

Activities Newsletter

November 2011

November 1st to November 6th, 2011

Friday, November 4, 2011

6:00 a.m. – Crown Center Ice Terrace, 2500 Grand Blvd. in Kansas City opens today! Kansas City's only public outdoor ice skating rink opens for its 39th season of great skating fun. Enjoy free skating from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. on opening day!

Regular admission: \$6, or free for adults over age 60 and children age 4 and under. Skate rental is \$3, or skaters may bring their own.

Regular hours through January: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sunday through Thursday; 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday & Saturday. February and March hours: Noon to 9 p.m., Monday through Thursday; Noon to 11 p.m., Friday; 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., Saturday; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sunday.

Saturday, November 5, 2011

9:00 a.m. - Home Depot Kids Workshop at Home Depot Stores Across the Metro. Designed for kids 5-12, these free workshops teach do-it-yourself skills and tool safety, while instilling a sense of accomplishment.

Making Veterans Day Picture Frames

* Spend quality time as a family

* Children can build and paint a picture frame for Veterans Day

9:00 a.m. - Giddy up! Calling all cowboys and cowgirls to a morning at Faulkner's Ranch, 10600 Raytown Road in Kansas City, Mo. Tickets are \$10 (2 and under are free) and include a pancake breakfast and ranch activities such as the Wild West playground, duck races, goat climb, moonwalk and more! Pony rides are \$5. All proceeds go to Kairos Christian School in Guatemala. There will be a small, silent auction also benefitting Kairos. Tickets will be sold at the door.

Sunday, November 6, 2011

2:00 p.m. - Yo Gabba Gabba LIVE in Kansas City at the Music Hall, 301 West 13th Street in Kansas City, Mo. with shows at 2pm and 5pm!

Yo Gabba Gabba! Live! is on the road again. Come see all your favorites like DJ Lance Rock, Brobee, Foofa, Muno, Plex, and Toodee, with special guests Hip Hop Legend Biz Markie and Razzle Dazzle Superstar Leslie Hall.

2 November 7th to August 15th, 2011

Friday, November 11, 2011

10:00 a.m. – 11-11-11 Freedom Fest at 10th Ave Park 3500 10th Avenue, in Leavenworth, Kansas. Veterans Day Parade - BBQ Cook-off, Military Displays, Kid's Zone, Healthfair, Fireworks & concerts featuring Diamond Rio, Laura Moyers, Herect, Bellamy Brothers, Deanna Carter, and Restless Heart.

10:00 a.m. - Veterans Day will be commemorated at a special ceremony at Liberty Memorial, 100 W. 26th Street in Kansas City, Mo. The event includes performances by the American Legion Band and speeches to honor the significance of this important day. The ceremony concludes at 11 a.m. – a symbolic time on this special day – with the laying of a wreath. This free event takes place indoors in the J.C. Nichols Auditorium. The Museum is free for all visitors on Veterans Day.

Saturday, November 12, 2011

10:00 a.m. Lowe's Build and grow Science Lab at Lowe's across the metro. Show your kids that science can be fun! Bring them to Lowe's and they can build this science lab! Includes cards with cool experiments they can do at home!

10:00 AM - Learn all about red pandas and their conservation with interactive booths at the Kansas City Zoo, 6800 Zoo Drive in Kansas City, Mo. At completion of all of the activities, kids will become a Red Panda Ranger. Also, Children will enjoy red panda keeper chats. Schedules will be posted during the event.

2:00 p.m. – Turkey Bowling at Line Creek Community Center & Ice Arena, 5940 NW Waukomis Drive in Kansas City, Mo. This is a unique opportunity to bowl for your Thanksgiving turkey! You will be on the ice, bowling with a frozen turkey and competing to win a 20 pound Thanksgiving turkey to take home! Come have fun!

4:00 p.m. – Weston Holiday Open House in Weston, Missouri. Shops will stay open until 8 p.m. At the city tree lighting at 5:30 p.m. you will enjoy caroling by choirs all down at the end of Main Street next to the caboose and historic depot. Weston's own Father Christmas arrives this evening to begin the holiday season.

November 14th to November 20th, 2011

Friday, November 18, 2011

6:30 p.m. – Join the Mayor as he lights downtown Lee's Summit, Missouri with over 100,000 sparkling lights! Free hot chocolate, choir performances, and a visit from Santa, Mrs. Claus, and the elves will get you in the holiday spirit!

6:30 p.m. - Ferdinand the Bull at the Plaza Branch Kansas City Public Library. Classical music and storytelling join in this inventive Bach Aria Soloists interpretation of the classic children's picture book Ferdinand the Bull, written by Munro Leaf.

This program for a young audience features violinist Elizabeth Suh Lane and actor Stuart Rider interpreting the story with music from English composer Alan Ridout.

November 14th to November 20th, 2011 cont.

Saturday, November 19, 2011

10:30 a.m. – Storytelling: Tellabration 2011 at Ernie Miller Nature Center, 909 North K-7 Hwy in Olathe, Kansas. Come celebrate the International Day of Storytelling at the Ernie Miller Nature Center. Hear nature stories with live animals. These stories will combine the themes of environmental awareness and ancient myths. They will delight those of all ages. Advance reservations required.

12:00 p.m.- Grand Opening Celebration of The Ice at Park Place, 117th and Nall in Leawood, Kansas from noon to 2pm with Disney Radio's Rockin' Road Crew, interactive games, gift bags, free face-painting and balloon art, pictures with Santa, and proceeds from admission benefiting The Children's Place of Kansas City!

2:30- Pilgrims, Indians, and Turkeys Face Painting Paradise

Have a little Thanksgiving fun with characters or designs of your choice! Experience Face Painting Paradise, uniquely artistic entertainment for ages 1 to 101! This is face painting like you have never seen before at the Excelsior Springs Library, 1460 Kearney Rd in Excelsior Springs, Missouri.

5:00 p.m. - A Legendary Light Show: November 19 - January 2 from 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. every night. Every 15 minutes, The Legends, 1843 Village West Pkwy in Kansas City, Mo, will come alive with dancing lights synchronized to concert-quality, holiday music, providing guests an experience unlike anything they have seen before. This is the area's first display of animated lights synchronized to music. The majestic, 45-foot, holiday tree will continue to stand in the center of the Civic Courtyard Fountain. The musical show in the center courtyard will take place at the top and bottom of every hour. A second show will be featured at a quarter after and a quarter till the hour at the new holiday tree and display.

Sunday, November 6, 2011

5:00 p.m. - Holiday Lighting Ceremony and Fireworks: Come celebrate the beginning of the holiday season at the Briarcliff Village Holiday Lighting and Fireworks Ceremony! There will be musical entertainment by the 5-Star Jazz Band, face painting, hot apple cider, popcorn, and more! Holiday Cartoons will be playing outside prior to the ceremony so bring some warm blankets and chairs. Plus photos with Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus! Briarcliff Village is located at 4151 Mulberry Dr. in Kansas City, Mo.

November 21st to November 31st, 2011

Wednesday, November 23, 2011

6:00 p.m. - Christmas in the Sky at Longview Lake is a kick-off celebration for your holiday. Enjoy this evening filled with holiday stage productions and an amazing fireworks display, synchronized to holiday music. This event sets the stage for opening night of Jackson County's Christmas in the Park.

Direction to Christmas in the Sky: Take 470 East to the Raytown Road Exit, Exit South on Raytown Road and follow to the Longview Lake Beach entrance. Directional signs will be posted off of Raytown Road for Christmas in the Sky.

Thursday, November 24, 2011

5:00 p.m. - The most magical time of the year, Holidays on the Plaza at 47th and Wyandotte in Kansas City, Mo, is upon Kansas City once again. The Plaza Lights will be carefully strung, and are ready to illuminate the Country Club Plaza. The Lighting Ceremony features live music and FIREWORKS!

Friday, November 25, 2011

10:00 a.m. - - Santa Claus arrives in a horse-drawn carriage to kick off the holiday season. Perry the Penguin, Tip from Crayola and other costume characters help greet Jolly Ol' St. Nick. Join Santa as he makes his way to Crayola Christmas Land. Crown Center is located at 2500 Grand Blvd. in Kansas City,

November 21st to November 31st, 2011 cont.

Friday, November 25, 2011

5:00 p.m. - Luminary Walk in the Nelson's beautiful Kansas City Sculpture Park! Docents will be available 5-7 p.m. to answer questions about sculptures featured along the walk. Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art is at 4525 Oak St., in Kansas City, Mo.

5:00 p.m. - Overland Park Arboretum Luminary Walk at 8909 W 179th St in Overland Park, Kansas. Picture this! A mile of Candlelit Trails, Holiday Music Galore, Lighted Displays and Santa Claus! Bring your family and friends to enjoy this special tradition in Kansas City!

Saturday, November 26, 2011

8:00 a.m. - Children are invited to meet the Fairy Princess during an enchanting breakfast and tell her their special holiday wishes at Zona Rosa, 8640 N. Dixson Avenue in Kansas City, Mo. The event features holiday entertainment, a child-friendly breakfast menu and a special gift from the Fairy Princess. Advance tickets are required and will be available for purchase by visiting Zona Rosa Guest Services after Nov. 1.

11:00 a.m. - "The Little Red Riding Bug" Puppet Show at Puppetry Arts Institute, 11025 E. Winner Rd in Independence, Missouri. Little Red Riding Bug is on her way with basket of goodies to visit her Granny, who flew a little too close to a bug light for comfort. But whom should Little Red meet through the grass but the Big, Bad Frog! Show times: 25th - 11:00 am & 2:00 - 26th -11:00 am & 2:00 pm.

11:00 a.m. - The Grinch is back as Whoville Holidays kicks off Saturday, November 26. The 429 Walnut space (located at the main entrance to the City Market, 20 East 5th Street in Kansas City, Mo) will be transformed into Cindy Lou Who's home, where Who's of all ages can get their picture taken with the Grinch and check out the Whoville fun in the children's activity area. Whoville Holidays is a no cost event, but donations are encouraged in a "Help a Who" campaign. Bring either a canned good for Harvesters, or a new, unwrapped toy for the Salvation Army.

A Cindy Lou Who look-a-like-contest will take place at Noon on Saturday, November 26th only.

Whoville Holidays is open Saturday's from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. November 26, December 3, 10 and 17.

11:00 a.m. - Walk-in (Ages 2 and up) for a story hour at Burr Oak Woods Nature Center, 1401 NW Park Road in Blue Springs, Mo. As you are lead on fantastic nature adventures you will meet butterflies, birds, mammals and all sorts of magnificent creatures! We will cross rivers, discover mysteries within the forest and fly across the prairies. Your imagination is the only limit.

Monday, November 28, 2011

10:00 a.m. – Santa's Crayola Christmas Land at Crown Center, 2500 Grand Boulevard in Kansas City, Mo. Children can play on super-sized Crayola products, while waiting to tell Santa all their holiday wishes. Santa is in residence November 25 through December 24. The Crayola Christmas Land play area is open through December 31.

Day Trip to Atchison. Kansas

Atchison, Kansas: Many Stories to Tell!

Atchison, Kansas, situated on the bluffs of the Missouri River, defies the stereotype of Kansas Prairie Land with its rolling hills and beautiful trees. The town is part of the Glaciated region of the state and it feels quite similar to its neighboring Missouri towns.

Amelia Earhart is Atchison's most notable claim to fame, but Atchison has many more stories to tell... stories full of mystery, history, fun and local lore.

This is your guide to a Family Day Trip in Atchison from Attractions, to Shopping, to Family Friendly Dining; to Autumn Events... there is something for everyone!

Atchison Visitors Center and Historical Society Museum:

Details: 200 S. 10th Street, 913.367.6238. Open Daily (9am-5pm Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm Sat, noon-4pm Sun). Free, but donations accepted.

The Museum presents exhibits on the town of Atchison, Amelia Earhart, Lewis and Clark, the origin of the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad, Native American Artifacts, and more.

Amelia Earhart Birthplace:

Details: 223 N. Terrace Street, 913.367.4217 for information. Open Daily (9am-4pm Mon-Fri, 10am-4pm Sat, 1 pm-4pm Sun). Admission is \$3/adults, and 50cents for children 12 and under (infants and toddlers are free).

The home has been restored to its original décor by the Ninety-Nines, the organization of female pilots, who operate the museum. The 1897 home is located on Terrace Street, overlooking the Missouri River on a road made of brick. Amelia (nicknamed Meelie) was born in the home built by her grandparents and lived there throughout most of her childhood. The museum displays many Amelia artifacts and model planes, but the one I found most interesting was Meelie's Coaster a replica of the coaster Amelia built with her sister when they were young girls. Throughout the home you will see paintings and sculptures of Amelia and her planes, but my favorite was the painting in the Upper Hall by Robert Wilson showing Amelia with her first Airplane, a Kinner Canary, purchased on her 24th birthday.

Warnock Lake Park / Amelia Earhart Earthwork / International Forest of Friendship:

Details: 178620 274th Rd... to find it simply follow the Blue Signs. Open Daily (Dawn-Dusk).

After a day of site seeing and tours, this is the perfect place for fresh air and exercise. Warnock Lake Park features a small fishing lake, picnic areas, and a playground. The unique features are the Amelia Earhart Earthwork and the International Forest of Friendship.

The Amelia Earhart Earthwork is a one-acre portrait of Amelia created by Kansas artist Stan Herd in 1997. Permanent plantings, stone, and natural materials create a portrait of Atchison's Legendary Lady. Drive into the park and you'll find a viewing deck to take photos of the portrait.

Also within the park, you'll find the International Forest of Friendship with wooded trails featuring trees representing all 50 states and 35 countries. One tree is the "Moon Tree" which was grown from seed and taken to the moon aboard Apollo 14. The park and lake are beautiful when the leaves turn for autumn!

Other Attractions:

St. Benedict's Abbey: 1020 N. 2nd Street. Open Daily. Free and open to the public for Self-Guided Tours. The church was designed by a student of Frank Lloyd Wright in 1957. The architecture is modern in style compared to the Victorian buildings throughout Atchison. A self guided tour booklet is provided. This is a quick tour, but has very

interesting architecture and artwork.

Mount Vernon Cemetery: Burial place of many famous Kansans including Governors, Senators, Pony Express Riders, and Amelia Earhart's Grandparents.

Evah C. Cray Historical Home Museum: 805 N 5th Street, 913.367.3046. The 1882 mansion with 25 rooms resembles a castle.

Muchnic Art Gallery: 704 N. 4th Street, 913.367.2939. The Queen Anne- style mansion houses art exhibits.

Theatre Atchison: 401 Santa Fe Street. 913. 367.1647. \$10/adults, \$6/students. Live performances of classic shows in a quaint theater. Autumn 2009 Shows: Pride and Prejudice (Nov. 13-15 & 20-22). Visit www.theatreatchison.org for more information.

Shopping in Atchison:

Atchison is home to several Antique Shops and Boutiques. Two shops in particular that are fun for a Family Day Trip is:

Doodlebugs: 720 Commercial Street, 913.367.5015, Mon-Sat 10 am -5pm. Doodlebugs is a local Children's Book Store and Toy Store.

Nell Hill's: 501 Commercial Street, 913.367.1086, Mon-Sat 9 am -5pm. Mary Carol Garrity's nationally acclaimed emporium of home furnishings.

Family-Friendly Dining in Atchison:

There are several great choices for families!

Snow Ball: 111 N. 8th Street, 913.367.0298. Tues-Fri 7am-9pm, Sat & Mon 11am-9pm, Sun 1pm-9pm. Snow Ball serves Ice Cream, Sandwiches, and Espresso. The Old Fashioned Ice Cream Shop and Candy store is also a "lunch counter." They also serve delicious Ice Cream treats (you can enjoy an Old Fashioned Chocolate Ice Cream Soda) and old fashioned candy (Candy Buttons, Candy Cigarettes... now called "Candy Sticks", Rock Candy and more).

Other Choices: The Atchison Visitor's Center provides a great Dining Guide complete with restaurant menus. Local choices include BBQ, Italian, Diners, Bakeries, Mexican, Chinese, Steak, or Pizza.