open for business. Location: 13378 Centech Road.

**Advanced Chiropractic & Neurology** - Construction is underway on this 1,500 s.f. tenant to be located in the Southport Center building. Location: 12040 McDermott Plaza.

**American Marking** - A building permit application is pending for a 16,688 s.f. building for this company which manufactures construction marking flags. Location: 13240 Chandler Road.

**BDKR Warehouse** - Construction has been completed on this 8,260 s.f. warehouse and is now open for business. Location: 7050 S. 109th Street.

**Betts Enterprise** - A permit application has been received for a 3,400 s.f. building for this cemetery maintenance company. Location: 10402 Chandler Circle.

**Brook Valley Products** - Construction is nearing completion on 3,032 s.f. of industrial flex space, a portion of which will include this t-shirt printing business. Location: 10804 Emiline Street.

**Quality Brands/Budweiser** - A 30,529 s.f. addition to this distribution facility is currently under construction. Location: 13255 Centech Road.

**Courtyard by Marriott Hotel** - Construction of this six story hotel with 246 rooms, including meeting rooms, a restaurant, a lounge and recreational facilities has been completed and the facility is now open to the public. The hotel is connected to the La Vista Conference Center through a covered walkway. Location: 12560 Westport Parkway.

**Falawich Construction** - A permit has been received from a construction company for a 6,000 s.f. addition to its building. Location: 8720 S. 114th Street.

**Farrell's Extreme Bodyshaping** - Construction is complete on this 4,000 s.f. business in the Southport Plaza building. Farrell's conducts fitness classes and is now open for business. Location: 7428 Eastport Parkway.

**FM Forklifts** - Construction is still in progress on a 8,124 s.f. building for this forklift sales and service business. Location: 10421 Chandler Circle.

**La Vista Keno** - Construction is finished on a 1,588 s.f. addition to this Keno business. Location: 7101 S. 84th Street.

**Mutual of Omaha Bank** - Construction is underway on a 30,450 s.f. bank and office building to be located in Southport West. Location: 12702 Westport Parkway.

**Profit Advantage** - Construction is nearing completion on this 9,294 s.f. office building which will be the location of a payroll processing business. Location: 9826 Giles Road.

**Quality First Insurance** - The construction on this 1,638 s.f. tenant in the Val Verde shopping plaza has been completed. Location: 9801 Giles Road.

**Solas Distillery** - A permit has been received for a 4,300 s.f. tenant finish for this business. Location: 11941 Centennial Road.

**Southport Center** - Construction has been completed on the first building of a two building complex which will also contain an open plaza area. The east building contains 21,643 s.f. and the west building contains 20,748 s.f. of commercial flex-space. A permit application has been received with regard to adding a parking lot. Location: 12040 McDermott Plaza.

**Yahoo!** - Construction is still in progress on a \$9.3 million renovation of an existing 70,000 s.f. building in the Brook Valley Business Park. Location: 10917 Harry Watanabe Drive.

# what'shappening • fall 2009

## NEW! BBQ SCHOOL

Tuesday, September 15th, 2009, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the La Vista Community Center. *Certified Kansas City BBQ Judge David Karlson* will teach you the basics of smoking Brisket, Pork Butt and Ribs. You will learn to make your own rubs and sauces, trim a brisket, skin ribs, secrets of the smoke ring, tips on how to BBQ on a gas grill, charcoal kettle, offset barrel smoker and more. This is a barbecuing class, not grilling. It will be hands on, with sampling. **FEE:** \$40.00. Class limited to the first 10 people.

## NEW! LA VISTA LUGGAGE TRAVEL CLUB

The La Vista Community Center has teamed up with Travel Leaders to create a travel club that caters to the needs of our community and we need your help. Please join us on Wednesday, September 23rd at 7:00 pm to participate in a fun and interesting focus group. You will help to design the La Vista Luggage Club by sharing with us your ideas on trips and offers you would like to see offered by the club. No charge.

## NEW! ZUMBA FITNESS

An easy-to-follow aerobic exercise with movements that are mainly derived from Latin and international music. The routines feature aerobic interval training with a combination of fast and slow rhythms to tone and sculpt the body. Participants do not have to know how to dance to do Zumba. This program incorporates footwork and body movements from merengue, cumbia, salsa and other dances. Come and Join us, this is an exciting opportunity to burn some calories and have fun! Please Contact Marisol for class times and fees at 813-8976.

## NEW! BATON LESSONS

Discover the fun you can have twirling! Not only will you learn to twirl, but you will also make friends, build confidence, and learn to present yourself in a positive light. Wednesday afternoons at the La Vista Community Center. Beginners 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. Advanced 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Ages 5 and up. Classes subject to availability. Call Vicki at 402-612-1479 for further information on registration and class fees.

## LA VISTA COMMUNITY CENTER - HOLIDAY BAZAAR/ GARAGE SALE

SELL YOUR HOLIDAY CRAFTS AND KNICKKNACKS OR GARAGE SALE ITEMS! Sunday November 8th, 2009. 2:30 p.m.- 6:30 p.m. \$10.00 will reserve a spot to sell items in the gymnasium. (This includes an eight foot table and 2 chairs). Tables will be assigned on a first come-paid basis. Space is limited; drop by the La Vista Community Center to reserve your space. Set up time for sellers is 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Doors open for shopping at 2:30 p.m. No admission to shop.

## 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 will run throughout the year and is for La Vista residents only. When: Tuesday and Thursday morning 10:00-11:00 a.m. **FEE:** Free.

## FALL ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Registration deadline: Saturday, August 15, 2009, or until league is full (whichever comes first). Co-ed leagues Friday/Sunday, Men's Leagues S/M/T/W/Th/F, Double Header Leagues Wednesday/Thursday. **FEES:** Coed/Men's Leagues \$110.00. Double Header Leagues \$220.00. Umpire fees \$18.00 per game paid directly to the umpires. You must have a completed roster with you to register. Coach's meeting Wednesday, August 26, 2009. Games start the week of September 6, 2009.

## WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE -

Registration deadline: Saturday, August 15, 2009 or until league is full (whichever comes first). **FEE:** \$100/team. \$16 forfeit deposit fee. Referee fee \$8/week (paid directly to referee). Games Wednesday evening. Season begins mid/late September.

## ADULT BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Must be 18 and out of high school to register. Registration deadline: Sunday, November 8, 2009, or until league fills, whichever comes first. Competitive play with a minimum of 10 games and a tournament at the end of the season. Games on Sunday afternoon/evening. Season begins in December.

## YOUTH BASKETBALL CLINIC

Registration deadline: Sunday, November 29, 2009. Learn basketball skills, teamwork, sportsmanship and have fun at the same time! Season begins in January, Saturday mornings for 5 weeks. **FEE:** La Vista residents \$15, Non-residents \$30. There is a \$10 fee after November 29, if space is still available. VOLUNTEER COACHES NEEDED.

## YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Registration deadline: Sunday, November 15, 2009. Learn basketball skills, teamwork, sportsmanship and have fun at the same time! **FEE:** La Vista residents \$45, Non-residents \$55. Uniform deposit \$40 (collected at registration and held until uniform is returned.) There is a \$10 fee after November 15, if space is still available. VOLUNTEER COACHES NEEDED.

## PARENTS!

The La Vista Recreation Dept. relies on parents for youth sports. Please consider volunteering for coaching so the Recreation Dept. is able to continue to provide sports for your children. We need coaches year round for all youth sports -trained and untrained! Call the Recreation Dept. at 331-3455 to volunteer your services.

## APOLLO

The library has a new catalog system called "Apollo". This new system gives more control to the patron to manage their account. There are tutorials on their website at <http://www.biblionix.com/products/apollo/tutorials/>. Look under the "Patron Empowerment" column and view tutorials on features like "Search Catalog and Reserve" which allows you to reserve a title that is currently checked out. You can do this from your home computer as long as you have a library account set up. "Renewal" allows you to renew your library books from home. The feature "Vacation Delay of Reserve" allows you to notify the system when you will be on vacation. If you have material reserved, the system will recognize that you are on vacation, and have the material go to the next person. Your name will be next in line so you don't get bumped to the bottom of the list. If you would like a demonstration, stop by the library and ask any staff member to walk you through the system.

## HOME IMPROVEMENT REFERENCE CENTER

Library databases are located at <http://lavistaweb.mccneb.edu/Databases.htm>. The Home Improvement Reference Center is great for projects around the house. Some of the features include step by step instruction, a list of materials needed for your project, and illustrations to help with your project. Projects include decorating, electrical projects, maintenance on your home, outdoor challenges like stone tile or fences, plumbing, remodeling and even some woodworking. Check it out!

## UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

**TECHNOLOGY CLASSES** - Computer classes are offered to library cardholders in various areas. A monthly calendar of classes and their content is posted at the library and on the web page. Registration is required. Contact Jean Hurst for more information at 537-3900.

**QUILTING** - The Library Quilting Group meets the 2nd and 4th Saturday every month. This gathering is for beginners and experts alike.

**TEENS AND TLC** - The Teen Library Club (TLC) will be meeting again this fall. It is open to all students in grades 6 - 12 who are members of the La Vista Public Library. Check out our website for more information on dates and times.

October 18-24 is Teen Read Week. Stop in the library to check out our programs and events being held that week featuring "Read Beyond Reality @ your Library!"

**CRAFT DAYS** - Craft Days are held various times throughout the year. The sessions are from 3:30-4:15 for children in fifth grade and younger. Craft days will be held on October 21st and November 18th. Registration is not required.

**FAMILY BINGO NIGHT** - Family Bingo Night will be held on Thursday, September 24th and Thursday, October 15th from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Prizes will be given away for those that get a bingo, and snacks will be provided. Registration is not required.

**4TH AND 5TH GRADE BOOK CLUB** - The 4th and 5th Grade Book Club will meet the second Friday of each month from September through April at 3:30-4:15 p.m. Our first meeting will be on Friday, September 11th. The book club is limited to twelve members. Call Jodi at the library for more information.

## BOOK BUGS

Children in 2nd and 3rd grade are invited to come to the library every Tuesday afternoon from 3:30-4:10 p.m. to learn about books and enjoy reading. We will read books, complete an activity related to the book, and have a treat. Book Bugs starts on Tuesday, September 22nd and will end on Tuesday, December 15th. Registration is not required.

2  
HOURS

Mon.-Thur. 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

Fri.-Sat. 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Sun. 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

**PRESCHOOL STORYTIME** is geared towards three to five-year-old children who are not in kindergarten. Fall Preschool Storytime starts on Monday, September 14th and ends on Friday, December 11th.

Classes will run from 10:00 - 10:45 a.m. and 2:00 - 2:45 p.m. on various days. Space is limited and registration will begin on August 14th. Please sign up for only one day a week.

**TODDLER STORYTIME** is for children eighteen months to two years. Mom, dad, a grandparent or caregiver is required to sit with the child. Class runs from 10:10 to 10:40 a.m. on various days. The fall session runs from Monday, September 21st to Friday, December 11th. Space is limited and registration will begin on August 14th.

**LAPSIT** is a fun, hands-on program that introduces young children to the library and the joy of reading. This program is offered to children from six to eighteen months. It is offered only on Thursdays from 10:00-10:40 a.m. Lapsit starts on Thursday, September 24th and will end on Thursday, December 10th. Space is limited and registration will begin on August 24th.

**The NEW Library catalog page is located at <http://lavista.biblionix.com/atoz/catalog/>.**

**There is a Search box at the top to search the library's collection. The library has bags full of Halloween tales for your ghoulish pleasure. Don't be afraid: type "Ghost stories" for a Halloween chill!**

**The new system allows you to view some of the book covers!**

## GREAT BOOKS FOR GREAT KIDS

Runza® Restaurants will conduct its 7th annual "Great Books for Great Kids" fundraiser on **September 22, 2009**. This is an excellent opportunity to enjoy a meal out and help the La Vista Library at the same time. Fifteen percent of the day's sales at the La Vista Runza®, located at 12149 McDermott Plaza in the new Southport area, will be donated to the La Vista Library to purchase children's books. Runza® recognizes the importance of reading and literacy to the youth in our communities,

evidenced by their participation in this annual event. Please join us on September 22nd.

## KITE FESTIVAL

Sunday October 18, 2009, 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the La Vista Sports Complex. The American Kite Fliers Association and the La Vista Recreation Department invite you to Go Fly a Kite in 2009! Come see some of the world's largest and most creative kites at our up coming festival. Bring the whole family and enjoy a day of kite flying!

## Summer Reading is Fun!



## Council Clips

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

- Approved an additional satellite location for the City's keno game
- Approved a new Fire Department recruit class of 15 members
- Received a progress report on the City's strategic planning initiatives
- Presented badges to eight new volunteer Firefighters
- Approved amendments to the Home Occupation requirements

Trivia answer from page 2.

Hinky Dinky



## gogreen!

Live Green Go Yellow is General Motors' introduction to "FlexFuel" vehicles which will burn regular gasoline, gasohol, and E85. Flexible Fuel Vehicles are produced by many major automakers. E85 is available today at approximately 600 retail gas stations across the United States. E85 is a promising fuel that is evolving quickly as an alternative to gasoline. Even the Indy Car series is using ethanol in the high performance, race car engines.

The availability of both the fuel itself and the Flexible Fuel Vehicles(FFVs) to utilize it is growing rapidly. Because it is for use only in these FFVs, E85 is always labeled clearly at the pump. According to fuel consumption statistics, ethanol is blended into approximately one-third of America's gasoline. The majority of that ethanol is consumed as E10, the 10 percent ethanol blend that can be used in all automobiles. Ethanol is not the newest, nor is it the

only choice when it comes to alternative fuels. Biodiesel, hydrogen powered, electric powered, methanol powered and compressed natural gas powered solutions are also worth considering. Fossil fuels have a finite lifespan, besides the financial and environmental costs associated with them. The world needs to find a renewable resource for our energy requirements.

# LA VISTA cityofficials

## Mayor

Douglas Kindig

## City Council

Brenda Carlisle, Ward 1  
Ron Sheehan, Ward 1  
Mike Crawford, 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 Barcal, Library Director  
Rich Uhl, Fire Chief  
Bob Lausten, Police Chief  
Joe Soucie, Public Works Director  
Scott Stopak, Recreation Director



Citizens attending the first Vision 84 Community Workshop have an opportunity to comment on various features that could be incorporated into a redevelopment plan.



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

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

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# RE-IMAGINE 84th

August 1, 2009 Volume 2 of 3

## SUMMARY

Over the last several months, the City and design team have hosted several important events for the Vision 84 project. These included a walking tour of the 84th Street corridor, a bus tour of developments in the Kansas City area and the first community meeting for the project.

On May 8 & 9, citizens were invited to walk the 84th Street corridor with the design team and City staff members to discuss ideas, concerns and potentials for the project. The golf course, Brentwood Crossing, Brentwood Square, and the intersections of Giles and Harrison were all discussed as potential redevelopment areas along the tour.



On June 23, the City hosted the first community workshop for the project, where the design team presented a summary of opportunities & constraints along the corridor. A short lecture on the benefits of the project was presented by Dr. Steve Laposa, a nationally recognized expert in mall redevelopment projects.

Following the presentation, members of the community provided comments and recorded their preferences on a variety of elements that may be included in a redevelopment plan including sustainable design strategies, recreation, leisure, civic spaces, commercial/institutional and residential uses.



The day after the community workshop, members of the working group, design team, and city staff boarded a bus and visited the Kansas City metropolitan area to tour recent redevelopment projects in order to evaluate their success and applicability to the 84th Street Corridor.

These included Zona Rosa, the Power and Light District, Brookside and Park Place in Leawood, a suburb.

Representatives from the developers who constructed the projects were available to provide a brief overview of each project and answer questions.

Through these workshops and meetings, several key principles that characterize a successful project have been identified. These include:

- Create a civic core/town center for the community.
- Create a sense of place that is memorable and attractive.
- Provide a destination where people of all ages want to congregate year round.
- Create a high quality destination unique to La Vista.
- Integrate leisure and green spaces.
- Provide a mix of uses that support community needs.
- Connect to surrounding neighborhoods.
- Identify a near term investment, while realizing the vision may take years to complete.
- Don't include any more big box retail.
- Create a place that is environmentally responsible.



## ALTERNATIVES

The design team will begin preparing alternatives for the project in the coming weeks. On August 17, the City and design team will host a second community workshop, where these alternatives will be presented for review, discussion and comment. Please plan to attend this very important meeting and provide your comments on the alternatives.



Ice cream stop at walking tour



Community workshop



Power and Light District

For further information regarding the project visit the City website: [www.cityoflavista.org/vision 84](http://www.cityoflavista.org/vision 84).

## SCHEDULE

### DEVELOPING A VISION

Newsletter #2

Develop Range of Alternatives

Refining of Alternatives

Community Workshop #2

2009	2010										
Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb

◆ August 1

### VISION PLAN PREPARATION

Develop Community Vision Statement

Develop Conceptual Plan

Vision Statement and Conceptual Plan Revisions

Newsletter #3

◆ November 1

### VISION PLAN REFINEMENT

Community Workshop #3

★ TBD - November 10

City Council Meeting

Administrative Draft Vision Plan

Final Vision Plan and Newsletter

February 1

★

## QUESTIONS?

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vision  
84

## Vision 84 – Citizens Questionnaire

This survey is sponsored by the City of La Vista and is important in the creation of a redevelopment plan for the 84<sup>th</sup> Street corridor through our city. The corridor is located between Harrison and Giles Roads. Please return this postage paid questionnaire to La Vista City Hall by tearing it out, folding in half, securing with tape and mailing by **August 28, 2009**.

1. La Vista does not currently have a “downtown” or identifiable city core. An appropriately sized, pedestrian-friendly “city center” (which has a mix of civic, retail, office, residential, and other uses) has been identified as an important element to include in redeveloping 84<sup>th</sup> Street. (circle answer)

- Do you agree that a city center is important to La Vista? Yes No
- Do you agree that the most appropriate location for this center is along 84<sup>th</sup> Street? Yes No

2. Please indicate if you feel the following outdoor features or activities should be included in a new, mixed-use city center. (Circle the X in the column that best represents your opinion)

Outdoor Activity/Feature	Include in city center	Do NOT include in city center	Outdoor Activity/Feature	Include in city center	Do NOT include in city center
Swimming pool	X	X	Dog park	X	X
Water play area (fountain, etc.)	X	X	Performances / concerts	X	X
Baseball / softball game	X	X	Trails	X	X
Disc golf (Frisbee)	X	X	Community vegetable gardens	X	X
Golf	X	X	Public gardens	X	X
Eating / picnicking	X	X	Festivals / fairs / markets	X	X
Playground	X	X	Art / sculpture	X	X
Open parkland	X	X	Ice skating rink	X	X
Natural open space	X	X	Outdoor movies	X	X
Skate features or park	X	X	Food or other mobile vendors	X	X

Tear Out Here

3. Please indicate if you would use these types of businesses, facilities, or services if they were within a mixed-use city center along the 84<sup>th</sup> Street corridor in La Vista. (Circle the X in the column that best represents your opinion)

Business, Entertainment, or Service	Would use on 84 <sup>th</sup> Street	Would NOT use on 84 <sup>th</sup> Street	Business, Entertainment, or Service	Would use on 84 <sup>th</sup> Street	Would NOT use on 84 <sup>th</sup> Street
Grocery store	X	X	Specialty retail shops	X	X
Independent, specialty movie theater (indie)	X	X	Performing arts (plays, dance, concerts)	X	X
Medical emergency	X	X	Art museum / gallery	X	X
Professional services (financial, attorney, tax, real estate, doctor, etc.)	X	X	Personal services (nail, hair stylist, massage)	X	X
Outdoor entertainment (restaurants, pubs, music)	X	X	Farmer's market	X	X
Pharmacy	X	X	Mail, shipping, copies	X	X
High quality restaurants	X	X	Specialty food service (coffee, ice cream, etc.)	X	X

4. What other types of businesses, facilities, or services would attract you to 84<sup>th</sup> Street? \_\_\_\_\_

(survey continues on other side)

5. Is there a place in Omaha, or any other place in the U.S. or world, that you think is a great example of what redevelopment along 84<sup>th</sup> Street should be? Please list the place as specifically as you can. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. Would you consider living in or moving to a new, somewhat higher density neighborhood (e.g., townhomes, condominiums, apartments, lofts) if it were safe, attractive, quiet inside your residence, and you could easily walk or bicycle to shopping, parks, entertainment, and services?

Yes                    No                    I already live in a neighborhood like this.                    (circle answer)

7. In order to determine if the responses we receive accurately represent the demographic profile of the residents in La Vista, please answer the following questions regarding yourself or your family. We only use this data to compare with standard U.S. census categories for the community. **Responses are anonymous and confidential.**

a. Please tell us your age: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Are you:                    male                    female                    (circle answer)

c. Household size:            1            2            3            4            5            6            7+            (circle answer)

d. Please indicate your annual family income: (circle answer)

Under \$15,000                     \$50,000 - \$74,999

\$15,000 - \$34,999                     \$75,000 - \$99,999

\$35,000 - \$49,999                     \$100,000 or over

e. Do you live east or west of 84<sup>th</sup> Street?                    East                    West                    (circle answer)

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