

A message from your Pierce County Councilmember

Joyce McDonald

Serving the communities of

Alderton, Auburn, Browns Point, Dash Point, Edgewood, Fife, Fife Heights, Milton, Northeast Tacoma, North Puyallup, Pacific, Puyallup and Sumner

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Dear Friends,

Soon I will be sending you an update on Pierce County's budget, but today as we begin to prepare for Thanksgiving and Christmas, I wanted to make sure, before you have made all of your Holiday plans, that you have the information on Fantasy Lights where you can drive through 2.5 miles of animated holiday displays at Spanaway Park.

As we celebrate the Holidays it is a good time to remember those who are struggling. So, I am asking that you consider supporting the Sheriff department's Santa Cops program. Our sharing can be the beginning of healing for those who have fallen on hard times.

See you at Fantasy Lights! Have a wonderful Thanksgiving,

Fantasy Lights begins Nov. 28

Kick off the holiday season by experiencing the 19th annual two-mile drive through sparkling holiday displays at [Fantasy Lights at Spanaway Park](#).

This is the Northwest's largest drive-through holiday lights display featuring nearly 300 elaborate animated displays and along the winding route through the forested park on the shore of Lake Spanaway.

The beautiful drive has become a memorable lakeside tradition for the entire family. Visitors of all ages will be treated to the magical world of animation and imagination. You will marvel at more LED lighting throughout the park, along with new displays this year that includes a octopus, rocket ship, and giant clam.

Fantasy Lights will be open every night Nov. 28, 2013 to Jan. 1, 2014, including Christmas and New Year's Day from 5:30 to 9 p.m.

Admission is \$13 per vehicle/mini-bus with up to 14 passengers and \$45 per bus with 25 or more passenger capacity.

Discount tickets can be purchased for \$30 each (not valid for bus admission), while supplies last, at Lakewood Community Center, Sprinkler Recreation Center and Garfield Book Company at P.U.U. Or you can [print a \\$3 off coupon](#) on regular car/van admission. You must print the coupon and hand it to the cashier. Only paper format coupons are accepted.

[Click here for driving directions](#) to Fantasy Lights.

Help fill Santa Cops barrels with donations to help local families

Pierce County Santa Cops is accepting donations to benefit local families in need through Dec. 10. Donation barrels are located at the Sheriff's Department Headquarters (1st floor CCR), South Hill and University Place stations, plus the Environmental Services Building and the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Additionally, sheriff's deputies, support staff and volunteers will accept donations during the Fantasy Lights walk-through on Sunday, Nov. 24 from 4 to 8 p.m. They will be located in the Sprinkler Recreation Center parking lot next to the hospitality trailer.

All donations benefit local families in need. Families are selected for Pierce County Santa Cops deliveries through referrals from the law enforcement community and local schools. In 2012, Pierce County Santa Cops assisted 121 families with over 300 items. This year, the need is greater than ever.

Dangers of holiday scams and frauds highlighted

December always sees a spike in the number of scams, frauds and identity thefts by crooks taking advantage of the fast paced holiday season. Many of these crimes happen because shoppers are a little less attentive to their surroundings.

As technology changes, scammers are making more use of electronic phishing, malicious apps and bogus offers. Pierce County Aging and Disability Resources will offer "Scams for the Holidays: Avoiding Unpleasant Surprises," a workshop that will look at some of the more popular scams and ways to avoid traps that may lead to loss of private financial information.

The workshop will be repeated four times at four different locations:

- Dec. 9 – 12:10 to 12:50 p.m.
Pierce County Annex Main Meeting Room
3401 S 35th Street in Tacoma
- Dec. 9 – 7 to 8 p.m.
Sound View Building
3602 Pacific Avenue in Tacoma
- Dec. 11 – 12:10 to 12:50 p.m.
County City Building Rainier Conference Room
930 Tacoma Ave S, 7th Floor in Tacoma
- Dec. 11 – 7 to 8 p.m.
Summit Branch Library
5307 112th St E in Tacoma

"Scams for the Holidays" will be presented by the Pierce County Aging & Disability Resource Center. The workshop includes a special AARP video and examples of the most current scams targeting seniors and families. The workshop is free and open to the public. For details call the Pierce County [Aging and Disability Resource Center](#) at (253) 798-4600.

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