New Location Planned for Olathe Fireworks

In 2016, Olathe's Fourth of July fireworks celebration will move to the College Boulevard Activities Center, 11031 S. Valley Rd., adjacent to Olathe Northwest High School. Viewers of fireworks will not be admitted to the Activities Center itself, however, parking for the event will be available at the Activities Center, Olathe Northwest, Prairie Trail Middle School, and Meadow Lane Elementary School. Visit OlatheKS.org to view a map of available parking.

Summer Concert Series
Frontier Park, 15501 Indian Creek Parkway

Shows begin at 7 p.m.

June 3
Marc Broussard
with Eric Lindell

July 15
Sam Bush

June 17
Kelly Hunt
with Dan Bliss

Summer Fest
A Celebration of Community and Music

Saturday, July 9
Stagecoach Park, 1205 E. Kansas City Rd.
Free Live Music • Food • Face Painting and More

Concert Schedule

Main Stage at Stagecoach Park
2 p.m. Funk Syndicate
4 p.m. Sons of Brasil
7 p.m. Liverpool

Olathe Community Center and Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop and Farm
2 – 5 p.m. Local Artists

OlatheKS.org/ParksRec/CelebrateOlathe

City Takes No Chances on Water Quality or Public Health .... See page 7

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Mayor’s Message

Fire Department’s Excellence Keeping You Safer

The strong support of our community and City Council for public safety services has made our city a leader in keeping residents safe. During 2015, Olathe police, fire, and emergency medical services received the highest satisfaction ratings in the Kansas City metro. This spring, our Fire Department earned a Class I ISO (Insurance Services Office) Public Protection Classification rating. This superior rating is based on the Department’s fire suppression capabilities, as well as our water supply system, emergency communications, and local community efforts to reduce fire risk.

While the ISO rating focuses on fire suppression, the Fire Department is also accredited by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International, which evaluates many other aspects of the Department’s performance. It is rare for a fire department to achieve both a Class I ISO rating and accredited agency status — only 38 departments in the nation have earned this unique distinction.

The Fire Department focuses on continuous improvement in fire and emergency services. Response times are constantly monitored for improvement. One of the best indicators of our emergency medical response is the positive outcome for cardiac arrest patients. Olathe remains a national leader in this area, with 41.1 percent of patients arriving at the ER with a pulse when resuscitation was attempted. This is eight percent better than the national average.

The Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) Program has significantly improved how we respond to calls. Twenty-four percent of all 9-1-1 calls for emergency medical services are considered non-emergencies. In many cases, these calls are made by community members without routine medical care or health insurance. The two-person MIH unit follows up with these individuals to connect the patient with the care they need. We recently learned that Olathe’s Mobile Integrated Health Program is the 2016 winner of the Thomas H. Muehlenbeck Award for Excellence in Local Government, presented by the Alliance for Innovation.

In yet another recognition, the Fire Department is one of the two recipients of the 2016 Excellence in Fire Service-Based Emergency Medical Services Award from the Congressional Fire Services Institute and Masimo. This distinction honors fire departments for best practices and innovative solutions in the delivery of emergency medical services.

Our Fire Department’s leadership, experience, and innovation allow us to provide collaborative, specialized services throughout our region. We have the only FBI-accredited bomb squad among fire departments in the Kansas City area. Our three canine units assist other agencies in Johnson County and the surrounding area with arson and explosive detections, as well as search and rescue efforts. We also have the only Blue Card® Command Training Center in Kansas – a resource for training on the management of complex incidents.

Keeping our city safe is largely dependent on fire prevention and education efforts, as well as emergency preparedness initiatives. For nearly 20 years, citizens have trained in disaster planning, preparedness, and survival as members of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). Our Fire Explorer program in partnership with the Boy Scouts of America is the longest-running career exploration program of its kind in the area. In addition, more than 30,000 Olathe third graders have participated in our Fire and Life Safety program.

Making the best use of all resources to save lives and prevent property loss will continue to be the Fire Department’s mission. With our community’s support, we will remain one of the safest cities in America.

Sincerely,

Michael Copeland
Mayor
New Location Planned for Indian Creek Library

The Olathe City Council is moving forward to expand services and space for the east Olathe library by entering into a contract to purchase the vacant Hy-Vee building at 135th and Brougham. The Indian Creek Library will move to this location instead of making needed repairs and expanding the current building.

The City of Olathe and the Library Board recently updated the library master plan that called for, among other projects, more than doubling the size of the Indian Creek Library to address its significant lack of capacity, overcrowding, and parking shortage.

The plan was accelerated following significant damage at the Indian Creek Library. On March 3, 2016, a waterline under the foundation ruptured, flooding the building and eroding the foundation's sub-base. The Library has been closed since that time. Engineers are still determining the full extent of the damage and a timeline for repairs. The repairs are estimated to cost between $850,000 and $1.2 million and are expected to require four to six months to complete.

The City Council is purchasing the former Hy-Vee building instead of making repairs and incurring the cost and inconvenience of the planned building addition to the current Indian Creek Library building. The purchase will:

- accommodate the library's current space and parking needs
- provide an opportunity to significantly enhance library customer experiences with capacity, parking, and other library amenities
- provide more affordability per square foot than expanding the existing library building
- allow library service in east Olathe to resume quicker than making repairs to the existing building
- avoid closing the current building for library expansion.

Olathe Library Board Chairman Tom Glinstra says what was an unfortunate situation is leading to a much better solution for Library customers. “If this works out as we ultimately hope, our customers will have a much better library experience and the cost per square foot will be less than adding to the existing building,” says Glinstra. “We hope our customers will have access to library services more quickly than if we made repairs to the existing building.”

“This is a great opportunity to create something truly special,” says Olathe Library Director Emily Baker. “There are examples across the country where buildings like this have been transformed into incredible libraries with new opportunities for programming and community use at a much better cost than building new or paying for additions.”

Olathe City Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Node</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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Important Phone Numbers

Regular Business Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Except for Emergency 911, and unless otherwise noted

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Stay Connected With Us

Printed on recyclable paper.
Stay Safe on Bicycles

Bicycling is a great means of transportation and fitness, and warmer weather and longer days mean more bicyclists will be out on the streets and trails. Bicyclists should keep in mind these basic safety principles for a safe summer:

Know the Rules of the Road
- Obey traffic regulations (same as for cars)
- Yield to pedestrians
- Don't ride double if your bicycle is not equipped with a second seat
- Keep to the right
- Walk bicycles through busy intersections
- Yield to cars
- Beware of parked cars
- Signal before you turn
- Don't wear headphones. You can't hear cars, sirens or people
- Use lights on bicycles when riding at night.

Have Proper Safety Equipment
- Wear a helmet approved by ANSI, Snell or another legally authorized organization
- The helmet should fit snugly on your head, and it should be white or brightly colored
- Wear helmets low on the forehead
- Make sure white reflectors are on the front of the bike, red in the back, and white or yellow on sides
- The law in Olathe says a white light must be visible at night on the front of the bike and a red reflector visible on the back

Protect Your Bicycle
- Mark your bicycle for identification
- Keep a photo and record of your bicycle
- Use locks to secure your bicycle
- Keep your bicycle inside locked storage.

Check Equipment
- Make sure the bicycle frame is free of cracks
- Tighten and properly adjust the seat
- Ensure wheels don't wobble and spokes are not bent or missing
- Tighten any loose nuts and bolts
- Check the condition of brakes and brake cables
- Ensure the chain is clean and lubricated
- Check the tires' air pressure (firm to the touch).

Avoid Accidents
People should ride a bicycle that fits them properly. When sitting on the seat, your feet should touch the ground without bending the knees.

Common causes of accidents include:
- ignoring traffic laws
- being overconfident in a familiar area
- entering roadways when vision is blocked
- hazards from other drivers.

Interpretive Kiosks Coming to Cemetery

Learning more about the historical significance of the Olathe Memorial Cemetery will become easier for school groups and other visitors with the planned installation of eight interpretive kiosks. The Olathe Memorial Cemetery recently received a $5,000 grant from the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area for the kiosks, which will focus on the cemetery's history related to shaping the frontier, the Missouri/Kansas Border Wars, and fighting for freedom.

The kiosks will highlight notable locations, including the cemetery's historical chapel, the DAR Memory Tree Lane, the World War monument, Kansas governors, Civil War soldiers’ monument, Hyer Boot employees burial site, first burial, and the Mahaffie family plot. The City plans to install the kiosks by Memorial Day.

The Olathe Memorial Cemetery, 738 N. Chestnut St., was founded in 1865. The City of Olathe has owned and operated it since 1879.
Be a Good Neighbor

- Keep your grass mowed. It should not be over eight inches tall
- Don’t blow grass clippings into the street
- Don’t dump grass clippings into a creek, storm drain or on a vacant lot
- Reduce the amount of mowing by controlling weeds
- Yard waste must be placed in brown yard waste bags

911 Trail Signs Coming Soon

Beginning this summer, new signs along Olathe greenway trails will allow cell phone users to geographically pinpoint their location when calling for emergency fire, police, or medical assistance.

Should the need arise to call 911, individuals should reference the unique number on the new red sign closest to their current location. The signs are located along the trails about every half mile. Public safety personnel have the trail information mapped on 911 equipment to view the areas for response as quickly as possible.

The new 911 signs will be located along nearly 18 miles of greenway trails, including the Indian Creek Trail, Eastbrooke Trail, Heritage Trail, Mahaffie Trail, and Rolling Ridge Trail.

Google Fiber and U-Verse with GigaPower Work Continues

Contractors installing the fiber network in neighborhoods are required to restore property digging. Disturbed areas in the front yard must be sodded, and backyard areas restored with seed and mat.

If you have questions or concerns regarding construction or yard restoration, contact:
Google fiber construction at 877-454-6959
U-Verse with AT&T GigaPower construction at 913-676-1801, or g43578@att.com.

What’s Being Built in Olathe

An industrial development was approved at Old 56 Highway & Lone Elm Road for three buildings by OPUS Development. OPUS plans to start construction on one building this year and two buildings in the future.

Two large office/warehouse buildings are under construction at 167th & Lone Elm Road.

A Taco Bell restaurant was approved for the southwest corner of 151st Street and Black Bob Road.

The owner of the The Great Mall will demolish the mall to prepare the site for future redevelopment. Burlington Coat Factory will be the only store to remain. A portion of the existing parking lot in front of the store will be maintained.

Tower 2 Tower 5K

Thanks to our partner, WaterOne, sponsors, Black & Veatch and Burns & McDonnell, and all who participated in the Tower 2 Tower 5K! We raised $5,529 for Water for People! Race results and information on next year’s 5K are at Tower2Tower5K.org.

Slow Down for Highway Work

Be extra cautious as KDOT continues the I-35 pavement reconstruction through Olathe. If you have questions about this project, please contact Kimberly Qualls, 785-640-9340, kqualls@ksdot.org, or Joshua Welge, field engineering administrator, 913-764-4525, joshua@ksdot.org.

Construction updates for the Johnson County Gateway Project are available at JoCoGateway.com. Sign up to receive text alerts about the project. Or, questions may be directed to the project office, 913-577-0000.
Reimbursement Program Supports Your Stormwater Solutions

Stormwater runoff carries contaminants, sediment and other pollutants untreated into waterways. The City of Olathe encourages home and business owners to use tools to manage stormwater on their properties through a cost-share reimbursement program. For instance, rain barrels and rain gardens capture and slow stormwater to reduce excess runoff from properties. Native vegetation buffers help infiltrate and evaporate rainwater and snow melt. Stormwater management helps improve water quality in local creeks as well as downstream waterways such as the Marais Des Cygnes, Blue, and Kansas Rivers.

The City of Olathe will provide a 50 percent match for expenses on: Rain gardens, bioswales, stream buffers, or native plantings up to $1,000. Rain barrels are also available for a 50 percent match, up to $75 each (limit two barrels per household).

A reimbursement form and further explanation of the program is available at: OlatheKS.org/PublicWorks/Stormwater/StormwaterBMP.

Loving Olathe with Street and Stream Adoptions

More than 60 groups, businesses and families are showing their community pride through Adopt-A-Street and Adopt-A-Stream programs.

Adopt-A-Street

Community members pick up litter along primary or secondary streets at least four times a year as a minimum two-year commitment. The individual or group can select the location if it is currently available.

A map showing which streets or street portions are available for adoption is at: OlatheKS.org/Files/PublicWorks/Adopt_St.pdf

Adopt-A-Stream

Collecting litter along Olathe’s waterways is another way to actively care for your community. The City of Olathe will provide trash bags and work gloves, and will pick up bags after the event. Neighborhoods and homeowner associations are encouraged to adopt-a-stream that may run through their areas. Many businesses and organizations, such as Farmers Insurance, AIG, Bridging the Gap, and Scouts are active participants.

If you’ve had an Adopt-A-Street or Adopt-A-Stream group in the past, reviving a group is welcomed!

Those interested in adopting a street or stream can find more information and sign up at OlatheKS.org/Volunteers.
The City of Olathe will always take precautions to uphold the public health of water customers. On April 19, the City notified Ridgeview South neighborhood residents of potentially elevated lead levels in their water following field tests conducted at area water meters.

The City cautioned customers that the field tests could result in false positive readings for lead. There were no documented cases of elevated lead levels in the neighborhood homes' tap water. Out of an abundance of caution, the City asked residents to submit water samples for evaluation and to avoid drinking or cooking with tap water. During this time, the City provided bottled water for Ridgeview South households.

On April 22, residents were notified that tests, conducted by a certified lab, conclusively showed no elevated lead levels in the area water system.

The City deeply regrets any undue concern and inconvenience created for customers. However, the City will proactively notify the public when there is a clearly identified potential issue that could impact public health.

“The bottom line is we will err on the side of caution when it comes to public health, and we will let our citizens know if we identify a potential risk like this,” says City Manager Michael Wilkes. “They should expect nothing less.”

Water Quality Is Top Priority

City of Olathe water continues to meet or exceed state and federal health and safety measures. The City constantly tests water throughout the system, conducting more than 90,000 tests annually to detect any health safety or water quality issues and rapidly address them. In addition, the City of Olathe complies with all regulatory testing for lead and copper required by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment every three years.

The City of Olathe’s water production priority is providing safe water to Olathe water customers. The water production team is highly trained to operate our treatment facilities. All of Olathe’s eligible treatment operators are certified by the State of Kansas and 71 percent are certified at the highest possible level.

Maintaining Our Water Assets

During 2015, the City of Olathe completed installing 364 modules of replacement membrane filters at the water plant to maintain water production facilities. These filters meet the highest industry standards in water production technology to support safe, great tasting water in Olathe.

Water Quality Report Online

If you want to learn more about what’s in your drinking water, the City of Olathe compiles an annual detailed report about tests conducted throughout the water distribution system. Olathe drinking water consistently meets or exceeds all state and federal standards for safe drinking water. The current Water Quality Report is available at OlatheKS.org/OMS/Water/Quality.
HerO Day

The Olathe Fire Department hosted HerO Day on March 18 to introduce young women, ages 14-19, to a career in fire service. Participants learned about search and rescue, hose line deployment, emergency medical services, drills, and extrication.

Olathe Farmers’ Markets

Saturday Markets open through Oct. 22
Wednesday Markets open May 18 – Sept. 28

Two Great Locations

Olathe Community Center, 1205 E. Kansas City Rd.
Black Bob Park, 14500 W. 151st St. (near field 1)

Markets open at 7:30 a.m. and operate until products are sold out.