

Issue 24
Aug 2018

THE GREAT LIFE NEWS

City of Gretna's
Monthly Newsletter



Below is a reprint of Mayor Timmerman's updated "Welcoming Letter"

Welcome to Gretna!

Please allow me to welcome you to our great community located in the heartland of America. If your desire is to raise your family in a great community, enjoy nearby recreational areas, shop at one of the top five (5) outlets in the nation, start a business or live in a City that is halfway between the two largest cities in Nebraska, I want to welcome you to our rapidly growing and friendly City.

The City of Gretna was founded in 1886 and incorporated on July 10th, 1889. The City began on 80 acres of land along the recently completed Burlington Northern Rail line, with a purchase price of \$560 from the Lincoln Land Company. The community's name was inspired by Scotland's Gretna Green, with many of the early settlers of the village coming from Scottish ancestry.

The community continues to experience population growth from surrounding developments by adding over 800 single family units since 2012. Nebraska Crossing Outlets Mall, south of town, opened in 2013 at the interchange of I-80 and Highway 31. It continues to bring in over 4 million shoppers a year. The mall has expanded since the opening and plans on more expansion by adding additional spaces for those retailers who are excited to become part of this successful business.

The City recently completed expansion of sewer service south to the mall which has opened up 2500 acres of developable land. The comprehensive plan proposes additional retail, hotels, and industrial parks along with mixed-use areas as our expansion continues.

If you are considering a great City to raise a family, have an interest in developing or locating a business opportunity, please contact us at 402.332.3336.

On behalf of the City Council, Staff and myself, we look forward to your interest in the Gretna community.

Sincerely,

Jim Timmerman
Mayor City of Gretna



You can FRIEND us at "City of Gretna, Nebraska"

You will receive notices on job openings, the City Calendar, and recent notices that we also post on our website.



Gretna Days Report

Gretna Days has come and gone and I am happy to say we had another successful year. The rain threatened to postpone or cancel several events but the heavy rains passed at just the right times and the events were able to go on as scheduled. The cooler weather made the weekend very comfortable and enjoyable and there was lots of fun had! Turnouts for events were great. The only negative was the Carnival at its new location, which reduced visibility and seriously decreased the turnout. Despite a significant step backwards on that event, we are working with the Carnival and are hopeful that it will be back next year.

I want to give a special “thank you” to all the groups that sponsored events and everyone who helped at our events. Without participation of the community groups, Gretna Days just wouldn’t be possible. I also want to give a special “thank you” to the City of Gretna as the City staff was extremely helpful and did a fantastic job!

You may be surprised to hear that we have already had our first meeting to start planning Gretna Days 2019. Dates are almost set. In the next few weeks we will begin signing new contracts for next year and finalizing plans for all the great events. If you would like to give us feedback on any part of Gretna Days or you have an idea for a future Gretna Days, please email us at info@gretnadays.com. We appreciate hearing your feedback.

In closing, I want to thank the entire community of Gretna for their support, their contributions, their hard work and their attendance at the events. It is the people of Gretna that make the City and Gretna Days so special.

- **Brad Stauffer, Gretna Days Foundation President**



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402-332-3336 ph

402-332-5631 fax

www.gretnane.org

Sheriff's Dept.

Ph 402-593 - 4111

Emergencies 911

School Has Started! Below is some good information from
the National Safety Council

Sharing the Road with Young Pedestrians

- Don't block the crosswalk when stopped at a red light or waiting to make a turn, forcing pedestrians to go around you; this could put them in the path of moving traffic
- In a school zone when flashers are blinking, stop and yield to pedestrians crossing the crosswalk or intersection
- Always stop for a school patrol officer or crossing guard holding up a stop sign
- Take extra care to look out for children in school zones, near playgrounds and parks, and in all residential areas
- Don't honk or rev your engine to scare a pedestrian, even if you have the right of way
- Never pass a vehicle stopped for pedestrians

Sharing the Road with School Buses

- Never pass a bus from behind – or from either direction if you're on an undivided road – if it is stopped to load or unload children
- If the yellow or red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended, traffic must stop
- The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them space to safely enter and exit the bus
- Be alert; children often are unpredictable, and they tend to ignore hazards and take risks