

SPRING 2005

GRANDVIEW

REPORT

A Newsletter about the City of Grandview, Missouri



Springtime in Grandview

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GRANDVIEW
REPORT**

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Get Ready For Spring!



Spring has arrived, and with it, opening day at Kauffman Stadium and hope for a break-even season. We've seen the spring daffodils and tulips, grass is in need of mowing, and the growing season is upon us. Thoughts turn from basketball and March Madness to outdoor recreation and cook-outs, float trips and picnics. Construction and paving will soon be in full swing, orange barrels will multiply, and that long-

awaited vacation trip is not that far away. Just to get you warmed up, here are some other activities, new additions, and reminders for the spring fever in all of us:

- **Harry's Hay Days:** Be sure to enjoy the parade and festivities in May and celebrate the city's Truman heritage in the process (see the back page for more information).
- **Thinking New or Remodeled Home?** House hunting or thinking about an addition to your bungalow? Catch the article in this quarter's newsletter about the spring tour of remodeled homes in the metro area, as well as some of the new homes in Grandview.
- **Swimming Fun Begins Memorial Day:** Time to sign up the kids for swimming lessons or to get that pool pass for those hot, sunny days in June and July. Check out the new activities at John Anderson, and wait until you see the new climbing wall at Meadowmere!
- **Skate Park Action Is Peaking:** or is it grinding to a halt? You don't have to tell area teenagers which it is, and it has been a really popular addition to the Meadowmere Park scene since opening in late 2003.
- **Hit the Trail:** If you haven't tried the Longview/Grandview bike trails, check out the entry point along Byars Road. From Meadowmere Park to the Longview Lake marina, it's just about 6 miles on that sleek hybrid you've been waiting to try out all winter.
- **Go Jump in the Lake!** Being next door to Longview Lake, Grandview citizens have an opportunity to swim, boat, fish, water ski, picnic, play ball, or just walk the trail.
- **Picnic in the Park:** Bring out the extended family for an old fashion family picnic at one of the shelter houses in Grandview. Call 316-4888 for more information.
- **Take in The View:** Whether wanting to work out before or after work, take the kids for a swim, or hold a reception or anniversary party there, the staff at Grandview's Community Center, *The View*, is there to serve your needs for recreation fun; as well as your needs for family or organizational gathering places and celebrations.

- **Take in a Ballgame:** With leagues playing at Shalimar Park, you can watch the up and coming baseball stars of tomorrow on a nightly basis.
 - **Turn Trash into Cash:** If your group is looking for a weekend fund raiser, consider Grandview's Trashbusters program, and you can help clean up and beautify the highway frontage roads at the same time. Call 316-4856 to schedule and get organized.
 - **Farmers Market Opening Downtown:** With new parking lots in the downtown area, the Downtown Association will be hosting a farmers market from May to October every Saturday this summer. Why not stay for lunch in the downtown area while you're there?
 - **Main Street and Downtown Improvement Continues:** From the new Walgreen's store scheduled to be built this summer at Main and the West Frontage Road, to office building renovations around 10th and Main, to renovation of the old school building at 10th and Highgrove, to a new look for the historic building at 824 Main, to the new parking lots and refurbished 100-year-old Jones Lumber building off 7th Street, things are looking up throughout this corridor.
 - **Green Thumb Rewards:** Beautification efforts are recognized throughout the summer through the Yard of the Month program, one in which unique landscaping or flower gardens can make one yard in each ward a winner.
 - **Let's Keep It Clean!** Now is the time to clean up trash, debris, inoperable vehicles, weeds, and other unsightly nuisances from our neighborhoods. Make a point to use the city-wide cleanup four Saturdays in April at 139th and Winchester to help in this effort.
 - **West Frontage Road Improvements:** With last year's wet summer and fall, this project was delayed until this spring, but these improvements, partially funded by a federal grant, should dress up the frontage road, while improving drainage and safety at access points.
 - **Fifth Street Improvements:** Another project delayed by last year's cold and wet weather, this project will be resurfaced and completed this spring as well, providing a wider, much better roadway surface and improved drainage along this busy street south of Main.
 - **Blue Ridge Widening:** The Blue Ridge project, widening the roadway to five lanes between Truman Corners and the West Frontage Road will also be underway this summer. This should limit congestion and help traffic move more effectively there.
 - **Street Resurfacing:** Will the annual maintenance program, funded by more than \$400,000 in Transportation Sales Tax funds, hit your block this year? Check with Public Works at 316-4856.
- Yes, it promises to be another exciting spring and summer of fun, yard work, baseball, picnics, gardening, neighborhood improvements and block parties, family get-togethers, biking, hiking, and celebrations of community. Let's all take pride in our community, invest in our homes and gardens, and be considerate of our neighbors. Let's enjoy all those weddings, graduations, and family outings, and let's be safe. Have fun!

Spring Focus is on Homes

Grandview has several new residential areas under current construction and planned for future construction. Below are three subdivisions currently under construction.

Villas of River Oaks



Northwest corner of LaQuinta & Byars Road. This subdivision contains 31 lots with some home sites adjoining the 16th fairway of River Oaks Golf Course and has street access to Byars Road north of the Byars Road fire station. Homes feature steel frame construction and prices start in the \$190,000 range.

Meadowmere Estates



Northwest corner of Winchester & 139th Street. This subdivision has street access from Winchester Avenue. Containing 37 lots, more than half of the lots have new homes under construction with most homes starting in the \$140,000 range.

Fox Hill



Northwest corner of 141st and Southern Road. Most of the 12 lots have been completed, with occupied homes or homes under construction and prices starting in the \$140,000 range.

The Remodeling Homes Tour is scheduled for April 16-17, 2005. The First Suburbs Coalition is partnering with the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) to conduct a tour that will feature homes remodeled by NARI contractors both in first-tier suburbs as well as other areas.

Grandview is one of the several area cities involved in the First Suburbs Coalition. First suburbs are communities adjacent to Kansas City where a majority of the housing was built shortly after World War II, and limited amounts of undeveloped land exist within the city's boundaries.

The First Suburbs Coalition has created the First Suburbs Plan Book, which shows homeowners how to successfully modernize their post World War II homes. The Plan Book will be available on April 16. For more information, please call the Community Development Department at 816-316-4817 or visit www.marc.org/firstsuburbs.

Parks & Recreation Director Sees City-Wide View



Brad Chambers arrived on the job just in time for the one-year anniversary of Grandview's new community center, The View. He started his job as Parks & Recreation Director on January 4th and helped The View celebrate its anniversary on February 5th.

Originally from Cookeville, Tennessee, Chambers brings over 20 years of experience as Parks & Recreation Director in Tennessee and Georgia. Under his direction, he has won three National Parks & Recreation Association awards: two in Arts & Humanities and one in Fitness. He has also served in the United States Navy Reserve for 22 years, and volunteered soon after the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. He was in charge of the General's intelligence briefings as intelligence analyst with the European Command Headquarters in Germany.

After returning from Germany, Chambers was attracted to Grandview's search to replace retiring Parks & Recreation Director Steve Stadler. Chambers said one reason for accepting the Director position at Grandview was because "the View had it's own sales tax revenue source, along with self-generated revenue. It's more like running a business when you have to create some of your own revenue," he said.

When asked how The View compared to other cities' community centers, Chambers said he was impressed with its 60,000 square feet. "I would say there are less than 100

community centers of that size in the country. And the large conference center in the building is unique. It's the only meeting space in the City with the capacity to seat 250 people. The View offers a huge variety of programs and activities too. It's equipped with two indoor swimming pools, and many other facilities like the gym, track and equipment rooms."

As Director, Chambers sees quality of maintenance as a priority, not only for The View, but for the parks in Grandview as well. "I'm not just Director of The View, I'm Director of all the parks, so I need to view the whole picture and make the quality of maintenance for the whole department a priority. The View has set a good standard that the rest of the department needs to adhere to. In five years, I would like to have the department accredited with the Council for Parks & Recreation Association. If you achieve accreditation, you are definitely considered at the top in the field."

Above all, Chambers says his first priority is to "learn what we've done and why we did it." He is not one to "do it just because it's always been done that way." He likes challenges and doing things that have not been done before. For example, Chambers sees innovations in the future for Anderson Pool. "I'd like to see it evolve as more of a water park than a swimming pool." He says parks systems "enhance the quality of life for the people in the City." He makes the analogy of a city government being like a house. "But the Parks & Recreation Department provides the curtains, the paint, the carpet, the pictures on the refrigerator."



Pets Helping People Vaccination ID Program Set for May 14



Area residents may participate again this year in the vaccination program for their dogs and cats. On Saturday, May 14, 2005, between 10 AM and 2 PM, rabies vaccinations will be offered for the reduced cost of \$5 per animal. The event will take place at Conn-West Elementary School in downtown Grandview at the corner of Main Street and 10th Street. The proceeds from the event help support the Grandview Assistance Program (GAP), the local charitable organization.

Wayside Waifs will also offer low cost AVID identification microchips and microchip registration for only \$25. With this microchip, your pet can be instantly identified by anyone in the country with an AVID microchip scanner.

The event will also focus on a low-cost spay and neuter program for animals whose owners live in Grandview. A total of 32 spay or neuter surgeries will be available on a first-come, first-served basis for \$10 each, with a limit of one surgery per household. All dogs must be on a leash, and all cats must be in a carrier. Proof of residency will be required for the spay and neuter program only.



Grandview veterinarians Dr. Jennifer Jones and Dr. Abbey Snyder will be assisting at the Vaccination ID Program May 14.

Historic Preservation Commission Sets Vision for 2005



Truman Farm Home in Grandview

Grandview has a new Historic Preservation Commission, appointed by the Board of Aldermen in July, 2004. The Commission consists of representatives from both the Planning Commission and Board of Aldermen, and five other members. All members have a deep interest in preserving older properties and neighborhoods so they retain their original appearance and character. The Commission meets monthly at City Hall, and all meetings are open to the public.

The properties included for consideration by the Commission are those that were constructed at least 50 years ago and helped to shape Grandview in the ensuing years. In November, 2004, the Commission formally adopted its first annual work program for 2005. The work program includes elements such as completion of phase two of the cultural resources survey and the plan and nomination of an approximate 22-property residential area as a National Register Historic District.

Last autumn, the Commission became vocal in its support of the renovation of the former original Grandview High School building located at the north-east corner of High Grove Road and 10th Street, rather than the alternative of demolition. In November, 2004, the Commission went on record in support of the restoration of the former Jones Lumber Company office building located on the east side of 7th Street north of Main Street. This building will celebrate its 100th birthday in 2005!

Anyone interested in historic preservation or wishing to review the cultural resources surveys, preservations plans, or information on individual properties, may contact the Community Development Department at Grandview City Hall, 1200 Main Street, by calling 816-316-4820 or 816-316-4822.

Annual City-Wide Spring Cleanup: First Four Saturdays in April

Residents, property owners, and businesses will be permitted to dump trash and yard debris at the Public Works Maintenance facility at 139th Street and Winchester Avenue the first four Saturdays in April between 7:30 AM and 5:30 PM for \$12 per vehicle. Tires will be \$1.50 each (8 per vehicle). Proof of residency or ownership will be required. For questions, call 816-316-4856.



Springtime Events

Arbor Day Celebration

April 8, 2005
10:30 AM
Meadowmere Park
Free

Y.O.U.R. Teen Camp (Youth Oriented Ultimate Recreation)

June 6–July 29, 2005
7:30 AM–5:30 PM
12-15 years old
\$75 per week
Registration fee:
\$20 for resident
\$30 for non-resident

Harry's Hay Days

May 20-22, 2005
Parade: May 21, 10 AM

Pool Openings

Meadowmere Pool:
May 28 – Aug. 7, 2005

John Anderson Pool:
June 5 – Aug. 14, 2005

Spring Clean-Up

April 2, 9, 16 & 23, 2005
139th & Winchester Ave.

Spring Homes Tour

April 16 & 17, 2005
www.marc.org/firstsuburbs/tour
or call 816-472-4240

Grandview Farmer's Market

May 7 – October 15, 2005
Main & 8th Street
816-405-5561

City of Grandview
1200 Main Street
Grandview, Missouri

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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 PM.

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

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

Parks and Recreation Commission meetings are the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM 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