



# Historic Delano News

## April 2011

### Promoting Delano's past, present & future

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Howdy,

Well, the first quarter of 2011 sure flew by fast! The **St. Patrick's Parade** was a great success - beautiful weather and a record-setting crowd of spectators (*see Nancy's report on page 2*).

The **2nd Saturday** shopping spree now has over 500 re-useable shopping bags in the hands of eager shoppers, who receive discounts from the participating merchants in **Delano, Downtown, Old Town** and the **Douglas Design District**. It's only \$20 a month to be included. If you are interested, **call Jim at 706-6283**.

The **2011 Historic Delano Visitors Guide** is almost ready to take to the printer. The schedule has been pushed back so that we can have a final review at the meeting (*see notice at right*).

A lot of bicycle news this month. The **Delano West Douglas Avenue Bicycle Parking Plan** goes to the City Council for approval on April 5th. Once it is approved we will still need to work on getting it funded, but it's a start.

**I Bike Douglas** is coming up again on May 21st and **Pedal Mania!** is planned for June 11th (*the second Saturday of Riverfest 2011*). We'll have more on these events as plans are finalized.

The **Delano Community Garden** is preparing for the upcoming season with a lot of plans and the **Delano Community Farmers' Market** will be opening in May (*read more on page 2*).

Until next month - Jim & Nancy

## Mark Your Calendars

**Tuesday, April 5, 2011 - 6:00 p.m.**  
**Central Plains Novelty**  
**905 W. Douglas**

### *Historic Delano Visitors Guide*

At this meeting we will review the final draft of the **2011 Historic Delano Visitors Guide** before it is sent off to the printer. This will be the final opportunity for changes to be made.

### *HistoricDelano.com*

Once the Visitors Guide is off to the printer, we will be focusing on updating the web site with a new interactive Business Directory and more. Come give us your input.

### *Delano Community Garden & Delano Community Farmers' Market*

We'll have a report on the current status of the Farmers' Market and Community Garden.

**Please Join us!**

### Contact us

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Visitors' Guide

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## St. Patrick's Parade Sets Record!

The **5th Annual St. Patrick's Parade** was a huge success! A crowd of 8 to 10 thousand lined Douglas Avenue. It was a gorgeous Spring day!

Interviewers from some of the local radio and TV stations tell me that many of the visitors they talked with had never been in Delano before and were delighted to see so many interesting shops and businesses.

Activities before and after the parade gave our visitors of all ages fun things to do. It was very exciting to see the restaurants and bars so full of people enjoying themselves. Many of the shop owners have reported a huge increase in traffic and sales that day.

The St. Patrick's Parade has become the second largest parade in Wichita - second only to the Riverfest Sundown Parade. Next year, it will be on St. Patrick's Day and will be even bigger.

The costs for organizing events has increased. The permit fee has gone up and the City now charges for the security provided by the WPD. I am meeting with the city officials soon to review what our costs for next year's parade will be.

Historic Delano's events have always been free to the public and we intend to keep it that way. We rely on sponsors & donations to cover costs. Without financial support, events will disappear.

Please consider sponsoring one of our events - each of them will require sponsors - and your logo will appear on the event's web page, poster and other printed materials. If a sponsorship is not possible, perhaps you could give a donation. We will accept any amount - large or small.

All of us benefit from the attention that Historic Delano receives from activities and events - and from the people those events bring to the district. We want these family-fun events to continue.

Nancy Lawrence  
Parade Organizer

## Delano Community Garden

It has been either too cold or too wet to do much in the garden, but last year's debris has been cleared and the gardeners are eager to begin.

Once again, we have more gardeners interested than space available, but another lot has been identified for possible expansion of the garden. The property owner should let us know soon.

**El Dorado Heirloom Seeds** donated several of their **Heritage Garden Kits to Infinite Growth Opportunities** (*IGO starts community gardens in and around Wichita*). The **Delano Community Garden** received one of these kits; and another is being used to start the **Delano Seed Library**.

Each kit contains 67 varieties of Heirloom seeds (*for those who don't know, Heirloom varieties are non-hybrid, non-genetically-modified plants that produce fertile seed and breed true*). This year the gardeners will learn how to save seeds!

The **Delano Community Garden** just received a grant for soil testing & soil amendments and we think we found a donor to help us get started on the garden fence. Also on the project list is a new roof on the shed and our own water source. For info: <http://www.historicdelano.com/garden>.

## Delano Community Farmer's Market

The **Delano Community Farmers' Market** will hold its **Opening Day on Wednesday, May 4th** (*The market may be open a week or two earlier than that depending on availability of produce*).

This year the market will be hosting live cooking demonstrations done by two businesses here in Delano: **All Things BBQ** and **Lotus Leaf Café**. Each one will be at the market once a month to show how to prepare in-season produce.

The market is over half full, but there is still room for a few vendors. If you or someone you know would like to be a vendor, contact us soon - we are taking the paperwork to the city on April 8th. For info: <http://www.historicdelano.com/market>.