

CITY OF GRAIN VALLEY

CITY VIEW

FALL & WINTER 2021



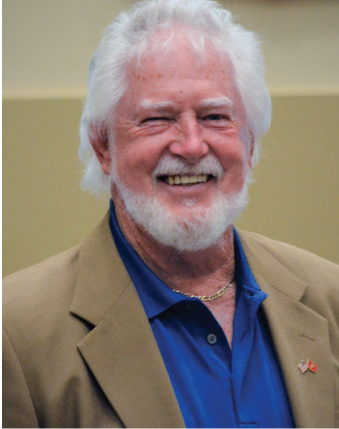
Legacy Plaza Veterans Tribute

INCLUDING GRAIN VALLEY PARKS & RECREATION ACTIVITY GUIDE!

CITY VIEW

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Hello Grain Valley!



First and foremost, I want to express what a privilege it is to serve as your mayor. There has been much progress and improvements in our community, which can be credited to the work of our dedicated and responsive city

staff and Board of Aldermen who work diligently to serve you. They focus on providing resources and services to citizens as well as supporting economic development within the community. City staff has made great strides to improve communication efforts to citizens including the addition of a City app, livestreaming Board meetings, updated City website and regular City newsletter emails. 2021 is certainly proving to be a great year full of promise for a future we can be excited about. As we say goodbye to the warmth of summer, it is always great to welcome the sights and scents of Fall and excitement of what is to come as we move closer to the winter months and the holidays.

It has been wonderful to see our community reopening with the Senior Citizen luncheons which

resumed in July and fun, family events coming up such as Trail or Treat (October 29th) and the Holiday Festival/Mayor's Christmas Tree lighting (December 2nd). These are great opportunities to bring us together and I encourage you to attend with your families.

Our community continues to grow as more businesses see the value of opening in Grain Valley. Some have expanded, adding to the amenities and available services for our residents. Dell's Powersports, Drew's Diesel Repair, East Kansas City Industrial Park, the Iron Kettle and Captain's are some of these. We also anticipate the opening of the following: Club Car Wash, Burger King, Panda Express and Shifting Gears.

Our Police Department continues to make strides to increase their community outreach. They have had several open community forums with discussions on many topics of interest for community members. We are also looking forward as plans for a new Police Department headquarters are beginning to take shape. The Police Department has outgrown the current space as the population of Grain Valley has tripled since 2000, when headquarters was built, making it necessary to expand the operations of the Police Department as well.

If you have any questions or concerns, I encourage you to contact me by calling at 816-847-6278 or messaging me at cjohnston@cityofgrainvalley.org.

—Chuck Johnston, Mayor

Legacy Plaza

The Legacy Plaza Veterans Tribute is dedicated to all past, present, and future veterans in honor of their service. The project began in 2014 by the Pathways of Honor (a non-profit organization that fundraised and introduced it to the community) and then was approved by the Grain Valley Parks Department Board to be placed at Butterfly Trail Park. A pathway of bricks leads to flags representing the branches of military and Prisoners of War/Missing in Action. The bricks are imprinted with names and service info of veterans. In 2021 Pathways of Honor transferred the property back to the Parks & Recreation Department. For more information and to purchase a memorial brick, starting at \$50, representing your service or that of a loved one, call Grain Valley Parks & Recreation at 816-847-6230.

COMMUNITY NEWS

WHO IS GRAIN VALLEY?

Grain Valley is a community dedicated to knowing who we are and what makes us unique.

It's no secret that the City of Grain Valley has grown and changed exponentially since the year 2000. As we look to attract more businesses, amenities, residents and travelers, it is imperative that Grain Valley defines what makes us different from other cities and how we can stand apart while portraying an accurate image of the City. Place branding should convey what the City means to those who live and work here and how it stands out from other Midwest communities.

Candid Marketing will be guiding the City through the development of the community brand by facilitating research and implementing the rebrand once the "personality" of Grain Valley is adequately identified. Research will include citizen and local business' input and external perspectives such as those of neighboring communities. The brand of Grain Valley will become our reputation.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

The Grain Valley community has several options for staying up-to-date regarding community events and useful information.



SMART PHONE APP

City of Grain Valley app with info and contact info at your fingertips



FACEBOOK/TWITTER

City of Grain Valley, Grain Valley Parks & Recreation and Grain Valley Police Department



NIXLE ALERTS

Text your zip code to 888777 for emergency alerts



CityofGrainValley.org

View calendar of events, municipal code, permit applications and more

SIGN UP FOR EMAILS on the City's website home page to receive info about upcoming events, pertinent info and a quarterly newsletter

LETTERS TO SANTA

Santa Claus is coming to town!

He is delivering a special mailbox for the children of Grain Valley to fill with their letters to him. The North Pole mailbox will be located at Armstrong Park, 713 Main Street, south of City Hall, beginning on November 27th, through December 12th. Santa will mail a letter back to Grain Valley kids who write to him!

The mailbox will be situated next to Santa's sleigh with a winter scene, perfect for family photo ops! Labels to record information about each child who writes to Santa will be provided near the mailbox or you can include the child's name, mailing address and gift wish on the letter. Please print each child's information clearly. If using a label, please affix it on the envelope or on the back of the letter.



*Santa's Sleigh will be at Armstrong Park
November 27 through December 12*

VICTIM SERVICES

Victim Advocates Dedicated to Citizen Safety

The Grain Valley Police Department's Victim Services Unit assists victims of crimes such as domestic abuse, human trafficking, trauma from property damage, elder abuse as well as individuals suffering from a mental health crisis.

Victim Advocates monitor calls that the police department receives and are alerted to cases in which assistance may be needed. They help victims beginning at the scene of a crime, through court processes and beyond. The majority of victims have suffered through domestic abuse. The Victim Advocates help them feel safe by coordinating an order of protection against the accused. They counsel victims through the ins and outs of the court process and accompany them to proceedings in which they are involved. Victim Advocates help manage expectations, advise victims of their rights and act as a liaison on a victim's behalf with the judge and the prosecutor.

Another facet of victim advocacy is developing short and long-term safety plans that can help prevent the recurrence of the dangerous situation in which the victim was involved. There are many resources that Victim Advocates have access to that are helpful in situations including treatment programs/counseling, transitional living arrangements, emergency shelter and financial assistance. Our Victim Advocates are on-call 24/7 and are dedicated to helping victims feel safe and to ensure that they have access to the resources that are available. For information about victim assistance call 816-847-6266.

POLICE REPORT

Meeting the Needs of the Grain Valley Police Department

The Grain Valley Police Department is the largest of the five departments within the City. The Police Department is entrusted to serve and protect this community and strives to maintain strong relationships with the residents and business owners whom it serves. The department currently consists of twenty-six sworn and five noncommissioned staff members serving a population of nearly 15,000. The department is housed in a shared building with the Grain Valley City Hall, which opened in 2001. This building was designed to handle the staffing needs for the population at that time, which was around 5,000 residents, and has now reached nearly 15,000 with additional growth expected.

While the majority of the staff for the police department do not need dedicated office space in a building, the police department services require a large footprint to operate efficiently. There are many features that the current space lacks or needs improved upon such as appropriate detention areas, space for daily briefings and training, secured record storage, evidence processing and safekeeping as well as interview and video arraignment rooms to name a few.

While the police department needs the previously identified spaces and more, the current space (50% of the shared facility) does not provide adequate space to efficiently address these needs. The current facility is approximately 5,000 square feet but programming completed as part of the community campus master plan identified that the police department would be adequately housed for now and future growth in a building closer to 15,000 square feet. In 2020, the City moved forward with a master plan for a new city hall, police station and community center which was presented to the community in the form of two bond issues which were ultimately defeated.

After multiple workshops and a citizen survey, the Board of Aldermen has directed staff to solicit proposals from design firms for the feasibility, design and construction of a new police station on the former football field, directly behind the pavilion, which is city owned property.

City staff has been in the process of selecting a design firm which will move the project forward, pending a no tax increase bond to be included in an upcoming election.



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 your parked vehicles from the street or you could be ticketed and your vehicle can be towed. Police do not issue warnings during snow emergencies.

CITY VIEW

MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN



Mayor Chuck Johnston
cjohnston@cityofgrainvalley.org
816-847-6278
Elected June 2020



Ward Map



Shea Bass
Ward 3
sbass@
cityofgrainvalley.org
816-847-6243
Elected April 2019



Rick Knox
Ward 2
rknox@
cityofgrainvalley.org
816-935-6333
Elected June 2020



Tom Cleaver
Ward 1
tcleaver@
cityofgrainvalley.org
816-847-6277
Elected April 2019



Darren Mills
Ward 2
dmills@
cityofgrainvalley.org
816-847-6297
Elected April 2021



Bob Headley
Ward 3
rheadley@
cityofgrainvalley.org
816-935-2181
Elected April 2006



Jayci Stratton
Ward 1
jstratton@
cityofgrainvalley.org
816-847-6295
Elected April 2018

COMMUNITY NEWS

GROWING GRAIN VALLEY

Grain Valley Partnership Supports Local Businesses

The Grain Valley Partnership (Grain Valley's combined Chamber and Economic Development Corporation) works to support and empower local businesses so that they may grow and prosper. Community members are welcome to contact the Partnership to learn about new businesses in town and to inquire about prospective business development. The economic growth of Grain Valley is driven by new businesses which impacts citizens with additional

amenities as well as job creation.

The Partnership offers business owners a means to connect with others in the community for support and referral opportunities. Members enjoy monthly networking opportunities, mentoring and education, features on social media, ribbon cutting and more. Visit growgrainvalley.org or call 816-443-5162 to learn more.

GET INVOLVED

There are many ways Grain Valley residents can become involved in City operations. The following are opportunities to serve that require an application submission. These can be found at cityofgrainvalley.org or by sending a message to cityclerk@cityofgrainvalley.org.

- **Grain Valley Park Board:** assists with the long-term planning of the parks system including the maintenance of and improvement to existing park facilities. The Park Board meets monthly and members must be residents for at least one year.
- **Police Advisory Board:** purposed to serve as an advisory board to city staff and elected officials regarding police and public safety issues. This board is a liaison between the police department and Grain Valley citizens. It meets quarterly.
- **Board of Zoning Adjustment:** hears and decides appeals for a variance to the City's zoning and land use ordinances. This group meets as needed.
- **Code Board of Appeals:** meets to consider and decide on appeals of orders, decisions or determinations made by the Building Official or City Engineer relative to building codes and fire codes. Members must be experienced in diversified building and construction trades. This board meets as needed.
- **Planning and Zoning Commission:** oversees the planning needs of the City. They make recommendations to the Board of Aldermen regarding zoning and rezoning of property, use permits and proposed developments. The Commission meets monthly.



Application for Boards
and Commissions

The **Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)** is formed of graduates of the Citizens' Police Academy. VIPS assist in various police department operations including crowd control, special event implementation and administrative duties. The next Citizens' Police Academy will begin September 2021. For more information about the VIPS call 816-847-6250.

City of Grain Valley, Missouri
711 Main Street

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Kansas City, MO
Permit No. 1016

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 www.cityofgrainvalley.org.

SAVE TIME

PAY YOUR UTILITY BILL BY PHONE!

Call 866-290-8885, 24 hours a day, 365 days a week.
Enter your info securely through an automated system.

Paying your utility bill is easier than ever!

Visit www.cityofgrainvalley.org to print a bill, sign up for paperless billing, view account transactions & consumption history, "quick pay" or set up recurring payments.

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