

THE LAWTON CONSTITUTION

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Sun, 09/07/2014—1:56 am Malinda Rust

Cops N Kids Picnic Slated Saturday In Elmer Thomas

Calling all families: Report for a day of fun and fellowship!

The Lawton Police Department, with the help of local sponsors and partnering law enforcement agencies, will be hosting the annual Cops N Kids Picnic from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday at Elmer Thomas Park. The event, according to Police Sgt. Stephanie Crawford, is sure to deliver enjoyment for the entire family.

Unlike everyday operations, the picnic, which has been offered to the public free of charge for decades, brings police, fire and emergency medical personnel and citizens together outside of an emergency situation.

“It’s a chance for the public to interact with officers in a relaxed, positive atmosphere,” Crawford said. “I think it helps fill the void between officers and the public and helps people see us in a positive light.”

In addition to free food, T-shirts, door prizes and live music, Crawford said, officers with at least a half-dozen Lawton Police Department divisions including K-9, the motorcycle squad and the gang unit will perform demonstrations and offer insights into their specialized operations. The Fit Kids Coalition of Southwest Oklahoma will provide an Imagination Playground for children to explore.

Law enforcement officers from Comanche County, Medicine Park and the Oklahoma Highway Patrol, Lawton firefighters and Kirk’s EMS will also be there with sirens on.