

GRANDVIEW

A Newsletter about the City of Grandview, Missouri



A Lot of History in a Little Space: Grandview's Depot Museum

If there is one place in Grandview that symbolizes the 90th Anniversary of Grandview's incorporation as a city, the Depot Museum would be it. Nestled between City Hall and Freedom Park, the museum packs ninety years of history into the small, original train depot that first put our town on the map.

In 1912, Grandview became a railroad division point and terminal for Kansas City Southern. The new transportation source brought an influx of people into the town, and by 1929 Grandview had grown into a city of 700 residents. Ninety years after the arrival of the depot, over 25,000 people call Grandview their home.

In the summer of 1984, the Depot was moved from its original location at 5th and Main to Freedom Park. Maintained by the Grandview Historical Society, the Depot Museum houses artifacts, displays, historical photographs, antiques, and the authentically furnished station agent's office. Additionally, a Union Pacific caboose sits next to the museum in Freedom Park, just waiting to be explored.

All aboard! Grandview's Depot Museum, shown above, is a great place for kids to learn and adults to reminisce. Admission is \$1 for adults, and children under 12 get in free. Open Fridays from 1pm to 4pm and Saturdays 11am to 2pm, or arrange a special tour by calling (816) 761-6271.



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Reflecting on Fiscal Year 2002: Progress in a Difficult Year



Mayor Harry Wilson

“Thank you, Grandview, for reminding me of the resilience and power of the human spirit!”

Many cities in Missouri have a July 1 - June 30 fiscal year. Grandview's fiscal year begins October 1 each year. There is a history to this, but for the most part, it allows the City to encompass the parks and recreation season, as well as the better part of a construction season, within one fiscal year.

Last September, just after adopting the budget for the current 2002 fiscal year, 9-11 occurred and shook our nation to the core. It has affected the overall economy, the airline industry, resort towns, the insurance industry, homeland security, the communicable disease network, the healthcare industry, military and defense spending and deployment, the stock market, the news media, and many other facets of this country's everyday approach to business, travel, and general lifestyle. It has already cost the City a significant amount just for security improvements and insurance premium hikes alone.

Then, around January 31 of this year, we experienced the worst ice storm in the Kansas City area that I can recall. Hundreds of thousands were without power for days. Thousands of trees were maimed or destroyed, and millions of dollars in damages or additional costs were incurred. Utility crews from up north and hordes of contractors from down south flooded the area, hoping to make a profit hauling, grinding, burning, or otherwise disposing of the mountains of debris. The City of Grandview alone spent around \$770,000 on the cleanup and disposal -- none of which was budgeted this year. Luckily, we already have or will be receiving about 85% of those costs back from federal and state emergency management agencies for disaster relief. With Public Works, Park Maintenance, and others spending up to nine weeks on the cleanup, this also has caused delays this year in our summer street resurfacing, striping, and sidewalk and curb programs. So August will be a busy month for those activities.

As we approach the tail end of a hot summer and hope for the thaw cycle for a frozen economy, it is sometimes difficult to see the positives in a year that has taken such a physical, emotional, and financial toll on many of our citizens. In a year when we have experienced unforeseen costs, revenues have been on the decline. The City has been forced to impose a hiring freeze on several vacant positions, and we read almost daily about layoffs or another company filing for bankruptcy. I sometimes wonder what we can be optimistic about.

Then I saw the steering committee for the new community center spending hours working with architects and staff on the final design, agonizing over details related to lap lanes for swimmers, a party room for youth, landscaping for parking lots, or the color of the wood or bricks to be used. I saw the energy and enthusiasm of the Historic Preservation and Downtown Committees, as they talk about surveying homes 50 years of age or older, creating a historic district, or searching for additional downtown parking options. I saw the Commercial Revitalization Committee or Chamber Economic Development Committee trying yet another approach to attracting more retail development to our community, or meeting with one more developer, real estate broker, or retailer. I saw the Grandview Chamber and School District working with the City on community promotions, special events, youth programs, image, transportation issues, and lobbying efforts. I saw neighbors picking up trash or painting houses, church groups helping the elderly, and service clubs providing youth scholarships or raising money for the Grandview Assistance Program or other worthy charities.

And, as I reflect on these things and other things referred to in this issue of the newsletter, I realize how much we can achieve and how much progress we are making as a community, despite the hard times we have seen this year. Thank you, Grandview, for reminding me of the resilience and power of the human spirit!

Summer Construction Projects Thrive in Grandview

Every year, warm weather in Grandview brings a slew of exciting construction projects to our area. The summer of 2002 has been a busy one for the Community Development department, as plans for developments are reviewed and permits are issued. Following is a list of projects being worked on or completed this summer.



Anticipated Projects

- **Grand Summit Village Subdivision** - This planned subdivision near Highway 150 will feature homes overlooking the 225-Acre Grand Summit Golf and Country Club.
- **O'Reilly Automotive** - This new, 6,300 square-foot retail store will be located on Harry Truman Drive east of Blue Ridge Boulevard.
- **Renaissance Plaza** - A planned new retail development that will be built in phases along the West Access Road from Harry Truman Drive south to Goode Avenue. This development will offer both commercial lease spaces and buildable pad sites for free-standing buildings.

Projects Under Construction

- **Kenny's Tile** - The new, 29,460 square-foot office and warehouse is near completion at its West Main Street campus.
- **Grand Summit Golf and Country Club** - Phase I of this championship 18-hole golf and gated residential community is near completion, and the golf course is now open. Phase II of the residential project may begin construction in late 2002.
- **Mid-States Heating and Cooling** - Construction is underway on this 28,000 square-foot building on West Main Street.
- **Mini Storage** - This facility at 11827 Blue Ridge Boulevard is nearing completion.
- **Residential Homes** - Approximately 30 new homes are being built in River Oaks South, Grand Meadows, Shalimar South, and other scattered lots.

School Remodels & Additions

The Grandview Consolidated School District #4 has had a summer filled with remodels and expansions. Four school additions involving a total of 30,000 square feet of floor space are scheduled for completion in 2002.

- **Grandview High School** - A new Athletic Field House is being constructed beside the football field and north gym,

and a new Vocational Education wing is also being built, which will contain four classrooms and two workshops.

- **Grandview Middle School** - Work has been completed on a new Fine and Performing Arts wing for Grandview Middle School. The 13,000 square-foot addition contains areas for the band, vocal music, arts, woodworking, home economics, and vocational education classes.

● **Highgrove Elementary** - Construction is underway on a new, high school-sized gymnasium.

- **Other School Remodels** - The library at the Middle School and the Cafeteria at Conn-West Elementary have been remodeled. In addition, 30 classrooms in the High School and Middle school have been renovated.

For More Information . . .

For more information about these projects or available buildings and sites for commercial usage, please contact the City of Grandview Community Development Department at (816) 316-4822.

Grandview Prepares for "Speed Week" in September

NASCAR excitement will come to Grandview in a 4-day event which will precede the sold-out races at Kansas Speedway. Professional NASCAR drivers Tony Stewart, Kevin Harvick, Jeff Gordon, and Ward Burton are each scheduled to make personal appearances at the GoMotorsports.com warehouse and retail center in Grandview. In addition, the Grandview Area Chamber of Commerce is planning a luncheon featuring John Bickford. The "Speed Week" events could bring 20,000 potential visitors to Grandview. For more information, call Kim Curtis at the Grandview Area Chamber of Commerce, (816) 761-6505.



Capital Improvements Sales Tax Assists Several City Departments

Voters in Grandview approved a half-cent Capital Improvements Sales Tax in August of 1998, and the funds generated from that tax continue to aid in providing for capital equipment and needed improvements.

Recently, the City of Grandview purchased a new paramedic ambulance and a new ladder truck for the Fire Department using funds from this tax. This unit replaced a 1992 McCoy Miller ambulance that was due to rotate out of the fleet. The new ladder truck will replace a 1989 Sutphen 75' ladder truck. The new truck has a 105' long ladder and is more versatile than the former unit. One of the features of the new truck is the back wheels which turn in conjunction with the front wheels to allow the truck to turn in tight areas. The 1989 unit will remain in the fleet as a reserve unit.

In addition, the Grandview Police Department will be purchasing a new radio system during the next budget year using the Capital Improvements Sales Tax.

Several Public Works infrastructure projects may not have been possible if the Capital Improvement Tax had not been approved. This year alone, those funds have allowed the department to purchase two new snow plows, repair and install new sidewalks, and begin the first phases of the 140th Street bridge replacement.

The tax has a sunset clause that will expire in 2008. Until then, the funds will continue to support various infrastructure, public safety and facility needs.



Summertime Pet Care Tips: Playing it Cool!

With temperatures over 85 degrees, it is important to take precautions to protect our pets from mother nature. Follow these simple steps to ensure your pet's safety!

Leave 'em Home: Never leave your pet in a parked car. Temperatures can soar to 160 degrees in a matter of minutes, even while parked in the shade with the window cracked.

Water, Water, Water: Make sure you provide fresh, cool water in containers that are secured to prevent tipping. Dogs don't like warm water, so replace it often and keep it in a shaded area. You may want to add ice to the water to keep it cool longer.

Surf's Up: Provide a wading pool. This is an excellent way to keep Fido cool!

Relax in the Shade: Without shade, a doghouse will act as an oven. Make sure your pet has access to shade throughout the day as the sun moves overhead. This will keep the

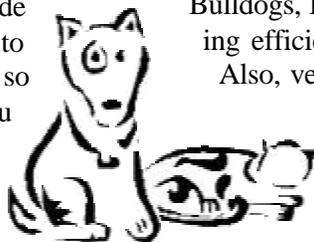
temperature down and it will help prevent sunburn too.

Bring 'em Inside!: When temperatures climb over 90 degrees, the best place for your pet is inside. Very young, elderly, ill and obese animals have difficulty regulating their body temperature, so they definitely need to be inside. Brachycephalic breeds (dogs with snub noses such as Pugs, Bulldogs, Boston Terriers, Shih Tzus) have difficulty panting efficiently to cool themselves, so bring them in too.

Also, very large breeds and especially small dogs are at higher risk for heatstroke.

Signs of Heatstroke: Heavy Panting, Excessive Drooling, Rapid Breathing, Collapse, High Fever, Vomiting, Disorientation, Lack of Coordination. If your pet is showing signs of heatstroke, please contact your vet immediately!

Prevention is the key...Remember our pets rely on us to keep them safe. Stay cool!



The Grandview Police Department Puts the "Special" in Special Operations Detail

The Patrol Division of the Grandview Police Department is organized into four shifts and one Special Operations Detail. The Special Operations Detail, or S.O.D., was created to be flexible in both its schedule and its operation. Some of its duties include covering patrol during peak hours, participating in stakeouts and surveillance operations, and initial screening of narcotic violation complaints. But in addition to these operations, the S.O.D. also has some other "special" duties, including community involvement programs and working with the department's Police K-9.

Neighborhood Watch

Officers assigned to the S.O.D. work with the community to get residents involved in the safety of Grandview neighborhoods. This summer, officers have been busy attending several Neighborhood Watch meetings and Homeowners Association meetings to answer questions, provide tips, and address community concerns.

"Many neighborhoods have established 'Block Watch Clubs' that meet on a regular basis," Sgt. Rick Schopfer said. "These neighborhood watch 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 K-9

Officer Richard Jones of the Special Operations Detail is the handler of the department's K-9 assistant. These specially trained dogs work in narcotics detection, article searches and officer protection, as well as assisting in other duties. The department's loyal K-9, Dandi, served as Officer Jones' partner until September of 2001. Dandi was then medically retired due to his age, and Officer Jones purchased the dog from the City.

Therefore, five months ago, the Grandview Police Department welcomed Basco into the S.O.D. as their new K-9. Basco is a Belgian Malinois that has gone through very rigorous training over the summer months, and Officer Jones reports that his new partner is doing very well. Both Dandi and his new replacement, Basco, reside together with Officer Jones.

For more information on Neighborhood Watch Programs, questions regarding crime prevention for your home or business, or information about Basco or other S.O.D. duties, please contact Sgt. Schopfer at 316-4918.



Officers Matt McCall and Richard Rodgers of the S.O.D. speaking at a Neighborhood Watch meeting in Mapleview Park this July.

Design Continues on the Grandview Community Center & Skate Park

The Parks and Recreation Department has been busy on two exciting projects in Meadowmere Park--the community center, and a skate park.

A "Charrette Process" with the public, architects, City staff, and the Community Center Steering Committee resulted in some clear goals for the design of the community center. The goals included creating a design that incorporates the natural beauty of the park, developing the area in a way that is conducive to being a good neighbor to those residents in the area, and having a building design that is both timeless and creates an identity for Grandview.

With these goals in mind, a two-story footprint has been developed for the building. The upper floor will contain the main entry, fitness area, dividable multipurpose/banquet room, party/craft room, senior lounge, indoor track, and dance/aerobics room. From the main hallway, visitors will have spectacular views of the grove of trees to the north, and will be able to view the action of the gymnasium and indoor aquatics center below. Over the next month, the final design will go to the Board of Aldermen for approval.

In addition to the community center, a skate park the size of 1-1/2 tennis courts is also being developed for Meadowmere Park. The Skate Park Committee, comprised of Park Commissioners, parents and their children, and City staff, was created two years ago after skateboarders and their families presented a petition to get a skate park in Grandview.

"I see Meadowmere Park becoming a one-stop recreation site for families," says Janis Steele, the new Recreation Center Manager. "Between the community center, the skate park, and the current playground, shelters, and outdoor aquatics center, there will be something to do for residents of all ages."

For more information on these projects, contact Janis with Grandview Parks and Recreation at 316-4884.



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Grandview, MO 64030

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City of Grandview Directory of City Officials

Elected 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
Bob Beckers, Police Chief
Lorenzo Gigliotti, Fire Chief
Larry Creek, Director of Public Works
Tom Greenwood, Director of
Community Development
Steve Stadler, 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.

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 held the first and third Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission meetings are the the forth Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission meetings are the first Thursdays at 7 p.m.



City Hall Information

City of Grandview
1200 Main Street
Grandview, Missouri 64030
(816) 316-4800 • Fax (816) 763-3902
www.grandview.org