

RED OAK HILLS



ROH is WARD 4



shutterstock.com • 1145166455

There are 4 wards in Shawnee. Each ward has 2 council members

who are elected every 4 years in odd numbered years. Red Oak Hills is in Ward 4. Laurel Burchfield was elected in 2023 and will be up for reelection in 2027. Erin Aldrich is the newly elected council member for Ward 4. If you have concerns or questions that you want addressed, contact your council members. They are here to serve you. Laurel's email is lburchfield@cityofshawnee.org. Erin's email will be posted on the City of Shawnee website. All new council members were sworn in on December 8.



Pay your \$450 HOA Dues by Feb. 15, 2026 to avoid the \$50 late fee.

Vinyl Revival Valentine's Party at Barley's Shawnee

Vinyl Revival will be kicking off their 2026 schedule with a LOT of musical surprises. We'll be bringing back songs we haven't done in a while and introducing a lot of new classics for you to enjoy.

Bring your loved ones and friends or random people you just met. It'll be a night to remember, and as always ... no cover! And yes, you can definitely expect some love songs as well.

Enjoy some of the best food, service, and cold drinks anywhere around. We'll be sure to bring the entertainment with all the bells and whistles.

When: Saturday, 14 February 2026 8 p.m.

Where: Barley's Kitchen and Tap 16649 Midland Dr. Shawnee





With more delivery vehicles coming through Red Oak Hills—and more kids and teens zipping around on motorized scooters and e-bikes—it’s a good time for a quick neighborhood refresher on what’s allowed and what keeps everyone safe (especially on our sidewalks and at driveways and intersections).

Here’s what the City of Shawnee recently updated: In October 2025, the City of Shawnee introduced new rules for operating motorized scooters and unicycles. Motorized scooters and unicycles are now classified as the same category of transportation as a motorized skateboard and must follow the same laws.

1. Riders may only use these methods of transportation on the sidewalk.
2. These methods of transportation may not be ridden in the street, except to cross.
3. Only cross after yielding to other vehicles and pedestrians.
4. Travel on the right side of the sidewalk and yield to pedestrians.
5. Riders under the age of 18 must wear a helmet on motorized skateboards, scooters, or unicycles.

[Click here](#) to view the City of Shawnee’s website.



A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this 13-week group, you’ll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what’s “normal” in grief.

Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you’ll learn helpful ways of coping with grief in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way.

Community Covenant Church will be offering a 13-week GriefShare class beginning February 1st and running through May 3rd. If you or someone you know is walking through loss, this group provides a compassionate space to find hope and healing.

Class Details:

Dates: February 1 – May 3

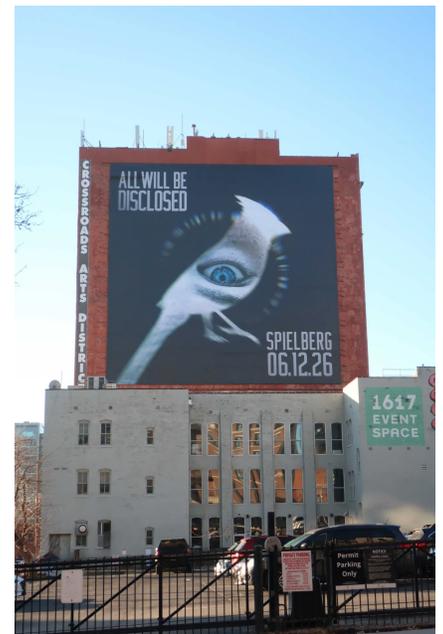
Day/Time: Sundays, 3:00–4:30 PM

Location: Community Covenant Church 15700 W 87th Pkwy, Lenexa in Room 124

Program: Each session includes video-based teaching, group discussion, and personal workbook reflection—all designed to help you process grief in a Christ-centered, supportive environment. Whether your loss is recent or from years ago, you are welcome.

Spielberg movie with Kansas City ties

Did you happen to see this temporary sign in downtown KC recently before it was replaced? The mysterious sign refers to the upcoming film called "Disclosure Day". Although filmed in New Jersey, the action takes place in Kansas City. The trailer opens with this tagline: “If you found out we weren’t alone, if someone showed you, proved it to you, would that frighten you?” Then Emily Blunt (as a local TV meteorologist) is seen beginning a weather report by saying, “Good morning, Kansas City,” before she begins making weird, disturbing clicking sounds that seem to be some type of alien communication. Visit [Steven Spielberg's Disclosure Day Gets a Massive Mural Advertisement... in Downtown Kansas City - IGN](#) for more information.





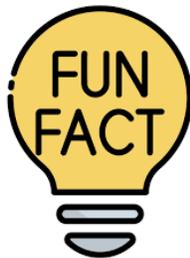
It's Soaring Season

Loess Bluffs National Wildlife Refuge is located in northwest Missouri at 25542 Highway 159 in Forest City, MO. Abundant populations of trumpeter swans, bald eagles, songbirds, shorebirds, waterfowl, deer, coyote, snakes and hundreds of other species utilize the wetland, forest and grassland habitats on the refuge. Slow down, relax and unwind as you enjoy a birders paradise. Bring your camera or binoculars as you hike the trails or drive the 10 mile auto tour. Stop by and enjoy your national wildlife refuge. For Shawnee residents, a closer option to view bald eagles is at Nelson Island, the northernmost trailhead of Mill Creek Streamway Park at 19425 Wilder Dr in Shawnee. Follow the Gary Haller Trail north.

Bananas are berries, but strawberries aren't.

Honey basically never spoils.

Archaeologists have found ancient honey that was still edible.



K-State University Extension Johnson County Kitchen Restore Project

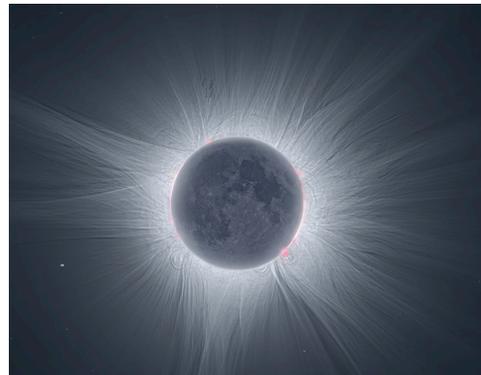
Did you receive new kitchen items for Christmas and need a place to donate your used items? The Kitchen Restore Project offers a full kitchen kit for those in situations that have left them with little to no kitchen items. They also work with families who may have some kitchen supplies but need a few more to supplement what they have, replace broken or worn-out items, or needs



based on their cooking preference.

The goal is to improve the nutrition, food safety awareness, health, and quality of life of Johnson County residents through the provision of basic kitchen items to those with minimal or no resources for cooking.

Visit [Kitchen Restore Donations](#) for more information.



The Silent Symphony of the Night Sky

As you turn off those twinkle lights in your home and yard, know that there is a magnificent array of night sky events to capture your attention in 2026. I am often unexpectedly moved when viewing the grandeur of our solar system. Supermoons, lunar eclipses, planetary alignments...so much happening, we just need to turn our gaze upward! Visit [12 spectacular night sky events to see in 2026—from a total eclipse to impressive auroras | National Geographic](#) for more information.

HIS & HERS

Newsletter Watch Pick: *His & Hers* (Netflix limited series)

If you like twisty mysteries where everyone has something to hide, *His & Hers* is a six-episode thriller built for a weekend binge. The story follows estranged spouses Anna Andrews (a news anchor) and Jack Harper (a detective) as they're pulled into the same hometown murder investigation—only to find their own past wrapped up in the case. Each episode leans into shifting perspectives (“his” vs. “hers”), keeping you second-guessing what’s true, who’s lying, and why.



Based on Alice Feeney’s novel of the same name, the series is moody, tense, and packed with revelations that reframe what you thought you knew—especially as Anna returns home chasing the biggest story of her career.

Cozy in a bowl

Cheesy Chicken & Rice Soup (One Pot)

Ingredients (serves 4–6)

- 1 tbsp butter or olive oil
- 1 small onion, diced (or 1 tsp onion powder for picky eaters)
- 2 carrots, peeled and diced
- 2 celery stalks, diced (optional)
- 2 cloves garlic, minced (or 1 tsp garlic powder)
- 6 cups chicken broth
- 1 cup uncooked white rice
- 2 cups cooked shredded chicken (rotisserie works great)
- 1 tsp salt (start with ½ and adjust)
- ½ tsp black pepper (optional)
- 1 cup milk (or half-and-half for extra creamy)
- 1½–2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- Optional toppings: crackers, extra cheese, chopped parsley



Instructions

1. **Sauté veggies:** In a large pot, melt butter. Add onion, carrots, celery. Cook 5–7 minutes until softened. Add garlic for 30 seconds.
2. **Simmer:** Add broth and rice. Bring to a boil, then reduce to a gentle simmer. Cook 15–18 minutes until rice is tender.
3. **Add chicken:** Stir in cooked shredded chicken. Simmer 2–3 minutes.
4. **Make it creamy:** Lower heat. Stir in milk.
5. **Cheesy finish:** Add shredded cheese a handful at a time, stirring until melted. (Keep heat low so it stays smooth.)
6. **Serve:** Top with crackers, extra cheese, dollop of sour cream, lime, be as creative as you want

About Us

Neighbors, 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.