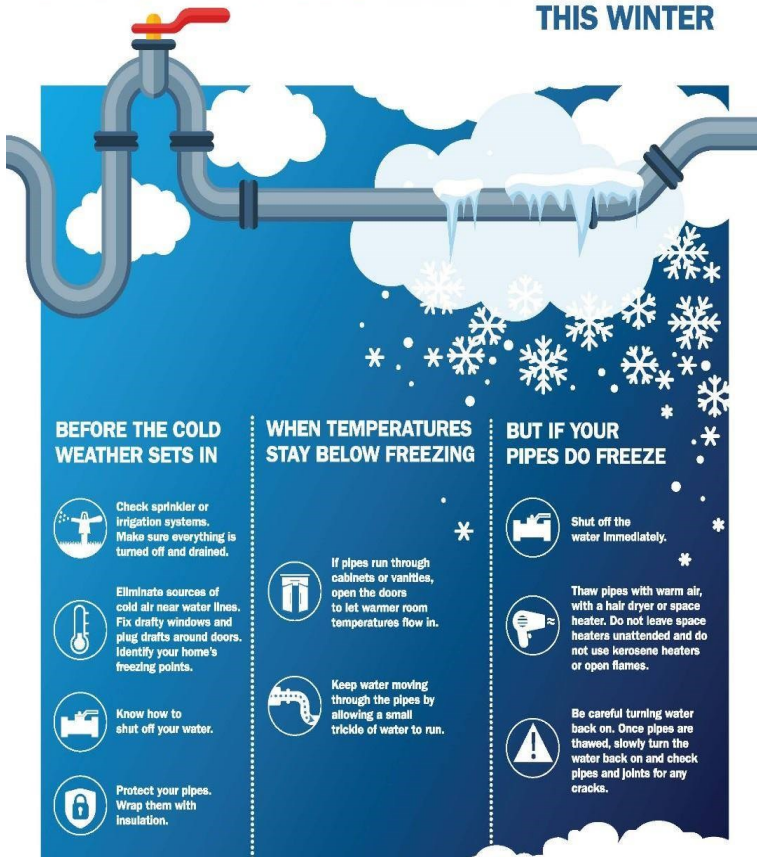


## Office Closed January 18th

In observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, City Hall will be closed on Monday, January 18th. Garbage collection scheduled to run in Ward 1 on Monday will run on Tuesday.



## HANDY TIPS TO AVOID FROZEN PIPES THIS WINTER



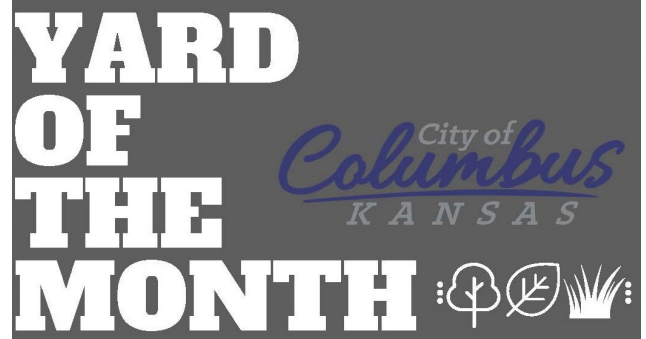
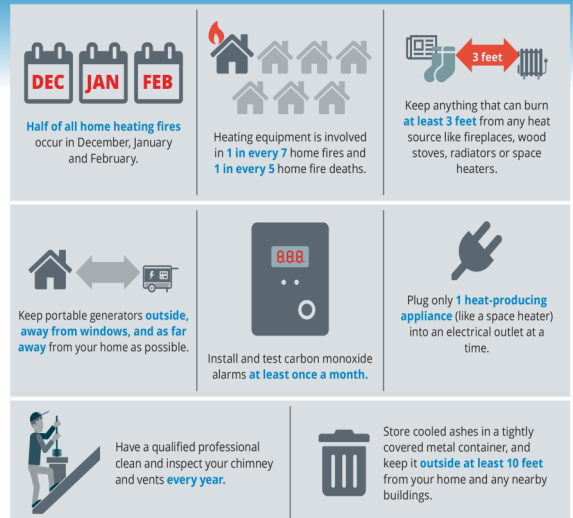
City of  
**Columbus**  
K A N S A S



January 2021 Updates



Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter, be fire smart!



## Yard of the Month

The Yard of the Month contest has concluded with the Holiday Yard of the Month contest in December and will resume in Spring 2021. Many thanks to our citizens for taking pride in your yards and to those who take time to nominate these hard working individuals. We look forward to seeing those beautiful yards next Spring!

FIND US ONLINE [www.columbusks.gov](http://www.columbusks.gov)



## Free COVID Testing

In early December, the Kansas Governor's Office launched a new campaign, encouraging everyone in Kansas to get a free COVID test to help stop the spread and keep our economy and schools open. If you are exhibiting symptoms and would like to utilize a free test, please visit one of the following locations:

- PSU Bicknell Family Center for the Arts  
1711 Homer St, Pittsburg, KS 66762
- Countryside Christian Church  
1901 E 4th St, Pittsburg, KS 66767
- Coffeyville Community College (Nellis Hall)  
615 W 11th St, Coffeyville, KS 67337
- Neosho Community College  
800 W 14th St, Chanute, KS 66720



## Tom Pryor - 2020 Rising Star Award

Councilman Tom Pryor received the 2020 Rising Star Award from Kansas Pride at the December 21st Council Meeting. He received the award for his tremendous dedication and volunteer work he does within Columbus. This recognition is very well deserved. Congratulations Mr. Pryor!



## Meet Scott Bennett

We are proud to announce that Mr. Scott Bennett has been promoted to our new Utilities Director. Mr. Bennett has been with the City of Columbus for 22 years working in our Public Works department. He has led the department as the City Foreman for the last four years and holds a Class II Water certification and a Class I Sewer Certification. He is a lifelong resident of Columbus and is committed to making our community the best it can be. Mr. Bennett's goals in this position are to implement a maintenance program for our stand pipe and water tower, water valve programs, and work on infiltration areas and fencing and gating for our sewer lagoon. He has set strong goals within his department to ensure his staff obtains certifications in the coming year. We are excited for Mr. Bennett and wish him well in his new role within the City of Columbus!



## Exiting Council Members

On December 31st, five members will leave the City Council as we transition to a five member council. In Ward 1: Jerri Burton, Ward 2: Sean Gilmore, Ward 3: John Brassart, Ward 4: Sammie Opela, and Ward 5: Connie Bennett. We sincerely appreciate their dedication and service to the City and will greatly miss them. We wish you well!



## Justin Rogers - 10 years

Congratulations to Justin Rogers, Utility Technician, on receiving an award from the Kansas League of Municipalities for his ten years of service with the City of Columbus. He has continued to move up within the Public Works department and we are proud so of him. Thank you for your public service Justin Rogers!