



November
2014

SPRING & HILL KANSAS

City Newsletter

five things we're **THANKFUL** for this month



1 A GENEROUS COMMUNITY THAT GIVES BACK TO ITS NEIGHBORS

Donations have already started coming in for the Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund! Join our efforts to help residents keep their utilities on, feed hungry children over the weekend and provide groceries for local families by donating to our second annual fund drive. More information is included on page four of the newsletter.

2 RESPONSIBLE RESIDENTS WHO WORK WITH THE POLICE TO KEEP SPRING HILL SAFE

The Spring Hill Police Department requests the assistance of the residents of Spring Hill to be vigilant and make sure their vehicles and residences are secured.

We as a community can be faced with individuals that look for opportunities to prey upon unsuspecting individuals by means of auto thefts, theft from vehicles, and/or theft from homes. Taking an extra minute to verify that your homes and vehicles are secure will help prevent you from becoming a victim of a crime.

We want all citizens to know that any suspicious activity, no matter how minute it may seem, needs to be reported. By working together, we as a community can continue to keep our crime low and improve our quality of life in Spring Hill.

3

**DAYLIGHT
SAVINGS TIME**
Wind your clocks
back an hour
before bed Nov. 1
and enjoy that
extra hour of sleep!

4 THE QUICKLY APPROACHING HOLIDAY SEASON - AND ONE OF OUR FAVORITE EVENTS

Mark your calendars - Hometown Holidays is coming to downtown Spring Hill on Dec. 6! Join us on Main Street from 6 to 8 p.m. for the Mayor's Christmas tree lighting, pictures with Santa, a candy cane hunt, treats, crafts, music and much more. More details will be announced on our new Hometown Holidays website, which is set to launch next week.



5 TIME SPENT WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS



Thanksgiving is coming up, and we're anticipating plenty of food, fun and schedule changes at City Hall. Our offices will be closed Thanksgiving and the following Friday so that staff can enjoy time and turkey with family. Due to the holiday, there will only be one City Council meeting this month. Watch our website for details.

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www.springhillks.gov
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Fall and winter safety tips

Johnson County Fire District No. 2 wants to remind you about some common safety tips as we approach the winter months. Let's work together to keep our community safe!

- Have your home heating systems (including chimneys and vents) inspected and serviced annually by a trained service technician. Carbon monoxide is odorless and can be very dangerous.
- Never use portable generators inside your home or garage, even if the windows and doors are open. In the event of a power outage, use generators outside.
- Never bring a hot charcoal grill into the garage or near the home. Keep them a safe distance from the home when using.
- Never use a turkey fryer inside a garage or near the home. Keep them a safe distance from the home

SYMPTOMS OF CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) POISONING:

- Headache
- Fatigue
- Shortness of breath
- Nausea
- Dizziness
- Vomiting
- Loss of muscular coordination

when using.

- Never use a gas range or oven for heating.
- Space heaters need SPACE - maintain three feet of clearance in all directions.
- Open fireplace dampers before lighting a fire, and keep it open until all the ashes are completely cool. Never place your fireplace ashes inside a trash can in the home.
- Watch local weather reports, and plan travel accordingly.
- Check and install smoke detectors. Change batteries twice a year when you change your clocks for daylight savings time.
- Install carbon monoxide detectors with a battery back-up in your home outside sleeping areas and on each level of the home.

Johnson County Fire District No. 2 is committed to keeping you safe.

For further information about these safety tips, visit www.jcfd2.org. Feel free to visit or call your local fire station for additional information.

The non-emergency number for the Spring Hill station is (913) 592-3926.

Dial 911 in the event of an emergency.

03

Public Safety Advisory Board meeting, 7 p.m.

06

Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

08 Veterans Day celebration

Join Cole-Smith American Legion Post No. 350, Ladies Auxiliary Unit No. 350, the Sons of the American Legion, the American Legion Riders and the Spring Hill Historical Society for the city Veterans Day ceremony at 11 a.m. at the Civic Center.

11

City Hall closed in honor of Veterans Day

November events

13

City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

17

Green Board meeting, 7 p.m.

HOLIDAY TRASH AND RECYCLING CHANGES

18

Arts Council meeting, 6:30 p.m.

23

City Council work session, 6 p.m.

27-28 Happy Thanksgiving!

City Hall closed

Miami County residents: November 28

Johnson County residents: November 29

Meetings take place at the Civic Center unless otherwise noted.

See our calendar at www.springhillks.gov.

All the buzz about our newest regulations for bees and chickens

Many Spring Hill residents may now legally own chickens and honey bees after two ordinances were approved at the City Council meeting October 23. Interested in bringing birds or bees to your residence? Here's what you need to know.

IF YOU WANT TO RAISE



HONEY BEES



CHICKENS

YOU CAN KEEP THEM IN

R-1 (single family) and R-2 (two-family) residential, rural residential and agricultural zoning districts. Before the new ordinance was adopted, bees were only allowed in the latter two districts.

Rural residential and agricultural zoning districts, which lie mostly on the city's perimeter.

YOU HAVE TO FOLLOW A FEW RULES

The hives must be surrounded by a six-foot barrier and must be located on property on which the hive's owner lives. The hives must also be registered with the city and inspected. There cannot be more than two hives on any property, and the hives must be well-maintained. The hives may not cover more than six square feet of ground or be taller than the fence around them. There must also be permanent posting showing who owns the hives and their contact information.

Any building structure or yard for the raising, feeding, breeding or housing of chickens must be 200 feet from a residential structure. There may also be not killing, butchering or dressing of chickens on the property. The same rules apply for the raising of livestock, swine, ducks, geese, bees, domestic fowl and dairy cattle in AG and RR districts.

THIS IS HOW IT BECAME LEGAL

A group of residents passionate about beekeeping wanted to set up hives but were told by city code enforcement officers that bee hives were not allowed in city limits except in RR or AG districts. They presented information on the behavior importance of honey bees to the Spring Hill Planning Commission, which recommended approval to the City Council. The Governing Body passed the ordinance 4-0 and will approve a permit fee for bee hives at a later meeting.

City staff noticed that Spring Hill's regulations on keeping fowl in the city limits conflicted. While the city's Zoning Ordinance allows the raising of fowl in RR and AG districts, the Municipal Code forbids raising fowl within the city limits. The Planning Commission unanimously recommended that the Municipal Code be amended to be consistent with the Zoning Ordinance and allow fowl in RR and AG districts. The City Council approved the ordinance 2-1.



Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund



give the gifts of

LIGHT • FOOD • HOPE

this holiday season

all proceeds go to benefit

THE SPRING HILL
FOOD PANTRY

THE SPRING HILL
MULTI-SERVICE CENTER'S
UTILITY ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM

THE SPRING HILL
ROTARY CLUB'S
BACKSNACK
PROGRAM



Mayor's
Christmas Tree
Fund

Drop off your form and donation at Spring Hill City Hall (You can include your donation in the same envelope as your utility bill - just make sure there are two separate payments!) or mail your donation to City Hall, P.O. Box 424, Spring Hill, KS 66083.

Name or organization: _____

Address: _____

I would like to donate _____ to the Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund.

Checks should be made payable to "Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund."