



the Lindsborg City View

Quarterly Newsletter - Issue 66 - AUGUST 2023

The Great Gathering in Lindsborg

Seventy-six years after Mr. Erik P. Lenander won a contest naming a festival that would pay "homage to the Swedish people for their contributions to the welfare of mankind," Svensk Hyllningsfest on Oct. 13 & 14 will bring thousands to Lindsborg, gathering to do just that.

From beautiful Swedish apparel to dancing & music in the streets, the delicious Smorgasbord to the parade of floats, Hyllningsfest is a weekend for Lindsborg to display community pride—in our heritage, college, arts, work ethic, people of all ages, businesses, our past, and our future.

In 2021, I came back from Arizona for Hyllningsfest and celebrated my 20-year class reunion at Bethany College (Class of 2000, but of course we had to wait for a Hyllningsfest year!). At the time, I was a candidate for the position of City Administrator, but it wasn't until a couple of weeks later that I returned for my interviews. During the festival weekend, I was able to spend time in the city I loved, seeing it from the point of view of a potential resident, but also as a proud alumna and former employee of Bethany College. I left with a full heart, and it only sealed the deal for me that I wanted to come back home to Lindsborg.

Now, two years later, I have the privilege of working with the Hyllningsfest Committee and City staff to see the COUNTLESS details behind the scenes of the festival coming together. You would not believe it if I told you how many moving parts there are to making the special event happen—food, permits, agreements, performances, schedules, streets, public safety, parking, maps, tickets, scripts, shirts, lodging, costumes, floats—and that just scratches the surface. Our team is also working to ensure that homes and businesses are in tip-top shape (including City Hall; see pg. 3) for our guests to arrive.

It's not just a fun weekend for people to gather in our little town (though that's what we hope they take away from it). It's a weekend for those of us who call it home to gather with our neighbors, colleagues, family, and friends to feel the vibrant spirit of our community and to celebrate not only it's Swedish heritage, but it's promising future. We look forward to seeing you Oct. 13 & 14 in beautiful downtown Lindsborg!

By Kristi Northcutt, City Administrator



Swedish Smörgåsbord by the numbers

- 6,500 meatballs
- 325 pounds of potato sausage
- 30 smoked salmon
- 60 pounds of pickled herring
- 70 loaves of Swedish rye bread
- 60 dozen deviled eggs
- 45 tea rings
- 200 pounds of ostkaka
- 30 pounds of coffee
- 125+ volunteers





City Council



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Council elections

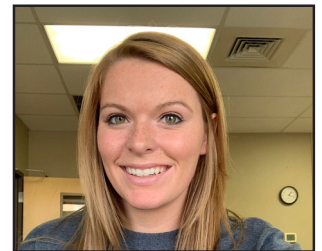
It's a City Council election year, and one seat will be expiring Dec. 31 in each of the four wards (4-year terms); additionally, the Mayor's term (2-year term) will expire.

To run, forms had to be received by the County Clerk by June 1. Those running include Ward 1 – Rebecca Van Der Wege (incumbent) and Deborah Johnson; Ward 2 – Kirsten Bruce (incumbent, unopposed); Ward 3 – Andrew Smith (incumbent, unopposed); Ward 4 – Joshua Swanson (unopposed); and Mayor – Clark Shultz (incumbent, unopposed).

The election for Ward 1 will take place in November. The newly elected Mayor and Councilmembers take office the first Monday in December following the election according to Kansas Statutes.

Two new department directors join City staff

Join us in welcoming Lauren Doak as the City's new Recreation Director. You may know Lauren from her role serving as Lindsborg's Aquatics Director, but she has also served as a coach & referee in various sports and brings with her a wealth of experience in grants & administration. You can reach Lauren at recdirector@lindsborgcity.org.



Milton Collins joins the staff on Aug. 16 as the Director of Community Development & Neighborhood Services. A Bethany College alum, Milton has worked at the Board of Public Utilities and as a code compliance officer for the City of McPherson, as well as contracting with other rural cities for code compliance, inspection services, and planning & zoning. You can reach Milton at comdevdirector@lindsborgcity.org.

Officer Eric Kruckenberg has left his role with the Lindsborg Police Department and the USD400 School Resource Officer to join Salina Area Technical College as a full-time instructor. Known as Kruck to many, he began his tenure with LPD in 2015. He will continue to serve the LPD as a part-time, on-call officer. We thank him for his service and wish him all the best!



staff spotlight



Finance Director David Hay completed his associate degree from Fort Hays State University and graduated in May. David now moves into his bachelor's degree program. City Administrator Kristi Northcutt said, "We are proud of the work that David is putting into his education while also working more than full time and serving as a volunteer firefighter. He wears many hats, and we are grateful for the time and energy he puts into all his roles."

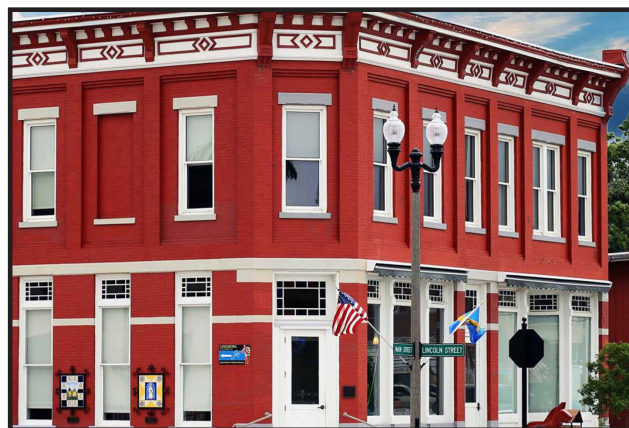
Parks Superintendent Noah Flores recently completed a six-month program through the Public Management Center at the University of Kansas called the Emerging Leaders Academy, or ELA. Participants learn qualities of good leaders, have coaching sessions with mentors, and develop personal leadership philosophies. "We're very proud of the time and commitment that Noah put into this program," said City Administrator Kristi Northcutt. "His dedication to excellence and professionalism is apparent in his work, and this course elevated him to the next level."



City Hall painting project gets underway soon

City Hall was last painted in 2016, and since that time, the paint has faded from a bright, vibrant red to what many have referred to as “salmon pink.” Soon, that vibrancy will return.

In May, Parks Superintendent Noah Flores received approval from City Council to award an exterior painting bid to Koehn Painting Co. LLC, at a price of \$25,285.00, which will include painting the exterior brick, trim, fire escape, and addressing any damage to the existing façade. City Administrator Kristi Northcutt also asked that the “BANK” lettering be restored on the corner of Lincoln and Main at the top of the structure to keep the historical element intact.



City staff met with the State Historical Preservation Office in July to discuss deferred maintenance issues at City Hall, and possible grant or tax credit opportunities available to the City. Currently, staff is addressing not only the paint, but HVAC, roofing, water infiltration, and window challenges.

“The building was renovated in 2010, and it’s approaching 15 years. Over time, such a big building that is heavily used is going to see wear-and-tear, but addressing the issues is a little more challenging because of its historical status,” Northcutt said. “We want to ensure that any repairs or updates that we make to address these areas are done to the correct specifications and guidelines set forth by the Preservation Office, and that we utilize all opportunities for funding available to us to reduce the burden on taxpayers.”

The exterior paint project will take place in September, so that the project is complete well in advance of Hyllningsfest.

K-4 Grade separation project to be considered at KDOT local consult meetings, Oct. 11

For many years, Lindsborg City Council and staff have been working to address issues with the K-4 overpass coming into Lindsborg from the north. With the removal of the bridge and realignment with Bethany Drive, an additional 25 acres of land would be available for development, and a traffic safety hazard would be eliminated. The project also allows for a potential future Garfield Street extension to connect to K-4, allowing another east-west connection across the city.



The K-4 bridge was originally developed in 1994 to address a railroad crossing; shortly after the completion of the bridge, the railroad was abandoned and eventually the Valkommen Trail was developed. The bridge deck needs extensive repair. As an alternative to conducting the repairs, which would be needed on an ongoing basis, the City has proposed to the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) that the bridge be removed.

As proposed, K-4 would be realigned north of the existing intersection at Wells Fargo Rd. and K-4, such that it crosses the Valkommen Trail approximately 200 feet to the northeast and intersects with Garfield Street. From that intersection, Harrison Street extension/K-4 should proceed northeast along the route of the existing Bethany Drive and continue in this direction until it meets the existing alignment at Wheatridge Road.

KDOT is hosting local consult meetings for each district, and District 2 (including Lindsborg) will meet on Oct. 11, 2023, 9 a.m.-noon at the Hilton Garden Inn in Salina.

Cow Creek phase 1 is complete

Phase 1 of the Cow Creek Maintenance Project is now complete! Despite the many rain delays in June, the Cow Creek project was completed professionally and as planned by local partner, Malm Construction. Thank you to the many community partners who helped to facilitate Phase 1 of the project, including impacted property owners, Malm Construction, and Wilson and Co. Phase 2 of the project, on the south side of the city, is dependent upon securing easements from a few remaining residents. Once obtained, the second half of the project will be completed.

Staff looks forward to future floodplain management and improvement projects for the safety of Lindsborg residents and protection of property.

KANcycle Bikeshare off and rolling

The KANcycle Bikeshare program is off to a great start with community ridership leading all communities in North Central Kansas. Be sure to download the app and document the Dala you ride on social media! The first two people to ride all the bikes and/or figure out all the easter eggs on the license plates will win a free bikeshare t-shirt. Just tag @visitlindsborg for your chance to win. Happy riding!



Apple



Android
Google Play

Lift Up Lindsborg! second year success

LUL! is off to a great start this year with three houses having already been repainted. Ten homes were selected for the program this year and are due to be complete shortly before Hyllningsfest. Be on the lookout around town for the *Lift Up Lindsborg!* yard signs.

Learn more about the process, from applying to volunteering, by visiting lindsborgcity.org/departments/cd.



Have Your Say:

Appearance Guidelines Survey

City Council is seeking local feedback to get a better sense of what kind of architecture, design, and public art the community prefers. The feedback will inform the second version of the Appearance Guidelines, which is used to regulate building design, signage, and public art throughout the community. You can access the survey on the Community Development page of the City website (lindsborgcity.org/departments/cd), by scanning the QR code, by following the survey link (lindsborgcd.typeform.com/survey).

The average time it takes to complete is five minutes. The survey will close on Nov. 1, 2023.

Thank you for your participation.



Yard waste composting facility – “The Boneyard” rules

Situated a little less than a mile east of the Harrison-Cole corridor, the City’s composting facility, also known as “The Boneyard,” is open year-round for the disposal of yard and brush debris. Located at what was originally the town dump, the 1 ½-acre site was established in 1991 as yard waste composting facility, providing a convenient place to get rid of lawn and tree debris. The unmanned facility is licensed by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and is inspected on an annual basis. The state license requires that the grounds are not used for the dumping of trash or other non-vegetative debris, and the City’s failure to comply would revoke the permit resulting in the closure of the facility.

There are two disposal areas. The first is for grass clippings, leaves, and dry vegetation. Material from this pile is gathered into wind rows and worked with a compost turner until decomposed. The end product is available to residents and provides rich compost for use to amend garden soil, aerate lawns, and even fill flowerpots. The second pile is for sticks, limbs, and logs, as well as trimmings from trees and shrubs. The wood is ground into wood chips and mulch whenever possible, but more often burned in place when the weather allows. The Public Works Department is responsible for upkeep and maintenance of the facility, and during the growing season, the Parks Department provides compost and wood chips in two bins located at the Recycle Center.



The disposal site is regulated by City Code, Section 48-205, which states that “grass, leaves, lawn and garden vegetation, tree limbs and trimmings, and shrubbery are allowable materials to be left at the site. Disposal of any other material is hereby expressly prohibited.” Too often, the wrong material winds up at the site, causing wasted time and expense for City crews to clean up. New signs have been added, and enforcement will increase due to increased violations. The area is also under surveillance.

Boneyard NO-NOs

(these items not allowed)

- CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS, ESPECIALLY BOARDS WITH NAILS, SCREWS, AND OTHER HARDWARE.**
✓ THE METAL DOESN'T BURN AND CAUSES TIRE DAMAGE FOR BOTH WORK CREWS AND RESIDENTS.
- ✓ GARDEN HARDSCAPING ITEMS, LIKE TIMBERS, EDGING, ROCK, AND ESPECIALLY RAILROAD TIES.
✓ TRASH, GARBAGE, AND PAPER PRODUCTS.
✓ PLASTIC BAGS SHOULD BE EMPTIED AND RETURNED FOR PROPER DISPOSAL, NOT JUST DUMPED.
- ✓ MATTRESSES, FURNITURE, APPLIANCES, AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD ITEMS.
✓ GLASS OF ANY KIND.

Fourth grade community service project focuses on sustainability

Each May, Visit Lindsborg staff are given the privilege of working with USD400 fourth graders on a community service project that teaches them the importance of civic responsibility. In past years, we have picked up trash at Coronado Heights and planted pollinator gardens along the Välkommen Trail and the Meadowlark Trail. Along with each day's work, we also try to incorporate a whole lot of learning and fun. Past classes have learned more about area geology, environment, Lindsborg history, and the importance of travel and tourism to the Lindsborg community. At the end of each community service day each student has an opportunity to share what they love most about their "workday" and what they love about Lindsborg. We end with Swedish treats from White's Foodliner, and postcards that are given to each student to share with others, enabling them to invite a friend or family member to visit.

In 2024, we stepped up the scope of our project a bit with the addition of trees and shrubs that were planted along the Välkommen Trail. Students learned more about the importance of trees, water conservation, the life cycle of Monarch butterflies and the plants they need to survive their migration, and the importance of bees, not just for their honey, but for the way they pollinate most of our food crops.

Special thanks to those that provided funding and workday support. We could not provide such a fantastic opportunity for our students without you.

Project support:

- Williams Environmental

Tree Planting:

- Kansas Forest Service
- Lindsborg Tree Board
 - Bob Ash
 - Karmon Almquist
 - Keith Kandt
 - David Reising
 - Keith Ferguson
 - Gary Shogren
 - Steve Swensson
 - Kendra Holt Moore

Pollinator Education:

- Erik Peterson
- K-State Research and Extension

Water Conservation:

- K-State Research and Extension

Last but not least, we are grateful for a school system that allows us to plan and put kids to work on projects that they can return to, many years later, remembering their part in making Lindsborg a better place.



Back to school means a spotlight on safety

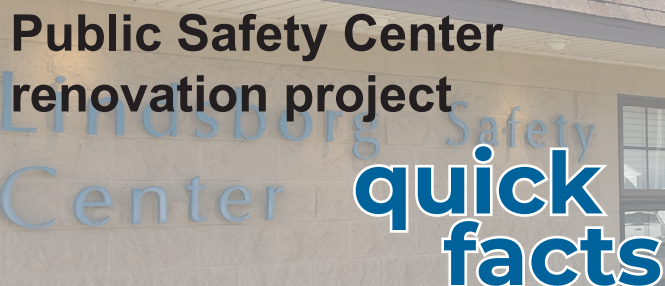
Back-to-school time is exciting for many people, from kindergarteners to college students, as well as parents and school staff. Back to school can also be an exciting time for those individuals looking to take advantage of unsuspecting victims as our streets fill with students carrying valuables, and parking lots fill up with vehicles. As we prepare for the upcoming school year, the following list contains various tips on making you and your child's school year a safe one:

Be sure your child(ren) know their home phone number (including area code) address, your work number, the number of another trusted adult, and how to use 911 for emergencies.

- Plan a safe walking route to school or the bus stop. Choose the most direct way with the fewest street crossings.
- Teach children—whether walking, biking, or riding the bus to school—to obey all traffic signals, signs and crosswalks. Remind them to be extra careful in rainy weather.
- If possible, make sure they walk to and from school with others - a friend, neighbor, brother, or sister.
- Teach your child never to talk to strangers or accept rides or gifts from strangers. Make sure they stay alert when walking to and from school.
- If you choose to send your kids to school with valuables such as iPods, iPads, laptops, smartphones, or expensive jewelry, ask them to keep the items hidden in a backpack as they travel to and from school. They should also keep a close eye on their property throughout the day.
- If you park your vehicle at school, make sure the alarm is on, all doors are locked, and all valuables are removed from plain view.
- When dropping kids off at school, remember to drop off/pick up children as close to school as possible following the below listed parking/driving laws. You CANNOT:
 - Stop/park on the roadway side of any vehicle to drop off kids.
 - Park within 30 feet from an intersection, stop/yield sign.
 - Park on a crosswalk or within 30 feet of a crosswalk.
 - Park within 15 feet of a fire hydrant.
 - Park blocking a driveway, alley, or private road.
 - Park in a space allotted for person with disabilities unless you have a disabled placard/license plate.
 - Park anywhere where a “No Parking” sign is posted.

Please keep these parking tips in mind when dropping off your children at their school. Our streets are already narrow enough when parking is done correctly, we do not want illegally parked vehicles interfering with the safe flow of traffic or put our students at risk.

Finally, many of us take for granted that we live in a safe and peaceful community where people respect each other and their property. However, there are always a few out there who look to take advantage of those who are unsuspecting of their surroundings. If you realize that you have been the victim of a crime, contact the Lindsborg Police Department immediately.



**Public Safety Center
renovation project**
**quick
facts**

Expected timeline: November 2023-April 2024

Project funds budgeted over the 2023 & 2024 fiscal years.

Public safety staff will relocate to other city buildings downtown during the project.

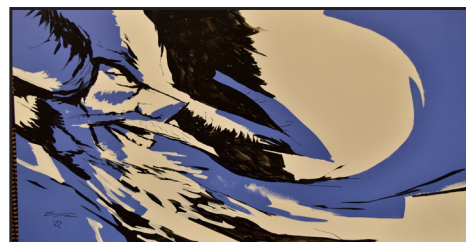
Goal of the project is to increase efficiency and safety for public safety staff during their day-to-day work, which will help provide the high-quality service residents deserve.

Viking Valley art project update

The project is progressing well, and the hand painted murals are all completed. The diversity of all the pieces of artwork is unique and makes the project all that more interesting. The artists worked hard at creating pieces of art that uniquely represent parts, ideas, and themes of the local area.

The original pieces of artwork are currently being reproduced. These reproductions will be installed at Viking Valley Playground in Swensson Park in the location of the previous panels. The completion of the project is scheduled for the Fall and will include new panels and plaques.

The following artists contributed their skills and time to this project: Channing Wall, Pat Pender, Noah Flores, Jen Krob, Jenny Davis, Angela Rider, and Cal McNichols.



In order from top to bottom:

Angela Rider
"Gold Found in a Curious Place"

Cal McNichols
"Untitled"

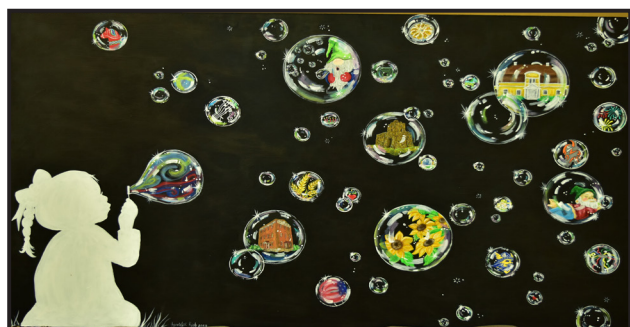
Jenny Davis
"Just Passing Through"

Pat Pender
"Having a Ball in Lindsborg"



This project is possible thanks to local donors and the Kansas Creative Arts Industries Commission

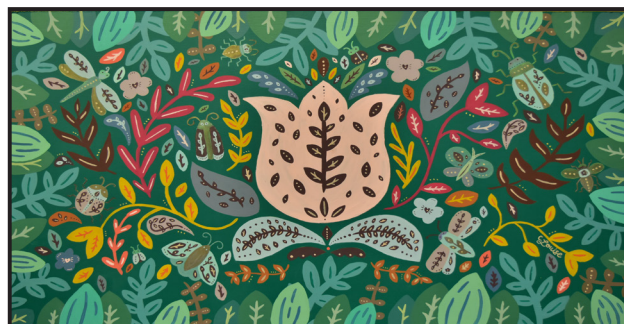
Artist Spotlight



"The story is a young Swedish American girl blowing bubbles and in the bubble that she is blowing, you see the American and Swedish colors mixing. The bubbles she has blown contain things that mean a lot to me in Lindsborg and remind me of people and events."
- Jen Krob ("Sending Up" pictured left)

"Lindsborg is a hidden gem, and like everything in life, depends on perspective. Looking at this far away is one perspective, like how one could view Lindsborg from a distance. But as you peek through and get a little closer, you see small details that would otherwise be missed. The strong Swedish influence inspired this style, which is based on traditional Swedish folk art that typically includes bright colors and whimsical designs. A lot of the traditional art is very symmetrical, but this is my take on asymmetrical symmetry and a representation of how nature is perfectly imperfect."

- Channing Wall ("Hidden Gem" pictured right)



Envisioning a downtown tree plan

One aspect of the quaint town of Lindsborg is the downtown business district. From the small local shops to the brick streets to the tree lined sidewalks, “visually inviting” is what describes the downtown area.

Shade-giving trees give downtown its beauty. There are some ordinances already in place that specify what is sustainable and provide the best appearance. Unfortunately, over time, this has not been closely followed. Specifically, due to tree species selection, some trees are oversized for downtown. This is causing issues with the grates and electrical boxes, tree limbs affecting the buildings and windows, difficulty in maintaining/trimming, and over time, will impact the sidewalk and below-ground infrastructure.

In response, the Parks Department is completing a tree plan to address some of the issues that are being encountered. City Council and public input will be involved in detailing the plan, as well.

This plan is made to accommodate the following:

- Adheres to ordinances;
- Protects existing infrastructure;
- Protects the appearance and biodiversity of the downtown; and
- Addresses the functions of the trees.



Any work downtown would be done after Hyllningsfest.

Lindsborg: parks in abundance



Lucia Garden



Carlson Memorial



Swensson



Riverside



Swede Sk8 Skate

Clubhouse Chip-In campaign aims to improve golf in Lindsborg

This summer has been a busy one at the Lindsborg Golf Course and we could not be more excited!

Memberships are up, both Men's and Ladies Nights are booming and we have seen the next generation of golfers enjoy the game with the Junior Golf program. The course was nominated for Best Local Course in The Community Choice Awards. Safe to say, things are full swing here at our lovely nine-hole golfing oasis!

Now, it's time to keep that momentum going and keep our eyes focused on the future. Due to age and a need for a larger space for leagues, programs and events, the time is here for a new and larger clubhouse. Adding new cart sheds to replace the outdated existing ones, along with new landscaping and architectural work, would help propel the golf course into the future.

The Clubhouse Chip-In campaign, along with potential grant funding, aims to provide the amount needed to complete this project. It's important to note that no taxpayer dollars will be used for this project.

For more info on this project, visit golflindsborg.com or email Lauren Doak at recdirector@lindsborgcity.org.



**Clubhouse
Chip-in**
Lindsborg Golf
Course Clubhouse
fundraising drive

Donate Below



Date set for Fredrickson Fitness Family Park dedication

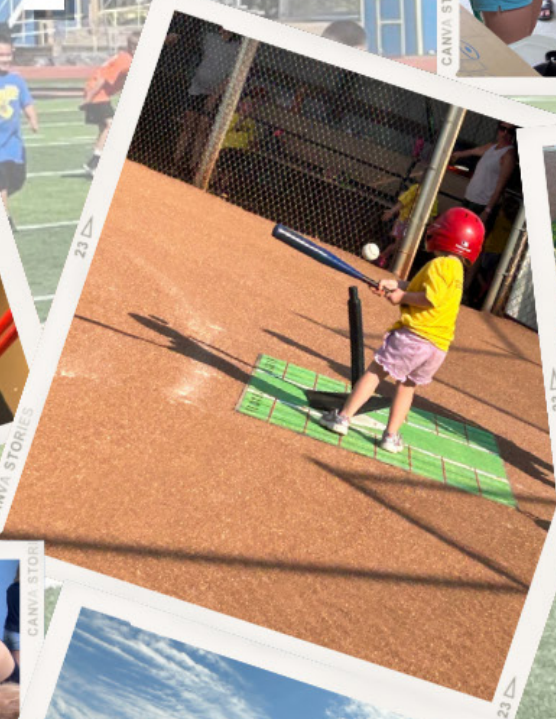
A date has been set for an official dedication for the Fredrickson Family Fitness Park (FFFP), located near the Old Mill at the south trail head parking lot, which opened earlier this year. To cap off a festive Hyllningsfest weekend, the dedication will take place Sunday, Oct. 15, at 1:30 p.m. The Fredrickson family and select project representatives will be in attendance, and the public is welcome to attend to help celebrate the occasion.



FFFP is named after Dr. Duane Fredrickson, beloved Lindsborg family physician, exercise enthusiast, historian, and community volunteer. The project is designed to positively contribute to the overall state of wellness for all users physically, socially, and mentally, and will provide a dedicated space for outdoor fitness and exercise. Residents of all abilities can enjoy a sense of community while improving their strength, agility, and flexibility.

The park provides about 20 different low-impact workout machines and a shaded, turfed area for additional workout space. It also serves as one of three bike docks for the Lindsborg bikeshare program. More event details will be available at lindsborgcity.org and the City's Facebook page as the date draws closer.

rec SUMMER 2023 recap



Visit
lindsborgrec.org
for upcoming
program and class
info!



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UPCOMING EVENTS

www.visitlindsborg.com/lindsborg-calendar-of-events
www.lindsborgcity.org

City Council Meetings: Aug. 7 & 21, Sept. 5 & 18, Oct. 2 & 16; 6:30 p.m. at City Hall
Meetings are streamed on our Facebook and YouTube channels.

City Offices Closed: Sept. 4 (Labor Day)

Hyllningsfest: Oct. 13 & 14

Planning Commission & Design Review Board Meeting: Aug. 22, Sept. 26 & Oct. 24
6 p.m. at City Hall

Tree Board Meeting: Aug. 15, Sept. 19 & Oct. 17; 8:30 a.m. at City Hall

Recycling Center: Open 24/7; please be considerate with noise levels.



Scheduled events are subject to change.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Police, Fire and Ambulance:	911 or 785.227.2988 (non-emergency)
Water, Sewer, Electric, Streets:	785.227.3428
Water, Sewer, Electric, Streets:	785.227.3469 (after hours, weekends and holidays)