

AGENDA
RAYTOWN PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
Monday, September 15, 2025 7:00 PM

Hosted in person at the Raytown Park Office
5912 Lane Ave, Raytown MO 64133

Or via Zoom Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89600090416>

Meeting ID: 896 0009 0416

I. Call to Order

II. Public Participation

Approval of Minutes –August 18th, 2025

III. Reports of Officers

President – Brian Morris

Vice President – Jules Sneddon

IV. Reports of Standing & Special Committees

Personnel – Jourdan Price

Finance – Melina Alford

Program – Robbie Tubbs

Buildings & Grounds – Dave Thurman

Main Street- Robbie Tubbs

V. Staff Reports

Director – Dave Turner

Superintendent of Parks – Tony Mesa

Recreation- Matt Hartmann

VI. New Business

1. Archeological dig proposal at Rice-Tremonti
2. Sponsorship package for 2026
3. Surplus old Skate Park equipment
4. Demo home at 8805 E 66th ST

VII. Other Business

VIII. Announcements

IX. Adjourn

- Next regular Meeting: October 20th, 7 PM at Raytown Parks office.

**Raytown Park Board
Minutes
August 18, 2025**

Attendance:

Park Board: Brian Morris, Dave Thurman, Melina Alford, Rhonda Herring and Jules Sneddon attended in person and by Zoom-Robbie Tubbs, Jourdan Price, Angel Ambercrombie and Brent Hugh.

Staff: Dave Turner, Tony Mesa, Matt Hartmann and Jonda DeMarco

Guests: Alderman Loretha Hayden by Zoom

A quorum was declared present, and the meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. Dave Thurman made a motion to approve the minutes from July 21, 2025. Robbie Tubbs seconded, and the motion passed.

Reports of Officers:

President- Brian Morris wanted to congratulate the 3 reappointed board members-Dave, Angel and Robbie. Also thank you to everyone that contributed to the sales tax outreach.

Vice President – Jules Sneddon- commented that she hit about 350 doors for the sales tax outreach.

Reports of Standing & Special Committees:

Personnel – no report

Finance – no report

Program – discussed adding signage pointing to new dog park

Buildings & Grounds – request report on assessment for each park

Main Street –a written report was distributed

Staff Reports:

Director – a written report was distributed

Superintendent of Parks – a written report was distributed

Recreation – a written report was distributed

New Business:

1. Dave Thurman made a motion to approve replacement of the skate park equipment with American Ramp Company through a Sourcewell cooperative purchasing agreement. Robbie Tubbs seconded and the motion passed.
2. Discussion on sponsorship display method – banners and signage.
3. Other Business – Festival of the Trails is Saturday, September 13, 2025
4. Other Business – Discussion on the South Lagoon Park
5. Dave Thurman made a motion to adjourn at 7:55pm. Jules Sneddon seconded, and the motion passed.

Please note: August meeting will be on September 15, 2025



City of Raytown, MO

Budget Report

Account Summary

For Fiscal: 2024-2025 Period Ending: 09/30/2025

		Original	Current	Period	Fiscal	Variance	Percent
		Total Budget	Total Budget	Activity	Activity	Favorable (Unfavorable)	Remaining
Fund: 201 - PARKS & RECREATION							
Revenue							
201-00-00-100-41205	Parks/Storm Water Capital Sales Ta	362,000.00	362,000.00	0.00	309,531.60	-52,468.40	14.49 %
201-00-00-100-46102	Investment Income	17,000.00	17,000.00	0.00	19,799.53	2,799.53	116.47 %
201-00-00-100-46401	Miscellaneous Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,771.56	3,771.56	0.00 %
201-92-00-000-43122	Credit Card Processing Fee	1,000.00	1,000.00	28.79	971.26	-28.74	2.87 %
201-92-00-100-41101	Real Estate Tax	558,771.00	558,771.00	0.00	506,755.53	-52,015.47	9.31 %
201-92-00-100-41102	Personal Property Tax	101,057.00	101,057.00	0.00	85,579.71	-15,477.29	15.32 %
201-92-00-100-41104	Delinquent Real Estate Taxes	13,000.00	13,000.00	0.00	10,431.63	-2,568.37	19.76 %
201-92-00-100-41105	Penalties	9,900.00	9,900.00	0.00	8,245.72	-1,654.28	16.71 %
201-92-00-100-41107	Railroad & Utilities Tax	18,500.00	18,500.00	0.00	18,608.72	108.72	100.59 %
201-92-00-100-41108	Replacement Tax	30,000.00	30,000.00	0.00	35,559.46	5,559.46	118.53 %
201-92-00-100-41110	Circuit Breaker Refund	-700.00	-700.00	0.00	-622.88	77.12	88.98 %
201-92-00-100-41111	Delinquent Property Tax Revenue	9,000.00	9,000.00	0.00	10,738.91	1,738.91	119.32 %
201-92-00-100-46101	Interest Earnings	30,000.00	30,000.00	0.00	13,641.73	-16,358.27	54.53 %
201-92-00-100-46303	Gain on sale of Fixed Asset	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	-10,000.00	100.00 %
201-92-00-100-47101	Ballfield Lights Fees	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00	390.00	-810.00	67.50 %
201-92-00-100-47105	Shelter House Rental Fees	25,000.00	25,000.00	820.00	27,141.78	2,141.78	108.57 %
201-92-00-100-47110	Sports Field Rental Fees	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00	13,650.00	9,650.00	341.25 %
201-92-00-100-47116	Vending Machine-Kenagy	400.00	400.00	0.00	424.08	24.08	106.02 %
201-92-00-100-47204	Team Sports League	20,000.00	20,000.00	365.00	4,277.00	-15,723.00	78.62 %
201-92-00-100-47220	Donations	11,000.00	11,000.00	0.00	11,700.00	700.00	106.36 %
201-92-00-100-47425	Other Income	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	218.62	-781.38	78.14 %
201-92-00-725-43000	State Grants - TRIM	22,000.00	22,000.00	0.00	21,550.00	-450.00	2.05 %
201-92-00-753-43000	State Grant - LWCF	79,000.00	79,000.00	0.00	497,024.07	418,024.07	629.14 %
201-92-00-754-43101	Federal Grant - Omnibus (SuperSpl	1,985,000.00	1,985,000.00	0.00	19,142.21	-1,965,857.79	99.04 %
201-92-00-755-43101	Federal Grant - Omnibus (Kenagy)	980,000.00	980,000.00	0.00	12,337.50	-967,662.50	98.74 %
Revenue Total:		4,288,128.00	4,288,128.00	1,213.79	1,630,867.74	-2,657,260.26	61.97 %
Expense							
201-00-00-100-58000	BMX Appropriation	15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	0.00	0.00 %
201-00-00-100-58950	Operating Transfer - TIF EAT's	35,000.00	35,000.00	0.00	29,755.25	5,244.75	14.99 %
201-92-00-100-51102	Civilian Employees	492,182.00	492,182.00	0.00	431,584.03	60,597.97	12.31 %
201-92-00-100-51106	Part Time Employees	24,099.00	24,099.00	0.00	2,583.15	21,515.85	89.28 %
201-92-00-100-51111	Civilian Employees Overtime	7,959.00	7,959.00	0.00	7,687.99	271.01	3.41 %
201-92-00-100-51206	Life Ins	1,294.00	1,294.00	0.00	1,077.57	216.43	16.73 %
201-92-00-100-51212	Deferred Compensation - 401 A	4,103.00	4,103.00	0.00	3,461.88	641.12	15.63 %
201-92-00-100-51214	Civilian Pension - LAGERS	73,309.00	73,309.00	0.00	58,659.69	14,649.31	19.98 %
201-92-00-100-51215	Health Insurance	75,033.00	75,033.00	0.00	66,669.89	8,363.11	11.15 %
201-92-00-100-51218	Med Exp - HSA contribution	7,500.00	7,500.00	0.00	5,500.00	2,000.00	26.67 %
201-92-00-100-51220	Dental	4,526.00	4,526.00	0.00	3,886.23	639.77	14.14 %
201-92-00-100-51221	Vision	1,058.00	1,058.00	0.00	860.02	197.98	18.71 %
201-92-00-100-51225	FICA	40,704.00	40,704.00	0.00	32,665.81	8,038.19	19.75 %
201-92-00-100-51231	Auto Allowance	4,980.00	4,980.00	0.00	2,995.00	1,985.00	39.86 %
201-92-00-100-51238	Phone Allowance	3,380.00	3,380.00	0.00	2,640.00	740.00	21.89 %
201-92-00-100-51240	Workers Compensation Insurance	34,855.59	34,855.59	0.00	26,192.01	8,663.58	24.86 %
201-92-00-100-52101	Office Supplies	600.00	600.00	0.00	79.86	520.14	86.69 %
201-92-00-100-52122	Credit Card Processing Charge	3,500.00	3,500.00	0.00	1,548.77	1,951.23	55.75 %
201-92-00-100-52200	Operating Supplies	3,500.00	3,500.00	0.00	1,492.31	2,007.69	57.36 %
201-92-00-100-52233	Uniforms	3,300.00	3,300.00	0.00	422.81	2,877.19	87.19 %
201-92-00-100-52250	Professional Services	1,400.00	1,400.00	0.00	123.80	1,276.20	91.16 %
201-92-00-100-52300	Repair & Maintenance Supplies	93,500.00	93,500.00	233.74	50,404.97	43,095.03	46.09 %
201-92-00-100-52301	Fuel	15,000.00	15,000.00	1,474.17	7,275.94	7,724.06	51.49 %

Budget Report

For Fiscal: 2024-2025 Period Ending: 09/30/2025

	Original Total Budget	Current Total Budget	Period Activity	Fiscal Activity	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Percent Remaining
201 92 00 100 53100	Postage	500.00	500.00	0.00	500.00	100.00 %
201 92 00 100 53110	Printing & Promotions	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	883.20	58.88 %
201 92 00 100 53120	Dues & Memberships	2,900.00	2,900.00	0.00	2,064.85	71.20 %
201 92 00 100 53130	Electricity	38,000.00	38,000.00	0.00	16,327.86	42.97 %
201 92 00 100 53140	Gas	4,400.00	4,400.00	0.00	826.83	18.79 %
201 92 00 100 53150	Water	7,900.00	7,900.00	0.00	1,270.32	16.08 %
201 92 00 100 53160	Telephone	7,000.00	7,000.00	0.00	3,598.07	51.40 %
201 92 00 100 53170	Equipment Expense	1,700.00	1,700.00	0.00	1,487.17	87.48 %
201 92 00 100 53180	Elections	35,000.00	35,000.00	0.00	-29,004.00	-82.87 %
201 92 00 100 53190	Repair & Maintenance Services	1,500.00	1,500.00	105.00	1,020.00	68.00 %
201 92 00 100 53200	Computer Services	9,000.00	9,000.00	0.00	2,762.31	30.69 %
201 92 00 100 53210	Education and Training	3,400.00	3,400.00	0.00	1,930.00	56.76 %
201 92 00 100 53220	Meals & Travel	1,550.00	1,550.00	0.00	1,078.84	69.60 %
201 92 00 100 53230	General Liability Insurance	48,738.00	48,738.00	0.00	14,027.15	28.78 %
201 92 00 100 53240	Bank Charges	4,400.00	4,400.00	0.00	2,636.64	59.92 %
201 92 00 100 53250	Miscellaneous Contractual	144,000.00	144,000.00	4,741.48	73,401.83	50.97 %
201 92 00 100 53260	Recreational Programming	51,800.00	51,800.00	3,100.00	29,687.28	57.31 %
201 92 00 100 53270	Vehicle Expense	9,800.00	9,800.00	0.00	3,680.09	37.55 %
201 92 00 100 53280	Capital Expenditures	92,000.00	92,000.00	0.00	45,599.61	49.56 %
201 92 00 753 57000	Capital Expenditures - LWCF	158,000.00	1,002,584.43	0.00	163,883.87	16.35 %
201 92 00 754 57000	Capital Expenditures - Omnibus (Su	1,985,000.00	2,008,427.54	0.00	2,001,809.54	99.67 %
201 92 00 755 57000	Capital Expenditures - Omnibus (Ke	980,000.00	986,382.74	0.00	980,000.00	99.35 %
	Expense Total:	4,533,870.59	5,408,265.30	9,654.39	3,512,687.07	64.95%
Fund: 201 - PARKS & RECREATION Surplus (Deficit):	-245,742.59	-1,120,137.30	-8,440.60	-264,710.49	855,426.81	76.37%
Report Surplus (Deficit):	-245,742.59	-1,120,137.30	-8,440.60	-264,710.49	855,426.81	76.37%

Budget Report

For Fiscal: 2024-2025 Period Ending: 09/30/2025

Group Summary

Account Type	Original Total Budget	Current Total Budget	Period Activity	Fiscal Activity	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Percent Remaining
Fund: 201 - PARKS & RECREATION						
Revenue	4,288,128.00	4,288,128.00	1,213.79	1,630,867.74	-2,657,260.26	61.97%
Expense	4,533,870.59	5,408,265.30	9,654.39	1,895,578.23	3,512,687.07	64.95%
Fund: 201 - PARKS & RECREATION Surplus (Deficit):	-245,742.59	-1,120,137.30	-8,440.60	-264,710.49	855,426.81	76.37%
Report Surplus (Deficit):	-245,742.59	-1,120,137.30	-8,440.60	-264,710.49	855,426.81	76.37%

Budget Report

For Fiscal: 2024-2025 Period Ending: 09/30/2025

Fund Summary

Fund	Original Total Budget	Current Total Budget	Period Activity	Fiscal Activity	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
201 - PARKS & RECREATION	-245,742.59	-1,120,137.30	-8,440.60	-264,710.49	855,426.81
Report Surplus (Deficit):	-245,742.59	-1,120,137.30	-8,440.60	-264,710.49	855,426.81



City of Raytown, MO

Fund Balance Report

As Of 09/10/2025

Fund	Beginning Balance	Total Revenues	Total Expenses	Ending Balance
201 - PARKS & RECREATION	1,071,542.73	1,630,867.74	1,895,578.23	806,832.24
Report Total:	1,071,542.73	1,630,867.74	1,895,578.23	806,832.24

Raytown Main Street Association
September 2025
Robbie Tubbs

Jules secured a \$50,000 grant for the RMSA building.

The city staff has purchased a Christmas tree with a grant from the Truman Heartland Foundation. It is 18' tall. It will have silver and blue lights.

Crane building will have a new tenant soon.

The RPD has hired four more officers, and they should be on the street in a month.

The city purchased the Midwest Animal Rescue building. The animal control department will move into this facility.

The annual Mayor's Christmas Tree lighting ceremony will move to Saturday this year. Food trucks will set up in front of the 63rd Street bridge. There will be no hayrides this year. There is too much liability associated with it.

Raytown Parks & Recreation Department
Director's Report
August 18, 2025

BOA – We will need to go on the agenda for the October 7th meeting to begin the purchase of the skate park equipment through American Ramp Company.

Colman Park security - We are working with I-Tech services to add the capability to remotely shut off the power to the Colman #1 and #2 shelters. I have worked out a plan for the Police to execute a drive through on noise disturbance calls, and if they agree that it is too loud, then I will remotely shut off electricity to the outlets of shelter house involved.

OMNIBUS – We did successfully get our first reimbursement on August 21st to and have started drawing down this \$3,000,000 grant award. GBA is working on bidding documents for the Terry Copeland phase II development now.

George Butler & Associates –We met with Jim Schuessler September 9th about Kenagy Park projects regarding bidding document and specifications. We will have GBA post the RFP for the Kenagy restroom, ADA trail work, and the ADA playground surface. I am working with ARC to directly purchase the skate park equipment and have them install the new equipment in January. The bid documents go public September 17 and will be due October 15th. Terry Copeland bidding documents will go out after the Kenagy bids are in. We still have some specifications and details to work out on the Terry Copeland project.

Southwood Lagoon Park- We were contacted by the LWCF Grant managers to set up a site inspection on Wednesday July 23rd. After researching the grant documents from 1971, we have 60-65 acres of property between 85th ST and 87th ST. I have reached out again to the grant managers but not been contacted yet about our compliance with the LWCF demands on the property.

Little Blue River Recreational Opportunities- This is the group teamed with MARC and the Corps of Engineers that plans to control emergency flood control on the Little Blue River and it's tributaries, such as White Oak Creek, which runs through Southwood Lagoon. Tony and I attended a meeting on August 27th about options for funding within the flood water areas that are in the planned COE flood control areas.

Rice-Tremonti- The house demo of 8805 E 66th ST was planned for the FY 26 budget year, but we are trying to get that done in the 2025 budget. The Board of Zoning Adjustment meeting about the gravel driveway never took place. We did find a product of geo-tile that should comply with any ADA regulations and allow us to still use a gravel base with a 1/4" minus surface to add the new parking lot.

Raytown Festival of the Trails- We will host the festival at Rice-Tremonti September 13th 10:00AM-4:00PM. The entities involved are The Friends of Rice-Tremonti, CERT team, Connection Point Church, the Buffalo Soldiers reenactors, many independent craft vendors, three food trucks, Boy Scout Troop 469, and our Mountain Men reenactors.

Stolen Bleachers- On Friday September 5th staff discovered three sets of 3 row bleachers stolen from Kenagy Park. On September 10th, they were found at the Raytown Soccer Club, along with two sets of bleachers taken from field 3 from Little Blue Trace Park. The football team renting from the soccer club said a parent had donated them to the league.

Sales Tax Revenue- August sales tax was \$31,367.07.



September 2025

PARK MAINTENANCE REPORT



Horticulture / Right of Way

We continue our weeding and watering. Our Tulip order has been placed and will be delivered in the next few weeks. Staff spent two days working on clearing dead trees and limbs from Rice Tremonti. The dry weather has kept us busy taking care of trees and flowers, but it has not been dry enough to slow down the weeds and grass. We have a new larger sprayer to increase our capacity for spraying ball fields and fence lines.

Park Maintenance

The Ford Ranger sold for \$4,600.00 and has been picked up. Staff changed out more Rice Tremonti signs and cleaned up some junk and debris in preparation for the festival of the trails. We have been mowing LBT weekly, spraying the fields and dragging them weekly as routine maintenance.

We have more tree work to do but we are holding off until we get the chipper running. We had to send the injection pump off to be rebuilt, I hope to have it back next week.

Terry Copeland Park is open, and we have had to make a couple changes to the plumbing for the drinking fountains to our satisfaction. So far trash and nuisance issues have been minimal.

Raytown Parks & Recreation

Park Board Recreation Report

Submitted by: Matt Hartmann

Sports & Special Events Supervisor

September 15, 2025

Raytown Live

Final show is this Saturday! Attached is the budget report.

Festival of the Trails

Event is this Saturday!

Youth Basketball League

Registrations are underway, parents have lots of questions and it's good to see the excitement around the program.

Happy Feet KC

They have the ability to run Missouri background checks on coaches. Currently, because they are based on the KS side, they only run KS checks, but my contact (her name is Paulette Blunt) said that running MO checks would not be an issue. Paulette also explained that all her coaches are certified with either Claris or Virtus and go through an internal training program. She also sent me over their insurance. In my opinion, this is a partner that I would be very excited about working with and could offer a new program to kids in the community (at no expense for us!)

Sponsorship Plan

Final approval of the plan is needed. Attached is the booklet with the information, any final details can be edited (pricing, park information, etc.) and this will be updated every year to ensure accuracy, clear communication, and financial needs. Other options that I have seen in my research that could be considered but I am not married to by any means:

- Disc golf hole sponsors
- Signboard sponsors

I have also attached a few links to references I have used if anyone was curious.

Belton Event Sponsorships: <https://www.beltonparks.org/DocumentCenter/View/3023>

Belton Sponsorship Opportunities:

<https://www.beltonparks.org/DocumentCenter/View/2901>

Lawson Park Board: [Lawson Park Board Sponsorship Brochure.pdf](#)

Edwardsville, IL Parks: [COE Parks and Rec Sponsorship Packet 2025- Final](#)

Agenda item 1

Proposed Archeological dig at Rice-Tremonti home by Kansas University.

PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT, CITY OF RAYTOWN, MISSOURI

Test Excavations at the Rice-Tremonti House Property, Jackson County, Missouri

Project PI: Kelly Graf, Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Kansas

Project Co-PI: Mason Sewing, Undergraduate Student, Department of Anthropology,
University of Kansas

INTRODUCTION

With this proposal we plan to conduct archaeological test excavations at key locations on the Rice-Tremonti Home site, located at the corner of East 66th Street and Blue Ridge Cutoff in the City of Raytown, Jackson County, Missouri. Earliest settlement of this property by persons of European descent occurred by about 1836. Archibald Rice and his family emigrated to Jackson County from North Carolina and were among the very first white settlers to arrive. They maintained ownership of the current property until 1903. Following this Judge Joseph Lowe purchased the property and maintained and improved it. In 1930 Louis Tremonti bought the house and its current property boundaries were set. The Tremonti family owned the property until it was sold to the City of Raytown in 1987 with fund-raising and upkeep/restoration provided by the Friends of the Rice-Tremonti Home Association.

The house and property are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Two key aspects of this important property are of historical archaeological interest: (1) its location on the Santa Fe Trail and (2) its presence, despite being an Antebellum house in one of the counties affected by Union General Thomas Ewing, Jr.'s General Order No. 11 it was never destroyed. With this project, we would like to test excavate several locations to evaluate their potential for finding subsurface archaeological materials that could inform on the significance of this site as a layover on the Santa Fe Trail and its use during the American Civil War. Below we provide background to the property and research questions we propose to address. We also outline our plan, including methods, for testing the site and a timeframe of our proposed work.

BACKGROUND

Why Missouri?

The birth of Missouri as the 24th state was made possible by the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, a \$15 million land acquisition from France that was brokered by Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe to gain access to the Mississippi River and ultimately lands to the west, enabling rapid western expansion of European settlers (Jefferson 1802). As Monroe traveled to Paris to negotiate with Napoleon, Congress was moving to approve the U.S. Army unit called the Corps of Discovery led by Meriweather Lewis and William Clark to explore the purchase and its economic importance as well as setup trade relations with and control over Indigenous peoples of the Missouri River drainage (Ronda 1984). Their efforts paved the way for Missouri statehood.

Settlement of Jackson County

What made the Missouri territory so valuable was its fur trade, originally beginning around St. Louis near the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers. St. Louis, however, was not long for the spotlight. Following Lewis and Clark's expedition, settlers began populating further west along the Missouri River to continue the valuable fur trade. Negotiations with the local Great and Little Osage Nations began with intentions to secede land that would later comprise Fort Osage. This fort would become vital for military presence in the region as well as a locality to continue the fur trade. From here, Independence, MO would be established as the westernmost point for fur trading as well as the jumping off point for settlers moving west. Jackson County would eventually be established in 1821, alongside Missouri as it became a state on August 10 of that year. Demographically the majority of the settlers were of European descent with several enslaved African Americans. Settlers came to the region with designs to utilize the fertile land for agriculture and ranching. It took the establishment of the Oregon and Sante Fe Trails to bring a wider, more diverse immigrant population to settle the county.

Civil War in Jackson County

Jackson County's role in the Civil War cannot be understated. The majority of the sentiments of Missourians in the region aligned with the Confederate cause. Combined with unease from the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 tensions rose rapidly along the western border of Missouri. This act invoked popular sovereignty where residents of Kansas and Nebraska could decide to allow slavery, contradicting the Missouri Compromise of 1820 where slave and free states were to be divided along the historic Mason-Dixon Line. Numerous famous skirmishes would occur over the Free State issue, including Quantrell's Raid on Lawrence, KS, a well-known Free State stronghold and John Brown's "Bleeding Kansas." These were not large-scale skirmishes as some would believe, rather they were conflicts amongst neighbors. Guerrilla warfare was very common, producing figures such as Bloody Bill Anderson (Etcheson 2004). As a result, Thomas Ewing Jr. issued General Order No. 11 on August 25, 1863, where "all persons living in Jackson, Cass, and Bates counties, Missouri, and in that part of Vernon included in this district, except those living within one mile of the limits of Independence, Hickman's Mills, Pleasant Hill, and Harrisonville, and except those in that part of Kaw Township, Jackson County, north of Brush Creek and west of Big Blue, are hereby ordered to remove from their present places of residence within fifteen days" (Ewing 1863). Women and children, mostly, were driven from their homes. Union soldiers, in retaliation of the raid and burning of Lawrence, pillaged and burnt numerous abandoned houses (Rafiner 2013).

Reconstruction and Jim Crow Era Kansas City

Initially following the Civil War, the population of Jackson County and the surrounding area was predominantly White. Many freedmen would flee to Kansas due to its social environment, one safer and more secure for Blacks living in the region. However, quickly this changed as African Americans would move into urban areas such as Kansas City to take advantage of the job opportunities available. The following is a 20-year population statistic of Black Americans in Kansas City, "190 people in 1860 to 8,100 in 1880" (Merchant 2022). This was emblematic of a greater societal theme known as the "Great Migration" which saw the migration of African Americans to urban centers and directly influenced new movements such as Jim Crow laws that

would segregate and disenfranchise people of color. Kansas City rather tragically has a vast history of these oppressive laws. Author and historian Sonny Gibson in an interview with Jan Biles (of the *Topeka Capital-Journal*) shared his experiences of being a young boy walking the streets of Kansas City with segregated sidewalks, one side for Whites and the other for people of color. Conversations between races were quick, unfriendly, and to the point. In an interview with Biles, Black historian Joe Louis Mattox said that in 1968 he applied for an apartment in Quality Hill, an all-White, high-rise apartment complex, and the only people to accept him as a fellow tenant were the folks who lived in the pet-owners building. This kind of segregation and racism was common in Jim Crow era America, and Kansas City was no different (Biles 2015).

The Rice-Tremonti Home Site

Among the earliest settlers who came to Jackson County intent on farming was the Rice Family. Archibald Rice brought his family from North Carolina in 1826 and inhabited Jackson County until 1832 when he purchased land in Township 48 North Range 32 West, land on which rests the Rice-Tremonti Home site (Bonnewitz 1999). Rice was able to acquire his land by taking advantage of legislation very similar to the Preemption Act of 1841, allowing him to settle, improve, and purchase public land for bottom dollar. Township 48 was one of the many townships that was not surveyed at Jackson County's founding. The region was largely prairie which in turn made it difficult for farming and was not considered ideal. However, many settlers at the time seemed not to mind the difficulty and would eventually stand to benefit from the commerce associated with the nearby Sante Fe, Osage, and Oregon Trails. Rice was the second squatter of this area and its lands, staking his claim adjacent to land on which William Cocks squatted, the first squatter in the region settling there in 1834. In 1844 Rice testified, at the Missouri Land office in Clinton, Missouri, that he had farmed the land since 1836, erected three log cabins for his slaves, and had five acres under cultivation (Bonnewitz 1999). By 1844, an extended Rice family had moved to Jackson County and together owned and farmed a total of 1,120 acres. Combined with its geographical importance being situated on the Sante Fe Trail, the Rice family lands provided travelers with hay for their animals and groceries for their journey westward. Families such as the Rices were crucial to the development of the identity that would

later be associated with Independence, MO and the belief of Manifest Destiny that the United States was bound to expand west across the continent.

By October of 1849, Archibald Rice had died, leaving behind assets totaling to \$10,014, or approximately \$417,294 in today's economy (Bonnewitz 1999). He would have been a wealthy farmer in mid-19th century Missouri. Elihu Coffee Rice, son of Archibald, inherited his father's wealth, receiving the original 160-acre tract which contained the nucleus of Archibald Rice's land holdings, the area surrounding the Rice-Tremonti Home. Among the legends surrounding the families that occupied this property the one that has remained the most popular is the African American woman referred to as Aunt Sophie. Sophie entered the Rice legend in 1850 when she was gifted to "Kitty" Stoner White as a wedding present when she married Elihu Rice. Sophie was arguably one of the most if not the most influential figures in this story. She was considered the glue to Elihu and Kitty's family. Aunt Sophie was reportedly present at weddings, funerals, the children's births and would mother the children when Kitty was absent. Sophie would cook the family meals on her fireplace in her cabin which still stands, as a reconstructed cabin, just south of the Rice home.

The Rice family owned slaves, and as such they were Confederate sympathizers. Fearing the destruction of General Thomas Ewing Jr's Order No. 11, they fled to Texas where they would reside until the war's conclusion (Bonnewitz 1999). Mysteriously to this day the home survived its doomed fate. The structure standing was built prior to the war. Expecting the home to be burned, the Rices were shocked to find it had survived when they returned from Texas, despite hundreds burnt or destroyed from Jackson, Cass, Bates, and Vernon counties (Rafiner 2013). Sophie at this point was the only African American still in the region. Elihu would give her some livestock to raise and sell. She continued to live out her days on the property aiding the Rice family until her death in 1896. Before passing away, she bought herself a burial plot in Woodlawn Cemetery in Independence. Elihu passed away several years later in 1903. He had made provisions for the property to be sold upon his death because the family needed the funds to pay off debts he had incurred during the Civil War (Bonnewitz 1999).

From here the property was purchased by Judge Joseph M. Lowe, a livestock and real estate entrepreneur. By this time, the land surrounding the house totaled to 40 acres. Of the current structures still on the property, the garage and garden shed are the only remaining pieces built by the Lowe family. Lowe was vital in the initial preservation efforts of the property. He became president of the National Old Trails Association where he would work with the Daughters of the American Revolution to place a granite marker on the property marking Sophia's Kitchen as a historical stop on the Sante Fe Trail. Lowe's ownership of the property did not last long as he exchanged the land in 1922 to develop other land in Lee Summit (Bonnewitz 1999).

Entering the final chapter of the Rice-Tremonti Home site, numerous owners had their hands on portions of the property for the decade leading up to Dr. Louis Tremonti's 1930 acquisition of the house and its present acreage. Little is known about what exactly happened with the property during this time with numerous contradicting accounts. The only major development included construction of shops along East 67th Street and the Blue Ridge Cutoff (at the southeast corner of the property).

Tremonti, an Italian immigrant from Sicily and a well-known medical doctor moved to the property with his wife Gloria. Tremonti was a valuable service member of the community (Bonnewitz

1999). The Tremonti's left the greatest legacy as far as the structures existing on the property. Firstly, they repaired Sophie's cabin that had become dilapidated. They also added to the space of the kitchen, modernizing it to early 20th Century standards, and dug out the basement. The biggest developments on the property were the addition of the iconic dormers and finishing the

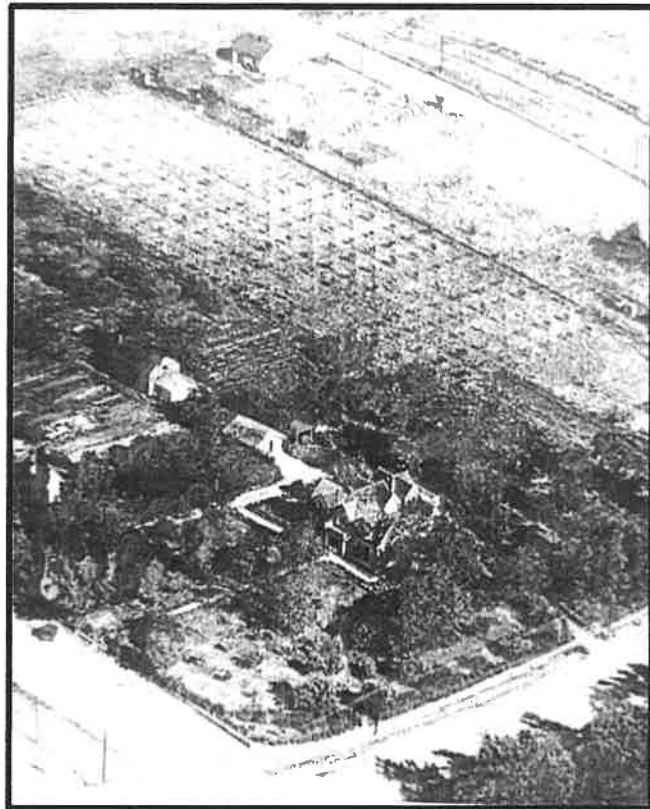


Fig. 1. Rice-Tremonti circa 1940s

upstairs attic to include more bedrooms and a bathroom (Fig. 1). After Dr. Tremonti's death in 1949 Gloria continued to occupy the home until she moved to place the house on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978 (Bonnewitz 1999).

MANAGEMENT AND RESEARCH AGENDAS: QUESTIONS AND OBJECTIVES

Clearly, the well-preserved and historically significant features found at the Rice-Tremonti Home site have informed on Jackson County's and Missouri's 19th Century past. The site's rich history of ownership and ties to key historical events, people, and places is remarkably unmatched; however, there is so much untapped potential to learn more about these events and the people who lived them through subsurface, archaeological investigation of the site. Precious little about this site's archaeological resources is currently known. A relatively (n=101) small number of unprovenanced, artifacts found by metal detecting hint at the site's archaeological potential. The issue with relying solely on metal detectors; however, is that you can only find the metal portion of a site's artifacts. Stone, wood, paper, ceramics, bone, leather, fabrics and other organic items cannot be detected. Further, lidar images of the property, available through the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) website, show many subsurface anomalies that likely represent buried archaeological features on the property, so there is good reason to test the location to understand and protect the site's archaeological resources. Therefore, our basic research questions are also site management questions. Does a subsurface, archaeological record at the Rice-Tremont house site exist, and how expressive is it? If present, does the archaeology express a 19th Century signature? In other words, do the features that have been identified through lidar predate the 20th Century and the Tremonti family? Can we find multiple archaeological deposits that match those represented in the historical records of this property, layers demonstrating life on the emigrant trail, in the Antebellum Mid-South, and during the Civil War, as well as the post-war Reconstruction and Jim Crow eras?

In hopes of answering these questions, our objectives for Fall of 2025 include the following:

1. To investigate, through archaeological test excavation, five locations marked on lidar images that appear to correspond to subsurface features. These images provide clear starting points from which we can focus excavation work (Figure 2).

2. To establish the depositional history and dating of this set of features and the artifacts associated with them.
3. To characterize the activities represented by these archaeological materials.
4. To determine if there is potential to address larger research goals with further investigation of the site, such as (a) understanding the political context of manifest destiny on the early 19th Century frontier, (b) learning more about why the Rice-Tremonti house was not burned to the ground or destroyed during the Civil War, following General Thomas Ewing's General Order No. 11, as other houses in the region were, and (c) examining living and working conditions of the slaves on the Rice Plantation prior to 1861.

Below we highlight the specific methods we will use in this investigation.

Archaeological Methodology

We will set up a grid system on site, using a Topcon total station, and strategically place five 1-m² excavation tests, following our map in Figure 2. The yellow boxes highlight the Main structure and Sophia's Cabin. While the blue is the region in which excavations will take place. Five squares will be opened and placed over lidar anomalies to test the area immediately south of the house and southeast of Sophia's cabin and the main

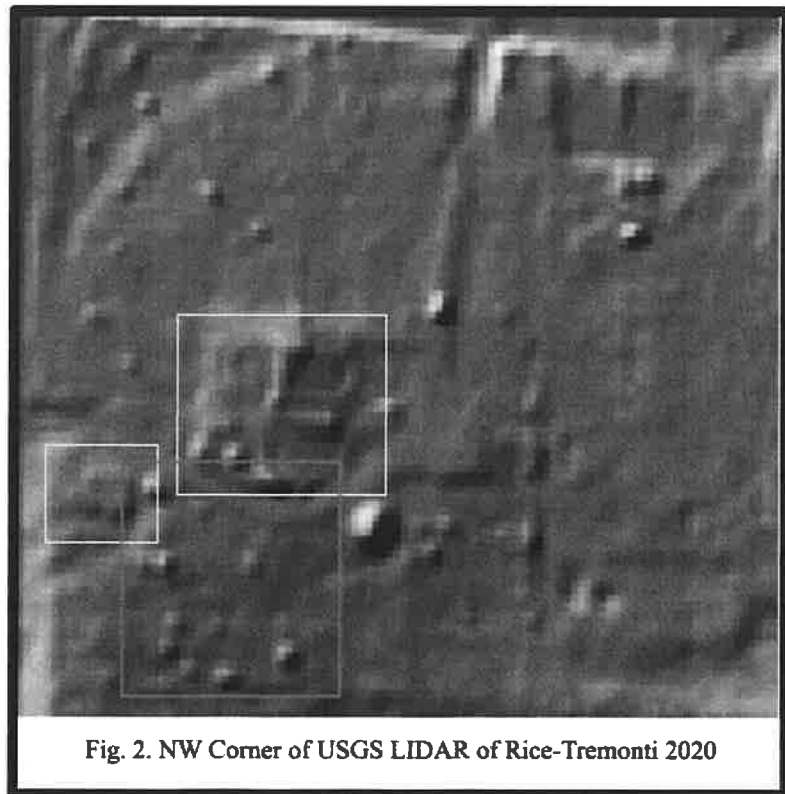


Fig. 2. NW Corner of USGS LIDAR of Rice-Tremonti 2020

structure. For initial excavation efforts we believe this area would provide the most data given its proximity to the home as well as several accounts of it being well traveled by occupants of the property.

Excavation will proceed with hand trowels. All excavated sediment will be sifted through 1/8", wire-mesh screens. We will divide each 1-m square into four 50-cm² quadrants to control for horizontal locations of materials found during excavation, and we will excavate down in 5-cm-thick levels to control for vertical distributions of artifacts and other materials observed. We will aim to find materials in their original position, measuring the 3D provenience location of each piece and collecting each of these individually. Features encountered will be fully documented by photography and drawing. A description of feature fill will be undertaken. Excavation by level will occur within the natural stratigraphy. Therefore, we will record both arbitrary levels and natural, geological stratigraphy to fully understand the depositional history of the site. Site sediment will be described and documented. All excavation walls will be documented through photography, and a representative stratigraphic wall of each test square will be drawn to scale.

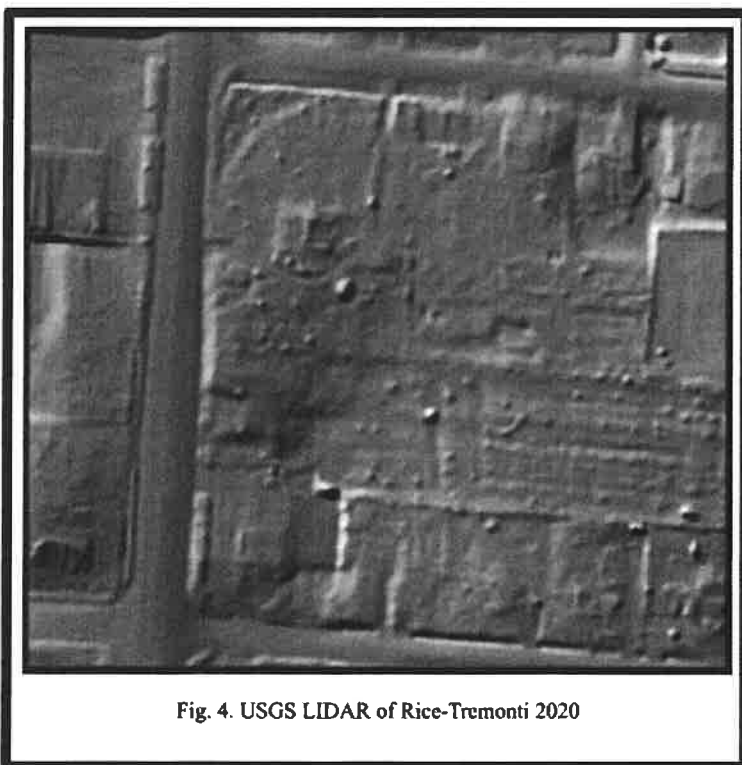
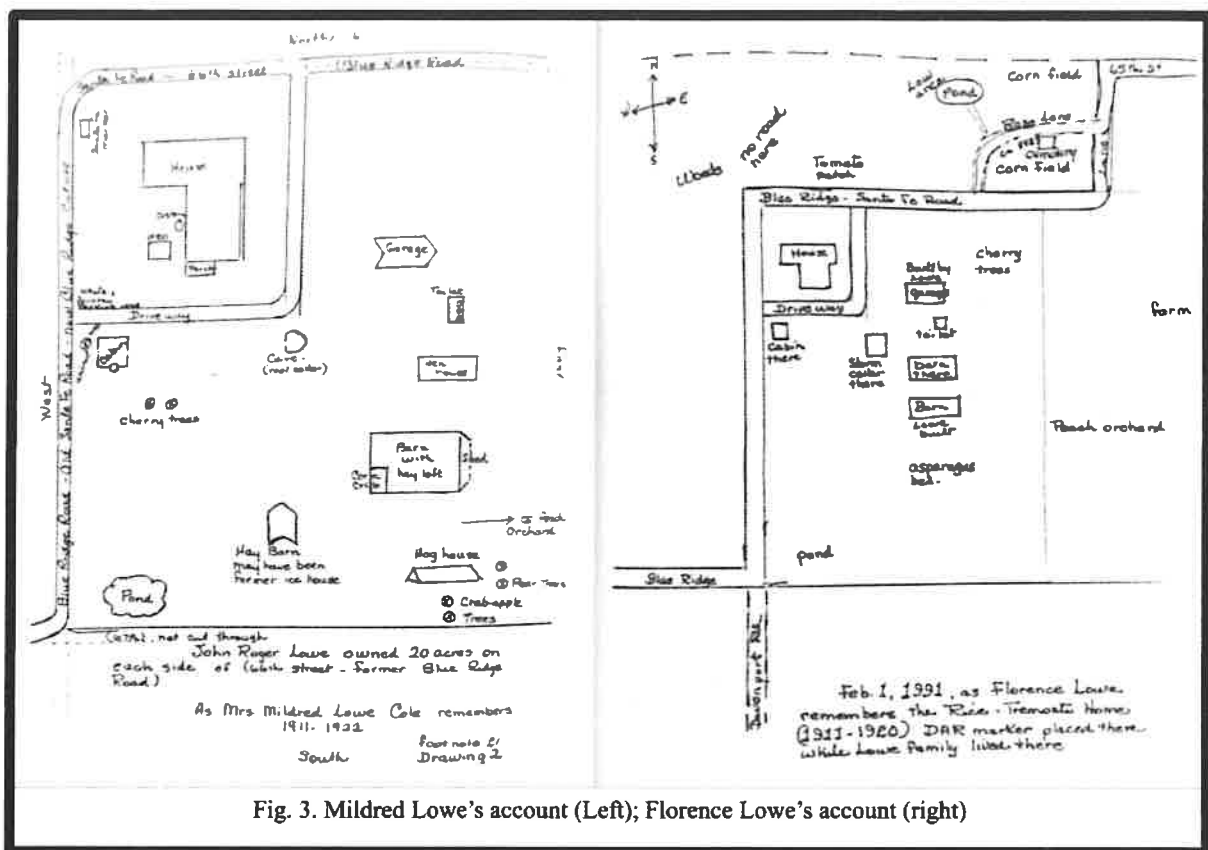
We will collect sediment samples for granulometric and other sedimentological analyses following fieldwork. Excavation squares will be backfilled upon completion and full documentation of each square. All sediment samples (from features and stratigraphic walls) will be processed in Graf's lab in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Kansas. Additionally, all artifacts will be cleaned, accessioned, and analyzed in Graf's lab. Upon conclusion of the project, following all analyses, production of results, and publication of results, the archaeological materials from the excavation (e.g., artifacts, faunal [animal] remains, and remaining sediment samples) will be delivered to the Rice-Tremonti House Site for permanent storage. We will provide a final report to the known stakeholders, including the City of Raytown, Friends of the Rice-Tremonti Home Association, and Missouri State Historic Preservation Office, Department of Natural Resources (MO-SHPO).

Project Timeline

We plan to begin working on this project when we receive approval from the City of Raytown Parks and Recreation Department and MO-SHPO, Fall 2025. This project will be directed by Dr. Kelly Graf, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Kansas and will support Mr. Mason Sewing's senior thesis project. Our fieldwork plan is to work several Saturdays and/or Sundays during the months of October and November (weather permitting), and again in March (weather permitting) and April/early May. The time of excavation depends on what is found and how deep the cultural deposits are. Our goal is to have the fieldwork finished by early May 2026, and lab analyses completed by the end of the Fall 2026 semester. A final report will be prepared and submitted by May 2027.

PROJECT SIGNIFICANCE AND BROADER IMPACTS

Excavations on this historical site would provide significant insight into the many questions surrounding the property. For example, through the nearly 200 years of habitation of the Rice-Tremonti Home site many structures have come and gone. So much so that we do not truly know how many buildings existed, for how long, and when during the habitation sequence. In addition to the current condition of the property and the structures that remain, we only have two hand drawn maps by two daughters of Judge Lowe, Mildred and Florence, but these were drawn from their childhood (1910s-1920s) memories of the property (Figure 3). Also at our disposal are testimonies of other structures said to have been present on the property; however, most of these accounts are anecdotal and lack specific locational information. Lidar data will help make up for this shortcoming (Figure 4); however, it only provides us with a place to look. We will need to excavate the anomalies to find out what they represent. To further understand the history and development of one of Jackson counties founding families, test excavations and potentially any future excavations would be beneficial.



There are only a handful of surviving pre-Civil War era homes. Mostly due to the passage of time but also many did not survive Order No. 11. Somehow the Rice-Tremonti home beat fate. The very fact that it did makes it more intriguing and worthy of study. Excavations at the Rice-Tremonti property would not only be important to Jackson County's history but greatly inform on Kansas City's

past. If permitted, the Rice-Tremonti would become one of the oldest, if not the oldest, pre-Civil War era home with archeological work done on the property. Certainly, excavations will provide informative data on one of the earliest settlements in the Kansas City area. Additionally, the project will provide valuable research experiences to undergraduate students, as well as give the co-PI a first experience in co-directing a research project.

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Dave Turner

From: Graf, Kelly Elizabeth <graf@ku.edu>
Sent: Thursday, August 21, 2025 1:02 PM
To: Dave Turner
Subject: Re: Archaeological research at the Rice-Tremonti Home site

Hi Dave,

I am ready to chat when you are.

Kelly

Kelly E. Graf

Professor
Department of Anthropology
University of Kansas
617 Fraser Hall
1415 Jayhawk Blvd.
Lawrence, KS 66045-7556
979-324-1158

On Aug 21, 2025, at 11:26 AM, Dave Turner <davet@raytownparks.com> wrote:

I'll call you right around 1pm today.

Thank you Kelly,

Dave Turner CPRP
Parks Director
Raytown Parks & Recreation
5912 Lane Ave
Raytown MO 64133
816-358-4100

From: Graf, Kelly Elizabeth
Sent: Thursday, August 21, 2025 10:10 AM
To: Dave Turner <davet@raytownparks.com>
Cc: Sewing, Mason <masonsewing2404@ku.edu>; andrew.dial@dnr.mo.gov; Christy Sewing <christysewing@gmail.com>; Diane Egger <dianee@raytown.mo.us>
Subject: Re: Archaeological research at the Rice-Tremonti Home site

Hi Dave,

Agenda item 2

Park Sponsorship opportunities.

2025

SPONSORSHIP GUIDE

RAYTOWN PARKS AND RECREATION



**SPORTS
PARKS
SPECIAL
EVENTS**



WE ARE RAYTOWN

WELCOME!

The Raytown Parks and Recreation Department is proud to invite you to become a sponsor for the 2025-26 fiscal year! As our community grows, your generous support plays a vital role in continuing the success of our parks for generations to come.

In this guide, you will find detailed information about our upcoming events, youth and adult sports, and additional programming. As a Raytown Parks and Recreation sponsor, your organization will receive visibility through various marketing channels ranging from social media & website visibility, corporate banners, verbal mentions at events, and more.

We offer a variety of sponsorship opportunities, allowing you to support us in a way that aligns with your budget and interests. Whether you're an individual donor, an organization, or a business, we're happy to partner with you to continue serving our community in the best way possible.

Thank you very much for your consideration and support!

Sincerely,
Dave Turner
Parks Director
(816) 358-4100
davet@raytownparks.com

Raytown Parks and Recreation MISSION STATEMENT

The Raytown Parks & Recreation Department was established under its own Board of Directors for the following purposes:

1. To serve the residents of Raytown and the general public by providing:
 - a. A pleasant, safe, and well-maintained parks, recreational facilities, and equipment at a reasonable cost to the participant.
 - b. A variety of recreational programs that are designed, scheduled and staffed to maximize accessibility.
2. To provide a working environment for its staff that promotes safety, open communication, and fair treatment.
3. To provide the City of Raytown and its taxpayers a department that effectively and efficiently uses its funding and resources to generate a sense of pride in the community.



7 PARKS

Sarah Colman-Livengood Park

C. Lee Kenagy Park

Southwood Park

Minor Smith Park

Little Blue Trace Park

Henry C. Kritser Park

Terry Copeland Park

SPORTS FACILITIES



9 softball fields



11 tennis courts



2 soccer fields



2 basketball courts



9 frisbee golf holes



1 skate park

PARK AMENITIES



174 acres
of parkland



3.34 miles of
walking trails



1 fishing pond



1 dog park



13 shelters



8 playgrounds



65 picnic tables



12 benches

GET TO KNOW YOUR PARKS

Sponsor Your COMMUNITY EVENTS

RAYTOWN LIVE!

Raytown Live! is our annual free summer concert series. Held every second Saturday, from May to September, the Raytown community enjoys local and national acts on the downtown Greenspace. This event is open to all ages and beloved by the community for nearly a decade!

1500+
attendees

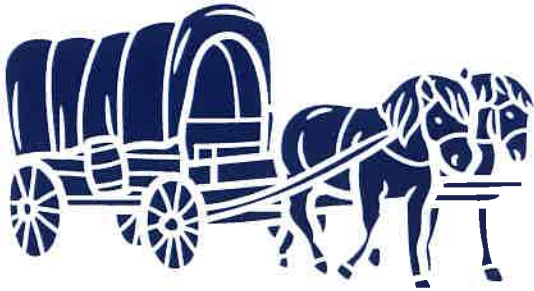
5
concerts

7
years running

\$2,000 PRESENTING SPONSOR	\$1,000 PLATINUM SPONSOR	\$500 GOLD SPONSOR	\$250 SILVER SPONSOR
Presenting Sponsor Designation on ALL Promo Materials	Logo on ALL Promo Materials	Name on ALL Promo Materials	Company Mention on Parks Website
Logo on ALL Promo Materials	Logo on Parks Website	Logo on Parks Website	Company Name on Event Flyer
Logo on Parks Website	One Banner at Event (Company Provided)	One Banner at Event (Company Provided)	
Banner(s) at Event (Company Provided)	Social Media Shoutout	Social Media Shoutout	
Social Media Shoutout	Shoutout at Event		
Shoutout at Event			

FESTIVAL OF THE TRAILS

A fair dedicated to the historic significance of Raytown during the time of Westward Expansion. Guests can enjoy events, local businesses, and food vendors at the Rice-Tremonti Home. The day ends with the final Raytown Live! performance on the Greenspace.



1000+
attendees

5
years running

\$1,000

TRAILBLAZER SPONSOR

Presenting Sponsor Designation
on ALL Promo Materials

Logo on ALL Promo Materials

Logo on Parks Website

One Banner at Event
(3x8 ft)

Social Media Shoutout

Booth Space at Event

\$750

WAGON DRIVER SPONSOR

Logo on ALL
Promo Materials

Logo on Parks Website

One Banner at Event
(3x5 ft)

Social Media Shoutout

\$500

PIONEER SPONSOR

Name on ALL
Promo Materials

One Banner at Event
(3x5 ft)

Company Mention on Parks
Website



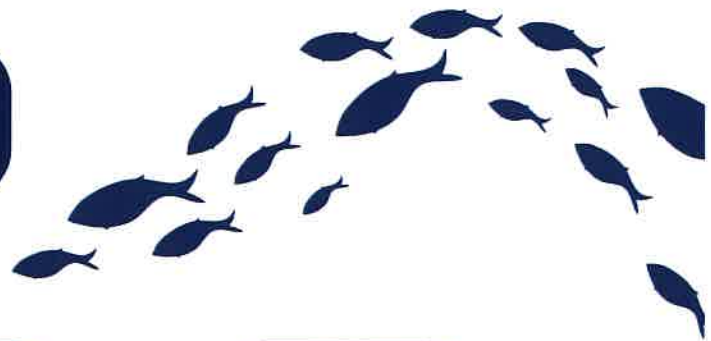


FISHING DERBY

Approximately 300 pounds of catfish will stock the pond for this year's 47 th Annual Fishing Derby. Volunteers this year include Sol-Pro Bass Club, a tournament club of bass fisherman. This community fishing derby is free and open to all ages.

300 lbs
of fish

47
years running



\$1,000

PRESENTING SPONSOR

Presenting Sponsor Designation
on ALL Promo Materials

Logo on ALL Promo Materials

Logo on Parks Website

Logo on Sponsor Sign at Event

Social Media Shoutout

Booth Space at Event

\$500

PLATINUM SPONSOR

Logo on ALL
Promo Materials

Logo on Parks Website

Logo on Sponsor Sign at Event

Social Media Shoutout

Booth Space at Event

\$250

GOLD SPONSOR

Name on ALL
Promo Materials

Company Mention on Parks
Website

KID'S DAY

This annual day encourages parents, friends, and family to take the day off and spend time with children. Held at Kenagy Park, this free event includes a petting zoo, exploring an ambulance, fire truck and police cars, and games!



200+
attendees

14
years running

\$1,000

PRESENTING SPONSOR

Presenting Sponsor Designation
on ALL Promo Materials

Logo on ALL Promo Materials

Logo on Parks Website

Logo on Sponsor Sign at Event

Social Media Shoutout

Booth Space at Event

\$500

PLATINUM SPONSOR

Logo on ALL
Promo Materials

Logo on Parks Website

Logo on Sponsor Sign at Event

Social Media Shoutout

Booth Space at Event

\$250

GOLD SPONSOR

Name on ALL
Promo Materials

Company Mention on Parks
Website



YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Raytown Parks & Recreation's youth basketball league is our largest recreation program, with an average participation of over 150 kids per year and ages ranging from 6 to 12. Our mission with this program is to provide affordable youth sports programming to the citizens of Raytown.

150+
participants

\$2,000

PRESENTING SPONSOR

Logo on all participant t-shirts

Logo on ALL Promo Materials

Logo on Parks Website

Banner with logo to be displayed at game days

Social Media Shoutout



RAYTOWN PARKS COMMUNITY SPONSOR

Show the ultimate support for your community by becoming a Raytown Parks Community Sponsor. Enjoy the benefits of all top tier presenting sponsors along with 5 4x8 banners to be displayed at any field/court of your choice.

\$5,000

Parks Community Sponsor

Listed as sponsor for ALL
Raytown Parks events

Company logo displayed on
all event promotional
materials

Company Logo on website

5 banners to be displayed at
ballfields/courts of your
choice for calendar year

Company banner displayed
at ALL events

Booth space at all Raytown
Parks events

Social media shoutout





Sponsor Your **PARKS & FACILITIES**

Sponsoring our parks and facilities is a great way to support us while ensuring high visibility for your company/organization. We offer promotional banners at our athletic fields, memorial trees, and memorial benches. Many of these options are available for renewal after the first year, at a discounted rate!

Baseball Field Banners

	1 year
Individual Banner	\$500
3-Pack	\$1,200
5-Pack	\$1,900

Your choice of Ballfield at any of the following locations (pending availability):

- Colman Park: 1 Ballfield
- Little Blue Trace: 4 Ballfields
- Kritser: 3 Ballfields
- Kenagy: 1 Ballfield

renewal options available after first year

Tennis Court Banners

	1 year
Individual Banner	\$500
2-Pack	\$750

Your choice of court at any of the following locations (pending availability):

- Colman Park
- Kenagy Park

renewal options available after first year

Dog Park Banners

	1 year
Individual Banner	\$500

Our newest facility, Copeland Park, features a brand new dog park and will also include a splash pad after its second phase of construction is complete.

renewal options available after first year

Skate Park Banners	1 year
Individual Banner	\$500

Constructed in 2005, this is Raytown's first and only skatepark. Built using primarily steel, this skatepark is suited for "Vert" skating.

renewal options available after first year

Memorial Tree	
Individual Tree	\$400

Species available:

- Bald Cypress
- Ginko
- Linden
- Maple (Norway)
- Maple (Sugar)
- Oak (Bur)
- Oak (Red)
- Oak (White)

Memorial Bench	10 Years
Individual Bench	\$1,200

Upkeep guaranteed for 10 years. All benches Victorian Style. Your choice of Park (pending availability):

- Colman
- Kritser
- Kenagy
- Minor Smith
- Southwood



CONTACT INFO

Matthew Hartmann
Sports and Special Events Supervisor
(816) 358-4100
sports@raytownparks.com



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FOR SPONSORSHIP
INTEREST FORM**