

GRANDVIEW

A Newsletter about the City of Grandview, Missouri

New Grandview Businesses Highlight Exciting 2004



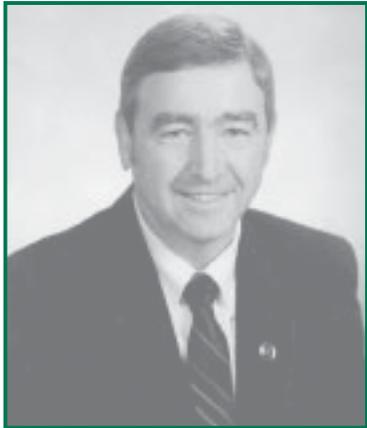
Clockwise from top left: Gail's Harley-Davidson in the Gateway Commons Shopping Center; Calmar & PODS in the former House of Lloyd building on Grandview Rd.; UMB Bank in the Truman Corners Shopping Center area; 54th Street Grill in the Truman Corners Shopping Center area; Euro Tool in the Upland Industrial Park off Botts Rd. & 142nd St.; and Davis Inotech at 13440 S. 71 Hwy.

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2004 is a Year for Building Community



Mayor Harry O. Wilson

Time goes by so quickly these days, it is hard to imagine we have come to the end of another busy year—a year filled with new construction, grand openings, and new infrastructure. Of course, it was also a year of fluctuating markets, skyrocketing oil prices, and endless banter from hopeful election campaigners. However, more jobs have been created nationwide, business is pretty good, and interest rates are inching up again.

Here in Grandview, I think we have done more than our fair share in job creation, new business starts, expansions, and building a greater sense of community. Things happen fast, so again, in case you missed some things, here's a partial list:

- *The View*, Grandview's award-winning new community center, opened in early February to a huge crowd and rave reviews. Memberships have far exceeded the City's expectations, but are reasonably priced, and one can almost always find room to "get fit."
- The new skate park in Meadowmere Park, offering a variety of skateboarding features, has been very popular with local boarders wishing to hone their skills.
- Gateway Commons is now a reality. Gail's Harley-Davidson has opened a beautiful new dealership, and other pad sites are under construction as we speak.
- UMB Bank recently opened its doors and drive-through lanes, joining 54th Street Grill as the newest businesses to open this year at Truman Corners.
- Calmar, a major manufacturer determined to stay profitable and keep jobs in this country, has relocated to the former House of Lloyd building at Grandview and Martha Truman Roads, with around 400 employees scheduled to occupy the remodeled facility.
- The North American Savings Banking Center is now under construction at the southwest corner of Harry

Truman Drive and 71 Highway, creating more business activity and potential redevelopment in that commercial area.

- Continued investment occurred in the Downtown area. With the help of a \$300,000 federal grant, the City has acquired properties for construction of new parking lots to handle additional customer traffic. Design is complete and construction is under way to add 115 new parking spaces downtown.
- Historic preservation efforts are alive and well, with the creation of the City's first Historic Preservation Commission and completion of a historic preservation survey, as well as the completion of a Main Street Corridor Improvement Plan.
- Fifth Street, south of Main, has been under construction for most of the year. The schedule has been adversely affected by the unusually wet summer and fall this year, but this vital street project, wider and more capable of handling heavy commercial traffic and stormwater, comes closer to completion with each sunny, dry, moderate temperature day.

“These are just some of the successes of the past year.”

- West Frontage Road improvements, using federal funds and local transportation sales tax, are also progressing, as weather permits, toward completion in the near future.
- Burger and Brown Engineering, a manufacturer from Olathe, is relocating to the industrial park along 142nd Street just east of Botts Road, along with Fluid Systems & Components, thereby allowing construction of the 142nd/Norby Road extension and connection to be completed.
- Another major manufacturer is considering a plant expansion and relocation of its headquarters to Grandview along Botts Road over the next few years.
- Area developers have purchased the former K-Mart building, with the intention of initiating a mixed-use plan and retail redevelopment there.
- The City and Chamber are working with Grandview Plaza commercial realtors and marketers to bring retail business into vacant anchor space in that center.
- Design was completed on the Blue Ridge widening project, also funded in part with federal funds. This project will add a lane to Blue Ridge from the West Frontage Road to the Truman Corners entrance.
- Design was also completed on the 135th Street sanitary sewer project. This will provide a relief sewer to prevent

Mayor's Corner

- sewage overflows in the area around Hidden Lake.
- About 500 feet of reinforced concrete drainage channel was constructed in the Crossgates neighborhood to eliminate flooding in that area during heavy rains.
- The reconstruction and widening of Botts Road from 139th Street to the south city limits was completed in 2004. The City hopes to coordinate the completion of this road with Kansas City for the remaining half-mile section south to 150 Highway.
- The City oversaw the construction of streets and sewers for new development areas like Gateway Commons, Meadowmere Estates, the Villas of River Oaks, and Fox Hill.
- A recently constructed salt dome at the Public Works complex not only protects the environment, but also allows the City to stockpile the entire winter supply of salt, thus minimizing the chance of a salt shortage during severe winters.
- Three additional paramedics were hired this past year in an effort to provide increased emergency medical services locally, limiting our dependence on MAST for backup services.
- A new diesel exhaust removal system in the fire stations allows trucks to run inside during cold weather without spewing out carbon monoxide into the stations.
- An outside resource assessment of the Fire Department was conducted in an effort to help determine optimum staffing, given the City's limited ability to fund more paramedics or firefighters.
- The Police Department, working with the Grandview School District, successfully added a school resource officer at the Grandview Middle School.
- The crime rate for Part I (serious) crimes decreased 19.4 percent.
- A fourth command staff officer was selected for the National Police Training School at the FBI Academy this past summer.
- The false alarm ordinance was amended this year in an effort to limit the number of false alarms, primarily from careless use or faulty security alarm systems.
- Permits for new construction this year have totaled 269 as of the end of November, including 256,000 square feet of new commercial construction.
- Integration of our database between Finance and other departments now allows for a faster turnaround on occupational license renewals.
- Through the combined efforts of the Court staff and the Police Department, 3,000 more warrants were cleared this year than last.
- The second annual "Pets Helping People" rabies vaccination program provided services for dogs and

cats, while raising funds for the Grandview Assistance Program.

- Paying taxes at City Hall during tax season is easier than ever with our experienced staff to answer questions and a new "Quick Serve" station for those not needing changes.
- Grandview is building new subdivisions again, with three under way this year, and five others considering several hundred new homes are in the planning process for 2005.
- The Grandview Chamber of Commerce, working in conjunction with the City, just published a new marketing magazine titled *Grandview Today*, with lots of facts, stats, and articles on business, neighborhoods, development, and high school success stories.

These are just some of the accomplishments of the past year. While impressive, they don't tell nearly all the success stories that have occurred over the past twelve months. They don't tell about all of our high school scholars, athletes, musicians, and drama students; or about all of the dedicated and sometimes heroic acts of our city employees or teachers; or of the tremendous number of volunteers who devote time to everything from the Planning Commission to the Parks and Recreation Commission; from Chamber of Commerce committees (like the one who worked to put on "Jazz at The Corners" this fall) to those on the PTA or the Grandview Assistance Program board; from the many churchgoers who dedicate themselves to charitable efforts, to those who help so many through Rotary or the Lions Club. The list goes on and on.

These efforts require creativity, talent, cooperation, collaboration, and often really hard work. Mostly, though, they require participation. These groups only thrive through the efforts of committed individuals working together to make this a better community. As always, they require the combined efforts of all these organizations and volunteers to make our schools, neighborhoods, and city the best they can be—to create a real sense of community.

Along with the Board of Aldermen and city staff, I look forward to 2005 as another tremendous year for the City of Grandview, the Grandview Chamber of Commerce, the Grandview School District, and our public/private cooperative venture, the Economic Development Council. This should translate into more opportunities for industry, jobs, retail, housing, recreation, and volunteerism. Once again, I believe we are making real progress as a community, and together we are making a difference. Thank you all for your contributions, and may you have a prosperous and happy new year.

Fire Chief Chuck Thacker Celebrates One Year Anniversary With Grandview Fire Department



*Chuck Thacker
Chief, Grandview Fire Department*



Q: How many years have you been a firefighter?

A: 28 years.

Q: Why did you choose fire fighting as a career?

A: I'm a second generation firefighter. My father was Chief of the Richmond, Missouri Fire Department, so I grew up going to fires with him. It seemed like a normal thing to do.

Q: What would you have chosen as a career if not fire fighting?

A: Nothing else, really. This is what I always wanted to do. Since my senior year in high school I knew I wanted to be a fire chief. I've reached my goal. But if I had to choose something else, I would say an airline pilot because travel appeals to me.

Q: What has significantly changed in fire fighting over the years?

A: Firefighter safety, personal protective equipment, the self-contained breathing apparatus, thermal imaging cameras, stronger emphasis on fire and building codes, more emphasis on educating the public in fire prevention and more emphasis on emergency medicine.

Q: What's one thing you did much differently 20 years ago as a firefighter?

A: We used to take more chances because we didn't have the equipment and knowledge we have today.

Q: What do you see as the future for fire fighting?

A: Remote controlled robots to send into burning buildings. Also, more emphasis on emergency medicine—making house calls because patients can't get to the doctor or hospital. For example, asthma patients who need on-site care or the elderly who can't make it in to the doctor's office.

Q: What tips would you give to a new firefighter just starting out?

A: Go to college first—get to know yourself better. Depending on the area of study, learn the political process of municipal government. It helps to understand you're a piece of the pie when it comes to budgets, raises and other issues people normally don't think of unless they know about government processes.

Q: Have you ever saved anyone from a burning building, and how did that feel?

A: Yes, and after it was over, it felt exhilarating. But you remember the fatalities more than the saves. They stick in your mind more.

Q: What are your hobbies?

A: Baseball and coaching my son in sports. I think I enjoy doing these things because it's a nice, relaxing change from the job. Coaching my son gives me a chance to spend quality time with him.

Q: What do you want to leave as your legacy?

A: That I was able to make contributions to the people I'm in charge to protect, and to the fire service as a whole.

Fire Captain Paul McGill Celebrates 40-Year Anniversary With Grandview Fire Department

Q: How many years have you been a firefighter?

A: I'll be with the Grandview Fire Department 40 years this May. I've been Captain for 36 years.

Q: Why did you choose fire fighting as a career?

A: Back in the 1960's, I was job hunting, and the fourth door I knocked on was the Grandview Fire Department. It was a steady income, working every other day, so I was able to keep working construction on my days off. Construction wasn't very steady, and since I had a family to support, I really needed something steady.

Q: What would you have chosen as a career if not fire fighting?

A: I would've done anything to support my family, but I got lucky when I got hired at the Fire Department. I picked a good one.

Q: What has significantly changed in fire fighting over the years?

A: Mostly the technology of equipment, but also I think the younger kids coming on are more ambitious to climb the ladder. They're not as loyal as they used to be. They'll quit this job to take a job that pays \$2.00 more per hour, and then later want to come back.

Q: What's one thing you did much differently 20 years ago as a firefighter?

A: We didn't use aids for putting out fires. All we had was a rubber rain coat and high top boots. There were no air packs for breathing, but back then we didn't have to worry about all the different plastics that give out noxious fumes.

Q: What do you see as the future for fire fighting?

A: There won't be as many fires to put out in the future, just like there aren't as many now compared to 20 years ago. There are more safety precautions now, more no-smoking regulations and not so many matches lying around. People are just more aware of fire safety now than they used to be. Kids at school have programs that teach them safety and prevention.

Q: What tips would you give to a new firefighter just starting out?

A: Get all the schooling you can. It's more competitive now, due to college prep courses. So, you're already ahead if you have an EMT or Paramedic degree to start out.



*Paul McGill
Captain, Grandview Fire Department*

Q: Have you ever saved anyone from a burning building, and how did that feel?

A: Oh, yes, but you don't talk about it. It's a team effort when you're firefighting.

Q: What are your hobbies?

A: Hunting, fishing and motorcycles. I ride with the Shriners.

Q: What do you want to leave as your legacy?

A: First one there, last one out. (When asked if he thought his crew would say they had learned a lot from him over the years, he replied, "Oh, they'd have learned it one way or another anyway.")

Asked if he would retire soon, since he's close to retirement age, Captain McGill replied that he would probably not retire anytime soon. He said most city employees he's talked to who have retired too early, soon get another job that is not as satisfying. "If you like what you're doing, and you do it well, why change jobs?"

Be Prepared This Winter

If you remember the ice storm of 2002, you know how inconvenient life can be around the house without power. But there are some things you can do to prepare your home for winter and the natural disasters it can bring. If your home is well-insulated, for instance, it can make a difference in heat loss should the power suddenly shut off. The more exterior winterizing you do to your house, such as replacing loose shingles and trimming trees over roofs, the better it will withstand freezing temperatures and the damage caused by falling tree limbs during ice storms.

The Building Services Division has some tips for winterizing your home inside and out:

Seal Leaks around Doors and Windows

- Add or replace worn weather-stripping around doors and windows.
- Caulk gaps where necessary.
- If you have them, install storm doors and windows. Don't forget to winterize basement windows.
- Replace old windows with energy efficient windows.

Check Insulation

- Proper attic insulation keeps your home warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer.

Check Heating Systems

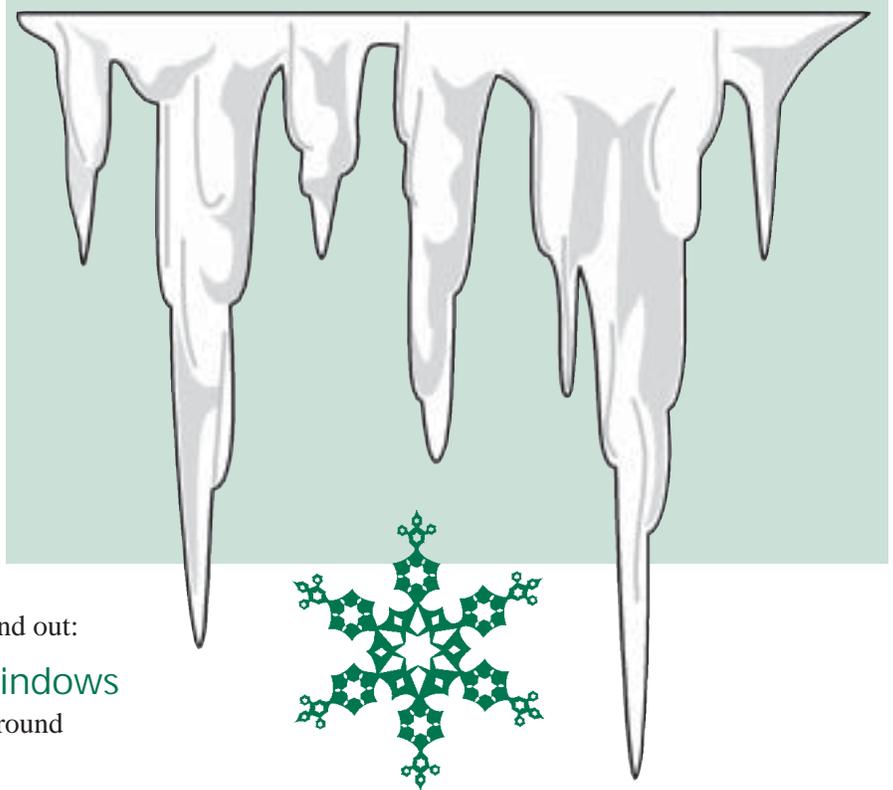
- Have a professional mechanical contractor do a routine check before cold weather arrives to make the system run more efficiently and safely.
- Vacuum vents and other heating components.
- Replace the furnace filter.

Check the Fireplace

- Have the chimney inspected and cleaned.
- Close the fireplace damper when not in use.
- If one is not already there, install a screen at the top of the chimney to keep leaves and critters out.

Check the Roof

- Replace loose shingles.
- Make sure the flashing around the chimney or vent pipes is watertight.
- Clean rain gutters and point downspouts away from the house.
- Trim tree limbs that are hanging over or touching the roof.



- Do not cover roof vents. The attic space needs to be ventilated during the winter.

Winterize the Plumbing

- Take care of known issues with pipes that freeze. Heat tape can be used to keep them warm during extremely cold weather.
- Learn how to turn off water at its source so that you can stop leaks immediately if they start.

Winterize Outdoor Items

- Give wood decks and fences an additional coat of sealer.
- Check the foundation and siding for cracks or gaps. Repair as necessary.
- Drain garden hoses, roll them up, and store them inside.

Stock Emergency Supplies

- Candles and matches or small butane lighter.
- Flashlight and batteries.
- Fill propane tank or buy charcoal for outdoor grills.
- Battery operated radio or weather radio. Buy extra batteries.
- Containers of bottled water. Non perishable food to last a few days. Be sure you have a hand-operated can opener.
- Paper plates, plastic eating utensils, and paper towels.

The safest place for your pets during cold winter months is definitely inside, but if you must keep your pets outside, proper care must be taken to ensure their comfort and safety. This takes planning and preparation.

Here are some tips from the Neighborhood Services Division to ensure the safety of your pets this winter.

Proper Shelter

- Provide a waterproof, well insulated house. Add straw or cedar chips to hold heat. Avoid blankets—they harbor fleas, and your dog will track in moisture on his feet that can turn to ice. Heavy fabric or pieces of carpet attached to the top of the kennel's entrance will cut down on drafts. Throwing an old blanket over the top will increase the insulation. The kennel roof should be slanted or angled so that rain or snow will not collect there.

- Make sure the house has an elevated floor to ensure extra warmth and dryness.

- The house should be big enough for the pets to sit up and lie down in comfortably, yet small enough to hold in body heat.

- Turn the house toward the south. Add a door flap for protection from cold winds.



Food and Water

- Outdoor dogs burn more calories during the winter to stay warm, so provide adequate food during cold months.

- Have plenty of fresh water available. Water may need to be replaced several times each day if it freezes.

- Use plastic instead of metal bowls so tongues don't freeze to the bowl.

How Cold is Too Cold?

- Pets suffer from frostbite and hypothermia just as people do. Shorthaired dogs such as Rottweillers, Dobermans, Pointers, and Boxers have very little protection from the cold. Small and Toy Breed dogs such as Yorkies, Dachshunds, Poodles, and Pomeranians should never be left outside for long periods of time during cold months.



Scenes like this are common when Neighborhood Services Officers respond to complaints of neglect and inadequate care. No food, no water and inadequate shelter make uncomfortable, unsafe living conditions for this dog.

- A general rule is shorthaired dogs, puppies and cats should not be left outside if the temperature is under 40 degrees. All pets should be brought inside if temperatures drop below 20 degrees.

Antifreeze

- Antifreeze can be lethal. It contains ethylene glycol, which is sweet-tasting to your pet. Always clean up any spills in the garage or driveway. If your pet licks some, or you suspect he or she has, contact your veterinarian immediately. Check into more modern, safer and environmentally friendly, less toxic types of antifreeze, such as propylene glycol.

Car Engines

- As the weather turns cooler, cats like to sleep near a warm car engine, curling up on or under the hood. Make sure you always know the location of your cat and honk your horn before starting the car.

If you have questions concerning animal control, please call 316-4829.

If you observe an animal that may not be receiving adequate care, please contact Neighborhood Services at 816-316-4819.

Filing for Grandview's Municipal Election

Grandview's municipal election is April 5, 2005. Anyone who intends to run for office must file prior to the election. The filing period is from December 14, 2004 to January 18, 2005.

In order to file, you must do so in person with the City Clerk at City Hall, 1200 Main Street. All paperwork must be filled out in the City Clerk's office at the time of filing. You must bring your driver's license or photo identification and a \$10 filing fee. Filing hours in the City Clerk's office are 8:00-12:00 and 1:00-5:00 Monday through Friday, except for the designated holidays of December 23, 24 and 31, 2004, and January 17, 2005.

The positions open for the April 5th election are one Alderman from each of the three Wards, as well as Mayor and Municipal Judge of Grandview. The City Clerk's office, by state law, will verify the following qualifications:

MAYOR

- Minimum age – 25
- U.S. citizen
- Grandview resident for at least 1 year
- Registered voter
- Current on all city taxes and fees, including business licenses, by close of filing

ALDERMAN

- Minimum age – 21
- U.S. citizen
- Grandview resident for at least 1 year
- Resident of Ward from which elected
- Registered voter
- Current on all city taxes and fees, including business licenses, by close of filing

MUNICIPAL JUDGE

- Licensed attorney admitted to practice law in Missouri
- Grandview resident (no time restriction)
- Minimum age, 21 maximum age, 75
- May not hold any other office in city government, but may serve as Municipal Judge for another city
- Registered voter
- Current on all city taxes and fees, including business licenses, by close of filing

A legal notice for the election will be posted in *The Jackson County Advocate* and the bulletin board at City Hall. For questions, contact the City Clerk at (816) 316-4811, or e-mail at pcameron@ci.grandview.mo.us.

REMEMBER!

March 9, 2005 is the deadline for voter registration for the election.

The View Wins Architect Award

The Grandview community center, The View, was among several winners of the 2004 Honor Awards from the American Institute of Architects in Minnesota. The design of The View was a collaboration of Ankeny Kell Architects (Design Architect) and Gould Evans Goodman Associates (Architect of Record).

City of Grandview
1200 Main Street
Grandview, Missouri

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Permit No. 19

**CARRIER ROUTE PRESORT
POSTAL CUSTOMER**

CITY OF GRANDVIEW Directory of City Officials

Harry O. Wilson, Mayor
Leonard D. Jones, Jr. Ward I Alderman
Steve Dennis, Ward I Alderman
Catherine Kelley, Ward II Alderman
Kenneth L. Cox, Ward II Alderman
James N. Crain, Ward III Alderman
Eddie Garcia, Ward III Alderman
Donald Crow, Municipal Judge

CITY STAFF

Cory Smith, City Administrator
Brian Scott, Assistant City Administrator
Phoebe Cameron, City Clerk
Becky Schimmel, Assistant City Clerk
Bob Beckers, Police Chief
Chuck Thacker, Fire Chief
Larry Creek, Director of Public Works
Tom Greenwood, Director of
Community Development
Janis Steele, Acting 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

