

DERBY

NEWS

February 2017

Happy 150th Anniversary

A message from Mayor Randy White



Our city was founded in 1869 when the Alexander Garrett family's covered wagon stopped on the banks of Spring Creek, and the family laid a claim and built a sod house. This

means 2019 will be Derby's 150th anniversary. Shall we have a party?

Well, it seems to me we have much to celebrate. After existing for decades as wee little El Paso, Kansas (population a couple hundred), the decade of the 1950s began the city's evolution with construction of a four-lane highway through town, a name change to Derby, establishment of a library, volunteer fire department and a small police department, construction of modern schools, and development of water and sewage systems. The population soared from 432 in 1950 to 6,458 in 1960.

In 1969, the community (pop. 7,500) celebrated its Centennial with a parade, publication of its history, a Mrs. Derby contest (with prizes like pearls and a mink boa), an antique show and sale, and production of "A Derby Diary" at the football field to pay homage to the community's history in a stage play

followed by fireworks. A talent show and street dance were held for teenagers. A Religious Heritage Day and Community Gospel Hour were among the many spiritual events held. From what I can tell, various Centennial events occurred for three months in 1969. Now that's a party!

Derby has boomed with housing developments every decade since and now boasts a population of nearly 24,000. Sounds like a reason to celebrate to me.

What should we plan for 2019? How shall we honor our history and celebrate our progress? Well, I don't know, but it's time to figure that out. Assuming some of you Derbyites want a celebration of our 150 years, I'd like to establish a 150th Anniversary Task Force to develop ideas, engage the community, and plan activities.

If you have ideas and want to be a part of developing plans, please indicate your interest by applying for this Task Force at www.DerbyWeb.com, pick up a paper application at City Hall, or contact Hillary Lawrence at 788-3132 or HillaryLawrence@derbyweb.com.

As with any successful community event, many volunteers will be needed. What better way to participate in community life than to step forward now to celebrate Derby?!

K-15 Looking North: Early 1900s



K-15 Looking South: Early 1900s



Uncorked

**Saturday, Feb. 25
7 to 10 p.m.**

**The Venue at Madison Avenue Central
Park, 512 E. Madison Ave.**

Enjoy an evening with live music, live auction and more to benefit the Derby Community Foundation, including the Community Enrichment Grant Program.

Also on tap are wine and beer tasting, French cuisine prepared by Abuelo's Catering and fine chocolates by Cocoa Dolce.

Tickets are \$75 each. Purchase them at the Derby Welcome Center, 611 Mulberry Rd. or online at www.derbycf.org.



Spring Into Art

The City of Derby is holding a brand-new event to celebrate the arts in Derby. Spring Into Art will be held April 23 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Madison Avenue Central Park, 512 E. Madison Ave.



We are looking for art vendors/exhibitors who would like to participate. We have space for 30 booths on the Event Lawn and around The Pavilion. Inclement weather will move booths inside. Event held rain or shine.

Learn more and register at www.derbyweb.com/springintoart. If you have questions, call Janae' Springer at 788-1519 ext. 232 or email janaespringer@derbyweb.com.

City Seeking a Few Good Volunteers

The City of Derby needs you to serve! The community needs your help to guide Derby's future growth and celebrate our history. Get an application for an open position listed below at DerbyWeb.com or at City Hall (Mon.-Thurs. 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Fri. 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.). Applications are due by March 15.

New: 150th Anniversary Task Force

Term is 2017-2019

Will plan and implement celebratory activities for Derby's 150th anniversary in 2019. Meeting times to be determined.

ADA Advisory Board

2 vacancies, 2-year term

Meets on the second Monday of each quarter at 4 p.m.

The board was established to work towards full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act with respect to all City facilities and activities. The board makes recommendations to the City through the City's ADA Administrator.

Community Development Advisory Board

2 vacancies, 2-year term

Meets quarterly at 4:30 p.m.

The board monitors the City's economic development plan, recommends to the City Council the financial incentives for development projects, proposes economic development policy updates, and advocates for programs to enhance the City's economy.

Library Board

1 vacancy, 4-year term

Meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m.

This board is an autonomous board that has the responsibility of establishing written policies, rules and regulations to govern the library property, operations and safety. Members may serve a total of two four-year terms.

Contact Hillary with questions at 788-3132 or HillaryLawrence@derbyweb.com.

Town Hall Meeting

Can We Talk?

Feb. 9, 6 to 7 p.m.

Derby Welcome Center, 611 Mulberry Rd.

Do you wonder about the future of Sedgwick County and Derby? Do you have questions for city staff and elected officials? Join Derby Senior Services for a town hall Can We Talk?

We will have a question and answer session with County Commissioner Jim Howell, Derby Mayor Randy White, and Derby City Manager Kathy Sexton. Arrive early to fill out a question card. Registration is required. Please R.S.V.P. by Feb. 7 by calling 788-0223.

Can We Talk? is a monthly lecture series sponsored by the Derby Senior Center designed to educate seniors and their children on a variety of topics relevant to today's seniors.



Landscape Conversion Rebate Program

The City of Derby is offering a rebate of \$1 per square foot for removal of irrigated, well-maintained cool-season grass and replacement with a more water-efficient, drought-tolerant landscaping or artificial turf. There is a minimum 100 square feet, \$1,000 maximum rebate per residential or business customer.

Applications are due May 31, 2017. Funding is available on a first come, first served basis. The City has dedicated \$24,000 for this program.

Rebate-eligible conversions include:

- Replacing portions of irrigated cool-season lawns with xeriscape beds or mulched planting beds.
- Converting all or parts of irrigated cool-season lawn to artificial turf, as long as the material used is listed for outdoor use and is water permeable.

Learn about guidelines and eligibility at www.derbyweb.com/landscapeconversion. Call Public Works at 788-0301 for more information or to get started on your project.



Find landscaping ideas this spring at the Educational Garden at the Derby Welcome Center

Donate Your Points

Donate your Recyclebank points to a good cause. Swaney Elementary School is looking for donors.

Thanks to RecycleBank, the school can earn up to \$2,500 in grant funding when individuals donate their Recyclebank points. The points are converted into cash and will go towards construction of an outdoor classroom at Swaney Elementary.



Donate now through March 15 at <https://www.recyclebank.com/contest/index/school/id/227/>. If you have questions, contact Becky Robinson at brobinso@usd260.com.

Join the Derby Community Choir

The Derby Community Choir is looking for new members. Rehearsals are open to all and held on Thursdays from 7 to 8:15 p.m. at Woodlawn United Methodist Church. A performance will be held on April 23. If you have questions, call Choir Director Ross Hearn at 788-6321.



Care to Dance?

Community dances are held the first and third Tuesdays of the month from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the Derby Welcome Center. Live band! All ages welcome.