

QUICK VIEW

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SAFE NIGHT

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I hope this newsletter finds you and your loved ones safe and healthy. We are several months into this pandemic, and combined with situations such as racial tensions and economic uncertainty, I couldn't be prouder of La Vista.

Nothing can test the fabric of a community more than unrest and disruptions. It can be a struggle to be nice to people and to have reasonable conversations, so I have been impressed with La Vista's ability to wrestle with these topics and situations in a way that respects everyone and maintains the peace.

I've been reminded time and time again this summer of what makes La Vista a truly special place to call home. Neighbors have helped neighbors, and businesses and organizations have stepped up to provide essential products and services to those who have needed a little extra help.

Every week this summer, Papillion La Vista Community Schools offered free meals to our families, and the Tri-City Food Pantry provided much needed basic necessities to those in our area. Our business community stepped up as well. Two La Vista distilleries – Cut Spike and Patriarch – adjusted their production facilities to produce hand sanitizer and gave it away to those who needed it.

That's what we do in La Vista. We see and recognize a need, and then we step up and help.

When will the pandemic end? Will life return to the normal we once knew? The thing I know for sure is that our community will always come through in times of need.

From a City perspective, this summer wasn't at all what we'd hoped for our 60th anniversary year. None of the programs and events we'd planned were able to take place, but staff adjusted and launched the Summer 2.0 initiative, which included virtual programming from the Library and Recreation Department, a 60th anniversary scavenger hunt and free porch photos. Santa also made his way back for a visit.

We've heard from so many who enjoyed these activities and appreciated the opportunity to get out safely and explore the community, as well as document this season of life. The result is a stronger sense of community, which will help us continue to work together.

Navigating the budgetary uncertainties that have accompanied the pandemic has also been a priority, and I hope you'll read the story in this newsletter or visit our website to learn more. While the biennial budget is one of action and investment, I want to assure you that the City Council and I are committed to preserving the City's solid financial position.

As always, it is a pleasure and an honor to serve as your Mayor, no matter the circumstances or current reality.

Be well.

-Douglas Kindig



CITY FACILITIES REOPEN TO THE PUBLIC

While all city facilities are once again open to the public, things do look different. Here is a summary of what you can expect...



Before you visit any of our facilities, we ask that you pre-screen yourself, and if you're not feeling well, please stay home.



Staff will be wearing masks, and we encourage everyone entering a City facility to do the same.



Front desks and reception counters have new plexiglass barriers to protect our employees and the public.

CITY HALL

To the extent possible, most meetings will continue to be held virtually, and peddler/hawker licenses will not be issued. Beginning October 6, most public meetings will return to the Harold "Andy" Anderson Council Chambers. Attendees will be asked to wear a mask. Meetings with large crowds anticipated may be relocated. Please check the website for the most current meeting information.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Building inspectors are performing inspections on new construction, however interior remodel inspections will continue to be done virtually.

COMMUNITY CENTER

We have identified areas throughout the building where one-way traffic is necessary, so visitors are asked to pay attention to those arrows on the floor.

Activities currently available inside the Community Center include:

- Walking around the perimeter of the hallway and gym (please maintain six-feet social distancing)
- Racquetball courts for up to two people per court
- Fitness center is available for up to six people

Grab and go lunches for seniors are available from the north alley doors, and the senior center will host limited activities in the gym a couple days a week.

The following services are not available at this time:

- Room rentals
- Classes
- Game Room
- Kitchen
- Locker Rooms
- Showers
- Open gym



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

CITY HALL

Mon-Thurs: 8 a.m.-1 p.m.
Fri: 8 a.m.-noon and
by appointment

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Mon-Thurs: 8 a.m.-noon and
1-4:30 p.m.
Fri: 8 a.m.-noon and
by appointment

COMMUNITY CENTER

Mon-Fri: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
for adults ages 19 and up

LIBRARY

Mon-Thurs: 8 a.m.-9 p.m.
Fri-Sat: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sun: 1-5 p.m.

The first hour of each day at the library is reserved for seniors and those with health conditions.

Check back often
for updates.

LIBRARY

We ask that patrons limit their visit to 60 minutes and that only one family member visit at a time.

Chairs and other furniture have been removed to promote social distancing, and playaways, toys, kits and games are for checkout only. Marks are on the floor to space out patrons who are waiting for assistance.

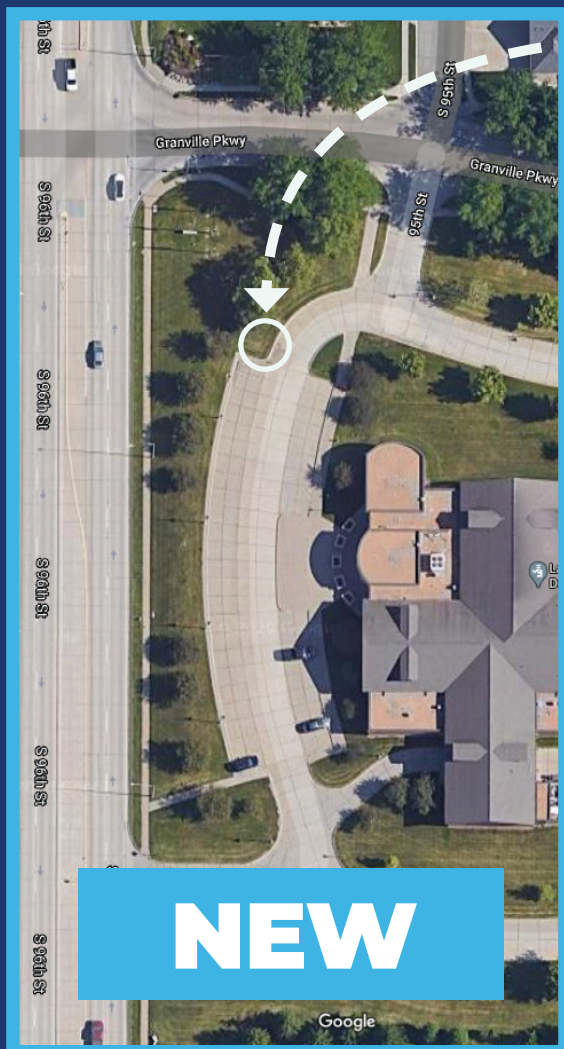
The computer lab is available for one hour use per visit. Some computers are unavailable to allow for social distancing.

Curbside pickup will continue for those who aren't comfortable coming into the Library yet. Books and other materials can still be returned to the outside book drop. All returns are quarantined for 72 hours to allow for proper disinfection.

The majority of programming, including storytimes, continues to remain online.

Updated announcements and information regarding programs, services and facilities can be found on the City's social media accounts and at **CityofLaVista.org**.

Check out our YouTube channel for video tours of the Library.



BALLOT DROPBOX TO BE LOCATED AT POLICE DEPARTMENT

Residents in Sarpy County this election season will have additional options for registering their votes.

In addition to the traditional mail-in ballots or visiting a polling site, the Sarpy County Election Commission has also placed a ballot drop box in each community, including La Vista.

The box in La Vista is located at the Police Department, 7701 S. 96th St., in the northwest corner of the parking lot. It has been placed in a well-lit corner of the parking lot that's also covered by surveillance cameras, so all ballots deposited there will be secure.

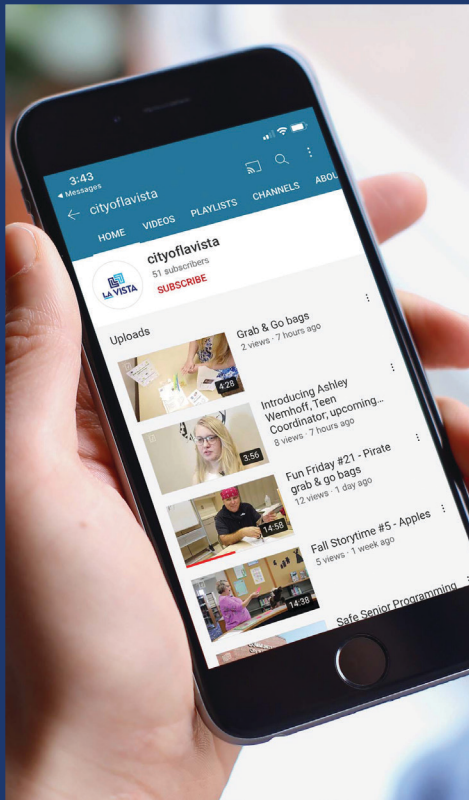
Sarpy County Election Commissioner Michelle Andahl said election workers will check the box every weekday to ensure it is secure and to collect ballots.

"We're doing this in an effort to add more locations convenient for voters to ensure they have as many options as possible," Andahl said.

"We want to keep voters safe and reduce the lines at the polling places on Election Day."

Voters can utilize the drop box until 8 p.m. on Election Day, November 3.

For more information on the drop box or to ask other election related questions, call the election office at **402-593-2167**.



IT'S BEEN A VIRTUAL GOOD TIME THIS YEAR

If the COVID-19 pandemic has taught us anything, it is the value of being flexible. So far this year, staff from the Recreation Department and Library have combined to create a wide variety of virtual programming.

Ms. Jessi and Ms. Jodi from the Library have used a combination of music, crafts and storytelling to read countless books to children in the community. Mr. David from the Recreation Department has partnered with a couple local boys for the Fun Friday video series. Many of the episodes were inspired by the #LoveLaVista Hashtag Challenge, but also included cooking, fun with imagination and more.

The City also hosted a virtual town hall in the spring to allow residents a chance to hear from Mayor Kindig and ask questions. Other videos produced during the pandemic have featured instructors who typically teach classes at the Community Center. The Easter Bunny and Santa have even appeared on camera!

In total, the City has produced more than 75 videos thus far in this pandemic year. To view any of them, simply visit [YouTube.com/CityLaVista](https://www.youtube.com/CityLaVista).

BIENNIAL BUDGET

CITY ON SOLID FINANCIAL FOOTING

The La Vista City Council recently approved the FY21-FY22 Biennial Budget, which despite the COVID-19 pandemic, continues the commitment to deliver quality municipal services and invest in the public infrastructure essential to improving the City's economy, while ensuring fiscal responsibility and long-term financial stability.

Prior to the pandemic, the economy was on a solid footing and the City was in a position of fiscal strength. The City has obviously been impacted; however, with healthy reserves, conservative budgeting practices, revenue diversity, and a solid bond rating, it is resilient enough to weather the crisis.

In response to the pandemic, the City's administrative leadership team worked diligently to implement targeted, strategic budget reductions and delays in spending where possible. As a result, we are currently in a position to end FY20 with a General Fund fund balance approximately 3% above the budget.

The FY21 budget is a short-term financial plan that has been created as a roadmap to sustain the ongoing operations of the community during this time of uncertainty. The FY22 budget begins to reflect more of a return to normal.

The expenditure budget for all funds in FY21 & FY22 totals \$44.1 million and \$49.7 million, respectively. This is about a 19% decrease for FY21 over the FY20 budget and a 13% increase for FY22 over the FY21 budget. Expenditures are driven primarily by personnel costs and anticipated public infrastructure projects.

Based on the total assessed valuation of over \$1.7 billion, the property tax levy rate remains .55 per \$100 of assessed valuation and is estimated to generate \$9.7 million in revenue.

For more information on the budget, visit [CityofLaVista.org/Budget](https://www.cityoflavista.org/Budget).

FY21-FY22 BIENNIAL EXPENDITURE BUDGET **\$93.8 MILLION**

BUDGET AT A GLANCE

The City of La Vista FY21-FY22 Biennial Budget totals approximately \$44.1 million in FY21 and \$49.7 million for FY22. Each fiscal year begins on October 1 and ends on September 30. The total budget is broken down into 12 fund groups. These fund groups include the General Fund, and funds for Sewer and Sewer Reserve, Debt Service, Capital Improvement, Lottery, Economic Development, TIF, Off-Street Parking, Redevelopment, Qualified Sinking and Police Academy. The FY21 budgeted expenditures and capital for all funds are shown here.

GENERAL FUND **\$19.3 million (44%)**

The City's primary operating fund, which accounts for the general operations and activities of the City, including Police, Fire, Streets, Parks, Library, Recreation, Community Development and General Government.

SEWER FUND **\$4.7 million (11%)**

The City's only enterprise fund supports the operation and maintenance of the sewer system.

DEBT SERVICE **\$3.3 million (7%)**

Supports the City's long-term debt commitments, which are used to finance major capital purchases, most often to improve or expand City facilities and infrastructure.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND **\$7.0 million (16%)**

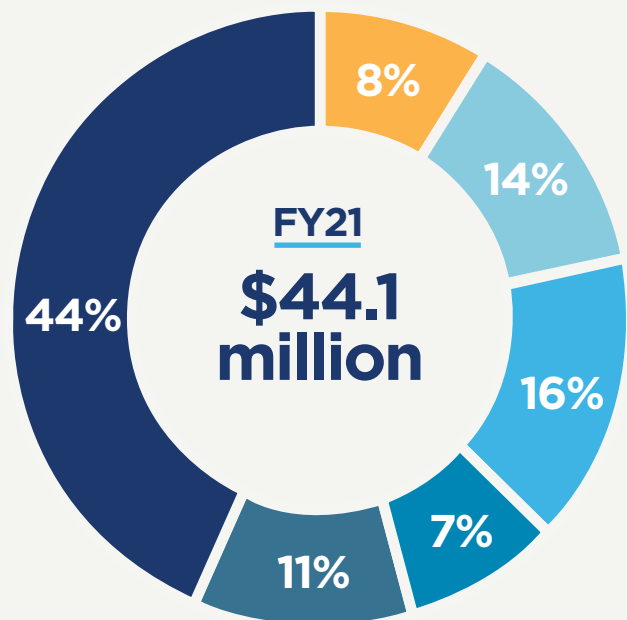
Supports the first two years of the Capital Improvement Program, which includes projects for road and park improvements as well as other infrastructure improvements.

REDEVELOPMENT FUND **\$6.0 million (14%)**

Includes funding for projects within the 84th Street redevelopment area. This includes public improvement projects in City Centre, Civic Center Park, Central Park and Streetscape improvements along the 84th Street corridor.

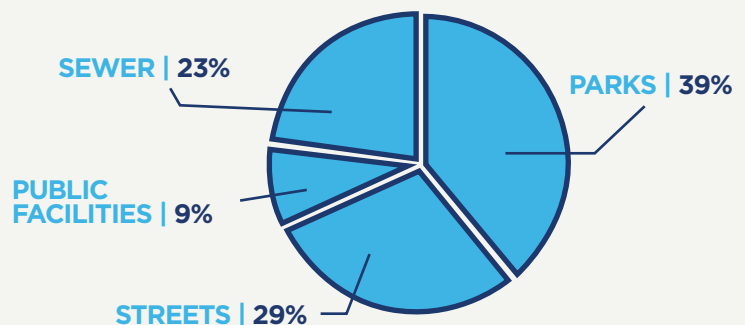
OTHER FUNDS **\$3.8 million (8%)**

This includes the following funds: Sewer Reserve, Lottery, Economic Development, Off-Street Parking, TIF, Qualified Sinking and Police Academy.



FY21-FY22 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM AREA

\$26,307,445



2020 FALL CLEANUP DAYS

OCTOBER 19-25, 7 a.m.-5 p.m. each day

The Public Works Department will co-host a fall cleanup event with the City of Papillion **October 19-25, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.** each day. This joint event will be located at 99th Circle and Portal Road on the south side of Portal Road, just east of the Papillion Public Works Facility. The event is open to Papillion and La Vista residents only.

For the protection of staff and the public, the following COVID-19 safety measures will be in place:

- Staff will not be assisting with unloading efforts.
- Staffing will be limited, and staff will be wearing masks and gloves and observing social distancing.
- The general public is encouraged to wear masks and observe social distancing when on site.
- There will be no porta-potties provided during this event.
- No salvaging of any kind.

Bring Identification. Residential Items Only.

- This event is limited to residents of the cities of La Vista and Papillion. Bring a copy of a utility bill or type of identification to prove eligibility.
- The event is restricted to residential items only. Commercial and business vehicles will not be permitted.
- Staff will direct you to the appropriate disposal areas based on the type of materials you bring for disposal.
- Please pay close attention to posted signage for entrance and exit directions.
- Please secure loads properly to prevent debris from obstructing the roads.
- This is a rain or shine event.

FALL CLEANUP DAYS SITE MAP 96th & Portal Rd





DUMPING DOS & DON'TS

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

- Household and lawn furniture
- Mattresses and box springs
- Major appliances
- Grills and smokers
- Outdoor power equipment (please empty fuel prior to disposing)
- Residential construction materials
- Automotive parts and batteries
- Undamaged propane tanks
- Broken toys and play structures
- Bicycles
- Tree limbs and yard waste (must be free of garbage and bags)
- All types of TVs (rear projection, tube TVs, flat screens, etc. may be disposed of in the roll-off dumpsters)
- CRT computer monitors (may be disposed of in the roll-off dumpsters)

ELECTRONICS

The electronic recyclers will accept the following items in the designated area of the Cleanup Days site:

- Cassette tapes, CDs, and arcade games
- Computers (CRT monitors may be disposed of in the roll-off dumpsters). *Participants may request hard drives to be destroyed on site. The City of Papillion and its material recyclers are not responsible for loss of personal data.*
- Keyboards and mice
- Printers
- Cables and wires
- Batteries of any type and battery back-ups
- Data center equipment including raised flooring
- Networking equipment, routers, switches, hubs, etc.
- Audio and visual equipment, VCRs, CD players, radios, etc.
- Cell phones of any type and wall chargers
- Telephones
- Electric musical instruments including amplifiers
- Projectors
- Cable and satellite TV boxes
- Antennas
- Small appliances

NON-ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Unfortunately, the following cannot be accepted:

- Tires
- Automotive oil
- Paint
- Hazardous waste
- Chemicals of any kind

Please visit www.underthesink.org for information on a facility that will accept some of these items.

DOCUMENT SHREDDING

Document shredding services will be available on **Saturday, October 24, 7 a.m. to noon**, or until the shredding truck is full. All shredding will be done at the La Vista Public Works facility, just north and across the street from the Papillion Public Works facility. Please limit shreddable material to 10 file-size boxes per residence. Shredding is restricted to residential material only. Material must be free of binders, binder clips, or anything else that may damage the shredder. Shredding boxes will have to be taken back by the resident, but can be disposed of across the street at the Cleanup Days site.

LIBRARY NOOK



Follow us on social
for videos, updates
and more!



@CityofLaVistaGovernment



@LaVistaLibraryYouth



@CityofLaVista



YouTube.com/CityLaVista

GRAB-AND-GO ACTIVITY BAGS

The Library is now offering free grab-and-go activity bags!

Learn some space origami, paint a planet, design a Mars rover, or chart the stars! Each activity bag has something new to offer. Four different bags will be available, so there will be something of interest for every age.

All needed supplies will be included, with the exception of items you likely have at home such as scissors, tape, and glue. Only one bag per person per visit will be allowed. If you would like more, you are more than welcome to come back to choose a different project or craft to try!

The grab-and-go activity bags will be displayed at the front desk or may be added to your curbside pickup.

The bags will be changed every two weeks and will only be available as supplies last.

TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

The Library is looking for middle and high school students who are interested in serving on the Teen Advisory Board (TAB), which a group of teens who help advise the library on how it can be more teen-friendly and better serve the community.

TAB members help promote the library, assist in planning teen events, and can even organize youth-led community service projects. Meetings will be virtual, so this is a great way to get involved in something this school year. Members must be at least 12 years old and in 7th-12th grade.

Why join?

- You can make a difference in your community.
- It looks great on your resume and college applications.
- You can run for president, vice-president, or secretary.
- You meet new people!
- Members will earn volunteer service hours for meetings and projects!

TAB will meet the first Monday of every month at 5 p.m. on Zoom.

For more information, contact Teen Coordinator Ashley Wemhoff at awemhoff@cityoflavista.org for the application and Zoom meeting link.



RECREATION

LA VISTA RECREATION YOUTH & ADULT SPORTS

CO-ED YOUTH VOLLEYBALL

Season begins in October

Final Registration Deadline: October 5

AGES: Boys and Girls grades 3-8 as of fall 2020

FEES: Resident: \$65, Non-resident: \$75

Practices will tentatively begin the week of October 12. Practices are held at coach's discretion on Sunday-Friday evenings with no practices on Wednesdays. Games are held on Saturday mornings/afternoons and some Monday evenings beginning in November. Games are played at Bellevue Junior Sports Association. *Start date is subject to change.

YOUTH BASKETBALL

Seasons begin in December

Early Bird Registration: October 1 - November 1

Final Registration Deadline: November 22

AGES: Boys and Girls grades 3-8 as of current school year

FEES: Oct 1-Nov 1 — Resident: \$55, Non-resident: \$65

Nov 2-Nov 22 — Resident: \$65, Non-resident: \$75

Practices will tentatively begin the week of December 7. Practices are held at coach's discretion on Sunday-Friday evenings with no practices on Wednesdays. Games will begin in January and end in March. *Start date is subject to change.

CO-ED YOUTH BASKETBALL CLINIC

Early Bird Registration: October 1 - December 13

Final Registration Deadline: December 31

AGES: Boys and Girls grades 1-2 as of current school year

FEES: Oct 1-Dec 13 — Resident: \$17, Non-resident: \$22

Dec 14-Dec 31 — Resident: \$27, Non-resident: \$32

The basketball clinic is comprised of 5, one-hour sessions to be held on Saturday mornings from 8:30-9:30 a.m. at the La Vista Community Center starting on January 9 and ending on February 6. Participants will learn the basic skills of dribbling, passing, shooting, teamwork and fun! Limited to 40 participants. *Start date is subject to change.

This is a parent-instructed clinic through parent volunteers, so several volunteers will be needed. If interested, contact the Rec Center at 402-331-3455.



To register for these sports and more, visit **CityofLaVista.org/Recreation**, call **402-331-3455** or visit the Rec Center in person.

All dates and events are subject to change based on COVID-19.

SENIOR CENTER



SPECIAL SERVICES BUS

The City's Special Services transportation program is still operating for those who need it to get to work or appointments.

Drivers are sanitizing vehicles regularly and limiting the number of passengers on the van at one time in order to facilitate appropriate distancing.

For further rules, questions, and/or scheduling requests, please call **402.657.3550** or **402.331.3455**.



SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES

While the Community Center was closed for several months because of the pandemic, the Senior Center held multiple parking lot activities such as bingo, concerts and even free root-beer floats.

There is a variety of activities available for seniors. In addition to walking and utilizing workout equipment in our fitness room, seniors can attend:

- Chair exercise
- Tai chi
- Bingo
- Movie showings
- Crafts
- Concerts
- Quilting club
- Outings
- Educational programs
- Balloon volleyball
- Balloon hockey
- Other games

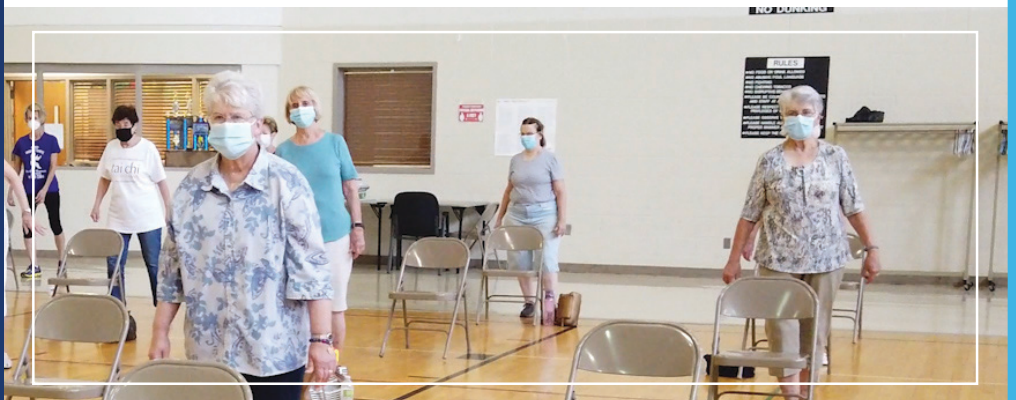
Staff are taking many precautions to keep seniors safe such as:

- Requesting that all patrons wear masks
- Taking temperatures of everyone that enters the building
- Maintaining six-foot social distance at all times
- Disinfecting chairs and materials after each use

There are a few activities not available right now that require close contact and sharing of materials. The senior center's in-house meal program has also been suspended, but **Grab & Go lunches** are available each day, sponsored by Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging.

If a senior doesn't feel they can come into the senior center, there are activities online in the City's virtual Recreation Center, and they can subscribe to the monthly senior newsletter.

To receive information about what's happening at the Senior Center, please visit **CityofLaVista.org/Seniors**. For more information and to subscribe to the senior newsletter, call the Community Center at **402-331-3455**.





LA VISTA HALLOWEEN SAFE NIGHT



Grab-n-Go Edition

Saturday, October 31 | 4-6 p.m.

HALLOWEEN SAFE NIGHT—GRAB-N-GO EDITION

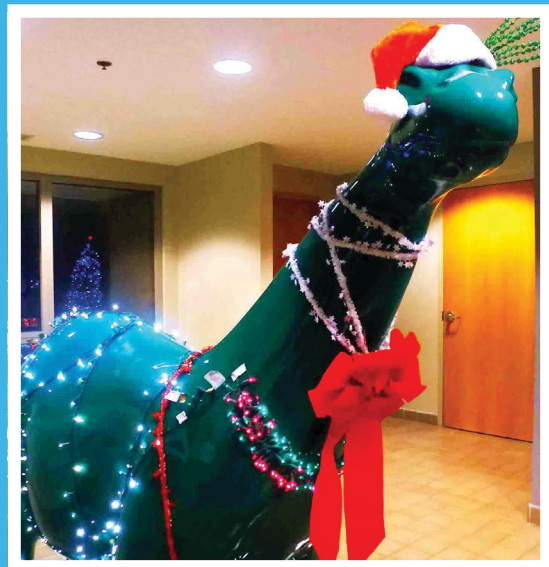
Halloween hasn't ghosted us yet. It is still on the calendar. We are, however, still in the midst of a pandemic, so it will look a little different this year.

Plans are underway for a drive-thru event, still on the City Hall Campus, that will feature grab-n-go treat bags and some other fun surprises!

La Vista's alternative Halloween event will take place on **Saturday, October 31, 4-6 p.m.** in the parking lots at City Hall and the Community Center (8116 Park View Blvd.).

Vehicles will enter the event from 81st Street off Park View Boulevard and follow directional signs and exit on westbound Park View Blvd. This event is open to all La Vista residents, and treats will be available while supplies last.

For more information, visit CityofLaVista.org/2020Events.



WHAT ABOUT LA VISTA'S OTHER HOLIDAY EVENTS?

Much like the rest of 2020, the City's traditional holiday events and offerings will look different because of the pandemic.

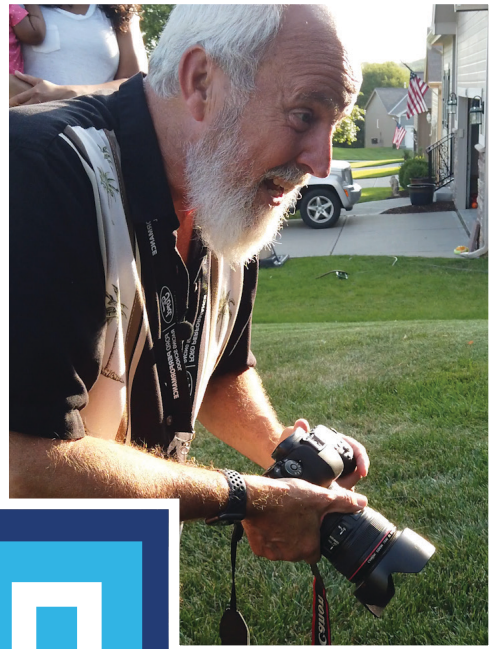
Have no fear, we're on it! We are currently working on alternative holiday plans, which weren't quite ready for this newsletter.

Watch your mailbox as well as the City's social media channels and website (CityofLaVista.org/2020Events) for announcements and information in November.

One event that has been confirmed is Santa's Sleigh Ride, which will take place as normal and is scheduled for **Sunday, November 29, beginning at 3 p.m.**

For more information, visit CityofLaVista.org/2020Events.

THANK YOU FOR OUR PORCH PHOTOS!



Included in the City's Summer 2.0 programs launched in June were free porch photos for La Vista families. The photographer capturing all those smiles? Don Labrie.

In true La Vista fashion, Mr. Labrie not only dedicated hundreds of hours of his summer to the project — he did it all for free!

"I was honored and thrilled to take some porch pictures during this pandemic time," Labrie said. "It struck me as being a great idea, a fantastic idea. I have a passion for photography and I thought, 'I can jump right into this and do this.' This is me, I want to give something back. I firmly believe that people have to give something back to get something. **I just feel so proud to be a La Vista citizen and part of this community, and I felt the need to give something back.**"

In total, more than 100 families took advantage of the program, resulting in some amazing portraits — all of which have been pieced together in a series of digital quilts. Check them out on the City's social media channels and website.

On behalf of Mayor Kindig, the City Council and all La Vista residents, thank you, Don! For more on Don's story, view some videos about him at [YouTube.com/CityLaVista](https://www.youtube.com/CityLaVista).