



Historic Delano News

Fall 2014

Promoting Delano's past, present & future

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Howdy,

It's been a few months since the last newsletter and there is a lot to catch up on. There are a lot of major changes happening in Delano right now and also here at Historic Delano, Inc.

First we will ***no longer hold monthly meetings***, only event planning meetings or as needed. Instead we will focus our efforts working with **Delano United** (Delano's CDC) to get more of the Delano Plan implemented (*see page 2*).

The **8th Annual St. Patrick's Parade** was one of the biggest yet! The weather was perfect and the sidewalks were crowded with spectators. This parade gets bigger and bigger every year. Consider how you can take advantage of that.

Ghost Stories of Historic Delano will be on **Thursday, October 2nd**. This has become one of our most popular events second only to the St. Patrick's Parade. Come down and check it out.

The **West High Homecoming Parade** will be on Saturday, October 18th from 10-11 a.m. **Expect Douglas to be closed from about 9 - 11:30.**

We will **not** be doing **Christmas in Delano** this year. We **will** still be raising money for lights on the clock tower and light poles along Douglas.

We still have plenty **Delano Visitors Guides** left. If you would like some to distribute, call one of us and we will get them delivered to you.

Nancy has closed **Central Plains Novelty** and **is loose on the streets!** She owns the building and will still be hanging around Delano though.

Ghost Stories of Historic Delano
Tour begins at Lawrence-Dumont Stadium
Thursday, October 2nd
6:00 - 9:00 pm

West High Homecoming Parade
Along Douglas from Walnut to Sycamore
Saturday, October 18th
10:00 - 11:00 am

Delano United Fall Mixer
All Things BBQ • 818 W. Douglas
Tuesday, October 14, 2014
6 - 8:00 pm

The store was opened in 1961 as **R. E.'s Little Discount House** - similar to a Dollar General with pinball and sandwiches. Nancy and Zandra purchased the shop and have operated it as Central Plains Novelty for the past 27 years.

Adam and Phil have opened **Spectrum Muzik**, a music store which features a large selection of vinyl records. The store was formerly located in Boulevard Plaza on George Washington Blvd.

Hope to see you at the mixer! - Jim & Nancy

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Delano United - We Are Delano!

Delano United has been incorporated, bylaws have been adopted and the following Officers have been elected:

President - Karen Cravens (DNA)
Vice-President - Nancy Lawrence (HDI)
Secretary - Melany Barnes (DNA)
Treasurer - Dorothy Crouch (DNA)

Delano United meetings are held monthly on the **2nd Tuesday of each month**. Anyone is welcome to attend. Meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. and are usually held at New Covenant Church - 1712 W. Douglas but not during the construction.

Delano United, Inc. is an umbrella group which unites other Delano groups with a common goal of working to implement various parts of the **Delano Neighborhood Revitalization Plan**.

The **Delano Plan** includes 10 elements. The first three - Zoning Overlay, Down-zoning and Forming the CDC - have been completed. The fourth - the Urban Village - is a long term project.

The rest of the list includes:

- West Douglas Streetscape - Phase II and III
- Seneca Blvd. Streetscape Enhancements
- University Avenue Historic Streetscape
- Multi-Family Buffer @ Kellogg
- Park and Recreation Enhancements
- Gateways - Delano markers at entrances

Because the Streetscapes are long-term capital investments and the Multi-Family Buffer is also a long-term project we will focus our current efforts on **Parks & Recreation** and **Delano Gateways**.

The **Delano Neighborhood Association** has been raising money for the Gateways for years and will continue to do so. They are also leading an effort to bring a grocery store back to Delano.

With the plans for the **Downtown Library** and **River Vista Apartments** at **2nd and McLean** being finalized there will be a lot of attention focused on that area of Delano. We believe it is time for a push to get the **abandoned railway** turned into a **linear park / pathway / bike path**.

The **Chisholm Trail Parkway** (our name for the project) has been included in the City's **Capital Improvement Program** (CIP) since 2001 but has remained unfunded for 13 years.

The **Greenway Alliance** has chosen to focus on our railway corridor trail project this year. They will act as facilitators to move this project along and help to identify potential sources of funding.

Originally conceptualized as a **multi-use path**, it is currently being described as **"a multi-modal connection or perhaps a new street."** The park - intended to anchor the east end and serve the **Farmers Market** and other events - is now labeled as a **"future development site."**

When the plan was finally adopted, the proposed **Urban Village** (north of Douglas east of Seneca) was exempted from the zoning requirements.

The **Waterwalk Apartments** are ready to open, bringing in more people. **River Vista** will open in 2015 followed by the **Downtown Library**. There are millions of dollars being invested in Delano.

Our concern at this point is that the City will sell our planned green space to a private developer and we will lose yet another connection to the west bank of the Arkansas River.

After selling the **West Bank Stage** and then the recent **Oil Well fiasco** who can say what they might do? We need to secure that land for a green space before it is sold off.

The Delano Plan was created 15 years ago and a lot of things have changed. It is time to review the Plan, propose a few changes and begin to develop those guidelines for the Urban Village.

There is a lot going on in Delano right now and we need to keep up the momentum. Come to our Fall Mixer to find out how all these changes could affect your business. We'll have displays with the project details and complimentary food!

Tues., October 14th @ 6:00 at All Things BBQ