

GRAIN VALLEY CITY VIEW

FALL/WINTER 2020-21



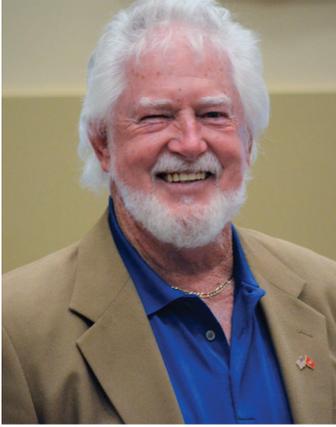
INCLUDING
GRAIN VALLEY
PARKS &
RECREATION
ACTIVITY GUIDE!



Grain Valley,
Missouri
Come Home To Opportunity

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Hello Grain Valley!



Although the last several months have been the most challenging times that many of us have faced in our lifetimes, Grain Valley proved that we are stronger together. We have seen this especially as many in this community have

done much to lift the spirits of neighbors and graduating seniors, helping others, supporting local businesses, encouraging messages in yards and on sidewalks and providing donations for families in need. I am very proud to be Mayor of this community that exudes kindness.

We appreciate your patience through all of this uncharted territory. City Hall now offers more user-friendly options for accessing many of our services online, including utility billing and coming soon, permit applications. City Hall is open during regular business hours but we encourage citizens to take care of business whenever possible online. I was pleased to help Jackson County distribute free disposable masks behind the Community Center in July. It was really humbling to see volunteers including County Legislators, Central Jackson County Fire Protection District personnel, Grain Valley Police Department and City staff come together to hand out approximately 7,000 (10 per car) masks in the drive-through event. While supplies last, the free masks are still available at the Community Center.

The Board of Aldermen and I have recently met in several workshop sessions with a purpose of looking towards the future for Grain Valley. We have spent a great deal of time discussing ways to address current

and future facility and recreational needs for the City. Additionally, as we look to set the budget for the upcoming fiscal year, the Board of Aldermen and I are committed to finding ways to improve street conditions throughout the City. We will rely on our recent pavement assessment to guide us as we prioritize repairs. This has been shown to be a priority for our residents and I will work to lead us in allocating resources to address problem areas.

Earlier last Spring, our Parks & Recreation Department completed the first phase of the Blue Branch Trail, which was great timing as many people enjoyed it throughout the stay-at-home order and continue to do so now. The Dillingham Trail has also grown by approximately 2,000 feet with an addition over the summer months. More about our trails can be found in the enclosed Activity Guide.

Thanks to our outstanding Police Department, with the help of the Volunteers in Police Service (VIPs), Grain Valley is once again ranked in the top 20 safest cities in Missouri. Our Police Officers go above and beyond to engage citizens, from stopping to let kids check out their cruisers, to serving lunch at our monthly Senior Citizen luncheons.

Our growth is evident by several new businesses being added in 2020, including QuikTrip, Domino's Pizza, Taco Bell and other establishments on the horizon and coming soon! Our New residential construction continues to be strong, including 115 residential units since the beginning of the year. The Lofts at Old Towne, which will include 154 apartments and a mixed-use amenity center with an indoor pool is expected to open in 2021.

I appreciate the work of our City staff as they work diligently for this community and look forward to what's to come! I'm proud to be Grain Valley's new Mayor and I am excited to serve the citizens, alongside the Board of Aldermen.

–Chuck Johnston, Mayor

HAPPY TRAILS

Grain Valley Parks & Recreation Continues Work on Trails

Grain Valley's Parks & Recreation Department has continued work over the last several months on the trail system throughout the community to help improve connectivity within the city. The following is information on two of our trail systems:

Dillingham Trail is located at Duncan Road and Dillingham Road, just west of Prairie Branch Elementary School.

This trail was needed in order to create connectivity between the neighborhoods north and south of Duncan Road. The newest phase of the trail is approximately 2,000 feet of new asphalt which was added adjacent to Dillingham Road. This section of trail connects two existing trails from Persimmon Drive to Hedgewood Drive.



Dillingham Trail Trail



Blue Branch Creek Trail

Blue Branch Creek Trail provides a serene, wooded landscape with wildflowers aplenty during the warmer months of the year.



Blue Branch Creek Trail

It's a great place for families to exercise together and enjoy nature. Phase II construction will start later this fall on an additional trail that will connect to the existing Blue Branch Creek Trail. Phase II includes connectivity from the neighborhoods in Sni-A-Bar Farms to the high school property. This includes a pedestrian bridge that will span Blue Branch Creek and a small, trailhead parking area off of Cross Creek Drive.

For more information on Grain Valley's trails, reference page 15 of the enclosed Activity Guide.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

COVID-19 has changed our lives and City staff is always here for you if you need help navigating this landscape.

If you are unsure of what type of resource you need, you can always contact us, M-F, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Send questions to info@cityofgrainvalley.org or call **816-847-6293** for assistance.

Questions regarding COVID-19 can be answered by calling either of the following:

Jackson County Health Department
Hotline: (816) 404-9883

State Hotline: (877) 435-8411

COVID-19 Testing

Truman Medical Centers offers free testing. Call **816-404-2273** to speak with a nurse about your symptoms to determine if testing is right for you.

Mobile testing events by the Jackson County Health Department can be found at jacohd.org/events/ or by calling the above listed phone number.

Other community resources that are available year-round:

- **Financial and Other Local Assistance:**
Grain Valley Assistance Council – **(816) 355-0328**
- **Mental Health Help:**
Show Me Hope counseling line – **(816) 988-2739**
Crisis Line for KC region – **(888) 279-8188**
- **Health Assistance:**
trumed.org/services/primary-care/
or call **(816) 404-CARE**
- **Other Assistance Not Listed:**
Call **2-1-1** – United Way of Greater Kansas City

WINTER WEATHER REMINDERS



Winter weather is right around the corner.



Grain Valley residents can help the Public Works Division get roads plowed safely and more effectively this winter by moving all parked vehicles off the roads during inclement weather. This is very important for Emergency Snow Routes, however, to properly plow and treat every road, all should be clear of vehicles during any type of winter weather event.

Reminder: When the city declares a snow emergency, you must remove you parked vehicles from the street or you could be ticketed and your vehicle can be towed. Police do not issue warnings during snow emergencies.

COMMUNITY SURVEY COMING SOON

The City will soon be seeking feedback regarding the most recent ballot initiative which asked voters to consider issuing no-tax increase bonds to be used towards new city facilities.

An independent company will be sending an email to all registered voters of the City. Voters can expect to receive an email from an address ending in **@etcinstitute.com** soliciting feedback. Surveys are expected to be emailed to registered voters, who are Grain Valley citizens, between the middle of October and early November. If you have any questions, please contact **info@cityofgrainvalley.org**.

REQUEST-A-COP

Grain Valley Police Officers enjoy engaging in our community, whether it's chatting with kids in our neighborhoods, answering citizens' questions or at special events such as Shop with a Cop and National Night Out.



Officer Arends visiting with a new friend at Butterfly Trail Park.

The purpose of the Request-A-Cop program is to promote healthy interactive relationships with Grain Valley citizens.

“We want the Request-A-Cop program to give citizens an opportunity to have positive experiences with our officers. It is important to us that citizens in this community- especially young people- know that we are here to help,” said Chief Beale.

Officers will make appearances at events to answer questions, address safety concerns, may give “tours” of their squad cars, demonstrations of specialized equipment and at times K-9 Axel and his handler, Officer Wise, may be available to make appearances.

There are a few limitations to the type of event that officers will make appearances at, for example, they are not permitted to attend events in which alcoholic beverages are being served. Appearances will be kept to a maximum of 30 minutes and may be subject to last minute cancellation if officers are needed for a police matter.

If you would like to Request-A-Cop or have questions about the program, contact the Grain Valley Police Department during business hours, M-F, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm at **(816) 847-6250** or send a message to **info@cityofgrainvalley.org**.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN



Mayor Chuck Johnston | cjohnston@cityofgrainvalley.org | 816-847-6278

Chuck Johnston was elected Mayor of Grain Valley in June 2020. This is Johnston's first term as Mayor; however, he previously served as an Alderman (Ward II) for 10 years. He also has been affiliated with many other committees, the Lions Club and State Bank's Board of Directors. Johnston is known by many as the GV Santa, as he spends several weekends per year visiting the neighborhoods of Grain Valley in his famous Santa Bus with a toy for each child he visits. The GV Santa also attends other events like the annual Grain Valley Holiday Festival and the December Senior Citizens' Luncheon. He has carried this tradition on for nearly 25 years. Johnston has worked at OOIDA since 1988 and has lived in Grain Valley with his wife, Dianna, since 2001. He was named Grain Valley's Truman Heartland Foundation's Citizen of the Year in 2006 and a Pillar of the Community in 2008. He also served four years in the U.S. Marine Corps.



Alderman Tom Cleaver, Ward I | tcleaver@cityofgrainvalley.org | 816-847-6277

Tom Cleaver was elected to his first term as Alderman to Ward I in April of 2019. He has worked for nearly 30 years for business to business sales, currently for Lippert Mechanical Service Company, where he is a Business Development Manager. Cleaver's been a Grain Valley resident for 14 years and enjoys the people who live within the community. He also has a great appreciation for the schools and helped raise two stepchildren, who both graduated from Grain Valley High School. He is the Board Liaison to the Grain Valley School District's Board of Education. Cleaver made the decision to run for Alderman as he is passionate about aiding more business growth and ensuring the City's infrastructure is in great condition for the City as it grows. He volunteers for the Grain Valley Assistance Council and at Senior Citizens' Luncheons.



Alderman Jayci Stratton, Ward I | jstratton@cityofgrainvalley.org | 816-847-6295

Jayci Stratton was elected to the Board of Aldermen in April of 2018 and is now serving her 2nd term. She and her husband, Grain Valley Police Sergeant William Stratton, have two children, one who is a graduate of Grain Valley High School and one who is now a Senior. Stratton takes part in various volunteer opportunities at Crossroads Church in Grain Valley. She is the Board Liaison for the Park Board. Stratton has owned The Studio Five Beauty Boutique in Grain Valley since October 2018.



Alderman Rick Knox, Ward 2 | rknox@cityofgrainvalley.org | 816-935-6333

Rick Knox was elected as Alderman of Ward II in June of 2020. He has lived in Grain Valley, since 1980. He and his wife of 43 years raised 3 children here, who all graduated from Grain Valley High School. Knox retired from the Central Jackson County Fire Protection District, after 35 years of service and attaining the rank of Assistant Chief. He is the Board of Aldermen's Small Business Liaison. Knox can often be spotted around town on his golf cart, with his best buddy, Tank – an English Mastiff.



Alderman Nancy Totton, Ward 2 | 816-847-0953

Nancy Totton served her first term as Alderman for Ward II, beginning in 2010. She is active within the community as an advocate for families in need. She volunteers at the Grain Valley Assistance Council frequently. She also collects pop-tops for the Ronald McDonald House and winter coats, clothing and shoes for children in need. Totton is diligent in her efforts to keep the streets of Grain Valley free of litter and takes aluminum cans for recycling from many local businesses. She is heavily involved in local safety programs, is a graduate of the Grain Valley Citizens Police Academy, and the coordinator of her Neighborhood Watch Program. Totton is also a foster parent to pets in need and is an asset to the Police Department's Animal Control Division. She speaks often to neighbors and others from her Ward about concerns and questions they have. Totton is the Board Liaison to the Community Development Committee. She was Grain Valley's Truman Heartland Foundation's Citizen of the Year in 2013.



Alderman Shea Bass, Ward 3 | sbass@cityofgrainvalley.org | 816-847-6243

Shea Bass was elected as Alderman to Ward III in April of 2019. He works in construction management for a sheet metal subcontractor in Kansas City. Bass served on the Planning and Zoning Commission for Grain Valley prior to his election to the Board of Aldermen. He looks forward to being part of the Board as the community continues to grow and become stronger. Bass serves as the Board Liaison to the Police Advisory Committee and was appointed to fill the role of Mayor Pro Tem in July 2020. He has lived in Grain Valley for almost 4 years and most enjoys the people and the small-town feel, while being near to Kansas City. He has two young children who will attend Grain Valley Schools in the upcoming years.



Alderman Bob Headley, Ward 3 | rheadley@cityofgrainvalley.org | 816-935-2181

Bob Headley was elected to his first term as Alderman of Ward III in April of 2006 and has held the position since. During his tenure as Alderman, Headley was appointed by fellow Aldermen to multiple Mayor Pro Tem terms. He and his wife, Tina, moved to Grain Valley in 1991 after spending 6 years in the Navy. They have two sons, both who graduated from Grain Valley High School. After the Navy and working full time, Bob completed his undergraduate degree at Friends University with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems in 1999. Headley earned his Master's in Business Administration from Baker University in 2002. He is currently employed by ReeceNichols as their IT Manager. Headley has been involved with the community through many volunteer efforts, including serving on the Park Board in years' past and at the annual Holiday Festival. He serves as the Board's liaison for the Planning & Zoning Commission.

City of Grain Valley, Missouri
711 Main Street

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STAY CONNECTED

FOR EVENTS, NEWS AND UPDATED INFO

City of Grain Valley, Grain Valley Parks & Recreation and Grain Valley Police Department are accessible on Facebook, Twitter and at cityofgrainvalley.org.

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GRAIN VALLEY CITY HALL
711 Main Street
info@cityofgrainvalley.org

POLICE DEPARTMENT
816-847-6250

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
816-847-6220

**PARKS & RECREATION/
COMMUNITY CENTER**
816-847-6230

ADMINISTRATION
816-847-6200

PUBLIC WORKS
816-847-0091
After Hours 816-990-1990

WATER & SEWER BILLING
816-847-6280