

City of Ralston
5500 S. 77th Street
Ralston, NE 68127
402.331.6677
www.cityofralston.com

July 2019
Volume 2, Issue 3

Our Town

Another Independence Day Celebration is in the books!



Mayor Don Groesser, his wife, Deb Groesser and their granddaughter, Dilyn, wave to parade goers while walking the parade route.



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Citizen of the Year and Grand Marshal, Dennis Parsley leads the Independence Day Parade!



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www.facebook.com/CityofRalstonNE
or @CityofRalstonNE



Congratulations to Ralston's Finest!



Ralston Police Officers were presented with awards and letters of commendation at the City Council meeting on May 7, 2019.

Top Left: Police Chief Marc Leonardo presents Sergeant Philip Winkelmann and Officer Matthew Kowalewski with the Lifesaving Award from the National Awards Program. In February, Winkelmann and Kowalewski responded to a residence with an unconscious person. The officers performed CPR and hooked up the AED and revived the individual.

Top Right: Police Chief Marc Leonardo presents Sergeant Rodney Walker and Investigator Mark McGill the Criminal Investigation Award through the National Awards Program for their involvement in solving a cold case homicide that occurred in 2013. Walker and McGill's actions taken during the investigation nearly 5 years after it occurred directly led to a suspect's confession and arrest on felony charges.



Bottom Right: Police Chief Marc Leonardo presented Letters of Commendation to Deputy Police Chief Bryan Hanson, Sergeant Rodney Walker, Sergeant Jeremy Leifeld, Sergeant Philip Winkelmann, Officer Matthew Kowalewski, Officer John Gross, Officer Andrew Kanngaiser and Officer Mark McGill for their efforts during a motor vehicle incident. In February 2019, Ralston Police Officers were dispatched to a personal injury accident at 84th and Q Streets. An individual was found deceased after having been struck by a vehicle whose driver then fled the scene. Over a period of time, numerous individuals were interviewed, crucial evidence was located, the vehicle was seized and a warrant was issued on the suspect, who then turned himself in.



Mosquito Prevention and Protection

Always remember the “3 D’s” of protection from mosquitoes

American Mosquito Control Association—www.mosquito.org

Drain

Many mosquito problems in your neighborhood are likely to come from water-filled containers that you, the resident, can help to eliminate.

All mosquitos require water in which to breed. Be sure to drain any standing water around your house.

- Dispose of any tires as tires can breed thousands of mosquitoes
- Drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers
- Clear roof gutters of debris
- Clean pet water dishes regularly
- Check & empty children’s toys
- Repair leaky outdoor faucets
- Change the water in birdbaths at least once a week
- Canoes and other boats should be turned over
- Avoid water collecting on pool covers
- Empty water collected in tarps around the yard or on woodpiles
- Plug tree holes
- Even the smallest of Containers that can collect can breed hundreds to thousands of mosquitoes

Dress

Wear light colored, loose fitting clothing. Some of the 176 mosquito species are attracted to dark clothing and some can bite through tight-fitting clothes. When practical, wear long sleeves and pants.

Defend

Choose a mosquito repellent that has been registered by the EPA. Registered products have been reviewed, approved, and pose minimal risk for human safety when used according to label directions. 3 repellents that are approved and recommended are:

DEET, Picaridin; Oil of lemon eucalyptus.

Here are some rules to follow when using repellents

- Read the directions on the label carefully before applying
- Apply sparingly, only to exposed skin
- Keep away from eyes, nostrils and lips
- DEET-based repellents can be used on children as young as 2 months of age; the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends concentrations of 30% or less
- Avoid applying repellents to portions of children’s hands that are likely to have contact with eyes or mouth
- Pregnant & nursing women should minimize use of repellents
- Never use repellents on wounds or irritated skin
- Use sparingly and reapply as needed
- Wash repellent-treated skin after coming indoors
- If a suspected reaction to the repellent occurs, wash treated skin and call a physician. Take the repellent container to the physician.

The City of Ralston is seeking individuals to serve on the Park and Tree Commission. The Commission is made up of volunteers who are citizens of Ralston. If you are interested in serving, you can obtain an application on our website or pick one up at City Hall between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

Ralston Arena Events

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the following events at the Ralston Arena!!

July 2019

Jul 12

YBN Nahmir Live in Concert

Jul 13

Omaha Heart vs Denver Dream

Jul 18-20

River City Motorcycle Challenge

Jul 20-21

Pick-A-Pooch, 2019

Jul 26

Rancheando En La Ciudad

August 2019

Aug 1

Sheryl Underwood & Friends

Aug 3

Plies, Rich the Kid, DaBaby and

NBA YoungBoy

Aug 15

Omahajobs.com Job Fair

Aug 28

Buddy Guy and

Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band

September 2019

Sep 27

Zamora Live—Bronco Por

MAS Tour 2019

New events are added daily!

Keep up on the events by

visiting the Ralston Arena

website at

www.ralstonarena.com

Local Government Officials & City Department Heads

City of Ralston

Our Vision Statement

“The City of Ralston will deliver economic, creative, cultural, and community development strategies to generate a quality of life that is a beacon of dynamic and independent small town culture within the metro area.”

Mayor—Donald Groesser

City Council Members:

Ward 1—Maureen Konwinski

Ward 2—Lee Fidelity

Ward 3—Brian Kavanaugh

Ward 4—Jerry Krause / Council President

Ward 5—Michael Sanchez

Ward 6—Ben Preis

The Ralston City Council meets on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 5:30 PM in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 5500 S. 77th Street.

City Administrator—Dave Forrest

Finance Director—Tim Bohling

City Clerk—Rosie Russell

City Attorney - Mark Klinker

Chief of Police—Marc Leonardo

Public Works Director—Dan Freshman

Library Director—Bailey Halbur

Arena General Manager—Brian Krajewski

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Click on the newsletter tab and sign up.

Or contact us at cityhall@cityofralston.com

City Council Approves a Franchise Fee on Black Hills Energy

At the City Council meeting on July 2, 2019, a majority of City Council members approved Ordinance No. 1234 to establish a franchise fee on Black Hills/Nebraska Gas Utility Company.

The ordinance allows Black Hills Energy to collect a fee from its customers located within the corporate limits on behalf of the City and then remit the fee back to the City in an amount equal to 5% of gross receipts.

You will see an additional line item for the franchise fee on your Black Hills Energy bill. With the 5% annual franchise fee, the average residential customer's bill will increase about \$3.00 a month, while the average commercial customer's bill will increase about \$6.50 a month.

By establishing this franchise fee, it is estimated the City of Ralston may collect \$92,000 in revenue on an annual basis.

Please call City Hall at 402.331.6677 if you have any questions.

Did you know . . .

That it is unlawful to rake or blow your leaves or deposit snow onto City streets?

Ralston Municipal Code §8-313 states:

STREETS; UNLAWFUL DEPOSITING OF SNOW OR LEAVES.

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, corporation, or other party to remove snow or leaves from any public, semi-public, or private parking lot, or driveway or sidewalk and place it upon any street or sidewalk within the City, or upon any fire hydrant. Also, it shall be unlawful for such snow to be placed within 150 feet of the intersecting centerlines of 2 streets at height above which such snow would become a traffic hazard by inhibiting proper sight distance at intersections herein determined to be a height of 2 feet above the top of the curb.

