



OLATHE
1857-2007

community • diversity • heritage

Olathe Link

**City of Olathe
Newsletter**

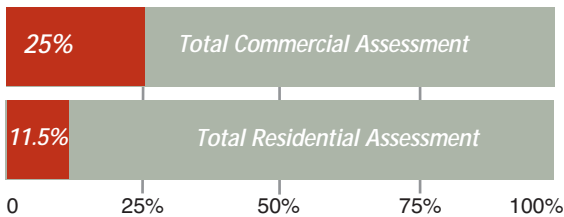
Autumn 2007

Why Olathe Competes for Commercial Development

Balancing commercial development with residential development has important benefits for the entire community.

Benefits of Commercial Development

- **Helps stabilize local property tax rates for residents.**



Commercial development pays more taxes in the community, with property tax rates 25 percent of assessed value, compared to 11.5 percent for residential assessed values.

- **Overall, it costs the City of Olathe less to provide services to commercial than residential development.**
- **Additional jobs bring businesses and employees who support Olathe's quality of life, including contributions to local charitable causes and corporate partners for a variety of community initiatives.**

Since 2006, commercial developments and announced commercial projects provide an estimated 3,600 additional jobs for the city.

The City of Olathe has available economic development tools to help achieve a goal of 70/30 residential to commercial combined tax base. To learn more, visit www.olatheks.org. Select the Department "Development Services" or contact Ron Shaver, economic development analyst, 913-971-6495.

What's Being Built in Olathe

Commercial

Phase I of Olathe Gateway at the southeast corner of 119th Street and Renner Road continues to grow. A Jason's Deli and Longhorn Steakhouse are set to open soon.

The Corporate Ridge Office Park, K-10 and Ridgeview Road, recently expanded to include 130 acres. Two buildings under construction, OPUS II and OPUS III, are scheduled for completion by the end of 2007. Tenants of these buildings will include Terracon Consultants and Farmer's Insurance.

The College Point development, College Boulevard and Valley Parkway, will feature retail and office components, including the new College Point Medical Plaza.

Systems Material Handling Company is near completion of a 100,000 sq. ft. expansion to its facility at 163rd Street & Lone Elm Road.

Garmin has begun construction of a 187,000 sq. ft. expansion to its warehouse at 151st Street & Ridgeview Road.

Insulite Glass will soon complete a 25,000 sq. ft. expansion of its existing manufacturing facility on Frontier Circle between Old 56 Highway and 151st Street.

Public Facility

Expansion of the **downtown parking garage** is underway at the corner of Chestnut and Loula Streets. The six-level expansion, to be connected to the existing garage, will result in 705 total parking spaces when added to the existing 393 spaces in the parking area.

Visit the newly-redesigned City of Olathe website, www.olatheks.org, for the latest City information. The site features a new look and improved organization designed to provide users multiple ways to search for information. The new site became available in early October.

The Winter/Spring Recreation Catalog will be available the week of November 19.

Visit www.olatheks.org, select the Department "Parks & Recreation" to view the catalog, or subscribe to the catalog by calling 913-971-6263, or by e-mailing bclay@olatheks.org with your name and address.

Inside This Issue

Mayor's Message.....	p2
Holiday Events.....	p2
Bringing Government to the People	p3
Eliminating Traffic Delays	p4
Residents Treasure Trails.....	p5
Olathe Earth News	p6-7



Olathe Cares for Neighbors Near and Far

During the coming “season of giving,” many people think of helping others with money or their time. Olathe is no different; in fact, this is the way we live, giving daily year round.

Our city is fortunate in that the citizens who live and work here cheerfully and tirelessly step

forward when there is a need. This is one of the reasons I cherish Olathe as home—the City truly lives with a giving spirit, attitude and lifestyle.

Olathe’s volunteer administered **Operation Lifeline** program provides daily attention to those in our city who have no one to check on their welfare. See more about Operation Lifeline below.

The **Mayor’s Christmas Tree Fund** provides local assistance to several charitable organizations in support of their vision and mission year round. It’s an honor for the Mayor to be represented in the fund’s name. None of this can be accomplished without the countless **community volunteers who lead the coordination efforts to benefit worthy local charitable organizations** such as TLC for Children and Families, KVC Behavioral HealthCare, Catholic Charities, The Salvation Army, Court-Appointment Special Advocates (C.A.S.A.) and Kansas Foster and Adoptive Children.

Olathe residents do not just center their focus on needs at home but also miles away. I am confident each reader has in some way been involved or touched by volunteers who were active in helping other Kansas communities this year during a tragic time.

Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) volunteers, 57 City of Olathe professionals and many more citizens reached out to our own **Greensburg** citizens with recovery efforts following the tornado which devastated so much. In **southeast Kansas**, 59 CERT volunteers and 37 City of Olathe employees provided critical flood relief efforts including rescue, hazardous materials assistance and debris cleanup.

In October 2005, the **City of Olathe adopted Moss Point, Mississippi** to assist with Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts. The City, Olathe Moss Point Task Force, Olathe District Schools, Olathe churches, and many other groups and individuals responded by sending money, gift cards, supplies, public safety vehicles and

Operation Lifeline Provides Assurance

Each day 11 volunteers call to check on Olatheans who are elderly, sick or disabled and have no one else in our community to do so.

Should a volunteer place a call to an Operation Lifeline participant and there is no answer, the police dispatcher is notified. An officer with a key to the residence is sent to check on the individual.

If you would like to participate or know someone who may benefit from Operation Lifeline, contact Olathe Police Officer Vickie Smith at 913-971-6618.

work teams to help the City of Moss Point rebuild.

I encourage you to become active in tangible ways which demonstrate compassion and care for others. Even if you can only assist in what may seem as small ways, you will be amazed how much your spirit of caring reaches the hearts of others. In addition to the Mayor’s Christmas Tree Fund beneficiaries, there are many other worthy charitable organizations and individuals who need your help. For more information about volunteer opportunities, you can visit www.olatheks.org.

To those heroes who are involved, I wish to thank you for your efforts to give of yourself. Through your actions, our community follows your example—keep up the good work!

Whether someone needs assistance across the street or miles down the road, you can be a part of ensuring that Olathe cares.

Sincerely,

Michael Copeland, Mayor

Olathe Holiday Events

WinterFest, featuring the Mayor’s Christmas Tree Lighting

November 30, 5:30-8:30 p.m. • Olathe City Hall-R.R. Osborne Plaza, 100 E. Santa Fe

This popular annual event features the music of local choirs and music groups, Santa Claus’ arrival, ice sculpting and refreshments. Proceeds raised from the Mayor’s Christmas Tree Fund benefit area agencies that help people in need in Olathe. Donations on behalf of the charities may be made:

c/o Olathe Noon Optimist

P.O. Box 853

Olathe, KS 66051-0853 (a 501c3 organization).

For more information, contact Ruth Nelson, 913-780-8181.

Historic Homes Tour • December 1, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Five Olathe historic homes in the Original Town area will be open and decorated for the holidays. Advance tickets: \$7, \$9 day of tour. Call Olathe Historical Society President Bob Courtney, 913-764-2494, for more information.

Christmas Open House at Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop

December 1, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. • 1100 Kansas City Road

Experience Christmas in the mid 19th century with music, refreshments, decorations, children’s activities, crafts and stagecoach rides (weather permitting). Visit Santa, and meet Father Christmas. Free admission. Donations gratefully accepted. Historic Homes Tour tickets may be purchased at Mahaffie.

City Open to Cable Competition

Although Olathe currently has two cable providers, the City supports additional access to cable providers and other communications services.

Residents are encouraged to participate in periodic performance hearings as part of franchise agreements with cable service providers. Questions or concerns may be directed to Tim Danneberg, 913-971-8609, tdanneberg@olatheks.org.

Bringing Government to the People

Cable 7 and Internet

The City of Olathe provides live access to all Olathe City Council and Planning Commission meetings and many special events, such as Kansas Legislative Forums on Cable Channel 7 and through live video streaming at www.olatheks.org. Archived meeting videos are also available online.

Closed captioning is offered on all City Council and Planning Commission

meetings shown on Channel 7. Olathe is the only city in Johnson County offering both cable television and online access to government meetings.

The Mayor's Corner, hosted by Olathe Mayor Michael Copeland, focuses on local government issues. It is shown 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. daily. A complete program lineup is available at www.olatheks.org. Choose News from the About Olathe Menu, or call 913-971-8737.

Olathe Services Guide

EMERGENCY

- Ambulance 911
- Emergency TDD/TTY Calls 971-5323
- Fire..... 911
- Police..... 911

GENERAL INFORMATION (TDD/Voice)..... 971-8600

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

- 100 E. Santa Fe..... 971-8700
- City Clerk
- 100 E. Santa Fe..... 971-8521

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- Building Codes
- 100 E. Santa Fe..... 971-8575
- Building Inspections..... 971-8574
- Planning Services
- 100 E. Santa Fe..... 971-8750
- Zoning Information
- 100 E. Santa Fe..... 971-8725

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Administration and Life Safety Services
- 1225 S. Hamilton Circle..... 971-6333
- Emergency..... 911
- Emergency TDD/TTY Calls 971-5323
- Non emergency TDD/TTY calls..... 971-7903
- Spanish Speaking Call Line 971-6367

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

- 100 E. Santa Fe..... 971-8735
- Jobline..... 971-8749
- Risk Management
- 100 E. Santa Fe..... 971-8716

LEGAL DEPARTMENT

- City Attorney's Office
- 100 E. Santa Fe..... 971-8732
- Prosecutor's Office
- 1200 S. Harrison 971-6742
- Community Mediation Program..... 971-7736

LIBRARY

- 201 E. Park 971-6850
- Indian Creek Branch
- 12990 S. Black Bob Road 971-5235

MAHAFFIE STAGECOACH STOP

- 1100 Kansas City Road..... 971-5111

MAYOR'S OFFICE

- 100 E. Santa Fe..... 971-8500

MUNICIPAL COURT

- 1200 S. Harrison 971-6393
- Court Services
- 1200 S. Harrison 971-5213

MUNICIPAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- 1385 S. Robinson 971-9311
- Customer Service..... 971-9311
- Billing
- Trash
- Water & Sewer

- After-Hours Answering Service..... 971-5151
- Missed Trash
- Water/Sewer Emergency
- Water Quality Questions
- 600 S. Curtis 971-5122
- Solid Waste Transfer Station
- 1681 S.Valley Rd. 971-5175

NEIGHBORHOOD AND HUMAN SERVICES

- Community Development Block Grant
- 201 N. Cherry 971-6260
- Community Enhancement
- 100 E. Santa Fe..... 971-8580
- Fair Housing Hotline..... 971-6472
- Housing Rehabilitation
- 201 N. Cherry 971-6268
- Housing and Transportation
- 201 N. Cherry (TDD/Voice)..... 971-6260
- Neighborhood Services 971-8750
- 100 E. Santa Fe
- Office of Human Relations
- 201 N. Cherry 971-6490
- (TDD)..... 971-6651
- Public Housing Authority
- 201 N. Cherry (TDD/Voice)..... 971-6260

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

- Administration
- 200 W. Santa Fe (TDD/Voice)..... 971-6263
- Parks and Public Grounds
- 200 W. Santa Fe 971-6038
- Cemetery Caretaker
- 738 N. Chestnut 971-5226
- Recreation Division
- 200 W. Santa Fe (TDD/Voice)..... 971-6263

- Recreation Activity Registration (24-hrs.) 971-8227
- Special Events
- 200 W. Santa Fe 971-8004

POLICE DEPARTMENT

- 501 E. 56 Highway 971-7500
- Alarm Coordinator..... 971-6100
- Animal Control
- 505 E. Sunvale 971-6362
- Emergency..... 911
- Emergency TDD/TTY Calls 971-5323

PUBLIC WORKS

- 100 E. Santa Fe..... 971-8505
- Street Maintenance
- Woodland & Harold..... 971-9511
- Pot Hole Hotline
- Woodland & Harold..... 971-6037
- Traffic Engineer
- 100 E. Santa Fe..... 971-8505

STRATEGIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- Administration and Accounting
- 201 N. Cherry 971-8600
- Purchasing
- 100 E. Santa Fe..... 971-8714



Printed on recyclable paper.

Olathe City Council

Michael Copeland, Mayor
913-971-8500 (City office)
[mcpoland@olatheks.org](mailto:mcopeland@olatheks.org)

Larry Campbell
Ward 1

913-927-0433
lcampbell@olatheks.org

Jim Randall
Ward 2
and Mayor Pro Tem
913-522-2729
jrandall@olatheks.org

Kathleen Huttman
Ward 3
913-269-6360
khuttman@olatheks.org

Marge Vogt
Ward 4

913-269-0625
mvogt@olatheks.org

Bob Montgomery
At Large
913-980-8278
bmontgomery@olatheks.org

John Bacon
At Large
913-269-6305
jbacon@olatheks.org

New Signs Celebrate Olathe's History

This fall, two new storyboard signs will tell of noteworthy Olathe historical events in the city's Original Town area. The signs begin a multi-year plan to identify points of interest for residents and visitors.

Kansas City Road Brick Laying

The corner of Kansas City Road and Poplar Street will be identified as the site of a 1925 bricklaying contest where James Garfield Brown laid 46,664 bricks in 7.5 hours, winning the title of "World's Fastest Bricklayer."

FDR Whistle-stop

Another sign will be located just west of the BNSF railroad tracks on Santa Fe Avenue in downtown Olathe. In 1936, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt spoke to more than 10,000 people who gathered along the west railroad tracks during FDR's campaign stop speech.

The City of Olathe, Original Town neighborhood committees, Olathe Historical Society and Olathe North High School worked in partnership to develop the signs. In 2006, the project received \$3,500 in CDBG funding. For more information contact Elizabeth Barker, 913-971-8817, ebarker@olatheks.org.

Alarm Permit Renewals Due Dec. 31

Owners of automatic alarm systems need to renew permits by December 31, 2007. All permits expire on that date regardless of what time of year the alarm permit is issued.

The annual renewal fee is \$10 if the Police Department receives it by December 31, 2007. Alarm owners will be charged \$50 for renewals received after December 31, for operating an unregistered alarm system. Currently registered alarm owners who do not receive a renewal letter should contact the Olathe False Alarm Reduction Unit at 913-971-6100. More information is available at www.olatheks.org. Select Police from the Departments menu.

City Ward Boundaries Modified

The Olathe City Council September 18 adjusted City ward boundaries in order to reflect approximate equal population in the district boundaries. Adjustments to ward boundaries occurred in two primary areas: Santa Fe Avenue became the dividing line between Ward 1 and 2 and Lindenwood Drive separates Wards 1 and 3.

City Charter Ordinance No. 27 requires the City to adjust boundaries every eight years to reflect approximate equal population. For more information contact Bryan Dyer, bdyer@olatheks.org, 913-971-8664.

Projects to Eliminate Traffic Delays Nearing Completion



Trains on the east BNSF railroad tracks are expected to travel over Loula Street, Park Street, Santa Fe Avenue and Ridgeview Road by early 2008. Park and Loula Streets are closed to vehicular traffic until the middle of 2008 when they are scheduled for reconstruction.



The College Boulevard improvement project, between Ridgeview and Woodland, is on schedule to open to traffic by the end of 2007.

Tree Health Report

Scotch pine trees continue to be attacked by a microscopic organism — a pine root nematode. Trees suddenly die, usually in late summer. There is no treatment for infected trees. Infected trees, including the stump, should be removed by March to prevent the spread to other trees, says City Arborist Rick Spurgeon. City forestry workers are removing 90 affected trees a year in parks and public grounds.



Residents Treasure Olathe's Trails

The City's bicycle and pedestrian trails offer outdoor opportunities for everyone young and old – with all levels of abilities.

Some liken them as “mini-vacation” experiences to get away from the daily grind. Others value the trails for the opportunity to exercise or spend time with family. Whatever the attraction, they're popular.

“Trails are a high priority in what people want to see in the park system,” says Steve Baysinger, Olathe Parks and Recreation director.

Baysinger says four more trails should be available within the next three years:

Existing Trails

Indian Creek Trail 7.1 miles (within Olathe)

Pflumm Road at Indian Creek (1/8 mile north of 127th Street) extending to Southdowns Park (155th and Lindenwood Drive)

Mill Creek Streamway/Gary Haller Trail

3.6 miles (within Olathe)

K-10 Highway at Mill Creek (1/2 mile west of Ridgeview Road) extending to 1/8 mile north of Woodland Road and Northgate Boulevard

Mahaffie Creek Trail 3.1 miles

Connects Stagecoach Park (near Kansas City Road and Ridgeview) to the Mill Creek/Gary Haller Trail (1/2 mile northeast of Woodland and Northgate Boulevard) with additional connections to Mahaffie Pond Park and Nelson Road

A map of existing trails throughout Johnson County, including Olathe, is available from the Olathe Parks & Recreation Office, 200 W. Santa Fe Avenue, or from Johnson County Park & Recreation at www.jcprd.com. Click on Parks & Facilities, then Trail Guide.

For more information about Olathe pedestrian and bicycle trails, contact Olathe Parks & Recreation, 913-971-6263.

Planned Trails

2008 Rolling Ridge Trail 2.5 miles

To connect Oregon Trail Park (Dennis and Robinson) to Rolling Ridge Elementary School, Ernie Miller Nature Park and Prairie Center Park, ending at 131st and Hedge Lane

2008 Eastbrooke Trail 2 miles

To connect Indian Creek Trail west of Pflumm Road and 127th Street, extending 1/2 mile south where it will split, extending southeast to California Trail Junior High School and southwest to Eastbrooke Park and Regency Place Elementary School

2008 Heritage Trail 2.1 miles

To connect Black Bob Park to a future neighborhood park at 154th and Alcan, and the marina area of Heritage Park

2009 Westview Trail 1 mile

To connect Calamity Line Park to Pine & Elm Park and to Grant Street and the Dennis Avenue bike lanes



Brian Wagner, a member of the City of Olathe Special Olympics team, tries on running shoes prior to his trip to Shanghai, China for the 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games. Wagner was one of 11 athletes selected for the Oct. 2 Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg.



Celebrating Diversity and Honoring Unity

Panelists (above) discuss multi-culturalism during the Cultural Learning Links series. The series of events, free and open to the public, are part of the City's effort to promote cultural awareness and understanding among a broader audience of professionals, educators and business owners.

2007-2008 Upcoming Cultural Learning Links Events:

Hispanic American	Nov. 20
Deaf American	Jan. 31
Russian American	March 11
Asian American	May 22

All events will be at 6 p.m. at MidAmerica Nazarene University, Bell Cultural Events Center, 2030 E. College Way. For information, call 913-971-6490.

Olathe Earth News

New Drop-off Recycling Site to Serve East Olathe

A new City drop-off recycling site will arrive just in time for residents to recycle cardboard holiday gift boxes. The new recycling location offers residents east of I-35 a more convenient option for recycling certain household items.

Drop-off recycling is a great way to be waste-wise – for FREE!

The new drop-off site will be located near 135th & Black Bob Road (in the northeast corner of the Wal-Mart parking lot).

In addition, new recycling containers will be placed at the existing downtown drop-off site located at Kansas & Poplar (in the Farmers' Market parking lot). Just look for the bright blue bins at both sites.

Materials accepted:

- Cardboard & chipboard (cereal boxes and product boxes)
- #1 and #2 plastic containers (soft drink, water bottles, milk, shampoo, detergent bottles)
- Mixed paper (newspapers, junk mail, magazines, office paper, catalogs)
- Aluminum cans
- Tin (steel) cans

These enhancements to the City's drop-off recycling program were made possible by a Kansas Department of Health & Environment grant funded by solid waste landfill tipping fees.



Holiday Trash Schedule

There will be no collection on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, or New Year's Day. Should one of these holidays fall on or before your normal pickup day, waste will be picked up one day later that week.

Please try to have all trash in the SmartCart. Extra trash must be in bags (no carts/cans) next to the SmartCart, as shown.

You Can Help with Trash Collection Efficiency

In November, the City will add six new automated trash trucks to the City's fleet, making the SmartCart program fully-automated. To realize the full benefits of automated trash collection, it is very important that residents help with the following:

- Place SmartCart at the curb by 8 a.m.
- Arrows on the SmartCart lid must be pointed to the street
- Allow 3-feet between the SmartCart and other objects (recycling bin, mailbox)

Pay your City of Olathe utility bill online at www.olatheks.org, or sign up for direct debit payment service by calling 913-971-9311.

For information on water, sewer and solid waste services, please call 913-971-9311.

Para mas informacion sobre el servicio de agua, alcantarillas, y basura, favor de llamar a 913-971-9311.

Olathe Municipal Services

Water/Sewer Services • Solid Waste Collection • Curbside Recycling
Yard Waste Collection • Household Hazardous Waste Program

Yard Waste

• • •
Trash

• • •
Recycling

• • •
Could Have
Same Day
Collection



The City is evaluating the option of providing residents with same day collection service for all solid waste materials — yard waste, trash and recycling.

Currently, yard waste is collected citywide on Mondays and trash and recycling are collected Tuesday-Friday. With the new system, City boundaries for collection could be reconfigured according to a 5-day schedule (Monday-Friday). Yard waste and recycling would continue to be collected separately from household trash, but residents would set all materials at the curb on the same day of the week.

The change is being considered as part of the City of Olathe's continued desire to keep solid waste collection efficient and keep rates low as the city grows.

Why? The City has outgrown its ability to collect all yard waste citywide in one day. Without a change, this problem would continue to grow as the City's population grows.

Last year, the City began automated trash collection by providing residents with "SmartCarts," a move that continues to bring significant cost savings to the area of trash collection through greater efficiencies. By moving to a five-day schedule, the City could realize the full benefits of the automated trash collection, which would help keep rates low as the city grows by collecting waste more efficiently with fewer trucks and drivers. In addition, it would enable the City to better balance collection routes as certain areas grow faster than others.

One Day to Remember for Yard Waste, Trash, Recycling Collection

Customers would only have one day to remember for trash, yard waste, and recycling collection.

The City would continue to collect trash on all holidays except Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Should one of these holidays fall on or before your normal pickup day, waste will be picked up one day later that week. Yard waste will continue to be collected separately from household trash (for composting rather than disposal).

Customers would be notified of their collection day by mail prior to the change.

The City would make every effort to minimize disruption but all residents would be affected by the change.

Call to Opt-Out of Blue Envelopes

Every February, the City mails a supply of self-addressed blue envelopes for customers' convenience in returning utility payments to the City of Olathe. If you do not wish to receive these envelopes in the future, please notify Customer Service at (913) 971-9311.

Reader Feedback

Please send your comments to:
Olathe Link
P.O. Box 768
Olathe, KS 66051-0768
linkcomments@olatheks.org
913-971-8700

Issues Affecting You

Mayor's Message.....	p2
Holiday Events.....	p2
Bringing Government to the People	p3
Eliminating Traffic Delays.....	p4
Residents Treasure Trails	p5
Olathe Earth News.....	p6-7

CITIZEN REQUEST SYSTEM

Make an inquiry or request for City service 24/7, www.olatheks.org—Click on Contact Us.



Olathe's 150th Birthday Celebration concludes with a World War II style USO Show

Swing to the Moonlight Serenade Orchestra playing "Big band" favorites.

November 10, 7:30-11 p.m.

Army Reserve Hangar (Old Olathe Naval Air Station) New Century, Kansas

For ticket information call **913-971-8506.**

www.olatheks.org

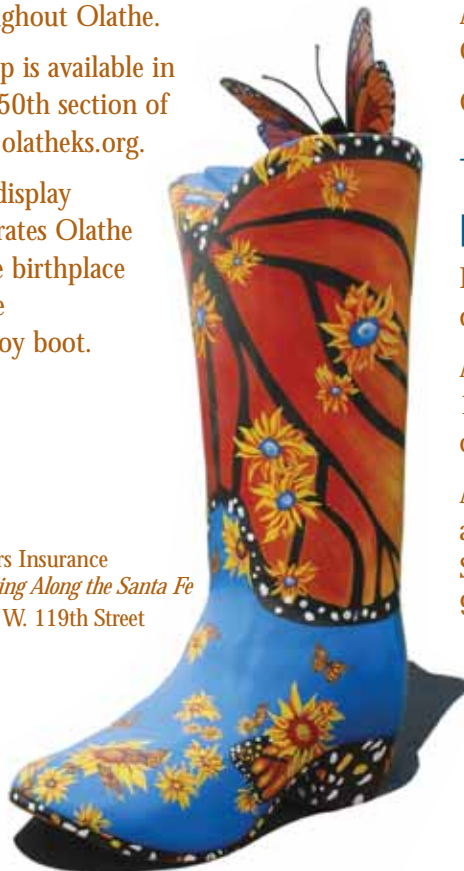
Welcome Home! Cowboy Boots

The cowboy boots public art display continues through the end of the year with 12 boots located throughout Olathe.

A map is available in the 150th section of www.olatheks.org.

The display celebrates Olathe as the birthplace of the cowboy boot.

Farmers Insurance
Fluttering Along the Santa Fe
17000 W. 119th Street



New Olathe 150th Commemoratives

150th Celebration Commemorative Cookbook

A compilation of recipes from today's Olathe cooks and from 1892 cooks.

Cost \$15 each, or two for \$25.

The Cowboy Boots postcard book

Each of the 12 boots currently on public display is printed in full color—Cost \$5.

Available for purchase at Olathe City Hall, 100 E. Santa Fe, and Common Grounds coffee shop, 101 E. Park St.

Additional commemorative items are available at various Olathe retailers. See www.olatheks.org, or call 913-971-8506 for more information.