

GRAIN VALLEY CITY VIEW

FALL/WINTER 2017-18



INCLUDING
GRAIN VALLEY
PARKS &
RECREATION
ACTIVITY GUIDE!



Grain Valley,
Missouri
Come Home To Opportunity

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



I hope this message finds you happy, healthy AND as excited as I am about this great community's progress over the last several months!

As of January 2017, all property was assembled for the Sni-A-Bar Farm project due to the acquisition of 17 acres along Sni-A-Bar Boulevard. The next step in this worthwhile project is to protect the history of Sni-A-Bar Farm, which is a major part of what "put Grain Valley on the map!" I look forward to seeing this project come to fruition and someday creating a municipal complex on the property.

It has been exciting to see the walls of Price Chopper going up, as many citizens have been anxiously awaiting its grand opening - which is likely to take place at the end of this year or early 2018.

Our Parks and Recreation Department has received state grant funds for the Cross Creek Trail project. The trail will ultimately go from Buckner-Tarsney to SW Eagles Parkway and greatly improve walkability and safety for the area. They also have installed a new restroom structure at Butterfly Trail Park. Be sure to check out the Grain Valley Parks & Recreation Facebook page so you are aware of the many family programs they have scheduled throughout the year.

We have really put an emphasis on City and Police Department communications with residents as of late and hope that those of you who use social media, have "liked" and "followed" the City of Grain Valley, the Grain Valley Police Department and Grain Valley Parks & Recreation on Facebook, as well as, followed each of these on Twitter. These platforms are convenient ways in which you can stay informed of upcoming events and much more. Any City related questions or concerns can be sent to info@cityofgrainvalley.org or addressed by calling 816-847-6200.

I really encourage everyone to sign up for Nixle – especially after experiencing the tornado and several severe storm occurrences this past spring and summer. Citizens can sign up for Nixle alerts at www.cityofgrainvalley.org or by simply texting your zip code to 888777. This service sends out alerts and emergency warnings from the Police Department and Central Jackson County Emergency Management Agency. In addition to severe weather alerts, you will periodically receive information about road closings that affect high traffic areas in Grain Valley.

This is probably my favorite time of year with school starting, which means Trail or Treat (October 27th) at Butterfly Trail is just around the corner. This event has proven to be a ton of fun for the kids in our community. I really enjoy seeing the many organizations and businesses who are willing to take part in the event by handing out treats! On November 30th we will hold our annual Holiday Festival at Armstrong Park, which is a family favorite as they gather to watch the lighting of the Mayor's Christmas Tree, drink hot chocolate and visit Santa Claus!

I want to thank the Public Works Division, in advance, for what they will do during the winter season to keep the roads safe. During snow and/or ice events, they will have crews on the road 24 hours a day to make sure you can travel where you need to safely!

I thank you for the opportunity to serve you as Grain Valley's Mayor. I value your feedback and can be reached at (816) 719-9436 or mayor@cityofgrainvalley.org. Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns!

–Mike Todd, Mayor

GRAIN VALLEY ASSISTANCE COUNCIL NEEDS



Donations collected last December for GVAC by City staff

The Grain Valley Assistance Council (GVAC) provides food, clothing and other assistance to more than 100 families each year. They collect food items and toiletries year round to help those families. However, as the holiday season approaches, they have an even greater need for specific items to help brighten the holidays for these local families. Each year, the GVAC provides families with a basket for Thanksgiving and Christmas, which contains food items they can utilize to prepare a holiday meal. Additionally, they set up an “angel tree” at the City’s Holiday Festival at Armstrong Park with specific items that have been requested by families for Christmas gifts.

The GVAC opens their collection site at Grain Valley First Baptist Church each Wednesday, 9:00 am – noon and 1:00 – 4:00 pm. There are also collection barrels at the Grain Valley Community Center, B&B Theaters and Grain Valley Market. Email admin@grainvalleyassistancecouncil.org or call 816-355-0328 for more information on how you can help the Grain Valley Assistance Council meet the needs of families in this community.

GVAC Fundraising/Collection Events

- October 7th Chili Supper/Auction – Grain Valley South Middle School
- October 10th-14th Book Fair – Grain Valley Historical Society
- October 27th Trail or Treat – Butterfly Trail Park
- November 18th Trivia Night – Grain Valley High School
- November 30th Holiday Festival – Armstrong Park

Most Needed Items:

- Instant potatoes
- Pasta (spiral, elbow)
- Jell-O
- Cake mix
- Stuffing mix
- Canned carrots or mixed veggies
- Boxed Mac & Cheese
- Cornbread mix
- Cranberry sauce
- Pork & beans
- Canned tomatoes
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Facial tissues
- Canned pumpkin
- Evaporated milk
- Pie filling
- Chicken or turkey gravy mix
- Sweet potatoes

SENIOR CITIZENS' LUNCHEONS HELD MONTHLY



Senior Citizens of Grain Valley are all welcome to attend a monthly luncheon, held the first Wednesday of every month, at the Grain Valley Community Center.



*Dawn Buckallew,
Penny Kruse,
Allen Lefko and
Lisa Limberg*

These luncheons are a tradition that dates back to 1987. For more than a decade, the Bank of Grain Valley has acted as host and coordinator of the luncheons, courtesy of the bank's Chairman of the Board, Allen Lefko and staff. The cost per person is a \$3 recommended donation. Other businesses and organizations throughout the community are encouraged to sponsor the luncheons or provide raffle items.

"These luncheons are a wonderful event that the Senior Citizens of our community enjoy by providing good food and great company! Attendees also leave with useful information about resources they may need in the future, as well as, safety tips," said City Administrator, Ryan Hunt.

Most of the meals served at the luncheons are prepared by the Grain Valley School District. City staff, elected officials, Grain Valley High School students and school



*GVHS Jazz Band playing at a
Senior Citizens' Luncheon*

administrators serve the attendees. Each luncheon includes speakers such as Dawn Buckallew with the Bank of Grain Valley, Grain Valley Police Chief David Starbuck, medical professionals and many others who provide information to the senior citizens. Topics have included safety issues such as trending scams that target seniors, weather related precautions, and always information about upcoming events within the community. Entertainment is often provided by Grain Valley School District bands, choirs and other special guests. The luncheons typically conclude with a raffle and are followed by Bingo, also held at the Community Center. If you'd like information regarding the luncheons, have interest in sponsoring a luncheon or donating items that can be raffled, call 816-847-6293 or email info@cityofgrainvalley.org. Additionally, if you are an organization or business who would like to present information relatable to senior citizens at a luncheon, please use the above contact information.

SENIOR CITIZENS' RESOURCES

Home Delivered Meals...

are available to home-bound individuals who reside within Grain Valley city limits and are 65 years of age and older OR disabled persons, ages 18-64. Meals are delivered Monday through Friday with the exception of holidays and days when Grain Valley Schools are closed due to inclement weather. Each meal is available at the reduced rate of \$2.50.

Contact Grain Valley Assistance Council at **816-355-0328** to receive qualification guidelines and schedule an assessment. Please leave a message with your name and phone number. Meals are prepared at the Grain Valley Market and delivered by volunteers.

Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services...

is a government organization dedicated to keeping Missourians healthy and informed. Visit <http://health.mo.gov/> for information regarding variables that may affect your ability to stay healthy, protection from frauds and scams, and much more or call **573-751-6400**.

Grain Valley Community Center...

offers many programs to senior citizens including free membership to the fitness center for all Grain Valley residents who are 65 years of age and older. Refer to the enclosed Parks & Rec. Activity Guide for a complete listing.

BUILDING PERMITS ARE CRUCIAL

It is vital that residents who are building a new home or remodeling their current home use a contractor who has obtained all required building permits.

Building permits and the inspections that accompany them are solely for your safety and protection. They not only safeguard one of your biggest assets from being built to poor standards, but it's also important for insurance and resale purposes. Building permits prevent opportunities for your contractor to take shortcuts that will potentially affect your investment or your safety.

Once the building permits are in place for a project, the City of Grain Valley's building inspector will inspect all the work the contractor does for no additional fees. Commonly inspected items in residential construction include: checking the footing before the concrete and foundation are poured, the framing prior to the installation of insulation, plumbing and HVAC (which may require multiple inspections), and all electrical work.

Building permits (or lack thereof) can affect the value of your home as buyers don't want to purchase a property that was not properly inspected. Also, your total square footage may not be accurately recorded in the City's records if the new home or remodel was constructed without building permits.

There are numerous types of projects that require building permits. Some of the projects that most often require building permits in this community include fences, roof replacement, swimming pools and/or spas and decks. Electrical permits are necessary in new construction and remodeling endeavors and may include repairs to electrical wiring, service changes, adding outlets or temporary light poles. Plumbing permits also are necessary in both new construction and remodeling. Plumbing projects can include repairs of water or drainage piping, water heater installation or repair, sewer replacement, irrigation sprinklers or plumbing fixtures. Projects that require mechanical permits include removal of fireplaces, duct work or the replacement or installation of HVAC equipment.

The aforementioned projects that require permits is not an all-inclusive list. Call Grain Valley's Community Development Department at **816-847-6220** if you are unsure about whether or not you need a permit. Visit cityofgrainvalley.org for more information regarding the Community Development Department's requirements and to print permit applications.

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY AT CITY HALL



Jack Martin had a vision to install a Little Free Library in this community after seeing one in a nearby town.

He researched the costs involved as well as possible locations to install it. Jack was a 7th grade student at Grain Valley North Middle School when his vision came to fruition.

He began making plans for Grain Valley's first Little Free Library while involved in a program through his school called the Genius Hour Program – a program designed to encourage creativity and leadership. Jack wrote a letter to the Blue Springs Elks Lodge asking for a donation in order to pay for the Little Free Library. They provided him with the funds. He then sent a letter to Grain Valley Mayor Mike Todd requesting a City location in which to place the Library.

Grain Valley's first Little Free Library is now located near the entrance of City Hall. City and School officials as well as many community members showed their support of the Little Free Library by attending a ribbon cutting/ book drive in July.

The Little Free Libraries are popping up everywhere as a means for people to share books they love and take books they are interested in reading. They also encourage community interactions that might not otherwise take place. There are more than 50,000 registered Little Free Libraries in all 50 states and 70 countries.

Grain Valley community members are encouraged to visit The Little Free Library at City Hall anytime and don't forget to leave a book and take a book! If you have any questions, you may email littlefreelibrary53810@gmail.com.

MY INFINITY TREE AT BUTTERFLY TRAIL PARK



My Infinity Tree is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization that participates in community forestry and cleanup of Kansas City area city & county parks.

The organization contacted the Grain Valley Parks & Recreation Department to ask if they could plant trees at the Butterfly Trail Park. Thirty five volunteers ascended on the Park in May to work together and plant tree seedlings. They planted 40 Red Maple and

Redbud seedlings, which began sprouting after just one week of daily watering from My Infinity Tree volunteers.

“The My Infinity Tree program along with its donors and volunteers, afforded us a unique opportunity to improve the aesthetics within our park and recreational areas. Due to this endeavor, park patrons will enjoy the trees for many years to come,” said Parks & Recreation Director, Shannon Davies.

The My Infinity Tree project was made possible by generous donations from the following businesses: A-Team Glass, Vertigo Sports Bar & Grill, the Edge of Town Bar & Grill, and Hohenberg Enterprises.

Next time you are at the Butterfly Trail Park, be sure to look for the tiny trees planted near the Trail!

For more information email MyInfinityTree@gmail.com or call 816-805-0586.

GRAIN VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT TAKES PART IN COPS ARE TOPPS



The Kansas City Royals have provided the Grain Valley Police Department, as well as, many other police departments, firefighters and EMS workers throughout the Kansas City area, with special edition baseball cards to distribute to Grain Valley residents.

This is a partnership between the Royals and KCP&L which they hope will encourage positive relationships in the community. Each of the cards features a different Royals baseball player on the front with safety tips listed on the back. The Police Officers have enjoyed interacting with people while they're working patrol and at community events. They still have baseball cards available so don't hesitate to ask when you see them out and about!

MEETUP SPOT

The Grain Valley Police Department has installed a MeetUp Spot, outside of the police station.

It is a designated area to be utilized for the exchange of items which are purchased via online marketplaces. The area outside of the police station, in which the sign has been posted, is under 24-hour video surveillance. The purpose of such exchange areas is to deter criminal activity, enabling buyers and sellers to meet in a public place, instead of a private residence.

Grain Valley Police Chief David Starbuck encourages citizens who use the MeetUp Spot to exercise caution by handling transactions of this nature during daylight hours and have someone accompany them when possible. Contact the Grain Valley Police Department if you have questions regarding the MeetUp Spot at **816-847-6250**.

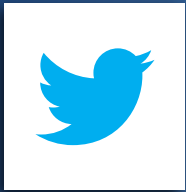
SAVE THE DATE: NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

The Grain Valley Police Department's annual National Night Out will take place on Tuesday, September 19th at the Pavilion at Armstrong Park from 6:00 – 8:30 pm.



This event is a great opportunity for community members to meet many of the Grain Valley Police Officers, in addition to members of Jackson County law enforcement agencies and personnel from the Central Jackson County Fire Protection District. There will also be K-9 Unit demonstrations, free food, prizes and more!

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STAY CONNECTED!

- ➔ Grain Valley Parks & Recreation
- ➔ Grain Valley Police Department
- ➔ City of Grain Valley

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You can pay your
water bill and
court fees on our
website!!!!

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK AND FOLLOW US ON TWITTER!



Visit www.cityofgrainvalley.org
to stay updated and informed

SAVE THE DATE!

- ◆ Trail or Treat, October 27th
- ◆ Holiday Festival, November 30th

CITY CONTACT INFORMATION

GRAIN VALLEY CITY HALL

711 Main Street
Grain Valley, MO 64029

(816) 847-6200

www.cityofgrainvalley.org

ADMINISTRATION

(816) 847-6200

PARKS & RECREATION

(816) 847-6230

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

(816) 847-6220

POLICE DEPARTMENT

(816) 847-6250

PUBLIC WORKS

(816) 847-6270

After Hours (816) 990-1990