



RED OAK  
HILLS  
December  
2024

### Veterans Day Event

**M**any neighbors have commented that this was the best Veterans Day event we have had in ROH. The weather was beautiful and in attendance was our former neighbor, Charles Staubus, a WWII veteran who turned 100 years old this year. Taps on trumpet, Presenting of the Colors by the Shawnee Mission North ROTC Color Guard, singing of the National Anthem and ceremonial retirement and replacement of the American flag at the Midland entrance were a few of the activities. We hope you will mark your calendar to attend next year. Thank you to Gary Turner and all who give us a chance to honor those who have served our country.



### Thank you for being a good neighbor...let's return the favor

Thank you to the neighbor who set this out on the Elmridge street sidewalk. Surely the intention is to encourage dog owners to pick up their pets poop. They have provided a place to leave it and assume responsibility to dispose.

Many submit requests to remind dog owners in ROH to pick up after their pets. Kindness from this neighbor hopefully will encourage others to be good neighbors.





## Meet the Petersons

This month, we're excited to introduce the Peterson family—Mark, Rey, and their two daughters, Lydia and Kaylee, along with their beloved four-legged Vizsla, Odyseus, affectionately known as "Ody."

Mark, a software engineer, found this neighborhood in 2008 while exploring one beautiful autumn season. Enchanted by the hills and the charm of the area, he moved from Olathe, Kansas, and made it home. Six years later, he met Rey, who now owns her own massage therapy business in Lenexa. A passionate therapist, Rey also enjoys coaching others as a Gratitude and Empowerment Coach. Together, Mark and Rey decided that this neighborhood was the perfect place to start their family.

The Petersons are a family that embraces both adventure and tradition. They share a love for camping and spending time in nature, and they're proud of their Swedish heritage, celebrating traditions both old and new. Lydia and Kaylee, their daughters, are active and energetic. Both love swimming, and Lydia enjoys Girl Scouts, where she's building strong friendships. Kaylee, who participated in the Running Club, humorously declared she's "fast enough" and doesn't need to continue!

Mark and Rey bring their own passions into family life. Mark finds joy in motorcycle rides and cooking delicious meals for his family, and he's often a helping hand at the girls' karate classes. Rey enjoys painting, crafting, and hiking, and she volunteers at both girls' schools whenever she can. In her spare time, she's known for her love of storytelling, sharing favorite children's books with young listeners.

And, of course, Ody, their Vizsla, completes the family dynamic, always on the move and vigilant in keeping track of the yard's squirrel count.



From the HOA Board



Heading into its fourth decade, you and your family won't want to miss the 2024 Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 7. The Lawrence Christmas Parade is one of the most unique parades in the nation. Authentic horse-drawn carriages parading down Massachusetts Street is the perfect way to kick off the holiday season. Cozy up with hot cocoa and blankets. Feel the true holiday spirit while watching dozens of beautiful horses and wagons adorned in garland and bells. Celebrate American heritage and keep the tradition alive this holiday season. Visit <https://lawrencechristmasparade.org/> for more information.

## Activity Guides from 4-H

STEM Binary Code ornaments, Tealight Snowmen, New Year's Wish Pillows and so much more can be found in the 4-H Holiday Activity Guide. Check out <https://4-h.org/clover/activity-guides/download-4h-activity-guides/> to access various topics and hands-on activities such as healthy living, STEM, and civil engagement. Contact our neighbor, Susan Geib, at [limitlesswellness@yahoo.com](mailto:limitlesswellness@yahoo.com) if you have questions about 4-H.



## Shawnee Rocks the Lights

Does your holiday lights display rock the neighborhood? Race your way to the top and compete in Shawnee's annual lights competition! Complete the application and submit a photo of your holiday light display online by **Wednesday, December 11th**.

Online voting will take place **December 13th-20th**. The winner will enjoy bragging rights and a Shawnee Parks & Recreation prize pack.

**HOLIDAY LIGHTS MAP:** Following feedback from the public, Shawnee will provide a link to an online map of the participating houses. Upon registration, you will have the opportunity to include your house in the map or refrain from participating in this portion of the event. The map will be available on **Monday, December 16th - Wednesday, January 1st**.

**JR. DECORATORS CONTEST:** Not to be left out, Shawnee wants to see mini-decorators! Youth ages 2-12 can participate in the paper house decorating contest. There are three age categories: 5 and under, 6 - 8, and 9 - 12. Download the paper house (or pick up a paper copy at the Shawnee Civic Centre!) and decorate it for the season. Return your paper house to the Shawnee Civic Centre by **Wednesday, December 18th**. The winner will be announced on **Friday, December 20th**.

Visit [https://www.cityofshawnee.org/departments/parks\\_recreation/special\\_events/shawnee\\_rocks\\_the\\_lights](https://www.cityofshawnee.org/departments/parks_recreation/special_events/shawnee_rocks_the_lights) for more information.





## *New Years Eve for the adults*

[NYE Live](#) is one of Kansas City's biggest and most well known New Years Eve parties, with ticket options in silver, gold, and platinum packages to meet any budget. A champagne toast is included at midnight for all ticket packages! The Power & Light district has the largest selection of downtown bars and nightclubs, so there is a spot for everyone at this 21 and over NYE event. This location is along the KC Streetcar route as well to allow for safe travel to and from Power & Light.

## *New Years Eve for the kids*

### **Zoo Year's Eve at the KC Zoo | December 31, 2023**

If you're looking for more family fun this New Year's Eve, the Kansas City Zoo has you covered! [Zoo Year's Eve](#) is the perfect event for taking the kiddos and runs from 10am-12pm on December 31st.

The zoo will offer family-friendly party games, dancing, and activities in addition to being able to see more than 1,700 animals and featured exhibits.

**Location:** 6800 Zoo Drive, Kansas City, MO 64132



# CHILLTIME

If you like to binge watch series, here are some recommendations:

Apple TV	Hulu	Amazon Prime	Netflix
Disclaimer	Handmaids Tale	Fleabag	Lincoln Lawyer
Ted Lasso	The Bear	Marvelous Mrs Maisel	Dark Winds
The Morning Show	Say Nothing	My Old Ass	Beef
Presumed Innocent	Tell Me Lies	Dune.	Quarterbacks
Dark Matter	The Patient	Saltburn	The Diplomat
Shrinking	Only Murders in the Bldg	Expats	From Scratch

## About Us

Jana Bonham and Annissa Freeman work together to create this monthly newsletter for our Red Oak Hills community members. Why? We love our community and want us all to stay connected not just for fun and sharing but also for help. The newsletter is to share news, events and fun things with one another. This newsletter will only be in electronic format however feel free to print and share with friends and family.