



# Press Release

For Immediate Release  
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## La Vista's Salute to Summer Festival Kicks Off Summer

La Vista's annual celebration has been renamed and rebranded to reflect the City's efforts to honor active-duty military and veterans as well as the fact that our festival kicks off summer for the metro area.

La Vista Daze is now the Salute to Summer Festival! The "Salute" is the tie-in to Memorial Day weekend and going into the future the festival will have a veterans/patriotic component to it while also remaining respectful of those who are currently serving in the military, those who have previously served and those who have died defending our country.

The festival will begin with the **Hometown Heroes Event, on Thursday, May 21**, at 6 p.m. in the City Hall parking lot southeast corner. This event will include the unveiling and dedication of La Vista's new Blue Star Memorial. Special speakers include Lt. Gov. Mike Foley and Col. Mark Hopson, Commander of the 170<sup>th</sup> Group at Offutt AFB. The event will also include musical performances from students from Papillion-La Vista High School and a ROTC demonstration from Papillion-La Vista South High School.

The Carnival and vendor booths will open Thursday, May 21, at 5 p.m. in Central Park and Hot Wheels races will take place at 7 p.m. that evening in the Community Center Gym.

The annual **Community Cookout, car show, concert and fireworks display**, sponsored by the La Vista Community Foundation, Bank of Nebraska, La Vista Keno and Bellino Fireworks, will be held beginning at 6 p.m., **Friday, May 22**, at the City Hall Complex, 8116 Park View Blvd., and La Vista Keno, 7101 S. 84<sup>th</sup> St. This event will feature:

- Free hot dogs, hamburgers, chips and drinks beginning at 6 p.m., *while supplies last*.
  - Those who attend the Community Cookout are asked to bring a non-perishable food item for the Tri-City Food Pantry and a lawn chair for watching the concert and fireworks.
- Activities for the whole family including fun games, climbing wall, bounce houses, fun with chalk art, games for the whole family and free books. An egg toss will take place 7-8 p.m.
- The car show will take place in the La Vista Keno parking lot and is open to all makes, models and classes. Advance registration is not required.
- The band "Something Blu" will give a free concert from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

- Fireworks display, provided by Bellino Fireworks, over La Vista Falls Golf Course at dusk. Tune in to the radio station Boomer 1490 AM, for music synced to the display.

The Beer Garden will be open on Friday and Saturday night at the Central Park Tennis Courts. The bands “Chris Saub” and “eNVy” will be featured on Friday and “Party of Five” and “Lemon Fresh Day” will be playing on Saturday.

The parade, sponsored by Bank of Nebraska, will begin at 1 p.m. on Saturday at 87<sup>th</sup> Street and Park View Boulevard, proceed across 84<sup>th</sup> Street on Park View and end at 75<sup>th</sup> Street. The grand marshal of the parade will be the family of U.S. Army Captain Joel E. Cahill, who was killed in combat November 6, 2005 in Iraq. Joel’s parents are La Vista residents.

The second annual **Glow Ball Golf Outing** will take place Saturday beginning at 9:30 p.m. at La Vista Falls Golf Course. Greens fees from the event will be donated to the La Vista Community Foundation.

The festival will close with the **Family Pool Party** Sunday, 3-5 p.m., at the La Vista Municipal Pool. Come for a free afternoon at the pool and enjoy a live DJ and music!

For more information about the Salute to Summer Festival, visit the City’s website, [www.salutetosummer.org](http://www.salutetosummer.org).

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*Note to editors and reporters: You are invited to cover any Salute to Summer Festival events. So that we can answer your questions in a timely manner, please notify Mitch Beaumont via cell phone, 402-980-2863.*