City continues work on stormwater program passed by voters

Although the rain gauge has not overflowed recently, the City of Joplin continues to upgrade stormwater drainage in numerous areas throughout the City to help keep water moving during these occurrences.

Some may remember the sudden rain burst received in June 2007 that brought seven and a half inches of rain in a two-day period, with much coming in a span of a few hours, that flooded the Illinois Avenue and Murphy Boulevard corridors from 9th street north to Main Street. The water rose very quickly due to the four water sources that converge in this area. Iowa Branch, Joplin Creek West and Willow Branch all flow into Joplin Creek near the 4th Street and Murphy Boulevard intersection. City parks and ball fields were flooded, as were some businesses in that area.

Since then, this area has seen extensive stormwater improvements, as it was one of the projects identified in the Stormwater Management plan developed in the late 1990s. Funding for this project and others listed below comes from the 1/4-cent Parks and Stormwater sales tax that citizens approved in 2001.

The City completed the **Murphy Boulevard** project by placing new larger box culverts and adding curb inlets to drain the streets. The existing stream channels were lined with rock that dated to the WPA era and were in poor condition as well as undersized. The stream channels were widened considerably and lined with eco-friendly mats that prevent erosion of the new banks.

Other areas that have been addressed through these revenues include:

**Downtown** – the City placed nearly one half of a mile of pipe and concrete box with many new catch basins along Willow Branch, a large creek that runs underground in the downtown area. Many people point to this improvement as setting the stage for the downtown renovation efforts.

**7th Street & Maiden Lane intersection** – the City has completed the first phase which was constructing a new culvert across Seventh Street and Maiden Lane that parallels the existing culvert to increase the capacity. New inlets were installed on both streets to take water off of the streets and get it into the culverts. The second phase will be completed in 2010 and will include installing new culverts south of Seventh Street and channel improvements at the north end of the project.

**15th Street and Murphy Boulevard, in the Campbell Parkway area** - A new culvert was constructed to replace the existing pipe which was in poor structural condition.

**McClelland Boulevard** – During rain storms the intersection of 30th and McClelland Blvd. has water ponding in the street, which is a hazard to the driving public. The City is installing a new culvert that relieves the existing system. Several new inlets are also being installed to take water off of the street and reduce the flooding.

**A Street and McCoy Avenue** – the City has installed a new box culvert and new inlets to reduce flooding.

**32nd to 33rd West of Connecticut** – the City lined the existing ditch with concrete matching the ditch cross section to the south to reduce flooding.

**Davis Detention Pond** – construction has started on this regional detention pond on Joplin Creek that will reduce flooding. It is located near 25th and Davis Boulevard.

The Joplin Citizen is a quarterly newsletter published by the City of Joplin for all city residents to receive by mail. Please send questions or comments to Lynn Iliff Onstot, Public Information Officer, City of Joplin, 602 South Main Street, Joplin, MO 64801, or you may send an email to lonstot@joplinmo.org.
City continues work on stormwater program passed by voters
(continued from front cover)

The City appreciates the patience of citizens traveling through Joplin, as many of these projects have caused temporary road closures and detours.

The Stormwater Management Plan has recently been updated, with other areas identified as needing stormwater improvements. Details of these projects will be forthcoming, as the City moves forward in consideration of a renewal of the Parks and Stormwater Sales Tax.

The City can also provide guidance for residents to move their stormwater through proper channels. If residents have questions, contact Dan Johnson, Civil Engineer in Public Works for general information at 624-0820, ext. 538.

1. Murphy Blvd Project
2. Downtown
3. 7th & Maiden Lane
4. 15th & Murphy Blvd
5. McClelland Blvd
6. A St & McCoy Ave
7. 32nd-33rd W of Connecticut
8. Davis Detention Pond
Check it out... Joplin has a new parking lot made with “Pervious Pavers” on the northwest corner of Eighth and Main Street. A pervious paver has a larger than traditional “tab” thus creating a “gap” between each paver.

Why pervious pavers? Why gaps? …Because the multi-layered bed of rock under the gaps allows stormwater to slow and filter down before entering the subsurface storage area. The filtering reduces pollutants from entering the storm drain system.

Additional Benefits: A cooler than conventional pavement; Americans with Disabilities Act compliant; simplifies surface and subsurface repairs; snow melts faster thus reduces ice hazards and reduces the need to spread salt and cinders; promote’s tree survival and growth.

Conversely, pollutants such as trash, yard waste, dirt, chemicals, leaks from vehicles (lubricants, fuels, antifreeze), etc. build up on “Impervious Surfaces” (traditional concrete and asphalt paving) and wash off into area waterways. The Eighth and Main Street storm drains are directed to the Willow Branch of Joplin Creek.

This new parking lot is a public-private partnership between the City of Joplin and First State Bank.

**Storm Water Protection & Water Pollution Prevention**

**Pool hours to change in mid-August**

Starting in mid-August, the Joplin City pools will be shortening their hours as families and students begin the back-to-school routine.

The last day to swim at Schifferdecker Pool is Sunday, August 8; while swimmers can enjoy Cunningham and Ewert Aquatic Centers through Sunday, August 15. The Ewert facility will be open only on weekends after August 15, and the last day for enjoying that facility will be on Labor Day, September 6.

“This summer we have seen a great number of swimmers at our pools, “said Doug Joyce, Director of Parks and Recreation for the City. “As the school year approaches, many of our guards prepare to leave for school, and the number of staff members begins decreasing rapidly. We also experience a natural decline in attendance as well, as families get ready for back to school.”

Schifferdecker Pool, located at 4th and Schifferdecker, is open from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is $1 for adults 16 years of age and over, and 75-cents for children 15 years of age and under.

Cunningham Pool is located at 244 and Maiden Lane streets. Pool hours are 1 to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Monday. Cunningham is closed on Tuesdays. An evening lap swim from 6:15 – 8:15 p.m.is offered during swimming lessons on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday until July 30.

Ewert Family Aquatic Center is open from 1 pm to 6 pm Friday through Thursday. Extended hours to 8 p.m. are offered on Mondays and Wednesdays. Ewert is closed on Thursdays.

Ewart Pool is located at 5th and School streets. Admission to either Aquatic Center is $3.50 for adults 16 years of age and over and $2.50 for children 15 years of age and under. Children, age 2 and under, are admitted free of charge.

In addition to regular operating hours, the City is offering several free swim sessions for the public to enjoy. These are: from 10 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays at Ewert; 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursdays at Schifferdecker Pool; and from 10 a.m. to noon on Fridays at Cunningham.

For more information about Joplin’s pool facilities, call 625-4750.
New Trolley shelters create awareness of service
City continues to see increase in ridership

Although the Sunshine Lamp Trolley has been in service for nearly three years, some people may not have known about this transit service or its routes until visual cues were placed along its path. Over 20 shelters have been installed at Trolley stops, and at least that many benches have been added.

“It seems to have created a marketing surge for our service. In June, we provided nearly 2,000 more rides than we did in June 2009,” said Robert Lolley, Manager of the City’s public transportation services. “I’ve had riders call and tell me, ‘It goes everywhere’, or that they didn’t realize that it went so close to their home.”

City staff considered the available right of way space and safety issues when determining whether a stop received a bench or a bench with a shelter. The Trolley system has 54 stops.

“Nearly every location has a bench to provide seating, and many have shelters and a bench,” said Lolley. “In some locations, we just didn’t have room to put up a shelter because it would have been in someone’s front yard, or provided a safety hazard with traffic. Those locations had benches installed. These have been quite popular with our riders.”

Funding for the shelters and benches came through a grant offered as part of the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act and is unique in that it does not require local matching funds. The Federal Transit Administration provided $1,070,255 in grant funds to be used for the trolley stop shelters, as well as a vehicle storage building, bike racks, and furniture for the Metro Area Public Transit System (MAPS).

LiveSmart Mayor’s Challenge Trophy awarded to Joplin

Citizens of Joplin are WINNERS!!! In early June, LiveSmart officials awarded the Mayor’s Cup Challenge to Joplin as the community who had the largest percentage of participation in the Challenge. Mayor Mike Woolston accepted the award on behalf of all citizens in Joplin.

LiveSmart is a healthy behavior initiative of the Jasper and Newton Counties Community Health Collaborative. A recent study in Newton and Jasper counties found that 60% of area residents are either overweight or obese. To address this multiple county problem, the LiveSmart initiative is striving to create a healthy community by educating and encouraging residents to exercise at least 30 minutes 5 days a week and consume 5 servings of fruits and/or vegetables each day.

Citizens were asked to register at www.livesmartswnmo.org to log their daily miles and servings of fruits and vegetables eaten during the Challenge.

LiveSmart will continue to offer ideas and challenges for citizens to help them achieve a healthy lifestyle. For more information contact Tammy Blaylock at 417-782-9899.

Tree trimming and removal necessary to ensure safe, reliable energy delivery

In order to adhere to both federal and state requirements, utilities must remove vegetation growing near power lines. A regular maintenance plan for power lines can help prevent outages caused by trees and branches.

Empire District Electric Company reminds customers never to trim trees near power lines. Only qualified tree workers are allowed to work within a minimum of 10 feet of power lines. Call Empire at 800-206-2300. All vegetation inquiries are handled through their call center to monitor customer inquiries and responses.

The City of Joplin receives occasional questions from residents regarding debris removal when trimming has been done by Empire District. Below is a guide to help citizens understand the process of tree trimming and debris removal that has to be done to keep lines clear and protect the public safety of those near the lines. It is included with permission from Empire District Electric Company.

Empire officials remind resident that the best way to ensure trees and limbs do not interfere with electrical service is to plant the right tree in the right place. For more information about their services, please go to their website at https://www.empiredistrict.com/.

Who is responsible for trimming and debris removal?

Pole to pole
Empire is responsible for maintaining the lines between poles. If you believe that tree limbs, broken branches, or other hazards may cause issues on lines between poles, please contact Empire so vegetation management personnel can inspect and assess the situation.

Pole to meter
This is called a service line. It delivers the electricity from Empire’s lines directly to your meter. Maintenance of this line is the homeowner’s responsibility.

Drop service request
If you have trees that need to be trimmed near your service line, Empire will disconnect the service wire free of charge to allow for safe tree work for you or your contractor. Please call 800-206-2300 to request this service at least 48 hours in advance of tree work. This advance notice will allow them to schedule a crew to drop the service. They request that you, your representative, or your tree contractor be present when your service is disconnected.

Tree Removal
If you would like to remove a tree within 10 feet of a pole to pole line, please contact Empire at 800-206-2300 to have it inspected at no charge by an Empire vegetation management representative. They can inspect the line and determine if Empire needs to trim or remove limbs so you or your contractor can safely remove the tree. The homeowner is responsible for the debris removal.

Debris Removal
Empire will chip and remove limbs from routine line clearance work. Logs will be cut into manageable lengths and stacked on the property unless property owner contacts Empire prior to the trimming to request removal of the logs.

Storm Work
Empire does not clean up brush, limbs, or trees from storm related work. Their priority is power restoration to their customers. They will clear all fallen trees and limbs from Empire lines in a safe manner to restore service and prevent recurring outages. All logs and limbs are left on site, and crews will not return to remove them.
New ordinance bans tethering of dogs in effort to prevent dangerous dog incidents

As a reminder to residents, the City’s new dog tethering code went into effect on July 1, 2010. The Joplin City Council passed the dog tethering ordinance in November 2009 as part of an effort to reduce harmful incidences involving dangerous and/or stray dogs in the City of Joplin. The ordinance modifies the City’s animal control codes by the following:

- Amending the definition of restraint by removing tethering as a primary mode of dog restraint. Tethering would be allowed during temporary tasks or for a short period for a dog to relieve itself.
- Setting standards for the type of collar and tether that may be used when tethering is allowed.
- Establishing minimum standards for fence and pen construction when these are used for dog restraint.
- Allows for use of “invisible” electronic dog perimeter fences in certain situations.

This ordinance was the result of a City Council request to the Health Board to review City ordinances for improvements in the way the City could deal with dangerous dog situations in the City. Through their research, the Health Board determined that tethered dogs, as well as unaltered male dogs, were more likely to be involved in fatal dog bites of humans over the past 20 years in the U.S. Additionally, it was noted that tethered dogs are more prone to tangling and injury of the animal.

A six-month period was given for residents to make arrangements for their tethered dogs prior to implementation of the new ordinance. In July, Animal Control Officers will gradually begin enforcement of the new ordinance.

The Health Department also recommends meeting the minimum standards for enclosures (pens) when these are used for restraint. These standards include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size of Dog</th>
<th>Pen Size</th>
<th>Each Additional Dog</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extra large</td>
<td>96 sq. feet</td>
<td>48 sq. feet</td>
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<tr>
<td>(over 26” at withers)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Large</td>
<td>72 sq. feet</td>
<td>36 sq. feet</td>
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<td>(over 20” at withers)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>48 sq. feet</td>
<td>24 sq. feet</td>
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<td>(over 12” at withers)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Small</td>
<td>24 sq. feet</td>
<td>12 sq. feet</td>
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<td>(12” or less at withers)</td>
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Pens or fences are to be constructed of materials such as chain link, welded wire or similar materials, appropriate privacy or decorative fencing or other materials as approved with all four sides enclosed and the height of pen adequate to prevent the dog from escaping the enclosure.

For more information about this new ordinance, contact the Joplin Health Department at 623-6122 or to view a complete copy of the ordinance on-line go to www.joplinmo.com.

Athletic Complex hosts 40th Annual Joplin Open Tennis tournament

The Joplin Athletic Complex Tennis Facility is the host site for the 40th Annual Joplin Open Tennis Tournament. The event will be held on Saturday, July 3 and Sunday, August 1. Entry fee is $20 per person.

The Joplin Jr. Open Tennis Tournament is set for Friday, July 30 at the Joplin Athletic Complex Tennis Facility. Age division begins with “10 years old and under”. Entry fee is $10 per player.

For more information or to obtain an entry form, call 417-625-4750.
Cemetery services offered by City of Joplin

When thinking of the City’s many services, many may not realize the City of Joplin also provides cemetery services to citizens. Currently the City maintains four cemeteries that we receive interments. Below is a brief description of each memorial park.

**Forest Park Cemetery, located at 4th and Rangeline** – In existence since 1884, this cemetery was under private ownership for several years. The City acquired it in 1988. Located at the very north end of the cemetery, there are burials dating back to the early 1870’s. In addition to having various locations to select from, Forest Park also has a five-story Mausoleum for above ground interments.

**Fairview Cemetery, located at 15th and Maiden Lane** – The City purchased this land six months after the City was incorporated, although the cemetery has been in existence since 1871. Two Grand Army of the Republic plots of highly-decorated military personnel from the Spanish-American war are located within this cemetery.

**Parkway Cemetery, located on the east side of 33rd and McClelland Boulevard** - This cemetery was built by the Work Project Administration during the Roosevelt Administration and opened in the 1930’s. The cemetery originally had camping and picnic areas built on the land to the south for overnight accommodations of those attending a funeral.

**Osborne Cemetery, located on the west side of 33rd and McClelland Boulevard** - This cemetery was also built by the Work Project Administration and opened to the public in the early 1930’s. The cemetery was dedicated in honor of former Joplin Mayor Jesse F. Osborne who is interred at Fairview Cemetery. The City has recently added a Columbarium for cremation interment at this cemetery.

For those making pre-arrangements or for loved ones, the City offers various options and services, including a payment plan. A burial space at one of the City cemeteries is $400. Prices for Columbarium niches are $750 for single and $1000 for companion spaces. These prices include engraving of name, birth and death dates. Opening and closing services are also included.

Prices for Mausoleum are per level. Level one (lower level) is $600, level two is $800, level three is $1000, level four is $1200, and level five is $1400. The mausoleum provides for a full body, above-ground burial. The City also works with those needing infant burials, as Osborne offers a special area for these burials.

For more information about the City of Joplin’s Cemetery service, call 417-623-7990.

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

The following events will take place at Joplin Memorial Hall. Other events will be announced as details are confirmed. If you would like more information, please call 623-3254 or the number listed under the event. Ticket information is available at www.joplinmemorialhall.com.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 29</td>
<td>Back to School Fair by Economic Security</td>
<td>Parks &amp; Rec</td>
<td>417-781-0352</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 31</td>
<td>Four State A Cappella Music Fest</td>
<td>Parks &amp; Rec</td>
<td>417-623-3254</td>
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<td>August 7</td>
<td>Care Fair for the Community</td>
<td>Oasis Worship Center</td>
<td>417-623-3254</td>
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<td>August 10</td>
<td>Southwest Chapter of Professional Survey</td>
<td>Oasis Worship Center</td>
<td>417-623-3254</td>
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<td>August 13</td>
<td>Music Series 2010</td>
<td>Leeds College</td>
<td>417-623-3254</td>
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<td>September 11</td>
<td>Ducks Unlimited Annual Banquet and Fundraiser</td>
<td>Leeds College</td>
<td>417-623-3254</td>
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<td>September 17-18</td>
<td>Iglesia Communidad Bautista Christiana</td>
<td>Leeds College</td>
<td>417-540-3479</td>
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<td>September 24</td>
<td>Accent Recovery Residences presents a Talent Show</td>
<td>Leeds College</td>
<td>417-623-7882</td>
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<td>September 25</td>
<td>Cage of Honor 41</td>
<td>Leeds College</td>
<td>417-623-3254</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 2</td>
<td>Conclusion of the Music Series 2010</td>
<td>Leeds College</td>
<td>417-623-3254</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 10-14</td>
<td>Gathering of the Order of Eastern Star Grand Chapter</td>
<td>Leeds College</td>
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**“Great Day of Service” seeking volunteers**

**Community clean-up project set for September 26th**

Mark your calendars!

The City of Joplin’s Community Development division reminds area residents that College Heights’s Christian Church will be holding a Great Day of Service again this year. It is set for Sunday, September 26 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. The City participated in this event last year along with hundreds of residents who helped on this community clean-up effort.

City staff encourages citizens to participate in this opportunity to get involved and help their fellow citizens. The Great Day of Service has seen nearly 1,000 people working in this effort in years past, with hundreds of homes receiving assistance through the program.

People who are interested in volunteering or who have potential projects to be done on that day should contact Connie Chrisman, Community Development, at 624-0820, ext. 570. The projects will be reviewed by the organizational team to determine eligibility.

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**SM T W TFS**

**SEPT 2010**

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**Don’t wait – sign up soon to help your community**
The Greater Joplin community has a long tradition with the historic Route 66 Mother Road. Year after year dedicated roadies and international visitors come through Joplin as they experience the magic of the historic Route 66 by-way.

The Joplin CVB was the catalyst to promote the idea of a major tri-state marathon 26.2 miles beginning in Oklahoma, running across the 13 miles of Route 66 in Kansas and ending in Joplin, Missouri. This one of a kind certified marathon has the potential to attract hundreds and some day possibly thousands of participants.

The full Marathon will start in Commerce, Oklahoma and run through Quapaw, then onto the Kansas towns of Baxter Springs, Riverton, and Galena before concluding at the Joplin Athletic Complex. The half marathon, 13.1 miles, will begin at the Field Of Dreams complex in Baxter Springs, Kan., and follow the old route to Joplin. The 5 K race will begin at the Joplin Athletic Complex and end at the same line at the end of Tri-State Road. Although there are three different start locations, all three races will begin at 8 a.m. on 10/10/10.

To register on-line for the races go to www.runmotherroadmarathon.com.

Warren Turner, chairman of the volunteer committee, has stated that he is hoping to have an army of volunteers to help host this major marathon event. People can also sign up to volunteer on the website listed above.

In addition, Patrick Tuttle, Executive Director of the Joplin Sports Authority and operations coordinator for the event, is also seeking assistance to help with the race. “We need greeters, and musicians and water stop providers,” he said.

Vince Lindstrom, Director of the Joplin Convention and Visitors Bureau, brought the initial idea to the communities involved in the Mother Road Marathon, noting that event will serve as a symbol of multi-community cooperation and participation.

“It is amazing to see each community pitch in to make this event a success”, said Lindstrom “I truly believe that the day will come when the Mother Road Marathon will be the signature event for the region. There is no other place that you can literally run a marathon across three states, all on historic Route 66. “

For more information on the Mother Road Marathon contact the Joplin CVB at 417-625-4789.

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If you happen to see over 150 corvettes driving through Joplin on a hot sunny day in August – don’t think you are hallucinating – you are just witnessing the 3rd Annual Vettes in the Midwest Corvette Weekend!

On Friday, August 13 and Saturday, August 14 Joplin will host this annual event that brought more than 150 vettes to town last year. One of the highlights of the weekend is a parade of vettes that begins at the Holiday Inn and travels west on 32nd Street to Main Street, and continues north down Main Street to the VETTES ON ROUTE 66 BLOCK PARTY. This event is held between 4th Street and 6th Street on Main Street. This cruise to Main Street begins at 4:30 p.m., Friday, Aug. 13th The Block Party is set for 5 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. The vettes will then cruise to the Route 66 Drive-In.

Last year’s event saw many spectators and car enthusiasts come to the downtown area to view the 150-plus Corvettes on display. This year’s goal is 200 plus “vettes” participating from the four states area and beyond.

The event is sponsored by Ozark Public Television and the local 4 States Corvette Club. The event is also funded by a grant from the Joplin Convention and Visitors Bureau community grant program. Events are scheduled for Saturday also. For more information on the weekend’s schedule, go to www.vettesinthemidwest.com

From Tuesday, August 24th through Thursday, August 26th, Joplin will play host to “Going on Faith”, a national conference for religious tour planners. This event will bring in approximately 300 tour planners and tourism industry professionals into Joplin for three days of meetings and activities. The tour planners attending “Going on Faith” come from all over the country and are looking for new locations to take their tour groups. This is an invaluable opportunity for Joplin to show off our attractions and our hospitality industry as a whole.

“We are so excited to have Going on Faith in Joplin this year,” says Vince Lindstrom, Director of the Joplin Convention & Visitors Bureau. “This is a unique opportunity for the entire hospitality industry of Joplin to show how well we all work together to make Joplin a great spot for tour groups!”

Going on Faith is a showcase-style conference, where tourism professionals have seven-minute meetings with tour planners. All appointments are pre-set by planner and supplier requests. In addition to the meeting sessions, the group will tour attractions such as the Candy House Chocolate Factory, Joplin Museum Complex, Wildcat Glades Conservation & Audubon Center and Sandstone Gardens. The Joplin CVB will also host a BBQ picnic at Route 66 Carousel Park one evening of the conference.

“The entire Going on Faith team is excited about bringing the 2010 Conference to Joplin, Missouri,” said Joseph G. Cappuzzello, President & CEO of Group Leaders of America, Inc., and several other tourism conference groups including Going On Faith. “We have had quite a response from our faith-based groups wanting to find out more about Joplin. The sightseeing tours to the various attractions and the final evening event on Wednesday at the Route 66 Carousel Park for fun, food and fellowship has created tremendous interest. Our church leaders are looking forward to some Joplin’s well known down-home, Midwest hospitality when they come to Joplin this August.”

If you would like more information about Going on Faith, please contact Cameo Gerdes, JCVB Director of Sales at cgerdes@joplinmo.org or 625.4789.
2010 NFL Pepsi Punt, Pass and Kick Competition

Have you ever wondered how far you could punt, pass & kick a football? Well here’s your chance! On Saturday, September 18, the 2010 NFL Pepsi Punt, Pass and Kick Competition will be held at the Joplin Athletic Complex. Registration begins at 5:15 p.m. and the competition starts at 6:30 p.m.

This event is open to boys and girls between the ages of 8 and 15. The top scorer in each age division will advance to sectionals. Winners of the sectional contest may advance to the team championships, which will be held at an NFL football game.

This competition offers separate boys and girls’ categories, with various age divisions set at ages 8 to 9; 10 to 11; 12 to 13; and 14 to 15. Children must be at their entry age as of December 31, 2010. A valid birth certificate is needed upon registration.

City Hall in the Park set for Third Thursday event in August

Joplin City Council members will join the August event of Third Thursday as part of the summer’s City Hall in the Park program that encourages interaction between City officials and Joplin citizens.

Council members will gather at Spiva Park between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Thursday, August 15th. Numerous activities and entertainment take place during the Main Street Joplin’s Third Thursday event, and creates a nice environment for the City program.

“We have held City Hall in the Park at Spiva Park for several years,” said City Manager Mark Rohr. “It has been a good location for us, as many people are gathered downtown for other activities and will stop by to talk with the City Council and staff.”

Introduced in 2005, the “City Hall in the Park” program provides an opportunity for the public to visit with City officials in a casual atmosphere. In the past, citizens enjoy this environment as it allows park activities for children and their family while they discuss various city issues and projects.

For more information about City Hall in the Park, contact the City’s Public Information Officer Lynn Onstot at 624-0820, ext. 204. The City Hall in the Park information can also be found on the City of Joplin’s website at www.joplinmo.org.