

WINTER MAGIC IS COMIN' TO TOWN



WINTER 2023

 **LA VISTA**
VIEWPOINTS
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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@lavistalibraryyouth



YouTube.com/CityofLaVista

CITY CONTACTS

City Hall.....	402.331.4343
Community Development.....	402.593.6400
Human Resources.....	402.331.4343
Library.....	402.537.3900
Police.....	402.331.1582
Public Works.....	402.331.8927
Recreation & Community Center...	402.331.3455

MINUTE WITH THE MAYOR

As we head into the final months of 2023 and begin to reflect on what this year has meant for La Vista, I'm incredibly proud of the new community amenities we have to offer. Most notably, The Link, The Astro and the Nebraska MultiSport Complex. These remarkable places have already brought new visitors, entertainment experiences and excitement to our City. I'm optimistic about how these developments will continue to showcase and benefit La Vista well into the future.

Also in 2023, we made major improvements to our public infrastructure with the beginning of the East La Vista Sewer and Pavement Rehabilitation project, the concrete repairs in the Crestview Heights area and the milling and overlay work on 78th St., Terry Dr. and Lillian Ave.

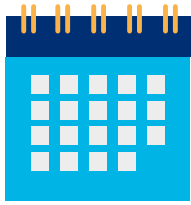
Speaking of projects, construction will be ongoing throughout the winter months inside businesses across La Vista. In Southport West, Smash Park is progressing rapidly, and construction will begin soon on a new Panda Express. In Southport East we'll see work on a new Holiday Inn Express during the winter, along with renovations to the former PayPal building that was purchased by Kiewit. Crews are also working to finish construction on the Children's Nebraska medical clinic near 107th St. and Giles Rd., and workers in City Centre will be readying to open bays for Allo and other new tenants.

I was pleased to see that residents rated La Vista's economic development highly on the National Community Survey this year. It's been four years since the last survey, and residents' attitudes about the quality of business and service establishments in the City improved 17 percentage points on this year's survey. I think this accurately reflects the direction of our City. I want to thank those who took time to respond to the survey and provide valuable feedback. The overall survey results were extremely positive—**take a look at the highlights on pages 5-6 of this newsletter.**

Finally, this newsletter is packed with information about upcoming holiday events happening in La Vista. City staff strive to provide enjoyable and affordable programming for families and people of all ages. I know many families gather at this time of year to celebrate the holidays. I invite you and yours to come celebrate the season with us.

MAYOR
Douglas Kindig





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All meetings held in the Harold "Andy" Anderson Council Chambers unless otherwise noted.

November 2023

- 2 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- 7 **City Council, 6 p.m.**
- 9 Library Advisory Board, 6 p.m.,
La Vista Public Library
- 15 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, 6 p.m.
- 16 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- 21 **City Council, 6 p.m.**
- 23 Offices closed for Thanksgiving holiday
- 24 Offices closed for Thanksgiving holiday
- 26 Santa's Sleigh Ride & Tree Lighting, 3-7:30 p.m.
Central Park/Santa's Workshop

December 2023

- 1 Visit Santa & Reindeer, 4:30-6:30 p.m.,
Santa's Workshop
- 2 Santa Paws, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Santa's Workshop
- 5 **City Council, 6 p.m.**
- 7 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- 9 Visit Santa, 8-10 a.m., Santa's Workshop
- 12 Visit Santa & Reindeer, 4:30-6:30 p.m.,
Santa's Workshop
- 14 Citizen Advisory Review Committee, 6 p.m.
- 15 Visit Santa & Reindeer, 4:30-6:30 p.m.,
Santa's Workshop
- 19 **City Council, 6 p.m.**
- 20 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, 6 p.m.
- 21 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- 25 Offices closed for Christmas holiday

January 2024

- 1 Offices closed for New Year's holiday
- 2 **City Council, 6 p.m.**
- 4 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- 15 Offices closed for Martin Luther King Jr holiday
- 16 **City Council, 6 p.m.**
- 17 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, 6 p.m.
- 18 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.

For more information about the special events listed on this calendar, visit
CityofLaVista.org/2023Events.

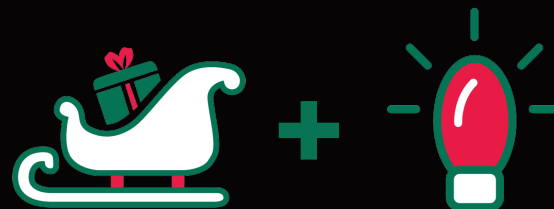
NEW!
One-Night Event!
Pg. 8



SUNDAY

NOV 26

**SANTA'S SLEIGH RIDE
& TREE LIGHTING**



COUNCIL CLIPS

Highlights of recent City Council action.

- Adopted FY24 amended budget.
- Approved one- and six-year plan for highway, road and street improvements.
- Approved the selection of an executive search firm to provide services associated with hiring a Chief of Police.
- Authorized purchase of replacement body worn cameras for the Police Department.
- Approved the purchase of a new restroom building for Central Park East.
- Awarded a contract for concession stand and restroom roof replacement at City Park.
- Authorized purchase of carpet for the Library.



**Volunteer at our City events!
We welcome volunteers.**

Visit **CityofLaVista.org/Volunteer** to sign up.

A LOOK AROUND

The Link

The City's newest public space invites community connection.

The City celebrated a major milestone along 84th Street when it opened The Link earlier this fall.

WHAT IS THE LINK?

The Link is the City-owned area and amenities that border The Astro (amphitheater) and other privately-owned developments in City Centre. The Link includes a boardwalk, pavilion, community table, slides, public spaces, restrooms and other features.

Designed to be a welcoming space for residents and visitors, The Link's completion is a significant achievement for La Vista. The project was a large undertaking, and it's the first time the City of La Vista has built a public area of this magnitude.

There are endless ways to enjoy The Link's public spaces and all that it offers residents and visitors. For example, you can...

- Take a stroll or have an impromptu photo shoot on the boardwalk.
- Picnic at the community table.
- Take in the top-level views of the lake.

Whatever your plans, you can easily gather and "improve your point of view" at The Link.

The City used portions of The Link for events this fall—including the La Vista Loop and Fall Fest—and is excited to plan future programs there. Residents and visitors are invited to explore this new space and see firsthand how it enhances the experience of visiting Central Park and City Centre.

The Link can be accessed easily from Central Park or from City Centre. Most areas and amenities are open 6 a.m. to midnight, the same hours as Central Park.

THE OVERLOOK

The upper level of The Link Pavilion offers some of the best views of Central Park.

THE BOARDWALK

A 2,900-square-foot boardwalk sits just above the water's edge on the southwest end of the main lake.

THE LINK PAVILION



The upper level of The Link features a covered pavilion with kitchen space. It will be available for private rental and will be closed to the public when reserved for events.

THE NINES PLAZA



Two 35-foot-long slides will descend from a platform just east of 84th Street down into The Nines Plaza.



COMMUNITY TABLE

Inspired by a photo from La Vista's history book, the 24-foot-long community table located on The Nines Plaza is a place to gather and share a meal with friends—just like La Vista's earliest residents used to do.

RESTROOMS



Comfortable and modern public restroom facilities (including family restrooms) and drinking fountains are available on the lower level of The Link.

Fun Fact

The Link got its name because it connects Central Park to La Vista's new downtown City Centre. And it's a golf reference, paying tribute to the La Vista Falls golf course that previously occupied the space.

20
23

City of La Vista receives positive ratings from residents on National Community Survey

Last spring, the City of La Vista invited residents to participate in the National Community Survey (NCS). This survey measures a City's livability based on key areas including safety, the economy, community design, parks and recreation, the natural environment and more.

The sentiment of La Vista's survey responses and the City's overall results are overwhelmingly positive.

Residents Positive About La Vista

92%

Would recommend living in La Vista to others.

91%

Rate La Vista's quality of life as excellent/good.

90%

Feel La Vista is a safe place to live.

86%

Feel customer service by City employees is excellent/good.

77%

Praise the overall quality of La Vista's business and service establishments.

71%

Feel positively about the overall direction the City is taking.

A random sample of La Vista residents were selected to participate in the survey and 2,677 households received mailed surveys. Of those invited to participate, 376 households completed the survey. Another 17 La Vista residents completed the online open participation survey.

The City was able to compare its 2023 results with its past results, as well as see comparisons with 600 other communities across the U.S.

Survey findings revealed a high level of satisfaction with La Vista as a place to live. More than 9 in 10 residents stated that they would recommend living in La Vista to others.

Additionally, 91 percent of survey respondents rated La Vista's quality of life as good or excellent. One contributing factor is safety—residents rate La Vista as a safe place.

Nearly all residents reported feeling safe in their neighborhood (97%) and in La Vista's downtown and commercial areas during the day (93%).

More than 8 in 10 residents favorably evaluated La Vista's public safety services including police, crime prevention, fire and EMS.

93%

Rate La Vista as an excellent/good place to live.



To see the complete findings from the NCS, visit CityofLaVista.org/2023Results.

Better Than Benchmarks

La Vista met or surpassed national benchmarks in 130 of 139 categories.

130

Higher in key areas

Being honest 74%
Treating all residents fairly/with respect 73%
Being open and transparent 72%
Acting in the best interest of the community 70%
Informing residents about issues facing the community 67%

Quality of services provided

City of La Vista
78% positive
U.S. Government
35% positive

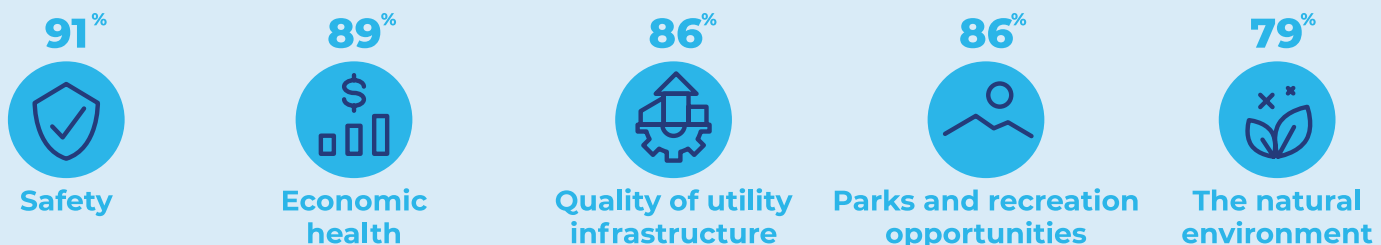
As in the past, the City scored above national benchmarks in many survey categories. In fact, La Vista met or exceeded national benchmarks in 130 of the 139 areas. This is encouraging given the challenges—such as the pandemic—that have taken place in recent years.

The “overall direction the City is taking” is one of many measures where La Vista ranked higher than the national benchmark. The City ranked in the 90th percentile nationally in this category.

Residents also rated the City higher than national benchmarks for acting in the best interest of the community, being honest, open and transparent, informing residents about issues facing the community and treating all residents fairly and with respect.

Residents’ Top Priorities

Most important areas of focus over the next two years



Survey results will help the City identify the services and areas of focus that are most important to residents.

Opportunities to “Improve Our Point of View”

Along with the positive feedback, residents’ responses helped identify some potential areas of improvement. For example, just 56% of survey respondents reported feeling a positive sense of connection and engagement with their community. Further analysis revealed that those who have lived in La Vista longest feel more attached to their community. There was a 19% difference between residents who have lived in La Vista for 11 years

or more vs. those who have lived here five years or less. This suggests that residents who moved to La Vista during the pandemic have potentially experienced the community in a much different way.

Residents’ community connection also varies by age. Sense of community was rated positively by 79% of residents 55 and older vs. 37% of residents ages 18-34.

5 in 10

“Just 56% feel a positive sense of “connection and engagement with their community”



Ease of walking and biking in La Vista

34%

Rate ease of walking low

54%

Rate ease of traveling by bicycle low





La Vista Gives Food Drive

La Vista Gives launched its Helping Hands Food Drive last month. The drive will benefit the NeighborGood Community Pantry and runs through December 15.

NeighborGood serves people who live in the greater Sarpy County area, meaning donations to the Helping Hands drive benefit local families and individuals.

La Vista residents are invited to bring donations of Hamburger Helper meals (any variety including Chicken and Tuna Helper) as well as other food items to one of these collection sites by December 15:

- **Jimbo's Diner/La Vista Keno** (7101 S 84th St.)
- **Mama's Pizza** (8146 S 96th St.)
- **La Vista City Hall/Community Center** (8116 Park View Blvd.)
- **La Vista Police Department** (7701 S. 96th St.)
- **La Vista Public Library** (9110 Giles Rd.)
- **La Vista Public Works** (9900 Portal Rd.)

Established in 2023, **La Vista Gives** is a partnership between the City of La Vista, the La Vista Community Foundation and other organizations. This year, La Vista Gives coordinated several projects to benefit the local community, including a coat drive for the Papillion-La Vista Community Closet, a school supply drive to support G. Stanley Hall Elementary and La Vista Middle School and the #LoveOurVets project for the local non-profit organization Moving Veterans Forward.

Learn more about La Vista Gives and its upcoming initiatives at
CityofLaVista.org/LaVistaGives

Mayor's Youth Leadership Council combines fun, learning and service.

The La Vista Mayor's Youth Leadership Council (MYLC) has been active this fall. The group of middle and high school students kicked off the 2023-2024 session with a trip to Tree Rush at Fontenelle Forest in September. This was the Council's first group outing to Tree Rush. Climbing the high-ropes course offered both an adrenaline rush and a fun team-building experience for the new and returning members.

In October, members of the MYLC took their oath of office at a La Vista City Council meeting. Observing the meeting and being sworn into office provided students with first-hand knowledge of how their local government operates.

The La Vista MYLC meets monthly to learn about government and discuss opportunities to advocate for youth in La Vista. They also volunteer at various City of La Vista events throughout the year. Catch them in action (and say hello) next month at the Santa Paws event at Santa's Workshop on December 2. Members of the MYLC will be assisting with the pet food donation drive.



La Vista's favorite holiday traditions get a fun new twist.

The City received some exciting news this fall—and it came directly from the North Pole!

When Santa comes to town later this month for his annual sleigh ride, he'll be adding extra holiday cheer and a brand-new stop to his route. This year, Santa will end his cruise through La Vista in Central Park where he'll light the City's Christmas tree, lead a holiday singalong and pose for a giant group selfie. Oh what fun!

Because Santa will use his magic to turn on La Vista's twinkling lights following his sleigh ride, there will not be a separate tree lighting event on the Monday following Thanksgiving. Instead, two of La Vista's favorite holiday traditions (Santa's Sleigh Ride and the Tree Lighting Celebration) will be combined into one fun-filled festive event on **Sunday, November 26**.

Why the change from two events to one?

Santa called City Hall to let us know that when he was checking on the children of La Vista to see who belongs on his "nice" list, he noticed The Link and other new additions at the edge of Central Park. The jolly guy was so impressed with the area that he insisted on making it part of his sleigh ride.

Without spoiling all the surprises, here's what you can expect from this year's combined event:

3 p.m. Santa and his entourage will begin making their way through La Vista's neighborhoods.

5:30 p.m. Santa's team will open his workshop in Central Park and welcome visitors with free cookies, hot cocoa, glow necklaces, caroling and reindeer.

7 p.m. The Sleigh Ride will end in Central Park. Visitors outside the workshop will see Santa light the City's Christmas tree and holiday lights.

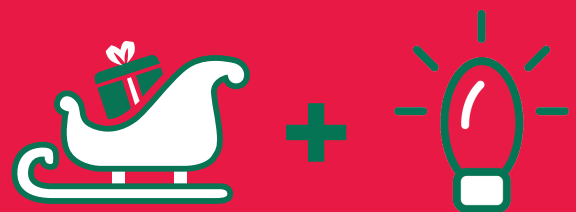
After everything is lit, everyone is welcome to sing a festive song with Santa and gather for a community group photo outside the workshop.



SUNDAY
NOV 26

NEW!
One-Night Event!

**SANTA'S SLEIGH RIDE
& TREE LIGHTING**



See the route map for Santa's Sleigh Ride at
CityofLaVista.org/SleighRide.



Here's a list of the fun holiday events in La Vista. Check it twice.



SANTA'S SLEIGH RIDE & TREE LIGHTING

Sunday, November 26, 3-7:30 p.m.

Across City streets/Central Park/Santa's Workshop
(8305 Park View Blvd.)

Santa Claus is coming to town! Santa and his entourage will arrive in La Vista and travel through the City before stopping in Central Park to light the tree, lead a singalong and take a group selfie with the community.

3 p.m. Santa's Sleigh Ride (across City streets)

5:30 p.m. Santa's Workshop opens (free cookies, cocoa & glow necklaces; caroling & reindeer)

7 p.m. The Sleigh Ride will end in Central Park.

Visitors outside the workshop will see the lighting of the tree and Santa's Workshop.

Song & Selfie with Santa (singalong and group picture with Santa outside the workshop; no individual Santa photos)



VISIT SANTA AND HIS REINDEER AT SANTA'S WORKSHOP

Friday, December 1: 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 9: 8-10 a.m.
(No reindeer)

Tuesday, December 12: 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Friday, December 15: 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Central Park/Santa's Workshop
(8305 Park View Blvd.)



You're invited to visit Santa and the reindeer at his workshop in La Vista this holiday season!

See the reindeer, walk through the La Vista Wonderland in Central Park, enjoy some cookies and then enter Santa's magical workshop—where you can enjoy crafts while you wait to see Santa! There will be lots of photo opportunities inside the workshop and outside in the park.



Note: It's possible the Workshop will be at capacity when you arrive, so please come prepared to wait outdoors for a time before entering the building.

LETTERS TO SANTA

November 26-December 14

Santa's Workshop outdoor mailbox
(8305 Park View Blvd.) and

La Vista Public Library (9110 Giles Rd.)



Have you been good this year? Tell it to the big man himself! Write a Christmas letter to Santa this holiday season and send it off to the North Pole! You can ask Santa questions, tell him a story, draw him a picture and, of course, tell him what you want for Christmas! Drop your letters in the special mailbox at Santa's Workshop or at the Library. Be sure to include your name and return address so Santa knows where to send his reply. **Drop off your letter by December 14 to receive a reply by Christmas!**

WALKIN' IN LA VISTA WONDERLAND

November 26-December 31

Central Park (near Santa's Workshop)

Walk through the Winter Wonderland in the park, see the lights and take photos with fun holiday cutouts!



SANTA PAWS

Saturday, December 2, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Santa's Workshop (8305 Park View Blvd.)

Get a pet photo with Santa! Bring your dog (or dogs) to Santa's Workshop for a free professional portrait. Bring a pet food donation for the La Vista Gives collection to benefit the NeighborGood Community Pantry.



Christmas

AT THE LA VISTA LIBRARY



Happy Holidays! Christmas is a special time at the Library. Get in the festive spirit with one of many programs offered between late November and December.

UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER DECORATING

Wednesday, November 29

The library will provide all the decorations you need to create the perfect Ugly Christmas Sweater. You will need to bring your own sweater. Ages 15+

COUNT DOWN TO CHRISTMAS CRAFT

Thursday, November 30, 9:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

We are counting down the days to Christmas, and we hope you are too! Stop by the Library to make your own craft and begin counting today. Craft supplies will be available while supplies last. This self-guided craft is ideal for the whole family.

GRAB & GO HOLIDAY CARD MAKING KIT

Monday, December 4

If this holiday season leaves you feeling crafty and glittery, stop by the Library and grab a Holiday Card Making Kit. Each kit will have enough supplies to make two holiday themed cards. Kits will be available while supplies last.

HO
HO
HO

STORYTIME, PICTURES, AND CRAFTS WITH SANTA CLAUS

Wednesday, December 6, 10 a.m.

Ho, Ho, Ho! Santa is coming to the Library to read a story, sing songs and make a craft. Dress in your best holiday clothes and bring your cameras to take your own photos. Ages: 0-7

BUILD IT! GUM DROP CHRISTMAS TREES

Monday, December 11, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Build Gumdrop Christmas trees and snack as you create. Materials are prepackaged. This is a self-guided program. Families can build trees at the Library or at home. Parental participation required.

PAJAMA STORYTIME AND COOKIE DECORATING WITH MRS. CLAUS

Monday, December 11, 6 p.m.

Listen to stories, decorate holiday cookies and visit with Mrs. Claus. Bring your cameras and take a photo or two.



GIFT WRAPPING STATION

December 18-23

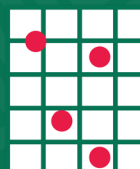
Reduce your holiday stress and stop sneaking around at 5 a.m. to secretly wrap gifts. Just swing by the Library with the gifts you need to wrap and work in peace! We will have a gift-wrapping station open for all to use in the makerspace area. The Library will supply wrapping paper, bows, tape, scissors and wide-open table space while supplies last. The wrapping station is open during normal business hours.

DISGUISE A GINGERBREAD MAN

December 20-22

Run, run as fast as you can to help the Gingerbread Man escape! Decorate him (or her) to look like your favorite book character.

We'll provide the supplies. Write the title of the book and character name on the back of your gingerbread man. Turn in your finished creation and we'll hang him on our holiday bulletin board in the Library.



KID'S NYE BINGO BASH

Friday, December 29, 10 a.m.

5...4...3...2...1...It's Bingo time! Win prizes, be silly, grab a New Year's Eve coloring packet and help us celebrate the new year early. Seating is limited. Age: For children in grades 6 and under.

PUBLIC WORKS ZONE

Central Park East upgrades begin with new playground and basketball hoops.

Some noticeable improvements have been made to Central Park East, and more are on the way.



PLAYGROUND

Crews have been working to install new playground equipment in Central Park East. The new ADA accessible playground was moved to the east of where the playground previously sat, putting it closer to where the public restrooms will be built. Playground experiences include both modern climbing features and traditional park amenities.

BASKETBALL COURT

Showing signs of wear and tear, the old basketball hoops at the court in Central Park East were recently removed and replaced with brand new ones. Now, visitors can enjoy an improved playing experience during their games of HORSE or pick-up basketball.

RESTROOMS

The City Council approved the purchase of a new restroom building for Central Park East. Construction is expected to begin on the restrooms and a new shelter late next summer. Before the restroom building is constructed, crews will replace the road in the park. That project is expected to be completed by late spring.



Leaf collection available at Public Works throughout November.



The La Vista Public Works Department is offering a leaf collection dumpster through November 30. La Vista residents are welcome to drop off leaves, yard waste and small branches in the dumpster Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-3 p.m. (Please do not put plastic bags in the dumpster.)

The dumpster is located outside on the east side of the Public Works building at 9900 Portal Rd.

POST-HOLIDAY CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING IN LA VISTA

OPEN DEC. 26 THROUGH JAN. 12

The City of La Vista will once again offer free drop-off sites for live Christmas trees at these locations:

LA VISTA SPORTS COMPLEX

(Near the baseball fields: 7336 S. 66th Street)

KELLY EAST FIELDS

(East side of Kelly Fields: 7601 S. 85th St.)

Please note: All ornaments, tinsel and plastic bags must be removed from trees prior to disposal.



RECREATION

CityofLaVista.org/Recreation
Recreation@CityofLaVista.org
402.331.3455



COMMUNITY CENTER

The Community Center offers a variety of social, fitness and leisure activities for all ages. From pre-school playtime to programs for adults 55 & up, the La Vista Community Center is the place to do it all.

Community Center Hours

Monday–Friday: 8 a.m.–9 p.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m.–6 p.m.

Sunday: 1–9 p.m.

Don't be bored during the winter break!
Youth are welcome to visit the game room and open gym Monday thru Friday from 2 p.m.–9 p.m.

ATHLETICS

Boys and girls basketball registration opened in October. If you know a child who wants to play basketball this winter, sign up today.

Also, the weather may be getting cold, but we are already gearing up for spring sports. Registration for spring youth sports leagues (soccer, coed flag football, baseball, softball and t-ball) begins in January.

Visit CityofLaVista.org/Active to register for youth sports.



BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL LEAGUE JANUARY-MARCH

AGE	COST	
	EARLY-BIRD OCT 1-NOV 16	FINAL NOV 17-27
Boys and Girls currently in 3rd-8th grade	Resident: \$55 Non-resident: \$65	Resident: \$65 Non-resident: \$75

COED BASKETBALL CLINIC JANUARY 6-FEBRUARY 3

AGE	COST	
	EARLY-BIRD OCT 1-DEC 11	FINAL DEC 12-DEC 27
Boys and Girls currently in 1st-2nd grade	Resident: \$17 Non-resident: \$22	Resident: \$27 Non-resident: \$32



SCIENCE
ATHLETICS

BOYS & GIRLS SOCCER ACADEMY/LEAGUE APRIL 9-MAY 11

AGE	DATES	COST		
		EARLY-BIRD JAN 2-MAR 4	FINAL MAR 5-25	
Boys and Girls 4-5	Tues (6-7 p.m.) Sat (9-10 a.m.)	Resident: \$33 Non-resident: \$53	Resident: \$43 Non-resident: \$63	ACADEMY
Boys and Girls 6-7	Tues (6-7 p.m.) Sat (10:15-11:15 a.m.)	Resident: \$33 Non-resident: \$53	Resident: \$43 Non-resident: \$63	LEAGUE

COED SOCCER CLINIC APRIL 6-MAY 4

BOYS & GIRLS AGES	COST	
	EARLY-BIRD JAN 2-MAR 4	FINAL MAR 5-25
3 (as of April 1)	Resident: \$17 Non-resident: \$22	Resident: \$27 Non-resident: \$32

COED FLAG FOOTBALL APRIL-JUNE

AGE	COST	
	EARLY-BIRD JAN 2-FEB 19	FINAL FEB 20-MAR 4
Boys & Girls PreK-6 as of spring 2024 (Min. age is 4)	Resident: \$33 Non-resident: \$53	Resident: \$43 Non-resident: \$63

BOYS BASEBALL

APRIL-JUNE

LEAGUE	AGE (as of April 1)	COST	
		EARLY-BIRD JAN 2-FEB 19	FINAL FEB 20-MAR 6
YEARLING/COACH PITCH LEAGUE	7-8	Resident: \$50 Non-resident: \$65	Resident: \$60, Non-resident: \$75
MUSTANG LEAGUE	9-10	Resident: \$65 Non-resident: \$85	Resident: \$75 Non-resident: \$95
BRONCO LEAGUE	11-12	Resident: \$75 Non-resident: \$105	Resident: \$85 Non-resident: \$115
PONY LEAGUE	13-14	Resident: \$85 Non-resident: \$105	Resident: \$95 Non-resident: \$115

LEAGUE	AGE (as of January 1)	COST	
		EARLY-BIRD JAN 2-FEB 19	FINAL FEB 20-MAR 6
PINTO/COACH PITCH LEAGUE	7-8	Resident: \$50 Non-resident: \$65	Resident: \$60, Non-resident: \$75
MUSTANG LEAGUE	9-10	Resident: \$65 Non-resident: \$85	Resident: \$75 Non-resident: \$95
BRONCO LEAGUE	11-12	Resident: \$75 Non-resident: \$105	Resident: \$85 Non-resident: \$115
JR./SR. LEAGUE	13-18	Resident: \$110 Non-resident: \$140	Resident: \$120 Non-resident: \$150

GIRLS SOFTBALL

APRIL-JUNE

COED T-BALL

MAY-JULY

AGE	COST	
	EARLY-BIRD JAN 2-APR 8	FINAL APR 9-22
Boys & Girls 5-6 (As of April 1)	Resident: \$45 Non-resident: \$60	Resident: \$55 Non-resident: \$70

ADULT SOFTBALL

APRIL-JULY

LEAGUE	GAME DAYS	COST	
		REGISTRATION FEB 1-MARCH 24	UMPIRE FEES (paid directly to umpire)
Men	Tuesdays or Fridays	\$215	\$22 per game
Coed	Fridays	\$215	\$22 per game

COMMUNITY CENTER

The Community Center offers tons of activities and classes. Here's a look at just a few!
For a full list, visit **CityofLaVista.org/Classes**.

AIKIDO

Mondays & Thursdays

Beginner (age 5-11) 6-7 p.m., Advanced (12+) 7-8:30 p.m.

Cost: Beginner (resident): \$25/month
(non-resident): \$30/month
Advanced (resident): \$40/month
(non-resident): \$45/month

For more information and to register,
email Jeff Christenham at
j.a.christenham@gmail.com.



BALLROOM DANCE

Mondays, 7-8 p.m. (by appointment)

Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m. (group class)

For more information, contact Terry Vargas at
402.639.2209.

Cost: \$40

BELLY DANCING

Beginner: Tuesdays 6-7 p.m.

Intermediate: Mondays 6-7 p.m.

Performance Troupe Rehearsals: Tuesdays 7-8 p.m.

For more info, contact Elianae at **402.370.9021** or
elianaethebellydancer@gmail.com.

Cost: \$40 per month, or \$15 drop-in per class

Jingle Bell Raq:

Belly Dance Recital & Community Gathering
Saturday, December 9, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

WORKSHOP: 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Belly dance workshop with Rahil from Kansas City.
All performers in the recital/hafla must attend the
workshop to perform in the show.

Cost: \$40 (Includes recital admission)

RECITAL: 2-5 p.m.

Come watch our beautiful students and the local
community dance!

Cost: \$10 per person, kids 5 & under are free with
paid adult admission.

Workshop attendees get in free with
workshop registration.

KINDERDANCE

Wednesdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Tiffany Banks at
531.281.9306 or **kinderdanceomaha.com**.

FIT4MOM STROLLER STRIDES®

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, 9:15-10:15 a.m.

For more information and to register, contact
Fit4Mom Instructor Kiley Mischnick at
402.577.0111 or **omahasouth@fit4mom.com**.

OMAHA METRO ARMED COMBAT ACADEMY

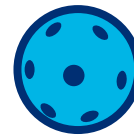
Thursdays, 6-8:45 p.m.

Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

The Omaha Metro Armed Combat Academy
(OMACA) is a fencing school that provides
instruction and sparring for Olympic-style
fencing, classical style fencing, HEMA and
lightsaber fencing for people with all levels of
interest and skill.

For more info, contact Cat Souliere at
omacagreenknights@gmail.com.

Cost: \$20/month



PICKLEBALL CLASSES

Sundays, Afternoon/Evening

This class is designed for beginners of all ages.
The class will provide you with basic skills and
knowledge to move forward with confidence
in this rapidly growing sport! Class size 3-8
people. For more information, please contact
PCI Certified Instructor Jess to register at
Jessouza33@gmail.com, or **402.957.4022**.

Cost: \$10/person

YOGA

Saturdays, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6-7:30 p.m.

For more info, contact Frank at
Frndkperrante@gmail.com.
All ages welcome.

Cost: \$7/class

PRESCHOOL PLAYTIME

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Community Center Basketball Courts

This open free play is designed for preschool aged children to get their wiggles out. Zip around the gym on our tricycles and Cozy Coupe cars, play preschool-sized basketball, kick balls or just run, jump and play with others. It's a great playdate for kids and parents! Please do not bring your own bikes, tricycles or scooters.

No registration needed.

Cost: Free

Age: Walking-5 years old (with adult)



TABLE TENNIS CLUB

Saturdays, 10-11 a.m.

Please email or call Matt each week to let him know you plan to join him. He can be contacted at matthewziegler907@gmail.com or 402.680.2937.

Cost: Free, drop-in.
Basic equipment provided.

Ages: 8+



PLAY-4-FITNESS

Mr. David and Ms. Rachel present a new monthly program that encourages children to be active and have fun. Activity dates/times/locations change each month.

Most activities are drop-in, but a few require pre-registration.

PLAY-4-FITNESS:

SANTA'S WORKSHOP PUTT-PUTT CHALLENGE

Thursday, December 7, 3:30-5 p.m.

Santa's Workshop (8304 Park View Blvd.)

Ages: 8-12 Cost: Free

Registration required. Call 402.331.3455 to reserve your spot.

PLAY-4-FITNESS:

NEW YEAR'S FITNESS CHALLENGE

Thursday, January 4, 4-5 p.m.

La Vista Community Center

Ages: 8-12 Cost: Free

Black Light/Nine Square in the Air. No registration required.

PLAY-4-FITNESS:

FEBRUARY HEART FITNESS CHALLENGE

Thursday, February 1, 4-5 p.m.

La Vista Public Library

Ages: 8-12 Cost: Free

Fun heart healthy movement games and more!
No registration required.

SENIOR CENTER



SENIOR SERVICES

SPECIAL SERVICES BUS

The Special Services Bus is available for senior citizens ages 60 and older and all special needs/ handicapped individuals residing in La Vista and Ralston.

Hours of operation:

Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

For reservations call 402.657.3550 at least 48 hours in advance.

We make every effort to accommodate, but sometimes due to prior scheduling, we may not be able to help everyone at their requested times.

The Special Services Bus does not operate on City of La Vista holidays or when Papillion-La Vista or Ralston Public Schools are closed due to weather conditions.

The La Vista Senior Center, located within the Community Center, is a gathering place for an active group of adults ages 55 and older.

For more information about Senior Center programs and special events, see the monthly Senior Newsletter at **CityofLaVista.org/Seniors**, or contact Senior Services Manager Kaily Stanley at **402.331.3455**.

Here are a few of the Senior Center's upcoming holiday events:

CHRISTMAS LIGHT TOUR

December 12 & 21, 5:15 p.m.

Join us on the La Vista/Ralston Special Services Buses for a fun night of carol singing while we view the beautiful holiday lights around the Metro. Registration for the tours opens on December 1 at 2 p.m. To sign up, call **402.331.3455** on December 1. Space is limited. **Cost:** Free

MAYOR'S CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

Monday, December 18, 11:30 a.m.

La Vista Community Center

Main dish to be announced. If your last name starts with A-O bring a side, if your last name starts with P-Z bring a dessert. RSVP by December 11. **Cost:** Free

VALENTINE'S DAY SENIOR LUNCH

Friday, February 9, Doors open at 11 a.m., event begins at 11:30 a.m.

Papillion Landing

All Seniors 55+ are invited. Menu to be determined.

Cost: \$8 per person. Payment due at time of registration. Sorry, no refunds.

Registration Deadline: Friday, February 2, at Papillion Landing or La Vista Senior Center front desk



SENIOR LUNCH PROGRAM

Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.

Enjoy a nutritious meal at the Senior Center, provided by Treat America, in cooperation with the Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging. Please call by noon the business day before you'd like to visit to make a reservation. After lunch, feel free to stick around for many of our other activities. View the monthly lunch menu at CityofLaVista.org/Seniors.

Suggested Donation: \$4.25 for those 60 and older

Required Fee: \$11 for those younger than 60

55 AND UP ONGOING ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	DAY	TIME	FEE
Bingo	Fri	1 p.m.	\$1 total for 5 games
Chair Volleyball	Wed, Fri	10:15-11:15 a.m.	Free
Tai Chi For Balance	Tues, Thurs	10:45-11:30 a.m.	Age 60+: \$0.50 suggested
Movie Showings	Every other Tues	1 p.m.	Free
Drop-In Quilting	Wed	9-11:30 a.m.	Free
Hand & Foot (Cards)	Wed	1 p.m.	Free
Pitch (Cards)	Fri	1 p.m.	Free



POLICE



La Vista officers presented Lifesaving Awards for preventing a tragedy

Officers Cameron TenEyck and Greg Carrico received the La Vista Police Department's Lifesaving Award for preventing a tragic outcome during a critical situation.

On July 27 at approximately 12:15 a.m., La Vista Police were called to respond to an individual who was suffering an emotional crisis and threatening to jump off a railroad bridge.

Officer Cameron TenEyck was the first to arrive and immediately established communications with the distressed individual. Officer TenEyck was able to talk the person into moving from the edge of the bridge to a spot where it was less likely they would fall or jump.

Officer Greg Carrico, the officer in charge of the shift, quickly summoned additional police units and Papillion Fire. He also requested all train traffic be halted in the area.

Through their quick thinking and caring actions, the officers were ultimately able to help the person to safety. They then provided transportation to a mental health center for treatment.

The response and actions by Officers TenEyck and Carrico resulted in a safe ending to what could have been a deadly situation. We appreciate their lifesaving efforts.



Police Department has a new Flex

La Vista Police welcomed a new addition to the department this summer—and he happens to have fur, four legs and a tail. K9 Flex, a two-year-old Belgian Malinois and German shepherd mix, is the new police dog on duty in La Vista.

Flex's handler, La Vista Police Officer Lucas Tiberi, explained that Flex is originally from Hungary and came to La Vista from Southern Coast K9 in Florida.

Earlier this year, Officer Tiberi and Flex completed an intensive training camp with the Omaha Police Department's K9 unit. Flex earned narcotics detection and patrol certification.

Like many police dogs, Flex is bilingual. Officer Tiberi gives Flex commands in both English and German.

While Flex enjoys many of the same things as other dogs—Kongs, being petted and socializing with Officer Tiberi's family and co-workers—it is important to remember that he is trained to interact with people differently than dogs who are pets.

"Flex has to know his role as a police dog," said Officer Tiberi. We're excited to have Officer Tiberi and Flex on the scene keeping La Vista safe.

Meet your police officers

Officers Cameron TenEyck and Seth Howard joined the La Vista Police Department this year.



Cameron TenEyck

Officer TenEyck is originally from Arlington, NE. He came to the La Vista Police Department from the Nebraska State Patrol where he worked for three years. Officer TenEyck previously served six years as a Military Police Officer in the United States Air Force. He has two young daughters and enjoys sports, spending time outdoors and golfing.



Seth Howard

Officer Howard has lived all over the U.S. and moved to Nebraska (from Iowa) in 2016. He has 16 years of law enforcement experience under his belt. Some of his previous roles include working as an investigator for the Department of Agriculture, serving as a Police Officer for the City of Beatrice and working for the Nebraska State Patrol.

CODE ENFORCEMENT CORNER

With winter just around the corner, here are a few reminders about the City's snow regulations.

- If a snow emergency is declared OR there is an accumulation of two (or more) inches of snow, it is illegal to park on the street for at least 24 hours. This allows snow removal crews a chance to clear the streets. Violators may be ticketed or towed.
- If a snow emergency is declared, it is permissible to park a motor vehicle on a non-hard surface (in your yard) for a period not to exceed 72 hours, or until the street has been plowed.
- Residential sidewalks must be cleared within 24 hours after snow fall has ended. Business sidewalks must be cleared within five hours unless the snow fall ends during the night, then they must be cleared by 8:30 a.m.



Police Department promotes two new Sergeants

Nick Boswell and Brian Mathew were promoted within the La Vista Police Department. They were sworn in and received their new badges at a City Council meeting in July.

Nick Boswell

"I grew up in the Papillion-La Vista community and attended the school district from kindergarten through high school graduation. In 2002, I joined the Papillion Police Department where I served in several roles including Uniform Patrol Officer, School Resource Officer and Detective for the Criminal Investigations Bureau. I also served on the major case investigation team and child abuse neglect response team.

I eventually transitioned out of law enforcement and started two nutrition businesses, but ultimately decided to reenter the field in 2019 when I joined the La Vista Police Department.

Since becoming employed with the City of La Vista, I've served as a Field Training Officer, an instructor in many areas and I am the Vice President of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 28. I'm also proud to have developed and taught the nutrition block for the Sarpy Douglas Law Enforcement Academy since the inaugural class."

Brian Mathew

"I am married and have two children, a four-year-old son and a three-year-old daughter. I live in the Papillion area but spent most of my life in Maryland after emigrating with my family from New Delhi, India in 1996. I grew up speaking Hindi and English and my hope is that my children also speak multiple languages, broadening their view of the world.

I am a University of Maryland graduate and hope to see them November 11th at Memorial Stadium when they play the Cornhuskers.

I was a police officer with the City of Bowie in Maryland for about four years before moving to Nebraska.

Growing up in India until age 13 and then moving to the United States educated me on living with and understanding people of different races, religions and cultures. I hope to use my experiences and education to mentor our officers, eventually preparing them to step into my position and be department leaders."



LIBRARY NOOK

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS



@CityofLaVistaGovernment



@LaVistaLibraryYouth



@CityofLaVista



YouTube.com/CityofLaVista

Follow us on social media for videos, updates and more!



Buy Local Craft & Vendor Fair

Saturday, November 11, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

La Vista Public Library (9110 Giles Rd.)

A variety of local crafters, independent vendors and small business owners will be selling their goods, handmade crafts, breads and specialty gifts. Shop for unique items for yourself or the special people in your life just in time for the holidays. Bring your friends, a shopping bag and cash. (No ATM is available.) Admission is free.

Grab-&-Go Activity & Craft Kits

The Library offers monthly grab-and-go craft kits for all ages. Pop by each month to pick up a new FREE craft kit. These kits are available on a first-come-first-served basis, while supplies last. All needed supplies will be included except for common household items such as scissors, crayons, tape and glue. Kits are limited to one per person per visit. The grab-and-go activity kits are displayed at the front desk and change monthly.

Virtual Scavenger Hunt

Wednesday, November 15, 6 p.m.

Zoom

Compete with your family, friends or individually to find objects around your home! Prizes will be awarded to the family or individual with the most points. Be quick to score the most. All ages are encouraged to participate. This program is held virtually using the Zoom platform. Contact Ms. Jodi at JNorton@CityofLaVista.org for an invite.

Adult Book Binding

Learn how to make a small journal using the Coptic Stitch method of book binding. Makes a great gift. All supplies will be provided. Limited to 6 per class. Registration and valid La Vista Public Library membership are required. Dates to be announced for late fall and early winter. **Ages 18+.**

Library Trivia Nights

Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

Join us for a trivia night for the whole family! Each month we will have a new topic to test your knowledge. A small, theme-related prize will be given out for first, second and third place.

Participate with your family, a group of friends or by yourself! Each trivia program lasts approximately 90 minutes.

- **November 8** **Marvel**
- **December 13** **Christmas Movies**
- **January 10** **Star Wars**
- **February 14** **Disney Princesses**

LIBRARY TRIVIA

Did you know the La Vista Public Library was started with the donation of a large book collection from a resident named Howard Hamilton? In 1972 he donated 3,000 books and several hundred pieces of art and the library was born!

Charting Our Path: Celebrating 50 Years of Black Studies

December & January

The La Vista Public Library is excited to be hosting this traveling exhibit. A cooperative project of the University of Nebraska Omaha Black Studies Department and UNO Libraries, double-sided panels offer highlights of the department's history using reproductions of archival materials. Charting our Path will be available for viewing for the months of December and January.

Makerspace

New additions make their way to the Library.

Our makerspace area is growing again, and we are excited!

SEWING MACHINE

Now available: a sewing machine! You can "try before you buy" if you are contemplating taking up sewing as a hobby or need access to a working machine. The Library also has an ironing board and iron to assist in your sewing or craft endeavors.

VIRTUAL REALITY HEADSETS

Another new addition to the makerspace area is our virtual reality headsets! Virtual Reality (VR) headsets provide an immersive gaming experience by displaying stereoscopic video and allowing users to interact with games using hand controllers. It's like being inside a giant computer where you can play games or visit different places, such as the ocean or your favorite vacation spot.

Sound intriguing? Make an appointment today. VR headsets can be reserved and used Monday-Saturday for one hour of usage. (No Sunday appointments.) Times will be determined by the staff's availability and access to the meeting rooms. Library staff will be on hand to help with setup, recommend pre-downloaded experiences and provide basic technical support.

Note: The headset manufacturer warns against use by children under the age of 13. The Library strongly supports this recommendation, but will allow younger children to participate with an adult. Minors under the age of 15 will NOT be allowed to use VR equipment without a parent or legal guardian's signature and participation.

If you are interested in trying out our VR equipment, contact Jodi Norton at JNorton@CityofLaVista.org or Ashley Wemhoff at AWemhoff@CityofLaVista.org to schedule an appointment.





CITY OFFICIALS

MAYOR

Douglas Kindig

CITY COUNCIL

Kim Thomas | Ward I

Ron Sheehan | Ward II

Deb Hale | Ward III

Jim Frederick | Ward IV

Terrilyn Quick | Ward I

Kelly Sell | Ward II

Alan Ronan | Ward III

Kevin Wetuski | Ward IV

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Brenda Gunn | City Administrator

Rita Ramirez | Assistant City Administrator

Kevin Pokorny | Director of Administrative Services

Joe Soucie | Director of Public Works

Bob Lausten | Police Chief/Director of Public Safety

Rachel Carl | Assistant to the City Administrator

Rose Barcal | Library Director

Pam Buethe | City Clerk

Heather Buller | Recreation Director

Pat Dowse | City Engineer

Bruce Fountain | Community Development Director

Meg Harris | Finance Director

Wendy Lowery | Human Resources Director