



All City Offices will be closed Thursday, Nov 27 and Friday, Nov. 28 for Thanksgiving .

City Connection

A City Government Newsletter



www.wichita.gov

Council Offers Manager Post to Layton Expect a Decision Soon

The Wichita City Council announced plans to offer the job of Wichita City Manager to Robert Layton, the City Manager of Urbandale, Iowa. Layton, 53, has served as City Manager of Urbandale, a city of 40,000 near Des Moines, since 1984. From 1980-84, he was a senior administrative assistant to the City Manager of Des Moines and from 1978-1980, he was an intern budget analyst in Kansas City, Mo. Layton has said he will make his decision to pursue negotiations after the Thanksgiving holiday.

He became the leading candidate to be Wichita’s next City Manager after a 4-3 Council vote that followed a morning executive session. Layton emerged from a list of three finalists who included William Buchanan, Sedgwick County Manager and George Noe, former Corpus Christi, TX City Manager. He was among five finalists that a 17-member City Manager search committee and Slavin Consultants submitted to the Council.



Robert Layton

Mayor Carl Brewer who voted with the minority (Vice Mayor Sue Schlapp and Lavonta Williams) said the close vote reflected the quality of the three finalists who are all experienced public administrators with a deep knowledge of the Council-Manager form of government.

“It’s been a difficult decision,” Brewer said. “We looked at many fine candidates.”

Council member Jeff Longwell, who voted with the majority (Sharon Fearey, Paul Gray and Jim Skelton), cited what he called Layton’s ability to help lead the city far into the future.

“We had great candidates,” Longwell said.

The Mayor, Vice Mayor and Gray will soon begin contract negotiations with Layton. The City Manager reports to the seven-member Council, oversees 3,100 employees, a \$500 million annual budget and a \$2.4 billion Capital Improvement Program. The City Manager position has been vacant since Jan. 2 when former City Manager George Kolb resigned. To learn more about Layton, to view a video of the press conference and his interview during a recent public forum, tune into City7, cable Channel 7.

The City Manager position has been vacant since Jan. 2 when former City Manager George Kolb resigned. Dr. Ed Flentje served as interim City Manager until mid July. Scott Moore currently serves as interim Wichita City Manager.

Van Williams

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Q & A With Allen Bell



Allen Bell is the Director of Urban Development for the City of Wichita. Bell is responsible for the design and implementation of the City's urban development programs and projects. He manages three city offices that deal directly with the implementation of public and private urban development projects: the Economic Development Office, Development Assistance Office and Property Management Office. As the City's chief economic development officer, Allen is the principal liaison with the Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition (GWEDC). He works with GWEDC, City, County and State officials to fashion incentive packages to attract, expand and retain businesses.

In addition, Bell is a primary resource for the negotiation and implementation of redevelopment projects involving public-private partnerships, such as the Hyatt Hotel, Old Town entertainment district, Ice Sports Wichita, the Eaton Block and WaterWalk. Special project financing operations, such as tax increment financing and STAR bonds, and disbursement of funding to developers, are his responsibility.

He is also responsible for the implementation of all City financial incentive programs, including industrial revenue bonds, tax abatements, the Neighborhood Revitalization Area tax rebate program and the downtown Façade Improvement Program. In addition to specific responsibilities, Bell is generally involved in all the City's various urban development activities.

Q What major economic development assignments are you working on?

I am working on several major urban redevelopment projects right now, including C.O.R.E., Exchange Place and Ken-Mar. The C.O.R.E. Project involves the revitalization of a 9-block area between Central, Murdock, Topeka and Santa Fe, with new

apartments, brownstones, offices and retail centered around Midtown Metro Alternative High School and a public park. Exchange Place is the conversion of two 80-year-old downtown office buildings located at Douglas and Market into a 200-unit apartment complex with an adjacent 250-car parking garage. Ken-Mar is the rejuvenation of a 1950s-era shopping center at 13th and Oliver.

Q You work with some of the more prominent people in the community. Any great anecdotes on one of them that you can share?

One of my favorite business leaders is J.V. Lentell, vice-chairman of Intrust Bank, who was also the chairman of the Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition for several years. We met every Thursday morning to go over pending business recruitment, expansion and retention prospects that GWEDC was working on. As a long-time downtown commuter, J.V. is obsessed with the synchronization of traffic lights. He was convinced that there is a traffic engineer sitting in City Hall who controls the timing of traffic lights, and who was deliberately playing with his mind by keeping them out of synch on his route to and from work.

Q If you could do a project in the Core Area, with a substantial budget, what might it be?

How about WaterWalk. (Just kidding.) The City needs to substantially renovate and expand Century II. A study was conducted several years ago, which identified the work that is needed to fix the acoustic issues in the building and scoped out a major expansion of Expo Hall that would require moving the Library to a different site. The overall cost of doing something like this would be several hundred million dollars and would most likely require voter approval of a sales tax increase.

Q If you had authority and resources to do a smaller but significant project, what might it be?

It would be neat if we could find a place downtown to build a new train station, or renovate the old Union Station, to accommodate new Amtrak service connecting Oklahoma City to Kansas City, through Wichita.

Q What CD is playing in your car and what book are you reading?

My CD changer currently has Kris Kristofferson, Manhattan Transfer and the Time-Life collection of classic jazz. I just finished reading Jeffery Deaver's latest Lincoln Rhyme mystery.

Q What's your favorite Old Town hangout?

My wife and I like to go to the movies at the Warren Old Town.

Q What is the root of your interest in economic development?

I have been doing economic development since the early 1970s when I joined the Peace Corps out of college and spent 10 years in Africa working in rural development. When I left Africa, I wanted to be a city manager and went to Harvard to get a masters in public administration degree. Instead of city management, I ended up working in public finance, which led to jobs at the State of Kansas and here at the City of Wichita in development finance, which led me back to economic development. The real root of my interest is public service. Economic development is what I know how to do.

Q Who or what inspires you to remain in the field?

At the age of 60, I am beginning to be inspired by the prospect of retiring in the next 5-10 years. The recent economic situation has made that prospect more remote. I am mostly inspired by the desire to leave my mark on the city I love. A lot of my inspiration comes from my father, Carl Bell, who was mayor in the early 1960's.

Training Conference for DUIs

A conference aimed at cracking down on drivers under the influence of alcohol and drugs was conducted last month by the City of Wichita Prosecutor's Office, Kansas Highway Patrol, and the Kansas Department of Transportation.

In its third year, the annual conference was aimed at law enforcement and prosecutors dealing with DUI enforcement and prosecution. This year, 125 prosecutors and law enforcement officers from across Kansas attended the conference at the Cowtown Visitor Center.

Special guest speaker was Alana Rocha, KWCH Channel 12 News. Ms. Rocha survived a collision with a driver who was operating under the influence. She recounted her road to recovery and the importance of identifying, investigating and prosecuting impaired drivers.

This seminar provided a rare opportunity for law enforcement and prosecutors to work together on training and to search for new avenues to address this public safety matter. The seminar provided participants with the knowledge necessary to investigate and remove impaired drivers from streets and highways.

Mary McDonald

Housing and Community Services & The Big Read

Housing and Community Services Department managers participated in The Big Read-Wichita by reading and discussing "My Antonia." For them, The Big Read started when they received copies of the book on Sept. 25.

The book discussion took place over pizza on Oct. 23. Department Director Mary K. Vaughn thought it would be a great way for the managers to bond around a non-work activity and suggested the reading project.

"I really didn't know what to expect," Mary K. said. "But everyone read the book and we really had a good discussion."

The discussion followed a list of questions and impromptu comments. Despite efforts to keep the discussion away from work, one of the book's characters, a money-lender known for fleecing people, was referred to in the department's discussion as a 'sub-prime' lender.

One manager recounted that one of his children came up to him at home while he was reading the book and said, "Dad, I don't think I've ever seen you read a book." That summed up what the purpose of the Big Read is – restoring reading in American popular culture. Thanks to Cyndi Berner Harris and the Wichita Public Library system for promoting this

Mary K. Vaughn



Housing staff members eat lunch and discuss "My Antonia."

Mayor's Youth Council Kicks Off Shoe Drive



Members of the Mayor's Youth Council and some of the shoes that were collected.

The City of Wichita joined forces with the Mayor's Youth Council to collect gently worn shoes for various groups in need. The Youth Council held shoe drives at high schools in the metro Wichita area. Collection boxes were made available at City Hall, KU Medical Center, and Environmental Services. The number of shoes collected exceeded 3,500, surpassing the goal of 3,000 shoes. A friendly competition among area high schools was initiated to see which school could donate the most shoes. Don Henry, Environmental Services supervisor, was certain Collegiate had won when he had to use a horse trailer to transport all of the shoes. Shoes were delivered to the Kansas Podiatry Association where they are cleaned and then donated to various groups such as Lord's Diner, Wichita Children's Home, Dress for Success Wichita and the YWCA domestic violence program. Thanks, to all who donated shoes.

Becky Lewis

Rebuilding Minisa Bridge



Restoring the Past

After the Minisa Bridge near 13th and Waco was restored in June, supporters embarked on an elaborate and fascinating related project to rebuild the bridge's Carthalite sculptural elements. John Speweik, a renowned expert in the repair of historic masonry, was hired as a consultant in the rehabilitation of the Carthalite sculptural elements, including the Indian heads and the bas-relief buffaloes. Speweik trained Oakland Avenue Companies, Inc., in techniques that replicate the 1932 methods and materials used in the original cast concrete artwork. Restoration work consisted of four phases including joint and crack repair, sculpture repair, re-casting and cleaning.

The Oakland Avenue team went through an elaborate process to recreate the historic colored mortar for repairs on the sculptures. The original castings contained crushed glass as an aggregate instead of sand. In order to recreate the mortar for repairs, old glass (pre-1950) was needed to provide a source of glass with pigments stable enough to withstand future weathering. (New glass is colored with synthetic pigment that fades over time.) The City of Wichita held a glass collection day in which approximately 72 families donated their old family treasures that included perfume bottles, glass jewels, beads and vases.

- Red glass was used as the aggregate in the Indian sculptures and geometric designs on the wingwalls of the bridge.
- White glass was used in the green areas of the buffalo panel.
- Blue Glass was used to simulate the blue Kansas sky.

The Planning Department's Historic Preservation staff played a key role in the planning and design phases of the restoration process. The rededication of the bridge occurred on Sept. 23, the 76th anniversary of the original opening of this historic bridge.

Barbara Hammond and Christy Rodríguez

Ground Broken on Fifth Sewage Treatment Plant

The City of Wichita broke ground Nov. 3 on the Mid-Continent Water Quality Reclamation Facility after more than four years of planning. The \$21 million facility, located just south of Wichita Mid-Continent Airport, will open the door for continued residential and commercial development in southwest Wichita.

City Council Member Paul Gray spoke at the groundbreaking to show his support for the cutting-edge facility that is expected to open in spring 2010. It will be the first sewage treatment plant in Kansas to use membrane technology that is more eco-friendly. The water that will come out of the plant and go into the Arkansas River will actually exceed current water quality standards set by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

"I am extremely confident in saying that the Mid-Continent Water Quality Reclamation Facility will soon be producing the cleanest wastewater in the state," Gray said. "The City of Wichita will be doing its part to reduce the pollution load on the Arkansas River."



(Left to right) Mike Gardner, Grimm Construction, Ron Estes, Airport Advisory Board Member, Victor White, Director of Airports, Paul Gray, City Council Member, and David Warren, Director of Water Utilities.

Angela Cato

City Wins Honor Award



(Left to right) Mayor Carl Brewer, David Warren, Jerry Blain, Mike Hafling, and Bruce Barnes.

Wichita Mayor Carl Brewer presented an Honor Award from the Design Build Institute of America, Mid-America Chapter, to David Warren and Jerry Blain of Wichita Water Utilities, Mike Hafling of CAS Construction and Bruce Barnes of Camp, Dresser & McKee. The Honor Award recognizes the City's approach to getting Phase I of the Equus Beds Aquifer Storage and Recovery project completed in a timely and efficient manner by overlapping the design and construction phases of the project. Through the ASR project, the City is developing a new water supply that will meet our community's needs through the year 2050.

Angela Cato

Goodbye, Big Daddy's: Hello, Rain Garden

Typically, 'green' and 'parking lot' are terms describing opposite ends of the environmental spectrum. But not always. Plans are being developed for a 'low impact development' demonstration project at the Rounds & Porter parking lot. Ultimately, the Big Daddy's site and the north half of the existing parking lot will be paved with conventional asphalt, draining toward landscaped planting beds along Waco. The planted beds, known as rain gardens, will collect and filter storm water runoff. The south half of the parking lot will be paved with permeable asphalt, a relatively new material, which allows rainfall to soak into the ground beneath. These two types of paving will allow the development community to see alternatives to traditional paving and storm water management. The schedule depends on funding issues.

A similar demonstration project is planned at the WATER Center near at Pawnee and Broadway.

Gail Williams

Career Development Offers A Hand Up



Imagine for a moment a single mother of four children attending Licensed Practical Nurse training in order to make a better life for her family. Her determination is strong but she is struggling financially and recently received a shut off notice on her utility bill because she has been unable to work full time due to her grueling training schedule. If only she had a helping hand to get her through this tough time, she could graduate in December.

The need for support during training has prompted the Wichita Community Foundation and the Poor Foundation to grant money to the newly-created Wichita Women's Assistance Network (WWAN) to carry out a pilot project through May 31, 2009. The goal of the project is to assist up to 35 women in poverty, struggling to complete college, vocational training or to achieve a higher education degree.

The Wichita Women's Assistance Network (WWAN) is a unique multi-organizational public-private partnership among Wichita-based not-for-profit and governmental agencies. Network partners include Catholic Charities, City of Wichita Career Development Office, Dress for Success-Wichita, Episcopal Social Services, Kansas School for Effective Learning (KANSEL), Maude Carpenter Children's Home, StepStone, The Treehouse, Institute of Minority Health, Education & Research (IMHER), United Methodist Open Door, Urban League of Kansas, Women's Initiative Network (WIN), and Youthville. Members strive to create trust, resolve issues, share expertise, and promote a system of integrated and coordinated services.

Their collaborative efforts aim to increase access and enhance services to support single, unmarried women age 18 and older, living in Sedgwick County, who are experiencing obstacles in completing the education or vocational training necessary to achieve self-sufficiency. All women accepted into the WWAN project receive support and guidance from a professionally trained case manager, along with limited financial assistance for expenses, such as childcare, housing, and transportation. Interested women may apply by contacting the Career Development Office at 337-9444.

Heidi Cleveland

New Library Catalog

The Library recently unveiled a new library catalog, packed with new features. Customers can search easier and more powerfully than ever before. They can easily see new items or receive them via RSS feeds, search and limit by material type and branch, save searches with results e-mailed to them monthly, and preserve their reading histories. Reviews, tables of content and first chapter excerpts are available for many items. Even the format of the catalog is flexible, with a large print version available for those who have difficulty reading regular sized text. A special catalog just for children features a colorful interface and searches only age-appropriate children's collections.

New customers may register directly from the catalog. If they are using the catalog from outside the Library and find a book or film they want to request, they can register for an account at that time and immediately place a request for that title. Self-registered customers may also save searches and lists. They need only bring proof of identification and current address to any Wichita Public Library location in order to obtain full borrowing privileges.

Visit the Library's website or stop by any location to use the new catalog.

Jennifer Heinicke



Events at Century II

The holiday season is here! And with that comes the joys (or frustrations!) of hours of shopping, long lines at stores, and traffic jams. Find time to relax and unwind by taking in a holiday show at Wichita's own Century II Performing Arts & Convention Center. The Christmas lineup provides something for everyone! Tickets can be purchased through WichitaTIX (except where noted) at www.wichitatix.com or by calling 219-4TIX.

Celebrate!, presented by Music Theatre for Young People, in Mary Jane Teall Theater on Saturday, Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 7 at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

The Spirit of Christmas (a free family concert), presented by the Wichita Symphony Orchestra, in Convention Hall on Tuesday, Dec 9 at 7:30 p.m. For ticket information, visit www.wso.org.

The Nutcracker, presented by Ballet Wichita, in Concert Hall on Saturday, Dec. 13 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 14 at 3 p.m.

The Christmas Music of Mannheim Steamroller by Chip Davis, presented by Magic Arts & Entertainment, in Concert Hall on Tuesday, Dec. 16 and Wednesday, Dec. 17 at 7:30 p.m..



The Nutcracker presented by Ballet Wichita.

For more information about these and other upcoming events, visit www.century2.org or call 316-264-9121.

Jacob House

Art Museum Exhibit



Nickolas Muray, 1892-1965, American (b. Hungary), Frida on White Bench, New York, 1939, Carbon process print.

Frida Kahlo: Through the Lens of Nickolas Muray Dec. 7 – Feb. 1

During his long career, Nickolas Muray photographed many important people from the political, artistic, and social arenas. Approximately 50 photographic portraits taken of Frida Kahlo comprise this artist's exhibition. The photographs date from 1937 to 1941 when Muray was Frida Kahlo's friend and confidant. His photographs bring to light Kahlo's deep interest in her Mexican heritage, her life and the people significant to her.

Central American Textiles from the collection of Jerry Martin through March 1

This exhibition showcases an outstanding local collection of contemporary art. These textiles are of the highest level of craftsmanship and design. Collector Jerry Martin shares his love of Central American art and culture through the clothing he has collected over decades of travel.

Realistic Pluralism: The Art of Nicholas Trabue through Feb. 8

Kansas native Nicholas Trabue paints imaginary universes. He skillfully weaves mathematics and geometric forms against the human figure.

Crystal Walter

Events at Old Cowtown Museum

Old Cowtown Museum is pleased to announce their annual holiday events:

Breakfast with Santa

Old St. Nick arrives just in time for breakfast with your family! Enjoy a hot breakfast, craft projects, storytelling and much more. Old fashioned photos with Santa will be available as well. Admission including breakfast is \$10.95 for adults and \$6.95 for children under 10. Seating is available Saturdays, Dec. 6, and 13 at 9 a.m. Reservations for this event are required. Call 350-3321.

Old Fashioned Christmas

Old Cowtown comes alive as the streets are trimmed with Christmas greenery and filled with carolers. Enjoy a warm cup of cider while touring our grounds and learning of holiday traditions past. A sumptuous holiday meal will be served in the Café as you are entertained by local musical groups. Admission including dinner is \$15 for adults and \$11 for children under 10. Seating is available Fridays, Dec. 5 and 12, at 7 p.m. and Saturdays, Dec. 6 and 13, at 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Reservations for this event are required. Call 350-3321.



Tabitha Meyer

<u>Retirees</u>	<u>Dept.</u>	<u>Yrs. Of Service</u>
Stephen D. Palmer	Water Utilities	35 yrs. 03 mo.
Lawrence E. Schaller	Public Works	35 yrs. 00 mo.
Marsha Jarvill	Water Utilities	26 yrs. 00 mo.
Starr L. Moore	Env. Services	20 yrs. 07 mo.
Douglas L. Ashley	Water Utilities	20 yrs. 06 mo.

<u>Retiree Deaths</u>	<u>Dept.</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>
Esther A. Socha, widow of Arthur Socha	Water Utilities	08/08/2008
Jessie G. Cochran	Water Utilities	09/27/2008
Lucille Huggins, widow of Forman W. Huggins	Public Works	09/29/2008
Royce Wathen	Fire Dept.	10.07/2008
Margaret M. Toliver, widow of Jess. B. Toliver	Fire	10/13/2008
Larry E. Warehime	Police	10/21/2008
Franklin R. Yanda	Comm. Fac.	10/22/2008

Congratulations to these employees who have reached 10 or 25 year career milestones with the City. Contact Carolyn Bowen in Human Relations if you have questions regarding the Career Award Program.

<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>10 Years</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>
Paul Karpinski	10 years	Municipal Court
Rodney Frye	10 years	Park
Channara S. Seang	10 years	Police
Terry Jones	10 years	Housing
David Olinger	10 years	Public Works
Elizabeth Van Nover-Herron	10 years	Env. Services
Robert Richey	10 years	Park
Jan Harper	10 years	Art Museum
Ronald Purdie	10 years	Airport
Vicky Farley	10 year	Public Works
Terrance Childers	10 years	Water Utilities
Theresa Moore	10 years	Water Utilities
Kimberly Hall	10 years	Police
	<u>25 Years</u>	
Carol Schneider	25 years	Municipal Court
Carolyn Swoboda	25 years	Public Works

IT/IS Hires New Secretary

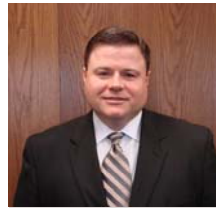
IT/IS welcomes back Karen Fry as its new secretary/receptionist. Karen recently returned to work after being a stay-at-home-mom since 1987. She previously worked for the City of Wichita as an Administrative Assistant to the Director of Airport Administration. She most recently worked as a patient accounts representative in the business office of the Wichita Clinic.



Karen Fry

Fry says she is very happy to be back at the City of Wichita and is excited to see all of the wonderful changes that have occurred at the city in the years she has been away.

Law Department Adds New Prosecutor



Mike Hoelscher

Mike Hoelscher has joined the staff of the Department of Law in the Prosecutor's Office. He will take over the domestic violence docket and other duties to prosecute violations of city ordinances.

Hoelscher comes to us from the District Attorney's Office, where he prosecuted crimes in the Trial Division of that office.

He graduated from Washburn Law School with the class of 2002 and has been an attorney for six and a half years.

Finance Department Certified By Association of Public Treasurers

The Association of Public Treasurers of the United States and Canada formally recognized the Finance Department for having its written investment policy certified. The City of Wichita is one of 33 governments in the United States to have its investment policy certified by the Association's Investment Policy Certification Program, which was developed in 1990.



(L-R) Rob Raine, Shawn Henning and Kelly Carpenter receive Treasury Award.

Of the policies received each year for review, only two-thirds are accepted on their first submission.

City Hall's Loss, Neighborhoods' Gain

You may have noticed that there is a familiar and smiling face missing from the City Hall Security Staff. Dwight Asher transferred to the Office of Central Inspection as a Neighborhood Inspector in October.

Asher was previously employed at the Juvenile Detention Facility for five years before joining the WPD Security Staff, where he greeted visitors to City Hall for two years. During his tenure as a Security Officer, Mr. Asher was the recipient of various commendations and awards. Most recently, Mr. Asher received a Life-Saving Award from the Wichita Police Department for his quick response to a citizen at the Towne West Mall last May.

Asher and another citizen came to the rescue of a man who was unconscious on the sidewalk and was not breathing. Asher assisted in performing CPR until the EMS unit arrived to take over the emergency care. By the time the patient was transported to the hospital via ambulance, his pulse had returned.



Dwight Asher

NAAEE Environmental Justice Tour



(L-R) J. Allen Johnson, Chair Environmental Justice, Bob Wine, President Wichita Independent Neighborhoods, Council Members Lavonta Williams and Sharon Fearey attend Environmental Justice conference.

The City of Wichita, in conjunction with the North America Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE), hosted a diverse tour group that visited the city’s revitalized areas.

Showcased were areas in the StopBlight initiative, as well as the downtown area of the arena and Wichita WaterWalk neighborhoods. Several City Departments, including the City Manager’s Office, OCl, Planning, Housing, Environmental Services and Wichita Independent Neighborhood Associations worked together so that visitors from Sweden, Mexico, Taiwan, Canada, Vietnam, and states such as Virginia, Utah, Illinois, and Washington, D.C ., could tour neighborhoods in northeast and northwest Wichita. “A Walk about Wichita” started with presentations about Wichita history, revitalization projects, neighborhood initiatives and the Gilbert Mosley groundwater contamination project. A trolley tour included the new Boys & Girls Club, Midtown historical homes restoration, artist paintings on light poles to deter graffiti, the Water Walk area, the arena development area, Old Town, and the Weeds and Seeds neighborhood on North Grove. The afternoon consisted

of breakout sessions about Environmental Justice, Environmental Health, Climate Change and Service Learning. The day closed with a tour of the WATER Center. This workshop will be copied and used as a template at future conferences.

Becky Lewis

WPD Presents Annual Service Awards

Each year, one officer, one civilian employee and one volunteer are named as the Officer of the Year, Non-Sworn Employee of the Year, and Cooper/McKee Volunteer of the Year. The awards honor those whose dedication to serving the citizens through their service to the Wichita Police demonstrates commitment to excellence exemplary job performance.



(Left to right) Rev. Dave Henion, Vonnie Forgie, and Janette Griggs during award ceremony.

Officer of the Year Janette Griggs joined the Wichita Police Department (WPD) in 1998. During her career with WPD she has served as a field training officer and has worked in the Juvenile Underage Drinking Group Enforcement (JUDGE) program enforcing juvenile underage drinking laws. In addition, Officer Griggs is a certified TASER instructor, a defensive tactics and car stops instructor, and a recruit officer mentor. She also is the senior officer on her shift in the Patrol South Bureau, field tests new equipment for the department, and in March was Officer of the Month in the South Bureau.

Vonnie Forgie, the Non-Sworn Employee of the Year, began her career with the WPD in June, 1979. Her first assignment in the Records Bureau was as a records clerk on the third shift. Shortly after joining WPD, she moved to first shift in Central Records, then moved to the Case Desk in January, 1980. Vonnie has also worked in SPIDER, the Brady Unit and now works in the Case Review section.

Reverend Dave Henion, pastor of the Harvest Community Church in Wichita, is the WPD’s **2008 Cooper/McKee Volunteer of the Year**. Chaplain Henion began volunteering as a chaplain for WPD in 1996, offering his experience and expertise to those in need, and providing leadership to grow the program to include 27 volunteer ministers. In 2008 alone, Chaplain Henion volunteered more than 800 hours of service on 24-hour call-out shifts to the department.

Gordon Bassham

IRISE Winners for November

Sarah Cortez	Env. Services	Steve Buchannon	Public Works	Robert Metcalf	Public Works
Sara Walker	H. R.	Bruce Cornier	Public Works	David Prentice	Public Works
Mayra Andrade	Library	Jacques Dubose	Public Works	Jessie Ross, Jr.	Public Works
Tracie Partridge	Library	Jospeh Francoeur	Public Works	Timothy Stewart	Public Works
Dawn Shelton	Library	Bryant Franklin	Public Works	Talbert Showalter	Transit
Scott Knebel	Planning	Mike Gray	Public Works	Ronald Bailey	Water Utilities
Eric Poe	Police	Samuel Menut	Public Works		

CITY CONNECTION TEAM-Debbie Aviks-CMO; Gordon Bassham-Police; Megan Buckmaster-CMO; LeeAnn Casey-H.R.; Heidi Cleveland,-CDO; Vallery Fields-Transit; Larry Foos-Park; Dale Goter-CMO; Elaine Hammons-OCI; Mike Hampel-Planning; Jennifer Heinicke-Library; Lisa Hilyard, Env. Services; Kay Hurdle-Law; Angela Cato-Water; Denise Klug-IT/IS; Deb Legge-OCI; Lauragail Locke-CMO; Donte Martin-M.C.; Tabitha Meyer-CityArts; Michelle Rucker-Housing; Marge Seger-Finance; Michelle Stroot-CMO; Bob Thompson-Fire; Denise Tipton- Water; Gail Williams-P.W.; Van Williams-CMO; Valerie Wise-Airport