

GEARING UP FOR ANOTHER FUN SUMMER

Salute to Summer Preview
Pg. 7

SUMMER 2022



LA VISTA
VIEWPOINTS
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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CITY CONTACTS

City Hall.....	402.331.4343
Community Development.....	402.593.6400
Human Resources.....	402.331.4343
Library.....	402.537.3900
Police.....	402.331.1582
Public Works.....	402.331.8927
Recreation & Community Center...	402.331.3455

MINUTE WITH THE MAYOR

One of my favorite aspects of being your Mayor is hearing stories about the people who make it all happen. There are so many people who dedicate their time and talents on a regular basis to foster connections and improve the quality of life in La Vista.

On any given weeknight or Saturday morning at the La Vista Sports Complex, you can find dozens of men and women volunteering to coach a youth sports team. And several times each month, our appointed boards and commissions meet to help plan future development, provide oversight to our recreation programming and the library. Everyone involved is volunteering, not to get something out of it, but to give something back.

Throughout this edition of La Vista Viewpoints are stories of people who have given of themselves in the past as well as those working now to serve this community. Larry Filbrandt and Sid Howard will be honored as our Grand Marshal and Military Family of the Year respectively during this year's Salute to Summer celebration. Larry served for 36 years on our Civil Service Commission, playing a role in hiring every police officer currently in our department over that span of time. Sid served our nation in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War and then served La Vista on the volunteer fire department during the 1980s and 1990s. These two men and their families have given tirelessly to the community over the years, and I'm looking forward to honoring them.

This year's Friend of La Vista, the Werner Enterprises Blue Brigade, is a fine example of how an organization can roll up their sleeves and help in the community (page 3).

And then there's the Mayor's Youth Leadership Council who did some great work this year helping families in our area, specifically those who have dogs. They helped with the Santa Paws event in December and then worked on a project for the Nebraska Humane Society (page 5).

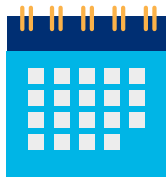
And, speaking of Salute to Summer, this year's celebration will also feature a way for everyone to give back to our veterans. The Love Our Vets Project will assemble hygiene kits for Moving Veterans Forward (page 8), and I can't wait to see our community work together on this project.

I look forward to seeing everyone at Salute to Summer and the rest of our events this summer! Stay safe and well.

MAYOR

Douglas Kindig





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

May 2022

- 3 City Council, 6 p.m.
- 5 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- 9 La Vista-Metropolitan Community College Condominium Owners Association, 4 p.m.
- 12 Library Advisory Board, 5:30 p.m., Library
- 17 City Council, 6 p.m.
- 18 Park & Recreation Advisory Board, 6 p.m.
- 19 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- 28 **Salute to Summer 2022**

June 2022

- 2 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- 4 Community Garage Sales, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
- 7 City Council, 6 p.m.
- 9 Citizen Advisory Review Committee, 6 p.m.
- 11 Free Ice Cream, 1-3 p.m., 4 locations
- 15 Park & Recreation Advisory Board, 6 p.m.
- 16 Dinosaur Day, 10:30 a.m. & 2 p.m., Community Center and Library
- 16 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- 21 City Council, 6 p.m.
- 23 Yappy Hour, 7-9 p.m., Dog Park at Southwind Park
- 24 Outdoor Concert & Movie, 7 p.m., Central Park Lakes

July 2022

- 5 City Council, 6 p.m.
- 7 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- 8 Outdoor Concert & Movie, 7 p.m., Central Park Lakes
- 10 Splash Bash, 1-4 p.m., Swimming Pool
- 12-14 Youth Police Academy, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- 14 Hydrant Party, 3 p.m., City Hall Campus
- 14 Library Advisory Board, 5:30 p.m., Library
- 21 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- 18 City Council Budget Workshop, 6 p.m.
- 19 City Council and Budget Workshop, 6 p.m.
- 20 Park & Recreation Advisory Board, 6 p.m.
- 29 Outdoor Concert & Movie, 7 p.m., Central Park Lakes

For more info on these events & more, visit CityofLaVista.org/2022Events.



COUNCIL CLIPS

Highlights of recent City Council action.

- Approved the name of the access road and fire lane through Central Park as "Central Park Plaza."
- Approved the Construction Manager at Risk and the guaranteed maximum price for The Link.
- Approved the selection of the consultant for a Land Use Plan and Market Analysis.
- Approved a contract for Ultra-Thin Bonded Asphalt System (UBAS) Services in the Giles Corner neighborhood.
- Authorized the purchase of computer equipment.
- Accepted the resignation of City Councilmember Mike Crawford, declared a vacancy in Ward I and appointed Terrilyn Quick to fill this vacancy.
- Authorized the purchase of a high-pressure spray washer and medium-duty pickup truck for the Public Works Department.
- Awarded a contract for concession stand operations.



WERNER ENTERPRISES BLUE BRIGADE SELECTED AS FRIEND OF LA VISTA

If you've attended a La Vista community event sometime since 2015, you've inevitably seen some folks in blue shirts helping out and doing so with a smile. Those blue shirts are members of the Werner Enterprises Blue Brigade, a group of employees from the trucking company who volunteer in the Omaha community, giving of their time and talents.

For their dedicated service to the La Vista community, the Werner Blue Brigade has been named as the 2022 Friend of La Vista, and they will be honored during the Salute to Summer Festival on May 28.

The Blue Brigade is coordinated by a steering committee of employees, which is led by Werner's Human Resources Manager, Jackie Ruberti, who has been involved with the group since its inception in 2011. The group has evolved over the years, she said, and they've grown tremendously in terms of the number of events they do each month. Werner employees have embraced the Blue Brigade concept, and it's recently expanded beyond the Omaha headquarters to other terminals in the United States and Mexico.

"You really only need a couple volunteers and if there are more than that who are interested, then heck yeah, get involved and get out there," Ruberti said. "It's very positive. People love it. It gives them the opportunities and all they have to do is sign up and go the event and we make it really easy for them."

The Blue Brigade can be found at any number of non-profit events throughout the Omaha metro area, and in the end, Ruberti said, they are working to advance Werner's commitment to philanthropy and community.

"So many good things. It makes people feel so good. It's good for the soul," she said. "It's very important for us to align with communities to get out there on the ground and help people. Any one of us could need help at any time, so we really love to get out there and help."



INSIDE PERSPECTIVE

The ins and outs of the La Vista brand.



MORE THAN A LOGO...

While defining La Vista's brand was a significant undertaking, the result is an ability to better understand and articulate what differentiates La Vista from other communities and makes us special.

This is the second part of La Vista's brand narrative, which further distinguishes our community from others:

The newest city in the Greater Omaha region, La Vista puts a little distance between you and the crowds without leaving you on the outside looking in. The city's tight-knit community fosters the close bonds of an earlier era. It extends acceptance, support and safety to new residents and visitors alike, making it easy to feel relaxed and at home. From Southport shops to local parks and signature events, families, friends and neighbors enjoy a wide range of opportunities to create colorful memories that last.

If you stare at standstill traffic on your daily commute, we invite you to improve your point of view.

In future newsletters, we will be sharing specific elements of La Vista's brand strategy.

#LOVELAVISTA Spotlight

Featuring stories about the people and organizations spreading a little love in La Vista.

CHERI HELLER'S ART INCLUDED IN SCOTTISH MAGAZINE

La Vista resident Cheri Heller is a regular at the La Vista Senior Center and twice a week leads a variety of craft projects with other members. "It is fun and they enjoy it and it's good for them, because when you're retired you need to do something that gives you a feeling of accomplishment," Heller said.

"(Senior Services Manager) Kaily (Stanley) gives us two days a month, so that's nice, because they really do enjoy it. These are simple things. People think that painting and drawing is difficult, but it's really just shapes put together."

But it's her personal art projects that have given her some recent international attention. Heller participated in a month-long ink drawing project from the Scottish magazine Dumfries and Galloway Life called Inktober where they give artists a different prompt word each day for a month and then artists are invited to submit their favorite designs for consideration by the magazine.

"I had heard about it before from my son and it sounded kind of interesting and it was a good thing to every day be drawing something. And I didn't do great drawings," Heller said. "The prompt that I drew the fireman's helmet from was the word helmet. I used to live in Armor, South Dakota where volunteer firemen were a very central part of the community and so I used that."



"When they said it was going to be in the magazine and then I saw it—here I am! In a magazine in Scotland! How cool is that!"

One of the designs Heller drew as part of Inktober was a sketch of her neighbor who helped her after she fell outside her home. "One prompt was compass and I used moral compass," Heller said. "I had this horrible fall, and my neighbor was kind enough and was decent enough to come pick me up off the ground so I drew a picture of him picking me up off the ground, so his moral compass was that he rescued me."

Heller said her art has kept her active and given her a purpose. "When my husband passed away, it was really a lifesaver. It gave me something to do," she said. "I don't have any formal training, in high school and junior high I took classes, but I didn't go to college, so I went to the library and found books and then I started buying books. I'm not an artist, I mean I am an artist because I do the work and they say don't compare your work to other people but there's a lot of people who are a lot better, there's people over at the center who are lot better."



ENJOY OUTDOOR CONCERTS & MOVIES THIS JUNE/JULY AT CENTRAL PARK LAKES

La Vista's outdoor concert/movie events are back and will be held in Central Park near the lakes and clubhouse. Each evening will feature a concert by a local band, immediately followed by a movie on our outdoor screen! Bring your blankets, lawn chairs and snacks, and don't forget to tell your friends!



JUNE 24 7 p.m.

BAND: The Rex Granite Band feat. Sarah Benck
MOVIE: Despicable Me

JULY 8 7 p.m.

BAND: Ground Zero
MOVIE: Jungle Cruise

JULY 29 7 p.m.

BAND: Kaylyn Sahs
MOVIE: Encanto

YOUTH COUNCIL CREATES BLANKETS FOR NEBRASKA HUMANE SOCIETY

Each year the Mayor's Youth Leadership Council selects a project to work on that benefits the community. For the 2021-2022 session that wrapped up this month, the council decided to help local animals.

In December, they were excited to partner on the Santa Paws event assisting with the collection of pet food donations for the Tri-City Food Pantry. The event was a success, but the group wanted to do more.

Council members were aware of recent news stories about large numbers of animals being rescued by the Humane Society, and they wanted to help in some way. They contacted the Nebraska Humane Society about partnering on an adoption event here in La Vista, however, volunteer shortages prevented the Humane Society from hosting an offsite adoption event at the time. After weighing a few options, they settled on making fleece blankets, which will be used in a variety of ways by the humane society to bring comfort to animals in their care.

"We hope these blankets will bring comfort and help the animals feel loved as they wait to go to their forever homes," said Rachel Carl, Assistant to the City Administrator, who coordinates the youth council.

Eight students met on a Saturday in April to work on this project. They measured, trimmed, and tied fleece and completed 19 blankets of various sizes that will be donated to the humane society.



Pictured left to right are youth council members Millie Belik, Henry Belik, Lily Monjeau and Amelia Moore who worked on the blanket project.



TERRILYN QUICK APPOINTED TO FILL CITY COUNCIL WARD I VACANCY

The La Vista City Council has appointed Terrilyn Quick to fill the Ward I seat vacated recently by Mike Crawford, who resigned due to health concerns, and Josh Frey, to fill the Ward II seat vacated by Quick.

"It was an honor to serve with Mike, he is a dedicated public servant," said Mayor Douglas Kindig. "Our thoughts and prayers are with Mike and his family as he navigates these health issues."

Quick has served on the City Council in Ward II since 1986. Recent redistricting moved her to Ward I and she preferred not to run a campaign in a new ward against a fellow council member. "The City Council works hard to serve the entire community, not just our specific wards, so I am thankful for the ability to continue serving the residents of La Vista in this capacity," Quick said. "I look forward to getting to know my new constituents."

Frey has served on La Vista's Planning Commission since November 2019 and has been a La Vista resident for eight years. "Josh has been a valuable member of our Planning Commission. He is aware of our major projects and he has experience in his professional life of dealing with budgets, so that will be useful as we work to approve our next biennial budget this coming summer. I thank Josh for stepping up to fill this role for the City," said Mayor Kindig.

Frey's term on the City Council will expire in December 2022 following the General Election.

AUTHOR JEFF BARNES VISITS LIBRARY



Author/photographer Jeff Barnes visited the La Vista Public Library in April to share images and stories of Nebraska's lesser-known historical monuments, located far off the beaten path. His presentation focused on the state's "hidden history," with long-forgotten stories and rarely seen landscapes, such as the impact of glaciers on our community monuments, or how Nebraska's first marker nearly went to the bottom of the Missouri and—once placed at its permanent site—still disappeared for fifty years.

Humanities Nebraska (HN) provided major funding for this program. HN receives support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Nebraska State Legislature, the Nebraska Cultural Endowment and private donations. Additional funding for this program was awarded from the Three Rivers Library System.

HOWARDS CHOSEN AS MILITARY FAMILY OF THE YEAR

Sid Howard is no stranger to serving others. As a Storekeeper Third Class in the United States Navy, volunteer firefighter in La Vista and as a husband and father, he's worked and served most of his adult life.

For his service in the Navy from 1966 to 1969, Howard and his wife Linda and their three daughters and their families are being honored as this year's Military Family of the Year during the Salute to Summer Festival on Saturday, May 28.

Sid and Linda both grew up in South Omaha, and Sid was attending Omaha University in 1965 when he received his draft notice for the Vietnam War. He decided to enlist instead and left for basic training with the Navy in January 1966.

For a short time Howard was in submarine school, but a popped eardrum soon sent him down another path, which first led to a communications unit in New Jersey. "There were no windows where we were based and I didn't like that and I said, 'I have to get out of here. I'll volunteer for Vietnam.'"

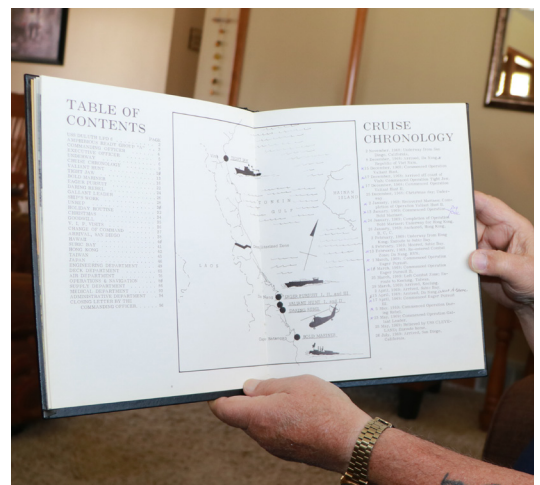
Soon he found himself on the USS Cavalier in 1967 and then the USS Duluth, both of which cruised up and down the coastline from Danang, eventually taking an active part in 13 different operations, including one that involved a prisoner exchange with North Vietnam.

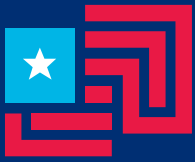
Howard discharged from the Navy in October 1969, and he and Linda moved back to Omaha. In December 1970, they moved into their house in La Vista. "We were going to buy a house in Omaha, but somebody bought it ahead of us," Howard said. "CG Smith was building out here, he had models down from the fire hall, and he said, 'I've got a couple with foundations that are available.' The people buying this house their loan never came through so we were able to buy it."

When they moved in, they didn't have a driveway or sidewalks or a stoop into the house. "I must be out of my ghornd," Linda said. "Those were the good days, though," Howard added.

From 1981 to 1994, Sid served as a member of the La Vista Volunteer Fire Department, eventually achieving the rank of Assistant Chief before he retired. "Living in a community like this you get to know people. Our kids played sports for La Vista, they were in everything, the Stepperettes and things like that," he said. "It was nice living here as a married couple."

La Vista has always been home, and probably always will be, Howard said.





LA VISTA

SALUTE TO SUMMER

SATURDAY, MAY 28

Noon - 11 p.m. | LA VISTA CITY HALL CAMPUS

On top of the parade, cookout, car show and a range of other fun activities, the Salute to Summer Festival will also feature live music and three zones with activities for all ages.



KID'S ZONE

The Kid's Zone will be located in the City Hall parking lot and will feature table-top carnival games, hot wheels racing, chalk, face painting, balloon animals, two performances from Wildlife Encounters at 3 and 5 p.m. and virtual reality games from 2-7 p.m.



CHALLENGE ZONE

The Challenge Zone will be located in the northwest portion of the festival grounds, near the trees, and will include human foosball, foot darts and tug of war and egg toss competitions at 2, 3, and 4 p.m.



ADVENTURE ZONE

Finally, the Adventure Zone will be located on the west side of the festival grounds, on the back side of Jensen Tire, and will feature a climbing wall, inflatables obstacle courses and bounce houses, mini golf, 9 Square in the Air, yard games and more.

FREE FAMILY FUN

LIVE MUSIC

Salute to Summer will also feature live music from a total of four different acts who will take the stage throughout the day from 3:30-11 p.m.



School of Rock will perform at 3:30 p.m. featuring their students who are learning to become confident and inspiring rock stars in the community. Through camps and workshops, School of Rock Omaha offers a wide variety of opportunities that cover topics perfect for musicians of any skill level who want to play guitar, bass, drums, keyboard and vocals.



Omaha Beat Brigade will take the stage at 4:45 p.m. with their sounds of Afrobeat. This group takes its inspiration from musical influencers such as Fela Kuti, Orgone, Chicago Afrobeat Project, The Budos Band, Nomo and many more.



Matt Cox and The Marauders will perform at 6:30 p.m. with his blend of country, rock, folk, blues, Tex-Mex, gospel, soul and his signature road-worn vocals, guitar and harmonica.



Josh Hoyer and Soul Colossal will be the headline act taking the stage at 8:15 p.m. for their first set and again after the fireworks show at 10 p.m. In 2017, Josh was featured as a contestant on NBC's The Voice. Inspired by the sounds of Stax, Motown, Muscle Shoals, New Orleans, Philly and San Francisco, the band continuously crosses musical boundaries both in style and era, and joins forces each show with a common goal—to have the crowd dancing so much they forget even their smallest troubles.

Join us for the
Hometown Heroes Ceremony
Thursday, May 26, 6 p.m.

See the whole schedule at
SaluteToSummer.org

Free shuttles from City Park! (7629 Josephine St.)
1:30-10:30 p.m.



SALUTE TO SUMMER TO INCLUDE LOVE OUR VETS PROJECT

The Salute to Summer Festival will include the Love Our Vets Project, a new opportunity for the La Vista community to give back to the men and women who have served this country in the military.

On Saturday, May 28, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. those attending the festival will be given the opportunity to assemble personal hygiene kits for Moving Veterans Forward, a local non-profit organization working to place homeless veterans in permanent housing. The organization collects furniture, clothing and other household items to outfit each veteran with a furnished apartment.

The City has purchased and received donations for 120 kits, and the community is invited to assemble them, which include some of the following items:

- Tissues
- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Toothbrush & toothpaste
- Nail clipper
- Bar of soap
- Q-tips
- Lotion
- Comb



The kits will be distributed by Moving Veterans Forward as they move veterans to new housing.

LARRY FILBRANDT SELECTED AS PARADE GRAND MARSHAL

When Larry and Linda Filbrandt moved to La Vista in 1962, this was still a fledgling community with only houses and no businesses to speak of from which to build a tax base. But it was also out of the hustle and bustle of Omaha, and it seemed like an ideal place to raise a family.

So the Filbrandt family settled in to their home off of Olive Avenue, and although they eventually moved to a bigger house in a different neighborhood, they never had a desire to move to another community.

"We kept getting friends and friends with people and we got involved," Larry said. He and others were founding members of the La Vista Jaycees, which provided funding for community programs such as youth sports. In November 1985, at the urging of then-Mayor Harold "Andy" Anderson, Filbrandt joined the La Vista Civil Service Commission to assist with the hiring of police officers.



For the next 36 years, Filbrandt had a role in hiring every officer currently working as a member of the La Vista Police Department, going all the way back to when Chief Bob Lausten was a new hire from Los Angeles, California.

The Civil Service testing process has evolved over the years, Filbrandt said, progressing from giving a badge to any Joe off the street who was interested, to today with the Sarpy-Douglas Law Enforcement Academy.

"At that time you just picked someone off the street and asked them if they wanted to be a police officer," he said. "The commission created all sorts of testing for them. I think the training here covers everything and you're given a chance to branch off to a section you want. You're not going to be strictly a street cop. You have the chance to do something different, and you're given the opportunity to branch off into other aspects of the job."

In February, Filbrandt retired from the Civil Service Commission after 36 years of service. For his family's commitment to the La Vista community, Larry and Linda and their children will be honored as this year's Salute to Summer Festival Parade Grand Marshals. "It was well worth it, seeing the police department grow from part-time policemen to the department it is today."



NEW OFFICERS JOIN LA VISTA POLICE DEPARTMENT

The La Vista Police Department has recently added several new officers to its ranks—two lateral officers who have transferred from other area departments, and five new recruits who have recently graduated from the Sarpy-Douglas Law Enforcement Academy.

When you see these officers out in the community, please welcome them!

LATERAL OFFICERS



Kyle Russell

Kyle comes to La Vista from the Lincoln Police Department, where he served for five years. Russell is finishing his master's degree in Criminology from the University of Nebraska-Omaha, and he is a certified Drug Recognition Expert and CPR instructor.



Kristina Cole

Kristina is transferring from the Cass County Sheriff's Office, where she has worked for the last two years. She also has five years experience as a corrections officer. Cole also has a master's degree in Criminology, as well as Public Administration.

NEW RECRUITS



Jon Shuman

Jon is a native of Bellevue and graduated with his master's in Criminology from UNO in 2020.



Matthew Orduna

Matthew has studied Criminal Justice at UNO and Fire Science at Metropolitan Community College.



Cody Bittner

Cody is a veteran of the United States Army and is serving in the Nebraska Army National Guard.



Rick Henry

Rick is a Bellevue native and is a veteran of the United States Navy where he served as an Ordnance Technician and Law Enforcement Specialist. He also served in the United States Army as an Airborne Infantry Officer. He has a Bachelor's degree in Management and an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice Administration.



Wyatt Broesder

Wyatt is coming to La Vista from Burt, Iowa, and is a veteran of the United States Air Force, where he served in the Security Forces. He continues to serve in the Iowa Air National Guard.



YOUTH POLICE ACADEMY

July 12-14, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

The Youth Police Academy (YPA) is designed to provide middle school students a better understanding of law enforcement practices.

The academy introduces participants to the field of law enforcement and provides an opportunity for youth and police officers to connect. Students attend a mock police academy involving lectures, role-playing, topical demonstrations and team-building exercises.

The academy, provided at no cost, is structured to highlight the four cardinal work principles of:

- **TEAMWORK**
- **LEADERSHIP**
- **COMMUNICATION**
- **PROBLEM-SOLVING/CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

Class size is limited to 20 participants. Lunch and t-shirt provided.

Topics include: *How to Become a Police Officer, SWAT, CSI, K9, Juvenile Justice Center, 911 Call Center, CPR, Team-building exercises, Stop the Bleed Training, and other interactive learning activities oriented around law enforcement.*

Register at **LaVistaPolice.org**.

Cost: Free

Ages: 12-14, La Vista Residents Only

SERGEANT SCOTT COLLETT GRADUATES FROM FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY

Sergeant Scott Collett is the latest member of the La Vista Police Department to graduate from the FBI National Academy.

Collett attended the academy earlier this year with more than 250 other police executives from around the world. The 10-week program consisted of undergraduate and graduate courses through the University of Virginia in topics such as managing at-risk employees, contemporary issues challenging law enforcement executives, managing the law enforcement image, leadership in managing violent crimes and forensic science for police administrators and managers.

Collett, the sergeant in command of La Vista's Criminal Investigations Bureau, said the content of the training will be useful in his position as CIB Sergeant and as a supervisor.

"The biggest take away was the ability to network with law enforcement executives from across the world," Collett said.

"I now have the capability to reach out for assistance all over the place, which is invaluable, as we learned no matter the size of the agency, we face similar issues."

Collett was nominated and selected by Chief Bob Lausten and the Omaha FBI field office to attend and represent Nebraska at the national academy.



CORRIDOR 84 UPDATE

La Vista City Centre will continue to be a hub of construction activity as several new projects, both public and private, are now underway. For more information on any 84th Street project, visit **Corridor84.com**.

WORK BEGINS ON THE LINK AND SECOND PARKING GARAGE.

THE LINK.

Construction has begun on a significant project adjacent to The Astro music venue. Located at the southern end of Central Park, where the park connects to the private City Centre development, the City is building a facility that will be called The Link. This facility will provide public restrooms, concession areas and outdoor event space that will be available for rent by the public. The project also includes public spaces around the music venue.

The plaza in front of the music venue will be a welcoming public area to relax outdoors, meet up with friends for lunch or before a concert and enjoy water features near the entrance to The Astro music venue.

Access to Central Park from City Centre will be created by a series of stairs and accessible ramps as well as a fun slide for the youngsters or those young at heart. Additional public gathering space will be available at the base of this entrance to the park. Construction on The Link is anticipated to be complete by summer 2023.



PUBLIC PARKING GARAGE #2.

Work has also begun on the City's second public parking garage in City Centre. Crews were able to demolish the old Chili's restaurant in February to make room for this 500-stall garage, which will also be complete by summer 2023.

Be sure to visit **YouTube.com/CityofLaVista** to watch a timelapse of the Chili's demolition.

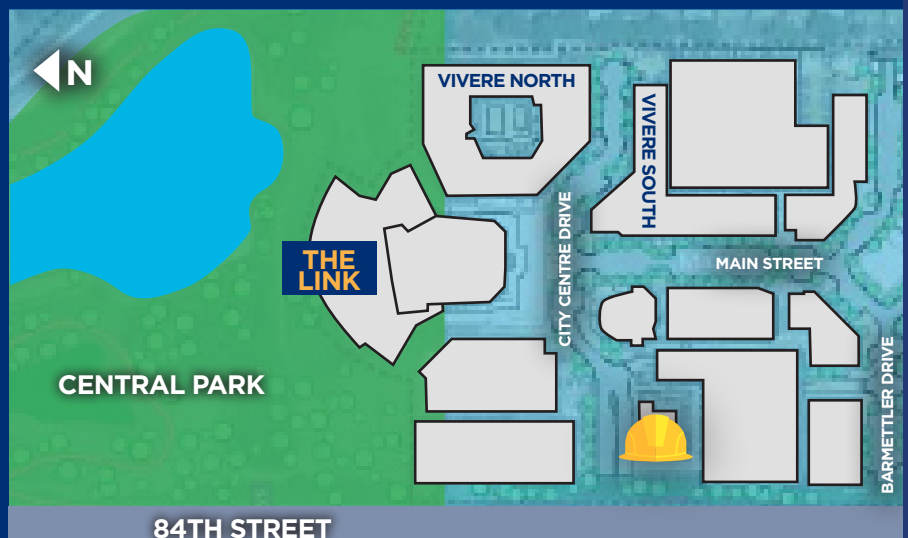
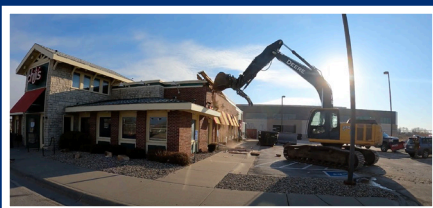
CITY RECEIVES FEDERAL EARMARK FOR 84TH STREET PROJECT

The City of La Vista was notified recently that it had been awarded a \$5 million earmark from the federal government for several projects related to the Corridor 84 Streetscape Plan.

City staff submitted the application through Rep. Don Bacon's office for the first three phases of the streetscape project, which includes grading and drainage work, utility relocation, lighting and irrigation conduit, 10-foot multi-use concrete sidewalks, new pedestrian curb ramps and installation of an underpass to connect Central Park and City Centre with Central Park West.

This work will take place on both sides of 84th Street from Harrison Street to Giles Road, and the underpass will be installed along Thompson Creek near where the current pool is located.

Staff is awaiting word from the federal government about specifics, so timelines have not been identified, but as plans move forward information will be shared in future issues of this newsletter and on the City's social media channels.



PUBLIC WORKS ZONE



CONSTRUCTION WORK TO CONTINUE IN CENTRAL PARK EAST

Central Park East has been a construction zone the past several months and residents should expect that to continue through the rest of this construction season.

This spring crews have been completing the final phase of the Thompson Creek Channel Restoration Project, which has included the widening and meandering of the channel to slow down erosion and improve water quality. This project is expected to be completed in the spring.

Following the Thompson Creek project, crews will begin work on an access road from Park View Boulevard to provide a route to the fire lane and other back of house operations for the Astro Theatre and the Link.

The installation of a new culvert crossing near the pedestrian bridge off of Park View will provide for vehicle and pedestrian connections from the road into the park. The road project is anticipated to be complete by December. This project will also replace the existing asphalt road and parking stalls throughout Central Park East with a concrete drive and parking stalls.

As a result of these projects, the permanent restrooms, park shelters and playground were removed. These amenities will be replaced in fiscal year 2023 within Central Park East once the creek and road projects are complete.

Follow us on social media for construction updates and more!



@CityofLaVistaGovernment



@CityofLaVista



YouTube.com/CityofLaVista

EAST LA VISTA SEWER PROJECT DELAYED

The East La Vista Sewer Project originally slated to begin construction this spring has been delayed. When the City put the project out to bid earlier this year, there were no responses, which was potentially the result of several factors.

"It is extremely rare we have a project that doesn't produce at least one bid," said Jeff Calentine, Deputy Director of Public Works. "The construction market in the Omaha area is quite strong right now, and contractors have low availability. Those factors combined with the complexity of the project resulted in there being no bidders at this time."

The City has re-bid the project for 2023 with the hope that construction would begin next spring. If unsuccessful again, the City will consider breaking this into separate sewer and pavement projects.

In the interim, the Public Works Department will have an active presence in the east La Vista neighborhood and will be working this summer to ensure any major street issues are addressed. To report a pothole or other street issue, call Public Works at **402.331.8927**.

LIBRARY NOOK

The La Vista Public Library is always a hub of activity and information! Here's what's going on this summer.

SUMMER READING

June 1-July 30

Get ready to dive into La Vista Library's annual Summer Reading Program, Oceans of Possibilities: an exploration of new depths, seven seas, and infinite stories.



Summer Reading will run from June 1-July 30 and includes a new Board Game Reading Challenge and a vast array of in-person and virtual programs.

Grab a calendar, make a splash, and stop by to "sea" what is happening!

PIRATES AND MERMAIDS PARTY

July 19, 10:30 a.m.

Ahoy, all pirates, mermaids, and sea-faring folk! Join the La Vista Public Library for a Pirates and Mermaids Party! Come dressed in your best costume and get ready for some ocean-themed fun! We will be celebrating with games, crafts, and a costume contest. It's going to be fin-tastic! (Ages 0-8).

OUT AND ABOUT STORYTIME

Thursday, June 23, 1:30 p.m.

Coldstone Creamery (12746 Westport Parkway)

Surf's up, dudes!!! Help us ride the waves, listen to turtle-y awesome books, and create recycled ocean creatures at our special Out & About Storytime. Families can scoop up (for purchase) a tasty treat, and we'll have a whale of a time at this fun event!

For more information on these and other programs, visit CityofLaVista.org/Library.

Follow us on social media for videos, updates and more!



@CityofLaVistaGovernment



@LaVistaLibraryYouth



@CityofLaVista



YouTube.com/CityofLaVista



COMMUNITY CENTER INFO

RECREATION

FITNESS CENTER

The fitness center offers state-of-the-art weight equipment, such as a free-motion dual cable cross station, hoist multi-gym, Smith Machine and dumbbells up to 50 lbs. We also offer exercise mats and a multi-purpose pull-up bar. For cardiovascular exercise, you'll find some of the finest, user-friendly, aerobic equipment available, including treadmills, Air-dyne bike, Precor upright bike, Nautilus recumbent bikes, Cybex Arc cross trainer and Precor and Matrix cross trainers.

HOURS

Monday-Friday: 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday: 1-9 p.m.

FEES

Resident Adult (19+): \$3
Non-Resident Adult (8 a.m.-5 p.m., M-F only): \$4
Senior Resident (55+): Free
Non-Resident Senior: \$2

Punch Cards

Resident: \$50, 20 punches
Non-resident: \$35, 10 punches
Non-resident Senior: \$20, 10 punches

Adult Memberships

Resident: \$27/month
*Includes exercise room, gym,
racquetball/wallyball*

DROP-IN FEES

Resident Adult (19+): \$3
Resident Youth (Under 19): Free
Resident Senior (55+): Free

Non-resident Adult (19+): \$4
Non-resident Senior (55+): \$2

Non-resident Youth (8-18) are not allowed in the Community Center unless registered for a class or sport.

Non-residents are only allowed weekdays from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Check out our
social media and
website for the
latest information
on program
offerings, hours
and days of
operation & events.



@CityofLaVistaGovernment



@CityofLaVista

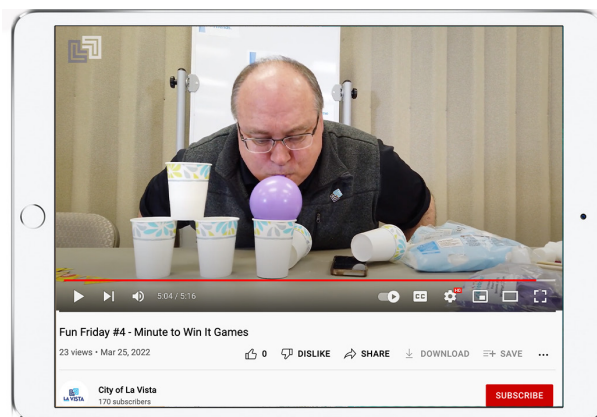


YouTube.com/CityofLaVista

Featured Event

FUN FRIDAYS WITH FRIENDS

Watch Mr. David on Fridays to catch a new episode of "Fun Fridays with Friends."



Each episode features fun activities for families to do together or scroll through the past episodes to see the fun, challenging and sometimes wacky fun you can enjoy at home with your kids.

Episodes can be seen on the City's YouTube channel ([YouTube.com/CityofLaVista](https://www.youtube.com/CityofLaVista)), on our social media platforms or at [CityofLaVista.org](https://www.CityofLaVista.org).

LA VISTA RECREATION YOUTH SPORTS

SOCCER ACADEMY (kids 4-5) SOCCER LEAGUE (kids 6-7)

SEPTEMBER 6-OCTOBER 8

This program focuses on different soccer skills to develop each player with individual attention and maximum ball touches in a fun environment. Sessions are twice a week for five weeks—academy training/practices on Tuesdays from 6-7 p.m. with games on Saturdays. On Saturdays, the 4/5's meet from 9-10 a.m., and the 6/7's meet from 10-11 a.m.

All sessions will take place at the La Vista Sports Complex on or near Soccer Field #5. *(Start/end date subject to change.)*

Parent volunteers are needed to assist instructors.

REGISTRATION DETAILS

ACADEMY (Boys & Girls ages 4-5 as of April 1)

Early-Bird Registration: June 1–July 18

Early-Bird Cost: Resident—\$33, Non-resident—\$53

Final Registration: July 19–August 8

Final Registration Cost: Resident—\$43,
Non-resident—\$63

LEAGUE (Boys & Girls ages 6-7 as of April 1)

Early-Bird Registration: June 1–July 18

Early-Bird Cost: Resident—\$33, Non-resident—\$53

Final Registration: July 19–August 8

Final Registration Cost: Resident—\$43,
Non-resident—\$63

COED SOCCER CLINIC (kids 3) SEPTEMBER 10-OCTOBER 8

This is a parent-instructed clinic designed to teach the basic fundamentals of soccer while having fun.

This clinic is comprised of 5 one-hour sessions to be held on Saturday mornings from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the La Vista Community Center. *(Start/end date subject to change.)*

Volunteer parent instructors are needed to conduct this clinic. Clinic is limited to 16 participants.

REGISTRATION DETAILS

Ages: Boys and Girls age 3 as of April 1

Early-Bird Registration: June 1–July 18

Early-Bird Cost: Resident—\$17,
Non-resident—\$22

Final Registration: July 19–August 8

Final Registration Cost: Resident—\$27,
Non-resident—\$32

FALL FLAG FOOTBALL

Ages: K-6th grade as of spring 2022

Practices will tentatively begin the week of July 18. Practices are held at the coach's discretion during the week. All games are held on Saturday mornings/afternoons at the La Vista Sports Complex starting on August 6 and ending on October 1. *(Dates are subject to change.)*

REGISTRATION DETAILS

Registration begins June 1.

Season begins in August.

Early-Bird Registration: June 1–June 20

Early-Bird Cost: Resident—\$33,
Non-resident—\$53

Final Registration: June 20–July 5

Final Registration Cost: Resident—\$43,
Non-resident—\$63

COED YOUTH VOLLEYBALL

Ages: Boys & Girls grades 3-6 as of fall 2022

Practices will tentatively begin the week of October 4. Practices are held at the coach's discretion on Monday-Friday evenings, with no practices on Wednesdays.

All games are held on Saturday mornings/afternoons and some Monday evenings beginning in November at the Bellevue Junior Sports Association (1001 High School Drive, Bellevue).

REGISTRATION DETAILS

Registration begins August 1. Season begins in November. (Dates are subject to change.)

Early-Bird Registration: August 1–September 12

Early-Bird Cost: Resident—\$55, Non-resident—\$65

Final Registration: September 13–September 26

Final Registration Cost: Resident—\$65,
Non-resident—\$75

REGISTER ONLINE!

Register and pay online for youth sports programs at CityofLaVista.org/Active.



ADULT FALL SOFTBALL

Coed League: Tuesdays, Fridays

Men's League: Tuesdays, Fridays

Season: August 22–October 17 (7-week season)
(Dates are subject to change.)

REGISTRATION DETAILS (BOTH COED & MEN'S LEAGUES)

Team Cost: \$120

Forfeit Deposit Fee: Separate \$44 check

Umpire Fees: \$22 per team/per game. Cash only, paid directly to the umpire before each game.

Registration Deadline: June 1–August 1 (or until league is full)

REC. EVENTS

DINOSAUR DAY

Thursday, June 16

Community Center (Ages 5 & under), 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Library (Ages 8 & under), 2 - 3 p.m.

Join Ms. Jodi and Mr. David as they explore everything dinosaur!

HYDRANT PARTY

Thursday, July 14, 3 p.m.

City Hall Campus

Cool off from the heat with a splash by joining us for some wet and wild fun!

REC. CLASSES

AIKIDO

Monday & Thursday Nights

The Sarpy Aikido Club is a Nebraska-based dojo teaching Aikikai style of Aikido under the organization of Aikido of Hawaii International (AHI). The school was founded by Ronald Christenham and has been serving the La Vista and Omaha area since 1991. For more information and to register, visit sarpyaikidoclub.com.

Age: Beginner (5-11): 6 - 7 p.m.
Advanced (12+): 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Cost: Beginner (Resident—\$25, Non-resident—\$30)
Advanced (Resident—\$40, Non-resident—\$45)

YOGA

Saturdays, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Sundays, 3 - 4:30 p.m.

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

This class is designed for beginner and intermediate students. The class format focuses on breathing & relaxation techniques, stretching, joint & gland exercises, Hatha Yoga postures and stress management techniques. For more info, contact Frank at frankpferrante@gmail.com.

Cost: \$7/class

OMAHA METRO ARMED COMBAT ACADEMY

Thursdays, 6 - 8:45 p.m.

Saturdays, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The Omaha Metro Armed Combat Academy (OMACA) is a fencing school that provides instruction and sparring for Olympic-style fencing, classical style fencing, HEMA and lightsaber fencing for people with all levels of interest and skill. For more information, contact Cat Souliere at omacagreenknights@gmail.com.

Cost: \$20/month

WOMEN'S SELF-DEFENSE CLASS

Last Tuesday of the Month, 6 - 8:45 p.m.

These classes are designed to instruct women of all ages, sizes and skill levels in practical self-defense. We will dispel common self-defense myths, as well as teach basic tips and techniques on how to avoid becoming a victim. For more information, contact Claudia Brown-Jackman at **402.630.3169** or visit shuurindojo.com.

Cost: \$80/session

POOL TO OPEN MAY 28

The City of La Vista is working to open the La Vista Municipal Swimming Pool and provide a safe experience for all patrons this summer. The pool is scheduled to open on May 28 and close on September 5 (Labor Day). Memberships, passes and swimming lesson registrations will be sold beginning May 9. There will be no pre-registration or reservations taken in advance of this date.

For more information, contact the Community Center at **402.331.3455**.

POOL HOURS

Open May 28-September 5

Mon. thru Thurs., May 28-August 7: 1-9 p.m.

August 8-September 5:

Mon. thru Thurs.: CLOSED

Fri., Sat., & Sun.: LIMITED

Labor Day (Sept. 5) LIMITED

DAILY ADMISSION FEES

Youth 5 yrs. & under: Free

Youth Resident (6-17) with Tag: \$2

Youth Non-resident: \$4

Adult Resident with Tag: \$3

Adult Non-resident: \$4

TAGS & PASSES

Resident Tag (one-time purchase): \$2

Youth Resident Season Pass: \$65

Youth Non-resident Season Pass: \$95

Adult Resident Season Pass: \$75

Adult Non-resident Season Pass: \$105

Family Resident Season Pass: \$105

Family Non-resident Season Pass: \$165

Daycare Season Pass: \$275

30-Day Pass Booklet (Resident): \$55

30-Day Pass Booklet (Non-resident): \$85

Season passes and resident tags must be purchased at the Community Center. Tags and/or passes may be purchased on May 24.

SWIMMING LESSONS

The pool will close Tuesday & Thursday evenings 5:45-7 p.m. July 5-28 for swimming lessons.

SESSION	DATES	TIMES
DAY	SESSION 1: JUNE 6-17	PRE-BEGINNER: 11 a.m., Noon LEVEL 1: 11 a.m., Noon LEVEL 2: 10 a.m., 11 a.m. LEVEL 3: 10 a.m., Noon LEVEL 4: 10 a.m. LEVEL 5: 9 a.m. LEVEL 6: 9 a.m.
	SESSION 2: JUNE 20-JULY 1	
	SESSION 3: JULY 11-22	
EVENING	JULY 5-28 TUES. & THURS. ONLY	PRE-BEGINNER: 6-6:45 p.m. LEVEL 1: 6-6:45 p.m. LEVEL 2: 6-6:45 p.m. LEVEL 3: 6-6:45 p.m.
COST: Resident—\$30 Non-resident—\$55		

Day sessions are held Mondays through Thursdays. Fridays are rainout days. Minimum age for pre-beginners is 4 years old. All classes are 45 minutes.

Evening sessions are held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-6:45 p.m. and are for pre-beginners through level 3 only.

*Registration begins May 9. Register online at CityofLaVista.org/SwimmingLessons or call the Community Center at **402.331.3455**.*

SENIOR CENTER



SPECIAL SERVICES BUS

The Special Services Bus is available for senior citizens ages 60 and older and all special needs/handicapped individuals residing in the cities of La Vista and Ralston.

The service operates Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and does not operate on City of La Vista holidays or when Papillion La Vista or Ralston Public Schools are closed due to weather conditions.

For reservations call 402.657.3550 at least 48 hours in advance.

We make every effort to accommodate, but sometimes due to prior scheduling, we may not be able to help everyone at their requested times. During the COVID-19 pandemic, masks are required to protect others and yourself from infection and will be supplied to you if you do not have one. For more information about service, fees, etc., please call the La Vista Recreation Department at **402.331.3455**, or visit us at **CityofLaVista.org**.

The La Vista Senior Center, located in the Community Center, offers friendship, fitness, field trips and many more fun activities. The Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging (ENOA) is sponsoring the Congregate Meal Program Monday-Friday at 11:30 a.m., which is catered by Treat America. The suggested contribution amount for the meal is \$4 for adults over 60 years of age. For those younger than age 60, the lunch cost is \$10.

Please visit **CityofLaVista.org/Seniors** for the monthly senior newsletter and to look at scheduled activities/trips and lunch menus. For more info, contact Kaily Stanley at **402.331.3455** or **KStanley@CityofLaVista.org**.

55 AND UP ONGOING ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	DAY	TIME	FEE
BINGO	FRI	1 p.m.	\$1 total for 4 games
CHAIR VOLLEYBALL	WED, FRI	10:15-11:15 a.m.	FREE
TAI CHI FOR BALANCE	TUES, THURS	11-11:45 a.m.	60+: \$0.50 suggested
MOVIE SHOWINGS	EVERY OTHER TUES	1 p.m.	FREE
DROP-IN QUILTING	WED	9-11:30 a.m.	FREE

Sports and Trivia

*Wednesday, May 18
9 a.m.-2 p.m.*

*Papillion Landing
(1046 W. Lincoln Street)*

A fun day of sports and trivia—from corn hole to power walking and even a little archery. Grab your Senior Center friends and join us for some competition. Gold, silver and bronze medals are up for grabs. Hosted by the La Vista Senior Center and Papillion Landing 55+ Club.

Registration is free, and a deli lunch is provided.

To register, contact the La Vista Senior Center at **402.331.3455**.

Registration deadline is May 10. Maximum 100 registrations.



The Sew 'N' So's Quilting Group

Wednesdays, 9-11:30 a.m.

*La Vista Senior Center
(8116 Park View Blvd.)*

Come quilt with us!

Anyone who is interested in quilting is welcome to join, whether already skilled with a needle or a first-time beginner. Other sewing projects are always welcome as well!



CITY OFFICIALS

MAYOR

Douglas Kindig

CITY COUNCIL

Kim Thomas | Ward I

Ron Sheehan | Ward II

Deb Hale | Ward III

Jim Frederick | Ward IV

Terrilyn Quick | Ward I

Josh Frey | Ward II

Alan Ronan | Ward III

Kelly Sell | Ward IV

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Brenda Gunn | City Administrator

Rita Ramirez | Assistant City Administrator

Kevin Pokorny | Director of Administrative Services

Joe Soucie | Director of Public Works

Bob Lausten | Police Chief/Director of Public Safety

Rachel Carl | Assistant to the City Administrator

Pam Buethe | City Clerk

Pat Dowse | City Engineer

Bruce Fountain | Community Development Director

Cindy Miserez | Finance Director

Rose Barcal | Library Director

Scott Stopak | Recreation Director