**Giving Back this Holiday Season**

**Lawrence Police Blue Santa**

If you live in the Lawrence city limits and would like a little extra assistance this holiday season, the Lawrence Police Blue Santa program is here to help!

Lawrence Police Blue Santa was founded in 2011 and has since helped hundreds of Lawrence families by providing a family meal on Christmas Day as well as gifts for children.

Families can apply for the program online at lawrencebluesanta.org. The application will become available just before Thanksgiving. Families can also apply in person by showing up at the to-be-determined toy store location at the specified date and time.

The Lawrence Police Blue Santa program will be at the chosen toy store on December 17, 18, 19 and 20 from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and on December 21 from 10 a.m. – noon.

The toy store location will be announced via social media and on the Lawrence Police Blue Santa website. Follow the Lawrence Police Department and Lawrence Police Blue Santa on Facebook to stay in the know:

- Lawrence Police Department: facebook.com/LawrencePolice
- Lawrence Police Blue Santa: facebook.com/lkpdbluesanta

Questions can be emailed to lpdbluesanta@gmail.com. Donations to the program can be made online at lawrencebluesanta.org or via mail or in person at Lawrence Police Department headquarters: 4820 Bob Billings Pkwy, Lawrence, KS 66049.

**A Month of Sharing with Lawrence Parks & Recreation**

Join the Lawrence Parks & Recreation Department and the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve as they celebrate a Month of Sharing with a Toys for Tots toy drive.

Lawrence Parks & Recreation Department will be collecting new, unused and unopened toys at all its facilities. All toys collected will be donated to Toys for Tots and distributed to deserving children in the community, assisting those in need this holiday season.

Residents who would like to participate are asked to bring new, unused and unopened toys to any Parks & Recreation Department facility and place them in the decorated, seasonal box at the facility. Participating facilities include:

- Sports Pavilion Lawrence
  100 Rock Chalk Ln.
- The Community Building
  115 West 11th St.
- East Lawrence Recreation Center
  1245 East 15th St.
- Holcom Park Recreation Center
  2700 West 27th St.
- Lawrence Indoor Aquatic Center
  4706 Overland Dr.
- Prairie Park Nature Center
  2730 Harper St.
- Parks & Recreation Administrative Office in South Park
  1141 Massachusetts St.

The Parks & Recreation Department’s Month of Sharing will run from Monday, Nov. 25 - Friday, Dec. 20, which will allow time for toy distribution prior to the holiday.

For more information about the Month of Sharing, please contact Roger Steinbrock with the Parks & Recreation Department, 785-832-3450.
Getting Ready for Winter Weather

You never know when winter weather is going to strike, so it’s best to start preparing now. The City of Lawrence has a number of programs and policies in place to help make the season go as smoothly as possible for residents.

Snow plowing operations are generally not effective if there are less than three inches of snow on the ground, and City crews will typically spread sand and salt on the roadways for icy conditions and small accumulations.

When snow does hit, City crews follow the snow removal policy and clear City streets in order from most to least traveled. You can view the route map, as well as live traffic cams, online: lawrenceks.org/snow

City crews aren’t the only ones with some responsibility when it comes to clearing snow. City ordinance No. 8324 states that all property owners must clear their public sidewalks of snow and ice within 48 hours of a winter storm. This helps keep pathways safe for all Lawrence residents.

Important Reminders!

Altered solid waste service schedules during the weeks of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s Day

As there will be no collection services on Thanksgiving, Christmas Day or New Year’s Day, route schedules will be altered. Please call 785-832-3032 or visit our website for more information: lawrenceks.org/swm

The Safe Winter Walkways Program is now accepting applications for participants and volunteers

Online registration is available on the City of Lawrence website: lawrenceks.org/safe_winter_walkways. If you have any questions, please contact Larry Woydziak with the Senior Resource Center of Douglas County, 785-727-7875, lwoydziak@YourSRC.org

A new utility billing system is coming soon

Stay tuned: We’ll be sending notices soon with information on how to register in the new system. If you have any questions, please contact the Utility Billing office at utilitybilling@lawrenceks.org or 785-832-7878.

Protect against porch pirates

The Lawrence Police Department is sharing a special safety alert for the holiday season. This time of year brings an increase in package deliveries, which, unfortunately, also means an increase in thefts.

Follow these tips to keep your treasures safe from “porch pirates” this year:
- Be home at the time you are expecting a package delivery
- If you cannot be home, ask a neighbor to keep a look out for your packages
- Have packages delivered to your place of work instead of your house
- Place a hold on your mail or request a package pickup
- Use an outdoor camera system — though this might not prevent thefts, it can help police capture the thieves

Follow these tips to help make sure you can enjoy a holiday season that is merry and bright!

2019 Phoenix Award recipients announced

On Sunday, October 27, the Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission presented the 2019 Phoenix Awards at a reception and ceremony hosted at Theatre Lawrence.

The Phoenix Awards recognize outstanding artistic achievements in the Lawrence community. There are 10 categories for the five awards: Arts Advocate, Arts Administrator, Arts Education, Design Arts, Literary Arts, Musical Arts, Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Volunteer in the Arts, and the Phoenix Award for Exceptional Artistic Achievement. There is also a “Creative Spaces” category, which recognizes outstanding achievement in imaginative and environmentally forward-thinking place-making.

This year, the Cultural Arts Commission named the following five recipients in their respective categories:
- Roger Shimomura, visual arts-painting and arts educator
- Dan Rockhill, architecture/creative spaces
- Jancita Warrington, arts and culture educator
- Lisa Grossman, visual arts-painting
- Clenece Hills, arts volunteer

The Cultural Arts Commission received many qualified nominations for this year’s awards and was honored to select these five individuals as exemplary representations of the Lawrence arts community.

All of this year’s Phoenix Award recipients received awards created by Jennifer Joie Webster and Walt Hull (pictured below).