

# GRANDVIEW

A Newsletter about the City of Grandview, Missouri

REPORT



### *Yard of the Month Winners*

Yards of the Month for May, from top: 14634 LaQuinta; 6733 126th Street; 13561 Spruce.

## Signs of Summer

From top clockwise: Meadowmere Swimming Pool rock wall; a shelter house at John Anderson Park; gone fishin' at Longview Lake; ducks cooling off in Longview Lake.

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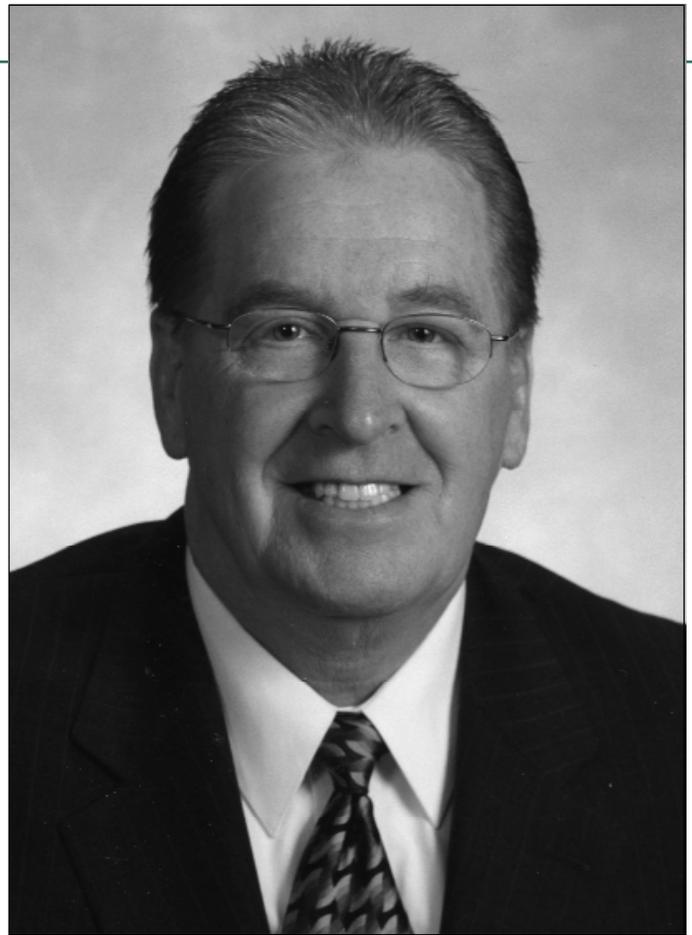
# Meet Grandview's New Mayor

**W**ith a total of 36 years in law enforcement, Bob Beckers' idea of retirement must have been more than just playing golf. Within hours of officially retiring from his job as Grandview's Chief of Police on January 13th, he came in to the City Clerk's office to file as a candidate for Mayor in the upcoming April municipal election. But then, anyone who knows him, knows he wouldn't be the typical retiree.

After serving in the Navy from 1962 to 1966, he began his career in law enforcement with the Minneapolis Police Department in 1969. He worked his way through the ranks to become Director of Training before coming to Grandview's Police Department to serve as Police Chief in 1991. After more than 13 years as Police Chief, he says he has learned a few things about city government and people in general.

"I know a lot about the City, its operation and function, and I've attended many Board of Aldermen sessions and budget meetings. It may not be a natural transition, but it's better than walking in cold. I've dealt with citizens the way a Mayor does, and I'm familiar with the Board members and staff, and the issues the City faces."

Mayor Beckers knows one significant issue facing the City is the need to increase retail business. "I see ongoing change and it's getting better," he says. "It's something the Board of Aldermen and staff are always working hard to increase, keeping in mind that we have always had a large industrial base,



**Mayor Bob Beckers**

which is so strong and important for Grandview."

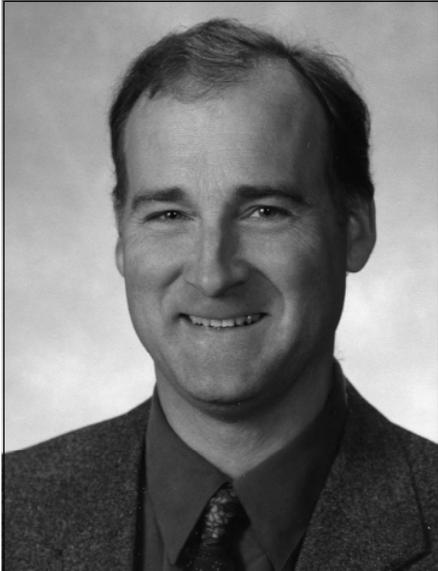
If you ask Mayor Beckers what Grandview's greatest asset is, he will tell you "location and the people. It's location, location, location, because we're close to major highways and Missouri 150 running through both Missouri and Kansas. But it's also the core values that the people of Grandview set as a good standard."

Believing the future is bright for Grandview, Mayor Beckers gives credit to some "very positive past infrastructure work." He points out the West Frontage Road improvements, but looks forward to the upcoming redevelopment of the 150 Highway and 71 Highway and the 140th Street and 71 Highway interchanges. We need to make Grandview a point of destination," he says.

It's a busy and exciting time for Grandview, but Mayor Beckers will still have time to travel a bit with Patti, his wife of 29 years. The new Mayor of Grandview has had, and it seems, always will have, plenty to keep him busy. ♦

# New Faces at City Hall

*As a result of the Municipal election on April 5, 2005, not only does Grandview have a new Mayor, but also two new Aldermen: Anthony (Tony) Preyer, Alderman for Ward III and Joseph (Joe) E. Runions, Alderman for Ward II. Also recently hired in the Administration Department is new Assistant City Administrator Kirk Decker.*



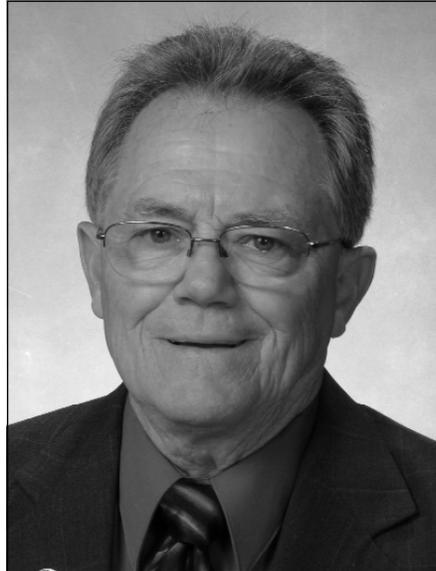
**Anthony (Tony) Preyer**

*"I am confident that in the coming years Grandview will be seen as a model for a first-tier suburb. The future holds more promise than problems, and we will continue to prosper as together we make Grandview a city of excellence."*

## **Anthony (Tony) Preyer**

- ◆ Appointed to fill vacancy in office January 25, 2005
- ◆ Elected to office April 5, 2005
- ◆ Community Service: church elder, former elementary school teacher at Dominion Christian School in Grandview.

Alderman Preyer is currently employed by a remodeling firm. He has experience as a cabinet maker, carpenter and elementary school teacher. He, his wife Tina, and their four sons have been residents of the City for over 12 years.



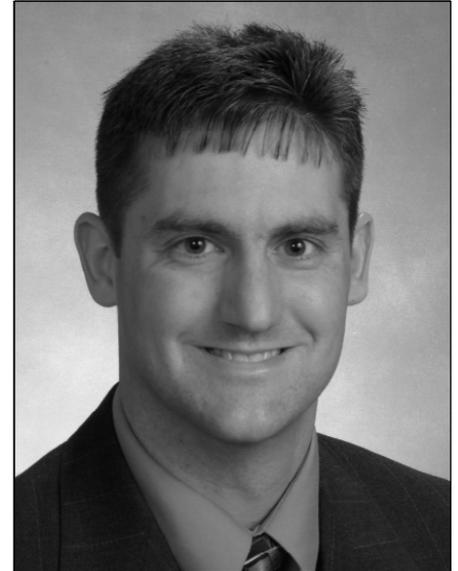
**Joseph (Joe) Runions**

*"To build on our future, we must start with a strong foundation. Our community already has the most important part of that foundation—the residents. Grandview is a wonderful community rich in children, family, and values."*

## **Joseph (Joe) Runions**

- ◆ Elected to office April 5, 2005.
- ◆ Community service includes: Board Member and President of the Muscular Dystrophy Association; President of the parish council, St. Matthew the Apostle Catholic Church; Co-chair of the Tad Runions Memorial Super Softball MDA event.
- ◆ Grandview Democratic Committeeman

Alderman Runions is a retired member of Local #124 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and a member of the Knights of Columbus. He and his wife have lived in Grandview for 33 years.



**Kirk Decker**

*"I am eager to bring my creativity and ingenuity to the City while providing the highest quality services to the citizens of Grandview."*

## **Kirk Decker**

Kirk Decker started his job as Assistant City Administrator in April, and has already begun planning for the upcoming City budget for the fiscal year 2006. Kirk comes from the city of Blue Springs where he held the position of Management/Financial Analyst. He also served as Finance Director/City Clerk for the city of Hesston, Kansas, and as the first City Administrator for Harper, Kansas. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and a Masters Degree in Public Administration (MPA) from Kansas State University. In addition, Kirk spent a year in Iraq, serving as a U.S. Army Reservist in Nasiriyah. He and his wife Stephanie have three children.

**New curb, gutter, sidewalk, and landscape treatment along the West Frontage Road between 125th Street and High Grove Road.**



## Highway 71 in Grandview Taking on a Fresh Look

**G**randview residents, business owners, and the traveling public might have noticed a new and fresh look to certain areas along Highway 71 in Grandview. The improvements have ranged from new curbs and gutters and sidewalks along the West Frontage Road to new business development areas at the 140th Street and Highway 71 and at the 150 Highway and Highway 71 interchanges. Following is a recap of these developments and improvements:

### **Highway 71 at Blue Ridge Interchange**

One area north of Truman Corners is currently undergoing construction to replace the old railroad bridge crossing over Highway 71 just north of Blue Ridge. Meanwhile, MoDot continues to “untangle the triangle” with Highway 71 improvements just north of Blue Ridge.

### **West Frontage Road**

The West Frontage Road from 125th Street to High Grove Road recently received new storm sewers, curbs and gutters, sidewalks, landscape treatment, better access control and improved street lighting, giving it a fresh and inviting new look. North American Savings Bank also recently completed an attractive new office building at 15th Street and Truman Drive.

### **Main Street at Highway 71 Interchange**

In addition to landscape treatment and highway access, Taco Bell, Enterprise Rent-a-Car, and a new Walgreen’s (plans approved in early 2005) will

continue to make this an important and attractive interchange for Grandview. If recent plans to construct a 70-room hotel adjoining the East Access Road just north of Commerce Bank are approved, that should continue to help bolster the area.

### **Former K-Mart Area/Highway 71 and 140th Street Interchange**

This area was declared blighted in December, 2003, and a developer of record was selected in March, 2005. Red X has announced its intent to occupy the 70,000 square foot former K-Mart store space, and at least two other businesses have announced plans to construct new buildings on this tract in Grandview during 2005 and 2006.

### **Gateway Commons Shopping Center at Highway 71 and Highway 150 Interchange**

This 140-acre retail development at the northeast corner of the interchange has completed Phase 1 and is beginning Phase 2 improvements. Businesses already calling Gateway Commons home include Gail’s Harley-Davidson, Zipz!, and Sonic restaurant. Joe’s Carpet recently opened a new 24,000 square-foot showroom/warehouse at the southeast corner of the interchange.

### **Highway 71 at 155th Street Interchange**

An attractive new car wash, the renovation of the Super 8 motel, and the expansion and renovation of the Quick Trip have contributed to the general upgrade in the appearance and function of this area. ♦

## Grandview Adopts Ordinance to Address Use of Motorized Bicycles

In April, the Board of Aldermen passed an ordinance to address the increased use of motorized bicycles commonly known as “pocket bikes” or “pocket rockets.” The low profile of these bikes makes them difficult to see. And because some riders have been observed speeding up to 50 miles per hour, the Police Department and Board saw the need to address this safety concern within the community.

The ordinance limits the usage of these motorized bicycles to be operated only by a person with a valid driver’s license on City streets and not on sidewalks. Also required is a motorcycle helmet and all safety equipment required for motorcycles. Anyone without a valid driver’s license is only allowed to operate the device on private property (not on sidewalks.)

For more information on the ordinance, please call the office of the City Clerk at 316-4811 or go to [www.municode.com](http://www.municode.com), click on “on-line library” and “Missouri” to get to the ordinances for the City of Grandview.



## Help for Victims and Witnesses of Crimes

Victims and witnesses of crimes who live in Grandview and want to know their rights or what to expect when they go to court may call or e-mail Detective Jim Wagner of the Grandview Police Department. He will gladly help those needing information on legal aid, family court, adult abuse shelters, or information on victims of violent crimes, who may be eligible to receive compensation. To contact Detective Wagner, call Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at 316-4905 or e-mail at [jwagner@ci.grandview.mo.us](mailto:jwagner@ci.grandview.mo.us).

To report child abuse anonymously, call the Division of Family Services at 1-800-392-3738.

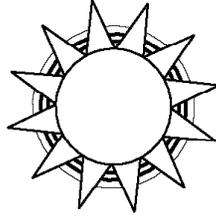
## Neighborhood Watch Programs

Grandview Police Officers work with the community to help residents become involved in the safety of the City’s neighborhoods. One way to do this is through neighborhood watch meetings. These meetings serve as an excellent means to prevent crime by joining together the citizens, the neighborhood, and the police to work together in keeping the community safe. Police Officers attend the neighborhood meetings to answer questions, provide crime prevention tips and address community concerns. For more information, call Sergeant Rick Schopfer at 316-4918.

## Fireworks are Strictly Prohibited in Grandview

Of particular concern are bottle rockets, which, when shot into the air, can land on wooden roofs and start house fires. Each year, the Fire Department responds to homes during the week of July 4th for this reason. If you observe your neighbors or other people using fireworks, including bottle rockets, please contact the Grandview Police Department by dialing 911. Let’s all have a very safe and enjoyable Independence Day! ♦

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
**Summer Camps**



*The following Summer Survival Camps are being offered to 6-11 year olds:*

**Sports Starz**—frisbee golf, kickball, dodgeball and football. July 11-15.

**The Great Outdoorz**—scavenger hunts, nature hikes, first aid and camping. July 18-22.

**Fitness Frenzie**—water exercise, obstacle courses and triathlon. July 25-29.

**Location:** John Anderson Park

**Time:** 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**Drop off:** 7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m.

**Pick up:** 4:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

**Resident:** \$95/week

**Non-resident:** \$133/week

All camps include a camp T-shirt, snacks and swimming admission every day.

To sign up, call 316-4888.

### Summertime Reminders

Grass clippings can cause problems when dumped in storm drainage channels. Because the Kansas City, Missouri drop-off site just south of I-470 and Raytown Road will not accept grass clippings, citizens are urged to contact a private hauler to dispose of grass clippings. Citizens may come to City Hall to obtain a \$10 voucher to drop off leaves and brush under 12" in diameter at the I-470 and Raytown Road drop-off site. Each voucher will allow residents one car or truck load of yard waste. Also, to report tall grass and weed violations, call 316-4817.

The Neighborhood Services Division also would like to remind pet owners that dogs must be leashed or fenced in while outdoors. To report any loose dogs or cats, please call 316-4817. ♦

City of Grandview  
1200 Main Street  
Grandview, Missouri

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Grandview, MO 64030  
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CARRIER ROUTE PRESORT  
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Robert M. Beckers, Mayor  
Leonard D. Jones, Jr., Ward I Alderman  
Steve Dennis, Ward I Alderman  
Catherine Kelley, Ward II Alderman  
Joseph E. Runions, Jr., Ward II Alderman  
James N. Crain, Ward III Alderman  
Anthony Preyer, Ward III Alderman  
Donald Crow, Municipal Judge

### CITY STAFF

Cory Smith, City Administrator  
Kirk Decker, Assistant City Administrator  
Phoebe Cameron, City Clerk  
Becky Schimmel, Assistant City Clerk  
Larry Dickey, Acting Police Chief  
Chuck Thacker, Fire Chief  
Larry Creek, Director of Public Works  
Tom Greenwood, Director of  
Community Development  
Brad Chambers, Director of  
Parks and Recreation  
Shirley Moses, Director of Finance

### SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

All meetings are open to the public and take place at Grandview City Hall, 1200 Main Street (except Parks and Recreation Commission meetings).

Board of Aldermen regular meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Board of Aldermen work sessions are on the first and third Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission meetings are the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission meetings are the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the new community center.

### CITY HALL INFORMATION

City of Grandview  
1200 Main Street  
Grandview, MO 64030  
(816) 316-4800  
FAX (816) 763-3902  
[www.grandview.org](http://www.grandview.org)