

# City of Lawrence

## The Flame | January 2017

“We Have Tomorrow — Bright Before Us, Like A Flame.”

Langston Hughes

### Did You know....



**You can park in Downtown Lawrence for 61¢ a day?**



City parking passes make parking easier and affordable for using the municipal surface lots, parking garages and long-term metered lots. 2017 passes are now available and can be purchased two locations: the second floor of City Hall, 6 East Sixth Street and Municipal Court building, 1006 New Hampshire. Both locations are open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Annual passes are \$192 per year and are valid January through December. Quarterly parking pass are available for \$50.

Both annual and quarterly parking passes are valid in long term-parking lots and at ten-hour meters. Long-term lots are designed to accommodate the parking needs of employees working in the downtown area and others with long-term parking needs in the area.

Long-term downtown parking includes the parking garage at 927 New Hampshire, the lower level of the Riverfront parking garage at 600 New Hampshire, designated long-term parking in the Vermont Parking Garage, and at eight long-term parking lots throughout downtown. A map is available online of municipal parking opportunities: [www.lawrenceks.org/parking](http://www.lawrenceks.org/parking).

### ‘Share Your Story’ Winner

#### Three local riders win free fare



THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS  
CITY OF LAWRENCE

In late 2016, the city held a ‘Share Your Story’ contest to win free fare for a year on the Lawrence Transit System. This year’s winner is Carrie Wallace, a mother of two who uses transit with her two children. Here’s her story:

*My husband and I have two young children and one car. Since my husband drives that one car to work before the sun comes up, I have to figure out how the rest of us will get where we need to go. Luckily, there are two separate bus stops within 200 meters of our home, and we never have to wait more than half an hour for the next one.*

*I asked my seven-year-old what he likes in particular about riding the bus, and he replied, “Well, you don’t have to walk. It’s a bus!” Indeed. Sometimes I welcome a two-mile walk through neighborhoods as I meander to somewhere, but when I’d rather not, I don’t have to walk either when I’m riding the bus. Not to put too fine a point on it, but not walking everywhere is an obvious benefit to all involved.*

*Another positive that is easily overlooked by my little boy would be the early positive social experiences of riding the bus, seeing the same drivers and riders regularly, and interacting with others. My one-year-old seems to derive great joy from playing smile games with people she sees on the bus, and I’d hazard to venture that it’s not a total drag for anyone to be around a delighted, playful baby. No complaints yet, anyway, since she generally is delighted and playful when she rides the bus. Most children are. I swear she throws conspiratorial looks at me as she plays and looks out the window, as if to say, “This no car seat thing is awesome! I won’t tell if you won’t.”*

*My son had the same early bus riding experiences, and at his current advanced age of 7, he prefers to sit in the back of the bus by himself. He likes to look out the window and think. I like that he likes to do that, since in many circles sitting and thinking is replaced by sitting and socializing on cell phones. Anyway, I know that riding the bus has been good for him in that he gets this bit of independence. I believe that by the time he is eleven he would be able to ride alone, which I will probably write about when it happens.*

*Meanwhile, my daughter is still a baby, and she wants to be friends with everyone. So she does her baby thing, and then the family unit arrives wherever we’re going... the Nature Center, Library, or maybe the Free State Aquatic Center. And everyone is in a pretty good mood too—not just because we didn’t have to walk, but because riding the bus is usually really enjoyable.*

City info available online at [lawrenceks.org](http://lawrenceks.org) and on cable Channel 25.

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# DOWNTOWN SCULPTURE EXHIBITION

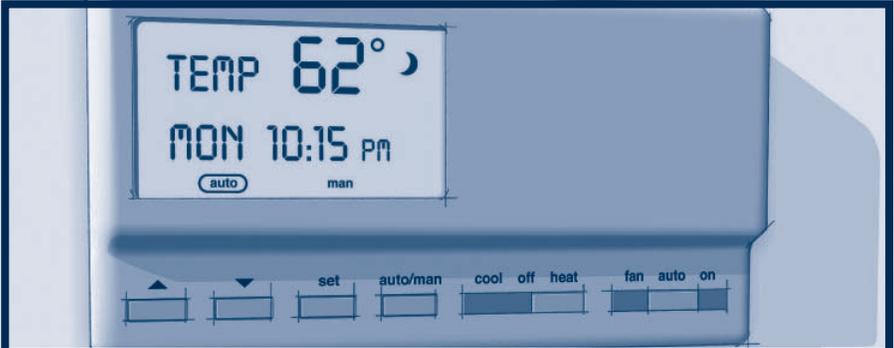
## Call for Art



Calling all artists! The call for art for the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Outdoor Downtown Sculpture Exhibition is now online at <http://lawrenceks.org/odse/>.

Online submittal application materials are due Tuesday, January 24, 2017, by 4 p.m. CST. Contact Porter Arneill, Arts & Culture Director, [parneill@lawrenceks.org](mailto:parneill@lawrenceks.org) with questions or inquiries about the exhibition.

The Outdoor Downtown Sculpture Exhibition was founded by Jim Patti and is sponsored by the Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission, which receives financial and staff support from the City of Lawrence.



## Sustainability Coordinator Offers Tips for Saving Energy this Winter

This winter you can save energy, save money, and be comfortable too!

- Stay cozy by plugging air leaks and insulating. Sealing up air leaks with caulking and weather stripping and installing adequate insulation will not only increase comfort, but will reduce home heating costs by up to 20 percent. Focus your efforts on cracks near windows and doors.
- Let a programmable thermostat "remember" for you to lower the heat when you leave the house for a day of gift shopping (or overnight when you're cozy in bed). You can program it to warm up again shortly before you return.
- Adjust your humidity. A well-humidified house at 68-degrees Fahrenheit is as comfortable as a dry house at 75-degrees.
- Cooking some warm comfort foods? Don't sneak a peek! Opening the oven door lowers the temperature inside - by as much as 25 degrees - which increases cooking time and wastes energy.
- Start a sweater trend. Wearing sweaters or other warm clothes at home will help hold in your body heat naturally.
- Close that fireplace damper. When you're not using the fireplace, closing the damper could save 8 percent of your home's heat.
- Get by with a little help. Apply for assistance from the City of Lawrence's Housing Assistance Programs – including weatherization programs and emergency furnace loans for income qualified individuals. For more information, visit [www.lawrenceks.org/pds/housing\\_programs](http://www.lawrenceks.org/pds/housing_programs).

For more tips, visit: [www.westarenergy.com/energy-saving-tips](http://www.westarenergy.com/energy-saving-tips) or [www.blackhillsenergy.com/node/19377](http://www.blackhillsenergy.com/node/19377).

## Have You Updated Your Billing Contact Information?

We're introducing a new online bill pay system in February 2017 which will offer customers an easier, more convenient way to pay their utility bills. The new payment portal will provide:

- Rapid registration of account
- Debit, credit and e-check options
- Scheduling of payments
- Easy sign up for AutoPay

The city is also removing Paymentus service fees in the new portal! In order to create a smooth transition, we need customers to update their contact information before February 1 at [www.lawrenceks.org/utility-billing](http://www.lawrenceks.org/utility-billing).



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Committed to providing excellent city services that enhance the quality of life for the Lawrence community