

LA VISTA citywise

Financial Strategies in Tough Economic Times

Although the Midwest seems to be somewhat sheltered, the past several months have brought nothing but bad news regarding the economy. Home mortgage foreclosures, the loss of jobs and the instability of the stock market have resulted in citizens everywhere cutting back and being more cautious about their spending. *How does this downturn in the economy affect the City and the services you receive for your tax dollars?*

When spending is down, the revenue received by the City in the form of sales tax also decreases.

Even though the City is on solid financial footing, the Mayor and City Council have asked all of the departments to identify areas where costs can be reduced if the revenues do not come in as anticipated this year. Some major purchases or projects might have to be delayed; however, due to sound financial planning, you will continue to receive high quality, efficient services from the City.

As part of its' financial plan, the City strives to maintain a General Fund cash reserve of 20-25%. Due in large part to the annexations of Southwind and Val Verde, we were able to exceed that for 2009. While some might argue that a cash reserve should be returned to taxpayers in the form of a property tax reduction, the reserve is the City's way of dealing with tough economic times or other unexpected issues that might occur.

You may have also heard concern expressed about the increase in the City's debt over the past few years. The City of La Vista is one of the fastest growing cities in the State of Nebraska. With growth comes the need to provide additional services and as a city expands its boundaries, additional debt is part of the package. The key is to try to balance the amount of new debt with the increase in valuation and revenue that growth also brings.

Since 2005, the City has annexed the Southport East, Southport West, Southwind and Val Verde subdivisions. It is important to keep in mind that while the City acquires debt when annexing new areas, it also increases the overall valuation of the City. La Vista added \$13.4 million in debt over the past three years due to annexation, but the City's valuation also increased by \$344 million, resulting in \$1.8 million of additional property tax revenue. Also, not all of the City's debt is funded by property tax. Debt on three municipal buildings, the City's parking facility, and the golf course is currently being paid from various combinations of lottery revenue, sales tax, golf course fees and occupation taxes. The construction loan for

the hotel/conference center project (\$15.8m) will be repaid in its entirety, including interest, by John Q. Hammons within 10 years. As you can see, the City has been fiscally responsible in balancing the debt load between property tax and other revenue sources.

Without question, La Vista has incurred additional debt over the last few years. However, the overall financial condition of the City has been taken into consideration prior to every decision to annex, construct facilities or pursue economic development opportunities. The City's overall debt to valuation ratio is 6.8%, which is well within acceptable ranges for a rapidly growing community. La Vista continues to be fiscally conservative while trying to meet the needs of a growing community and ensure its financial future. The Mayor and Council will continue to monitor the budget during 2009 and make any adjustments necessary to get the City through these difficult economic times.



La Vista Police Sgt. Lynn Brandt receives a 25-year service award from Mayor Douglas Kindig.

A MINUTE WITH mayor kindig



Things have been busy in La Vista. The election and holiday activities are behind us and the annual strategic planning session to review our vision and goals for the City's future is coming up.

The City Council and I are very aware of the current economic conditions and will be monitoring the City's revenue closely. City departments have identified potential areas where we can save if there are revenue shortfalls. La Vista budgets conservatively and has a healthy cash reserve. While economic conditions are not ideal right now, La Vista is on solid financial ground and we feel confident that we can get through these uncertain economic times without an interruption of services to our citizens.

We still have challenging projects coming up and big decisions to make. The proposed bond issue for a new aquatic center was narrowly defeated in November (approximately 300 votes) and the existing swimming pool is seriously deficient. The City Council will be revisiting this issue to make a determination regarding the future of aquatic activity in La Vista.

Two other very important issues are the Vision 84 project and the consideration of a Rental Housing Inspection Program. I encourage you to participate in upcoming opportunities for citizen input regarding both of these projects or contact the Community Development Department at 331-4343 with questions.

Preparations also continue for the City's year-long 50th anniversary celebration in 2010.

Even though current economic conditions are not ideal, we are confident that La Vista can weather this storm and are looking forward to 2009. There is much to be excited about as the City of La Vista continues to grow and move forward.

Mayor Douglas Kindig

The La Vista Area Chamber of Commerce

As 2009 begins, the La Vista Area Chamber of Commerce has a new President and is looking forward to working with business leaders, the City of La Vista, and members of the La Vista community to make the area a better place to work, live, and play. Kim Madrigal took over as the Chamber's new president on November 4 and has already been busy with several events and activities including the Chamber's annual awards dinner and the City's tree lighting ceremony.

Coming up is the Chamber's annual fund raising dinner and auction scheduled for Thursday, February 26, at the Embassy Suites La Vista Conference Center. Ron Brown, Nebraska Cornhusker Tight Ends Coach and former Nebraska State Director of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes will be the guest speaker. The public is welcome to attend. Tickets are \$50 each and sponsorships are also available. To make a reservation, please call the Chamber at 339-2078.

From home-based businesses to large corporations, the La Vista Area Chamber is ready to assist business professionals on the path to success! To find out more, visit the website at www.lavistachamber.org or call 339-2078.

La Vista City Calendar

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

February 2009

- 3 City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 13 Senior Valentine Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Community Center
- 16 Most City offices will be closed for President's Day
- 17 City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 18 Park and Recreation Advisory Board, 7:00 p.m.
- 19 Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.

March 2009

- 3 City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 9 Citizen Advisory Review Committee, 7:00 p.m.
- 12 Library Advisory Board, 5:30 p.m. in Library Conference Room
- 17 City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 18 Park and Recreation Advisory Board, 7:00 p.m.
- 19 Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.

April 2009

- 7 City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 11 Easter Egg Hunt, 10:00 a.m. Central Park
- 15 Park and Recreation Advisory Board, 7:00 p.m.
- 16 Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m.
- 21 City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Daylight Savings Time begins March 8, 2009

trivia

After the
Village of La Vista
was incorporated
in 1960,
where was the
first election held?

Answer on Page 7

La Vista Considering Rental Inspection Program

A Rental Inspection Program is being considered by the City of La Vista in 2009 to assure the health and safety of those living in rental units in the City. The program would require that every rental dwelling, including single-family rental dwellings, meet a minimum maintenance code. Property owners would also be required to obtain a rental license for the dwelling based on the results of an inspection. The program would help to assure the preservation of the existing housing supply, help maintain property values, and help the City work toward eliminating substandard and deteriorating rental housing by maintaining an environment that contributes to healthful individual and family living.

The Rental Inspection Program would apply to any dwelling unit that is leased as a rental unit located within the City of La Vista. There are some exceptions - nursing homes and assisted living facilities, and hotels and motels, would not be included in the program. Here is how the proposed program would work:

- The property owner would register the property by March 30th each year with the City and pay a licensing fee: \$50/single family rental dwelling; \$6/unit for apartment complexes.
- The Building Official would schedule an inspection to determine whether the rental property meets the International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC).
- If the property meets the code requirements, there are no further fees and the owner would be issued a rental license.
- If the property does not meet the code requirements, the owner would be given a timeframe to make the corrections and a re-inspection fee of \$47 would be charged. When the property is in compliance the license would be issued.

The City Council will be discussing this program and public hearings will be scheduled in the next 60 days. For more detailed information contact the Community Development Department at 331-4343 or visit the City's website, www.cityoflavista.org.

policewatch



GOMON PROMOTED TO SERGEANT

La Vista police officer Kraig Gomon was promoted to the rank of sergeant at the November 18th City Council meeting. Gomon, an 11 year law enforcement veteran, has experience working in the Uniform Patrol and Criminal Investigations Bureaus. Gomon is one of the department's firearms instructors and a founding member of the La Vista Police Honor Guard. Sgt. Gomon has been assigned to command a night shift.

PROJECT LIFESAVER

The La Vista Police Department, along with the Papillion and Bellevue Police Departments and the Sarpy County Sheriff's Department have cooperatively partnered to offer the Project Lifesaver Program.

Project Lifesaver is an international program that aids in the recovery and rescue of missing people by use of radio technology.

"We've had instances where someone has wandered away from a nursing home and thought this program would be a proactive way to assist with the problem", said La Vista Police Chief Bob Lausten.

Lausten said people with cognitive disorders, autism, Alzheimer's disease or other forms of dementia can be fitted with a small transmitter that emits a unique radio signal every second that can be tracked by hand-held or vehicle-mounted receivers. If interested, a caregiver or other responsible party enters into an agreement to have their loved one fitted with a Project Lifesaver wrist transmitter. Should the client wander or otherwise go missing, a team of specially-trained officers from all Sarpy County law enforcement agencies will mobilize to conduct a search using special locating equipment. These officers will also make regular visits to clients to ensure batteries are changed and check wristband functionality.

There have been over 1,700 Project Lifesaver calls with a 100 percent success rate since the company started in 1999. The average time to find a missing person equipped with the device is 30 minutes.

La Vista caregivers interested in the program can contact the La Vista Police Department at 331-1582 for more information or check out the Project Lifesaver website at www.projectlifesaver.org.

The initial equipment and training for the Sarpy County agencies was funded by a grant from the Midlands Community Foundation.

Community Development Department

Abante - Construction has started on a 10,140 s.f. industrial building and warehouse. Location: 13378 Centech Road.

American Marking - A building permit application has been received for a 16,688 s.f. building for this manufacturing company. Location: 13240 Chandler Road.

BDKR Warehouse - Construction has been completed on this 8,260 s.f. warehouse. Location: 7050 S. 109th Street.

Beyond Golf - A 3,693 s.f. indoor virtual golf facility and tavern has opened in the Southport Center building. Location: 12040 McDermott Plaza.

Budweiser - A building permit application has been received for a 30,529 s.f. addition to this distribution facility. Location: 13255 Centech Road.

Burger King - This 3,000 s.f. fast food restaurant in Southport East is now open for business. Location: 12223 McDermott Plaza.

Courtyard by Marriott Hotel - Construction of a six story hotel with 246 rooms, including meeting rooms, a restaurant, a lounge and recreational facilities continues. This hotel will be connected to the Conference Center

through a covered walkway. A spring 2009 opening date is anticipated. Location: 12560 Westport Parkway.

Farrel's Extreme Bodyshaping - A 4,000 s.f. tenant finish for this business to conduct fitness classes has been completed in the Southport Plaza building. Location: 7428 Eastport Parkway.

Goyi Restaurant - This 4,000 s.f. African restaurant and grocery is now open for business. Location: 7215 S. 83rd Street.

Houston's Lounge - This 3,800 s.f. tavern in the Southport Center building is now open for business. Location: 12040 McDermott Plaza.

Jimmy Johns - This 1,200 s.f. sandwich shop is now open in the Southport Center building. Location: 12040 McDermott Plaza.

Performance Group - Construction is nearly complete on a 19,160 s.f. office and warehouse facility for this printing and document management company. Location: 13308 Chandler Road.

Pizza Gourmet - This 4,721 s.f. restaurant in the Southport Center building is now open for business. Location: 12040 McDermott Plaza.

Profit Advantage - Construction has started on this 9,294 s.f. office building which will house this payroll processing business. Location: 9826 Giles 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. Location: 12040 McDermott Plaza.

State Steel - An 84,000 s.f. addition has been added to this company's building in the Centech Business Park. Location: 13433 Centech Road.

Thrasher Basement Systems - Construction has been completed on a 26,320 s.f. warehouse building addition at this company's current location. Location: 12330 Cary Circle.

Yahoo! - A building permit has been issued for a \$9.3 million renovation of an existing 70,000 s.f. building in the Brook Valley Business Park. Location: 10917 Harry Watanabe Drive.

Vision 84

As part of their annual strategic planning process, the Mayor and City Council identified the revitalization of the 84th Street Corridor as their number one priority.

Over the last several years, the 84th Street corridor has deteriorated in terms of physical appearance, property maintenance and as an employment center. Major anchors including Wal-Mart, Gordman's, and Baker's Supermarket have vacated the area to move to new shopping centers and smaller businesses have been unable to sustain themselves, forced to relocate or close, leaving many vacant storefronts. Other commercial parcels in the area were developed 35 to 40 years ago prior to the implementation of good planning and design principles and have not been updated. This once vibrant and thriving corridor on a major arterial road in the heart of La Vista now appears considerably depressed and in need of redevelopment.

Ultimately, the City wants to revitalize the area to be more appealing to residents and visitors by creating a more contemporary commercial environment. To do this the City is

starting on a two phase process - visioning and implementation. The visioning process, from which a specific Vision Plan will be produced, is to be initiated this month. The City has hired a consultant to help with this visioning process; however the overriding goal is to make it highly community-interactive.

The City will be reaching out to various groups and individuals and asking for participation at community workshops and walking tours, a speaker series and other activities. There will be openings on the working committee for citizens-at-large. If you are interested in serving, please pick up an application at City Hall or visit the City's website - www.cityoflavista.org/vision84. Future newsletter inserts will provide information regarding the "Vision 84" project and additional opportunities to participate.

Scheduled activities for the next few months include: Website launch, targeted outreach meetings, speaker series/educational forums, stakeholder meetings, walking tours and community workshops.



2009 CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

The 2009 construction season will again be a busy one highlighted by the continuing construction of Harrison Street. Phase I of this project (60th Street to La Vista Drive) was completed in 2008. Phase II (60th Street to 53rd Street) was started in 2008 and is substantially complete. Phase III (53rd Street to 48th Street) will start early in the spring of 2009. The following projects are also slated for 2009:

- Installation of warning lights on 108th Street to notify drivers that emergency vehicles are entering from Chandler Road.
- Installation of street lights on the 96th Street corridor from Giles Road to Portal Road and on Eastport Parkway from Giles Road to Harrison Street.
- A dowel bar retrofit project on Giles Road from 108th Street to Southport Parkway to stabilize the joints in the pavement.
- Work on the bridge approach slabs on Giles Road at 110th and 119th to repair areas that have settled.
- Improvements to the intersection of 132nd and West Giles Road to include installation of traffic signals.
- The Keystone Trail Project will start at 69th Street, run through the Sports Complex and tie in with the new trail segment at the intersection of 66th Street and Harrison Street.
- Engineering design of the Portal Greenway project, which is a trail segment from Cimarron Woods to Giles Road.
- Installation of a pond pump and additional cart paths at the golf course.
- Thompson Creek work from 72nd Street to the Golf Course is still on hold as we wait for word on the availability of federal funding.



Street Superintendent Finishes Term for APWA

The Nebraska Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) held their annual conference on November 5, 2008 in Kearney, Nebraska. City of La Vista Street Superintendent Greg Goldman presided as the 2008 Chapter President. At the conference banquet, Greg was presented the Past President Award by APWA National President Noel Thompson. Greg continues to serve on several committees and remains very active in the organization both locally and nationally. Congratulations on your successful term as chapter president.

gogreen!

The City of La Vista makes every effort to reduce our carbon footprint when possible. The annual tree lighting ceremony at City Hall featured a change from incandescent bulbs to LED lights. The energy costs this Holiday season were cut by almost two-thirds. Here are a few helpful hints to make your home more energy efficient:

- Turn back your thermostat by 10 to 15 percent for eight hours a day can trim your annual heating bills by up to 10 percent.
- Invest in a programmable thermostat, which you can set to automatically change temperatures, helping to minimize unnecessary heating and cooling while you're out.
- Stop drafts by caulking and weather stripping doors and windows, and close vents and doors to unused rooms.
- Have your home's heating and cooling systems serviced prior to peak seasons, and change filters monthly to allow for better air flow.
- Reduce the cost of hot water by setting your water heater to 130 degrees instead of the standard 140 degrees. Gas water heaters can cost one-third less to operate than electric water heaters. They recover hot water twice as fast as electric water heaters. You can increase your water heater's efficiency by draining it every six months to remove lime deposits and sediment.
- You can further reduce hot water use by installing a flow-restricting showerhead and by filling your washing machine and clothes dryer with full loads.
- To get the most out of your gas stove, select one with an electronic ignition so the pilot light isn't always on. An electronic ignition uses 40 percent less energy than a standard pilot light.

New Drop-Off Site for Library Books

Do you live on the East side of town and need to return library books but the library is not on your travel route? Are you out running errands and you'll be driving on 84th street? You can now drop off your library books at the front desk of the Community Center, 8116 Park View Blvd. any time the Center is open.

Annual Report

During fiscal year 2008 a record number of people came to the La Vista Library. We had a total of 95,474 visitors, up over 3,400 from last year. Patrons checked out 125,208 items, up by over 8,900. The Library also received a large number of donated items this past year. Over 9,000 magazines, DVDs, audio books, music CDs, fiction and non-fiction titles were received. Thank you to the citizens of La Vista for your generous support of the Library.

Tax Time

Tax time is fast approaching and the Library carries a large assortment of both state and federal tax forms. There is also a reproducible book for photocopying any tax form you might need. On the Library website you will find a list of several helpful tax websites. See Rec Insert for free tax help information.

Teen Volunteers

Teen volunteers will be needed again this summer. The sign up deadline to be a teen volunteer is April 30th. There are a limited number of slots available so be sure to sign up early at the Circulation Desk!

We are Blogging!

A Blog is "a website where entries are written in chronological order and commonly displayed in reverse chronological order" according to Wikipedia. Visit our library blog at <http://lavistalibrary.blogspot.com> and leave us your feedback!

Upcoming Events and Programs

The Library offers a wide variety of special events and regular programs for adults, teens, and children of all ages. Below is a list of upcoming and ongoing events. Visit the Library's website at www.cityoflavista.org/library to get the details on any of these activities or call the Library at 537-3900.

- Spring craft programs for children preschool through fifth grade
- Storytime programs - Lapsit, Toddler, and Preschool
- Teen Tech Week
- Family Game Nights and Family Move Nights
- Special Preschool Movie Event
- 4th and 5th Grade Book Club
- Read Across America Activities
- Dr. Seuss Birthday Celebration
- Spring Break Special Events
- Summer Reading Program Kickoff - June 3



Library staff member Jean Hurst demonstrates the new Zoom Text software.

Making Library Services Available to All

In addition to the 877 large print books available at the Library, there is now a specialized software program available on a computer in the reference area to assist the visually impaired. When activated, Zoom Text will magnify whatever program or website the user accesses. Library personnel have had the magnification as high as 28 times the original size. Other features of the software include a voice function that will "read" the text to you and a typing function that will say the letter or character on the keys as you type and then the completed word. If you or someone you know could benefit from this software program, please contact the Library for more information.

Summer Reading Program Kickoff, June 3, 2009 - 2:00 p.m.

"Be Creative @ Your Library"

ANNUAL CLEAN-UP DAYS

The City's Annual Clean-up Days will be held on Friday, April 17 and Saturday, April 18, 2009. All residents, including residents in the City's Extra-Territorial Zoning Jurisdiction, are encouraged to take advantage of this free disposal service by bringing discarded items to the Public Works Facility, 9900 Portal Road. Hours of operation will be 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Examples of items that will be accepted include major appliances, lawn and household furniture, toys, bikes, lawn mowers, grills and mattresses. There will be a separate dumpster to collect yard waste, leaves and grass clippings. Tree branches will be accepted if their diameter is less than 6 inches. Motor oil and anti-freeze will be accepted but must be free of debris. Household batteries and car batteries will also be accepted. Paint, tires and hazardous waste will not be accepted. Proof of residency will be required; either a valid drivers license or a utility bill.

LET'S CELEBRATE

The City of La Vista will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in 2010. Plans are underway for a year-long celebration of the City's first 50 years that will include a variety of events. Watch this newsletter and the City website for more information and details as they become available. If you have information or memorabilia you would like to share regarding La Vista or if you know someone who was part of the early history of the community, please contact Rita Ramirez at rramirez@cityoflavista.org or 331-4343.



Council Clips

The following items are highlights of recent City Council action:

- Approved a Satellite Keno Location at the Island Bar & Grill in Southport East
- Changed the Speed Limit on 96th Street between Harrison Street and Portal Road to 45 mph
- Approved an Interlocal Agreement with Sarpy County for Intersection Improvements at 132nd & West Giles Road
- Accepted a Personnel Classification and Compensation Study Prepared by The Austin Peters Group
- Discussed a Rental Housing Inspection Program

Trivia answer from page 2.

In a vacant house.

fire department news

At a City Council meeting in December the La Vista Volunteer Fire Department announced officers for 2009 and welcomed a new recruit class.

The Department also received a donation from Pay Pal to purchase traffic safety vests for Firefighters and EMTs to utilize while on emergency scenes. Thank you to Pay Pal for this very generous donation.

Citizen Fire Academy

Have you ever wondered what goes into being a firefighter or EMT or wanted to see if the job is for you? Then mark your calendar and join us for the third Fire Academy Weekend! On April 18-19 LVFD will conduct two days of intensive hands-on training to provide first hand knowledge about the fire and rescue service. For more information about the Citizen Fire Academy contact lvfdpio@cityoflavista.org or at 331-4748. Application deadline is April 3, 2009.

CPR Classes Now Offered Through LVFD

The La Vista Fire Department is now offering CPR and first aid classes to both citizens and businesses. Our American Heart Association instructors are available to teach you how to respond to emergencies involving adults, children, and infants. During this class you will learn how to do CPR, operate an AED, receive first aid training and learn how to assist a person who is choking. Contact LFVD at lvfdpio@cityoflavista.org or 331-4748 for more information on how to sign up for this class.



LVFD Officers for 2009



LVFD Recruit class



Jason Nielson and Mark Schenkelberg from Pay Pal present a check to Fire Chief Rich Uhl and Fire Department PIO Melanie Smith

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 Iwan, Library Director

Rich Uhl, Fire Chief

Bob Lausten, Police Chief

Joe Soucie, Public Works Director

Scott Stopak, Recreation Director



Newly elected officials sworn in on December 2nd include (L to R) Council Members Mark Ellerbeck and Mike Crawford, Mayor Douglas Kindig, Council Members Anthony Gowan and Ron Sheehan.



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what'shappening • spring 2009

SENIOR VALENTINE'S LUNCHEON

The La Vista and Papillion Senior Centers will be hosting their annual Valentine's Luncheon on Friday, February 13, 2009. Food, fun & entertainment will be provided. All Seniors from the area are invited! Advanced tickets are required. Tickets will be on sale at La Vista Community Center, 8116 Parkview Blvd., La Vista, or at Papillion Recreation Dept., 1100 West Lincoln St., Papillion. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. Registration Deadline: Thursday, February 5, 2009. **COST:** \$6.00 per person. Sorry, no refunds will be given.

FREE TAX HELP!

For taxpayers with low/middle incomes, with special attention to those age 60 and older. No appointments, walk-ins only. February through April 15, 2008. Check at the Recreation Dept. desk for days and times. Please see instruction sheet at the Community Center for preparations prior to visit, or look on-line at www.cityoflavista.org/recreation.

INDOOR COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

Saturday, April 18, 2009 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. \$10 will reserve a spot to sell items in the La Vista Community Center gymnasium (This includes an 8' table and 2 chairs). Tables will be assigned on a first come-first paid basis. Space is limited. Drop by the La Vista Community Center to reserve your space! Set-up time for sellers is 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Doors open for shopping at 10:30 a.m. No admission to shop.

SPRING BREAK RECREATION HOURS

On February 16, March 20 and Spring break April 6-10, children 8 and above can use the gym and game room beginning at 1:30 p.m. (PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW YOUR CHILDREN TO ENTER THE COMMUNITY CENTER BEFORE THIS TIME - THEY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN). Basketball, volleyball, pool, bumper pool, darts, ping pong, shuffleboard and foosball available. Children under 8



EASTER EGG HUNT

La Vista's Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held RAIN OR SHINE on Saturday, April 11, 2009 at Central Park, located at Edgewood & Valley Roads. Children 12 and under are welcome to participate! Remember to bring your Easter Basket! Please see the following divisions and start times below:

- Times: 4 and under with/without parents:... 10:00 a.m.
- 5 and 6 years old:..... 10:10 a.m.
- 7, 8, and 9 years old:..... 10:15 a.m.
- 10, 11 and 12 years old:..... 10:20 a.m.

must be accompanied by an adult. ALL CHILDREN MUST BE LA VISTA RESIDENTS AND REGISTERED IN THE I.D. SYSTEM.

SPRING BREAK JUNIOR OLYMPICS BASKETBALL SPOT SHOT COMPETITION

Tuesday, April 7, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. Deadline for registration: Monday, April 6, 2009. The spot shot competition challenges participants to score as many points as possible by making baskets from designated shooting areas and the free throw line in 45 seconds. There are three levels of competition through which a youngster has the opportunity to advance, including Local, Regional and National finals. The Local Champion in each age and gender group will advance to the Regional competition. Regional Competition champions will have their scores ranked nationally and the top three scorers will advance to the National finals. All Regional champions will be notified by the Jr. Olympic Skills Headquarters as to their possible advancement.

Age Verification Chart

Ages 8-9	9/1/98 - 8/31/00
Ages 10-11	9/1/96 - 8/31/98
Ages 12-13	9/1/96 - 8/31/94

A copy of a valid birth certificate or baptismal record is needed for age verification to register.

KITE FLYING FESTIVAL

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 upcoming festival. April is National Kite Flying Month and to celebrate we are having a Spring Kite Festival, Sunday, April 26, 2009 from 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the La Vista Soccer Complex. Bring the whole family and enjoy a day of kite flying!

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

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

Snow Days are not included in the above schedule - those days are considered the same as school days for youth. Hours are 3:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

ALWAYS CHECK AT THE RECREATION CENTER FOR EVENTS THAT MAY NOT BE LISTED IN THIS NEWSLETTER. WE POST FLYERS OFTEN FOR SPECIAL EVENTS PLANNED AFTER THE NEWSLETTER IS PRINTED.

BATON CLASSES

Discover the fun you can have twirling! Not only will you learn to twirl, but you will make friends, build confidence, and learn to present yourself in a positive light. *Small Classes* Wednesday afternoon: Beginners 4:00 - 4:45 p.m., Advanced 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Ages: 5 and up. Classes subject to availability. Call Instructor Vicki Ludwick at 612-1479 for further information or registration.

PUT ON YOUR DANCING SHOES AND DANCE LIKE THE STARS!

NEW at the Community Center - Ballroom Dancing with Instructor Terry Vargas. Terry has been dancing since age 18 and continues to study and participate in dance competitions. Two or three dances will be taught each four-week session. Ages 16 and up only. May join as single or couple. Fee for each session is \$40 per person. Leather-soled shoes preferred (no gym shoes, please). Call 639-2209 for further information, dates for sessions and to register for class.

BELLY DANCING CLASSES

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

OMAHA JITTERBUGS

The Omaha Jitterbugs offer a variety of dance lessons at the Community Center such as Lindy Hop, Charleston for Two, Swing and Bal-Swing (Balboa). Length of sessions and fees vary with classes. For more information and registration, visit www.jitterbugs.org.

JANEL'S YOUTH DANCE CLASS

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

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 school year (only when school

is in session) and is for La Vista residents only. When: Tuesday and Thursday morning 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. **FEE:** Free.

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

Adult Martial Arts Classes Wednesday evening 7:00-9:00 p.m. In Kikai, you will learn the core techniques of multiple martial arts. A.S.A.P. (Adrenal-Scenario-Based Awareness & Protection) develops the correct responses in pre-conflict stages. **FEES:** \$40 per month; \$20 for those already enrolled in LVCC martial arts class. For more information, please call 331-3455.

AIKIDO

Adult Classes (Ages 12 and Over): Monday and Thursday 7:00-9:30 p.m. Children's Classes (5-11 years.): Monday and Thursday 6:00-7:00 p.m. **FEES:** Adult Classes: La Vista Residents \$30/month; Non-Residents \$35/month. Children's Classes: La Vista Residents \$15/month; Non-Residents \$20/month. For further information, call Ron Christenham at 339-6124.

KARATE

Adult Classes (Ages 13 and Over): Tuesday and Friday at 7:00-8:30 p.m. Children Classes (Ages 5 - 12): Tuesday & Friday 6:00-6:45 p.m. **FEE:** \$25 per month with a \$5 one-time sign up fee. For information, call Sensei Porter at 592-7771.

TRADITIONAL JAPANESE SWORDSMANSHIP

Suio Ryu is one of the few ancient systems of martial arts practiced today. It encompasses a broad variety of techniques such as jojutsu (Suio Tyu), kumi-iai (paired sword forms), naginata-jutsu, pure kenpo sword and wakizashi techniques. Classes Wednesday 7:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 12:00-3:00 pm. Adults, ages 18 & older, only. Open enrollment. **FEE:** \$40 per month. For more information, email Britt Nichols at Info@suioryu-usa.org.

SOCHI-GO RYU SELF-DEFENSE CLASS!

Sochi-Go Ryu is the newest martial arts self-defense class at La Vista Community Center. Please call Mike Benkis at 895-7841 for more information.

INDIVIDUAL WEIGHT TRAINING CLASSES

For adults age 18 and older, this class teaches the basics of weight training. Learn how to set up and advance, use proper technique and form, and get the most out of your weight-training program using both machine and free weights. This individual training class meets for two 1-hour sessions. Body Fat Testing is included. **FEE:** \$25. Call Rich Carstensen at 331-3455 for further information.

LA VISTA (INDOOR) WALKING CLUB

The La Vista Community Center Walking Club, (free of charge) is for any La Vista resident and/or seniors from the surrounding areas. Walking will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. This one hour time period will be set aside for walkers, so there will be no interference from other programs. Walking is available at other times also.

MODEL AIRPLANE LICENSE & FIELD TIMES

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

INDOOR REMOTE CONTROL MODEL AIRPLANE FLYING

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

▼ SPRING FLAG FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Ages 6/7/8 as of April 1, 2009. **FEES:** La Vista Residents \$30.00; Non-Residents \$50.00. There will be a \$10 late fee for registration after March 7, 2009, if space available.

▼ **REGISTER for these programs on Tuesday, March 3, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, March 7, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

▼ **CO-ED YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE**

Ages 4/5 & 6/7. Ages as of August 1, 2008. **FEES:** La Vista Residents \$30.00; Non-Residents \$50.00. There will be a \$10 late fee for registration after March 7, 2009, if space available. Volunteer Coaches needed.

▼ **PALOMINO BASEBALL**

Ages 17/18 as of April 30, 2009. **FEES:** La Vista Residents \$100.00; Non-Residents \$150.00. There will be a \$10 late fee for registration after March 7, 2009, if space available. Uniform Deposit: \$50.00. Players must be registered by the deadline to attend the try out. A try out will be held if more than 15 players are signed up by the registration deadline. This is a competitive league, no guaranteed playing time. Practice starts late March, games late April through early July. Volunteer Coaches needed.

▼ **COLT BASEBALL**

Ages 15/16 as of April 30, 2009. **FEES:** La Vista Residents \$85.00; Non-Residents \$115.00. There will be a \$10 late fee for registration after March 7, 2009, if space available. Uniform Deposit: \$50.00. Players must be registered by the deadline to attend the try out. A try out will be held if more than 15 players are signed up by the registration deadline. This is a competitive league, no guaranteed playing time. Practice starts late March, games late April through early July. Volunteer Coaches needed.

▼ **PONY BASEBALL**

Ages 13/14 as of April 30, 2009. **FEES:** La Vista Residents \$65.00; Non-Residents \$85.00. There will be a \$10 late fee for registration after March 7, 2009, if space available. Uniform Deposit: \$50.00. Players must be registered by the deadline to attend the try out. A try out will be held if more than 12 players are signed up by the registration deadline. This is a competitive league, guaranteed one inning playing time per game. Practice starts late March, games late April through June. Volunteer Coaches needed.

▼ **BRONCO BASEBALL**

Ages 11/12 as of April 30, 2009. **FEES:** La Vista Residents \$50.00; Non-Residents \$80.00. There will be a \$10 late fee for registration

LA VISTA SENIOR CENTER

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

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

Transportation is available for La Vista and Ralston residents on the La Vista/Ralston Special Services Bus. Please call 331-3455 or 657-3550 for further information.

To check out scheduled activities/trips and lunch menus, sign up for the monthly La Vista Senior Newsletter by calling the Recreation Dept. at 331-3455 or pick one up at the Community Center. Check us out online at www.cityoflavista.org/recreation.

after March 7, 2009, if space available. Uniform Deposit: \$50.00. Recreational league, all players registered before the deadline will be placed on a team. Practices start late March, games late April through June. Volunteer Coaches needed.

❖ **MUSTANG (KID PITCH) BASEBALL**

Ages 9/10 as of April 30, 2009. **FEES:** La Vista Residents \$40.00; Non-Residents \$60.00. There will be a \$10 late fee for registration after April 25, 2009, if space available. Practice starts late May, games mid-June through July. Volunteer Coaches needed.

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

Ages 7/8 as of April 30, 2009. **FEE:** La Vista Residents \$30.00; Non-Resident \$45.00. There will be a \$10 late fee for registration after April 25, 2009, if space available. Practice starts late May, games mid-June through July. Volunteer Coaches needed.

❖ **T-BALL (CO-ED)**

Ages 5/6 as of April 30, 2009. **FEE:** La Vista Resident \$30.00; Non-Resident \$45.00. There will be a \$10 late fee for registration after April 25, 2009, if space available. Practice starts late May, games mid-June through July. Volunteer Coaches needed.

◆ **PONY SOFTBALL**

Ages 13/14/15 as of January 1, 2009. **FEES:** La Vista Residents \$65.00; Non-Residents \$85.00. There will be a \$10 late fee for registration after March 28, 2009, if space available. Softball Pants Deposit: \$20.00. Practices start late April, games late May through early July. Tryouts will be held if needed. Players must be registered by the deadline to attend the try out and be placed on a team. Volunteer Coaches needed.

◆ **BRONCO SOFTBALL**

Ages 11/12 as of January 1, 2009. **FEES:** La Vista Residents \$50.00; Non-Residents \$80.00. There will be a \$10 late fee for registration after March 28, 2009, if space available. Softball Pants Deposit: \$20.00. Practice starts late April, games late May through early July. Volunteer Coaches needed.

◆ **MUSTANG SOFTBALL**

Ages 9/10 as of January 1, 2009. **FEES:** La Vista Residents \$40.00; Non-Residents \$60.00. There will be a \$10 late fee for registration after March 28, 2009, if space available. Practice starts late April, games late May through early July. Volunteer Coaches needed.

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- ▼ **REGISTER for these programs on Tuesday, March 3, 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday, March 7, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.**
 - ❖ **REGISTER for these programs on Tuesday, April 21, 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 25, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.**
 - ◆ **REGISTER for these programs on Tuesday, March 24, 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday, March 28, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.**
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RED CROSS SWIMMING LESSONS

Registration Dates: La Vista Residents beginning: Monday, April 27, 2009. Non-Residents beginning Monday, May 4, 2009. **FEE:** La Vista Residents: \$25.00; Non-Residents: \$50.00.

Swimming Lesson Sessions:

Session 1: June 15 through June 26

Session 2: July 6 through July 17

Session 3: July 20 through July 31

Levels of Lessons: Pre-Beginners, Level I, Level II, Level III, Level IV, Level V, Level VI. Lessons are held Monday through Thursday. Fridays are rain days. Minimum age for pre-beginners is four. All classes are forty-five minutes in length.

LA VISTA MUNICIPAL SWIMMING POOL

The La Vista Municipal Pool will open on Saturday, May 23, 2009 and close Monday, September 7, 2009 (Labor Day). Pool Hours are 1:00-9:00 p.m. daily (schedule will change once school begins). Season passes and resident tags may be purchased at the La Vista Recreation Center. Season passes are available for Residents and Non-Residents.

SWIMMING POOL FEES - 2009

Daily Admission:

Youth 5 & under:.....Free

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

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

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

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

RESIDENT TAG.....\$1.50

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

30-Day Pass Booklet (Residents)\$45.00

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

◆ **PINTO SOFTBALL**

Ages 7/8 as of January 1, 2009. **FEES:** La Vista Residents \$30.00 Non-Residents \$45.00 There will be a \$10 late fee for registration after March 28, 2009, if space available. Practice starts late April, games late May through early July. Volunteer Coaches Needed.

◆ **REGISTER for these programs on Tuesday, March 24, 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday, March 28, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.**

SUMMER ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUES

Registration Deadline Sunday, March 22, 2009. Leagues may fill up before the deadline. Co-ed Leagues Friday and Sunday; Men's Leagues Sunday through Friday; Double Header Leagues Wednesday and Thursday. **FEE:** Co-ed and Men's Leagues \$200.00, Double Header League \$400.00. Umpire Fee: \$18.00 per game paid directly to the umpire - CASH ONLY. If sponsored by a company, you must have the sponsor's money/check when registering. Money/checks will not be exchanged later. Games start mid-April, 2009.

LA VISTA FALLS GOLF COURSE

8305 Park View Blvd. La Vista Falls Golf Course is now accepting applications for adult and junior leagues, family, company, school and night time golf outings. For all leagues you may sign up as individual, twosome, threesome or foursome teams. Call Manager Denny Dinan at 339-9147 for more information on open golf, golf course hours, fees, leagues and special outings. (If golf course is closed, please call the Recreation Dept. at 331-3455).

SPRING AND SUMMER GOLF LEAGUES

Men - 2 Man Teams - Tuesday Night. Sign up as individual or twosome team. Flag Prizes, Fun Night, End of League party.

Women - Wednesday Night. Sign up as individual, twosome, threesome or foursome team. Flag Prizes, Fun Night, End of League party.

Couples - Male/Female - Friday Night. Sign up as individual, twosome, threesome or foursome team. Flag Prizes, Fun Night, End of League party.

Juniors - Individual, Groups. Recreational League. Accommodations for Car Pooling. End of the Year Prizes & Party. *Must have playing ability & knowledge of the game.

Please contact Manager Denny Dinan at 339-9147, to reserve your dates and tee times for your 2009 golf outing.

LEAGUE FEES FOR 2009

1) Leagues with Prize/Party Fund \$170.00 per player

2) Junior Golf Program \$ To be determined

3) All Other League Play..... Regular Green Fees x number of weeks

GREEN FEES & SPECIALS • MARCH 1ST - SEPTEMBER 30, 2009 • *AFTER 3:00 P.M. SAME AS WEEKDAY RATES

9-Hole Weekdays (adults)..... \$8.50

9-Hole Weekends (Sat-Sun) (adults) \$10.00*

18-Hole Weekdays (adults)..... \$14.50

18-Hole Weekends (Sat-Sun) (adults)..... \$16.00*

9-Hole Weekdays (Jr/Sr) \$6.00*

9-Hole Weekends (Sat-Sun) (Jr/Sr).. \$8.00

18-Hole Weekdays (Jr/Sr)..... \$11.00

18-Hole Weekends (Sat-Sun) (Jr/Sr) \$13.00*

Pull Carts \$2.50

Rental Clubs \$7.00

Electric Carts (9-Holes) \$6.00

Electric Carts (18-Holes) \$9.00

1 year Adult Membership..... \$300.00

1 year Jr/Sr Membership \$200.00

1 year Family Membership \$600.00

Punch Card Discount

Buy 10-Get 12 (Adult)..... \$85.00

Buy 10-Get 12 (Jr/Sr)..... \$60.00