

The Review

COMMUNITY NEWS
FALL 2018



**Flip
Over!**

For the Parks &
Recreation
Program Guide

Meeting Schedule

All Meetings in City Council Chambers,
100 Municipal Circle, Raymore, MO

City Council Meetings

2nd & 4th Mon. 7 p.m.

City Council Work Sessions

1st & 3rd Mon. 7 p.m.

Planning & Zoning Commission

1st & 3rd Tues. 7 p.m.

Arts Commission

2nd Tues. 7 p.m.

Parks & Recreation Board

4th Tues. 7 p.m.

Important Numbers

City Hall // 816-331-0488

Municipal Court // 816-331-1712

Animal Control // 816-331-0530

Building Inspection // 816-331-7916

Chamber of Commerce // 816-322-0599

City Clerk // 816-331-3324

Communications // 816-892-3109

Community Development // 816-331-1803

Economic Development // 816-331-5000

Electricity (KCP&L) // 816-471-5275

Emergency Management // 816-892-3032

Engineering // 816-331-1852

Fire Department South

Metro (non-emergency) // 816-331-3008

Spire // 816-756-5252

Parks & Recreation // 816-322-2791

Planning & Zoning // 816-331-1803

Police (non-emergency) // 816-331-0530

Post Office // 816-331-2736

Public Works // 816-331-2377

Raymore Peculiar Schools // 816-892-1300

City Utilities Office // 816-331-5182

The Review is produced by the City of Raymore. For more information or for comments about this publication, contact Communications Director Mike Ekey at 816-892-3109.

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On the Cover

A young resident shows off his new shades from the Raymore Arts Commission booth at a Parks & Recreation sponsored event at Memorial Park.

Contact Us

Have a Question?

Ask questions and report concerns to the City 24/7.
Visit raymore.com and click on Report a Concern.

City Officials

Kris Turnbow, Mayor

Jim Feuerborn, City Manager

Ward One

Kevin Kellogg

Reginald Townsend

Ward Two

Joseph Burke, III

Tom Circo

Ward Three

Kevin Barber

Jay Holman

Ward Four

Sonja Abdelgawad

John Berendzen

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CityofRaymoreMO

RaymoreParksAndRec

Raymore.Police

RaymoreAnimalShelter

RaymoreEmergencyManagement

Twitter

@CityofRaymoreMO

@RaymorePD

Instagram

@CityofRaymoreMO

City Hall

City of Raymore

100 Municipal Circle

Raymore, MO 64083

816-331-0488

Raymore.com



Residents Invited to Provide Feedback on City Budget

The City's proposed annual budget, released in August, is now before the City Council. Residents will have the opportunity to weigh in on the proposed budget at two public hearings this fall. The Planning & Zoning Commission and City Council will hold public hearings on the capital improvement budget and annual budget that will guide the City through 2019. The budget will remain a discussion point at all City Council work sessions, but will be up for approval at the following meetings:

Tuesday, Sept. 4 // 7 p.m. // City Hall

The Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on the Capital Improvement Budget. This budget directs what major construction projects the City will undertake the next fiscal year.

Monday, Oct. 1 // 6 p.m. // Community Conversation // Centerview

Although not directly part of this year's budget process, the Community Conversation is a great opportunity for residents to talk about the future of Raymore and projects that should be included in upcoming budgets. Learn more at raymore.com/community

Monday, Oct. 8 // 7 p.m. // City Hall

City Council public hearing on the fiscal year 2019 budget. Residents can weigh in on the budget and the projects it contains.

Monday, Oct. 22 // 7 p.m. // City Hall

The City Council will give its final approval of the budget.

To read the full proposed budget, visit raymore.com/budget.



Join the Community Conversation on Oct. 1

In 2016, the City Council invited residents to a series of interactive community conversations and asked them to reimagine Raymore and help envision what the City would look like in 5-10 years. The process helped the Council and City staff to develop Raymore's first comprehensive strategic plan.

The City Council is once again inviting residents to have their voice heard about the future

of Raymore at the Community Conversation to be held on Oct. 1 (see page 5 for details). The Council plans to revisit the exciting conversations from the meetings held in 2016 to ensure that recent completed projects, future plans and the overall strategic plan for the City still hold true to that original vision.

"Our residents are at the heart of everything we do," Mayor Kris Turnbow said.

"This process gave the City Council an unprecedented peek into the what our residents want as we continue to grow as a community."

Under the guidance of University of Kansas Public Management Center, the City received an incredible number of ideas and input from more than 350 residents. This information helped build the foundation of a strategic plan that is guiding

the growth and prosperity of Raymore. Using data from those public meetings, as well as several other sources, staff refined goals and created strategic initiatives and action steps to support the overall strategic plan.

The original community conversations also helped the City refine a number of projects

that were up for approval by residents in April 2016. Those voter-approved projects — totalling \$10.05 million worth of improvements to the City's streets and parks programs — are more than halfway completed. As we work to complete the last few projects, it's time to ask our residents to come back for another conversation. ●

2016 No-tax Increase Bond Projects

ACCOMPLISHED

Centerview // Event space and Raymore Parks & Recreation administrative offices

Raymore Activity Center // 16,000 square-foot multi-use building for expanded programming and recreation

Recreation Park // Trail rehabilitation and parking lot rehabilitation

58 Highway // Mill & overlay

Fox Ridge Drive Extension // Connection to Dean Avenue

Johnston Drive Extension // Connection to Dean Avenue

IN PROGRESS

Hawk Ridge Park // New amphitheater, trail, shelter house, restrooms, fishing docks

T.B. Hanna Station // Spray park, ice rink, playground, permanent restroom facilities

SLATED

Kentucky Road Eastern Bypass // Safety improvements and connection to 58 Highway at a lighted intersection

SAVE THE DATE: Community Conversation

What's next for our community? What have we accomplished? What do we need to keep working on? Please join us for a roundtable discussion - we want to hear from you!

Date // Monday, Oct. 1

Check in // 5:30 p.m.

Start time // 6 p.m.

Location // Centerview

*A light dinner will be provided

*Free childcare will be available during the event



For more information:

The entire Strategic Plan can be viewed online at:
raymore.com/strategicplan



Officer Rebekah Badgett poses for a photo with a young resident at a food truck event sponsored by Raymore Parks & Recreation.



Connect With Your Raymore Police Officers

To promote neighborhood involvement in crime prevention and further enhance community partnerships, the Raymore Police Department will again host the Community Against Crime event on Saturday, Sept. 22 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the Raymore Fall Festival at Memorial Park.

The event aims to educate citizens about the services provided by the Police Department, as well as teach residents and business owners what they can do to help

promote a safer community. The event will feature representatives from many different local law enforcement agencies, first responders and other public services. Each agency will have its own displays and educational information highlighting how you can help better do your part to prevent crime. Please show your support by attending the Community Against Crime event with other residents of the community, community leaders, and first responders including the Raymore Police Department and

other local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

"I'm proud to live and work in the great community of Raymore and I believe that our police officers can only accomplish their critical mission of keeping our community safe with the support and assistance of our citizens," Raymore Police Chief Jan Zimmerman said. "It's a great opportunity to meet the men and women that serve our community every day, so mark your calendars and make plans to attend." ●

Help Prevent Crime in Your Neighborhood

- Good neighbors make safer communities — take the time to get to know them!
- Lock your doors. Many criminals take advantage of easy targets and many break-ins are due to unlocked cars and homes, so always lock your doors to prevent being the victim of a "crime of opportunity."
- Don't leave valuables in your car or unsecured in your house; it's an open invitation for thieves to steal.
- Keep exterior lights on overnight, or consider installing motion-detector type flood lights. Criminals prefer dimly lit areas.
- Immediately call 911 to report any suspicious activity. Don't assume someone else will.
- Set up a Neighborhood Watch Program in your neighborhood (or find out if your subdivision already has one) by contacting Capt. Jim Wilson at 816-331-0530 or jwilson@raymore.com.
- When going out of town, notify a neighbor and have your mail and newspaper deliveries stopped.
- Sign up for the House Watch Program. Raymore Police will provide extra patrol of homes when residents are away for an extended period of time. Learn more and download the Raymore House Watch Request Form at raymore.com/police



SAVE THE DATE: Community Against Crime

Date // Sept. 22

Time // 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Location // Memorial Park
at the Raymore Fall Festival



To learn more:

For more information
about community safety,
visit raymore.com/police



Hawk's Nest: A Playground for Children of All Abilities

Imagine a place where limitations are forgotten and differences are celebrated. A place where children with physical and social developmental challenges and illnesses can happily play together with their peers and families.

The City of Raymore and Raymore Parks & Recreation, along with the help of our community, plan to turn that

idea into a reality with a state-of-the-art inclusive playground. The playground, Hawk's Nest at Hawk Ridge Park, will be specifically designed to remove physical and social barriers so all children, with and without disabilities, can play side-by-side.

To bring the project to fruition, the City has teamed up with Unlimited Play, an award-winning not-for-profit

organization that helps plan, design and build fully accessible playgrounds that allow children of all abilities to enjoy the benefits of play.

Hawk's Nest will be a nature-themed playground. Each piece of equipment is custom-designed so that children with disabilities can swing, slide and climb with their friends, siblings, parents and caregivers.

HAWK'S NEST PLAYGROUND WILL INCLUDE:

- Safe, smooth, spongy surfacing
- Ramps from bottom to top
- Transfer stations throughout
- Specialized seating and handholds
- Slanted/graduated climbing elements
- High back swings
- Saucer swings
- Stainless steel and molded slides
- Musical elements
- Parallel play
- Fun, educational play panels
- Shaded areas

Initially, an accessible playground was planned for the park, meaning it would be easy for anyone to get to and maneuver through the area, but an accessible playground wouldn't necessarily cater to the needs of children with disabilities or allow them to play with children with different abilities.

The decision to upgrade Hawk Ridge Park's playground from an accessible to an inclusive playground was not a tough one. Still, though the road to completion will be a bit more challenging, as each piece of custom equipment for the playground comes with a larger investment.

"When Parks Superintendent Steve Rulo and I learned about these playgrounds, we realized this is something we need for our community," Parks and Recreation Director Nathan Musteen said. "We knew we needed to go all out and do this right the first time and take away those barriers that have kept children from being able to play in the past. Play is such an important part of our lives and we don't want any child, or adult for that matter, missing out on that joy because there aren't pieces of play equipment to suit their needs, no matter what challenges they may be facing."

Funding for this playground will come from a variety of sources, including community fundraising.

To learn more about Hawk's Nest, sponsorship opportunities and how your support can help enable all children of all abilities experience the joys and benefits of play through monetary donation or donation of time, goods or services, visit raymore.com/hawksnest

Gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law through the City's new Raymore Community Foundation 501(c)3. ●

“
... take away
those barriers
that have kept
children from
being able
to play in
the past.
”



How you can help:

To learn more about Hawk's Nest and how to support the project, visit raymore.com/HawksNest



Experience Year-Round Fun at the Raymore Activity Center

The Raymore Activity Center (RAC) will open in September, bringing with it additional recreation and sports programming opportunities for all ages to our growing community.

The 16,000 square-foot multi-purpose gymnasium in Recreation Park, 1011 S. Madison St., allows for recreational activities year-round and offers a full basketball court, an indoor walking/running track, a kitchen for concessions and office space for staff.

The first programs slated to take place this fall include adult women and coed recreational volleyball, recreation and competitive youth basketball, youth futsal and a physical education class for home-schoolers.

For years, the Parks & Recreation Department has been challenged to find enough indoor space for its programs, and had been using the limited space of the Park House at 909 S. Madison St.

for recreation classes and summer day camp.

"We're so excited to have this multi-use facility to offer quality programming to fit the needs of our growing community," Parks & Recreation Director Nathan Musteen said. "It's extremely rewarding to see residents from young to old being active and interacting with one another at the RAC."



Mayor Kris Turnbow, members of City Council and Parks & Recreation Board are surrounded by summer day campers as they cut the ribbon at the Raymore Activity Center on Aug. 6, 2018.



The Raymore Activity Center is one of several street and parks improvements and new amenities made possible by two no-tax increase bond projects approved by Raymore voters in 2016.

See page 5 for a full list and update on the 2016 voter-approved projects.

HOURS OF OPERATION

The RAC will be open from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. for scheduled events throughout the week. Open gym for the basketball court and walking track will be from 6-10 a.m. on weekdays.

See the Parks & Rec Program Guide included in this

publication for athletic and recreation programs scheduled at the RAC starting this fall.

Visit raymore.com/rac for rental information and additional hours of operation. ●



We're excited to have this multi-use facility to offer quality programming to fit the needs of our growing community,"



See for yourself:

There is open access to the basketball court and walking track from 6-10 a.m. every weekday; other events will be scheduled weekly.



Work on the paved and stamped ADA crosswalk connecting Centerview and surrounding businesses to City Hall will be completed by Nov. 5, 2018.



Raymore Awarded Grant for AARP Community Challenge

The City of Raymore is one of two communities in Missouri and among 129 throughout the country to receive funds through the 2018 AARP Community Challenge grant program.

Through this grant, a new paved and stamped ADA crosswalk will be added to Municipal Circle in front of the Centerview event space to improve safety for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists, and to increase connectivity between nearby businesses and City Hall.

A total of \$1.3 million will be distributed to fund 129 "quick action" projects across the country, helping communities achieve one or more of the following goals:

- Deliver a range of transportation and mobility options that increase connectivity, walkability, bikeability and/or access to public and private transit.
- Create vibrant public spaces that improve open spaces, parks and access to other amenities.
- Support the ability of a range of housing that increases accessible and affordable housing options.

The program, now in its second year, received nearly 1,600 applications from non-profits and government entities.

The grant requires projects to be completed by Nov. 5; however, construction for this project is already underway.

The City has also installed ADA ramps at intersections around Municipal Circle at Skyline and Broadmoor Drives to further improve safety for pedestrian wheelchair users.

The full list of grantees can be found at www.aarp.org/communitychallenge

To learn more about AARP's Livable Communities' work across the country and the AARP Community Challenge please visit www.aarp.org/livable ●

RAYMORE *community* FOUNDATION

City forms not-for-profit organization

Whether it is a food and blanket donation to the Animal Shelter, a donation to the City's growing arts classes or the sponsorship of a memorial bench in one of our parks, our residents have shown, time and again, that they are some of the most generous in the region.

To help support that generosity, the Raymore City Council this past January voted to form the Raymore Community Foundation, a 501(c)3 not-for-profit aimed at supporting those programs where our residents have a special vested interest.

"Our residents give not because they have to, but because they, like so many others, feel such a strong sense of community and pride for the work we can

accomplish together," Mayor Kris Turnbow said.

The Council formed the foundation to specifically support special projects in the Arts Commission, Parks & Recreation Department, Police Department and Animal Shelter. Residents have always been able to donate, but with the foundation, each donation will come with a tax deduction and recognition from the City for their kindness.

"If someone wants to donate a meal to our hardworking officers or blankets for our cats and dogs at the Animal Shelter, the Raymore Community Foundation is going to be there to help facilitate those donations," Turnbow said.

One of the first major campaigns

that will be undertaken by the foundation will be fundraising for the new inclusive playground at Hawk Ridge Park that will provide a play space for all children regardless of physical or sensory disabilities. It would be the first inclusive playground in Cass County and one of only three in the entire Kansas City metropolitan region.

"The foundation will be a key partner in helping us fundraise for the additional amenities," Parks & Recreation Director Nathan Musteen said. "A playground that welcomes all children is simply the right thing to do for our residents and the region."

To learn more or donate, visit raymore.com/foundation or call Communications Director Mike Ekey at 816-892-3109. ●



Spaying & Neutering: It's Best for Pets

There is a homeless pet dilemma across the United States. Unfortunately, this results in the euthanization of nearly 3 million healthy dogs and cats each year simply due to a lack of homes for these animals.

Your local no-kill Raymore Animal Shelter cares for unwanted pets on a daily basis. So far this year, our Animal Control officers have adopted out, or transferred to larger facilities in hopes of faster adoption, more than 135 abandoned cats and dogs, including several litters of kittens born at the shelter. So where

does spaying and neutering come in?

"One unspayed cat can have possibly more than 100 kittens in her lifetime, and if her kittens aren't sterilized either, the numbers are staggering in just a few years time," Animal Control Officer Jamie Hasenyager said. "Bailey (Romi, ACO) and I love each animal that comes through our doors, but sometimes we also struggle with finding these animals homes. Some of their situations are heartbreaking. We hope that by sharing information on the importance of spaying

and neutering your pets and responsible pet ownership as much as we can, we'll make a difference here in Raymore and beyond when it comes to unwanted and abandoned animals."

BEHAVIORAL AND MEDICAL BENEFITS

Besides helping to curb pet homelessness, there are numerous behavioral and medical benefits to spaying and neutering your pets.

"For medical reasons, spaying or neutering your pet reduces the risk of some and completely



HOME TEAM ADVANTAGE™ TEAMMATE CARD

10% of your total sales at your sponsoring Buffalo Wild Wings will be donated back to your team at the end of the season.**

City of Raymore Animal Shelter
Team C // Expires: 12/31/18
Valid Only at: **1121 E North Ave., Belton, MO**

**Must present card on mobile device or via printed copy with payment. Not valid with any other offer. Card is non-transferable. No cash value. Does not include tax or gratuity. Not valid toward other promotional discounts.

eliminates the risk of other types of cancers in your dog or cat," Dr. Matt Scheele of Raymore Animal Clinic said. "For instance, in a female, spaying eliminates the risk of ovarian cancer and reduces the risk of mammary cancer later in life. It also reduces the risk of a serious and potentially deadly uterine infection called pyometra. In males, neutering eliminates the risk of testicular cancer and greatly reduces the risk of prostate and other types of cancers."

Reducing or eliminating risks of certain cancers leads to a longer life span. Studies have shown that neutered and spayed dogs and cats also have a reduced urge to roam, limiting their exposure to potentially deadly hazards such as fights with other animals and getting hit by cars.

Other behaviors that can be improved by spay/neuter include

the urge to spray or mark, aggression, excessive barking, mounting or other dominance-related habits. However, it is important to remember that spaying or neutering pets won't change their basic behaviors, such as their protective instinct.

WHEN TO SPAY/NEUTER

Dr. Scheele advises that it's better to wait until bigger dogs are a year old to get them neutered or spayed to give their bones more time to develop; otherwise six months is the general age for this procedure.

While many shelters advocate early neutering and spaying for cats since they cannot be adopted until they are sterilized, there are studies that support both early neutering and waiting until the kitten is a bit older: ask your veterinarian's advice to help you decide. ●



Support the Raymore Animal Shelter

Present your **Teammate Card** (left) to the Buffalo Wild Wings Belton location and 10% of your total bill will be donated back to the Raymore Animal Shelter! Here are the details:

1. Bring your Teammate Card into your sponsoring restaurant, during your season. Details are on your card.
2. Show your card, on a mobile device or via printed copy, to your server and let them know you are part of the Home Team Advantage Program.
3. The server will add 10% of your total sales to your team's running total. It's that easy!

Learn more:

For the latest information on fundraisers for the Animal Shelter and adoptable pets, find us on Facebook: **RaymoreAnimalControl**

Fall 2018 Events Calendar

For more information, visit raymore.com/calendar

September

Tuesdays // Farmers Market
4 - 7 p.m. at T.B Hanna Station

3 // Labor Day
City Hall will be closed

**8 // Family Art Day:
Hip-hop Dance Class**
10:30 - 11:30 a.m. at the
Park House

**22 // Raymore Police
Community Against Crime**
10 a.m. - 5 p.m. at Raymore Fall
Festival, Memorial Park

**28 // Movie in the Park:
Finding Dory**
Dusk at T.B. Hanna Station

**Last Sunday of each month //
Raymore Animal Shelter
Fundraiser**
10:30 a.m. - 10 pm. at MOD
Pizza - Raymore

October

1 // Community Conversation
6 - 8:30 p.m. at Centerview

3 // Coffee with a Cop
8 - 10 a.m. at Centerview Lobby

**6 // Free Community Shred
Event**
10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at City Hall

**11 // Pop Art Your Pet: Raymore
Animal Shelter Fundraiser**
6 - 9 p.m. at Centerview

12 // Trucktoberfest
6 - 9 p.m. at T.B. Hanna Station

**12 // Free Bulky Item Pick-
up Day for Wednesday trash
residents**

**19 // Free Bulky Item Pick-up
Day for Thursday trash residents**

**20 // Family Art Day:
Dia de los Muertos Art Class**
10 - 11:30 a.m. at the
Park House

**27 // National Prescription
Drug Take Back Day**
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Raymore
Police Department and Raymore
Price Chopper

November

9 // Veterans Celebration
4 p.m. at Memorial Park

11 // Veterans Day

12 // Veterans Day, observed
City Hall will be closed

14 // Blood Drive
11 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Centerview

**20 // Family Art Day: Dia de los
Muertos Art Class**
10 - 11:30 a.m. at the
Park House

30 // Mayor's Tree Lighting
6 p.m. at T.B. Hanna Station

December

24-25 // Christmas Holiday
City Hall will be closed

January

1 // New Year's Day
City Hall will be closed