

City of Lawton

February 2010

712-944-5960

www.lawtoniowa.com

Water meter readings are generally taken around the 20th day of each month.
Invoices for water, sewer, garbage and landfill are sent on the 1st of each month.
These invoices are delinquent if not paid by the 20th of that same month.
A 10% Late Fee will be assessed on all delinquent accounts.

READINGS ARE *ESTIMATED* THIS MONTH

Treat Yourself to a Relaxing Friday Night this February!

Grace Corner Bed & Breakfast Retreat House will be hosting a Community Coffee Club every Friday evening throughout the month of February.

Drop by any time from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. and get acquainted with Sue, have a Jumpy Monkey latte or a cup of tea, and enjoy a quiet night out without leaving town.

Bring a friend, bring your laptop, bring your knitting, bring some music to share. Make yourself at home at Grace Corner, 123 E. Main Street, 944-5696.

Receiving Email Notifications

Considering how harsh this winter has been, I would appreciate getting email addresses from as many of you as I can. Last week it was nice to be able to send an email notifying several of you of the change in garbage and landfill pickups due to the storm. With the strong winds, I couldn't go out and change the sign, and I couldn't call everyone to let them know of the changes. But an email was sent to all those I had addresses for.

If you actively use your internet and receive emails, please consider sharing your address with me at City Hall. You can send it to: lawtonia@netins.net

You can also receive your monthly invoice and newsletter via email. Several residents are taking advantage of this service already. Let me know if you are interested in doing this.

The U.S. Census Bureau is hiring for the 2010 Census. These temporary, part-time jobs offer good pay, flexible evening and weekend hours, and the chance to work near home.

1-866-861-2010

www.2010censusjobs.gov

2010 CENSUS...BE COUNTED

We cannot stress enough the importance of having everyone fill out the 2010 Census and returning it. This is extremely beneficial to the city, the school, the county and the state. Much of our funding depends on our population. We need to have everyone counted!

It is my understanding the 2010 Census will be a short-form-only census. To see the questionnaire, you can refer to this website: <http://www.prb.org/Articles/2009/questionnaire.aspx>. It is important for you to know that although you will be asked for names of those living in your home, that information remains CONFIDENTIAL for 72 years! **Please fill out and return your 2010 Census when it arrives!**

Experience is the thing you have left when everything else is gone

Welcome to 2010...and SNOW/ICE/WIND

Is it just me, or has this been an extremely hard winter already? It concerns me that we're only through the month of January and we have had several major snow and ice storms in the last eight weeks!! Maybe we'll luck out and February and March will not bring us any more snow or wind...

I'd personally like to commend our city employees, Lowell, Jack and even Mayor Nitzschke, for all the hours they've put in trying to keep our streets and downtown sidewalks clear. As we all know, they have been working under next-to-impossible circumstances this winter.

I hope everyone realizes that when we have days we get to stay home because of bad weather and

impassable roads, these guys don't get that same break! They are out there working sometimes 14-hour days trying to get, and keep, our streets open.

It helps when the guys do not have to plow snow around vehicles that have been left on the street. It also helps when they do not have to deal with additional snow people have blown or pushed out onto the streets.

Have you taken the time to drive down by the water treatment plant to see the piles of snow that have been hauled? There is an equally impressive pile of snow on the northwest corner of town where Cedar and Ash Streets meet.

This IS Winter in Iowa...Love it or Leave it!

BUILDING PERMITS: The City of Lawton requires a building permit for ALL outside projects INCLUDING landscaping. You MUST get an application, and it MUST be approved by the Building Permit Committee prior to any construction...including the moving of dirt prior to building. Pouring a cement slab or putting up a fence also require building permits from the City. Blank applications may be picked up at City Hall or downloaded from the city website.

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG: Before doing any digging or disturbing of the ground, remember to call Iowa One Call at 1-800-292-8989. This is necessary with all projects, even the planting of trees or bushes. Iowa One Call will notify all necessary utility companies of the impending dig. Within 48 hours each company will come to your property and "locate" their underground lines. *If you dig before calling Iowa One Call, you are responsible for any damage that may occur.*

Reminders

The Siouxland Blood Drive will be held at the Lawton-Bronson High School on Tuesday, February 2 from noon till 5:00 p.m. These hours are different than in the past in order to accommodate the working public AND the students at the high school.

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**Free H1N1 Clinic**, Monday, February 8, 2010 at Woodbury Central High School, in Moville from 4-6 p.m. Clinic is especially for Woodbury County residents. For more information, please visit the Siouxland District Health Department site: [www.siouxlanddistricthealth.org](http://www.siouxlanddistricthealth.org).

## SIDEWALKS

According to Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12(2)b, **ALL PROPERTY OWNERS MUST KEEP SIDEWALKS CLEAR** of snow and ice. The following is an excerpt from the State Code:

*364.12(2)b. The abutting property owner is responsible for the removal of the natural accumulations of snow and ice from the sidewalks within a reasonable amount of time and may be liable for damages caused by the failure of the abutting property owner to use reasonable care in the removal of the snow or ice.*

**Please remember that you are responsible to clear the sidewalk that abuts your property.**

