# LANSING CONNECTION

Fourth Quarter 2023

# When the Snow Flies, These Lansing Employees Roll...

800 1st Terrace, Lansing, KS 66043

(913) 727-3233

www.lansingks.org

INTRACTOR GRADE



# **MAYOR'S BYLINE**

By Mayor Tony McNeill

As we get closer to a busy holiday season, I wanted to take a Library, Norine is also a member of the Parks and Recreation moment to say how appreciative I am for our City's strong core of volunteers who provide so much support. From youth sports coaches to citizens who serve on our boards and committees. Lansing benefits tremendously from these volunteers who for Lansing and this year's Volunteer(s) of the Year award was selflessly give their time.

Once a year, the City gets to recognize one or sometimes two I would also like to recognize the efforts of the Lansing of these giving souls during our Annual Volunteer Appreciation and Recognition Dinner. This year, I had the honor of presenting our Volunteer(s) of the Year Award to Norine and Tom Lauhon. The Lauhons have served our community for many years, with particular emphasis on helping our Community Library. Norine and Tom are members of the not-for-profit Friends of the Lansing Community Library and are active with that group's annual book sale. The Lauhons are not only generous with their time, but St. Thanks to this committee and our dedicated City staff, we also with contributions to help purchase items for the Library including furniture and the after-hours book drop. Apart from the

Advisory Board. She's always willing to lend a hand at our events and is now serving on our Aquatics Center Committee for Lansing's future community pool. The Lauhons do so much trulv deserved.

Aquatics Center Committee. That group has been meeting for several months and has done a great job of researching the ins and outs of designing, constructing and maintaining this large community project. For those new to our area, Lansing voters approved a small sales tax increase in 2022 to fund a public aquatic center, which will be located on cityowned land near the intersection of Bittersweet and W. Marv are on schedule to see the new City Aquatics Center open in the summer of 2025.

2 City Council Meeting

**16** City Council Meeting

7 City Council Meeting

**21** City Council Meeting

**15** Planning Commission Meeting

Lastly, I would like to recognize the City Staff and City Council I would like to formally welcome the following new businesses; Take for their great work on the 2024 budget. For the second year 5 Oil Change (1114 N. Main St.,) Filliman Dental (842 Main St.,) in a row, the City has significantly reduced our property tax mill and SorWil Technology Solutions (112 S. Main St., Suite A.) All of levy to maintain a revenue neutral rate, resulting in no property these businesses will be great additions to Lansing. Regarding tax increases for our citizens (from the City anyway.) As our City future growth, I believe Lansing is positioned well in 2024 to continues to grow our commercial and retail tax base, it is my continue our current growth rate- whether that be infrastructure hope that we can continue this trend to reduce the property tax improvements, commercial and residential expansion or the lifeburden even further. enhancing amenities we offer our citizens. As always, if you have any questions or if I can be of service in any way, please feel free In reference to growth, we have seen several additions to our to contact me via email: mayor@lansingks.org - or call City Hall at 913-727-3036.

community along Main St. that have opened in the last few months.



How much fun is it to live in the Kansas City area when the Chiefs, tackling drug use in our community and kick around ideas to improve Lansing and our community at-large.

Royals, Sporting KC, Current or KU and K-State are doing well!? on how to make Lansing more pedestrian friendly. We know There's an excitement in the atmosphere that is almost tangible. there is much work to be done to improve pedestrian access Not only that, but it also seems like there is this camaraderie near some of the schools in our community. Unfortunately, amongst folks and you can see that everyone is pulling in the installation of sidewalks can be deceptively expensive. If same direction. It's actually the same in local government! I get there are issues with grading, utilities, stormwater, etc., it can incredibly excited when multiple people and entities work together increase costs exponentially. We also want to be sure we're not constructing a sidewalk in an area where the road could be expanded in the future. The City, in partnership with USD469, A recent example of our teams working together is a new 12" is applying for a State grant to extend a trail from Mary St. to water line on Centre Drive. As many residents know, KCKCC Lansing High School. I want to emphasize that at this point has purchased 12 acres on the southern end of Town Center this is only a grant application and has not been approved. to build a new campus in 2027/2028. We have also had guite a However, I am proud of the partnership the City and USD469 have demonstrated on the grant application. Not only that, we bit of interest from commercial tenants in other parcels in Town Center, However, the larger parcels did not have access to a were also fortunate to have the support of Rep. Dave Buehler large, looped water line. We worked closely with our partners and Sen. Jeff Pittman on our grant application. I love it when at LanDel to help get that line installed to accommodate folks from different teams and backgrounds come together for commercial growth in the future. We are grateful to Chairman the betterment of our community. Jake Kowalewski, LanDel team members Ron Patterson, Dave Baragaray and the rest of the LanDel team (I know I'm forgetting Another great example of a team working together is our some folks) for partnering with the City to get that project done. aquatics steering committee. This committee has been meeting monthly to review the design, features and budget for our future It's great when we all work together for a common goal. aquatic center. Some of these meetings lasted nearly three Speaking of working together, the city of Lansing is proud of hours! Members from this committee attended our Oct. 19 our positive relationship with our neighbors. We held a joint City Council meeting to review the plans with our City Council.

meeting with the USD469 School Board on Oct. 19. It was a wonderful opportunity and gave us the chance to talk about (continued on pq. 7)



#### Cover image:

Pictured from left to right: Jim Ogden, Chris Hermann, Mike Spickelmier, Kelly Hanne, Mike Henre, Clayton Darby, John Seymour, Sam Miller, Kris Weinmann, Kenny Payne, Cody Burnett. Not pictured: Mike Brock

#### Back cover image:

View from behind Lansing Rock Salt Spreader on Desoto Rd.

Photo credits: Ken Miller, Mike Spickelmier, Don Studnicka and Emily Stratton

#### **Ken Miller**

Connection Editor

KANSAS

**Tim Vandall** 

City Administrator

# CITY OF

# CONNECTION CALENDAR City of Lansing 2023, 2nd Quarter

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

JANUARY

25 Christmas Holiday - City Offices Closed

**3** Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting

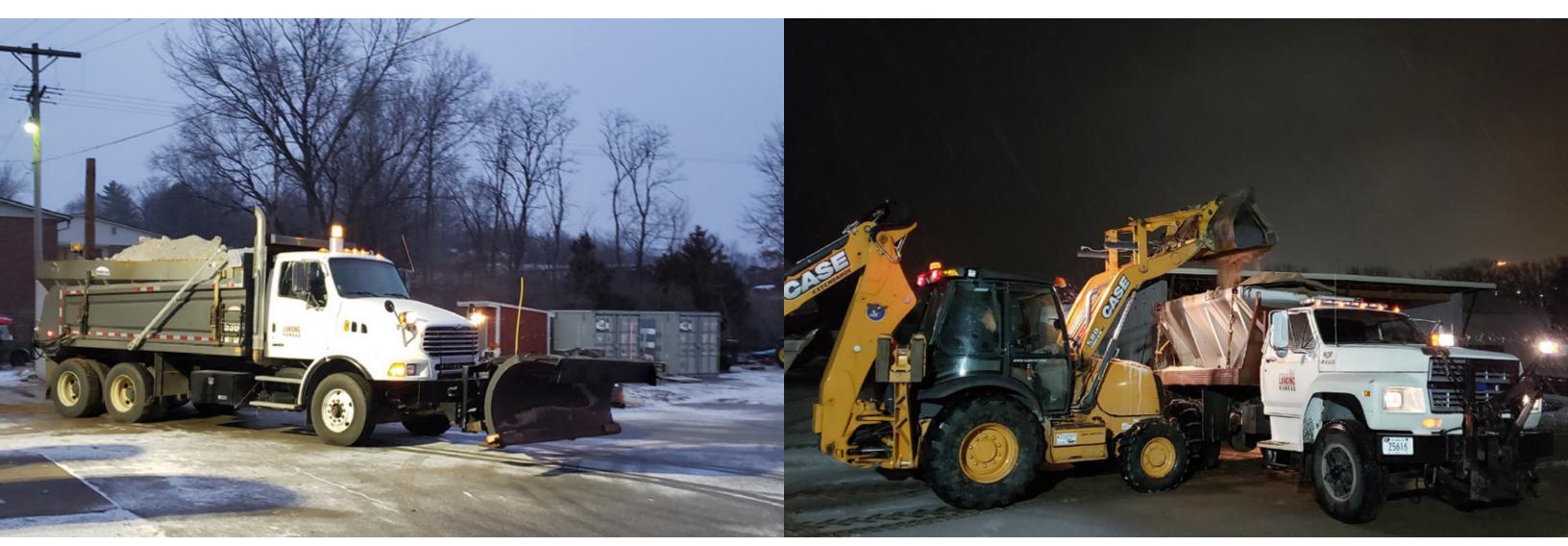
**20** Planning Commission Meeting

- 1-31 Spring Soccer Registration
- 1 New Year's Holiday City Offices Closed
- **4** City Council Meeting
- 15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day City Offices Closed

10 Veterans Day Observed - City Offices Closed

23 Thanksgiving Holiday - City Offices Closed

- **17** Planning Commission Meeting
- **18** City Council Meeting
- 25 City Council Work Session



#### Ice and Snow, People Still Need to GO

By Public Information Officer Ken Miller

Lansing commuters have been through this scenario numerous times: it's late January and outside there's more than a half-foot of snow on the ground, maybe with some ice on top for good measure. It's 4:30 a.m. and we're all thinking: I need to shovel and then get to work. Well, city of Lansing employees fit into that equation. A group of dedicated Street Division and Parks Department employees are up and out even earlier than that, spreading materials that will make your ride into the great white north a lot safer and faster.

Preparation for winter weather starts months earlier when staff orders deicing chemicals and rock salt to stockpile on site. "It's a significant part of our planning and budget each year," said Public Works Director Mike Spickelmier. "We have cooperative agreements with Leavenworth County and the City of Leavenworth to order in bulk and realize better pricing." In Lansing's FY 2024 budget, \$60,000 has been set aside for snow and ice removal materials. "We always want to have enough on hand, even if we end up being faced with multiple major winter storms."

"We watch the winter weather forecasts very closely from November through March," said Kenny Payne, Lansing Street

Division Superintendent. "It gives us a heads-up to get started on pretreating roads, depending on what the forecast is calling for."

During any given storm event, up to a dozen vehicles are deployed for jobs in Lansing including pretreatment, chemical melt and plowing. Typically when a storm is forecasted, the expected temperature leading to the main event will dictate what kind of treatment, if any, is applied. "If it is above freezing and likely to stay that way for a while, we won't throw down de-icer because rain will simply wash it away," said Spickelmier. "Timing is important to get maximum performance from the materials we spread."

Once the decision is made to call employees in, staff from the Street Division and Parks and Recreation Dept. gather at the Street shop at 400 E. Santa Fe Dr. In almost all cases, chemicals and rock salt will have been preloaded on trucks prior to the storm's arrival. Crews then roll, working up to a 12 hour shift. "Most times, we can get City streets in good shape during that first shift," says Payne. "But occasionally, depending on how long the snow storm is, we may have to make another pass at it."

There are several things Lansing residents can do to make our snow removal crew's job a little easier. "Culs-de-sac are harder to clear because of the circular shape – when vehicles are parked on the curb, it takes much longer to get snow and ice moved to clear a path," said Payne. The same holds true for all City streets. When a storm is predicted, it's best to move your vehicles off of the roadway. On rare occasion, property (mailboxes, mostly) can be damaged by thrown snow and ice. "In those cases, it's best to contact Public Works at 913-727-2400 to let us know your address and the approximate time of the incident," says Spickelmier.

For decades, snow and ice removal in Lansing has received a large share of kudos and compliments from residents. "Our staff does an outstanding job of clearing roads quickly and efficiently – I think a lot of that is the result of personal pride our guys have in doing their jobs," said City Administrator Tim Vandall. "Our City Council members tell me they hear compliments about our snow crew every winter. I think we have one of the best winter storm response teams in the State."



Rock salt chemicals stored at the Lansing Street Division's site

### Ward News CHECK OUT WHAT YOUR COUNCILMEMBERS HAVE TO SAY ...

he City recently adopted the budget for the 2024 budget year. It's always a series of difficult decisions to make, balancing the needs of the City versus how we pay for all matters related to the growth of Lansing.

We passed a Revenue Neutral Rate budget this year - meaning we will collect no more in tax money than we did last year. We understand the difficulties that many residents face in today's environment.

Inflation, sky rocketing property values, people on fixed incomes and young My thanks to all who work for the City - an amazing and dedicated staff families trying to get ahead. We are doing what we can to ease the burden on everyone and vet maintain the services we need to provide. The entire city staff is always on the look out to determine where they can hold the line yet continue to provide the services we have come to expect. In 2016, the mill levy rate was 41.838; in 2024 it's 32.920, for a reduction of 8.918 mills. As we continue to add new businesses to Lansing, we are hopeful for more sales tax revenue and an increase in property values as we grow.

I would like to take the time to publicly thank our dedicated and hardworking staff. Our City Administrator, Tim Vandall, has done an incredible job leading the City on a daily basis. Beth Sanford leads our Finance Dept. and she does an amazing job. She is responsible for all matters that have anything to do with City funds, including crafting the budget, making sure all funds are accounted for correctly. City Clerk Tish Sims keeps us in line. She is responsible for making sure that all actions are legal. She and her staff prepare our meeting agendas, are in charge of the Community Center and building responsibilities. She also assists with human resources issues.

The most visible department is probably our Police Dept. Chief Steve Wayman is responsible for all things PD related. He also has the largest staff. Like so many other law enforcement agencies, maintaining a full staff can be challenging. Terri Wojtalewicz and her staff coordinate a large number of programs as part of the Lansing Community Library. Josh Gentzler is our Community and Economic Development Dept. Director. Josh is in charge of other things as well including community events like

Ward 1 News

Councilmember **GENE KIRBY** 

where needed. Jason Crum leads our Parks and Recreation Dept. He is also in charge of mowing and maintaining the ball fields and other City parks. The Parks and Recreation Dept. is also in charge of all of the different sports activities that run year round. Public Works Dept. Director Mike Spickelmier leads all things related to streets, sidewalks and curb issues. This department is also responsible for snow removal and treating roads, among other things. Director Tony Zell heads up the award winning Wastewater Dept. It's a department you probably do not give much thought to until you have a sewage back up in your home.

and to all of you that volunteer your time and talents to Lansing. We could not do it without vou.

W ell autumn sure jumped up on us in a hurry, didn't it? Back in the 2nd Quarter Lansing Connection we had an article about former Councilman David Trinkle's passing and his commitment to Lansing. In coordination with his family, the City has honored him by putting up a memorial at Ken Bernard Park (see pic below.) David was the one who started and organized the first Fishing Derby 22 years ago. He was always trying to do something for our kids. He also fully

Ward 2 News Councilmember DON STUDNICKA

supported the Spooky Center at Halloween. By the time you get this article we will have just had the 2023 Spooky Center for the kids. Hope you got the kids out for it.

The new aquatic center pool design is coming along well and it looks like we will break ground next year - not soon enough for me. The Take 5 Oil Change business has opened on the corner of Eisenhower and Main. Also, Dr. Filliman's dental office on First Terrace has opened with a modern, up-to-date facility. I believe in my last article I mentioned that the Independence Day Celebration, the Fall Festival, and lends a hand Tractor Supply is moving to a location in Town Center. Right now, the

City is putting in water, gas, etc. along Centre Drive and we are going to has built a new paint and body shop behind their main building. You improve the lighting and the access from 4H Rd. may have noticed Dr. Filliman's new dental office located on Main St. The building is located on a lot that has been vacant for years, so it is As you may already know or heard, the golf course and fitness facility nice to see such a nice building there now. If you need a local dentist, on Eisenhower has closed as of the end of June. The City is trying to you can give them a call. Tractor Supply Co. (TSC) which is currently get in contact with the owner to maybe buy it and turn it into a municipal at the corner of Eisenhower and Main St. will be moving to Lansing course. That is what I would like to see. Right now, we need to get the Towne Center. This larger building will include a drive-through loading owner to maintain it! A code violation for sure. area and will give the store more room. This is currently in the design phase. If you need an oil change, you can also visit the new Take 5 Main Street Chrysler Dodge Jeep RAM also just opened their new body oil change business located on the corner of Eisenhower and Main. and collision center. They have a brand-new state of the art facility and If you take a drive through Lansing Towne Center, you will notice the do a great job. I just had some body work done on my RAM pickup and large billboard in the area where a new Kansas City Kansas Community it turned out great. College Annex will be built. To accommodate these new businesses and future development in Lansing Towne Center, LanDel Water has Since this article will cover November, December, and January, I want to installed new water lines. There will be new streetlights installed and wish all of Lansing a very Happy Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas, the street will also be widened.

and a Happy New Year! Then we can look forward to ordering Girl Scout Cookies in January.

As always, you are invited to **YOUR** City Council meetings which are held the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month. If you have any complaints, questions, or just want to talk about the city, you can reach me at dstudnicka@lansingks.org or call 913-306-1051.

ello to all my Lansing friends. I hope you had a great summer and you spent some quality time with family and friends. As I type this article, I am thinking of all those who have recently closed their pools for the winter. This makes me extremely excited for the community aquatics park that will be built at the northwest corner of W. Mary St. and Bittersweet. We are currently in the design phase, so we still have a lot to accomplish over the next couple of years with bidding and construction. The projected opening date is summer 2025.



As you drive through Lansing, you may have seen some changes on Main St. Even though you cannot see it from Main St., Main Street CDJR

Home of the David Trinkle Jr Annual Fishing Derby

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(continued from pg. 3)

#### From the Desk of the City Administrator

The aquatic center will undergo construction throughout most of The next time you see KU fans wave the wheat, K-State fans sing 2024, with a grand opening slated for Memorial Day 2025. We are Wabash Cannonball, or Chiefs fans wearing red on Fridays, think so grateful to the members of the aquatics steering committee, Adam Bremer, Larry Boswell, Dave Bresser, Amy Crumpacker, for their team. It's fun to see groups uniting around a common Norine Lauhon, Dana Fontenot, and Janette Labbee Holdeman. team or cause. We are grateful to so many wonderful people who Your vision and dedication to this community inspires me.



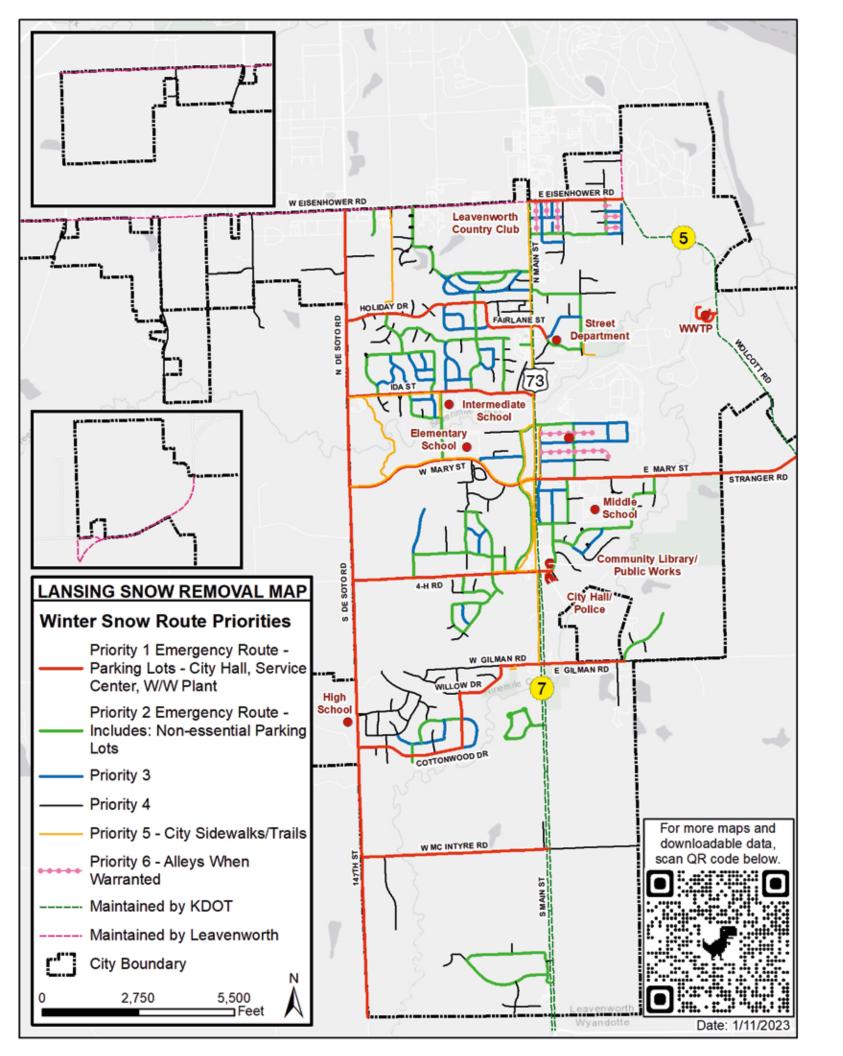
Another project you will soon notice on the south side of town is the McIntyre Road Sanitary Sewer Interceptor Project. This is a proactive project - so when there is growth in the southern part of Lansing, we will have infrastructure already in place. This is a major project that will involve going underneath K-7 from the SE corner of McIntyre to the corner of Gilman Rd. It will include 9.500 feet of pipe.

I would like to congratulate Detective Bill Linn on his retirement from the Lansing Police Department after 17 years of dedicated service. We genuinely appreciate all of our City employees and especially all of the volunteers that help us run our great city.

I hope everyone had a wonderful time at the Lansing Fall Festival along Angel Falls Trail. Be sure to take advantage of all our local parks and facilities which are open for everyone to use.

In closing, I want to wish everyone a happy and healthy upcoming holiday season. If you have anything you would like to talk about or simply have a question, please contact me at jgarvey@lansingks.org or call City Hall at 913-727-3036 and leave me a message.

about the thousands of people coming together to show support work tirelessly to improve Lansing.



## 2023 Volunteers of the Year in Lansing

By Public Information Officer Ken Miller

On Oct. 3, City leaders, staff and members of the volunteer community feted a local couple who give selflessly to the Lansing community. Mayor Tony McNeill did the honors during the Volunteer Recognition dinner at the Lansing Community Center, announcing that Tom and Norine Lauhon were this year's award recipients.

From the nomination form submitted in support of the Lauhons:

Norine and Tom Lauhon are invaluable members of the Lansing Community who have served the City for many years. They are actively involved in the community through their service to the Friends of the Lansing Community Library, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and the Library Advisory Board.

Norine and Tom are long-time members of the 501(c)(3) organization, Friends of the Lansing Community Library. They have made it the group's mission to assist the library in inspiring the enjoyment of lifelong learning, fostering creativity, and promoting community engagement. They have achieved this and more by coordinating fundraising events and seeking out grant opportunities. Norine is now serving as Vice President of the Friends group. Because of their leadership

efforts, the Friends group has been able to fund the lend a hand with events and summer reading program 100%. They have also programs. Norine is also known for her warm and friendly personality when interacting with the public during events. During meetings, she offers suggestions to improve the efficiency of the board's operations and develops creative ideas to generate more community interest in the Parks and Recreation Department. Norine takes every opportunity to participate in all Parks and Recreation endeavors, including currently serving as a member of the Aquatics Center Committee for the future Lansing swimming pool. She consistently attends the meetings, providing her input throughout the process. Her contributions to the community are truly invaluable.

provided funding for new software, furniture, an afterhours book drop, and remodeled circulation desk and workspace for the staff. It is with their vision; that the Friends find new and creative ways to help further the mission of the group and the library. Tom always steps up to help with the annual book sale, ensuring that it runs smoothly and is as profitable as possible in order to support library programming and projects. Tom regularly loans artwork to the library to help create a welcoming environment.

Apart from her contributions to the City's Library, Norine is an outstanding member of the Lansing Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. She provides invaluable recommendations and is always willing to



Below: Lansing Mayor Tony McNeill (r) presents Volunteer of the Year award to Tom and Norine Lauhon

The City truly appreciates the dedication and sacrifice of all volunteers. We could not do what we do to serve the community without their help.

#### Thank you to our 2023 Sponsors!

#### Mutual Savings Association // Platinum Automotive

American Family Insurance // Citizens National Bank // Clearwave Fiber // Commerce Bank Country Club Bank // Exchange Bank // First Command // Gutter Helmet // Home Depot Khaki Hound // Linaweaver Construction // State Farm Insurance // Tractor Supply



# clearwave 🕲 fiber. MUTUAL SAVINGS Country Club Bank ASSOCIATION PLATINUM MERICAN FAMILY AUTOMOTIVE INSURANCE

**Another Great** 

#### Mark Your Calendars: Join Us For The Annual Mayor's **Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony On December 3**

Join Mayor Tony McNeill at 6 p.m. on Sun., Dec. 3 for the Annual Mayor's Christmas Tree Program Annual Mayor's Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony. This event Every year, the Mayor's Christmas Tree Program benefits will take place at the Lansing Middle School Auditorium (220 Lansing families in need during the holiday season by providing Lion Lane.) There will be dance numbers from Katie's Dance them with nonperishable food, toys, clothes and grocery store Studio and Christmas songs by Lansing High School Choir. The gift cards. Beginning Mon., Nov. 6, 2023, Angel Trees will be Mayor will accept donations and ask everyone to join in singing located in the Lansing City Hall lobby at 800 1st Terrace. traditional carols while watching the lighting ceremony. There may even be a special guest in a jolly red suit! Those interested in participating can pick up a tag, purchase

Program are encouraged to bring their donations to the Lighting Ceremony. Private individuals, civic organizations, and businesses are encouraged to participate in the fund drive. Join us in celebrating the holiday season.



#### Special thanks to our sponsors & event host: St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church

LINAWEAVER

CITIZENS

NATIONAL

BANK

State Farm

the gifts on the tag and return the new unwrapped gifts to Those wishing to donate to the Mayor's Christmas Tree Lansing City Hall by Wednesday, Dec. 6, 2023. Gifts must be new items in original packaging or with tags attached.

> Please consider participating in this important program. Your assistance will help brighten the holiday season for these local families. If you have questions, contact the City Clerk's Office at 913-727-3036.

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#### **McIntyre Sewer Interceptor Project Update**

#### By Wastewater Dept. Director Anthony Zell

This winter, construction will begin on the McIntyre Sewer Interceptor project. This project will extend sanitary sewer service from K-7 and Gilman Rd. all the way south down to E. McIntyre Rd. The project consists of the installation of nearly 9,300 feet of sewer pipe, ranging in diameter from 8" to 30" as well as 36 manholes. This project will open several hundred acres for potential development and ultimately provide sewer service all the way to the southern county border at Marxen Rd.

Design for this project could not have moved forward without the assistance of the Leavenworth County Board of County Commissioners, who awarded \$240,000 to Lansing for this project, which amounted to 50% of the design cost. Additionally, the City was fortunate enough to receive a "Building A Sustainable Economy" (BASE) grant in the amount of \$1.3 million through the State of Kansas. The remaining funding for the \$4 million project will be paid for with short term debt financing, paid through the Wastewater Utility's user fees.

The project is scheduled to begin in Dec. 2023 and should conclude by July 2024. I want to thank all the residents and businesses that I've worked with up to this point to get this project ready for construction. I appreciate all the assistance and understanding

Should you like additional information, it can be found on the City's website www.lansingks.org or you can contact Anthony J. Zell, Jr., Wastewater Utility Director at azell@lansingks.org or by phone: 913-364-5915.



**ONLINE REGISTRATION:** 

www.lansingks.org/parksrec

The Parks & Recreation Office

at The Lansing Activity Center

108 S. 2nd Street

8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

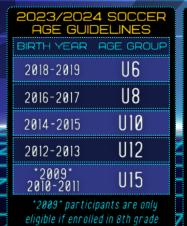
Monday - Friday:

# LANSING KANSAS - PARKS & RECREATION SPRING YOUTH SOCCER

From January 1st through January 31st, the Lansing Parks & Recreation Department will accept registrations for the 2024 Spring Youth Soccer program.

Lansing Residents: \$35 per participant | Non-residents: \$40 per participant

The participation fee is due at the time of registration and includes socks and a jersey. Please take a look at the division chart for participant eligibility



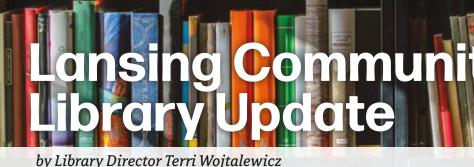
for the 2023/2024 school year

Practices will begin in late March. Games will be played on Saturdays starting in early April and will continue through mid-May, Registrations made after January 31st may not be accepted. If late registrations are permitted, an additional fee of \$10 perparticipant will be assessed. Qualifying individuals can receive financial assistance. To learn more about eligibility, please call our office or visit our website to access the Scholarship Program nformation flyer and application.

Refunds for these programs will NOT be offered after the uniform and equipment order is placed on February 16th, 2024.

Scholarship requests must be received by 4:30 p.m., Friday, January 19th, 2024.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (913) 727-2960 OR EMAIL PARKS@LANSINGKS.ORG



It is hard to believe that we are already in the last guarter of 2023. We have many activities coming up this winter and cannot wait to share them with you.



Kathryn Erskine

Our Mighty Girls Book Club meets on the 3rd Tuesdav each month from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. to discuss books of different genres with female heroines for readers aged 9-12. The group will be reading:

> ♥ November: "Rules" by Cynthia Lord

December: "Mockingbird" by Kathryn Erskine

Even if you don't get the chance to finish the book, you can still stop by to join in on the conversation and pick up next month's book. Call the Library at 913-727-2929 to register.

**Kansas Reads to Preschoolers** 2023 is happening in November. This annual event promotes reading to all Kansas children from birth through age five. We have a special Storytime guest reader and a special activity. The Friends of the Library group has purchased several copies of the 2023 book.



My Heart Fills With Happiness written by Monique Gray Smith and illustrated by Julie Flett for us to hand out.



Be on the lookout for our Holiday program – The History and Folklore of Santa Claus! Stop in for some holiday treats on Wed., Dec. 6. Presenter Laura Keves will share where, exactly, Santa Claus came from and why does his popularity remain so high in modern American popular culture? This illustrated lecture is wellresearched, with details on the journey Bishop Nicholas made to become our current-day Santa Claus.

We are also getting ready for the annual Winter Reading Program, sponsored by the Friends of the Library. You can log your books and complete activities to earn prizes. These can all be found in our reading challenge program called Beanstack and can be accessed through our website, library app, social media pages, and at lansing.beanstack.org.

Our **Friends of the Library**'s Donation Days are still going strong and we appreciate all that is donated to help with the annual Book Sale. The upcoming donation days are following dates:



✓ Nov. 4, 2023 ✓ Mar. 9, 2024



The Friends of the Library's next Book Sale has been scheduled. We hope to see you there. The doors will open at 5 p.m. on Fri., April 19, 2024 for our Friends Members. You can become a member at the door for just \$5. Be sure to tell all your teacher friends that **Educator** Day will take place on Sun., April 21, 2024, from noon - 5 p.m. All items are FREE for those with their IDs showing they work at a school. We are looking for help with setting it up, during the sale. and tearing down afterwards.

Finally, our holiday hours for the rest of the year are as follows:

- ✓ Veterans Day Closed on Friday, November 10 Closed on Saturday, November 11
- ✓ Thanksgiving Closed on Thursday, November 23
- ✓ Christmas Closed Monday, December 25
- ✓ New Year's Closed on Monday, January 1

We are so thankful for all your support. We look forward to a wonderful 2024. Help us spread the word that we are open and looking forward to serving you! As always, we look forward to seeing you at the Library and welcome suggestions on how we can serve you better. You can reach me at twojo@lansingks.org









# www.lansingks.org

"A GOOD COACH CAN CHANGE A GAME. GREAT COACH CAN CHANGE A LIFE." - JOHN WOODEN

TO ALL OF OUR **VOLUNTEER COACHES** PAST, PRESENT, & FUTURE...

> We cannot thank you enough for giving us vour most valuable asset - vour time to our community. Your dedication as a volunteer coach is an inspiration to others.

Thank you

# LANSING **TRADITIONAL**/ **SOCIAL MEDIA INFORMATION**

#### **CITY WEBSITE FEATURES**

- Check out the city of Lansing Website: www.lansingks.org
- Modules so Residents Can Interact with their City Government
- Use the Web Calendar to Check on Dates for City Events and Meetings
- View the Latest City Council Meetings and Newsmaker Interview Shows via YouTube
- Pay Your City Bills Online
- Report a Pothole or Other Maintenance Issue
- Report Trash Service Problems
- Register for youth sports leagues or city events!

#### **CITY'S SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE**

- Lansing has a Nextdoor Presence Accessing 1,900+ residents
- Lansing's Facebook Page has 6.300+ followers
- · Lansing's Twitter Feed has 1,205+ followers
- Links to City Videos on YouTube
- Check out photos from City staff and the community
- City Job Opportunities Announced
- Updates from Lansing and KDOT Tweeted Instantly!
- "Like" Our Library, Parks, Police, and Happenings Facebook Pages, Too

#### **LGTV-CHANNEL 2 UPDATE**

- Local Weather Forecast Instantly!
- City Council and County Commission Meetings Rebroadcast 10 Times/Week
- Legislative Forums
- Historical Documentaries about Lansing and Leavenworth County
- Complete Program Guide on www.lansingks.org
- Local musician and Lansing city employee Kris Bennetts Provides Background Music

# **USD469 Lansing School District Update**

Lansing USD469 had a fantastic start to the new school year under the direction of our new Superintendent, Martv Kobza.

#### ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

We are proud to announce that our ACT scores from last spring surpassed the state average, with approximately 95% of our high school juniors participating. Last spring's state assessments for third of education here in Lansing.

through tenth grades in Reading and Mathematics also Lansing USD469 values the contribution our exceeded the state average, underscoring the quality employees make across the district. From our hardworking custodians to our incredible teaching staff, each employee plays a vital role in the success of our Lansing High School seniors Jonathan Corrigan and students. We offer part-time and full-time opportunities Ainsley Yoakam have been named Commended across the district and are always looking for substitute Students in the 2024 National Merit Scholarship teachers. Being a substitute teacher is an excellent way Program, ranking among the top 50,000 students in to give back to our community, earn extra money, and the nation based on their National Merit Scholarship have a flexible schedule. Please visit the Employment Qualifying Test scores. Opportunities page on www.usd469.net for a list of all open positions and instructions on how to apply. If **BEYOND THE CLASSROOM** you have any questions, please get in touch with the Lansing District Office at 913-727-1100.

In addition to academics, Lansing's arts and athletics are thriving. Mia Batista, Katelyn Cope, and Kara **STAY UP TO DATE!** Wessel will represent Lansing at the state tennis championships. Our Lansing High Choirs recently We look forward to sharing more of our successes with performed at the Kansas Speedway, and our LHS the Lansing community as the year progresses. As a Legacy Choir earned a spot at the Kansas Music reminder, you don't have to have children in the district Educators Association (KMEA) All-State Convention to stay current on all the fantastic things happening in February 2024. Our middle and high school bands here! Visit www.usd469.net and download our free are also standouts, with our Lansing Middle School Lansing USD469 mobile app, available on the App Band Director, Aaron Edwards, recently nominated Store or Google Play. The app will provide access to for the Northeast Kansas Middle-Level Band Director important information about the district, including news of the Year by the Northeast District Kansas Music updates, calendars, and more, Educators Association.

We are thrilled to share that Lansing USD469 has achieved recognition in the 2023 Kansans Can Star



LANSING PARKS AND RECREATION

#### (Content Provided by USD469 staff)

Recognition Program in the areas of "Social-Emotional Growth," "Academically Prepared for Postsecondary," and "Postsecondary Effectiveness." The Kansas Can Start Recognition Program acknowledges districts for excelling in areas valued by Kansans. This recognition is difficult to obtain and represents the highest level of achievement on the State Board outcomes.

#### JOIN THE LANSING USD469 TEAM

(Content Provided by USD469 staff)



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